

A'shanti F. Gholar is President & CEO of Emerge, the nation's largest network of Democratic women elected officials and candidates. She became the first Black woman to lead the organization in 2020 after previously serving as national political director. Under her leadership, Emerge has expanded nationally and trained more than 7,000 women, with over 1,200 alums now serving in office.

A longtime organizer and strategist, A'shanti has held senior roles at the Democratic National Committee, United Way Worldwide, the U.S. Department of Labor, and the 2012 Democratic National Convention. She is founder of The Brown Girls Guide to Politics and its award-winning podcast and a 2025–2026 Obama Foundation USA Leader.