“In the midst of a crisis, we saw a challenge. In embracing the challenge, we found a way forward.”

In preparing this biennial report, our team challenged themselves to put into perspective—in as few words as possible—the events of the past two years and our response to them. The result was the two brief sentences above (which you’ll also see leading off pages 4-5). This profound and poetic statement resonated so deeply with me the moment I read it aloud. Indeed the key words – crisis, challenge, embracing, forward – together form the arc of a story of resilience and transformation. The story of how our artists reached to the depths of their souls and intellects and emerged with powerful work that they shared with us. Their stories, and ours, come alive on every page of this report. And I strongly suspect you may find a piece of your own story—and its connection to us—in the pages that follow....

We are quite certain that without you, there would have been no story to tell. The you in this story includes: performers and teaching artists who created unforgettable performances and school curricula; programmers, production team members, and counselors who navigated new terrain in technology and licensing. It includes supporters—individual, corporate, foundation, civic, local, and national—and viewers of our Home Delivery Plus virtual concert series (we felt you cheering in the “lobby” online); students and teaching artists who connected digitally in 99 classrooms; participants in our gospel music program who joined together in song, online and in person; and the business owners who hosted us for Mars Arts D.C. Virtual. We thank you, our community.

At every point of this journey, our team felt the unwavering support of our Board of Directors, Junior Board, and Women’s Committee. Helming our extraordinary Board was Tom Gallagher, who every day checked in with me and asked, “What do you need, how can I help?” He stood with us through crucial strategic decisions, with deep commitment to the integrity of our team, mission, and community. And at some of the most difficult moments—when the trauma of the pandemic and an ever-increasing urgency to advance racial and social justice was intensified by the assaults on democracy and civil liberties—we found direction in the ethos of our founder, Patrick Hayes: Everybody in, nobody out. The emotional support of this group of friends was as important as their strategic and operational guidance. I very much hope that in their lives and work, they have received the measure of support, compassion, and levity that they gave to our team.

And I truly hope that each of you reading this has felt the mutuality of support of this warm and mighty community we call Washington Performing Arts.

Thank you for being part of our past, our present, and our future. Onward, together!

In gratitude,

Jenny Bilfield
President & CEO
Washington Performing Arts
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NB: All photos in this biennial report were either taken before the onset of the COVID pandemic or adhering to all safety guidelines in place at the time of the image capture.

[COVER] Top Row, Left to Right: Classical pianist Sir András Schiff; Spektral Quartet; a Children of the Gospel Choir member performs; Second Row, Left to Right: The String Queens, Mars Arts D.C. 2019/20 and 2020/21 Ensemble-in-Residence; Sylvia Soumah of Coyaba Dance Theater in a Family Art Moments (FAM) performance; mezzo-soprano J’Nai Bridges; Third Row: Tap dancer Brinae Ali and trumpeter Sean Jones; jazz pianist Chick Corea; Bottom Row, Left to Right, Top to Bottom: vocalist Veronica Swift; cellist Alisa Weilerstein; composer and pianist Damien Sneed; saxophonist Melissa Aldana

[AT LEFT] Top to Bottom: Washington Performing Arts President & CEO Jenny Bilfield; Junior Board member and 2020 Gala Co-Chair Manasi Tirodkar and her husband, Ajay Rao, at our Junior Board 2019/20 Season Kick Off before Pink Martini; Men & Women of the Gospel Choir Artistic Director Theodore Thorpe III conducting I am a Man: Reclaiming Brilliance in the Midst of Brokenness on March 1, 2020; Pianist Seong-Jin Cho backstage with sponsors Ellen and Michael Gold and their family on March 8, 2020, after our last presentation before the pandemic shuttered live performances
In the midst of a crisis, we saw a challenge.

In embracing the challenge, we found a way forward.
In embracing the challenge, we found a way forward.

