



## Nancy Dana, Membership Chair

Nancy Dana is a passionate advocate for providing under served students the quality education they need to ensure a positive future. She has been a leader in the charter school movement with personal involvement for more than 25 years. Nancy holds a Bachelor of Science in Fine Arts degree from Coe College, a Master's in Education Leadership from Bethel College, and an Education Specialist Degree and Superintendency from the University of Minnesota- Mankato. Continuing a family tradition of service to others, Nancy is committed to improving education, social justice and living conditions throughout the community. Her leadership and integrity serve as models and inspiration to others. She continues her family's service on the Board of the Boy Scouts Northern Star Council where they have served for over 100 continuous years. She recently received the Minnesota HOBY award for leadership, a national organization devoted to serving youth and empowering leaders.



## Camille Kolles, Founding Board Chair

Camille Kolles has provided executive leadership in the performing arts for nearly two decades and was a pioneer in the movement to employ music as an intentional tool for community development and social impact. Most recently, she led an artistic and administrative turnaround as executive director of the Carmel Bach Festival from 2008-2012, served as a charter board member of the recently re-launched national organization El Sistema USA, and is currently a consultant for music-based social enterprise efforts.

Having witnessed transformation through music, she is now pursuing a wider-angle lens on transformation as a PhD student in Transformative Studies at the California Institute of Integral Studies. She is currently researching how the inner search for meaning and personal fulfillment connects with social purpose.

She is simultaneously working on the launch of The Center for Inspired Living, whose mission is to expand, both individually and collectively, our sense of human possibility and increase skill and capacity for connecting our inner work with the outer world. By intersecting three primary arenas—business, science, and spirit—the Center aims to foster and advance transdisciplinary thinking that supports socially conscious living and working, and solutions for increasing the common good.



## **Kevin Lynch, Treasurer**

Self-identifying as a social enterprise field leader, Kevin's purpose is to create an economy that is built on purpose, not privilege. Kevin has served as Treasurer for ComMUSICation the past two years and been on ComMUSICation's board since 2015. Kevin is also involved with fundraising, strategic planning, and other nonprofit consultant work with the Barbershop Harmony Society. He's the author of *Mission, Inc.*, *The Practitioner's Guide To Social Enterprise* and is a regular public speaker. He was the founder and CEO of social purpose ad agency Lynch Jarvis Jones, CEO of Rebuild Resources, a social enterprise serving recovering addicts and alcoholics, and President and CEO of Social Enterprise Alliance. Kevin is a barbershop and gospel singer and believes in the power of music to transform lives for all.



## **Abbe Pedersen, Development Chair**

A passionate advocate for children's issues, Abbe Mills Pedersen is a communications, marketing and development professional with nearly 15 years' experience working with non-profits and their boards, using the Benevon fundraising model. As a key member of the development team at Summit Academy, Abbe completed the full cycle of Benevon program training, which includes creating and implementing point of entry events, donor cultivation events, board development and training, and a major fundraising breakfast every year. Other events she has created and managed include galas, alumni parties and online fundraising events, among others. Abbe's marketing communications skills include video production, website development, advertising creation and placement, writing and photography. Abbe is an alum of the University of Minnesota where she admits to being an English geek and also enjoyed participating in the U of M Chamber Singers. A native of Minnesota, Abbe is divorced with two grown daughters and lives in South Minneapolis. She enjoys walking around the lakes, reading, correcting poorly written signs and grammatically incorrect menus and, of course, singing.



## Joyce Larson

Joyce is a retired Music Director/Organist, having served several churches in SD and the Twin Cities. From 2000-2015 she was a conductor of St. John's Oratorio Chorus, St. John's Music Series' annual performances of Handel's *Messiah* and other major works with professional orchestra (including some MN Orchestra players) and soloists. Also served as artistic director (not my official title, though) of the St. John's Music Series. She has a B.S. in Music Education from Northern State University (Aberdeen, SD) and a M.M. degree from the University of Arizona in Tucson. She also served as Co-chair of Workshops Committee for 2008 national convention of the American Guild of Organists in Minneapolis, a member of Association of Lutheran Church Musicians and she also sings in Masterworks Chorale of Augsburg (University) and Cantorei at Mount Olive Lutheran Church. She is married to Merwyn Larson and enjoys overnights with her four grandchildren, gardening and quilting.



## Bondo Nyembwe, Board Engagement Chair

Bondo Nyembwe the Executive Director at Academia Cesar Chavez. He is a passionate educator who has worked as a Principal and Executive Director for 13 years in urban schools in Minneapolis and St. Paul. He is dedicated to school transformation and focus on creating common practices that build a positive school climate for teaching and learning. He believes that improving student achievement for all is a moral imperative. Bondo enjoys reading and translating research into practice in schools. He was instrumental in the turn-around process of St. Paul City school, a Focus school that became a celebration eligible school after 3 years. He has authored an article "Teachers of Color Face Shortage: What does it mean to our growing numbers of minority students."



## **Scott Hayman, Board Member**

Scott is an IT Consultant. He earned degrees in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Wisconsin – Platteville, and Electrical Engineering from the University of Rochester. Scott joined the finance committee. He believes in the power of academics and creative endeavors, such as music, to change lives.



## **Cara Wilson**

Cara Wilson is a teacher and freelance musician in the Twin Cities. She teaches strings at St Paul Academy and Summit School and has maintained a private violin studio at St Joseph's School of Music in St Paul for nearly 20 years. Her first pedagogical goal is to give her students the skill and experience to make music a tool that will serve them throughout their lives. She is a member of the classical horn trio, Melange a Trois, and half of the eclectic folk duo, Lady Date. A native of New Mexico, Wilson moved to Minnesota to study violin at St Olaf College and then at the University of Minnesota. She is active in the classical music scene on both the performing and philanthropic sides and lives in St Paul with her husband and three children.





## **Roque Diaz**

Roque Diaz is the Director of School Partnerships at MacPhail Center for Music, and a PhD candidate in Music Education and Creative Studies & Media at the University of Minnesota. Roque is in the process of writing his dissertation which focuses on embedding diversity into the arts through equity, inclusion, and access. He is currently a Diversity of Views and Experiences Fellowship (DOVE) Recipient, Katherine and Gardner Roth Fellowship Recipient, and Beverly & Richard Fink Summer Research Fellowship Recipient, all at the University of Minnesota.



## **Matt Cisewski**

Matt Cisewski is the Executive Director at Aurora Charter School. In the field of education, Matt has worked as a Teacher, Instructional Coach, and Executive Director for 14 years. He believes that a community leader must be diligent in working towards a goal where lifelong learning for *all* is envisioned. Matt is passionate about building leadership density in schools and communities at all levels to help all learners reach their full potential. He believes in shared leadership as a development tool for organizations and individuals.



## **Rachel Boevig**

Rachel Boevig is a passionate advocate for women and children. Rachel has worked within the healthcare field for over 15 years and brings experience around business strategy, finance, and relationship management. Rachel's personal passion around health and wellness drove her to entrepreneurship when she created an organization focused on offering non-pharmaceutical herbal products and holistic services. Rachel graduated from the University of Minnesota, Carlson School of Management. Music has been an integral part of Rachel's life. Rachel began singing at a very early age. She has been a part of many choral groups and bands, and also loves to write music. She currently lives in Lino Lakes with her husband and two girls.