



City of Seattle Music Commissioners June 14, 2010

Kate Becker

Co-Founder, The Vera Project/Director of Development, Seattle Theater Group

Kate Becker is Director of Development at Seattle Theater Group, and also sits on the board of Seattle's Vera Project. Kate has been a positive, constant driving force in the local all-ages music community for many years. In 1992, Kate founded Redmond's Old Fire House, a 500-capacity music venue. Then in 1999, she co-founded (and continues to serve on the board of directors for) the Vera Project where she served as Executive Director for two years. Kate was also a member of Seattle's Music and Youth Task Force in the early 2000's. In 2005, Kate received a Recording Academy Honors Award for her service to the all-ages community.

Elena Dubinets

Vice President of Artistic Planning, Seattle Symphony

Vice President of Artistic Planning Elena Dubinets, Ph.D., has been with Seattle Symphony for seven years, most recently as Director of Artistic Administration. Dubinets works closely with Music Director Gerard Schwarz to select the world-class guest artists and program the inspiring and exciting repertoire that continue to enhance the Orchestra's well-deserved reputation for artistic excellence. Dubinets is currently advising the Music Director Search Committee, which is working to select the next artistic leader for the Orchestra following Maestro Schwarz's final season as Music Director in 2010-2011 when he becomes Conductor Laureate.

In her Seattle Symphony career, Dubinets has held positions in the artistic planning, public relations and marketing departments. She has programmed performances, festival events and radio broadcasts, as well as spearheaded the Symphony's artistic collaborations with numerous local performing arts groups. In addition to her role at the Symphony, Dubinets serves as artistic advisor to the Seattle Chamber Players and is an authority on Russian and American contemporary music. Her scholarly work has led her to publish numerous articles and four books, including *Made in the USA: Music is What Sounds Around* on American experimental music (Moscow, Russia, 2006), and *Prince Andrei Volkonsky: A Score of Life* (to be published in Moscow, Russia, in May 2010), as well as several translations (including a Russian edition of Philip Kotler's and Joanne Scheff Bernstein's *Standing Room Only: Strategies for Marketing in the Performing Arts*). Her interest in cross-cultural exchange has led her to present several music festivals in Russia, Europe, Latin America and the United States. Dubinets received M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the Moscow State Tchaikovsky Conservatory in Russia and has lived in the United States since 1996.

Jason Finn

Musician, *Presidents of the United States of America*

Although Jason Finn is a Pacific Northwest native, as a drummer he is a citizen of the world. He has been an International touring musician since 1989, selling over 5 million albums along the way. As a founding member of The Presidents of the United States of America he has been nominated for two Grammy's, finishing a close second both times. His stints in many earlier groups, including early Sub Pop artist Love Battery, placed him at a critical juncture in the history of music, as the nascent 'grunge' movement started to take the world by storm. He is also punctual, and well-mannered.

K. Wyking Garrett

Director, Seattle Hip-Hop Summit Youth Council/UmojaFest P.E.A.C.E. Center

An entrepreneur and educator, K. Wyking Garrett is the founder and Chief Executive of Remix Marketing & Communications, LLC, a communications firm specializing in the areas of youth and cultural program development, urban marketing, and event planning. In addition to his entrepreneurial ventures, Wyking has over 20 years experience in civic involvement, community service and youth development spanning from Seattle to New York.

In 2008 Wyking was awarded the Martin Luther King County Executive Pioneer Award for Excellence in Hip-Hop for outstanding service to the community. A strong advocate of community involvement and civic service, at age twenty-one he was runner up for state representative in his home state of Washington. He has also served in membership, advisory and consultant capacities with a number of organizations and businesses. He is a founding director of the African American Heritage Museum & Cultural Center in Seattle.

For ten years he worked as the president/CEO of Umoja Fest African American Heritage Festival & Parade, the Pacific Northwest's longest running African-American community festival. In 2002 he founded the Seattle Hip-Hop Summit Youth Council, the northwest affiliate of Russell Simmons' New York based Hip-Hop Summit Action Network, which works to educate and empower youth academically, culturally and economically through Hip-Hop. He is also co-founder of the United For Youth Coalition and the UmojaFest P.E.A.C.E. Center in Seattle, WA. He is also a fellow and Seattle representative for national green advocacy organization, Green For All.

