



community news | february 2020



Cassandra Schaege, SIP Wine & Beer

February 2020 Community News

*|IFNOT:ARCHIVE_PAGE|**|IF:FNAME|*Dear *|FNAME|*,
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Last winter, we coordinated an \$800k bridge loan to help [Access Youth Academy](#) build a new facility and expand academic mentorship and the sport of squash for underserved youth to succeed in high school, college, and beyond.

This month Access hit a huge milestone in their progress and successfully repaid their loan.

Making the leap from renting to building and owning a facility is always complex, and layering on tax credit financing adds more than a few gray hairs! The Access team worked diligently with many stakeholders, including the City of San Diego who approved a \$5.5 million grant to help make the new building a reality. Access' state-of-the-art squash and learning center will provide services to over 1,000 local students—[880 more students than its current facility](#).

If you're wondering how squash changes lives, watch this inspiring episode of the new Apple TV+ show [Little America](#). Based on the [true story of an Access alumna](#), the episode depicts a young woman's life-changing rise from cleaning houses to national urban squash champion. What they don't tell you is that she went on to earn a Gates scholarship at Columbia University (my alma mater!) and become an investment banking analyst at Goldman Sachs.



Photo courtesy of Access Youth Academy

[As we dive further into our work in early childhood education](#), we're reminded again and again that [investing in children is the single best investment we can make](#). Access's investment in bright and talented students progresses all of us towards a happier, more equitable future.

Lauren Grattan
Co-Founder & Director of Community Engagement

[Shop these six Black-owned businesses in San Diego and watch our communities thrive](#)

We love history months, but we also like to look forward to an amazing *future heritage*. As my Indigenous sisters say, "we're ancestors in training." This Black History Month, our team rounded up local Black-owned businesses building community so we can all [shop our values and shape the economic future we want](#).



Entrepreneurs like Cassandra Schaege, founder of [SIP Wine & Beer](#), are using business as a force for community. Cassandra sought to make wine and beer simple and fun while supporting women and minorities in the industry by creating a destination to empower, inspire, and exchange knowledge.

Learn about [SIP, Cafe X \(pictured\), Project Reo Collective and more on our blog](#).

[IA 50 2020 Emerging Impact Manager](#)



We're thrilled to be included in the [ImpactAssets 50 2020 database as an Emerging Impact Manager](#), a new classification that feels like home to us.

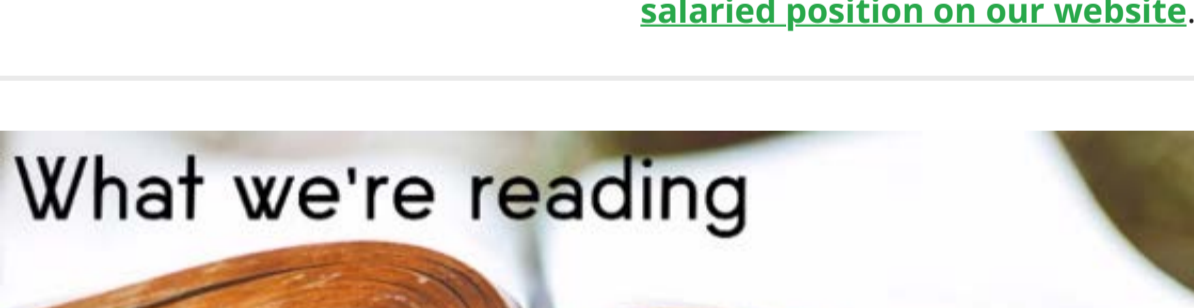
"As the impact investing field evolves, we can't lose sight of innovation," said IA 50 Review Committee Member Julia W. Sze, "The emerging managers we selected have developed strategies in new sectors and geographies, are often led by women and people of color, and add new depth to the impact investment universe."

[We're hiring a project manager!](#)



Wanted: A person with a passion for making things go smoothly, who dreams in Gantt charts and thrives on a well-organized task list. If that sounds like you or someone you know, our project manager role could be a great fit!

[Learn more about this full-time, salaried position on our website.](#)



- [Black Futures Month: Alicia Garza & economic justice across gender](#) [Forbes]
- [How advancing women's equality can add \\$12 trillion to global growth](#) [McKinsey & Company]
- [Capital for justice: Spurring on impact investing for racial equality](#) [Stanford Social Innovation Review]
- [Migrant child separated from family for six years by the US government](#) [The Center for Investigative Reporting]
- [Five-star reviews, one-star profits: The devaluation of businesses in Black communities](#) [Brookings]
- [Puro cash: Latinos are opening more small businesses than anyone else in the US](#) [USA TODAY]
- [More women became VC Partners than ever before in 2019 but 65% of venture firms still have zero female partners](#) [All Raise]

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This company meets the highest standards of social and environmental impact

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