Consulate General of Italy
San Francisco

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DONNE CHE INNOVANO
WOMEN AND INNOVATION

MARCH 31, 2022 | 6 PM

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The Italian Consulate General of San Francisco, in collaboration with the Italian Cultural Institute of San Francisco, the Italian Trade Agency of Los Angeles and the Italian Scientists and Scholars North America Foundation (ISSNAF), Bay Area Chapter, presents the panel *Donne che Innovano / Women and Innovation.* Four women, successful leaders in the sector of applied sciences, will share their experiences and achievements as well as the challenges encountered in their path to success. Consul General Sergio Strozzi will moderate the event. The panel will be simulcast via Zoom.

Maddalena Adorno

Maddalena Adorno is the co-founder and CEO of Dorian Therapeutics, Inc. and the main inventor of the senoblocker technology (potential therapeutics for aging) that the company is developing. Before founding Dorian, Maddalena completed her postdoctoral training at Stanford University, studying Stem Cell and Aging Biology. She was then awarded a Siebel fellowship and received two grants to further advance her research. In 2014, she was the co-founder of Stem-Guard, Inc., a biotech company developing neuroprotectors for degenerative diseases. She is also an inventor on several patents in cancer biology, aging and degenerative diseases. Furthermore, her expertise in aging biology helps in designing new treatments for patients with Down Syndrome.

Leah Edwards

Leah Edwards began her startup career on the founding team of a digital marketing platform, Post Communications, which was sold for $380 million within two years. After being a serial co-founder of Enterprise Software, Marketing Automation, and Sustainability companies, she coaches founders and executives and advises individuals, corporates, family offices and VC's interested in startups, teaching entrepreneurship and technology innovation in top universities. She is currently Partner at Pegasus Tech Ventures.

Alessandra Lanzara

Prof. Lanzara has led an experimental materials physics group at the University of California, Berkeley since 2002. She is the founding director of Center for Sustainable Innovation at UCB and the co-founder of Quantum Advanced Detection (QUAD) LLC, a company that develops and manufactures high-efficiency detection systems for manufacturing process control technology. Lanzara obtained a degree in Physics from the University of Rome "La Sapienza" in Italy and has been a Full Professor at UC Berkeley since 2011. Lanzara is best known for her original contribution to the study of quantum materials such as high temperature superconductors, topological phases of matter and two dimensional materials. Her contributions include the discovery of spin momentum locking and electron-phonon interaction in high-temperature superconductors, symmetry breaking in graphene, and optical control of spin photocurrents in topological materials. Holder of 3 patents, in 2015 she was named one of the 'Leading Scientists of the World' by the International Biographical Center in Cambridge.

Maria Grazia Roncarolo

Prof. Maria Grazia Roncarolo is the George D. Smith Professor in Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine, Professor of Pediatrics and of Medicine, director of the Center for Definitive and Curative Medicine, and co-director of the Institute for Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine, Stanford University. A pediatric immunologist by training, she earned her medical degree at the University of Turin, Italy. Dr. Roncarolo worked at DNAX Research Institute for Molecular and Cellular Biology in Palo Alto, where she contributed to the discovery of novel cytokines, cell-signaling molecules that are part of the immune response. She was the director of the San Raffaele Telethon Institute for Gene therapy where she lead the team that developed *Strimvelis®*, the first stem cell gene therapy product for a genetic disease obtaining marketing approval in Europe. She discovered a new class of T cells, called T regulatory type 1 cells, and is leading clinical trials using these cell therapeutics to prevent immune mediated diseases. She is a co-founder of Graphite Bio, which is developing a new class of therapies to correct genetic defects in people with serious and life-threatening diseases.