Washington Performing Arts – championing the arts as a unifying force.
2019/20: SEPTEMBER TO MARCH

2019/20 began with a spirit of celebration—seven months unfolded vividly on stage, in the classroom, and throughout our community.
24 live performances presented

500 free education, gospel music, and community programs

50th anniversary of our Women’s Committee

65,000 patrons reached, including students and seniors

[AT LEFT] Melbourne Symphony Orchestra offers pop-up performances around the District during their residency [THIS PAGE] Clockwise from Top Left: Pink Martini kicks off the 2019/20 season with a 25th Anniversary Celebration; the Washington Performing Arts Women’s Committee celebrates its 50th Anniversary as members hold a portrait honoring Women’s Committee Founder Barbara Gordon; Men of the Gospel Choir performs in I am a Man: Reclaiming Brilliance in the Midst of Brokenness; violinist Midori [center left] is honored as Washington Performing Arts’s 2020 Ambassador of the Arts by journalist Anne Midgette, Board Chair Tom Gallagher, past Joseph & Goldie Feder Memorial String Competition winner Miyabi Henriksen, Jenny Bilfield, and Legacy Society Chair and Honorary Director Stef Tucker
2019/20: GALA TRANSFORMED

Seemingly overnight, the world turned upside down. You tuned in and stepped up.
“Having participated in on-air fundraising on PBS for many, many years, I was able to fully appreciate how you pulled the proverbial rabbit out of a hat that night. Your team did a phenomenal job. Thank you for taking the time to share the details of your experience so generously. As we search for our new normal in the post pandemic world, you will no doubt be credited with inspiring the arts world to look at all sorts of things through a different lens and to bravely innovate its way to a new kind of success.”

Midge Woolsey
Retired Host and Producer, Thirteen/WNET and WQXR

72
hours from live to livestream

275
households watched the Virtual Gala: A Celebration of Women - Fierce, Creative, Resilient

2.5K
impressions online

3K+
post-Gala webinar views

[AT LEFT] Jenny Billfield addresses audiences at home on March 14, 2020 [THIS PAGE]
Top to Bottom: Backstage at Salamander Hotel Resort & Spa, our last-minute Gala venue, with RJ Whyte Event Production and Event EQ; staff manage proxy bidding on the phones for the live auction; Gala honoree and Salamander owner Sheila C. Johnson watches a surprise tribute from composer Kris Bowers, streaming in from L.A.; publicity—featuring Gala artists mezzo-soprano J’Nai Bridges and pianist Kevin Miller—for the "lessons learned" webinar
We gathered together in person, and then we couldn’t. We sang separately, and yet we sang together. We huddled in our homes, we came together online.
“I have enjoyed attending WPA performances since I moved to the Washington, D.C. area five years ago. In addition to great performances, I appreciate WPA’s long-standing commitment to engaging diverse communities in the arts. What really impressed me recently was WPA’s proactive response to the pandemic. They showed creative leadership in being one of the first in the industry to introduce an array of streaming home experiences. I am pleased to support an organization that jumps head-first into opportunity and is committed to continuing to bring communities together through the arts during these difficult times.”

Lenka Kneschke
Champion Fund ticket donor and Washington Performing Arts first-time Friend (July 2020)
A new season blossomed. We seized the moment to transform.

2020/21: MARS ARTS D.C.: VIRTUAL

A new season blossomed. We seized the moment to transform.
“Dance in D.C. short films capture the city’s spirit of entrepreneurship...that concept — the tailoring of terpsichorean energy to a specific location — is central to the dance-film series, which Washington Performing Arts created this fall by commissioning local dancer-choreographers to devise, and perform, dances customized for the spaces at six area businesses...‘Dance in D.C.,’ says series lead curator C. Lorenzo Evans III, aims ‘to show the spirit and vibrancy of entrepreneurship and business and the arts, and that those things are still going on despite being in the midst of a global pandemic.’”

Washington Post (December 2020)
Our online streaming series—Home Delivery Plus—was born, centered around artists and a connection to YOU.
virtual performances presented on Home Delivery Plus

14

virtual Friends events that engaged 650+ households

12

“There are few organizations who would trust an artist and their vision. I’m so grateful for Washington Performing Arts’s support.”
– Sean Jones, trumpet

“I want to express my deepest gratitude to the entire Washington Performing Arts team, for providing me all the support and kindness through this process. I am honored to be part of Home Delivery Plus.”
– Jenny Lin, piano

“Washington Performing Arts can always be counted on for helping pave the way!”
– J’Nai Bridges, mezzo-soprano

