

# PROJECT GRANT REVIEW PANELISTS FY24

## PROJECT GRANT - Panel 1

### **Marsha Barsky**

Marsha Barsky is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Dance at KSU. She has 20 years of experience fostering and implementing creative and educational programs for both the public and private sectors. She is a lifelong learner, who continues to hone her craft by engaging widely with contemporary approaches to dance, somatics, and holistic wellness for dancers and non-dancers. She brings insights from her ongoing research to awaken creative well-being and enliven mindful movement practices.

From 2008-2018, she served as director and choreographer for Nashville-based Company Rose. In 2019, she received a Tennessee Arts Commission Individual Fellowship Award for her choreography. As a dancer, she has performed with the Desert Dance Theatre and Shelter Repertory Dance Theatre and in works by Isadora Duncan, Stefanie Batton-Bland, Sean Curren, Bill Evans Pat Graney, Gabriel Masson, Ana Baer, Kim Neal Nofsinger, Ivan Pulinkala and Katherine Duke. Previously, Marsha was an Associate Professor and Director of Dance at Middle Tennessee State University, where she developed Tennessee's first bachelor's degree in Dance, and prior to that, she was the Director of the Vanderbilt University Dance Program. She has taught at numerous venues, festivals, and conferences throughout the US, and in Canada, France, Switzerland, and Spain. In 2017, she was named Foreign Expert in Dance at Chengdu University, China, and in May 2020 she served as a visiting scholar at the Kroeger College of Public Affairs at Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada.

Marsha received her BFA in Dance from Arizona State University and her MFA in Performance, Choreography, and Somatics from the University of Colorado at Boulder. In 2002, she was certified at the ShambhavAnanda Eldorado yoga teacher training in Boulder, Colorado. In 2011, she graduated from the North Carolina Alexander Technique Program (under the direction of Robin Gilmore), and in 2019 she completed her Gyrokinesis certification in Munstertal, Germany.

### **Jamie Coffey**

Jamie Coffey is delighted to bring her collective experience in the performing arts and nonprofit administration to the Savannah Philharmonic team. Over the past 15 years, Jamie has built her career working with incredible organizations and institutions such as Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Barnard College/Columbia University, Ringling College of Art and Design, and Field Arts and Events Hall.

Her passion lies in fostering a strong sense of community and creating access to the arts for all. Jamie holds a master's degree in Performance Studies from NYU Tisch School of the Arts and a B.A. in English from Rollins College. She is also a certified yoga teacher and enjoys hosting and attending retreats across the globe.

### **Martín Gendelman**

The creative work of composer Martín Gendelman (b.1976) touches on both the acoustic and electronic domains and includes compositions for solo performer, chamber groups, and orchestra, as well as many cross-disciplinary works and installations (primarily with dance, video, and theatre). Over the last 20 years, his music has been performed across the Americas, Europe, and the Middle East by ensembles such as the New York-based Da Capo Chamber Players and Mise-En Ensemble, the Boston New Music Initiative, Meitar Ensemble (Israel), and Galan Trio (Greece), and the Orquesta Sinfónica del Neuquén (Argentina), to name a few. Some of the events in which he has taken part, either as a guest composer or lecturer, include the Festival Forfest in the Czech Republic, CEME New Music Festival in Israel, the Visiones Sonoras International Festival of Musics and New Technologies in Mexico, the New Music Greensboro Festival, Parma Music Festival, and many national and regional conferences of the Society of Composers and the College Music Society in the United States. Gendelman holds a doctoral degree in music composition from the University of Maryland and has served as Co-Director of the Society of Composer's (SCI) Region IV and as Co-Director of the 2016 National Conference of the Society for Electro-Acoustic Music in the United States (SEAMUS). He is currently Associate Professor of Music and Head of Music Theory and Composition at Georgia Southern University, where he also directs the On The Verge new music series.

### **Melissa Katzin**

Melissa Katzin is the Manager of Family Programs and Group Experience at the High Museum of Art, developing programs to show that art is even better when experienced together. She develops and implements family and teen programming, including free family days, early learner programs, and Teen Team, along with out-of-school group experiences. Previously while at the High, she served as the Coordinator of Youth and Community Programs, managing summer camp, community workshops, and other programs for children. Prior to joining the High in 2017, Melissa was an art instructor at the Johns Creek Arts Center. Melissa holds a Bachelor in the Arts from the University of Georgia and received her Master of Arts in Art History from George Washington University.

