

2021/22 Slate of New and Renewing ACSO Board Members

New Board Members (2021/22 - 2023/24)



Jessica Bejarano
Founder and Music Director
San Francisco Philharmonic

Jessica Bejarano is Founder and Music Director of the San Francisco Philharmonic. She also serves as Assistant Conductor of Opera Parallele and Music Director at Escuela Bilingue Internacional. Jessica was featured on NBC's The Today Show as the "Woman Breaking Barriers as a Trailblazing Symphony Conductor". PBS NewsHour also featured Jessica as an emerging female conductor and KQED named Jessica one of 10 artists to watch in KQED Arts' Bay Brilliant Top 10 Artists of 2018. Jessica is the first women in history to guest conduct the American Youth Symphony in Los Angeles. She was also the featured guest conductor at the San Diego State University's Women in Music, Diversity and Leadership Conference and was one of twelve female conductors selected from around the world to conduct at the International Women's Conference in New York City. Jessica has guest conducted in Russia, Italy, Romania, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Spain, Venezuela and throughout the United States. Jessica received her Master of Arts in Choral and Orchestral Conducting from the University of California Davis; Bachelor of Music in Music Education from the University of Wyoming, and Associates of Fine Arts in Music Education from Casper College.



Amanda Wu Chroust
Business Development Representative, Nonprofits
Salesforce.org

Amanda Wu Chroust is a consultative sales professional at Salesforce.org, working with nonprofits on their technology and organizational management. Prior to Salesforce.org, Amanda was a successful fundraiser at the San Francisco Symphony, Cal Performances, and San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Outside of work, Amanda plays in musicals in the Bay Area and volunteers with small ensembles and performing arts organizations.



Chelsea Chambers
Director of Operations
Peninsula Symphony of Northern California

Chelsea Chambers, Director of Operations at Peninsula Symphony of Northern California, has risen through the ranks within a 70-year-old organization where she first began as Administrative Assistant. Her primary duties encompass concert production, marketing, general operations, and finance. Initially trained as a classical clarinetist, Chelsea holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music Performance from UCLA (Summa Cum Laude) and a Master of Music degree in Music Performance from the Royal College of Music, London. She has been an active performer and educator alongside her role in arts administration, but especially enjoys working with other leaders of similarly sized organizations to share ideas, insight, and best practices to foster growth in the symphonic sector. She enjoys cooking, growing veggies, and raising her three-year old son alongside her husband, a band director and saxophonist.

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Dr. Mieko Hatano
Executive Director
Oakland Symphony

Dr. Mieko Hatano became the Executive Director of the Oakland Symphony in 2018. Prior to joining Oakland Symphony, Dr. Hatano served as Executive Director of Music in the Mountains in Nevada City, CA and she was the Executive Director of Symphony Orchestra Augusta in Augusta, GA where she was featured as one of Musical America's "Rising Stars in Orchestra Leadership". Dr. Hatano is a 2012 alumna of the DeVos Institute of Arts Management Fellowship at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC. In 2011, she was appointed Orchestra Manager of the Aspen Music Festival and School. Dr. Hatano holds a Doctor of Musical Arts and Master of Music from the University of Southern California, Los Angeles and earned a Bachelor of Music from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.



Akilah Morgan
Director of Programs
Inner City Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles

My family is from a small Caribbean island, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. I am a descendant of the indigenous Garifuna people, and that culture greatly influenced who I am today. I attended Claflin University, the oldest Historically Black University in South Carolina. My time gave me a wealth of experience and knowledge, allowing me to become an ambassador for HBCUs in China, do humanitarian exchange work in India, and research in Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago. Music has long influenced my thoughts on culture and diversity. I have the experience familiar to most musicians of color in classical music spaces of being the only person of color in the room. I know the feeling, and that experience led me to the work that I currently do with the Inner City Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles (ICYOLA). ICYOLA is nationally recognized for inclusivity in programming and people. I work to provide children from my community access to a wealth of musical knowledge and experiences that might generally be inaccessible to them. I have had the opportunity to pursue higher education and received my Master of Arts in Nonprofit Management, and I am working on a PhD in Leadership and Change.



Jonathan Rios
Development Associate and Executive Liaison
Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra

A native of Los Angeles with a passion for music, Jonathan enjoys being a part of the robust arts community that Southern California offers. Before joining the staff of Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Jonathan worked in development at A Noise Within theatre where he began his career in arts administration. Outside of the workplace, he maintains his artistry as an active violinist in several community orchestras along with volunteering at his favorite nonprofits. Jonathan recently completed a Master of Science in Arts Leadership degree from the University of Southern California in the USC Thornton School of Music and holds a Bachelor of Science in Economics degree with a minor in music from the University of La Verne. In his free time, he is a member of the USC Cycling Team and is competing in a series of criterium and circuit road races this summer while simultaneously training for multiple endurance events later in 2021 including the Malibu Triathlon and the IRONMAN 70.3 Oceanside.

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Renewing Board Members (2021/22 - 2023/24)



Jeri Crawford
President
Las Vegas Philharmonic



Steve Friedlander
Executive Director
Carmel Bach Festival



Dean McVay
President
San Bernardino Symphony



Scott Vandrick
Chief Development Officer
Pasadena Symphony Association



John Wineglass
Composer
JW Productions, LLC