Audrey Bergauer

Executive Director
California Symphony

Aubrey Bergauer defies trends, and then makes her own. In a time when most arts organizations are scaling back programs, tightening budgets, and seeing declines in tickets and subscriptions, Bergauer has dramatically increased earned and contributed revenue at organizations ranging from Seattle Opera to the Bumbershoot Music & Arts Festival to the California Symphony. Her focus on not just engaging—but retaining—new audiences grew Seattle Opera’s BRAVO! Club (for audience members in their 20’s and 30’s) to the largest group of its kind nationwide, led the Bumbershoot Festival to achieve an unprecedented 43% increase in revenue, and propelled the California Symphony to expand its audience by 70% and quadruple the size of the donor base.

A graduate of Rice University with degrees in Music Performance and Business, for the last 15 years Bergauer has used music to make the world around her better, through programs that champion social justice and equality, through marketing and audience development tactics on the forefront of trends and technology, and through proving and sharing what works in the rapidly changing landscape of funding, philanthropy, and consumer behavior. If ideas are a dime a dozen, what separates Bergauer is her experience and record of execution and impact at institutions of all sizes. Praised for her leadership which “points the way to a new style of audience outreach,” (Wall Street Journal) and which drove the California Symphony to become “the most forward-looking music organization around” (Mercury News), Bergauer’s ability to strategically and holistically examine and advance every facet of the organization, instilling and achieving common goals and vision across what are usually siloed marketing, development, and artistic departments, is creating a transformational change in the audience, in the office, on the stage, in the community, and is changing the narrative for the classical music industry.

Akshay Dinakar

Founder & Director NYO-U
Carnegie Hall

Akshay Dinakar is a 21-year-old violinist, inventor, and non-profit founder. A protégé of famed jazz saxophonist Bobby Watson, Dinakar picked up his fiddle at the age of 3, and has since gone on to perform in some of the world’s greatest performance halls alongside Valery Gergiev, Joshua Bell, and Denis Matsuev as a long-standing member of Carnegie Hall’s National Youth Orchestra of the USA (NYO-USA). From his masterclass with Gil Shaham being featured in Strad Magazine, to garnering over 500,000 total hits with his YouTube music videos, Dinakar continues to grow as a performer while exploring new directions
with his sound. He is currently working on his first classical violin album, and will be releasing a collaborative fusion-violin mixtape in the fall.

Now a third-year product designer at Stanford University, Dinakar currently serves as the Founder + Artistic Director of the Stanford Flashmob Orchestra, an ensemble that specializes in spreading joy through spontaneous pop-up performances of recognizable tunes. A designer who loves inventing interactive physical objects, Dinakar has built his own environmentally friendly electric violins, 3D-printed intelligent prosthetic arms for string instrument players, launched a customizable improvisation-training app for jazz musicians, and is currently working on solving posture-pain in musicians by revolutionizing the design of the music stand.

In March 2016, Dinakar teamed up with Carnegie Hall to create and launch NYO-U, the world’s first open-access music education platform – a free collection of digital “mini-masterclasses” that seeks to inspire the next generation of musicians to pursue their artistic dreams, regardless of ability or background. Mini-masterclasses are written and produced by current and former members of the National Youth Orchestra of the USA, and celebrate the diversity present in the next generation of musicians. NYO-U launches into its fourth season of producing content this summer, and the project has gained support from Khan Academy, the Kronos Quartet, Music for Minors, and other established non-profits. Under Dinakar’s creative leadership and the guidance of Carnegie Hall, NYO-U continues to rapidly pick up momentum as it prepares to launch new outreach initiatives across the nation.

**Eric B. Javier**

**Principal & Managing Director**

**New York CSS Fundraising**

Eric B. Javier is a Principal and Managing Director with CCS, the largest fundraising strategy and management firm in the world. Established in 1947, CCS designs and implements significant fundraising campaigns and programs for leading non-profit institutions.

For the last 20 years Eric has advised leading executives, trustees, and development leaders from across the nonprofit sector. He has helped design and direct more than 200 fundraising campaigns and initiatives that have raised more than $2 billion to make a positive difference in communities all around the world. Eric’s primary areas of expertise include feasibility and planning studies; capital and endowment campaigns; major donor programs; principal gift solicitation strategies; strategic development planning; case messaging and storytelling; and coaching and training.

