

Symposium 2014 Speaker Bios-Extended

Lauri Alpern, MUPP, is a leading sustainability strategist and social venture advisor whose work is based in operations and human capital development. She is principal of Open Door Advisors (ODA), which she started in 2009 to follow her passion – working with social entrepreneurs navigating sustainable income and social impact through innovative business ventures. ODA helps high impact entrepreneurial nonprofits and social ventures expertly plan and manage the triple bottom line of mission, money, and sustainability through strategy and organizational development, business planning, leadership coaching, and investment.

Throughout her career, Lauri has led numerous nonprofit and social enterprise teams through growth and development strategies, which have resulted in new levels of revenue generation, social impact and organizational effectiveness. Here are just a few examples. Recently, Lauri completed a large-scale assessment of mission-based programs and business operations of one of New York’s leading social enterprise ventures, Hot Bread Kitchen. The Illinois Community Action Development Corporation (ICADC) commissioned Open Door Advisors to develop a white paper on the need and opportunities for social enterprise programs and services for the Community Action Agency Network throughout Illinois. ICADC is now implementing the recommendations with Lauri’s guidance and advice. Lauri served as the lead strategy advisor for the scale and replication of Inspiration Kitchens, the culinary arts and restaurant social enterprise of Chicago-based nonprofit, Inspiration Corporation. The project resulted in the successful development of a 70-seat family focused social enterprise restaurant in the Garfield Park neighborhood on Chicago’s West side. Inspiration Kitchens operates a catering company and workforce development program in conjunction with the restaurant.

Prior to founding Open Door Advisors, Lauri was a partner in the strategy firm ROI (Return on Inspiration) Ventures, LLC (now known as Frequency 540), where she managed a diverse client portfolio centered on social venture strategy and leadership development for a range of highly innovative organizations.

Lauri also served as executive director of The Enterprising Kitchen (TEK), a nonprofit social enterprise, providing workforce development services to unemployed women through a manufacturing company that produced natural soaps and soap products. Lauri re-energized and refocused TEK’s social mission, to more than double the number of lower-income women in the workforce development program. She also led the restructuring of all business operations: sales, marketing, production and manufacturing, which achieved record sales, profitability, philanthropic and public relations goals.

Community collaboration and resource development are key to Lauri’s work. She helped found the Great Cities Institute at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), where she served as associate director. There she created new resources and partnerships among faculty, students, community, and corporate partners all seeking to improve the quality of life in Chicago and other cities. Prior to her years at UIC, with a portfolio that centered on urban industrial development, she served as assistant commissioner for the City of Chicago Department of Economic Development in the administrations of Mayors Harold Washington and Eugene Sawyer.

Lauri has a Bachelor’s degree from the University of Wisconsin, a Master’s degree in Urban Planning with a specialization in Economic Development from the University of Illinois. Lauri is certified in the Lean Six Sigma management practice, which promotes the dual goals of continuous process improvement and respect for people. Lauri is a PhD candidate in Business Psychology at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology. Lauri serves as president of the board of Growing Home, Inc., a nonprofit social enterprise, and Chicago’s first urban organic production farm.



Joy Aruguete, MA has served as the Chief Executive Officer of Bickerdike Redevelopment Corporation for the past nineteen years. In this capacity, she supervises operations for this 47-year-old award-winning nonprofit community development corporation dedicated to community controlled development, the preservation and management of affordable housing, economic development centered on job creation, comprehensive community planning and engagement, and the development of community leaders. Joy manages corporate, subsidiary and affiliate business operations of approximately \$40 million annually and oversees the work of 75 staff members who carry out Bickerdike's mission. This work has included: the development of 1,227 housing units, including 154 single family homes, with an additional 123 units under development; resident-involved property management of 1,022 rental and cooperative housing units; management of over 60,000 square ft. of commercial space across seven sites; the performance of minor repairs in over 700 households; the development of hundreds of jobs for community residents; and the development of hundreds of community leaders. Bickerdike is also the lead agency for the Humboldt Park New Communities Program, actively engaging 70 neighborhood organizations and institutions in the successful implementation of over 100 wide ranging community development initiatives.

Joy also oversees the work of Humboldt Construction Company, a 33-year-old wholly-owned subsidiary of Bickerdike. Humboldt Construction Company's central goal is job creation for local residents, with over 100 area residents having been trained and placed into skilled trade union jobs. The company provides general contracting services and quality construction through a team of approximately 20 carpenters who are members of the Carpenters Union Local 13.

For seventeen years, Joy has been an active Board member of the Chicago Rehab Network where she currently serves as board President. In this role she provides citywide leadership in efforts to ensure effective policy, capacity and resources for affordable housing and community development in Chicago.

Joy was appointed to the national Enterprise Community Partners Leadership Council in late 2006, where she actively participates in shaping national community development priorities. She has served on the Federal Home Loan Bank of Chicago's Community Investment Advisory Council since 2009. She was appointed by Mayor Richard Daley to the Board of Directors of the Chicago Community Land Trust in 2006 and reappointed by Mayor Rahm Emanuel in 2012, where she also serves as Chair of the Projects Committee.

In May 2009 joy was presented with the *40 Who've Made A Difference Award* by Business and Professional People for the Public Interest. In December 2002 she was presented with the *Tom Gobby Award for Neighborhood Leadership* by LaSalle Bank.

Joy has been active in the nonprofit sector for over 25 years. Her work at Bickerdike builds upon her background in community organizing and economic development. Her experience is enriched by six years of teaching at the University of Illinois at Chicago in the Urban Developers Program of the College of Urban Planning and Policy Administration. Prior to this, she taught for two years at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She received her Masters Degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison., holds holds two Bachelor degrees, a Certificate in Non-Profit Management from Roosevelt University, and an Illinois Real Estate Managing Broker License.

Tony Banout, PhD, is vice president of Institutional Advancement at Interfaith Youth Core (IFYC). He leads IFYC's development program and manages relationships with IFYC's Board of Directors. Tony's decade of experience in nonprofit management and fundraising includes work in the fields of social services, civil rights, and public health. Born to Egyptian parents and raised in New York, Tony received a PhD in Religion from the Divinity School at the University of Chicago for a dissertation treating democracy and religious freedom. He is also a



graduate of the Washington Theological Union, where he completed a Master's in Theology, and received a Bachelor's in Business Administration from St. John's University.

Randall K. Blakey, MATS, MS, has served as executive pastor of LaSalle Street Church on Chicago's Near North side, since June of 2011. At LaSalle, he serves as chief of staff and shares the Pastoral Ministry responsibilities of the Pastoral Staff. Pastor Randall is executive director of the Near North Unity Program, an effort started to promote and strengthen community cohesion in the Near North Neighborhood. Pastor Randall also serves as the current president of the Near North Ministry Alliance. Prior to arriving at LaSalle, he was a 23 year member of the Faith Community of St. Sabina. At St. Sabina he served as director of Ministries & Pastoral Associate, having direct oversight of all Church Ministries & Outreach Organizations and also shared the pastoral responsibilities of counseling, teaching and preaching. On a regular freelance basis, Pastor Randall serves as director of Photography for the ABC-TV 7 television shows Heart & Soul, N'-Beat and Asian Influences. Randall has worked in the television business for the last 25 years and has won numerous awards, the most notable being 4 Emmy awards for Television Photojournalism. His most memorable work was covering the release of Nelson Mandela from South African Prison for CBS News.

