LEAH HOFFERKAMP, AIA, NCARB, NCIDQ, RID, LEED AP BD+C, LSSYB
Leah earned a Master’s in Architecture from Washington University in St. Louis and her Bachelor of Science in Interior Design from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale.

Her career has been focused on mostly academic medical centers and a variety of other healthcare projects around the Midwest. A notable healthcare project that she worked on is the BJC HealthCare and Washington University School of Medicine Campus Renewal Project otherwise known as BJC Parkview Tower and the Children’s expansion tower here in St. Louis. Other notable non-healthcare projects she worked on include the St. Louis North Riverfront Stadium and the Washington University in St. Louis Bio-robotics showroom on the Danforth Campus.

Leah, her husband, and daughter live in the City in the Compton Heights neighborhood. They love what the City has to offer in the way of parks, the zoo and the museums.

BEATRIZ JUAN
Beatriz Juan is from Valencia, Spain and she is been living in United States for eleven years. She received a Master of Architecture at Drury University and she is working her fifth year at HOK. She has always focused on the technical aspects of architecture, ensuring a smooth transition from conceptual design to substantial completion. Beatriz works on a variety of project types including commercial, aviation, high education and technology with the MLS stadium being her most current undertaking. She is passionate about consultant coordination and efficiently moving her projects forward with an emphasis on construction detailing. In her free time, she loves playing tennis, outdoor activities and taking on new challenges of all kinds, most recently a major renovation to her home.
October 8, 2021 - The Resource Center @ AIA St. Louis (911 Washington Ave)

12:00 – 12:30
Lunch Reception

12:15 – 12:30
Welcome, Session Overview

12:30 – 1:30
Speaker
Jenn Whitmer (Speaker - Coach at Lead With Confidence)

1:30 – 1:45
Break

1:45 – 2:45
Speaker
Sarah Arnosky (Vice President of Greater St. Louis Inc)

2:45 – 3:00
Break

3:00 – 3:30
Speaker
Deanne Kuhlmann Leavitt (Founder of Kuhlmann Leavitt, INC)

3:30 – 4:00
Drive to Rung for Women (2717 Sidney St.)

4:00 – 5:00
Tour of Rung
Maggie Brockmeyer, Manager of Social Capital and Volunteer Programs

5:00 – 6:30
Session Social
Little Fox (2800 Shenandoah Ave.)
Leah Hofferkamp and Beatriz Juan organized and facilitated Session 1: Working Together for the Christopher Kelley Leadership Development Program. This session was held at the The Resource Center at AIA St. Louis. Sessions sponsorships and support was provided by HOK, BS+A Consulting, and INPRO. The session started with a welcome and overview from Leah Hofferkamp. She shared a great quote:

“When a group of people work together cohesively, towards a common goal, creating a positive working atmosphere, and supporting each other to combine individual strengths to enhance team performance.”

Her introduction was followed by speaker Jenn Whitmer. Prior to the session, Whitmer had sent a series of e-mails that asked us to examine times we felt excited and happy, what we felt were the hardest parts of leading, and asked us about our motivations. Whitmer’s presentation was oriented on the idea of “know thyself” specifically moving from self-doubt to self-trust. This notion of moving from self-doubt comes in two ways 1. from experience which gives you expertise and 2. from learning about your self and acknowledging our strengths and weaknesses.

Whitmer brought up the idea of how leadership is strengthen when we know how we, as individuals, show up everyday. The goal of being able to do our job well and be a whole person. There are numerous ways that we can learn about ourselves and Jenn Whitmer brought numerous tools to our attention that are available for us to know ourselves better: Enneagram, Myer-Briggs, Strengthfinder, DISC, and Koble. Whitmer prefers to use the Enneagram.
Whitmer used a series of imagery to help us understand how “typing” with the Enneagram works. The first visual was the Jahori window (right below) which helps to categorize different elements of our personality and leadership styles. When we can move traits from blind spots and facades into the open, we are stronger for it. One of the hardest locations to move out of is the unknown. The Enneagram helps people identify their motivations, fears, and unknowns parts of themselves. The Enneagram is introduced as 9 “types” that are split between 3 intelligence centers (center below). Typically, each person has an intelligence center that is stronger than others. Once we identity the dominate intelligence center, then you can begin to look at the three stances to identify your enneagram (right below) The enneagram stances are the ways that we show up in our lives whether at work or at home. It is how we “do” our everyday functions.

