

# Emerge California Alumnae Spotlights

## Changing the Face of Power in Irvine

Irvine Mayor Farrah Khan (Class of 2016, left) and Vice Mayor Tammy Kim (Class of 2019, right) won their 2020 elections with record numbers of votes. Mayor Khan defeated a 26-year incumbent and is the first Muslim and first person of color elected Mayor, and Vice Mayor Kim is the first East Asian American woman to serve on the council. Under their leadership, the Irvine police department established a new anti-hate incident and hate crime portal to combat intolerance and hate in their community.



## Leading with Democratic Values

On the same day that the nation's most restrictive abortion law went into effect in Texas, the State Senate passed Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan's (Class of 2018) AB 1356. AB 1356 adds extensive protections for patients and providers at reproductive health clinics.



## Uplifting the Sisterhood

Erica A. Stewart (Class of 2018) was appointed as San Luis Obispo Mayor in October 2021 by fellow EmERGE California alumna, former Mayor Heidi Harmon (Class of 2015), who stepped down to take on a new environmental advocacy role at the Romero Institute. Mayor Stewart is the first Black mayor in the city's history and leads an all-woman City Council.



## Blazing a New Trail

Mia Bonta (Class of 2021) was elected to the State Assembly to become the first Afro-Latina to serve in the legislature, first Black woman north of Los Angeles to serve in the legislature since 1996, and part of the first-ever EmERGE California Legislative Caucus with Asm. Rebecca Bauer-Kahan. She helped set a record number of women legislators serving in California.



## 2021 Election Highlight

Courtney Welch (Class of 2019) was elected to the Emeryville City Council in November 2021. She is Emeryville's first Black woman councilmember in over 30 years.



Thank you to our Director's Council Members, your support fuels our work.  
See our members and join them in supporting our work at  
[www.EmergeCA.org/directors-council/](http://www.EmergeCA.org/directors-council/)

**EMERGE**  
CALIFORNIA