Pastor Randall is a graduate of Tennessee State University, McCormick Theological Seminary, Harvard Divinity School and Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. He and his family reside in the far south suburbs. Despite all of the aforementioned, what's most important to Pastor Randall is that he lives life as a contribution rather than an acquisition.

Rev. Barbara Bolsen has been with The Night Ministry for 16 years and currently serves as vice president for programs. Before joining The Night Ministry, Barb spent 20 years as a health care journalist. Barb is a graduate of Northwestern University and Chicago Theological Seminary and is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ.

Peter Buffett, an Emmy Award-winning musician, has an acclaimed career that spans more than 30 years as a professional composer. More recently, he has added philanthropist and author to describe his career. Born in Omaha, Nebraska, Peter began his career creating music for early MTV bumpers of the '80s, and the climactic crescendo in the memorable "Fire Dance" scene in 1990's Oscar winning film *Dances with Wolves*. Peter received critical acclaim for his Native American-inspired music, composing the full score for *500 Nations*- the eight-hour Emmy-awarded CBS miniseries produced by Kevin Costner, and the musical production *Spirit: The Seventh Fire*.

Peter has released more than 16 records to date on his own imprints as well as Narada, Epic and Hollywood Records. He has collaborated with Grammy-nominated recording artist Akon as well as Grammy-winning artist Angeliqe Kidjo on human rights inspired songs.

As Co-Chairman of the NoVo Foundation, Buffett helps guide the strategic plan that he and his wife Jennifer have implemented with a small, dedicated staff. The NoVo Foundation seeks to foster a transformation in global society from domination and exploitation to collaboration and partnership, empowering girls and women as the primary agents of change. Peter's inspiring New York Times Best-Selling book, *Life Is What You Make It*, was released in paperback in May of this year. To bring the message of the book alive, Buffett has crafted *Life Is What You Make It: A Concert & Conversation with Peter Buffett*, a live music event that incorporates multi-media and personal stories to give the audience an authentic, inspirational, and impactful evening. For more



information, please visit www.peterbuffett.com

Jean Butzen is the president and founder of Mission + Strategy Consulting, Inc. Jean has over 35 years in leadership positions in the nonprofit sector, most recently as president/CEO of Lakefront Supportive Housing which she grew from a start-up organization into a nationally-recognized supportive housing provider with an annual combined budget of \$12M with over 1,000 units of housing for homeless adults and families in Chicago. In 2004, Jean initiated a merger process for Lakefront which culminated in her organization consolidating with Mercy Housing based in Denver, CO. At the conclusion of the merger she launched Mission + Strategy Consulting, a firm specializing in nonprofit strategic re-structuring: mergers, partnerships, alliances, and parent corporations. Since 2006, Jean and her team of consultants have facilitated numerous mergers and partnership transactions and delivered dozens of trainings on the topic of nonprofit strategic restructuring for foundations and intermediaries including Board Source, the Donors Forum in Illinois, and BoardStar, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Jean has won numerous awards in her career including the 2001 Leadership Greater Chicago *Distinguished Fellow Award*, and in 2004, was identified as one of the most influential women in the Nonprofit Sector by the Chicago Sun-Times in their series *The 100 Most Influential Women in Chicago*.

She holds a Bachelor's of Arts degree from Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio, and a certificate in Business Administration from Kellogg School of Management Institute, Northwestern University.

Juan Calixto, CFRE, MPA is the vice president of external relations at Chicago Community Loan Fund (CCLF) where he manages the organization's fundraising, marketing, communications and public policy activities. CCLF provides financing and technical assistance for community stabilization efforts that benefit low- to moderate-income neighborhoods throughout metropolitan Chicago. He has 25 years of nonprofit experience working in various leadership positions. Prior to joining CCLF, Juan served as the development director for Mujeres Latinas en Acción and National Latino Education Institute (formerly Spanish Coalition for Jobs) securing funding from foundations, corporations, special events, individuals and public agencies. He worked ten years in youth services in various positions providing direct services at Erie Neighborhood house to serving as a Center Director at Chicago Youth Centers. He is owner and principal consultant of Ideation First, LLC providing fundraising and nonprofit management services and an adjunct faculty member at North Park University's School of Business and Nonprofit Management. Juan is a Certified Fundraising Executive (CFRE) and a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals where he received the President's Award for service to the field of philanthropy. He is co-founder of Latinos in Development, a member of the Cook County Board of Ethics and a Workshop Instructor at the Donors Forum. Juan holds a Master's degree in Public Administration from Roosevelt University and an undergraduate degree from Northern Illinois University.

Janice Glenn Collier serves as director of member relations for Leadership Greater Chicago (LGC), a nonprofit civic leadership organization that creates lifelong partnerships and develops community awareness among leaders in the Chicago metropolitan area. In this role, Janice works closely with the members in the Leadership Fellows Association (LFA) within LGC, which consist of graduates from the Fellows Program. She is responsible for executing the development of programs and oversees outreach with members and potential members. Prior to joining LGC in 1986, Janice began her career in Public and Government Affairs with Amoco Corporation. She



currently serves as vice chair of Christ the King Jesuit College Preparatory Rising Leaders Council. Janice graduated from Roosevelt University with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science.

Charles Coustan, MBA, is the executive director of World Bicycle Relief where he manages the marketing, fundraising, technology, and finance functions and participates on the three member executive team that leads WBR. Prior to joining WBR in 2013, Charles spent the previous 10 years as an equity research analyst, the last six of which were at William Blair.

Prior to his role as an analyst, Charles spent five years in consumer marketing and product management at two small firms (iOwn, Inc. and OCM, Inc.) where he led teams responsible for developing and managing Internet-based consumer products. Charles also has three years of leadership experience in the nonprofit sector as director of housing development at Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation in San Francisco. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from The University of Michigan and a Master's degree in Business Administration (MBA) from the Walter A. Haas School of Business at the University of California at Berkeley.

Lucy Czyz, MBA is currently vice president and senior relationship manager in the Government & Institutional Banking Group at Fifth Third Bank in Chicago. Lucy has a specialized focus on the nonprofit and education sector and develops banking relationships with private and public colleges and universities, private independent schools, school districts, cultural institutions and social service organizations. Lucy has over 20 years of banking experience and has focused on working with tax-exempt institutions for over 15 years. She is responsible for marketing the Bank's commercial banking products and services to these clients and recently rejoined Fifth Third Bank in August of 2012.

Lucy holds a Bachelor's of Science in Business Administration from Elmhurst College and an MBA from DePaul University.

John Davidoff is founder and CEO of Davidoff Communications, a national strategic planning and marketing communications consultancy. Founded in 2005, Davidoff Communications leads nonprofits, businesses and associations with its proprietary Mission-Driven™ branded methodology to increase mission impact, drive revenue, and build meaningful relationships with members, donors, partners, sponsors and other stakeholders. Davidoff Communications provides strategic planning, thought leadership, marketing communications, conference management, donor marketing and alternative revenue development services.

Bringing over 30 years of local, national and global experience to the table, Davidoff has served clients including the American Cancer Society, Children International, PETA, Smithsonian, American Alliance of Museums, Council on Foundations, American Legacy Foundation, Ocean Conservancy and Monterey Bay Aquarium. Previously, Davidoff served as vice president for Event Marketing and Sponsorship for DDB, senior vice president for marketing for General Growth Properties, senior vice president for sales and marketing for Omnicom's Radiate Group and CEO of Entertainment Marketing, Inc. Davidoff is a regular contributor to *The Non Profit Times*, profiling leaders and characteristics of Mission-Driven organizations. Davidoff sits on the boards of Heartland Alliance for Human Needs and Human Rights, Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce, Wright Foundation for Transformational Leadership, and Ithaca College President's Roundtable.



