



**WASHINGTON
PERFORMING ARTS**

We make it happen



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WASHINGTON PERFORMING ARTS WELCOMES EIGHT NEW MEMBERS TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND 15 NEW MEMBERS TO ITS JUNIOR BOARD

WASHINGTON— Washington Performing Arts today announced the addition of eight new members to its Board of Directors, and 15 new members to its Junior Board, which comprises young professionals who are enthusiastic about the arts and committed to enhancing philanthropy, leadership, and advocacy within the D.C. area.

“We are thrilled to welcome new friends to our Board of Directors and Junior Board,” **President and CEO Jenny Bilfield said**. “They are in wonderful company, joining a community of outstanding, generous arts lovers who have been inspired by the mission of Washington Performing Arts. I know that the variety of backgrounds, perspectives, and expertise that each brings will enrich our planning and work in the time ahead. I’m especially thrilled that long-time members of our Junior Board, including its founding Chair, now join the Board of Directors, ensuring that we honor our legacy as a diverse, inclusive, multi-generational community.”

The **Washington Performing Arts Board of Directors** advocates for the arts community in the D.C. area and supports the organization’s numerous programs and performances. Each Board member was chosen for their sustained commitment to the arts and desire to cultivate a thriving artistic community in D.C.

The eight new members of the Washington Performing Arts Board are:

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- **Dina Al-Sabah**– Community volunteer and arts and education advocate
- **Nici Bush**– Vice President, Innovation, Science and Technology at Mars, Incorporated
- **Brad Figel**– Retired Senior Counsel and Vice President, Corporate Affairs at Mars, Incorporated
- **Lucia Hill**– Community volunteer and arts and education advocate
- **André O. Lewis**– Member of the Investment Management team at MRP Realty; Founding Chair of the Washington Performing Arts Junior Board
- **Dr. Tafaya Ransom**– Deputy Director, Postsecondary Success at Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- **Ebony Thomas**– Partner of Strategic Growth and Operations, Grads of Life; Founding Member of the Washington Performing Arts Junior Board
- **Amber Young**– Vice President, Technical Services at Pepco Holdings

A full listing of the Washington Performing Arts Board of Directors is available at www.washingtonperformingarts.org/aboutus/board-of-directors/.

Members of the Washington Performing Arts Board of Directors serve three-year terms with no term limits.



DINA AL-SABAH



NICI BUSH



BRAD FIGEL



LUCIA HILL



ANDRÉ O. LEWIS



DR. TAFAYA RANSOM



EBONY THOMAS



AMBER YOUNG

Established in 2017, the **Washington Performing Arts Junior Board** engages professionals in their 20s and 30s who have a desire to impact the future of the arts. Its members cultivate a community of arts supporters from within their networks and involve their peers in Washington Performing Arts’s varied performances and initiatives. They also collectively adopt an existing Washington Performing Arts program—such as the Children of the Gospel Choir and Embassy Adoption Program—as their philanthropic project and develop their leadership skills through

service on Junior Board-led and Board-led committees and mentorship from Washington Performing Arts's Board of Directors.

The 15 new members of the Washington Performing Arts Junior Board are:

- **Kate Barry**– Pro Bono Counsel at Kirkland & Ellis
- **Urvashi Bhatnagar**– Vice President of Business Development at Genpact
- **Dr. Anthony E. Daley, Jr.**– Solution Architect and Manager at Deloitte
- **Shirley Diaz**– Associate at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP
- **Linda Foinding**– Database Administrator at Brown University
- **Emily Heppen**– Senior Director of Leasing at Finmarc Management, Inc
- **Marissa Higgins**– Attorney at Barnes & Thornburg LLP
- **Charles L. Holloway**– Associate at Booz Allen Hamilton
- **Ian McCabe**– Analyst at Deloitte
- **John McCann**– Senior Financial Analyst at Pacific Western Bank
- **Kayla Payne**– Specialist, Health Partnerships and Policy at YMCA of the USA
- **Kyle Shernuk**– Assistant Professor of Modern Chinese Literatures & Cultures at Georgetown University
- **Cat Snyderwine**– Interior Decorator at Snyderwine Designs
- **Olivia Stam**– Research Consultant at Russell Reynolds Associates
- **Macaya Yao**– Corporate Responsibility Recruiter, Senior Associate at JP Morgan Chase



KATE BARRY



URVASHI BHATNAGAR



DR. ANTHONY E. DALEY, JR



SHIRLEY DIAZ



LINDA FOINDING



EMILY HEPPEN



MARISSA HIGGINS



CHARLES L. HOLLOWAY



IAN McCABE



JOHN McCANN



KAYLA PAYNE



KYLE SHERNUK



CAT SNYDERWINE



OLIVIA STAM



MACAYA YAO

The newly announced members join 20 current members of the Washington Performing Arts Junior Board. **A full listing of the Washington Performing Arts Junior Board is available at <https://www.washingtonperformingarts.org/aboutus/junior-board/>.**

Washington Performing Arts Junior Board members serve two-year terms with no term limits.

Download individual board member photos at:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/7otaxm4btsbruvk/AADSC9mM7S3n20yLV22wp03Ja?dl=0>

ABOUT WASHINGTON PERFORMING ARTS

One of the most established and honored performing arts institutions in America, Washington Performing Arts has engaged for more than half a century with artists, audiences, students, and civic life. The city is truly our stage: for decades, in venues ranging from concert halls and clubs to public parks, we have presented a tremendous range of artists and art forms, from the most distinguished symphony orchestras to both renowned and emerging artists in classical music, jazz, international genres, and more. We also have an ever-expanding artistic and educational

presence on the internet, envisioning ongoing opportunities for online connection and community.

Washington Performing Arts deeply values its partnerships with local organizations and other arts institutions. Through events online and in myriad performance venues and neighborhoods, we engage international visiting artists in community programs and introduce local artists to wider audiences. We place a premium on establishing artists as a continuing presence in the lives of both young people and adults through residencies and education programs.

Our achievements have been recognized with a National Medal of Arts and with three Mayor's Arts Awards from the D.C Government. We have now embarked upon our second half-century, ever inspired by the motto of our founder, Patrick Hayes: "Everybody in, nobody out."

Follow Washington Performing Arts on Social Media:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WashingtonPerformingArtsSociety>

Threads: <https://www.threads.net/@WashingtonPerformingArts>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/washingtonperformingarts/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/WashPerformArts>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/wpasadmin>

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