



Andrea Billups

Nationally Acclaimed Writer

Andrea Billups is a Midwest-based journalist, author and professor. A former staff correspondent for PEOPLE magazine and longtime national reporter, her career has spanned two decades and has included work in seven states. Her writing has covered everything from presidential politics, Congress and Hollywood, with much of her focus on public policy issues, including national education, as well as the merge of popular culture and politics.



Julie Reiser

American Jobs & Manufacturing Expert

President & Co-Founder, Made in USA Certified, Inc.

Julie and Made in USA Certified® have been featured on FOX Business Live, FOX, ABC, NBC, CNN, The Wall Street Journal and USA Today – just to name a few. Julie is frequently asked to speak as an expert on manufacturing in America and “Made in USA” issues for various national/ local publications and radio shows. She is an active contributing writer for Industry Week Magazine, Our USA Magazine and various on-line blogs. Julie often speaks to groups nationwide on the importance of Buying American. Julie was the recipient of the 2011 Women Impacting Public Policy - Presidents Award in Washington D.C. Recently, her company, Made in USA Certified®, was honored with the distinction of being mentioned in President Bill Clinton's new book, Back to Work as a solution provider to some of America's current problems.



Kim Gregory

Event Extraordinaire

President & Founder, Posh Events/Posh Destination Weddings

“Life is an event. Make it Posh.” That is the philosophy of Posh Events/Posh Destination Weddings founder Kim Gregory. The Posh philosophy is a direct result of Kim’s eclectic professional background. She had a career in Michigan politics before escaping to the Florida Keys. Her background in marketing, space planning and design, as well as politics gives her a unique insight into what makes a memorable event. Kimberly’s passion is producing extraordinary events.



Michelle Thelen

Marketing & Brand Specialist

Co-Founder & Talent Director, I Choose American

Michelle Thelen, a gifted accessories designer who has managed national retail brands, once owned boutiques and always mused when customers would ask: “Where is that item made?” decided after 20 years of building fashion brands, to focus on creating an efficient way for consumers to shop American made products with confidence, thus I Choose American was born.

We are asking that stores, boutiques, media and consumers step up and dedicate space in their own environment for products made in America.

Michelle experienced firsthand the frustration and has a clear understanding of consumer expectations in this highly evolved retail market.



Margarita Mendoza

Community Relations and Social Media Specialist

Founder of the Made in America Movement

Margarita Mendoza has been heavily involved with the American Movement spreading hope for a recovering US economy through personal stories and active involvement in on-line and off-line communities. “For working families to make it in America, we need to ‘Make it in America’” is her motto. Margarita is also a contributing marketing and social media expert for Made in the USA Certified®, the leading non-partisan, independent third party, Certification Company for the “Made in USA”, Product of USA and Service in USA claims. Together they are working to spread awareness within our Country.