Michael Davidson, MS, is the senior program officer for The Chicago Community Trust in sustainable development. Davidson leads grant making for community and regional planning organizations, focusing on the confluence of environmental, economic and social sustainability—the sustainability "triple bottom line"—as the optimal framework for policy planning and development practice.

Prior to joining the Trust, Davidson was Midwest Director for ICLEI—Local Governments for Sustainability USA, where he provided in-depth technical support to 90 innovative Midwest member local governments with climate, energy and sustainability initiatives. He has also worked as a program officer at the Great Lakes Protection Fund and manager of the Campaign for Sensible Growth. At the Campaign, Davidson worked with municipal officials, elected leaders and community groups in the Chicago region on efforts ranging from hands-on technical assistance in communities grappling with specific development challenges to high-level support for regional planning policy, including helping to establish the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning as the region's planning authority. Davidson spent the first nine years of his career in the research department of the American Planning Association (APA), where he provided planning practitioners with best practices in urban and regional planning. Davidson also served as APA's co-editor of *Zoning Practice*, a serial publication on zoning provision and land use policy, and produced over 100 issues. He is the founder of the Prairie State Local Government Sustainability Network and a founding member of the Sustainable Communities Division of the American Planning Association. He earned a graduate degree from DePaul University's School of Public Service and has authored and produced over 30 articles and technical reports on contemporary planning issues.

Bob Dean, MRP, is the deputy executive director for Local Planning with the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP). Bob oversees CMAP's programs that provide assistance to local governments, including the recently initiated Local Technical Assistance (LTA) program. Before holding this position, he was the project manager for GO TO 2040, the long-range comprehensive plan for the Chicago metropolitan area that was adopted in October 2010. Prior to coming to CMAP, Bob worked in transportation and land use planning for the City of Naperville and the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference. Mr. Dean holds a Master's degree in planning from Cornell University and is originally from the Philadelphia region.

Greg DiDomenico is president and CEO at Community Memorial Foundation (CMF). Established in 1995, Community Memorial Foundation is a private foundation with a focus on community health improvement. Their geographic area includes 27 communities in western Cook and southeastern DuPage Counties in Illinois. CMF's mission is to measurably improve the health of people who live and work in the western suburbs of Chicago.

Greg joined the CMF team as vice president in January 2009 after serving as executive director for a number of years at local nonprofits, including the Rich Port YMCA (now the Greater La Grange YMCA). Greg's resume also includes management positions at Little City Foundation and leadership roles in Pennsylvania, where he coordinated community mental health services and directed "down-sizing" efforts for state institutions in Montgomery County.

Greg serves on a number of community boards and advisory committees, including the Illinois Gift of Adoption Board, Arts Alliance Illinois Board, the Illinois Attorney General's Charitable Advisory Council and Past Board President of the West Suburban Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Greg's experience in philanthropy and with nonprofits is compatible with CMF's belief that the Foundation is in the business of making a difference in the community.



Aaron Dorfman, MA, is executive director of the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy (NCRP), a research and advocacy organization based in Washington, D.C. NCRP works to ensure America's grantmakers are responsive to the needs of those with the least wealth, opportunity and power. Before joining NCRP in 2007, Aaron served for 15 years as a community organizer with two national organizing networks, spearheading grassroots campaigns to improve public education, expand public transportation for low-income residents and improve access to affordable housing. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Carleton College (where he studied under the late Senator Paul Wellstone) and a Master's degree in Philanthropic Studies from the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University. Aaron frequently speaks and writes about the importance of diversity in philanthropy, the benefits of foundation funding for advocacy and community organizing, and the need for greater accountability and transparency in the philanthropic sector.

Jonathan Eisler, MA, MBA, director of organizational consulting at Perspectives Ltd, has a passion for assisting organizations and individuals in articulating and achieving the results that they desire. He has over nine years of experience in business administration and development, management and organizational consulting, training design/facilitation and coaching. Areas of expertise include team cohesion, leadership development, sales, employee engagement, talent management, adaptive communication, customer service, problem solving, decision making, emotional intelligence, survey design/analysis, and organizational culture.

At Perspectives, Jonathan's responsibilities include partnering with client/customer organizations to help identify leadership, talent and team issues that are negatively impacting organizational performance. Jonathan then collaborates with his team and client leadership to develop the best-fit strategies to help organizations, teams and individuals become more effective. He partners with Perspectives' clients to maximize efficiency and outcomes throughout every step of the consulting engagement. Whether during comprehensive organizational analyses, solution design, data gathering, consultation, or program implementation, Jonathan dedicates himself and Perspectives' resources to his clients and their objectives.

Prior clients include IBM, International Dairy Queen, The U.S. Department of Labor, The National Association of Realtors, Mayo Clinic, Children's Memorial Hospital and Two Men and a Truck.

Jonathan earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology with a minor in Gerontology from Flagler College, a Master of Arts degree in Industrial/Organizational Psychology (MAIOP) from The Chicago School of Professional Psychology, a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree with a Management concentration from Morris Graduate School of Management and is certified as a Professional Behavioral Analyst (CPBA) through Target Training International.

Eric Flasck is a managing director at Expense Reduction Analysts. As managing director, Eric's focus is on client satisfaction, building strong relationships, and the delivery of comprehensive cost containment solutions. Eric is also responsible for leading the Northern Illinois team of ERA consultants.

He has over 15 years of consulting experience with a diverse group of mid-market companies and global organizations including: Dow Chemical, Motorola, Harley Davidson, Waste Management, Toyota, US Steel, and Hewlett-Packard, to name a few.

Eric was a partner and owner of Advantage Performance Group, a national consulting company to Fortune 500 companies. Prior to Advantage Performance, Eric was managing director and a member of the leadership team of Root Learning Inc., a global change-management consulting firm that helps organizations implement strategic and operational business initiatives.

He has extensive experience managing and successfully implementing consulting engagements in both complex, global corporations and mid-sized regional organizations. Eric excels at ensuring efficient project execution and



exceptional customer satisfaction.

He graduated from College of the Holy Cross in Worcester MA. Eric also holds a Certificate for Financial Decision Making from the University of Chicago.

Eric's consulting and leadership uniquely qualifies him to assist clients in achieving the proper balance between cost control and service.

Brendan P. Foster, MBA, has over 15 years of experience serving the Chicago nonprofit social services sector. Brendan has established himself as an innovative leader in the areas of program design and development, fundraising, quality outcomes, and operational compliance. As a specialist in community based organizations, Brendan is committed to ensuring organizations maintain strong and effective programming, and develop sustainable programs and organizational growth. Brendan has served on the Board of Directors of the Lincoln Park Community Shelter (LPCS) for eight years and served as a volunteer for over 10 years. During his tenure on the Board, LPCS has doubled the size of its budget and completed a capital campaign to fund the renovation of the shelter into a state-of-the-art facility for homeless men and women in Chicago. Brendan earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Clarke University and holds a Master of Business Administration and Master of Nonprofit Administration (with distinction) from North Park University.

Malik Gillani, MNA is the founding executive director of Silk Road Rising. Malik is a recognized leader in the creation of innovative arts programming that expands artistic access. Most notably, he developed SRR's model for creating online video plays, which are now being accessed across the globe. Malik also established SRR's arts integrated education program, EPIC (Empathic Playwriting Intensive Course). Malik earned a BA in Liberal Arts from St. John's College in Annapolis, Maryland, with an emphasis on the Great Books. In 2013 he received his Masters in Nonprofit Administration from North Park University.

