



Lester Abberger

Managing Partner, B. L. Abberger & Co.

Member, Board of Directors, League of American Orchestras

Lester Abberger is managing partner of B.L. Abberger & Co., an investment banking and public affairs firm, and is a limited partner of Hometown Neighborhoods/ Civic Software, a real estate investment, development, and consulting concern.

Long active in cultural affairs, he was a trustee of the National Trust for the Humanities, chairman of the Federation of State Humanities Councils, chairman and emeritus director of the Florida Humanities Council, chairman of the Leroy Collins-Leon County Public Library System, chairman of the Museums of Florida History, and a trustee of the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation. He served on the board of the Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra and is a director of the Tallahassee Bach Parley.

Mr. Abberger is chairman of the Collins Institute for Public Policy at Florida State University. He is past chairman of 1000 Friends of Florida, the City of Tallahassee Urban Design Commission, Leadership Florida, Horizon Communities In Prisons, and Health News Florida. He serves or has served on the boards of a number of public and private entities including Florida First Capital Finance Corporation, the Trust for Public Land National Leadership Council, the College of Public Health at the University of South Florida, M+S Banks, Neighborhood Medical Services, the Institute for Child Health Policy at the University of Florida, the Florida Tax Watch Center for Smart Justice, FKA Architects, the Florida Healthy Kids Corporation, the Florida Public Officials Urban Design Institute at Florida Atlantic University, and the Florida Governor's Commission on Education Reform.

He is a graduate of Davidson College, where he served on the Board of Visitors, and is a Knight Fellow at the University of Miami School of Architecture. He is a Diplomate of the American College of Healthcare Executives and is an Accredited Member of The Congress for the New Urbanism.

Mr. Abberger is a Florida Master Gardener, a Florida Master Naturalist, and a member of the Tallahassee Garden Club and the Tallahassee Rose Society. He is a member also of the United States Squash Association, the American Bach Society, the Bonefish and Tarpon Trust, the American Ceramics Circle, the Gulf Winds Track Club, and the United States Handball Association.



Gary Ginstling

**President and CEO
Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra**

Gary Ginstling joined the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra as its Chief Executive Officer in March 2013. Under Mr. Ginstling's leadership, the ISO has reported three consecutive balanced budgets, grown attendance in each season, and doubled the number of student attendees. In addition, he helped establish a number of new community initiatives to increase access to the ISO, including the launch of the ISO's first ever "INfusion" music festival which celebrated the links between music and the environment, the new "Lunch Break" summer concert series of 45 minute informal concerts priced at \$5 general admission, and the "317 Series" bringing the orchestra out of its concert hall and into neighborhoods around the region.

Mr. Ginstling came to Indianapolis from The Cleveland Orchestra, where he served as general manager from 2008 to 2013. In Cleveland, his duties included overall executive responsibility for operations of Cleveland Orchestra activities, including artistic planning, concert production, touring, orchestra union contracts, education, electronic media, and the operation of the two Cleveland Orchestra-owned facilities: Severance Hall and Blossom Music Center.

Previously, Mr. Ginstling served in a senior executive role at the San Francisco Symphony and Executive Director of the Berkeley Symphony, and spent three years as a product marketing manager at Sun Microsystems. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Yale University, a Master of Music from The Juilliard School, and a Master of Business Administration from The Anderson School at UCLA. He currently serves on the board of the Greater Indianapolis Progress Committee, The Columbia Club and the Electronic Media Association, representing over seventy orchestras from around the country in negotiations with the American Federation of Musicians on symphony orchestra electronic media activity. Mr. Ginstling lives in Carmel, Indiana with his wife Marta Lederer, and two children – Teddy (age 10), and Marlena (age 8).



Heather Noonan

**Vice President for Advocacy
League of American Orchestras**

Heather Noonan is the Vice President for Advocacy for the League of American Orchestras, the national service organization for the more than 1,600 orchestras in communities across the United States. From the League's Washington, D.C. office, Heather represents orchestras before Congress, the White House, and federal agencies in the arenas of government arts

funding, education reform, international cultural activity, and nonprofit and philanthropic policies.

She serves on the national advisory committee of the Arts Education Partnership and co-convenes the national Arts Education Policy Working Group. Heather established and edits the League web site *Artists from Abroad: The Complete Guide to Immigration and Tax Requirements for Foreign Guest Artists* and convenes the national Performing Arts Visa Working Group. Heather has served on the Public Policy Advisory Committee for Independent Sector, the national leadership network for America's nonprofit and philanthropic sector. She also leads the League's efforts to provide technical assistance to orchestras navigating the complex aviation and protected species rules related to travel with musical instruments, and represented global music interests in treaty negotiations at the 17th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species.

Heather has served on the boards of directors for the American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras and the OMG Center for Collaborative Learning. Prior to joining the League in 1996, she was a legislative associate for the American Arts Alliance. She earned a bachelor's degree in political science and studied art history at Western Washington University in Bellingham, Washington.



Patricia Richards

**Chair, Board of Directors,
League of American Orchestras**

Ms. Richards served as Chair of the Utah Symphony | Utah Opera Board of Trustees from 2005 to 2014 and was Interim President and CEO in 2015-2016. Her additional community service has included Chair of the Board of Governors of the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce, Chair of the Board of United Way of Salt Lake, President of the Salt Lake Rotary Foundation, National Advisory Board of the David Eccles School of Business, Westminster College Board of Trustees, and Governor's Economic Council.

League of American Orchestras

Ms. Richards currently serves as Chair of the League of American Orchestras Board of Directors and has served as a panelist at several national conferences. In 2013 she received the National Opera Trustee Recognition Award from Opera America and the Governor's Leadership in the Arts Award from the State of Utah. She received the Governor's Lifetime Achievement Award at Utah Philanthropy Day 2014.

Ms. Richards holds a B.A. in Economics from Northwestern University and did graduate work in Business Administration at Northwestern University and the University of Utah. She received the Athena Award from the Salt Lake Chamber in 2000 and The Distinguished Banker Award from The Utah Bankers Association in 2007.



David L. Thompson

**Vice President of Public Policy
National Council of Nonprofits**

David L. Thompson is Vice President of Public Policy for the National Council of Nonprofits, the nation's largest network of nonprofit organizations. Active at the local, state, and federal levels through its member State Associations and nonprofit allies, the National Council amplifies the voices of America's local community-based nonprofit organizations, helping them engage in critical policy issues affecting the sector, manage and lead more effectively, collaborate and exchange solutions, and achieve greater impact in their communities. Prior to joining the National Council in February 2010, Thompson served as Director of Government Affairs at Independent

Sector. He served in the public sector from 2001 to 2007 as a Senior Counsel and as Policy Director to the U.S. Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, notably as Counsel to the Pension Protection Act conference committee. Before working on Capitol Hill, Thompson directed federal policy for a consulting firm and practiced law for 17 years specializing in labor relations, employment law, government contracting, as well as government relations at the federal and state levels. David Thompson holds a bachelor's degree from Emory University and a law degree from the University of Georgia Law School. - See more at: <https://www.councilofnonprofits.org/david-l-thompson#sthash.cegqwyRA.dpuf>

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Heather Noonan, Vice President, Advocacy, League of American Orchestra