



**For Immediate Release**

October 1, 2024

Contact: Cara Camichael, Communication and Digital Media Manager  
Phone: 757-213-1424 | Email: <mailto:mccarmichael@virginiasymphony.org>  
Instagram: [@vasymphony](https://www.instagram.com/vasymphony) | Facebook: [Virginia Symphony Orchestra](https://www.facebook.com/VirginiaSymphonyOrchestra)

## THE VIRGINIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ANNOUNCES SEVEN NEW MEMBERS FOR THE 2024-2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**HAMPTON ROADS, VA [October 1, 2024]** The Virginia Symphony Orchestra has announced seven new members to the Board of Directors as of June 20, 2024.

**Michael Harvey** is the CEO and Co-Founder of Clean Wake Media. He previously has served as CTO of Corra/Group Vice President, Commerce Technology—Publicis Sapient. He has also worked for Operation Smile, Concursive Corporation, and as a skipper for Sailing Vessel Atalanta. Harvey is passionate about the Arts, the environment, and social justice. He looks forward to helping VSO's mission that "leaves a clean wake" in the world.

**Bre Henderson** is the Talent Manager at Robert Half. She is passionate about connecting top talent with project management expertise to help organizations achieve their strategic goals and deliver successful outcomes. She volunteers with Bread for the City and is Vice President of NABA Richmond.

**Rev. Keith Jones** is Senior Pastor at Shiloh Baptist Church. A proud graduate of Norfolk State University, where he is a member of the Executive Board of the NSU Foundation and a Senior Fellow for the NSU Honors College. He also serves as the 57th President of the Tidewater Metro Baptist Ministers' Conference of Virginia.

**TJ Maroon** is a Vice President and Real Estate Loan Officer at TowneBank. He is a commercial lender who specializes in residential builder and developer relationships. He has been in the banking industry for a decade and joined TowneBank in in 2012. TJ is a graduate of Virginia Tech with a degree in Finance. He is a member of Commonwealth Connex.

**AnnaMarie Pagel** is an Associate Attorney at Tavss Fletcher. Mrs. Pagel is a member of the Virginia Beach Bar Association and the Virginia State Bar and a committee member of the Virginia Beach Bar Association Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courts Improvement Committee. Outside of work, she volunteers as the Executive Vice President of the Junior League of Norfolk-Virginia Beach, a volunteer organization that focuses on children's literacy and women's health.

**Dr. Stephen Scoper** is a board-certified, fellowship-trained ophthalmologist and the Vice President of Virginia Eye Consultants. He is a leading LASIK surgeon in the Virginia Beach area and is considered an expert in Advanced Technology Intraocular Lens for cataract surgery. Dr. Scoper is also an associate professor of ophthalmology at Eastern Virginia Medical School. He is passionate about treating patients, as well as teaching others and conducting research.

**Nicholas Vretakis** is an Associate at Williams Mullen. Nick assists clients across a broad range of industries, including behavioral health, senior living, transport and logistics services, retail and manufacturing. Outside of his practice, Nick is active with the local community and is a member of CBDX, the young professionals division of the Central Business District Association (CBDA) of Virginia Beach.



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“We are thrilled to welcome our new board members to help us grow and continue our mission of creating world-class symphonic performances, transformative music education, and purposeful community engagement throughout Southeastern Virginia. With Chair Tim Faulkner leading the charge again this year, it is sure to be an excellent season” says President Warren.

The Virginia Symphony Orchestra Board of Directors is led by Chair Tim Faulkner, Treasurer Carolyn Pittman, and Secretary Susan Goode. Renée Howard serves as Chair Elect and Pat McDermott as Chair Emeritus.

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As the region’s most celebrated musical, educational, and entrepreneurial arts organization, the Virginia Symphony Orchestra continues to challenge expectations and push the boundaries of what an American orchestra can be. Innovation and excellence are at the heart of the VSO’s narrative. The VSO has received national attention for its unique mission serving a home area of 1.7 million across the diverse communities of southeastern Virginia. Through appearances at the Kennedy Center and Carnegie Hall and its commitment to adventurous programming, the VSO and its musicians have been highlighted in the media including The New York Times, The Washington Post, National Public Radio, and BBC Worldwide News.

As the largest performing arts organization in southeastern Virginia, the VSO and VSO Chorus present more than 150 concerts and events annually for more than 100,000 residents and visitors. Recent innovations include health and wellness programs, including interactive therapeutic experiences for people living with Alzheimer’s and dementia, and adopting welcoming concert environments for those who are neurodiverse. Since 2019, the VSO has been recognized nationally for striving to reflect the region’s ethnic and racial diversity in its members, its programming, and its leadership.

The selection of the young and dynamic conductor Eric Jacobsen as music director in 2021 was another bold step forward for the VSO, further expanding its vision to attract wider and larger audiences with engaging concert experiences and creative and relevant programming. Rounding out the artistic leadership team is Norfolk native Thomas Wilkins in the role of Principal Guest Conductor, reflecting the VSO’s commitment to tell its community’s stories and advance the important conversations that will promote understanding and belonging among all residents.