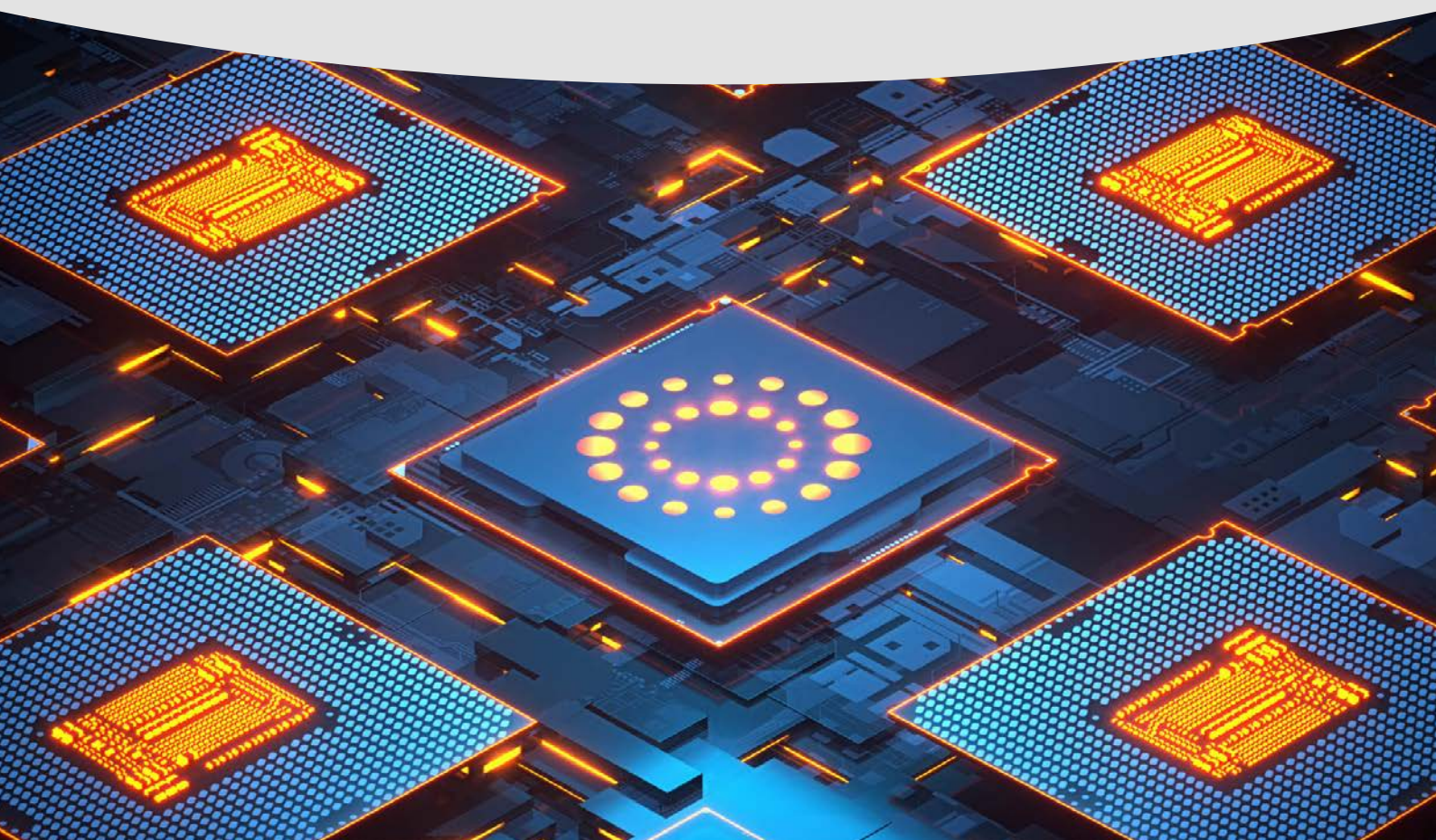




TRAILBLAZING WOMEN 2026

ENTERPRISE AI



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the 2026 edition of Reuters Events' Trailblazing Women, a collection of inspiring, influential and impactful women we have curated to celebrate International Women's Day.

