



Western North America Candidate

Sam Leiberstein

Senior Project Coordinator

Thinkwell

Primary Location: United States

Running for 1st term



ABOUT THE APPLICANT:

I have been a member of the TEA since 2013 beginning as a NextGen. I owe every job I have ever won to this organization and its support to help build and shape my career. From the moment I walked into my first mixer at the now defunct Burbank Bar and Grill and Lynn Almandinger asked me if I was new, to my milestone first job at The Hettema Group, to my current thriving job at Thinkwell, I have always been a supporter of our organization and what we work to achieve. I am highly interested in joining the Western Division Board to continue providing memorable and engaging events and support efforts for diversity, equity, and inclusion. The TEA has been a force in my life that I have contributed to and will even more so as a board member for the Western Division. A major highlight of my career was working with the Lexington Nassal team on Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge through design, fabrication, and the end of install. During my time on site for the project, I also joined the Western Div. Events Committee to move beyond volunteering here and there to continue with greater and larger scale service for the organization and our members. Working closely with the chairs of the committee through the years, I have helped to organize unforgettable events such as: Drawing Days (Volume 2 coming Soon™), which I personally developed. Knott's Bear-y Tales & Celebrating 100 Years! Mixers at Player One Arcade Bar Queen Mary: Dark Harbor Behind the Scenes Knott's Scary Farm Behind the Scenes Santa Monica Pier Anniversary Celebration Annual holiday parties (including our virtual one in early COVID era)

VISION FOR THE TEA

My primary goal is to continue to serve the members. I plan to do that by continuing to create excellent, interesting, and memorable events for our members. To me, events are a cornerstone of our organization. They provide a forum for our community to interact and learn something interesting along the way, be it from a conversation one member has with another or from the event itself. Additionally, I want to continue to support and refine efforts in diversity, equity and inclusion within

the TEA as well as help to promote efforts and best practices for companies when creating with Communities of Color, LGBTQ2IA+communities, and differently abled communities.

SKILLS AND CORE COMPETENCIES

I will continue to support the success of the TEA by combining my skill sets of creative thinking for complex problems and follow through with the power and feasibility of my experience in project management. I have a somewhat different way of thinking about things as there is always another approach when confronted with a roadblock. I also strive to be a team player and collaborator to work through problems together as a team. To me, it is essential to see different points of view and utilize other team members' specialties to get things done. And as a doer on the events committee, it is important to me to know our bases are covered to successfully achieve our goals. Finally, Thinkwell has currently designated me as their TEA liaison/point person.