



NE  THRI

Year in Review
2021



Letter from the Founders

Dear Neythri Community and friends,

As 2021 draws to a close, we want to take the opportunity to look back on a year that while challenging in many ways, also showed us how #communityispower – even in the toughest of times. We take pride in the fact that when the pandemic brought the world to a halt and forced us to keep our distance from family, friends and one another, the work we do at Neythri has helped our community to stay connected, learn and grow and made the difficult times hopefully a little easier. We all miss the energy of being physically in a room together. The reality is that it will probably take a little while longer before this is possible again. However, we have demonstrated what we can achieve when we work and think as a community with shared interests, even when we can't be together physically.

We have been our busiest best in the last twelve months. With a committed volunteer team supporting us, we launched and managed a broad array of new programs and initiatives - our acclaimed Board Readiness program, curated Neythri Salons, popular 1:1 mentoring, 1:1 Executive Coaching, and an East Coast chapter, to name a few.

In July, we kicked off our next stage of member experience and connection: The Neythri Circles, which includes three distinct membership tiers and the Neythri Hub, a private digital platform that enables Neythri Circle members to connect, engage and collaborate with each other and access opportunities for mutual benefit. As the vibrant Neythri Hub buzzes with daily conversations, we are amazed by how this community has come together to support one another - opening up calendars to advise those seeking help, signing up to be a mentor, posting job and board opportunities, sharing resources and their networks, the list goes on and we never cease to be impressed.

Our sister organization, the Neythri Futures Fund, a historic-first fund where 90% of the 247 LPs are South Asian women, closed an oversubscribed \$10M Fund I in record time and has already made 9 investments in groundbreaking companies with female and diverse founders.

In October, we hosted an exclusive event featuring Indra Nooyi, the trailblazing former CEO of PepsiCo, to celebrate the launch of her memoir, My Life in Full.

Letter from the Founders

We were humbled and thrilled to learn in November that we made the Forbes' Culture 50 Champions list.

These and several other successes and milestones could not have been possible without the collective efforts, commitment, and passion of our Founding Circle members, our team of volunteers, and our members. We are proud of all we have accomplished and want to thank you all for being a part of the Neythri journey. Your support, ambassadorship, and collective strength is what makes us formidable as a community. Thank you for your belief in us and our vision of enabling more South Asian professional women to find success.

We wish you and your families a happy and healthy holiday season. 2022 is going to be even bigger and better!



Mythili Sankaran

Co-Founder & CEO

Sruthi Ramaswami

Co-Founder

Chitra Nayak

Co-Founder

Pronounced “nay-three,” Neythri signifies female leader and guide in Sanskrit



Our Mission

Neythri’s mission is to foster, engage, and advance a global community of South Asian professional women of all backgrounds and experience who are committed to helping each other succeed.



Connection

A safe and welcoming community that uniquely understands each others’ challenges and opportunities

Sharing

Our members have unique superpowers and domain expertise to share and gain insights from each other and from thought leaders



Learning

Elevating role models, learning critical leadership skills, mentoring the next generation



Our Member Community



Global presence

- 2,100+ members across 14 countries
- Predominantly in North America (U.S. & Canada)
- Member base growing in the UK and Asia

Cross-generational membership

Professional Experience Post Undergraduate

- Senior Professionals (> 20 years): 29%
- Mid-Career (11-20 years): 39%
- Early-Career (0-10 years): 32%

Diverse representation across industries & functional area

- ~ 40% of Members hold Director-level positions and above
- Top 5 industries represented are Technology, Biotech & Healthcare, Finance & Venture Capital, Non-Profit, and Education



Where Neythri Members Work

(a sample representation)



Our Focus

Accelerating the professional success of South Asian women through programs, initiatives, community & connection

Our programs focus on the following core areas through creative events, content, and community building

Professional & Leadership Development

Programming focused on professional and leadership skills, career growth and corporate board placements.

Create opportunities for 1:1 & peer-to-peer mentorship and advice across all levels.

Mentorship & Connections

Social Impact & Community Leadership

Strengthen non-profit leadership, celebrate social entrepreneurship and create a culture of service and philanthropy.

Accelerate and support South Asian female founders & funders in their journeys through community, connections and mentorship.