This list of Trailblazing Women has been curated from an open nominations process, more information on which can be found below. We were delighted to receive more than 11,000 individual submissions for this year's list, and we'd like to thank all of those who submitted nominations – and indeed those who helped assemble our list.

The theme for this year's International Women's Day is #GiveToGain, emphasizing the power of reciprocity and support. Giving generously creates further opportunities and support for women to gain, thrive and rise.

This is the third year in a row we have now ran with this initiative, and we hope that in continuing with our Trailblazing Women series, we can accelerate actions in the industries we serve.

HOW WE ASSEMBLED REUTERS EVENTS: TRAILBLAZING WOMEN 2026

In naming our list of 2026 Trailblazing Women, we sought nominations of individuals who have excelled in four key areas;

Professional Track Record & Achievement: What have they achieved in their careers and industries to date?

Influence: How have they affected change in their organizations/ industries?

Social Impact: What have they done to better the people, communities and industries they operate in?

Leadership: How have they demonstrated leadership capabilities within their organization/industry?

We sought evidence in each of these factors, with a particular emphasis placed on achievements within the past year.

An open nominations process was run throughout December 2025 and January 2026, with nominations accepted via an online portal.

This pool of nominations was assessed individually against each of our four key criteria by an internal team, with AI used additionally to filter incomplete submissions. Additional weighting was given to nominations from underrepresented communities and/or industry sub-sectors.

Efforts were made to ensure that we received nominations from as broad and representative a pool of stakeholders as possible, and our final list of Trailblazing Women has been assembled to reflect fair representation ethnically, geographically, per industry and from across the political spectrum where necessary.

All individuals nominated in our list of Trailblazers have given their consent to be named in this list.



Rama Akkiraju
VP, Enterprise AI
NVIDIA

Rama Akkiraju is the Vice President of Enterprise AI at NVIDIA, where she leads the AI-at-NVIDIA mission to build agentic AI platforms and AI agents that enhance employee productivity and drive business and operational effectiveness across the enterprise.

Previously, Rama was an IBM Fellow, Master Inventor, and CTO of IBM Watson AIOps. Over her career, she has led the design and development of enterprise AI products spanning generative and agentic AI, machine learning, natural language processing, speech recognition, human-computer interaction, decision support systems, business process management, and semantic web services. Her work has consistently focused on translating advanced AI research into scalable, real-world systems that

deliver measurable impact.

A TED AI speaker and W3C standards contributor, Rama has co-authored more than 100 technical papers and holds over 50 issued patents, with additional patents pending. She has received numerous academic and industry honors, including four best paper awards from leading conferences such as INFORMS and AAAI. Her recognitions include Forbes' Top 20 Women in AI Research, Fortune's "A-Team in AI," UC Berkeley's Athena Award for Technical and Executive Leadership, and AI Industry Leader of the Year from Women Leaders in Data & AI.

Rama holds a master's degree in computer science and graduated as valedictorian of her MBA program at New York University.



Dr. Franziska Bell
Chief Data, AI and Analytics Officer
Ford Motor Company

Dr. Franziska Bell is Ford's Chief Data, AI and Analytics Officer. She previously served as group CTO at bp, where she led a global organization encompassing AI, data, analytics, software engineering, and change management. Before this, Fran held executive technology roles at Uber and Toyota Research Institute.

Fran's track record is defined by delivering large-scale technology and innovations across three Fortune 25 companies, where she has led the development of algorithms, platforms, and applications that increased operational safety, yielded step-function improvements in developer productivity, and drove billions of dollars in incremental EBIT.

