



Humane Generation Los Angeles

Founded in 2017 in partnership with Kimberly Ovitz, the Humane Generation Los Angeles committee is a group of young leaders dedicated to working with the Humane Society of the United States Farm Animal Protection campaign to reduce the suffering of animals raised for meat, eggs and dairy. Committee members raise funds for education and public awareness initiatives and advocate for a more humane lifestyle. Chaired by Ovitz, Humane Generation Los Angeles is a part of the Humane Generation Philanthropy program.

Meet the members of Humane Generation Los Angeles.

Courtney Applebaum

Courtney Applebaum is the head designer at Courtney Applebaum Design, internationally known for designing and sourcing exclusive and unique elements from around the world. Set against her own demanding standards of luxury and livability, Applebaum's eye for combining traditional sophistication with contemporary pieces and accents has earned her recognition as an influential and important American Designer. Applebaum has had a love for animals since a young age and hopes to help bring awareness through her involvement with the HSUS. She resides in her native Los Angeles where she has two dogs and loves to ride horses.

[@courtneyapplebaumdesign](#)

Lauren Brokaw

Lauren Brokaw, a Los Angeles native, has been a devout animal lover since she can remember, cultivating that passion to contribute to various organizations throughout her life. Brokaw studied Visual Communications in college and upon graduating, worked for luxury conglomerate, Richemont, as well as with top fashion stylists and luxury fashion houses in public relations. In 2012, Brokaw founded Stella and Bow, a jewelry company aptly named after her Poodle, Bow. In her spare time, she volunteers for several charitable organizations in the LA area. Brokaw resides in West Hollywood with her multiple rescue dogs. [@puppyluvla](#)

Jessica de Ruiter

Jessica de Ruiter is a Los Angeles-based stylist. She began her career as a fashion editor in the Condé Nast offices of *Vogue*, *Teen Vogue*, *W* and *WWD*. Presently she is sought out for her simple, sophisticated styling and thoughtful, timeless point of view. De Ruiter has dressed countless Hollywood A-listers among them Jennifer Lawrence, Kate Mara, Elizabeth Banks, Kristen Bell, Melanie Griffith, Anjelica Huston, Helen Mirren, Robert Pattinson, Alexander Skarsgard and Michael Fassbender. She is also a regular contributor to *Harper's Bazaar*, *Vanity Fair*, *Glamour*, *W*, *Porter* and *InStyle* and has worked with a myriad of renowned photographers throughout her career. The humane treatment and welfare of all animals has resonated strongly with de Ruiter since she was a child, always feeling an inclination to protect and speak out on their behalf. As a stylist working in the fashion industry she adamantly admonishes the use of fur, and as a long-time vegan, de Ruiter takes a strong stance against factory farming and its exploitative practices. She aspires to bring more awareness and create positive change in the hopes that one day, animals everywhere will be treated with the compassion and respect they deserve. [@jessicaderuiter](#)

Leslie Durso

Leslie Durso is a vegan chef, wellness expert and the glowing face of a fresher plant-based movement that refuses to compromise style for sustainability. Walking the plant-based talk since age eight, this Southern California native has always been well ahead of the times with her meatless mindset. She is currently the vegan chef at the Four Seasons in Punta Mita, Mexico. Once simply known as 'Leslie the Lab Girl with Bill Nye the Science Guy,' Durso took her love of education and shifted from science to plant-based food. After establishing herself as a private chef, Durso emerged as a public persona, hosting cooking segments on television and online. Her show "Accidentally Vegan" can be seen on *FABFITFUNTV* and she regularly appears on *The Doctors*, *Food Network*, *Discovery Channel* and *Hallmark Channel*. *Maxim* magazine wrote, "We want to hire Leslie as our own personal chef! We'll even eat vegetables for her." A devoted animal lover and mom to rescue dog Pepe, Durso is passionate about animal welfare and is a proud member of Humane Generation LA! [@lesliedurso](#)

Noah Mills

Noah Mills is an actor and model who has worked with most of the top luxury brands in the world. After living in New York for many years, Mills moved to Los Angeles to continue his career on the west coast. He always dreamed of becoming a veterinarian and though that is not his current employment, his passion for being around animals and caring for them is paramount in his life and he brings that dedication to the HSUS.

[@noahmills](#)

Minnie Mortimer Gaghan

Minnie Mortimer Gaghan is a New York City born, California based clothing designer. She currently lives in Malibu with her husband, children, and their rescue pups. [@minniemortimer](#)

Kimberly Ovitz

Kimberly Ovitz is the Founding Chair of the Humane Generation LA committee. An entrepreneur with a background in creative direction, fashion design, brand-building strategy and photography, Ovitz is on a mission to use art and commerce to impact lives by embedding social, animal welfare and environmental considerations into media. In 2018, Ovitz went back to school for directing and completed her first short film with the intent to continue creating entertainment that inspires and accelerates change. Prior to this, she launched and scaled her eponymous, critically acclaimed women's apparel brand, followed by taking the role of Director of Business Development in Relativity Media's fashion division, and later consulted for consumer product start-up brands. A passionate animal rights activist, Ovitz has lent her support to numerous animal welfare organizations and has been involved with the HSUS since 2010. In addition to Humane Generation LA, she also sits on the organization's California State Council, helping to drive and support legislative change. Ovitz received a B.A. from Brown University and currently resides in Venice Beach with her dogs, Matzah Ball, Blue and Soft.

[@kimberlyovitz](#)

Nola Singer

Nola Singer is a wardrobe stylist who works with celebrities and private clients. She received a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts from Loyola Marymount University and studied fashion in Florence, Italy at the Lorenzo de Medici University. Singer resides in California and is very passionate about animal welfare and rescue work. When she's not styling, she lends her time and support to various organizations, including the HSUS, to help create a better world for animals and alleviate animal homelessness. [@nolasinger](#)

Hayden Slater

Hayden Slater is the Founder and CEO of Pressed Juicery, a specialty juice platform recognized as one of the leaders in the premium beverage market. Slater is also the Co-Founder of the lifestyle site, *The Chalkboard*, and published his first book, *JUICE*, in 2014. Hayden currently splits his time between Los Angeles and Seattle with his girl, a rescued Rottweiler named Finley. [@haydenslater](#)

Fuschia Kate Sumner

Fuschia Kate Sumner is an actress, voice over artist, writer and producer. Growing up in a household full of pets, all of which came from Battersea Dogs Home in London, instilled a natural love for all animals and an affinity for helping animals in need. Now a Los Angeles resident, Sumner is proud mother to Baci, a rescue pit/lab. [@fuschiakate](#)

Tessa Benson Tooley

Tessa Benson Tooley is a native New Yorker who has called Los Angeles home since 2002. An accomplished editor, writer and producer, Tooley was one of the initial hires at *Daily Candy* where she wore many hats with her position as Content Producer for the site. She was then hired as West Coast Bureau Chief at *SELF* magazine, a position she held for twelve years. Following this role, Tooley served as a senior editor at *LA Times Magazine*. Her editorial experience also includes writing for *The New York Times Style* section, *InStyle* and *Architectural Digest*, as well as serving as editor at *Los Angeles Magazine*. Most recently, Tooley transitioned into film development as a producer, working alongside her husband, filmmaker Tucker Tooley of Tucker Tooley Entertainment. A vegan and promoter of humane fashion, she devotes her time to numerous philanthropic endeavors and environmental causes. She enjoys spending time with her son, six+ rescue dogs, two rescue turtles and five rescue fancy goldfish. [@tessatooley](#)