Founders & Funders

2021 Key Highlights

- Crossed 2,100+ Members
- Hosted 50+ events serving member needs
 - [Fireside chat](#) with Indra Nooyi, former CEO, PepsiCO
- Introduced [Neythri Circles](#) - tiered membership for enhanced member experience & [Neythri Hub](#) - private, secure member portal for connection
- Launched flagship programs for senior executives
 - [Board Readiness Training & Connections](#)
 - [Neythri Salons](#)
- Launched the first cohort of 1:1 Mentorship program in late October
- Closed an over-subscribed, historic-first \$10M venture fund - [Neythri Futures Fund](#)
- Published 85+ articles in the [Neythri blog](#),
- Recognized as a [Forbes' 50 Culture Champion](#)

2021 Key Highlights

Events

- 50+ events serving member needs
 - CXO & Expert panels including COO of Zoom, CIO of Peloton, former CMO of Oracle etc.
 - Professional development: Goal-setting, nailing interviews, building confidence
 - Sold-out workshops on nonprofit board readiness & "Finding Your Cause"
 - Exclusive events for Neythri Young Professionals
 - Fireside chat with Indra Nooyi, former CEO, PepsiCO
 - Member Networking & Connection
 - Cocktails & Connections
 - Chai Time
 - Peer-to-peer sharing circles
 - Meet & Mingle
 - Select COVID-safe, in-person member networking events

and many more... check out neythri.org/event

COCKTAILS & CONNECTIONS

Details: 09.24.21, Online
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm PST

Let's mix and mingle in a mellow milieu, with a medley of fun topics, and your favorite brew



NEYTHRI
GROW TOGETHER

NEYTHRI
GROW TOGETHER

NAILING THAT INTERVIEW



Date: Thursday, October 21st, 2021
Time: 5:00pm - 6:00 PM PST | 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM EST
Place: Virtual Event

NEYTHRI

PEER-TO-PEER SHARING CIRCLES: EAST COAST EDITION

Join us for a casual but relevant peer-to-peer discussion in small groups on the topic becoming more "visible". Share strategies and tips for how to make yourself heard



Date: Thursday April 29th, 2021
Time & Place: 7-8 pm EST/4-5 pm PST
Online Event

NEYTHRI
GROW TOGETHER

NAILING THAT INTERVIEW



Date: Thursday, October 21st, 2021
Time: 5:00pm - 6:00 PM PST | 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM EST
Place: Virtual Event



NEYTHRI
GROW TOGETHER

GET ON BOARD WITH SOCIAL IMPACT - PART 1

Date: Thursday, May 27th, 2021
Time: 5:00pm - 6:00pm PST
Place: Virtual Event

Speakers:
Co-moderator: Usha Srinivasan, CEO & Co-founder, Mosaic America
Co-moderator: Tanuja Bahal, Chair, BoD, Planned Parenthood Mar Mor
Panelist: Geetha Murali, CEO, Room to Read
Panelist: Sarita Kohli, President & CEO, AACI
Panelist: Raj-Ann Rekhi Gill, Nonprofit Consultant & Board Member
Panelist: Reema Dirks, Board Member, Planned Parenthood Mar Mor



2021 Key Highlights

Membership

- Membership surpasses 2100!
- Introducing Neythri Circles - Tiered membership for enhanced member experience
 - **Discovery Circle (Free):**
 - Ideal for those just starting their professional careers.
 - **Premier Circle (\$99.99/year):**
 - Ideal for early-stage and mid-career professionals who want to invest in personal growth.
 - Discounted/complimentary access to Neythri events
 - Access to 1:1 Mentorship, Executive coaching, Job opportunities board and special-interest groups on the Neythri Hub
 - **Leadership Circle (\$999.999/year):**
 - An exclusive membership for senior South Asian women leaders who want to give back to our community while connecting with like-minded peers.
 - Access to:
 - Exclusive Leadership Circle group on the Hub
 - Board Readiness Training program
 - Neythri Salons
 - Executive Opportunities Board



2021 Key Highlights

Board Readiness Training

boardreadiness@neythri.org

Designed to help experienced South Asian female executives understand Board service and develop a game-plan to activate their Board journey. Currently offered to Neythri Founding Circle & Leadership Circle members only