[AT LEFT] Jenny Lin recording her Home Delivery Plus recital from the National Kaohsiung Center for the Arts-Weiwuying in Taiwan; [THIS PAGE] Clockwise from Top: Director of Programming Samantha Pollack recording her emcee speech at Control Video studios; a post-concert Linger Longer with saxophonist Steven Banks, Jenny Bilfield, Young Concert Artists President Daniel Kellogg, and composers Saad Haddad and Carlos Simon; Virtual Backstage Pass with mezzo-soprano J’Nai Bridges, sponsors, and staff; Supervising Producer Eric Richardson ready to start a new “take” before Alisa Weilerstein’s Home Delivery Plus recording at the Kennedy Center Terrace Theater.
We learned new ways of doing—and learning—alongside our students, teaching artists, and education partners.
“Thank you to Washington Performing Arts for Ms. Imani!!!! She is amazing!!! Kids turn the cameras on more for her than me.”
– DCPS teacher participating in Capital Arts Partnership*

“It was great! The kids were fantastic. I would love to go there next year in person to do a concert and/or residency. The students were great! I love it. I feel alive!!!!!!!”
– Washington Performing Arts Teaching Artist after their first virtual Concert in Schools program

Education and FAM videos shared on Home Delivery

Teaching Artists and Home Delivery Plus artists featured in FAM videos

participating public and public charter schools

activities during the school year

20

99

19

525+

[AT LEFT] Footworks Percussive Dance Ensemble during a Family Art Moments (FAM) video [THIS PAGE] Clockwise from Top Right: Students from Murch Elementary School participating in a Capital Arts Partnership with Company E; a FAM performance featuring Teaching Artist Lisa Paul; a representative of the Embassy of Trinidad and Tobago interacting with her Embassy Adoption Program (EAP)* partner classroom; EAP online classroom visit with the Embassy of Malaysia

*Capital Arts Partnership and Embassy Adoption Program, along with D.C. Keys and DCPS Honor Ensemble, are partnerships with D.C. Public Schools.
2020/21: GOSPEL MUSIC PROGRAMS

Our choirs stayed connected and sang out, amplifying a call for justice and offering solace through a trying time.
“Thank you for tonight’s most powerful presentation. I am left with so much to think about. Beyond entertainment, Washington Performing Arts teaches.”

–Viewer following Lift Every Voice: The Power of Music in the Fight for Social Justice

“To say I have LOVED the musicianship classes that Mr. Thorpe has been providing during the pandemic is a drastic understatement! He has been teaching us the foundation of a language we’ve been speaking without understanding .... My prayer is that we get to continue learning even after life gets back to “normal” because this has been invaluable.”

–Member of Men & Women of the Gospel Choir

“Men, Women, & Children of the Gospel Choir (MWCOTG) members sang throughout the season.

84

hours of vocal coaching including 201 for the Schlosberg Vocal Scholars*

449

new original artistic and topical programs presented by the choirs

6

tremendous online collaboration to present Living the Dream... Singing the Dream

[AT LEFT] Children of the Gospel Choir’s (COTG) original sung/spoken word production Freedom in the Midst of Bondage [THIS PAGE] Top to Bottom: A social justice panel discussion featuring MWCOTG Artistic Directors and Music Director Anthony “Tony” Walker, moderated by Dr. Raynetta Wiggins-Jackson; Men & Women of the Gospel Choir’s original production Things Are Gonna Get Better; a student panel discussion on social justice featuring COTG students and COTG artistic director Michele Fowlin, moderated by Dr. Wiggins-Jackson; Virtual Backstage Pass with artists, sponsors, and staff following Living the Dream... Singing the Dream, an annual collaboration with Choral Arts Society of Washington

*This number includes all hours from 2019/20 and 2020/21.
2020/21: VIRTUAL GALA

Roots & Wings reflected our values joyfully and united us virtually with viewers far and wide.
“There are only two lasting bequests we can hope to give our children. One of these is roots, the other, wings.”

-Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

148% of fundraising goal achieved to benefit our arts education and gospel music programs

100+ students and Teaching Artists featured

500+ household views coast-to-coast

[AT LEFT] Jenny Bilfield readies for the cameras for the Roots & Wings Virtual Gala livestream, in front of a DCPS Honor Ensemble moment captured in Winter 2020 [THIS PAGE] Clockwise from Top Left: Washington Performing Arts Teaching Artists perform Bill Withers’s Lovely Day during the program; Roots & Wings Co-Chairs and members of the Board of Directors Kathryn Jones and Trista L.P. Colbert welcome viewers; program co-hosts Director of Education and Community Engagement Michelle Hoffmann, Chief Advancement Officer Elizabeth Racheva, Jenny Bilfield, and Children of the Gospel Choir Artistic Director Michele Fowlin; Danish folk ensemble and EAP partners Dreamers’ Circus perform during the program; Roots & Wings honoree and Board member James J. Sandman being interviewed by COTG member Pierce Pearson during the program
2019/20 By the Numbers

OPERATING REVENUE
$5.19M

- Advancement Revenue 73%
- Ticket Sales 17%
- Contracted Services 3%
- Endowment Draw 7%*
- In-Kind 1%
- Miscellaneous Income <1%

* Washington Performing Arts’s endowment was $6.69M at the conclusion of FY20. Washington Performing Arts draws down from the endowment annually at a Board-approved 5% spending rate, which is based on a 3-year rolling average. Total investment income reflected on Washington Performing Arts’s audited financial statements for FY20 was $465K; it is not reflected on this operating revenue chart. Washington Performing Arts’s endowment is invested thoughtfully with an eye toward longterm organizational sustainability.

OPERATING EXPENSES
$5.58M

- Programming & Special Productions 31%
- Administration 14%
- Communications & Creative Media 16%
- Education & Gospel Music Programs 17%
- Advancement 22%

22
Washington Performing Arts gratefully acknowledges the following individuals and institutions whose generous contributions support our artistic and educational programming. Patrons who contributed $500 or more in support of the 2019/20 season are listed below with our sincere thanks (September 1, 2019-August 31, 2020).

*denotes donors to the Champion Fund; learn more below

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CHAMPION FUND

Washington Performing Arts gratefully acknowledges the following individuals and institutions whose generous contributions support our artistic and educational programming. Patrons who contributed $500 or more in support of the 2019/20 season are listed below with our sincere thanks (September 1, 2019-August 31, 2020), making gifts in a moment of dire need and active response.

Whether new, renewed, reallocated, or additional gifts, or sustained support for our 72-hour pivot Virtual Gala, a Friends renewal, or a ticket refund donation—every dollar made a difference in helping us continue to realize our mission and achieve our goals as we worked to close our 2019/20 season, while taking care of our artists, teaching artists, and staff. All in all, these gifts that we counted toward the Champion Fund raised more than $2.5 million for Washington Performing Arts. Champion Fund donors are denoted in this report with an *; a complete list of all Champion Fund donors can be viewed online at bit.ly/CHAMPIONFUND.
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[AT LEFT] Backstage at the Kennedy Center Concert Hall on March 1, 2020 after I am a Man: Reclaiming Brilliance in the Midst of Brokenness, including sponsors and show curator and Men & Women of the Gospel Choir Artistic Director Theodore Thorpe III [middle], performers Joseph Joubert and Konshens the MC, opening speaker Michael Eric Dyson, and composer Joel Thompson [THIS PAGE] Left to Right: Joe Hockey, former Australian Ambassador to the United States and Honorary Patron for The World in Our City, and Bec Allen, Washington Performing Arts Junior Board member and former Australian Embassy Cultural Attaché, prepare remarks prior to the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra’s performance in October 2019; Jazz piano & Hammond B-3 organ superstar Matthew Whitaker with sponsors in February 2020
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Sara Trautman-Yeşenoğlu and
Ferit Yeşenoğlu*
Meiyu Tsung and
Curtis Chang*
Chengbiao Tu and Xinyun Gong
Leif Ulstrup*
Elizabeth von Hassell
Ms. Viviane Warren
Washington Performing Arts
Women’s Committee
Ms. Martha Watanabe*