Holly Hinton

Content & Online Product Manager, Starbucks Entertainment

Holly Hinton currently works for Starbucks Entertainment as go-to person on a wide variety of domestic and international music-related projects and events. She has been employed by Starbucks Coffee Company for over 15 years. She has produced a number of CD compilations, some of the most popular being the *Rendezvous a Paris* and the *Sweetheart* series in addition to selection of monthly featured CD titles. Holly manages music-related philanthropic ventures at Starbucks like the recent Starbucks (RED) Christmas CD which generated over \$3 million for AIDS programs in Africa focused on women & children. She is leading Starbucks music & social media strategy. Holly enjoys live music, listening to records, vegetable gardening and her adorable 19-month old daughter, Violet.

Kyle Hopkins

Head of Music Acquisitions, Microsoft X-Box/ On-Air DJ, KEXP.org

Kyle Hopkins oversees music supervision for Microsoft. He curates soundtracks for Xbox games and places music in Windows, Windows Mobile, Xbox Live, and Zune marketing campaigns. As DJ Kid Hops, Kyle hosts two weekly radio programs on award-winning KEXP 90.3 fm in Seattle – a 4-time CMJ “Station of the Year” award winner and the most streamed radio station in America. As a performer, Kyle has DJ’d alongside Damian Marley, Massive Attack, Burning Spear, Goldie, Benga, Roni Size, LTJ Bukem, DJ Hype, and countless others. Kyle is a music fanatic and an avid vinyl record collector.

Jason Hughes

Co-Owner, Sonic Boom Records/Owner, Sonic Boom Recordings

Jason Hughes is Co-owner of Sonic Boom Records and Owner of Sonic Boom Recordings. He has strong ties in the music community both locally and nationally. Jason has held various positions in the music retail and radio industries since 1994. He has also been a DJ at both 107.7 the End and at 90.3 KCMU (now KEXP), worked in radio promotions for Epic Records, and as a clerk for Easy Street Records. Jason is also an accomplished musician, playing in Seattle bands 6 Minute Mile, Carmine and Heather Duby from 1996 to 2003.

Currently, Jason handles all aspects of running Sonic Boom Records in Ballard, including advertising, marketing, accounting, inventory etc. Jason is also a Community Organizer, serving on the Ballard Business Coalition and with the Ballard ‘Shop Local’ ad campaign. He works with other business owners in Ballard to spread the word about the benefits of shopping in the community as much as possible. Jason is also organizing community members to help communication within Ballard and to create a walking guide for the area.

Megan Jasper

Executive Vice President, Sub Pop Records

Megan Jasper currently works for Sub Pop Records as the label's Executive Vice President. She has been employed by Sub Pop for the past eleven years. Before Sub Pop she was the Northwest Sales Representative (for five years) for Alternative Distribution Alliance, a music company that distributes mostly independent music to retailers in the US. Megan has also volunteered for numerous non-profits. She served on the Board of Directors for SCBWI (Society of Children's Books Writers and Illustrators) for four years, volunteered and served on the Board of Directors for The Service Board for ten years, and served on the Board of Directors for the Vera Project for six years. When she isn't working, volunteering or listening to music she's training for triathlons.

Alex Kochan

Vice President, AEG Live

Alex Kochan is a music industry veteran with over thirty years of experience spanning artist management, touring, and the establishment of two major concert promotion offices in the Northwest. As an artist manager in Los Angeles during the 1980's he helped guide the careers of REO Speedwagon and Survivor. As the founder and owner of Artists & Audience Entertainment in New York City during the 1990's, Alex represented tours for Paul McCartney, Guns & Roses, and NIN among others. Alex is currently a Vice President of AEG LIVE, having established the Northwest office in 2006. AEG LIVE is the second largest international concert promotion company, and the Northwest office includes the Showbox clubs, WaMu Theater, and produces over 300 shows per year. Alex also serves as a guest instructor for the University of Montana's Entertainment Management Program, and serves on the board of the North American Concert Promoters Association.

