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A new look for the BBJ's Power 50: The Game Changers

Power in the Boston business community traditionally has been wielded by few and guarded closely. Last year in this space, we featured a list of the 50 most powerful businesspeople in Boston, and it turned out to be a controversial one, featuring mainly older, white men. We believe our list was accurate, highlighting the fact that power remains in the hands of a small group of historically privileged people. The feedback we received from the community led to several dialogues over the ensuing months about where power lies in Boston, and changes to the way we approached the list this year.

As an example, last year's organized opposition to the bid for the 2024 Summer Olympics in Boston — called No Boston Olympics — showed that a diverse community can wield significant power in the face of the city's elite. The success of that group, and others like it, led us to ask a different question this year, one that follows the theme of the games: Who else is changing the game of business in Boston — and who has done so in the past year?

With that, we offer up the sixth-annual Boston Business Journal Power 50: The Game Changers. It includes men and women from multiple industries and professions who are making a difference in their business communities, blazing trails and leaving their mark on the local economy. Profiles of the winners will be included in a supplement to the BBJ on Nov. 18.



Colette A.M. Phillips

Colette Phillips Communications, Inc.

After years of bringing together Boston's private- and public-sector leaders of color through Get Konnected! event series, Colette Phillips took her influence up a notch this past year, going beyond the traditional role of a public relations maven to create the Get Konnected! 100: Boston's Most Influential People of Color and Boston's first comprehensive list of people of color who are Boston's economic, social, political and innovation leaders.