- Launched a 4-session Board Readiness Program in February 2021, with three cohorts in 2021
- Program elements include:
 - Helping participants build their Board value proposition and synthesize the types of Boards they want to serve on
 - Create Board documents, polish their elevator pitch, build their network game-plan, learn about Board due diligence, prepare for interviews and much more



Corporate Board Readiness Program
Session 1: Demystifying Boards



Asha Malik
COO, VTEK
Board Member, Greenhouse



Rayman Mathoda
Partner, Emerge Life Sciences
Board Member, Sharestates



Rupal Hollenbeck
CMO, Cerebras Systems
Board Member, Check Point



Ana Agneshwar
Co-Host
Amient, CEO



Shefali Raina
Co-Host
Alpha Lane Partner, CEO

Dates: Session 1: October 6, 2021
Session 2: October 20, 2021
Session 3: November 3, 2021
Session 4: November 17, 2021

Time: 5:00pm - 7:00pm PST / 8:00pm - 10:00PM EST

Place: Virtual Event



Corporate Board Readiness Program
Session 1: Demystifying Boards



Leela Srinivasan
CMO, Survey Monkey
Board Member, Upwork



Renu Agrawal
Board Member
Luther Burbank



Rupal Hollenbeck
Chief Marketing Officer
Cerebras Systems



Ana Agneshwar
Co-Host
Amient, CEO



Shefali Raina
Co-Host
Alpha Lane Partner, CEO

Dates: Session 1: June 10, 2021
Session 2: June 24, 2021
Session 3: July 8, 2021
Session 4: July 22, 2021

Time: 5:00pm - 7:00pm PST / 8:00pm - 10:00PM EST

Place: Virtual Event



Corporate Board Readiness Program
Session 3: Things to know before YOU get on a Board



Smita Conjeevaram
Board Member



Anjali Joshi
Board Member



Christine Gorjanc
Board Member



Linde Hotchkiss
Executive Vice President
ABD Team



Ana Agneshwar
Co-Host
Amient, CEO



Shefali Raina
Co-Host
Alpha Lane Partner, CEO

Dates: Session 3: July 8, 2021
Session 4: July 22, 2021

Time: 5:00pm - 7:00pm PST / 8:00pm - 10:00PM EST

Place: Virtual Event

Day in the Life of a Board Member AMA

Date: Thursday, September 2, 2021

Time: 5:00pm - 6:00pm PST

Place: Virtual Event



Chitra Nayak
Board Member
Infosys



Ray Mathoda
Partner Emerge Life Sciences



Renu Agrawal
Board Member
Fmr EVP/COO WellsFargo



2021 Key Highlights

[Neythri Salons](#)

salons@neythri.org

Goal: to build multi-dimensional, rewarding connections with women from shared backgrounds.

- Each Neythri Salon is a curated group of 8-10 senior South Asian women across industry sectors and functional areas that engage in intimate, thought-provoking, and fun get-togethers, virtually and/or in-person
- By sharing perspectives and telling authentic stories, these evenings of conversation become a source of deep connections. The agenda is set by the group – some examples include:
 - What fills your thought life? What do you notice yourself thinking about?
 - Balancing work and family expectations are tough for all women, but especially for South Asian women. What are your experiences? Success? Opportunities?
 - What is the one issue you are struggling with right now?

Launched a total of 11 (8 new in 2021) salons with 80+ executives participating!



2021 Key Highlights

Neythri Futures Fund

info@neythrifuturesfund.com

The Neythri Futures Fund I (NFF) is a historic-first \$10M venture fund whose mission is to position South Asian women front and center as key investors and stakeholders in the fund.

- Launched Fund I in March 2021
- Raised and closed the \$10M fund in a record 6 months in October 2021
- 247 Limited Partners (LPs)
- 90% of LPs are South Asian women
- 75% of LPs are first time investors
- Uniquely cross-generational - youngest LP is 25 years old, oldest is 70+ years!
- 9 investments made in ground-breaking companies founded by women and diverse founding teams
- All [portfolio](#) companies have a woman in a key decision making role in the company.
- Fund closing covered in major [press outlets](#).

“

There is a “right time” for the “right idea”. This fund captures the current socio-political climate and establishes a rightful place for dynamic, empowered, intuitive women in the financial world.