Wolfgang and Carol Wawersik*
Dr. and Mrs. Allan Weingold*
Ms. Maria Weissman*
Roger J. Whyte II*
Kathe and
Edwin D. Williamson*
Carol Weiner Wilner
Mr. and Mrs. James D. Wilson*
Njambi and Earl Wynn*
† deceased
In Kind
Mrs. Mary Abel Smith
Alfred Street Baptist Church
Arnold & Porter LLP
J’Nai Bridges
Yefim Bronfman
Hans Bruland
The Doyle Collection
Embassy of Australia
Embassy of the Kingdom of Bahrain
Embassy of Chile
Embassy of Finland
Embassy of France
Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
Embassy of the Republic of Singapore
Embassy of Spain
E&G Group
Event EQ
Burton J. Fishman, Esq.
The Hay-Adams Hotel
The Heider Group at TTR | Sotheby’s International Realty
Embassy of Italy
Embassy of Jamaica
Vinay Kumar
Wendy Luke/The HR Sage
Jacqueline Badger Mars
Mars, Incorporated
Midori
Ridgewells Catering
Ree Rinn

RJ Whyte Event Production
Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center
Royal Norwegian Embassy
Salamander Hotels & Resorts
Shiloh Baptist Church
Steptoe & Johnson LLP
The String Queens
Veronica Swift
Syzygy Events International
Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO)
Jean-Yves Thibaudet
Total Wine & More
Vermont Avenue Baptist Church

Washington Performing Arts is grateful to every donor who makes a gift to Washington Performing Arts, including supporters of our Champion Fund*. The list above represents all supporters of $500 or more in 2019/20. List complete and final as of August 31, 2020. A complete list of Champion Fund donors at all levels can be viewed online at bit.ly/CHAMPIONFUND.
PPP Loans have been essential for many businesses, including arts organizations, during the pandemic. Washington Performing Arts received two PPP loans over two fiscal years; the first was received in FY20 and fully forgiven in FY21, revenues of which are reflected above.

Washington Performing Arts’s endowment was $7.96M at the conclusion of FY21. Washington Performing Arts draws down from the endowment annually at a Board-approved 5% spending rate, which is based on a 3-year rolling average. Total investment income reflected on Washington Performing Arts’s audited financial statements for FY21 was $1.77M; it is not reflected in this operating revenue chart. Washington Performing Arts’s endowment is invested thoughtfully with an eye toward longterm organizational sustainability.

Shuttered Venue Operators Grants (SVOGs) from the U.S. Small Business Administration were pandemic relief grants made to arts organizations of all sizes during 2021. Washington Performing Arts received two SVOGs, one of which impacted revenues in FY21.
Washington Performing Arts gratefully acknowledges the following individuals and institutions whose generous contributions support our artistic and educational programming. Patrons who contributed $500 or more in support of the 2020/21 season are listed below with our sincere thanks (September 1, 2020-August 31, 2021).

$100,000 and above
The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation
DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities
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Tom Gallagher and Barbara Myers
Mrs. Jacqueline Badger Mars and Mars, Incorporated
Dr. Gary Mather and Ms. Christina Co Mather
National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs Program/U.S. Commission of Fine Arts
US Small Business Administration – Shuttered Venue Operators Grant

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Susan S. Angell
Mr. Jeffrey Bauman and Ms. Linda Fienberg
Dallas Morse Coors Foundation for the Performing Arts
Park Foundation
Mr. Bruce Rosenblum and Ms. Lori Laitman

$35,000 - $49,999
Lyn and Barry Chasen
National Endowment for the Arts

$25,000 - $34,999
Anonymous

$15,000 - $24,999
Anonymous (4)

$10,000 - $14,999
Anonymous (4)

$5,000 - $9,999
Anonymous (4)

$1,000 - $4,999
Anonymous (4)

“Music is the one time when my head isn’t filled with briefs and opinions…All that is put on a high shelf, and I just enjoy the glorious music.”
—Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg
Peter Shields and Ace Werner/Wiley
Linda and Isaac Stern Charitable Foundation
Mr. Reginald Van Lee
Verizon Washington, DC
Philip R. West and Barbara Yellen
Gary and Silvia Yacoubian

