



Dear SAGWA Member,

It is time to select your new Board of Directors!

SAGWA elects new board members to fill vacancies and serve a two-year term at our Annual Meeting. Those that you select will determine the direction of our organization, events that we will plan and the programs we will bring to you.

Vote today! Let us know that you wish to be a part of the future of SAGWA.

Suzuki Association of the Greater Washington Area

[www.sagwa.org](http://www.sagwa.org)

### **2018 SAGWA Board of Directors Election Ballot and Biographical Statements**

Below are nominees for the 2018-20 SAGWA Board of Directors along with their bios. If you choose to vote for a write-in candidate, please make sure he/she is a SAGWA member and write the candidate's full name in the space provided and mark the space next to the name (self-nomination is accepted).

For Active Members voting by email, completed ballots must be received by November 8, 2018.

If you wish to cast your ballot at the Annual Meeting instead, you must bring your ballot with you on November 11, 2018 at Potter Violin Company (7711 Eastern Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912) at 6:00 PM in the John Kendall Recital Hall.

If you cannot attend the meeting and would like to vote by proxy, you may also email your vote to [info@sagwa.org](mailto:info@sagwa.org).

**For Board of Directors** (All the candidates below may be voted in as directors.)

- Adrienne Caravan
- Sarah Clark
- Carla V. Durney
- Erynn Hangen
- Nikki Harshman
- Kathleen (Ellingson) Jacobi
- Naomi Kusano
- Anna Pavluk
- Amy Phillips

\_\_\_\_\_

YOUR NAME \_\_\_\_\_ (used to confirm membership status)

YOUR SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

**ADRIENNE CARAVAN:** Ms. Caravan received her undergraduate and graduate degrees in music education and violin performance from the Eastman School of Music. She studied violin with Charles Castleman, Camilla Wicks, Lynn Blakeslee and music education with Louis Bergonzi. In addition to her master's degree, she has trained with Ronda Cole, Edmund Sprunger, Tom Wermuth and Linda Fiore in the Suzuki approach. She taught in the public schools as an orchestra director for Greece Central School District in Rochester, NY and Fairfax County, VA.

Currently Ms. Caravan teaches at J. Michael Lunsford Middle School. She created a Suzuki in the Schools hybrid program with her beginning 6th grade string students and conducts the 7th and 8th grade string ensembles. In one year the string program grew to become the second largest string program in Loudoun County. Her Tiger and Panther string ensembles have earned superiors at District 16 Orchestra Assessment since the school opened in 2011.

**SARAH CLARK:** I am Sarah Clark, BCaBA, wife, and mother of three. After supporting my husband's Air Force career for 20 years, we have decided to settle in the Northern Virginia area to raise our three children. Our oldest, who has autism, has been taking violin lessons for three years now and I have seen an amazing impact in not only his musical ability and understanding, but also have watched as his vocabulary has increased, his confidence has soared, and he has gained self-esteem. This is all because the Suzuki method taught in a way that he could understand, and I value that for all of the kids in our community. I'd like to serve on the board in order to continue that tradition in the area. I have experience in organizing fundraising events, small parties, and am an avid baker— I will be happy to serve in whatever capacity I would fit.

**CARLA V. DURNEY:** Carla has a long-standing interest in classical music and violin performance. Her music education began in elementary school and included private instruction with Ronda Cole, which continued through high school. She attended Interlochen Center for the Arts prior to starting college at Denison University where she continued her violin studies and earned a bachelors degree in Biology. After working for several years in law firms, Carla joined World Wildlife Fund where she worked in Human Resources before moving to the Development department as a regional Development Officer. Thereafter, she moved to the Human Resources department at America Online and attended American University earning a MS degree in Personnel and Human Resources Management.