Marcus Lalario

Entrepreneur / Nightclub Owner

Marcus Lalario is a successful entrepreneur who has turned a love of music and pop culture into a remarkable string of Seattle businesses and nightlife institutions. Marcus has been making a positive impact on Seattle's nightlife and arts community for nearly two decades. Lalario's contributions to the community include service as an advisor for the VERA

Project's Fundraising Board, and working with charitable fundraiser events for organizations including YouthCare and KEXP radio - efforts that are being acknowledged: In 2005 Seattle Magazine named him as one of the city's "Top 25 Most Influential People"; in 2006 Seattle Magazine dubbed him "The Pop Culture King Midas"; and in March 2006 he was included in Sound Magazine's "50 Most Influential" Seattle Music feature. Most recently, he has partnered with Jonathan Moore and Gloria Connors to create Council Management, LLC, a lifestyle and cultural marketing event and artist management company. Also co-owning The War Room, BLVD Art Gallery, Sals Barbershop, the Viceroy and investing in The Saint tequila bar and Molly Moons handmade ice cream.

Ben London

Executive Director, The Recording Academy, Pacific NW Chapter

Ben London has been the Executive Director of the Recording Academy Pacific Northwest Chapter since 2004. London has been responsible for developing a number of educational and professional development opportunities for the Pacific Northwest music community including the acclaimed GRAMMY MusicTech Summit. London, an active member of the Seattle music community since 1989, has recorded for a variety of independent and major labels with his bands Alcohol Funnycar, Sanford Arms and the St. Bushmills Choir. His music has been featured in a number of film and television projects and he has performed throughout North America and Europe.

In 1997 London joined the development team for the Seattle based interactive music museum Experience Music Project. As Senior Curator of Public Programs, London curated a wide variety of projects including internationally acclaimed interpretive exhibits, concerts, film series, and educational events. He presently serves on the board for KEXP, the Vera Project and the Seattle office of Film and Music. London holds a Bachelor of Visual Arts degree from Antioch College.

DeVon Manier

CEO, Sportn' Life Records

DeVon Marquette Manier, proud father of two beautiful children and passionate music enthusiast, was born July 27, 1970 in Los Angeles, California, and moved to Federal Way, Washington at the age of twelve. After moving to Seattle in the pre-grunge era and spending nearly a dozen years involved in the NW music scene, in 2001, he decided to start his own record label, Sportn' Life, to help foster urban talent in the local community.

Sportn' Life Records has grown to become one of the region's most notable Hip-Hop record labels. Receiving a nomination for the Mayor's Award for Excellence in Hip-Hop in 2006, the label boasts some of the city's top talent, including D. Black, who has been managed by Manier since he was a student at Rainier Beach High School and has since then had the honor to perform at some of the city's/nations' most esteemed music festivals such as Bumbershoot, Capitol Hill Block Party, & Noise for The Needy. Under Manier's management, the labels artists' have shared the same stage with some of the worlds' biggest Hip-Hop names including Nas, & The Wu-Tang Clan. Featured in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Fall Arts section, September 12, 2007; "Manier's buoyant enthusiasm reflects the regional pride that Sportn' Life embodies..." says P-I resident music journalist Gene Stout.

Tom Mara

Executive Director, KEXP 90.3 FM

Tom Mara is executive director of KEXP 90.3 FM, a non-commercial, eclectic music station in Seattle with a strong focus on developing online music experiences at KEXP.org. After spending the first twenty years of his life in Germany, Tom started his radio career as volunteer at KCMU-FM in Seattle --- KEXP's precursor -- more than twenty years ago. Tom became its station manager after a four-year stint as development director. Afterwards, Tom managed joint corporate support programs at KUOW 94.9 FM and KCMU 90.3 FM. WXPB-FM at the University of Pennsylvania had Tom managing its corporate support programs before he returned to Seattle eight years ago to oversee KEXP as its executive director -- thus completing a circle of sorts.

David Meinert

Owner, Fuzed Inc./ National Trustee: The Recording Academy (Grammys)

David Meinert is a past Chapter President, Chapter VP, Secretary/Treasurer, and current national Trustee of the Recording Academy (The Grammy's). He is also Owner of Fuzed Inc, which owns Onto Entertainment, a management company and record label for Blue Scholars, Fences and Hey Marseilles; is partners in Fuzed Travel, a boutique entertainment travel agency; co-owner and producer of the Capitol Hill Block Party, a two-day 20,000 person, 50 + band playing, kick-ass music festival in Seattle, and a programming consultant for Bumbershoot and various other Seattle events. He is also a partner in the legendary Seattle live music venue The Crocodile, The 5 Point Cafe, and several other restaurant/ bars.