A proponent of human-AI teams, Dr. Bell emphasizes human oversight to ensure responsible innovation. At bp, she led the AI ethics group that collaborated with the University of Oxford on AI ethics guidelines, advised the World Economic Forum on AI ethics, and facilitated bp's membership in the NIST AI Safety Institute Consortium.

Beyond her corporate leadership, Fran mentors emerging leaders and advises technology startups.

In 2025, Dr. Bell's contributions were recognized with several honors, including Chief Data Officer of the Year, Top 100 Women in AI and Top 100 Women in Tech.




Aarti Choudhary
Global Responsible AI Lead
AMD

Aarti Choudhary is a technology leader in Responsible AI, currently serving as Responsible AI Lead at AMD, where she focuses on advancing safe, trustworthy, and secure artificial intelligence infrastructure. Her work centers on ensuring that next-generation AI systems—including large language models and agentic AI—are designed and deployed with strong safeguards for privacy, security, transparency, and human oversight.

With over two decades of experience in computing systems, AI infrastructure, and network architecture, Aarti has led initiatives spanning high-performance computing, enterprise platforms, and AI deployment at scale. She brings a unique perspective that bridges low-level hardware capabilities with high-level AI governance, helping shape how trusted AI can be built from silicon to system.

Aarti brings a unique perspective shaped by her leadership in AI hardware and software ecosystems, where she has focused on translating Responsible AI principles into practical, deployable solutions. She believes that Responsible AI is not just an ethical imperative but a strategic enabler for enterprise adoption and long-term industry growth with ecosystem and trustworthy AI solution.

Aarti is particularly passionate about the emerging agentic AI era and the structural risks and responsibilities it introduces. She is an active speaker and advisor on topics including AI safety, infrastructure trust, and responsible deployment of autonomous systems.

Aarti holds a strong commitment to ensuring that AI innovation is guided not only by capability, but by responsibility, with the goal of building intelligent systems that society can trust.




Dr. Caroline Chung

VP, Chief Data & Analytics Officer, Co-Director Institute for Data Science in Oncology

MD Anderson Cancer Center

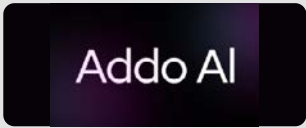
Dr. Chung is Vice President and Chief Data & Analytics Officer at MD Anderson Cancer Center, where she also serves as Co-Director of the Institute for Data Science in Oncology and holds a tenured professorship in Radiation Oncology and Diagnostic Imaging. A practicing clinician specializing in CNS malignancies, she leads a computational imaging lab pioneering quantitative approaches including digital twins to tumor detection, treatment characterization, and personalized cancer care.

What distinguishes Dr. Chung as a trailblazer is her rare ability to translate firsthand clinical challenges into transformative enterprise-wide and global AI strategy. She has architected and championed institutional, national, and international frameworks that bring precision medicine from concept to clinical reality — leveraging data science, AI, and quantitative imaging to measurably improve patient outcomes at scale.

Her global thought leadership spans the most influential bodies shaping the future of medical AI. She is so-president of the Quantitative Medical Imaging Coalition (QMIC), co-chairs the Quantitative Imaging for Assessment of Response in Oncology Committee of the International Commission on Radiation Units and Measurements (ICRU), and co-chairs the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) AI Community of Practice. She served on the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine committee on Digital Twins, and as a member of the NIH Advisory Committee to the Director Working Group on AI.

Dr. Chung exemplifies the convergence of scientific rigor, visionary leadership, and enterprise impact — making her a defining voice in the responsible and transformative deployment of data science and AI in oncology.



The Addo AI logo, featuring the text "Addo AI" in white on a dark purple rectangular background.**Dr. Ayesha Khanna***Co-Founder and CEO***Addo AI**

Dr. Ayesha Khanna is a globally recognized AI expert, entrepreneur, and CEO of Addo, AI where she helps businesses leverage AI to drive growth. With more than 20 years of experience in digital transformation, she advises Fortune 500 CEOs and serves on global boards.