Kay Sprinkel Grace, MA, provides workshops and consultation to local, regional, national and international organizations in case and board development, individual giving strategy, staff development, and other issues related to leadership of the fund raising process. 2012-2014 clients include Sustainable Conservation; Mount Wilson Institute; Archdiocesan Schools of Los Angeles; KQED public radio and television; College Summit; On Lok Senior Services; San Francisco Symphony; A Healthy America; Big Brothers Big Sisters Bay Area; and others.

An in-demand speaker for local and national professional gatherings, in 2013 Kay also presented at The International Fundraising Congress, The Netherlands; International Fundraising Festival, Prague; Blackbaud Pacific in Sydney; and the AFP Congress in Toronto. She was a 2013 recipient of the Henry A. Rosso Medal for lifetime achievement in ethical fundraising from the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy at Indiana University. Kay's Bachelor's degree in Communications-Journalism and Master's degree in Education are from Stanford University. She has received Stanford's highest award for volunteer service, the Gold Spike.

She has written six books related to philanthropic practices and board engagement. She serves on the Advisory Board of the Czech Fundraising Institute and the governing board of Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra. Her home and offices are in San Francisco. For additional information, visit her web site: www.kaygrace.org or contact her at kaysprinkelgrace@aol.com

Jeffreen M. Hayes, PhD, is the director of the Rebuild Foundation, a community organization with a presence on Chicago's South Side and St. Louis's Hyde Park and Pagedale neighborhoods. Jeffreen was an Andrew W. Mellon



Curatorial Fellow in African American Art at the Birmingham Museum of Art. Dr. Hayes completed her doctoral studies at the College of William and Mary in American Studies, specializing in contemporary African American art, visual and popular culture. Her cultural practice is merging art, culture, and community, in an effort to make art and culture more representative of our diverse society.

Ann Ownby Hicks, PhD, teaches a very complicated subject in the School of Business and Nonprofit Management at North Park University: accounting. But she does it in a way that helps students make sense out of complex information. Prior to joining North Park's faculty, Ann spent nearly 20 years in senior-level accounting and finance positions in real estate and education. This experience, combined with her passion for teaching and the relationships she is able to build with students, helps her communicate the possibilities that accounting holds for future careers. Ann invites guest speakers from companies around the city to speak to her classes, and sponsors student accounting interns in various Chicago companies. Through all these activities, Ann helps her students discover accounting's possibilities for themselves, and find a path for success following graduation.

Daniel White Hodge, PhD, is an expert in religion and popular culture, race, & Hip Hop studies. His first book, *Heaven Has A Ghetto: The Missiological Gospel & Theology of Tupac Amaru Shakur* wrestles with the profane and sacred socio-theological messages within Tupac's life. His second book, *The Soul Of Hip Hop: Rims, Timbs, & A Cultural Theology* engages a new arena of theological studies by examining what Hip Hoppers espouse to be God and the quest for spirituality within the Hip Hop community. In addition to radio, print, and online appearances, Daniel lectures regularly at universities across the country and is an assistant professor of Youth Ministry and director of The Center for Youth Ministry Studies at North Park University in Chicago. Daniels unique perspective on hip hop and theology challenges his audiences to look beyond the "outer surface" and go into the deeper parts of the culture. You can follow him on twitter @danwhitehodge. He also blogs at Dr. Hip Hop.

Mae Hong, AM, is the director of the Chicago office of Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, where she serves families throughout the Midwest in developing and implementing their giving programs and strategies through grantmaking, planning, and facilitation. She has also been actively involved in RPA's leadership on the issue of diversity in philanthropy, particularly among families and individuals. Mae completed her graduate work in social service administration at The University of Chicago. Prior to entering the nonprofit sector, Mae worked in the publishing industry for several years following her graduation from Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism.

Jim Kales, MPP is CEO of [Aspire](#), one of Chicagoland's most innovative nonprofits. Aspire helps more than 1,000 kids and adults with disabilities like autism and Down syndrome. Under Jim's lead, Aspire's private fundraising has doubled, helped by a strong emphasis on corporate partnerships. Aspire has embraced social entrepreneurship and social media, launching its own coffee company, [Aspire CoffeeWorks](#), in 2009. Aspire coffees are now sold in all Chicagoland Whole Foods stores and were featured nationally on the TODAY Show. Jim graduated summa cum laude from Bucknell University, and received his Master's in Public Policy from the Harvard Kennedy School.



David Kam holds the distinction of being the first full time employee hired by The Nerdery, way back in March of 2004. Dave has been programming since 1985 and added website development to his repertoire in 1996. Prior to joining The Nerdery, Dave worked as a PICK developer at Infinetivity with Nerdery co-founders Mike Derheim and Mike Schmidt. In his time at The Nerdery, Dave has worked on hundreds of projects and volunteered for The Nerdery's Overnight Website Challenge every year since its founding; he's personally donated about \$25,000 in professional services to seven Web Challenge nonprofits. In 2011, Dave was promoted to Branch Manager of the Chicago office after co-founding the branch a year earlier. When not working, Dave is involved with mentoring students and getting them hooked on coding. He is currently involved with the Chicago chapter of Coder Dojo and is hoping to become a nonprofit this year!

Al Kamienski, PhD, is professor of finance and economics in the School of Business and Nonprofit Management at North Park University in Chicago, IL. Since earning his MBA from Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University, Al has been involved in teaching, research and consulting existing at the intersection of business and education. Prior to North Park, Kamienski gained professional experience in global management consulting and corporate finance. Dr. Kamienski's research includes the financial performance of nonprofits, economics of education, charter schools, and the evolution of the Chinese economy where he has taught graduate courses in Macroeconomics, Strategic Management, and Financial Modeling in Shanghai, Guangzhou and Bengbu for the past several years. Professor Kamienski's recent consulting projects include curriculum design, case writing, course development and delivery of face-to-face and online management and leadership training. Al is a member of the American Educational Research Association and American Association for Education Finance and Policy.

Shia Kapos is a personality columnist and senior reporter on the nonprofits beat for *Crain's Chicago Business*. Her popular Takes Names column and blog feature the city's top executives talking about their work away from the office—including their philanthropic endeavors. She's profiled such notable names as U.S. Commerce Secretary Penny Pritzker, Morningstar CEO Joe Mansueto and corporate and civic giants, including John Rogers Jr., Gigi Pritzker, Helen Zell and Gordon Segal. On the nonprofit beat, she studies 990 tax forms and reports on how those organizations make ends meet. Most recently she examined the rise in donor-advised funds in Chicago. Shia has been a Chicago journalist for more than 13 years, the last seven at Crain's. Prior to that, she was a human-interest reporter for *People* magazine and before that a general assignment reporter for the *Chicago Tribune*.

Megan Kashner, MBA, a clinical social worker, founded Benevolent (benevolent.net) in 2011 with the goal of introducing a new perspective on the experiences of low-income Americans who had for too long been publicly denigrated. Benevolent redesigns the way we experience the stories of low-income families and how we act as small-dollar donors and advocates making a real impact on Americans' lives.

