

September 2019 Newsletter

Our end of 2019 lineup is complete. Be sure to join us each month for our webinars featuring women speakers from the data platform community. In October, [Melody Zacharias will present What Every DBA Needs to Know About AI](#). Pam Lahoud will present [What's New: Modernizing with SQL Server 2019 in November](#). And finally in December, Shabnam Watson will present [Aggregations in Power BI](#).

We will soon begin scheduling speakers for 2020. If you are interested in joining us, send a note to wit@pass.org.

Save \$150 USD. To receive your exclusive discount for PASS Summit 2019, enter code **VGDISOTO9** when you register, and your discounted total will be calculated.

Each month we feature a blogger, and this month it is [Meagan Longoria](#). She is a consultant with Denny Cherry & Associates Consulting and a Data Platform MVP. Meagan is a long-time volunteer in the PASS community, speaker and author.

Interested in starting your own blog? We can help get you started. Just send us a note at wit@pass.org.

We would like to thank our sponsors for supporting our group. They provide funds that make virtual groups possible. We also award a gift certificate at each webinar to one lucky attendee thanks to the funds provided.



SentryOne makes staying on top of the latest technology trends important to the SQL Server community easy by offering free webinars from Microsoft MVP's Kevin Kline, Aaron Bertrand, and other team members. [Check out](#) the upcoming topics and webinars on demand and ready to watch!

Click [here](#) to receive a free SentryOne product trial!



[You're invited to Redgate's SQL in the City Summit Seattle](#)

Redgate's [SQL in the City Summit](#) is coming to Seattle on Monday November 4 as an official PASS Summit Pre-Con, welcoming database, IT, operations, and development leaders together to discuss Compliant Database DevOps. The event schedule includes thought-provoking sessions presented by world class speakers including Microsoft MVPs Kendra Little, Steve Jones, Grant Fritchey and Ike Ellis, engaging panel discussions with industry peers, plus time for networking.

Redgate is offering all WiT members an exclusive \$100 off the advertised price of \$599 for this Pre-Con. To receive this discount, please call PASS on +1-888-714-5544 and quote Redgate.

Click [here](#) to learn how Redgate can support your user group!

--Rie and Kathi

Get to Know the WIT Keynote Speaker

PASS community member, Mala Mahadevan decided to interview LaShana Lewis, the 2019 PASS WIT Luncheon Keynote Speaker, so we can learn more about her before the event. Here are some excerpts from that interview:

Mala: Can you go give me a brief history of how you got here?

Lashana: Sure. I'm actually, to some folks's surprise, a tech geek for a really long time – ever since I was a kid. My favorite story as a kid is that my mother would have me take apart things and put things back together. I was a curious kid. One day I wanted to take apart a brooch that she received from her mother from a long time ago. She said "Don't mess with that. I know you want to fix it but don't mess with it. We'll make an agreement of what you can and can't take apart and try to fix." She would allow me to break the toaster apart and put it back together. That was our agreement – I had to ask her for permission before taking things apart.

I learned from that – the things that get you in trouble are the things that you end up being really good at.

Mala: What advice would you have for young women of color or minorities who want to get started in tech? Or if you had to do it differently, how would that be? As a younger person?

Lashana: I would tell myself, "You know more than you think you know." I always went into any tech situation expecting that I had a lot to learn and it would be a really hard road and my knowledge level was really low. It's like, a lot of it is about whether or not you have the spirit and the audacity to push forward even when you might not know the answer to something. Or when something gets difficult.

Mala: How does diversity add value to a technical team? In other words what advice would you have for companies to hire diverse people on their tech teams?

Lashana: What I found out is people who are good at troubleshooting are usually the people that I want on my team because I need you to think a different way about how to solve a problem than what I'm thinking. If I knew the answer I would not need any help and the problem wouldn't exist right now. A lot of women and people of color and oppressed minorities in general have to find a different way to do something anyway – that makes them really good at out-of-the-box thinking. That is one reason why diverse teams can be so good at solving problems.

Their troubleshooting abilities are already there. Companies can bring that to the table and that is way worth more than what they actually think it is.

Thanks to both Mala and LaShana for such a wonderful interview!

--Kathi

Great Links

We are always looking for input from our members. Please drop us a line at wit@pass.org if you have a link you would like to share, would like to write an article for the newsletter, or if you would like to present a webinar. We are looking for any topic that would be interesting to the WIT group and data platform topics presented by women. This is a great way to get experience as a speaker.