A leading voice in AI, Dr. Khanna has been recognized by Forbes as a groundbreaking entrepreneur, named one of Edelman's Top 50 AI Creators (2025), featured in Salesforce's 16 AI Influencers to Know (2024), and most recently honored with the Her World Hello Possibilities Award for her impact in empowering women

and society through innovative uses of technology.

Committed to advancing diversity in tech, she founded the charity 21C Girls to teach thousands of students in Singapore the fundamentals of AI and coding.

She is also the founder of Amplify, a Singapore-based media and education company that helps leaders apply AI in practical, everyday contexts and prepare for the future of work. Through Amplify, she provides scholarships to girls and mid-career women, equipping them with meaningful AI skills and pathways into technology careers.

The HPE logo, featuring the letters "HPE" in black with a green stylized "E" on a white rectangular background.**Marie Myers***CFO***HPE**

Marie most recently served as CFO of HP Inc. since 2021, where she led the company's Finance organization and was responsible for all aspects of financial operations. She previously held a variety of other positions at HP, including Chief Transformation Officer, overseeing the Information Technology and Transformation organizations; Global Controller; and Americas CFO of the Personal Systems business unit. In 2015, Marie was HP's Finance lead for the separation of Hewlett-Packard Company, which resulted in the creation of HPE. She previously served as CFO at robotic process automation company UiPath.

She currently serves on the board of directors for Qualcomm

Incorporated. An enthusiastic advocate for STEM education, she also serves on the board of the University of Queensland in America, Inc.

Marie has been recognized by Women in Computing and was named to the Top 40 under 40 in Finance. She also was chosen as one of the Top 20 Most Powerful Businesswomen in Texas and was recognized by the University of Queensland as its Alumna of the Year. In 2018, she was selected for Texas Executive Women on the Move and one of the Top 30 Influential Women of Houston. In 2019, she was recognized as one of Houston Business Journal's Women Who Mean Business.



Tanuja Randery CBE
Managing Director, EMEA
Amazon Web Services

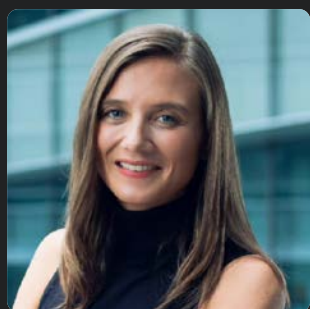
Tanuja Randery CBE is Managing Director of Amazon Web Services (AWS) EMEA, responsible for shaping strategy and driving business growth across Europe, the Middle East, and Africa. With 25 years+ in strategic, commercial, and operational leadership, she leads AWS' multi-country, cross-functional teams, helping organisations - startups to global enterprises - accelerate digital transformation through cloud computing.

Under her leadership, AWS has expanded digital skills initiatives, including AWS GetIT, which trained over 60,000 students from 13 countries, and the AWS cloud skills program in Saudi Arabia, empowering 4,000 women. She led the launch of AWS' first Skills Centre in Cape Town, enabling 9,800 learners, particularly women, to access programming skills. She is a senior sponsor AWS' Inclusion Pledge, securing 30,000 employee commitments to diversity.

Her contributions were formally recognised with a CBE (Commander of the Order of the British Empire) by His Majesty The King on his 2025 Birthday Honours List for services to business and the technology sector, particularly in advancing cloud and AI adoption across UK businesses and public sectors.

She's a thought leader, speaking at McKinsey's 100 Most Influential Women event, Cambridge and Oxford Universities, and hosting the 'PowerWomen Speak' podcast. Her international career (UK, Belgium, India) shaped her perspective on inclusion.

Her impact has been recognised, winning industry awards, including the Heroes Women Role Model Award, recognition in Computer Weekly's Most Influential Women in UK Tech list, celebrating her leadership, advocacy, and nominated in the Women Tech Network Global Awards for a Lifetime Achievement.



