Business Leaders of Boston



Anita Gajdecki built Checked Mates around a simple belief: some of the best people we meet enter our lives through someone we already trust. After watching social interaction become increasingly digital and often too random to create lasting connection, she envisioned a more intentional way to bring people together – for friendship, romance, or whatever might unfold in between.

Drawing on her more than 30 years in technology, management and entrepreneurship, Anita transformed the idea into an internationally trademarked business in under six months, launching invitation-only gatherings in Boston and London. “While technology gives us access to everyone, thoughtful introductions to remarkable people remain one of life’s greatest privileges,” she says.

Checked Mates is known as a community where highly-vetted introductions happen in beautiful, upscale venues and conversation develops naturally. It also reflects Anita’s own experience, from her British upbringing in a Polish immigrant household to the friendships built over twenty years in Boston.

“My entire life has shown me that humans thrive through genuine, face-to-face interaction,” she says. In a culture built around expanding digital networks, Checked Mates has made a profound case for something decidedly human: putting extraordinary people in the same room and letting connection take it from there.

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