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Mr. Peter Buscemi and Ms. Judith Miller
Mr. William and Mrs. Marty Dudley
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Drs. Elliot and Lily Gardner Feldman
Ms. Nancy McElroy Folger
Mrs. Alison Francis
Mr. Donald and Mrs. Irene Dunn Gavin
Paul Gourdin and Joanne Weiss
HMF Beaudoin Family Foundation
Randy Hostetler Living Room Music Fund & Peter and Linda Parshall
Dr. David Humenansky and Mrs. Bootsie Humenansky
Kanter Kallman Foundation
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Arlene and Edward Kessler
Ms. Kelly King Dibble
Ms. Dina Lassow
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Joan S. Leonard

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Mrs. Rachel Abraham
The Amphion Foundation, Inc.
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Frederick and Christine Andreae
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$1,000 - $1,499
Anonymous (3)
Jenny Bilfield and Joel Phillip Friedman
Dr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Danks
The Charles Delmar Foundation
Mr. John Driscoll
Kenneth R. Feinberg and Diane Feinberg
Drs. Elliot and Lily Gardner Feldman
Ms. Nancy McElroy Folger
Mrs. Alison Francis
Mr. Donald and Mrs. Irene Dunn Gavin
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HMF Beaudoin Family Foundation
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Dr. David Humenansky and Mrs. Bootsie Humenansky
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$500 - $999
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Kenneth R. Feinberg and Diane Feinberg
Drs. Elliot and Lily Gardner Feldman
Ms. Nancy McElroy Folger
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Maria Voultsides and Thomas C. Chisnall, II  
Washington Performing Arts Women’s Committee  
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James Beller and Christopher Wolf  
**$1,000 - $1,499**  
Anonymous (7)  
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Mr. John B. Adams  
Mr. and Mrs. James B. Adler  
Mr. and Mrs. Dave Aldrich  
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Ms. Eve Bachrach  
Patricia Bauman and the Hon. John Landrum Bryant  
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**$500 - $999**  
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Mr. and Mrs. Brad Figel  
Ms. Donna Florio  
Dr. Robert J. Gottschall and Ms. Yukiko Tani  
Mr. Jack E. Hoistson Jr.  
James M. Harkless
Mexico City’s Ballet Folklórico de México de Amalia Hernández performs for *Home Delivery Plus*, one of six *World in Our City* events on the series. Clockwise from Top Left: human and animal fans tune in for our Friends wine-tasting/artist visit with Theopolis Vineyards, Woman-Owned Wineries, and J’Nai Bridges; Women’s Committee members—happily fully vaxxed and reunited in person—prepare gratitude care packages for Washington Performing Arts staff in Summer 2021; Sphinx Virtuosi record for *Home Delivery Plus* in NYC’s Dance Theatre of Harlem studios; Virtual Backstage Pass with sponsors, staff, and composer/pianist Damian Sneed; Arianna Ross of Story Tapestries and the Québécois musical duo Veronneau captivate during a Family Art Moments (FAM) video performance.
Washington Performing Arts
 Jews Legacy Society

Legacy Society members appreciate the vital role the performing arts play in the community, as well as in their own lives. By remembering Washington Performing Arts in their will or estate plans, members enhance our annual fund, endowment, or donor-designated programs and help make it possible for the next generations to enjoy the same quality and diversity of presentations both on stages and in our schools and community.

Mr. and Mrs. Sanford Slavin
Shirley and Albert H.† Small
Mr. Robert Smith and
Ms. Natalie Moffett Smith
Mrs. Isaac Stern
Mr. Leonard Topper
Hector Torres
Sami and Annie Totah
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Marilyn and Stef F. Tucker
Reginald Van Lee
Maria Voultsides and
Thomas C. Chisnell II
Frederic† and Ulric† Weil
Douglas and Catherine Wheeler
Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Winter
Washington Performing Arts
Women’s Committee
Margaret S. Wu,
in memory of Y. H. and T. F. Wu
† deceased

As of January 26, 2022

Corporate Supporters in 19/20 and 20/21

**FedEx Corporation; Ourisman Automotive of Virginia**

**Arnold & Porter LLP; Bulgari; DyalCompass ; Graham Holdings Company; GRF CPAs & Advisors; Panasonic; Paragon Title; Reed Smith**
Washington Performing Arts
Staff 2019/20 and 2020/21

Washington Performing Arts is grateful for the extraordinary resiliency and contributions of our talented staff during this critical period. Some colleagues departed for new adventures following outstanding years of service, while others joined the team virtually and determinedly, meeting for the first time in person in Summer 2021. This extraordinary team—supported by dedicated consultants and a new, dynamic cohort of interns from across the country each trimester—was indefatigable. We salute their creativity, teamwork, and dedication during this unprecedented time.