Carla credits her academic and professional achievements to mental discipline, analytical and organizational skills honed through her music training. Since retiring from professional life, Carla has been an active volunteer. She served on the Board of Directors of Samaritan Ministry of Greater Washington as a Director and Secretary, and Chair of SMGW's 20th Anniversary Committee. Also, she served for eight years on the Board of Trustees as Trustee and Co-Vice Chair of St. Patrick's Episcopal Day School. In addition, she has served on the vestry and other ministries of Emmanuel Church-Middleburg (VA) and St. Patrick's Episcopal Church. Several years ago Carla rejoined Ronda Cole's studio as a student. She attended GWSI and has registered Teacher Development training through Book 4 with the Suzuki Association of the Americas.

**ERYNN HANGEN:** Violinist Erynn Hangen maintains a studio in McLean, VA, where she is teaches children as young as 3, as well as the most advanced high school students. She has more than 7 years professional teaching experience and loves to continue her training as a teacher. She has registered Suzuki teacher training in Books 1-6 with training from Carrie Reuning-Hummel, Mark Mutter, Teri Einfeldt, Allen Lieb, and Linda Fiore. She has also studied pedagogical techniques with Rebecca Henry at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore. In April 2014 she attended the Peabody Violin Pedagogy Weekend and was able to meet with many teachers there including Brenda Brenner, Darcy Drexler, and Mimi Zweig. Erynn Hangen also performs as a soloist and collaborative musician in the metro-DC area. She performs regularly with the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra, the McLean Orchestra, the Pan American Symphony Orchestra, as well as other small ensembles. Recently, she performed as a

soloist with the Pan American Camerata, and has appeared as a soloist in several recitals given at the Peabody Conservatory's Griswold Hall in Baltimore. She has performed in numerous venues, including Washington's Kennedy Center and Lisner Hall, Baltimore's Friedberg Hall, Griswold Hall, Cohen-Davison Hall, and Modell Performing Arts Center at the Lyric, the Salt Lake City Tabernacle, Abravanel Hall, Dumke Recital Hall, Thomson Recital Hall, and Kingsbury Hall, as well as the Church of St. Mary the Great in Cambridge, England.

Erynn earned the Bachelor of Music degree in Violin Performance from the University of Utah, where she studied with Leonard Braus. In May 2014, she completed her Master of Music degree at the Peabody Conservatory where she was a protégé of the distinguished faculty artist Violaine Melançon.

**NIKKI HARSHMAN:** Nikki Harshman is an accomplished flutist and Suzuki violin parent. She currently teaches flute and beginning piano out of her home in Northern Virginia. She received a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Music from Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, MD in 2002. During this time, she played the flute and piccolo with the New England Symphonic Ensemble, performing a large range of well-loved orchestral music at home and abroad. After receiving a Masters in English Language and Literature from the University of Maryland, she spent 10 years working in government consulting, providing communications, change management, and executive leadership coaching to clients. Upon having children, she left the workforce to concentrate on raising a family, but at the same time, brought her love of music back to the forefront. Nikki believes in the power of formal musical training and in the natural musical capability of every child. She strives to convey her love of music and appreciation of beauty to her students, while also teaching them the joys of disciplined practice and new learning.

**KATHLEEN (ELLINGSON) JACOBI:** An active performer and teacher, Kathleen Jacobi recently earned her Master of Music degree at the University of Southern California studying with Jim Walker, and completed her Bachelor of Music Degree at the Manhattan School of Music, studying with Linda Chesis. Kathleen has performed on the main stage of the Walt Disney Concert Hall with wind quintet Sound of 5, the televised opening of the World Trade Center Memorial and the 10 year Anniversary of September 11, and Benjamin Britten's *The Prodigal Son* for the LA Opera's series Britten 100/LA with Maestro James Conlon. In her 10 years of teaching experience, Kathleen has taught all ages from elementary school students to adult amateurs. Kathleen worked with countless young musicians in church groups, schools, and community non-profits, including The Harmony Project in Los Angeles, CA. In addition to working with the music in these groups, Kathleen taught music theory to students of all levels. Currently, Kathleen is on flute faculty at the Levine School of Music in the Washington, DC area.

