

Contact

www.linkedin.com/in/samaramejia
(LinkedIn)

Top Skills

Board Level
Start-up Ventures
Venture Capital

Languages

Spanish

Certifications

Series 7
Series 63

Samara Mejia Hernandez

Founding Partner at Chingona Ventures
Greater Chicago Area

Summary

I founded Chingona Ventures to invest in founders from all walks of life, at the earliest stages, and be the first institutional check to get in. If you'd like to learn more about our investment thesis, process, and provide us the opportunity to invest visit: <https://www.chingona.ventures/apply>.

Experience

Viva Equity

Board Member

January 2024 - Present (1 month)

United States

Chingona Ventures

Founding Partner and Jefa

April 2019 - Present (4 years 10 months)

Chicago

Investing in badass founders at the earliest stages.

The Aspen Institute

Finance Leaders Fellow

June 2023 - Present (8 months)

Betterleave Bereavement

Board Member

July 2023 - Present (7 months)

Papaya - Spanish & English Tutoring for (STEM) Science, Math, Engineering, and Technology

Board Member

January 2023 - Present (1 year 1 month)

Transforming students' lives with world-class STEM tutoring.

Suma Wealth

Board Member

July 2020 - Present (3 years 7 months)

A financial wellness company for the U.S. Latinx community.

Certiverse

Board Member

April 2021 - Present (2 years 10 months)

Chicago, Illinois, United States

Testing beyond limits. Results within reach.

Sigo Seguros

Board Observer

February 2022 - Present (2 years)

Un proveedor inclusivo de seguros de automóviles que se dedica a servir a la comunidad hispana.

Innovare - Social Innovation Partners

Board Observer

September 2021 - Present (2 years 5 months)

Chicago, Illinois, United States

The only education intelligence platform you need.

Beni

Board Observer

October 2021 - Present (2 years 4 months)

Chicago, IL

Making secondhand shopping simple.

Tiny Organics

Board Observer

November 2019 - Present (4 years 3 months)

New York

Organic baby & toddler food, delivered.

EarlyBird

Board Observer

September 2020 - Present (3 years 5 months)

Chicago, Illinois, United States

Invest in the children you love.

Venture Forward

Board Member

October 2022 - Present (1 year 4 months)

San Francisco Bay Area

Diversifying, educating, and empowering the venture capital investor class to advance the industry and maximize impact and returns. Venture Forward is a 501(c)(3) supporting organization to the National Venture Capital Association.

Kauffman Fellows

Kauffman Fellow

June 2021 - Present (2 years 8 months)

Angeles Investors

Member Of The Board Of Advisors

January 2020 - Present (4 years 1 month)

Chicago, Illinois

Angeles Investors provides funding and advice for hispanic and latinx entrepreneurs to grow their startups and ventures.

Chicago:Blend

Member Of The Board Of Advisors

August 2019 - Present (4 years 6 months)

Greater Chicago Area

Tracking, Supporting and Increasing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Chicago VC and Startups.

Oper8r LLC

Advisory Board and Cohort Member

June 2020 - Present (3 years 8 months)

A community building the next generation of institutional VCs.

Scout

Board Member

February 2022 - April 2023 (1 year 3 months)

Providing users with financial game plans by connecting with the world's top athletes and business minds.

Camino Financial

Impact Advisory Board

May 2020 - October 2022 (2 years 6 months)

Chicago, Illinois, United States

Fintech platform pioneering access to affordable credit to underbanked Latinx businesses.

ConnectCareHero

Board Member

March 2021 - September 2022 (1 year 7 months)

Chicago, Illinois, United States

Helping senior living create engaging communities in minutes.

MATH Venture Partners

4 years 8 months

Venture Partner

March 2019 - December 2019 (10 months)

Chicago

Principal

May 2015 - June 2019 (4 years 2 months)

1871

Math Venture Partners is an early to growth-stage venture capital fund focusing on technical and digital companies.

VentureUp

Board Member

July 2017 - December 2019 (2 years 6 months)

Chicago

VentureUP is a network of rising VCs investing in the Midwest. Our mission is to galvanize the next generation of VC leaders through authentic relationship building and professional collaboration. Our curated sessions help connect VentureUP members with veteran VCs, successful entrepreneurs, corporate executives, and other unique leaders from all over the country. Membership is free and is on an invite-only or application basis. We are supported by a roster of Fortune 500 corporations, global service providers, and world-class universities.

Website - www.ventureup.vc

CIS (Communities In Schools) of Chicago

Board Of Directors

August 2017 - June 2019 (1 year 11 months)

Founded in 1988, Communities In Schools of Chicago is a non-profit affiliate of Communities In Schools, Inc., the nation's largest dropout prevention

organization. Communities In Schools of Chicago connects Chicago Public School students with programs and services they need that their schools often cannot provide.

Liveoak Technologies, Inc.

Board Observer

July 2016 - April 2019 (2 years 10 months)

Austin, TX

Acquired by DocuSign

Goldman Sachs

Business Practices Strategist

September 2014 - April 2015 (8 months)

Responsible for driving growth initiatives, creating new content driven by industry changes, streamlining processes, and using enhanced technology tools to make wealth management practices more efficient. Led sales force effectiveness strategy development and implementation with leading institutional clients.

NuMat Technologies

Independent Consultant

June 2014 - September 2014 (4 months)

Conducted valuation analysis and investor presentations in Series A financing round for nanotechnology startup.

Goldman Sachs

6 years 6 months

Asset Management Sales

September 2009 - July 2013 (3 years 11 months)

Team responsible for \$200M+ P&L, continually ranked top 5 in selling financial products, advising on portfolio construction, and providing market insights.

Fixed Income, Currency, Commodity, Futures Group (FICC)

February 2007 - August 2009 (2 years 7 months)

Chicago

Lead multiple technology enhancing projects for proprietary futures trading resulting in streamlined processes and controllable volatility.

Education

Northwestern University - Kellogg School of Management

Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.), Finance, Management in Organizations, Entrepreneurship · (2013 - 2014)

University of Michigan

BSE, Industrial and Operations Engineering · (2002 - 2006)