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C. Lorenzo Evans III
Director of Finance & Chief Operating Officer ~
Douglas H. Wheeler
President Emeritus
Nathan Alston
Special Assistant to the President *
Diedre Robinson
Executive Assistant to the President & CEO +

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Chief Advancement Officer
Meiyu Tsung
Director of Individual Giving
Megan Beck
Assistant Director of Corporate Giving and Government Relations *
Sara Trautman-Yejenoglu
Assistant Director of Advancement Resources
Helen Aberger
Development Operations & Analytics Manager *
Brooke Lamell Bartolome
Manager of Advancement Operations & Analytics ~
Natalie Groom
Manager of Advancement Operations & Analytics +
Alexandra Cantulupo
Temporary Advancement Assistant –
Rebbeca Krupa Wilcoski
Advancement Assistant +
RJ Whyte Event Production Special Events

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Hannah Grove-DeJarnett
Associate Director of External Relations *
David Dalton
Communications & Creative Media Manager
Scott Thureen
Creative Media & Analytics Manager
Amanda Sweet, Bucklesweet
Press & Media Relations
Camille Cintrón Devlin,
Bucklesweet
Press & Media Relations
Elayna Speight, Inked Designs
Graphic Designer
Jixaw Technologies
Website and Technology Consultant

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Trisha Taylor
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Manager of Choir Curriculum & Performance
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Valerie Murray
Education & Community Program Manager +

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Director of Operations & Administration
Erica Mucci
Controller
Kamyar Fardshisheh
Finance & Administration Coordinator +
Todd Aron, HLP Associates
IT Consultant

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Patrick Smith
Ticket Services Manager *
Tyler Teagle
Patron Services Manager
Group Sales & External Relations Coordinator in 2019/20
Tamisha Ottley
Patron Services Associate *

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Samantha Pollack
Director of Programming
Alexis Cooper
Programming & Production Coordinator ~
Kayla E. Loree
Programming Operations Manager +
Torrey Butler
Production Manager *
OurConcerts.Live
Home Delivery Plus Consultants +

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Nicholas Alexander Brown
Director of Special Productions & Initiatives *
Eric E. Richardson
Supervising Producer +
Alex Galiatsatos
Manager of Creative Media & Mars Arts D.C. ^

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Murray Horwitz
Artist in Residence
Michele Fowlin
Artistic Director, Children of the Gospel Choir
Theodore Thorpe III
Artistic Director, Men & Women of the Gospel Choir
Stanley J. Thurston
Artistic Director Emeritus, Washington Performing Arts Gospel Choirs

Anthony “Tony” Walker
Music Director, Washington Performing Arts Gospel Choirs
The String Queens
Mars Arts D.C. Ensemble-in-Residence, 2019-2021

INTERNS
2019/20
Kelsey Ballard
Darya Barna
Cameron Betchey
Kayla Clancy
Jessica Duhon
Mackenzie Girard
Greg Hays
Jing Jia
Penelope Musto
Ashley Shaw
Samia Taliaferro
Tyler Teagle
Ander Tebbutt
Allenda Witzel
Sophia Young
Iris Zhou
2020/21
Missy Curt
Alesha Davis
Erin Durian
Lauren Ellis Scott
Ruby Goldin
Tysha Ingram
Olivia Jones
Rebbeca Krupa Wilcoski
Claire (Frankie) Marsh
Leanny Muñoz
Rose Martus
Carol Niedringhaus
Taylor Richardson
Melissa Schexnaydre
Loza Teodros
Emily (Evy) Vannoy
Kayla (Halo) Wheeler
Samantha (Sam) Williams
Erin Wynne
Teddi Yoo

List as of August 31, 2021
* 2019/20 departure
^ 2019/20 arrival
~ 2020/21 departure
+ 2020/21 arrival
Washington Performing Arts is grateful for the extraordinary leadership and partnership of our entire Board of Directors, Junior Board, and Women’s Committee during this critical period, empowering us to survive and thrive. Together with their families, our Board of Directors, in particular, led our 2019/20 and 2020/21 seasons with invaluable guidance and support, both financial and intangible. Our Junior Board and Women’s Committee also provided exceptional support, buoying our virtual audiences and gatherings and championing community at every turn.

