



District Leader

Biographical Information

Candidate's Name: **Lisa Saliers, DTM (Lisa Martini-Saliers professionally)**

Candidate's Office: **Division Director - Central** District Number: **5**

Toastmasters member since: **May 1996 (Home is Fred H. Rohr Toastmasters Club 2518)**

Education:
**Masters in Engineering - UCLA
MBA - University of Redlands
BS Mechanical Engineering - UC Berkeley**

Toastmasters offices held and terms of service:
District 5: Area Director Area 12 2023-24 (Present), Area Director Area 14 (Distinguished) 2022-23, Area 22 Governor 2001-02, FHR TM President January - June 2024 (present), VP Education January - June 2023, VP Membership July- Dec 2017, Secretary/Treasurer January - June 2021, Sergeant at Arms July - Dec 2004.

Toastmasters honors and recognition:
Area Governor of the year 2001-2002. Area 1 Table Topics Contest, 2012 runner up. Speakers Bureau Chair 1998-2001, D5 (Co) Web master 1999 - 2005, Member renewal Chair 2008-2009. Club Specialist / Phoenix Award - Club Bilingue 3052. Sponsored 42 members since 2003. CC, CL, CTM, ALB, ATM, ATM-S, ACG, LDREXC

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and your role as a District leader:
Design Engineer at Collins Aerospace, an RTX business. CATIA, computer aided design in Aerospace. Toastmasters experience helps in presenting designs and other material effectively, providing computer system training, and mentoring rotational associate engineers. As an area director I work to be sure the area clubs are getting district communication, feedback and help.

What experience do you have in strategic planning?
In the workplace - policy deployment and macro-planning, which takes place yearly and is maintained through the year.

What experience do you have in the area of finance?
Attendee at company all-up meetings. College courses in accounting and finance.

What experience do you have in developing procedures?

Work experience: a. Led/participated in lean process mapping events. b. Wrote several Engineering Standard Operating Manuals (ESOM) for tool design, digital mock-up, and other business processes.

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

People have varying energy, interests, and talent to apply to work and Toastmasters. At work leadership is about communication, good plans, removing barriers and appropriate follow-up. In Toastmasters I keep up with district communication, visit clubs and look at reporting on the Toastmasters International web site. From this I flow down communication, provide feedback and targeted suggestions to volunteer leaders.

Why do you want to serve as a District leader?

I can make the time and have ideas and energy. I don't believe the District Leadership or club leadership positions should be unfilled. These are great opportunities wasted.

In your opinion, what are the District mission's major objectives and how would you work to achieve them?

The district supports clubs by providing training and targeted help. We also find organizations and areas that want a club and help them go through the process of building one.

Additional information about yourself:

Like many Toastmasters I avoided attending my first meeting for years. Toastmasters is a great way to get to know other people and is a stabilizing force in my own life. I know there are still many people petrified of public speaking and others with leadership training needs we can serve. We need healthy clubs - more clubs at more times - and in more places.



District Leader

Biographical Information

Candidate's Name: **Elizabeth Choi-Hedges**

Candidate's Office: **Southern Division Director** District Number: **5**

Toastmasters member since: **May 1, 2017**

Education:

December 1998 - Art Center College of Design, Pasadena, CA
Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Graphic Design & Packaging
May 2021 - IDEOU, Online Education
Advanced Design Thinking Certificate Program

Toastmasters offices held and terms of service:

Area 1 Director 2022-2023
Club Coach Bilingual Toastmasters 2022-2023
Vice President of Membership, 2 terms: 1/1/2023 & 7/1/2023;
Vice President of Education, 2 terms: 1/1/2022 & 7/1/2022;
President, 2 terms: 1/1/2020 & 7/1/2020;
Secretary, 1 term: 7/1/2019
Vice President of Education, 2 terms: 7/1/2018 & 1/1/2019
Sgt at Arms, 1 term: 1/1/2018

Toastmasters honors and recognition:

Distinguished Toastmaster Award - September, 2023
Area Director of the Year 2022-2023

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and your role as a District leader:

I am an Art Director / Brand Strategist for an architecture company. I have been with the company for 19 years. I currently art direct a team of designers and strategists which entail guidance, support, and decision making to ensure success for all projects.

I believe these skills will help me to be an accountable District leader that fosters club growth and development.

What experience do you have in strategic planning?

My team is called the "Experience Design Team". A big part of our service is to strategize, organize and facilitate workshops for the client and the stakeholders for the project. It is a crucial process in our work that helps all the teams to arrive at a consensus on a clear vision and alignment. I build strategic agendas for the workshops that entail research reports, interactive exercises, and group discussions. The outcome from the workshop is used to build a methodical roadmap for the rest of the team to ensure sustainable success in the design steps forward.

What experience do you have in the area of finance?

In the design workplace, I do not have an extensive experience in the area of finance, since I have always worked with a financial team to assist me. However, I have experience with budgeting costs and labor hours for our services in order to submit proposals and quals for work.

What experience do you have in developing procedures?

I have 19 years of experience in my field of brand experience design. Over the years, I have discovered and contributed in our team's work process and procedures that allowed project success and evolution.

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

As an Area Director, Club Coach and President of my club, I have learned to be more self-reflective. In order to understand my strengths and weaknesses, values and leadership style has been crucial for my growth and development as a leader. I realize how important it is to seek feedback, and it drives me to continuously work on my leadership skills.

Why do you want to serve as a District leader?

I would like to be a District leader to continue my path of discovery and improvement in my leadership skills. More importantly, I highly value the Toastmasters skills that I have gained thus far, and I would love to be a part of promoting and contributing to the growth of Toastmasters.

In your opinion, what are the District mission's major objectives and how would you work to achieve them?

I believe the mission of the District is to ensure the quality of club meetings with membership building and retention, club extension, and educational accomplishments. I would work closely with the Area Directors to plan and organize success in the clubs.

Additional information about yourself:

I believe in Toastmasters and I am a huge fan of it. I have been promoting it to my colleagues, family members and friends. I would love to contribute to the success of Toastmasters in my club, area and district. Aside from Toastmasters, I have 3 great kids - 26yrs, 20 yrs, 18 yrs. I love yoga, running and reading. I am an introvert who loves challenges to push myself towards self improvement and discovery.