After graduating from Western Washington University with a double major in philosophy and economics, he became involved in many music-related activist groups such as Home Alive, JAMPAC, the Seattle City Council's Music and Youth Task Force, and was a founding Board member of the Vera Project -- a nonprofit, volunteer, youth-run, all ages music venue.

Larry Mizell, Jr.

Writer/Musician/On-Air DJ at KEXP 90.3 FM

Larry Mizell hosts KEXP's Sunday night hip-hop show, Street Sounds. He has been called "the Hunter S. Thompson of Seattle music" by the Seattle Times for his work writing the hip-hop column "My Philosophy" for The Stranger since 2004. Larry is an active musician, MC'ing in local hip-hop outfits They Live!, Cancer Rising, and Nite Owls (at last count). Music is Larry's utmost passion and he had no choice in the matter- his father is Larry Mizell (of legendary 70's production team The Mizell Brothers), and his mother worked at Crystal Sound in Hollywood, where Larry was a constant nuisance; He got to meet Marvin Gaye, Stevie Wonder, Sly Stone and plenty others before he could wear long pants.

Larry is a tireless advocate for Seattle's diverse and talent-rich hip-hop scene, and local music in general. He has long loved and listened to KEXP since it was KCMU and is proud beyond words to be a part of their tradition of bringing great music to the global airwaves.

Griff Morris

Principal, Content Licensing and Vendor Management, Amazon MP3

Griff Morris oversees content licensing and vendor management for Amazon MP3. He lives in Seattle's Mt. Baker neighborhood. In addition to his lifelong passion for music, he loves photography, travel, and his friends, family and Cooper his dog.

Mike Meckling

President, Seattle Nightlife & Music Association (SNMA)/ Co-Owner, Neumos and Moe Bar

Mike Meckling is co-owner of Neumos, Moe Bar and Pike Street Fish Fry. As the general manager of Neumos and Moe bar, he oversees daily operations and over 45 employees. Neumos is one of the largest independent live music venues on the west coast and rates within the top 50 venues worldwide in ticket sales for its size. Currently, Mike is also the president of the Seattle Nightlife and Music Association. Over the past year Mike has been highly active with SNMA by working diligently for nightlife businesses as they try to create and maintain the most vibrant and safe nightlife for Seattle as possible.

Mike has worked closely with city government and the police department in an effort to bridge the gap between the two entities and nightlife business professionals. As SNMA president our group has been instrumental in opening positive dialogue among stakeholders, which results in growth, vibrancy, safety and ultimately a more organized and responsible Seattle nightlife.

Jon Stone

Executive Director of Festivals, One Reel

Jon has been involved in event production since 1988, working in diverse areas such as cultural events, festivals, concerts, nightclubs, theater and fine arts installations. Since 1992 he has worked in a variety of roles for One Reel, including key leadership positions at Bumbershoot, Teatro Zinzanni and the Summer Nights concert series.

Annette Taborn

Executive Director, Pacific NW Blues in the Schools

Annette has performed for over 30 years across the U.S. and overseas. Originally from Michigan, she co-founded the Kalamazoo Valley Blues Association in 1994, and created a Blues in Schools program there that same year. She served as the Director of the Kalamazoo Blues Festival for its first two years. Annette studied Blues in Schools teaching methods at the University of Mississippi, Oxford and received continuing education certification from the Southern Studies Teachers Institute in 1996 and 1997. She worked with the International House of Blues Foundation's "Blues School House" program in Chicago during the 2000 school year. In 2003 and 2004 she taught Blues in the Schools in Los Angeles under the auspices of The Southern California Blues Society. Annette is responsible for PNBIS Program Development.

Marcus Womack

Product Management, iLike Inc./iLike.com

Marcus Womack currently works for iLike.com/iLike Inc. overseeing the company's Product Management department. With more than 60 million registered users, iLike is a social music discovery service operating on the Facebook, Google, Orkut, hi5 and Bebo platforms. iLike, Inc was acquired by MySpace in September 2009, and is now a fully owned subsidiary of MySpace. Marcus has been employed by iLike for the past 3 years. Before iLike, he held such positions as Microsoft's Lead Program Manager for Xbox Live, Microsoft's Lead Program Manager for MSN Music, and Microsoft's Program Manager for MSN Music.

One Vacant Position