”

ISHA ABDULLAH

Clinical Medical Director, Concentra
Fund Advisory Council Member and Founding LP,
Neythri Futures Fund



“

I am excited to join the Neythri Futures Fund to collaborate with other LPs and learn from them. This is an opportunity to increase diversity in the VC field and to be part of the journey to help South Asian entrepreneurs.

”

INDIRA VIDYAPRAKASH

Sr. Director, Engineering and Product Management, Workday
LP, Neythri Futures Fund



“

I am an entrepreneurs champion and excited to foster the next generation of South Asian women leaders.

”

NAVIN CHADDHA

Managing Director, Mayfield Fund
Fund Advisory Council Member, Neythri
Futures Fund



“

I have never ever been interested in investing until now. One of the main reasons I did it is because of Neythri, an organization that is driving change for women by women! I am beyond stoked to get started!

”

PRAGATI GROVER

Development Director, Team4Tech
Founding LP, Neythri Futures Fund



Neythri Members in the News



[Rayman Kaur Mathoda joins the Board of Directors at Mosaic](#)



[Radhika Krishnan appointed to the QuickLogic Corporation Board of Directors](#)



[Maitree Mervana featured in Forbes 30 Under 30 \(Venture Capital\)](#)



[Priya Abani, CEO of AliveCor Inc. named to Jacobs Board of Directors](#)



[Aishwarya Iyer, Founder and CEO of Brightland, makes Inc. 's 2021 Female Founders 100 list](#)



[Bhawna Singh Joins Auth0 Leadership Team as Senior Vice President of Engineering](#)



[Ritu Narayan, CEO of ZuM wants to use school buses to send electricity to the grid](#)



[Urvashi Sheth wins "Technology Woman of the Year" in the 2021 Stevie® Awards](#)



[JFrog Appoints Citrix CIO Meerah Rajavel to its Board of Directors](#)



[Paramita Bhattacharaya featured in Top 50 Global Thought Leaders and Influencers on Customer Loyalty](#)



[Anu Natarajan helms \\$1B Facebook housing initiative](#)



[Yamini Rangan appointed Hubspot CEO](#)

Neythri Members in the News



[Purnima Padmanabhan recognized as San Jose Business Journal's 2021 Woman of Influence](#)



[Sapna Kapur joins MediaMath as Chief Financial Officer](#)



[Nithya Ruff joins CROSS Advisory Committee](#)



[Rupal Shah Hollenbeck joins Cerebras Systems as Chief Marketing Officer](#)



[Infosys appoints Chitra Nayak as Independent Director](#)



[Kirthiga Reddy is President & Director of newly launched, all-women SPAC, Athena Technology II](#)



[Mansi Shah named to Silicon Valley Business Journal's 40 Under 40](#)



[Xometry adds Ranjana Clark to Board of Directors](#)



[Sarika Garg's startup, Cacheflow raises \\$6M in seed funding.](#)



[CCC Information Services Inc appoints Shivani Govil as Chief Product Officer](#)



[Consumer Technology Association names Sanyogita Shamsunder to its 2022 Board of Industry Leaders](#)



[Charu Sharma, Co-founder & President, OsanaSalud named to Forbes 30 under 30 \(Healthcare\).](#)

Testimonials

"As a female CEO operating in a fast evolving world, faced with unprecedented challenges all the time. Neythri provides me a robust and trusted network of top, like-minded female leaders ready to lend support and learning, something I have grown to value immensely."

- Sonal Puri, CEO, Webscale



"My Neythri salon truly feels like a special sisterhood - safe, honest and real"

- Rohini Sadarangani, COO at stealth startup

"Neythri has challenged me to dream big. This community has shown me opportunities that I hadn't given myself the space to even consider. I have met some of the most inspiring women in my life here who want to help me navigate this world so I can truly achieve my dreams"

- Varshaya Visvanathan, Sr. Financial Analyst, Good PLANet Foods



"All the great venture firms founded over the past six decades have shared some common ingredients - the boldness to build something entirely new, the conviction to back entrepreneurs who are not "obvious" to the rest of the market, a service mindset towards LPs and a desire to create broad social impact. Neythri Futures Fund is the latest addition to this group and I am excited that these excellent ingredients are at Neythri's core. By bringing strong South Asian women to the table as LPs, board members, advisors, execs and entrepreneurs, Neythri is likely to unearth previously undiscovered value. I am thrilled to support the Fund as an advisor and LP"

- Rohini Chakravarthy, Partner, NGP Capital



"Neythri has covered a lot of ground to ready people like me to serve on boards. I found the training to be comprehensive and covering the board landscape, duties of board members and how to be ready for the board. The exposure to board members who look like me and candid conversations with them about board readiness and challenges have made me more confident to serve on any public and private board now."