### **Julie McCluskey**

Julie McCluskey is an experienced actor and manager who has worked with several community and regional theatres throughout the Southeast. She currently resides in Rome, where she worked closely with Rome Shakespeare Festival Founder, Gail Deschamps, up until her passing in February of 2021. Julie has also performed for the Rome Little Theatre, the Rome Shakespeare Festival, and the River Arts District Playhouse, and has won two Roman Awards for her performances with these organizations. Professionally, Julie's experience extends outside the theatre and into the corporate world, where she has held management positions with different companies over the last ten years, including Starbucks and Winshape Camps. Julie graduated Summa Cum Laude with a B.S. in Drama from Lee University in 2010. While there, she was president of her university's chapter of Alpha Psi Omega, as well as a two-time nominee for the regional Irene Ryan Acting Award presented by The Kennedy Center. A quick learner with an intense drive to foster creativity in and amongst her peers, Julie is using these skills as the new Executive Director of the Rome Shakespeare Festival to help lead the organization over the next few years as it expands and grows its influence throughout the community.

### **Nichole Potzauf**

Nichole Potzauf is the Executive Director for the Blue Ridge Mountains Arts Association in Blue Ridge, GA since 2013. With a focus on arts equity & accessibility and economic & community development, she currently serves as a Board Member and Chair of the DDA Design Committee for the City of Blue Ridge's Downtown Development Authority and is a member of the Fannin County Chamber of Commerce Tourism Committee. During her tenure at BRMAA, she has been awarded several national and state-level grants including the 2020 Georgia Governor's Award in Arts & Humanities, and has worked with Georgia Council for the Arts and the Georgia Municipal Association to highlight Blue Ridge as one of the top five communities in the state of Georgia that exemplified creative economic development and public investment in the Arts. She has been a participant in the Ford Foundation's Southern Cultural Research project and contributed to AFTA's Equitable Investment Advisory Group and Executive Leadership Forums. Prior to joining BRMAA, Nichole was a Production Manager in Los Angeles, CA for television production companies such as NBC/Universal, E! Networks, and Paramount Studios. Originally from Miami, Florida, Nichole earned her B.A. in Theater Arts from Florida State University with an emphasis on directing and production.

## **PROJECT GRANT - Panel 2**

### **Tommy Crane**

Tommy Crane is an associate professor at Valdosta State University in the Department of Art & Design's Interior Design program. Tommy earned his Bachelor of Science in Interior Design at the University of Southern Mississippi and then earned his Masters of Fine Art in Interior Design from Florida State University. Tommy has earned his National Council for Interior Design Qualifications (NCIDQ) certification and is a licensed interior designer in the States of Georgia and Florida. He also has earned and maintains his Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Accredited Professional (AP) in Interior Design plus Construction specialty (ID+C). He also maintains memberships in the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) and Interior Design Educators Council (IDEC). Tommy also is currently vice president of the Valdosta Heritage Foundation and a commissioner for the Valdosta Historic Preservation Commission, showing his commitment to historic preservation and restoration.

**Melanie Darby**

Melanie Darby began her tenure as Education Manager with Spivey Hall in November 2013. In that role, she programs approximately 36-40 performances for PreK-12 grade audiences, manages the marketing and communications with 12-15,000 patrons, coordinates student honor workshops, summer music camps, master classes, and professional development workshops for teachers. She also provides support to the Spivey Hall Children's Choir, a 100-member treble choir whose membership includes students 10-18 years old that meets weekly.

Ms. Darby has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Speech/Theatre/Art from Berry College. She freelanced in Atlanta as a theatre technician and set designer for 11 years with regular clients that included the Atlanta Opera Company, Theatre Gael, and the Atlanta Symphony. This led to her engagement as the manager of the 120-member Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra in 1998. This 'temporary' contract turned into 13 years with the ASO in which she helped create and build an education department that managed training programs for over 200 young musicians, programmed family concerts and Young People's Concerts for thousands of Georgia students, and coordinated community engagement opportunities with musicians and guest artists.

Melanie is married, has two children, and volunteers for her son's Boy Scout Troop.

