

August 26, 2021

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## Great Minds in STEM Selects Next Executive Director, Adds New Board Member

**Los Angeles, CA** – Great Minds in STEM (GMiS) is proud to announce recent changes in our Board of Directors and within our GMiS Staff.

**Ms. Bertha Haro** has been named Executive Director of Great Minds in STEM, a role she will begin immediately. Ms. Haro is an accomplished nonprofit executive with over a decade of success in leadership roles focused on workforce initiatives and collegiate academic programs that help launch careers. She joined GMiS in 2003 where she quickly distinguished herself leading many of the non-profit's development initiatives. In 2014 she was named Director of Development where she successfully cultivated Great Minds in STEM's most important corporate, academic and government relationships and procured strategic partnerships that further GMiS' mission. Prior to joining Great Minds in STEM, Ms. Haro served as an interim executive director leading a \$3.5 million nonprofit with a team of 50 employees. The agency was ranked #1 out of 15 organizations with the highest job placement rate in the region.

Bertha holds both an M.S. in Public Administration, and a B.S. in Sociology (emphasis on Youth Development), from California State University, Los Angeles, CA. She is President of the Board of Directors, California State University, Los Angeles, Alumni Association, and a member of the Board of Trustees for the university. She is a National Leadership Panel member for the University of the District of Columbia.

**Mr. Armando L. Castorena** joined the GMiS Board of Directors earlier this year. He is the Chief Diversity Officer and Vice President of Human Resources Enterprise Operations at Lockheed Martin Corporation. In this capacity, he is responsible for leading the corporation's diversity & inclusion strategy and partnering with the business areas to support local D&I initiatives including diversity outreach, training, EEO, compliance, and investigations. He is also responsible for leading all aspects of HR services for the Enterprise Operations, executives and staff including workforce planning, talent acquisition, talent management, succession planning, leadership development, training, compensation, performance management, rewards and recognition, labor relations, diversity, inclusion, and equal employment opportunity programs.

GMiS salutes Ms. Robin Evitts, our esteemed Board Treasurer, who recently stepped down from the board. We also salute Ms. Anna M. Park, a fearless member of the GMiS team for over 20 years, who transitioned to a board-only role in January of this year after serving as CEO since 2014. We thank both amazing women for their years of selfless contributions to our organization. The impact their efforts have had on those we serve will be felt for years to come.

Juan Rivera, Ph.D.

Chairman of the Board and  
Acting Chief Executive Officer  
Great Minds in STEM