[Vajrasara – an interview with Lashana Lewis – Part 1](#)
[Vajrasara – An interview with Lashana Lewis – Part 2](#)
[Do Diversity and Inclusion Have to Be Overwhelming?](#)

Webinar Schedule

Date	Session	Speaker
Oct 3, 2019	Different Azure SQL PaaS Options Cloud Group	Linda Zhang
Oct 8, 2019	Introduction to Query Store DBA Fundamentals Group	Erin Stellato
Oct 10, 2019	SSIS DevOps with Azure Containers Cloud Group	Elizabeth Baron
Oct 16, 2019	What Every DBA Needs to Know About AI	Melody Zacharias
Nov 13, 2019	What's New: Modernizing with SQL Server 2019	Pam Lahoud
Dec 11, 2019	Aggregations in Power BI	Shabnam Watson

SQL Saturday and PASS Summit Speakers

Event	Location	Date	Session Title	Presenter
SQL Saturday #906	Sao Paulo	9-28-2019	Seja mais Power ainda dominando Python e Power BI!	Meirieli Ribeiro
SQL Saturday #906	Sao Paulo	9-28-2019	Monitorando os recursos e processos do Servidor através do Power BI	Sulamita Dantas
SQL Saturday #906	Sao Paulo	9-28-2019	Internals Always On	Suellen Moraes, Lucas Souza
SQL Saturday #911	Orlando	9-28-2019	How UCF IT uses Power BI to monitor our IT Services	Proscilla Camp
SQL Saturday #911	Orlando	9-28-2019	Power BI for the Data Systems Administrator	Gina Meronek
SQL Saturday #911	Orlando	9-28-2019	Level-up your Power BI Reports	Cecilia Brusatori
SQL Saturday #911	Orlando	9-28-2019	Everything You Need to Know About Indexes!	Janis Griffin
SQL Saturday #911	Orlando	9-28-2019	CozyRoc: Dynamic Data Flows in SSIS Without Programming	Diane Schuster
SQL Saturday #911	Orlando	9-28-2019	Migrate Your Database(s) with Distributed AGs	Elizabeth Noble

SQL Saturday #911	Orlando	9-28-2019	Women in IT. A survival guide	Gilda Alvarez
SQL Saturday #915	Bucuresti	10-5-2019	SQL Managed Instance - From the ground to the cloud	Alexandra Ciortea
SQL Saturday #906	Sao Paulo	9-28-2019	Seja mais Power ainda dominando Python e Power BI!	Meirieli Ribeiro
SQL Saturday #906	Sao Paulo	9-28-2019	Monitorando os recursos e processos do Servidor através do Power BI	Sulamita Dantas
SQL Saturday #906	Sao Paulo	9-28-2019	Internals Always On	Suellen Moraes, Lucas Souza
SQL Saturday #912	New York	10-5-2019	Top FREE performance troubleshooting tools for SQL Server	Michelle Gutzait
SQL Saturday #912	New York	10-5-2019	Implementing Security Standard Regulations in SQL Server & Azure	Michelle Gutzait
SQL Saturday #912	New York	10-5-2019	T-SQL Window Function Deep Dive [Part 1]	Kathi Kellenberger
SQL Saturday #912	New York	10-5-2019	Level-up your Power BI Reports	Cecilia Brusatori
SQL Saturday #912	New York	10-5-2019	T-SQL Window Function Deep Dive [Part 2]	Kathi Kellenberger
SQL Saturday #912	New York	10-5-2019	Case Study: How I used SharePoint, Flow, PowerApps, and Forms to build a Speaker Database	Sarah Patrick
SQL Saturday #907	Pittsburgh	10-5-2019	Azure Databricks: A Beginner's Journey	Katie Novotny
SQL Saturday #907	Pittsburgh	10-5-2019	Avoiding angry calls: Power BI model optimization	Stephanie Bruno, Jessica Johnson
SQL Saturday #907	Pittsburgh	10-5-2019	SQL Server 2019 - New Features and Enhancements	Ameena Lalani
SQL Saturday #907	Pittsburgh	10-5-2019	Become the Most Valuable Player: Soft Skills for the Hard Market	Angela Tidwell
SQL Saturday #907	Pittsburgh	10-5-2019	CozyRoc: Dynamic Data Flows in SSIS Without Programming	Diane Schuster
SQL Saturday #907	Pittsburgh	10-5-2019	Migrating to Azure SQL Database	Tracy Boggiano
SQL Saturday #907	Pittsburgh	10-5-2019	Data Collection and Usage: Illegal or Unethical?	Angela Tidwell
SQL Saturday #907	Pittsburgh	10-5-2019	Inside the Query Store. What Knowledge can You Gain?	Janis Griffin