A self-described MSW with an MBA and "Ticked-Off Social Worker," Megan has spent her career leading organizations and programs dedicated to bringing innovation to the nonprofit sector and to improving social service support for women and families living in poverty and at risk. She previously served as an executive director for the Taproot Foundation and held direct service and leadership positions in many Chicago area social service agencies. Megan and Benevolent have been featured at the White House, at national conferences on philanthropy and entrepreneurship, on CNN Headline News, in FastCompany, Mashable, MSNBC, the New



Yorker and more.

Megan is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with a BA in Public Policy and American Civilization from Brown University, a Master's degree from University of Chicago's School of Social Service Administration and an MBA from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management.

John Kretzmann, PhD, (Jody) is co-director of the Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) Institute, a research project of the School of Education and Social Policy at Northwestern University. ABCD Institute works with community building leaders across North America to conduct research, produce materials and otherwise support community-based efforts to rediscover local capacities and to mobilize citizens' resources to solve problems. The Institute continues to build on the stories and methods about successful community building reported in the popular book, *Building Communities from the Inside Out: A Path Toward Finding and Mobilizing a Community's Assets* (1993, with John L. McKnight.)

A much-traveled speaker and trainer, Jody brings more than three decades of community experience and study to his current position. He was a founding faculty member of the Associated Colleges of the Midwest Urban Studies Program in 1969, and served as director of that institution for six years. Jody has been a community organizer in Chicago's West Side, and served as a consultant to a wide range of neighborhood organizing and development groups. In addition to the ACM Program and Northwestern University, he has taught at Valparaiso University and the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago. Topics covered in his writing and teaching include city politics, urban economics, racism, ethics and politics, social movements, community development, neighborhood change, and public policy.

Jody has worked to develop community oriented public policy at the national, state and local levels. In Chicago, he served as chair of the Neighborhood Planning Committee for Mayor Harold Washington, and was an active policy consultant through Washington's four and a half years in office. Jody serves on a wide range of civic and community boards, and as an advisor to foundations and other funders.

His educational background includes a BA from Princeton University (*Magna Cum Laude*); a MA in English Literature from the University of Virginia; and a PhD in Sociology and Urban Affairs from Northwestern University.

He is married to Ingrid Christiansen. They have two children, Marcus and Katie.

Catherine Marsh, EdD, is professor of leadership and management in the School of Business and Nonprofit Management at North Park University. In addition to her teaching and scholarship at North Park, Catherine plans and conducts seminars and workshops on Diversity Management, Change Management, Conflict Transformation and Team Building for organizations in the public, private and nonprofit sectors. Her expertise stems from her experience working in the three sectors in five countries as well as urban and rural areas in the United States. Catherine has a Bachelor's of Arts from the University of California, a Master's of Business Administration (MBA) from North Park University, and a Doctor of Education from Northern Illinois University.

Virginia Martinez, JD, is senior policy analyst for the Illinois Latino Family Commission (ILFC) a non-partisan, independent state commission established by P.A. 95-619 to improve the opportunities and resources available to Latino families throughout the state. The ILFC advises the Governor and General Assembly and works directly with State agencies to ensure that policies, services, and programs are responsive to the Latino community. Virginia, along with her colleagues, focuses on legislation, policy analysis, program development, research and



advocacy to promote the social and economic well-being of Latino families and the equitable representation of Latinos in decision making, employment, contracting, and resource allocation across the State.

Virginia is a 1975 graduate of DePaul University College of Law and has spent most of her career working in nonprofit organizations. She has been a strong advocate for Latinos, women and children. In 1980, Virginia helped establish the Chicago Office of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) and served as the first Midwest Regional Counsel. She was executive director of Mujeres Latinas en Accion and she is former director of the International Center for Health Leadership Development at the University of Illinois at Chicago, which developed collaborative leadership capacity of individuals from communities, community health centers, and academic institutions and was dedicated to building multidisciplinary bridges to join communities and institutions. Virginia has also held positions with Voices for Illinois Children, and the Latino Institute. She rejoined MALDEF in 2007, as Legislative Staff Attorney where she was responsible for monitoring regional, state and local legislation and policy issues affecting Latinos in the 11-state Midwest region.

Virginia has volunteered with many organizations over the years and currently serves on the board of Gads Hill Center in Pilsen (Westside of Chicago). Virginia was also co-chair of a successful Gads Hill's Capital Campaign for a child care center. She serves on the Cook County Justice Advisory Council and the DePaul Center for Public Interest Law Advisory Board. In 1975 Virginia, along with Viola Armijo Rouse, became the first Latinas to be licensed to practice law in Illinois. Virginia was a founding mother of the DePaul University Latino Law Student Association (LLSA), the Illinois Maternal and Child Health Coalition (now known as EverThrive) and the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. She was lead counsel in the historic redistricting cases of 1982 that created the first Latino wards and legislative districts. Virginia has received numerous awards and recognition including Today's Chicago Woman, One Hundred Women Making a Difference in Chicago; YWCA Achievement Award for Community Service; and Cook County State's Attorney El Humanitario Award and the Outstanding Leadership Award from the Illinois Legislative Latino Caucus Foundation. She has also been honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois. Virginia had the life-changing opportunity of participating in the 1995 UN Conference on Women in Beijing and is a frequent speaker on issues affecting Latinos, women and children. She is the proud mother of Miguel and Natalia. Virginia enjoys cake decorating, arts and crafts and absolutely loves dancing.

Terry Mazany, MA, MBA, is president and CEO of The Chicago Community Trust, one of the nation's largest community foundations with assets of more than \$2 billion and grant making exceeding \$150 million that annually benefits more than a thousand not-for-profit organizations in metropolitan Chicago. Terry was selected as the sixth executive in The Chicago Community Trust's ninety-eight year history in 2004. In 2011 Terry served as the interim chief executive officer of Chicago Public Schools, a district of more than 400,000 students and over 650 schools with a budget of \$6 billion.

In addition, Terry is a member of the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago and the Council on Foundations, as well as past chair of its Community Foundation Leadership Team representing the nation's 700 community foundations. He was also appointed by Secretary of Education Arne Duncan to serve on the National Assessment Governing Board that oversees the National Assessment of Education Progress, known as our Nation's Report Card.

In recognition of the 100th anniversary of the first community foundation, Terry and his colleague, David Perry, co-edited a recently published book entitled *Here for Good: Community Foundations and the Challenges of the 21st Century*.



His work in philanthropy is based on fifteen years of experience in public education, working in several districts across the country including Detroit, Chicago, Baltimore, Oakland, and San Francisco. Preceding his work in the public sector, Terry Mazany enjoyed his first career as an archaeologist and dendrochronologist – using tree-ring chronologies to date human settlements and develop past climate records. Terry earned Master’s degrees in Anthropology and Business Administration at the University of Arizona and a Master’s in Education Policy from the University of Illinois at Chicago. He has also been awarded Honorary Doctorate degrees from DePaul University and Lewis University.

David McConnell is the founder and owner of McConnell Financial LLC, as well as the executive vice president and chief financial officer for One Hope United. In his 40 year career as an executive and financial professional in the not-for-profit industry, David has led or otherwise had a vital role in six institutional merges in the Chicago, Boston and Dallas area. Previously, he was the chief financial officer at Lutheran Social Services of Illinois and the senior vice president of administration and corporate services at the Gateway Foundation. David has also led the administrative and financial negotiation committees between the private sector and state government for a number of state agencies, as well as assisted program staff at Chicago Community Trust in the analysis of the Hull House closing. David serves on the steering committee for the Chicago CFO Roundtable, the finance committee for Alliance for Children and Families, as well as the finance committee of Lakefront SRO. David earned a Bachelor’s degree in Accounting from University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Tiffany McDowell, PhD, is the director of the Institute on Social Exclusion at the Adler School of Professional Psychology. Tiffany’s passion for social justice and equity drives her work in ensuring that communities have shared power with public decision makers. Much of her work is focused on building capacity of community residents, organizations, and other stakeholders to develop strategies that maximize the effectiveness of policy and systems change.