- Nithya Ruff, Comcast Fellow & Vice President, Comcast



"As a South Asian female founder, Neythri offers me an incredibly high-quality peer group to network with and learn from. The connections I have made through Neythri are with people who sincerely care about supporting and elevating each other and have the experience and wisdom to add value."

- Shruthi Rao, Co-founder & Chief Business Officer, Vendia



The Neythri Team

*Neythri's programs and operations are supported by a highly committed
Founding Circle and team of volunteers*

Co-Founders

Mythili Sankaran (CEO) Chitra Nayak Sruthi Ramaswami

Founding Circle

Aarti Chandna	Manisha Gupta	Rayman Mathoda	Sohini Roy
Akanksha Manik Talya	Mansi Shah	Reema Shah	Sonar Thekdi
Ana Agneshwar	Minoti Dhanaraj	Rekha Pai	Sree Menon
Ana Arun	Monica Kumar	Renu Agrawal	Sunita Ganapathi
Archana Ramamoorthy	Namrata Vora	Rohini Chakravarthy	Supriya Gujral
Ayesha Mathews-Wadhwa	Nandini Gondhalekar	Rohini Sadarangani	Suruchi Shukla
Bhanu Narasimhan	Nandini Srinivasan	Roli Saxena	Sweta Sarnot
Bhawna Singh	Nithya Ruff	Roma Wadhi Ghai	Tanuja Bahal
Buvana Dayanandan	Paramita Bhattacharya	Rupal Hollenbeck	Uma Meyyappan
Devika Patil	Pragati Grover	Sanyogita Shyamsunder	Urvashi Sheth
Enakshi Singh	Prerana Vaidya	Sapna Kapur	Usha Sekhar
Geetha Murali	Priya Ghandikota	Sarika Garg	Usha Srinivasan
Geetu Sharma	Priya Rajan	Sejal Patel Daswani	Vineeta Gupta
Isha Abdullah	Purnima Padmanabhan	Shalini Govil-Pai	Vinita Belani
Jagadha Sivan	Radha Nayak	Shankari Panchapakesan	Yamini Rangan
Kamini Ramani	Radha Sankaran	Shefali Raina	Zeryn Sarpangal
Kirthiga Reddy	Radhika Krishnan	Shivani Govil	
Lakshmi Hari	Radhika Malpani	Shobz Ahluwalia	
Mahak Sharma	Ramya Raghunathan	Smriti Shekhar	
Malini Balakrishnan	Ranjana Clark	Sneha Devadason	

Executive Committee Volunteers

Alpana Ved	Mayuri Baheti	Piyali Banerjee	Shaila Parikh
Amrit Kallar	Meghna Pradeep	Pranavi Cheemakurti	Shantel Jairam
Anu Natarajan	Minya Shidhaye	Preena Soni	Sheela Ursal
Bindiya Khanna	Mona Shah	Prerna Lakhi Bakshi	Shirin Hasan
Dhana Pawar	Namrata Rao	Priya Bhaidaswala	Simran Rao
Divya Laul Gupta	Nandita Ruchandani	Priya Suri	Sonal Somaiya
Hani Anis	Nidhi Sahni	Rachel Parikh	Sophie Nguyen
Hema Prapoo	Nikita Gupta	Renu Dargar	Suja Varad
Lakshmi Sampath	Nikita Parekh	Rupal Nishar	Swathi Krishna
Lakshmi Karanth	Nisha Kumari	Sahana Potti	Tushyati Maudgalya
Latha Rao	Nitya Rajendran	Sandhya Panchapakesan	Varshaya Visvanathan
Mansi Parekh	Paawan Kothari	Sanya Gurnani	Veena Ramaswamy
	Parmjit Sandhu	Sarita Kohli	Vidya Venkatesh



Join Us

Questions? Please write to us at contact@neythri.org

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If your company or organization has matching or giving programs, please consider supporting Neythri! Neythri is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and contributions are tax-deductible. Our EIN is 84-3608141.

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