SQL Saturday #907	Pittsburgh	10-5-2019	Life Hacks: dbatools edition	Jess Pomfret
SQL Saturday #907	Pittsburgh	10-5-2019	Using Open Source Software to Collect Performance Metrics	Tracy Boggiano
SQL Saturday #870	Memphis	10-5-2019	Linux Scripting Fundamentals for the SQL DBA	Kellyn Pot'Vin-Gorman
SQL Saturday #870	Memphis	10-5-2019	The Community Speaks: WIT, LGBTQ, diversity and inclusion	Tamera Clark
SQL Saturday #870	Memphis	10-5-2019	User Experience Brilliance in Power BI Dashboards	Hilary Wilkie
SQL Saturday #807	Memphis	10-5-2019	Get your Git on with Source Control	Elizabeth Noble
SQL Saturday #896	Puerto Rico	10-12-2019	How do you Azure?	Tamera Clark
SQL Saturday #896	Puerto Rico	10-12-2019	Women in IT. A survival guide	Gilda Alvarez
PASS Summit Pre-Con	Seattle	11-4-2019	Introduction to Data Science	Natasha Balac
PASS Summit Pre-Con	Seattle	11-4-2019	AI and Power BI: The Realm of the Impossible	Leila Etaati
PASS Summit Pre-Con	Seattle	11-4-2019	Redgate SQL in the City Summit Seattle	Kendra Little; Steve Jones; Grant Fritchey; Ike Ellis; Arneh Eskandari
PASS Summit Pre-Con	Seattle	11-4-2019	Performance Tuning With Query Store in SQL Server	Erin Stellato
PASS Summit Pre-Con	Seattle	11-5-2019	How to Architect Successful Database Changes: Source Control and Release Patterns for Performance and Availability	Kendra Little
PASS Summit Pre-Con	Seattle	11-5-2019	SQL Server Performance Tuning and Optimization	Monica Rathbun
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-6-2019	MDS from the Ground Up - Let your Users Maintain their Data?	Heidi Hasting
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-6-2019	SQL Server and Azure Data: What to Use When	Anna Thomas, Bob Ward
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-6-2019	SSIS DevOps and Azure Containers	Elizabeth Baron, Andy Leonard, Sreeja Pullagura
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-6-2019	Using Open Source Software to Collect Performance Metrics	Tracy Boggiano
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-6-2019	Understanding Execution Plans	Erin Stellato

PASS Summit	Seattle	11-6-2019	Azure Machine Learning 101	Kathi Kellenberger
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-6-2019	Innovative Data Modeling for Cool Data Warehouses	Leslie Weed, Jeff Renz
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-6-2019	Aggregations in Power BI	Gabi Münster, Thomas Martens
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-6-2019	From Data Munging to Wrangling - 7 Steps to Mastering Data Preparation for Data Science	Natasha Balac
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-6-2019	A Behind the Scenes Look at ML, AI, and Deep Learning	Anna Thomas
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-6-2019	An Introduction to AI for Everyone	Melody Zacharias
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-6-2019	An Introduction to Data Visualizations and Design Best Practices	Prathy Kamasani
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-6-2019	Hidden Differences Between Azure ML Products Revealed	Ginger Grant
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-6-2019	Roles and Responsibilities of the Azure Data Engineer	Jes Borland
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-6-2019	Becoming a Technical Leader	Denise McInerney, Kellyn Pot'Vin-Gorman
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-7-2019	AI for Developers	Anupama Natarajan
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-7-2019	I'm It - Survival Techniques for the Lone DBA	Monica Rathbun
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-7-2019	Into the Future with In-memory OLTP	Kalen Delaney
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-7-2019	Empowering the SQL Server Professional with Linux Scripting	Kellyn Pot'Vin-Gorman
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-7-2019	Successfully Communicating with Your Customers	Denise McInerney
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-7-2019	AI for the DBA	Melody Zacharias
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-7-2019	AI Cognitive Services: Vision 101	Alicia Moniz
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-7-2019	Modernize Your SQL Server the Right Way	Pam Lahoud
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-7-2019	The Future Is Here for Containers!	Marsha Pierce
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-7-2019	AI for the BI Professional	Leila Etaati
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-8-2019	Build Your Brand with Technical Writing	Kathi Kellenberger
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-8-2019	Help Me SSIS Logging, You're My Only Hope!	Vanessa Kesten
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-8-2019	Best Practices for Branching Database Code in Git	Kendra Little
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-8-2019	Improving Database Code Quality with Unit Tests	Elizabeth Noble
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-8-2019	Continuous Intelligence... What's This All About?	Gabi Münster

PASS Summit	Seattle	11-8-2019	Giving Feedback: How to Effectively Communicate to your Employees	Christine Assaf
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-8-2019	"What's in a Name?", Data Stories that Would Make the Bard Proud	Prathy Kamasani, James McGillivray
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-8-2019	AI to the Masses! But How? Pixie Dust?	Hope Foley
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-8-2019	Data Warehousing: Which of the Many Cloud Products is the Right One for You?	Ginger Grant
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-8-2019	AI for Analysts	Leila Etaati
PASS Summit	Seattle	11-8-2019	Bringing Source Control to BI world!	Heidi Hasting