Tiffany holds a PhD from The Ohio State University in Human Development and Family Science, specializing in couple and family therapy. She received a MS in Child and Family Studies from Miami University, Oxford, Ohio and a BS in Psychology from Southern University and A&M College, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Andrew Micheli has been an active member of the arts community as an actor, writer and administrator, appearing in over 40 productions and solo works throughout Chicago and New York. His play, “Train of Thought,” was produced at American Theatre Company. Andrew was an active ensemble member of American Theatre Company for twelve years, appearing frequently on stage as well as serving in all aspects of the theatre’s operations and management.

As executive director of A&BC, Andrew shapes the vision of the organization while adhering to the mission of strengthening nonprofit arts organizations by bringing resources and expertise to the sector through: consulting provided by highly qualified business professionals; training in all aspects of management and board functions; research in the leading and emerging issues; and, relationships that bridge the arts community and businesses. Prior to his promotion to executive director in September of 2011, Andrew was director of programs for A&BC, setting the strategic direction of A&BC’s programs, and designing, implementing and managing programs and key collaborations. Prior to joining A&BC, Andrew’s experience included advertising and design, market evaluation and targeting, brand development, and campaign creation and execution for a variety of industries and clients.



Andrew holds a BS in Marketing from Indiana University and an MFA in Creative Writing from Columbia College. He has also taught in both the Fiction Department and the Arts Entertainment and Media Management Department at Columbia College.

Pepper Miller founded The Hunter-Miller Group (HMG), a leading edge market research and strategic planning firm, in 1995. Since then, Pepper and her company have provided real vs. invented insights that help Fortune 500 companies effectively and positively connect with Black America so that they can have loyal customers and a positive impact on their bottom line. Some of these companies include AARP, BET, General Mills, Ford Motor Company, Kraft Foods, Johnson & Johnson, PepsiCo, Procter and Gamble, and nonprofits -- St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Susan G. Komen, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the Chicago History Museum. By blending her insights, experiences and passion from the book that she co-authored with the late Herb Kemp *What's Black About It?* (2006) and her newest book *Black Still Matters in Marketing*, (2012), Pepper is able to help audiences think differently about Black America, and how they should approach this consumer group professionally and personally. Both books are considered by many to be the most important books on African-American cultural marketing.

Pepper invites audiences to dig deeper into the African-American market by talking about both simple ideas and taboo topics. Her honesty makes the conversation real and meaningful which is why she has been an invited guest speaker by many corporations including Procter and Gamble, General Mills, MillerCoors, Hallmark, Home Depot, Macy's, -- as well as The University of Chicago, Roosevelt, DePaul and Columbia Universities in Chicago and Johnson and Wales University in Providence, RI, Charlotte NC and Miami FL. It's this ability that earned Pepper the "Takes the Cake" Best Speaker award twice, in 2006 and 2012, at the prestigious and premier M2W - Marketing 2 Women Conference and the Target Market News' MAAX Award for Research Executive of the Year in 2007.

Pepper is a blogger for *Advertising Age's Big Tent* multicultural blog and finds time to mentor young professionals (Miller's Cream) at monthly "chat and chews" in her home. Also, Pepper is the host of the weekly *Urban Business Roundtable*, a radio program that provides insights and advice for African-American businesses. It airs on WVON 1690AM in Chicago and nationwide via iHeartRadio. She lives in Chicago with her husband Ronald, father John, and their Boston Terrier, Sammi.

Mary Morten is the president of Morten Group (MG), a consulting firm specializing in social change through skills development, public policy and advocacy. Morten Group's work includes: organizational and resource development; trustee cultivation; and film/video production. Morten Group clients include nonprofits, foundations and corporations in Illinois and across the country.

Lisa Brown Morton is the president and CEO of Nonprofit HR. Under her direction, Nonprofit HR has served some of the most prominent organizations in the country, including Amnesty International, Independent Sector, Greenpeace, and NeighborWorks America. With more than 25 years of human resource management experience working with nonprofits and for-profit organizations, Lisa and her firm have proven that better HR can play an integral role in nonprofit success. Nonprofits have benefited from her wealth of knowledge and experience to make their people-driven initiatives successful. She believes if an organization can strengthen its internal HR capacity, it can better serve the community and those in need. Lisa brings these beliefs to every engagement and inspires nonprofit leaders to strengthen their most important asset: their people.



Lisa's contributions go beyond her work in the local nonprofit community. In February of 2011, she was named a Washington Business Journal's Minority Business Leader Award honoree. The Minority Business Leader Awards honor the Washington area's top minority business leaders and owners who exhibited outstanding performance for their companies. In July of 2012, Washington SmartCEO Magazine recognized Lisa as a 2012 Brava! Award winner. The Brava! Awards celebrate the distinguished achievements of 25 of Greater Washington's women business leaders.

Lisa is a certified Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR), a long-standing member of the Society for Human Resources Management, and serves on the board of directors of the DC Rape Crisis Center and the Prince Georges Cultural Arts Foundation.

Rev. Marilyn Pagán-Banks is an ordained minister with the United Church of Christ and currently serves as the executive director of A Just Harvest, an anti-hunger organization committed to service, community organizing and community and economic development located in Rogers Park. She is also the founding senior pastor of Namasté United Church of Christ, a new church start on the northwest side of Chicago and assisting as transitional pastor for San Lucas United Church of Christ in Humboldt Park.

Marilyn is actively involved in issues of justice and calls people to action both within the church and in the community. She has served at the local and national level of the UCC and is currently co-chair of COREM (the Council on Racial and Ethnic Ministries).

Marilyn is a graduate of McCormick Theological Seminary and is currently working on her Doctorate in Ministry at the Chicago Theological Seminary where she was twice named Hispanic Scholar.

Marilyn is married to Corey Pagán-Banks—her partner in life and ministry, and has three children, Jet'aime, Tatiana and Miguel and four grandchildren, Ta'Rya, Kemari, Ry'Ana and T'Lyse Marilyn.

John Plunkett is the principal of Plan B Synergy, a consultancy assisting nonprofits with: social entrepreneurship, mergers/acquisitions, and turnaround management. John founded Harborquest, Inc. in 1970 and served as CEO until retiring at the end of 2013. He led the organization through three mergers and started six social enterprises. Harborquest has realized a quarter-billion dollars in sales from satisfied business customers, with earned income making up 90% of total income.

In 1992, John was inducted into the Entrepreneurship Hall of Fame then sponsored by the LaSalle National Bank of Chicago, Arthur Andersen & Company and the University of Illinois.

Claude A. Robinson, Jr., MS, was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. To beat the negative ills of the inner city, he attended St. Johns Northwestern Military & Naval Academy in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin for most of his high school years. At SJNMNA, Claude excelled as a student-athlete and leader. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin at Whitewater where he successfully obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. He was also co-captain of the 1989-1990 NCAA Division III men's basketball championship team. Further, Claude obtained a Master's Degree of Science in Counseling at Chicago State University.