Once Whitmer went through these ways to identify which Enneagram stance we might be, she focused on ways that we can better the way we show up. For examples, for those of us who have a compliant/ dependent stance, taking the time to capture and observe our thoughts before we choose to act on them can help us make more informed decisions rather than acting on emotions that might not be true.

“When you model self-trust, you invite others into self-trust”

After our first coffee break, speaker Sarah Arnosky with Greater St. Louis Inc presented to our co-hort about new economic organization in St. Louis and its efforts to bring
together community groups and partners to drive economic development and growth for the entire St. Louis Region. (Image 6) Greater St. Louis, Inc was incorporated in the new year as the mutual endeavor by more than a half dozen organizations that had a similar mission. Arnosky talked about how the organization uses the latest census data to make informed decisions about how to invest in the area. According to the 2020 census, while the central alley of the St. Louis city and western counties had population growth, the north and south sections of the city had large declines. This information was used to create the STL 2030 jobs plan. This effort was led by Bruce Katz of New Localism Associates. This job report was the first in a decade and is focused on how we can buy, hire, and invest locally and bring employment density to the urban core.

Aronsky shared the idea of building on momentum and seeing area where success is already happening and beginning to build upon that. Some of the projects in the region that Aronsky mentioned where the Brickline Greenway, the MLS stadium project, Tower Grove Connector, Design for Downtown, the Downtown Engagement and Public Safety Initiative. All of these initiatives build upon the idea of engaging the community in development as well as attacking issues from all sides whether residential or commercial. They are not developed by Greater St. Louis, Inc alone but developed with numerous community partners.

During her closing, Arnosky answered a few questions from the co-hort. One question asked how when all these organizations came together, how they prioritized different projects. Arnosky used the motivation idea from earlier to illustrate how they focused on projects that had motion and excitement around them. Another question was how we could get involved with the efforts of Greater St. Louis, Inc. Arnosky said there are many councils, committees, and tasks forces, in the organization that are looking for volunteers and members.

The final speaker of the day was Deanna Kuhlmann Leavitt with Kuhlmann Leavitt, Inc. Leavitt presented on the interior graphic work with Rung for Women, beginning from their project proposal and working through each phase of the design until the final installation. Working through each area of the space, Leavitt showcased how they thought about every piece from the font on each donor sign to the iconography on the
bathroom signs. We were able to see how each piece of the interior graphics responded to feedback from Rung for Women as well as helping to further the Rung for Women brand. Deanna Kuhlmann Leavitt also showcased other interior branding and graphics for projects around the country and spoke about the importance of creating and maintaining relationships that allow you to trust your creation partners.

The final activity for the afternoon was a private tour of the Rung for Women with Maggie Brockmeyer (Image 7) Rung for Women is a local non-profit in St. Louis, Missouri which is focused on helping women in our region move into jobs or roles that will provide them with a family-sustaining wage and a pathway to continuing growing in their career. Rung does this by taking a whole life approach to support their members. From childcare and grab and go meals to career counseling and mental health services, Rung touches on every aspect to make sure each member has the tools to succeed. The tour took us from the lobby, cafeteria, and meeting room located in a new building to the counseling rooms, workout room, and offices located in a renovated manuf. building. The non-profit uses numerous community partners, called co-designers, from doctors, counselors, to local food organizations and yoga studios. Rung welcome the first co-hort of members in 2020 in a brand new facility. They area already planning for construction on an addition in 2022. Many of our co-hort expressed interest in volunteering and Brockmeyer gave us information on how to get involved.

The first CKLDP session was brought to a close with a outdoor social at Little Fox in Fox Park near Rung for Women.