Dr. Sigrid Rouam
Global Chief AI Officer
EFG Bank

Dr. Sigrid Rouam is the Global Chief AI Officer at EFG Bank, where she spearheads its data and AI transformation journey worldwide. Her remit includes building and scaling AI infrastructure, establishing robust AI governance, upskilling the workforce to deliver business impact through AI.

Before EFG, Sigrid's diverse career spanned Genomics Research, FMCG, and Telecommunications. She successfully built data science teams from the ground up and led the development of data science capabilities at the Singapore Exchange, Standard Chartered, and Credit Suisse.

Sigrid is regularly invited to speak at conferences in Singapore and internationally. A passionate ecosystem builder, she actively

contributes to the start-up community as an advisor and mentor and has also extensively coached and mentored aspiring data scientists at various career stages.

She has received numerous accolades, including 100 Women in Tech (2021), World's Leading Enterprise Data Leaders (2022), the SPARK Asia 200 Digital Leaders Award (2023), the Top 100 Global Innovators in Data & Analytics (2024), the Winner of Women in AI Finance (2024), and the Top 100 Global Data, Analytics & AI Leaders (2025).

Sigrid holds an engineering (Hons), Master's (Hons) in Probability and Statistics, and a PhD in Biostatistics (Hons) from top French institutions.



Courtney Stout

Senior Vice President, Chief Privacy and Data Governance Officer

National Basketball Association

As Chief Privacy and Data Governance Officer, Courtney Stout leads the NBA's global privacy and data governance strategy to support the league's objectives of being a digital-first, data-driven, fan-facing organization. She also serves on the NBA's cross-departmental AI Steering Committee that focuses on how best to deploy AI throughout the organization.

Throughout her career, Stout's practical, innovative and interpersonal leadership has helped some of the world's largest companies transform their business growth through responsible, well-governed, digital trust strategies. Prior to joining the NBA, she was Chief Privacy Officer for the Coca-Cola Company, where she served as the company's cyber and AI legal counsel, co-chaired its AI Risk Management Steering Committee, and was instrumental in the development of its global Responsible AI Principles. Stout also served as the Chief Privacy Officer at S&P

Global and was a founding member of Hunton Andrews Kurth's Privacy and Outsourcing Practices.

Stout is a recipient of the Women Influence & Power in Law Innovative Leader Award (2024). In 2023, the Global Risk and Compliance World Forum selected her as Chief Privacy Officer of the Year. In 2022, Global Data Review named her as one of the Top Women of Data. She also previously served on the World Economic Forum's Digital Trust Framework Committee, the National Technology Security Coalition's Policy Council, and the Future of Privacy Forum and Centre for Information Policy Leadership advisory boards.

Stout received a BA in Management Information Systems from the University of Georgia and JD from Vanderbilt University Law School.



Aisha Tahirkheli

Principal, AI & Digital Innovation and Trusted AI Leader

KPMG

Aisha Tahirkheli is a Principal and Trusted AI Leader in KPMG US's AI and Digital Innovation group, where she drives the responsible and ethical design, development, and use of artificial intelligence across the firm.

With over two decades of Big Four consulting experience, Aisha specializes in translating complex technologies into scalable, governed solutions that earn trust and deliver measurable impact. Her expertise in Trusted AI, IT strategy, and digital transformation and operations has earned her recognition from Consulting Magazine as a 'Women in Technology Leader' in 2023.

Her leadership extends beyond KPMG, shaping AI policy and

governance through active roles with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the OECD Global Digital Policy Committee, and World Leaders in Data & Analytics. She previously served on KPMG's Women in Consulting Advisory Board and continues to empower the next generation of technology leaders through partnerships with non-profits and academic boards.

Aisha holds a B.A. in Psychology from Northwestern University. Combining her behavioral science background with deep technical expertise, she brings a unique human-centered perspective to AI—advancing trustworthy, ethical systems that empower people and redefine the future of work.