Claude specializes in the personal development, education and motivation of youth and children. A staunch advocate for youth, Claude continually challenges adults to examine their perspectives about youth and diligently strives to build positive youth and adult partnerships. Currently, he serves as the executive vice president of External Affairs & Diversity at UCAN. Claude's work has yielded numerous awards from city of Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley, Miss Illinois Leadership Award 2001, and WGN-TV Channel 9 as a 2000



"Unsung Hero" award. In 2008, Claude led a U.S. delegation on a four city "Best Practice" exchange to the United Kingdom to assist policy makers and community leaders on positive youth engagement.

Claude has affiliations with the Chicago Community Development Advisory Council, United Church of Christ Council for Health and Human Service Ministries, Chicago Committee on Urban Opportunity, Trinity United Church of Christ, and Leadership Greater Chicago. He is involved in a number of recreational and community outreach projects and has lectured and presented to diverse audiences across the country. Claude is a Diakonal Minister and the proud father of three beautiful children, Brianna, Dorian and Damani.

John W. Rogers, Jr. is founder, chairman and chief investment officer of Ariel Investments. Headquartered in Chicago, the firm offers six no-load mutual funds for individual investors and defined contribution plans as well as separately managed accounts for institutions and high net worth individuals. After working for 2½ years as a stockbroker at William Blair & Company, LLC, John founded Ariel Investments in 1983 to focus on undervalued small and medium-sized companies. Patience served as the cornerstone of a disciplined approach that still drives the firm today.

John's passion for investing started when he was 12 years old, when his father bought him stocks instead of toys for every birthday and Christmas. His interest grew while majoring in Economics at Princeton University. In addition to following stocks as a college student, John also played basketball under Hall of Fame coach Pete Carril. He was captain of Princeton's Varsity Basketball Team his senior year. There, Carril's courtside lessons on teamwork profoundly shaped his views of entrepreneurship and investing. Early in his career, John's investment expertise brought him to the forefront of media attention, including being selected as Co-Mutual Fund Manager of the Year by *Sylvia Porter's Personal Finance* magazine as well as an All-Star Mutual Fund Manager by *USA TODAY*. Today, he is regularly featured and quoted in a wide variety of broadcast and print publications and is a contributing columnist to *Forbes*.

Beyond Ariel, John currently serves as a board member of Exelon Corporation and McDonald's Corporation. Additionally, he is a trustee of the University of Chicago, where he also chairs the board of the University of Chicago Laboratory School and a director of the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights. In 2008, John was awarded Princeton University's highest honor, the Woodrow Wilson Award, presented each year to the alumni whose career embodies a commitment to national service. Following the election of President Barack Obama, he served as co-chair for the Presidential Inaugural Committee 2009.

Pier C. Rogers, PhD, has been the director of the Axelson Center for Nonprofit Management and Professor of Nonprofit Management at North Park University since 2007. Under her leadership, the Center has expanded programs, doubled sponsorships, broadened the network of professional faculty, and substantially increased the Center's visibility and impact on the nonprofit professionals served. Over the course of her career, Pier has held management positions in the New York City Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers; at Associated Black Charities; at New York University; at United Way of Massachusetts Bay; and at the Massachusetts Dept. of Public Welfare. She also held academic positions at the New School University in New York City, and at Yale's Divinity School and Program on Nonprofit Organizations. Pier currently serves on the boards of Chicago Women in Philanthropy, the Chicago Wellesley Club, and the CBE Board of Advisors at Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary at Northwestern. She previously served on the boards of the Nonprofit Academic Centers Council, and ARNOVA, the international nonprofit research association.

Robin Schabes, MUPP, vice president of community strategies, is responsible for the strategic management of



IFF's Community Strategies business unit. The Community Strategies team works with nonprofits, government, foundations, and local stakeholders to deliver innovative solutions to address community development needs. Robin has over 25 years of experience working on community development initiatives. During the course of her career, Robin has held a variety of high-level management positions with Illinois governmental entities including the City of Chicago and the City of Waukegan. Additionally, as a planning consultant, she has worked with several municipalities within the Chicago metropolitan area. Robin has directed a wide-variety of community and economic development projects and programs, and has expertise in the areas of public-private partnerships, tax increment financing, community development financing programs, and project management. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Geography and Urban Studies from Northwestern University, and a Masters of Urban Planning and Policy degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Additionally, Robin serves on the boards of directors for Landmarks Illinois and the Illinois Public Health Institute.

Doug Schenkelberg, MUPP, vice president of public policy at Donors Forum, directs the public policy and advocacy strategies and activities undertaken by Donors Forum, and takes the lead on implementing and advancing the organization's new strategic plan to advance Donors Forum's policy goals.

Prior to joining Donors Forum in October 2013, Doug was director of advocacy and outreach at the Greater Chicago Food Depository. Previous positions also include associate director of policy and advocacy at Heartland Alliance for Human Needs and Human Rights; and director of policy at the Lawyers Committee for Better Housing. He serves on the Board of Directors for Illinois Partners for Human Service and on the Forum of Regional Associations of Grantmakers Policy Works Steering Committee.

Doug earned a BA from Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa; and a Master's of Urban Planning and Policy at the University of Illinois-Chicago.

Susy Schultz is the executive director of Community Media Workshop. Her past titles include managing editor, digital editor, investigative editor, associate publisher, reporter, columnist and editorial writer.

Susy's worked for newspapers, a wire service, websites and magazines covering politics, health care, business and parenting for the Chicago Sun-Times, The Chicago Reporter, Chicago Tribune, New York Times Syndicate and Chicago Parent, as well as a frequent guest on radio and television shows.

Proud of her past, Susy is excited about her future and that of the industry. She teaches and takes digital classes at Columbia College Chicago.

Susy is readership director for The Daily Journal in Kankakee and is a freelance editor working with the Schuster Institute for Investigative Reporting at Brandeis University. She is also vice president of JAWS, Journalism and Women Symposium, a national organization supporting the professional development of women in media.

Susy has worked in government, academia and the foundation world. She is fluent in Spanish, lives in Chicago, is AWJ Chicago chapter's founding president and an IRE member as well as the mother of two amazing men.

Follow her on Twitter: @Susys.

Shannon Schuyler is a Principal and PwC's Corporate Responsibility (CR) Leader. She is a member of PwC's Global CR Board and is an Officer of the Board of the PwC Charitable Foundation, Inc.

Through her work, Shannon is proving that corporate responsibility is as critical an avenue for achieving growth as any other business investment.

She oversees social and environmental initiatives that support PwC's broad sustainability commitments, helping



to activate employee engagement, drive operational efficiencies, elevate stakeholder engagement and connectivity, and differentiate PwC's brand in the marketplace.

Shannon is a highly accomplished CR professional with a deep understanding of social innovation, supply chain and pro bono programs, sustainability, youth education, employee engagement and effective cross-sector collaborations. She also works with PwC's Sustainable Business Solutions practice.

In 2013, Shannon was named PR News' "CSR Professional of the Year" and "Female Executive of the Year" by the Stevie Awards for Women in Business.

Erma Tranter, MUPP, recently stepped down as President of Friends of the Parks (FOTP), a city-wide parks advocacy organization. She is currently working with the Mayan Health Initiative, a new nonprofit whose goal is to bring medical resources to villages in Guatemala. Under her leadership at Friends of the Parks the organization preserved over 200 acres of lakefront land from private development and worked for the acquisition of nearly 800 acres of land for parks in Chicago. In 1994 she worked to launch the Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance. Since then, the Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance has raised over \$10 million to restore the historic conservatory. In addition, Tranter helped to create the Lincoln Park Conservancy, Friends of the Forest Preserves and the Chicago Park Network.

