On Tuesday, March 18th, The California Diversity Council hosted its Women in Leadership Symposium. This year’s theme was “Navigating the Corporate Ladder”. The event was held at CBS Interactive and moderated by CBS Interactive Senior Director of Human Resources and National Diversity Council Board Member, Monica Pool. The diverse group of distinguished panelist included: Neeracha Taychakhoo, Senior VP of Partner Programs and Marketing, Salesforce.com, Michelle Banks, EVP and General Counsel, Gap, Katie Kulik, Senior VP, Global Sales, CBS Interactive and Jolen Anderson, Chief Diversity Officer, Visa. “On behalf of our CEO and Founder Dennis Kennedy we extend our gratitude to all of the panelists and moderator for their time and extraordinary leadership” said Angeles Valenciano President and EVP of the National Diversity Council. “This event was a huge success in great part because of their participation and commitment to inclusion in the workplace”. Said Valenciano.

The lively topics that were discussed included but were not limited to, “Leadership Lessons Learned”, “Super Woman – Can I have it all?” “Smart Women Take Smart Risks”, “ Changing Lanes: How do I know the time is right?” The enthusiastic attendees asked thought-provoking questions, had lively discussions and listened intently while the panelist relayed unique experiences they’d had as female leaders in their fields. Jolen Anderson stated, “I really enjoyed the Symposium and the opportunity to interact with and hear from women of various generations and at different stages in their careers was a great learning experience.  Even as a panelist, I took very helpful information away from the dialogue.” A wealth of knowledge was gained as these leaders shared their stories and provided personal and professional experiences that challenged them as they successfully rose to the top of their professions and organizations.

It was a unique and valuable opportunity to observe, learn, network and hear different perspectives from a varied mix of executives who have made the climb up the corporate ladder.

The CADC is a member of the National Diversity Council. Organized in 2009 the California Diversity Council (CADC) is committed to fostering a learning environment for organizations to grow and leverage their knowledge of diversity and inclusion. It is currently comprised of 5 advisory boards: San Diego, Los Angeles, San Francisco/Bay Area, Silicon Valley and Orange County. To learn more please visit our website: [www.californiadiversitycouncil.org](http://www.californiadiversitycouncil.org)