He is a frequent speaker at industry gatherings and professional conferences, including the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP), the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) and the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS).

Eric is a graduate of the College of the Holy Cross. Eric, his wife, their two daughters, and dog, Oscar, reside in Westchester, NY.
Nick Pozek

Manager, Learning and Leadership Programs
League of American Orchestras

Nick Pozek is an arts advocate and strategic advisor with over a decade of experience leading ambitious projects and cross-disciplinary teams in the cultural sector. Nick has pioneered new models for engaging global audiences, developed strategic cross-sector partnerships, and championed large-scale transformation in arts organizations of all sizes. He has spoken on the topic of cultural policy and has conducted seminars on negotiation for arts leaders both nationally and internationally.

In his role as Manager, Learning and Leadership Programs at the League of American Orchestras, Nick is responsible for developing content and programs, such as the PLATFORM sessions at the League’s National Conference and the flagship Emerging Leaders Program, that contribute to the continuing vibrancy of the orchestra field.

As a consultant, Nick works with public companies to design cultural programs and build premiere private collections. He also advises cultural organizations on strategic planning and leadership development. Nick previously led Asia Society’s Transfuze initiative – a global network of leaders united across the charitable, business and public sectors – and built partnerships with organizations such as Google Arts & Culture and UNESCO, to advance international cultural exchange.

At Carnegie Museum of Art, Nick built a seminal emerging media program that integrated digital innovation into the core operations of a century-old institution. His work included some of the earliest efforts to engage museum audiences through social media and create meaningful visitor experiences through immersive digital content.

Nick holds a Master of Arts Management from the School of Public Policy & Management in the H. John Heinz III College at Carnegie Mellon University and graduate certificates from Duquesne University School of Law and Gabelli School of Business. Nick also received the Certified Nonprofit Accounting Professional designation from Fiscal Management Associates and the Certified Negotiation Expert designation from the Real Estate Negotiation Institute.
James Roe

President & Executive Director
Orchestra of St. Luke’s

James Roe’s three-decade career in classical music is animated by his belief that music has the power to connect people and transform lives. He joined Orchestra of St. Luke’s as President & Executive Director in November 2015, having previously served as President & CEO of the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra. Highlights of his tenure included the expansion of the NJSO’s role throughout the state, new community initiatives, and the launch of the Edward T. Cone Composition Institute for young and emerging composers. Previously, Roe enjoyed a performance career that included roles with NJSO, Zephyros Winds, American Symphony Orchestra, American Composers Orchestra, and Orchestra of St. Luke’s, where he performed for twenty years. From 1996 until 2013, Roe served as Executive and Artistic Director of the Helicon Foundation. Roe is a part of a growing cohort of new arts leaders around the country who moved directly from being members of an orchestra to leading the organization in senior management.

Adrienne Thompson

Talent Development Program Manager
Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

Adrienne Thompson has been involved with the Talent Development Program (TDP) since 1998 as a parent, parent volunteer, trustee council committee chair and advisory committee member. She has led the program as TDP Manager since 2015. She has worked 20 years as an orchestra and AP Music Theory teacher and 5 years in banking as a credit analyst and systems analyst.

She served in leadership positions as a high school fine arts department chair and also orchestra leads teacher in DeKalb County, Fulton County and the Atlanta Public Schools. She has been an officer and presented at state and national conferences for the Georgia Music Educators Association (GMEA) and the American String Teachers Association (ASTA). Her orchestra has performed at GMEA In-Service conferences. She has been a AP Music Theory reader for the College Board. She has served as head adjudicator for Large Group Performance Evaluations and conducted county honor orchestras.

Her education includes a bachelor of music degree from Sherwood School of Music and an MBA from Indiana University. She is married to Willie Thompson and the mother of eight. She and her husband served an 18-month military relations mission in Hawaii, assigned to Schofield Barracks, from Feb. 2013 – August 2014.
Adrienne is passionate about providing opportunities, resources and guidance that allows young musicians to achieve their potential and pursue dreams.