[September 1, 2019–August 31, 2021]

## Current and Past Presidents

- **Jenny Bilfield**
  - President & CEO
- **Neale Perl**
  - President Emeritus
- **Douglas H. Wheeler**
  - President Emeritus
- **Patrick Hayest**
  - Founder

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- **Christina Co Mather**
  - Vice Chair
- **Kelly King Dibble**
  - Vice Chair
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  - Treasurer
- **Ami Scott**
  - Secretary
- **Burton J. Fishman, Esq.**
  - General Counsel

## Current and Past Presidents

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- Daniel Heider
- Susan B. Hepner
- Grace Hobelman
- Kathryn Jones
- Arleen Kessler (Women’s Committee)
- Robert G. Liberatore
- Leslie Luxemburg
- (Friday Morning Music Club)
- David Marventano
- Camden Miller (Junior Board)
- Alyssa O’Connor (Junior Board)
- John F. Olson
- Lynn Parseghian
- W. Stephen Piper
- Irene Roth
- Gordon Rush
- James J. Sandman
- Marc Schlosberg
- Arjun Shah
- Peter Shields
- Nabout van den Broek
- Reginald Van Lee
- Mary Jo Veverka
- Philip R. West
- Gary Yacoubian
- Ex-officio

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- Hans Bruland
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- Jake Jones
- Steven Kaplan, Esq.
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Susan B. Hepner
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Reginald Van Lee

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Benjamin Martin
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Joseph May
Secretary
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Kirren Suarez
Kristen Taylor
Ebony Thomas
Manasi Tirodkar*
Raleigh Wheeler
Lindsey Woody*
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President

Denise Rollins
1st Vice President

Ruth Reed Hodges
2nd Vice President

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Bevery Bascomb
Sylvia Belton
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Glendonia McKinney
Cheryl McQueen
Dianne McRae
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Puallette Nehama
Njambi*
Brenda Parker
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Rita Segerman
Deborah Sewell
Wendy Shapiro

Ernestine Arnold
Corresponding Secretary

Shebbie Robinson Rice
Immediate Past President

Barbara MacKenzie Gordon†
Founding President

Billie Smith
Therrell Smith
Leah Tavens
Pauline Thompson*
Gloria Thrashert
Brenda Vaughan
Diana Veilleux
Gladys Watkins
Carolyn Wilson
Bette Wooden

† deceased
# Executive Committee
* Concluded service in 2019/20
° Joined the Board of Directors, Junior Board, or Women’s Committee in 2019/20
~ Concluded service during 2020/21
*° Joined the Board of Directors or Women’s Committee in 2020/21
Our Mission, Vision, and Guiding Principles—refreshed in 2020—propel our work every day.

MISSION

Washington Performing Arts champions the arts as a unifying force. Through collaborations with artists, educators, community leaders, and institutional partners, we bring wide-ranging artistic programs to stages, schools, and neighborhoods throughout our nation’s capital and, with our virtual platform, share our work throughout the world.

VISION

Our community is unified and enriched through vibrant performing arts experiences.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Cultivate Artists and Arts Patrons: Be the organization that artists want to partner with and that arts patrons trust for lifelong enjoyment and learning.

Pursue Inclusion: Seek, represent, and welcome a multiplicity of voices in everything we do.

Collaborate with Communities: Build strong partnerships with local, national, and international organizations to make the performing arts accessible to communities in the nation’s capital.

Build a Lasting Legacy: Balance risk-taking with fiscal rigor, sustaining a healthy organization that will last for generations.
We made it happen together—we are surviving and thriving together—we will continue to champion the arts as a unifying force, together. Thank you. To the future!