

**Fernanda Valentino** is a mission-driven fundraiser and relationship builder who serves as Director of Annual Giving at National Louis University, where she leads multi-channel strategies to increase donor participation and engagement among alumni, students, faculty, staff, and friends. She oversees annual giving campaigns, donor stewardship, and the 1886 Society, with a focus on building a strong culture of philanthropy and expanding access to education.

Previously, she worked at Big Shoulders Fund, engaging donors and partners in support of 92 schools serving more than 25,000 students across Chicago and Northwest Indiana, and led major gift efforts at UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine. With experience spanning higher education, nonprofit, and tech, Fernanda brings a creative, strategic approach to donor engagement.

She has served on several nonprofit boards including Assistance League, Chicagoland West and District 181 Foundation and was a founding member of the DuPage Children's Museum Next Gen Board. Fernanda is fluent in French and Italian and proficient in Spanish, and is a published children's poet who believes in the power of storytelling to drive meaningful philanthropic impact.