**NAOMI KUSANO:** Naomi Kusano started studying piano with her mother when she was three and received a degree in piano from the *Conservatorio Statale di Musica "Luigi Cherubini"* in Florence, Italy. She specialized in the study of the performance practice of the 17th, 18th and early 19th century music and historical keyboard instruments (clavichord, harpsichord and fortepiano). She has collaborated with the *Accademia Bartolomeo Cristofori, amici del Fortepiano* on several occasions performing on such original instruments as Schantz 1795, Graf 1825, Broadwood 1840 for visiting groups and has participated in numerous master classes including those held by Hans Leygraf and Arne Torger (*Mozarteum*, Salzburg, Austria), Jörg Demus, Paul Badura-Skoda and Melvyn Tan.

In addition, she studied singing and Suzuki violin while living in Japan. She completed her long-term Suzuki training at the *British Suzuki Institute*, England, obtaining a diploma from the *European Suzuki Association*. Additional Suzuki training includes study with Dr. Suzuki, Dr. Kataoka and Mr. Takahashi at the *Talent Education Research Institute*, Japan.

A former faculty member at the *Levine School of Music*, Naomi maintains a piano studio in Chevy Chase, MD. She enjoys playing chamber music and accompanying young musicians. Her talent, interest and dedication to music continues with service on the Board of Directors of the *Suzuki Association of the Greater Washington Area* as Acting Board Chair and Chair of the

Piano Division and Piano Committee. Naomi is Piano Coordinator of the 2020 SAA Conference and is on the faculty of the 1<sup>st</sup> Suzuki Convention of the Americas in Cancun, Mexico, in May 2019. She is a frequent clinician at Suzuki workshops and institutes in Europe (Italy, Holland, Iceland, England), Mexico, Canada and the United States.

**ANNA MICHAEL PAVLUK:** Anna Pavluk is a registered Book 1 Suzuki violin teacher, who currently uses her musical skills to serve in the community and for her children. She has in the past taught a studio of beginner-advanced violin students ages 5-13, but Anna currently works full time as a Financial Planner for families and individuals. Anna lives in Centreville, VA with her husband and three daughters. She volunteers as a music teacher for second and third grade music classes at Rivendell School in Arlington where her daughter attends. She plays solo violin and with the worship band in the services at her home church, The Falls Church Anglican, and plays as a guest instrumentalist in other churches in the Northern Virginia area. Anna enjoys improvising with friends and other musicians in many different styles and has played gigs with rock, country, and classical ensembles in various venues throughout Northern Virginia.

**AMY PHILLIPS:** Mrs. Amy Phillips has been teaching Suzuki violin in the Washington D.C. area for over 15 years. Mrs. Phillips attended University of Missouri in St. Louis and graduated with Honors. She performed with the St. Louis Philharmonic for 3 years under Robert Hart Baker. Mrs. Phillips was then invited to play with the York Symphony Orchestra in Pennsylvania. After moving to the Washington D.C. area Mrs. Phillips started her own Suzuki violin studio and continued to perform with local groups. She participated in a workshop and concert with The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra at Strathmore Music Center under the conductor Maria Alsop, sitting assistant principle chair. Mrs. Phillips has pursued pedagogical training including Suzuki Teacher Training from Ronda Cole, Edmund Sprunger, Ann Montzka-Smelser, Dr. Gail Johansen, and Linda Fiore. She has attended many teacher workshops including ones taught by Brian Lewis, Edmund Sprunger, and Gabe Bolkosky. She has also taught at the Suzuki SAGWA String Festival. Mrs. Phillips currently maintains a private violin studio, Alexandria Suzuki Strings, at her home in Northern Virginia where she resides with her husband and 4 children. "Being part of the Suzuki community allows us to meet and connect with other teachers, parents and students that all share the same goals for learning and love of music. It gives us a sense of community and gives us opportunities to make connections with each other. It is my interest to help serve in SAGWA organization. It would be a privilege to work on the board of directors for SAGWA."