

emerging leaders program

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Sarah Whitling

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Sarah Whitling is the Manager of Strategic Initiatives at the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. She received her B.A. in Nonprofit Organizational Studies and Human Rights from Southern Methodist University in 2015. During her time at SMU, Whitling studied harp with Susan Pejovich and Naoko Nakamura and was an active member of the Meadows Symphony Orchestra and Meadows Wind Ensemble.

While at SMU, Whitling was President & CEO of Bridge the Gap Chamber Players, a nonprofit organization whose mission was to make chamber music a more approachable art form by bringing chamber ensembles, from string quartets to jazz groups, to non-traditional venues across Dallas, ranging from wine bars to grocery stores. During her time with Bridge the Gap, Whitling also expanded the organization to include a new after-school orchestra program, South Dallas Strings, at Dunbar Elementary School in Southern Dallas. Utilizing a partnership with SMU's Music Education Program, South Dallas Strings provided music theory, string-instrument instruction and music history to students in fourth and fifth grade for three hours each week.

After graduating from SMU, Whitling started work at the Dallas Symphony Orchestra where she began as a Development Intern and is now the primary board liaison, strategic plan project manager, and works alongside the President & CEO and Vice President of Development on large-scale fundraising efforts. When she is not at work or a concert at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center, Whitling enjoys spending time outside with her husband Bryce and dogs T-Rex and Juniper.