Tranter authored and co-authored many plans and studies including the Last Four Miles Plan, a plan to complete Chicago's lakefront park system on the north and south sides of the city. The plan proposes 500 additional acres of lakefill to complete Chicago's public lakefront park system.

Tranter earned a Master's Degree in Urban Planning and Policy in 1978 from the University of Illinois/Chicago and an undergraduate degree in languages from Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan.

Lori Vallelunga, PhD, is the president and CEO of Bethel New Life, a community development organization that has worked to transform Chicago's West Side for 35 years. Since becoming Bethel's third president and CEO in May 2011, Lori has led Bethel through a significant transformation, re-aligning Bethel's organizational structure and programs to be more strategic and more focused and restoring Bethel to financial viability. As part of this transformation, Bethel rebranded itself and moved away from state funding, reducing its dependency on such funding by more than forty percent. Lori is a licensed clinical psychologist and held executive and senior leadership roles in social service and health care nonprofits prior to joining Bethel.

Molly Vanderloo, MBA, has a combined background in international and local humanitarian work as well as a decade of professional services. Molly is currently the chief financial officer for The Fellowship, responsible for accounting, finance, data entry and technology. The Fellowship is an international grant making organization with a budget of \$120million.

Prior to joining The Fellowship, Molly was the leader of McGladrey's outsourcing services to the nonprofit industry. She led the national group, and acted as a high-level planning and analysis component for McGladrey's nonprofit outsourcing clients. Prior to her leadership role, Molly served as chief financial officer for several clients.

Molly spent five years as assistant director of Youth Guidance, a school-based youth organization in Chicago. She served as an American Volunteer in Democracy consultant in Lithuania for Freedom House, an independent, and globally respected, watchdog organization dedicated to the expansion of freedom around the world. She spent five years as a technical analyst at IBM and then was placed in Kenya by Visions in Action, a D.C.-based global



nonprofit, as a volunteer working for a nonprofit consulting firm.

Molly currently serves as Chair of the Board of Directors of Heartland Human Care Services (Heartland Alliance affiliate) and has been active on many of their committees and initiatives the past ten years. Heartland Alliance is a Chicago-based social service agency globally recognized for advocacy and services to those in the toughest circumstances in Chicago and around the world. Molly has also served on the United Way's Adult Impact Panel, Financial Stability Panel, and the Health and Wellness Work Group.

Molly is a graduate of the University of Nebraska with a degree in finance, and of DePaul University with an MBA.

Mark Warner, MBA, launched MDW Consulting in 2009 with more than 15 years of development experience, which focused on capital campaigns, major giving and society membership programs. Most recently, Mark was vice president of development at the Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust. He launched the \$5 million Centennial Campaign for the Robie House and the organization's first concerted effort to fundraise from the board of directors and docent volunteers.

Previously, Mark was a consultant with The Alford Group serving a broad-range of client sectors including health care, religion, social service and the arts. His diverse project engagements included campaign feasibility studies, marketing research, campaign counsel and major gift programs. Among the organizations Mark has been affiliated with include the Illinois Poison Center, Providence-St. Mel School and Howard Brown Health Center. In 2002, Mark received his MBA from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University majoring in marketing and management & strategy. He graduated from Albion College in 1991 with a BA in political science and a concentration from the Gerald R. Ford Institute for Public Service.

Mark gives back to the community and the nonprofit sector as a board member at Strawdog Theatre Company and as a volunteer docent at the Chicago Architecture Foundation. He is now Board President of the Association of Consultants to Nonprofits.

Eric Weinheimer, MBA, has been the president and CEO of The Cara Program, a nonprofit organization that provides comprehensive training, job placement and support services to individuals who are homeless and struggling in poverty, since 1996. Under Eric's leadership, The Cara Program has created and secured over 4,000 transitional and permanent jobs for Cara graduates. Also, The Cara Program founded and established two leading social enterprises – Cleanslate Chicago and 180 Properties (a joint venture with Mercy Housing Lakefront) -- to generate revenue and provide employment opportunities and on-the-job training to individuals who have significant obstacles to employment, including recent incarceration.

Eric earned a BS from Boston College and an MBA from The University of Chicago Booth School of Business, where he was recently awarded the Distinguished Alumni Award for Public Service. Eric was selected as a member of the Emerging Leaders Program for the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, Class of 2011.

Eric was recently appointed by Governor Quinn to the Social Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Task Force. He serves on the Advisory Board for the Social Enterprise Initiative at The University of Chicago Booth School of Business.

Eric also serves on the Board of Directors for Goodcity, Streetwise and the Social Enterprise Alliance, Chicago Chapter.

Natalie Weiss has a passion for improving educational outcomes for underserved students. As the executive



director of Open Books, Natalie oversees a nonprofit social venture that provides literacy experiences for tens of thousands of readers each year through innovative instructional programs and creative capitalization of books. Natalie's time with the Illinois Network of Charter Schools and NewSchools Venture Fund offered insight into the urgent need to transform K-12 public education. She graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with a Bachelor's degree in Economics. Natalie currently serves as Board Chairperson of Lighthouse Academies, a national nonprofit network of charter schools.

Linda Zager, MBA, is a business owner and director of business development and client management at Expense Reduction Analysts (ERA) in the Northern Illinois and Chicago area. Linda has an MBA in Finance and 34 years of corporate and small to mid-size business experience. Linda's background includes 28 years at Motorola Inc. Over the span Linda's career at Motorola, responsibilities included Finance, Sales, Large Account, and Quality Management. Linda joined ERA in 2008 and is a trusted advisor providing leadership in Business Development, Customer Relationship Management, and Finance. Linda works with executives, at small to mid-size organizations, to understand their strategies, challenges, priorities, and determine if ERA Expense Management Consulting and Managed Services would add value and be fit for each particular organization. She serves the senior management and staff of her clients with guidance in overall cost management strategy and planning, selects the ERA expert team which fits each client, and manages all aspects of the client relationship, including project management and execution of results.

Linda's practice and experience serves all types of business, including nonprofits, education, manufacturing, associations, professional firms, property management, and others.

Linda has a BS in Business Administration from Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J. and an MBA in Finance from Seton Hall University in South Orange, N.J. Currently, she is on the Board of Directors of the River North Business Association. Linda is also a member of the ESOP Association, CFO Alliance, and is active in various nonprofit initiatives.

Steven D. Zimmerman, MBA is the principal of Spectrum Nonprofit Services where he provides training and consulting in the areas of finance and strategy for community-based organizations, foundations and government agencies throughout the country. Steve is co-author of the book *Nonprofit Sustainability: Making Strategic Decisions for Financial Viability* published by Jossey-Bass with Jeanne Bell of CompassPoint and Jan Masaoka of Blue Avocado. The book highlights Spectrum's integrated approach to nonprofits which balances mission impact and financial viability. Steve also writes the finance and strategy column for Blue Avocado, an online magazine for nonprofits with 60,000 subscribers, and has also written for *The Nonprofit Quarterly* and *Board Source*. Prior to starting Spectrum, Steve was a Projects Director with CompassPoint Nonprofit Services, one of the nation's leading nonprofit consulting, training and research providers. Steve's extensive nonprofit experience includes serving as a chief financial officer, development director and associate director at community-based nonprofits where he performed turnarounds resulting in increased financial sustainability and programmatic reach. He is a Certified Public Accountant and earned a BA from Claremont McKenna College and an MBA from Yale University.