**Kathleen Ewing**

Kathleen Ewing is originally from Valdosta, Georgia where she studied ballet, modern, and jazz dance for 15 years, under the direction of Linda C. Chase at Dance Arts, Inc. Kathleen began demonstrating and teaching at an early age and quickly found an interest in sharing her love of dance. Kathleen graduated from Florida State University with her B.F.A in Dance in 2016. While attending Florida State, Kathleen studied abroad in Paris, France, attended Perry Mansfield Performing Arts Intensive on scholarship, continued teaching, and became interested in Arts Administration. She interned at the American Dance Festival and later returned as summer staff for two summers working in hospitality, event planning, and operations for the ADF School. Kathleen has a passion for education, engagement, and development in the arts. Kathleen received an arts advocacy award from the Florida Department of Cultural Affairs in Spring 2019 due to her work during graduate school. She most recently received her M.A in Arts Administration from Florida State University in May 2019.

**Claire Fox Hillard**

Claire Fox Hillard is Music Director and Conductor of the Albany Symphony Orchestra, an Associate Professor at Albany State University and serves as conductor for the Gulf Coast Steinway Society Concerto Competition. He currently serves as President of the International Conductors Guild. Hillard previously served as Music Director of the St. Joseph Symphony (MO), the Missouri Western Philharmonia, the Meridian Symphony Orchestras (MS), and as a Music Advisor to the Cobb Symphony Orchestra. He has also served on the faculty at Indiana State University and Missouri Western State University.

Hillard's programming is noted for its diversity and blend of major symphonic, choral, operatic repertory, American compositions, and the premieres of new works. He has received seven ASCAP awards for innovative programming and collaborated with a wide variety of composers and artists including Virgil Thomson, Aaron Copland, Alvin Singleton, Adolphus Hailstork, Hilary Hahn, Anthony McGill, Itzhak Perlman, Ruth Laredo, William Warfield, Ray Charles, actresses Debbie Reynolds, fiddle player Mark O'Connor, Chris Brubeck, and the Billy Taylor Trio.

**Esohe Galbreath**

Esohe Galbreath is the founder and principal of Soh  Solutions, where she supports small businesses and creatives of accounting, finance, and organization.

Esohe completed her collegiate studies in Electrical Engineering at the University of Kentucky. In 2004, she began her career at UPS and held management roles in Distribution Solutions, Implementations, Operations, Engineering, and Transportation Solutions, and in her free time assisted small businesses with planning, financial documentation, and tax preparation. In 2012, Esohe merged her corporate experience with her passion for the arts and working with creatives to form Soh  Solutions – Boutique Small Business Consulting.

In early 2015, Esohe decided to dedicate 100% of her time to her entrepreneurial endeavors. Through consulting clients, Esohe discovered a love and passion for working with creatives, artists, and visionaries and was inspired to co-found Urban Art Expression – a company dedicated to encouraging individual art expression and building the individual art experience; ARTiculate ATL – an annual art social featuring 30+ artists with 1,000 art enthusiast attendees; and UAE Youth Artists Program – a 501c3 non-profit bridging the exposure gap of some of Atlanta’s most visually talented youth. As Esohe continues to immerse herself in Atlanta’s rising artist economy, she recently served as President of the Castleberry Hill Neighborhood Association and finds inspiration living in the historic arts district with her husband George. Esohe is a New Leaders Council (NLC) 2016 Fellow and served as 2018-2020 Co-Director for NLC-Atlanta. She also serves as treasurer for College AIM and on the board for the African Diaspora Art Museum of Atlanta (ADAMA.) Esohe and George are members of the historic Ebenezer Baptist Church.

### **Jim Rutland**

Jim has been with RiverCenter for twenty years and has served in various capacities including education programming, event management, box office supervision, and marketing. He is currently RiverCenter’s programming director, a position he has held since 2010. His responsibilities include contract negotiation and budgeting for approximately 25 performances presented by RiverCenter each season. Jim also works with external promoters both local and national on scheduling, contracting, and coordinating their events. Jim is active with the Georgia Presenters Network and was the lead staff member for the first Georgia Presents! regional showcase and conference held at RiverCenter in 2022. When RiverCenter opened in 2002 Jim returned to his hometown, Columbus, GA, to join the staff. Prior to that he spent 8 years touring nationally and internationally as a singer with an a cappella quintet based in New York City. Tour management and agent interaction were also among his duties as a member of the group. Jim is an arts generalist with interests that extend to literature, visual arts, architecture, and other genres.

## **PROJECT GRANT - Panel 3**

### **Simone Alyse**

In her role as Marketing & Development Coordinator, singer-songwriter, musician, and dancer Simone Alyse is driven to bridge the relationship between music and social awareness. While being in the entertainment industry since a little girl and finding her voice in activism, Simone is dedicated to using any platform she is a part of to be a vessel for those who are silenced. Attending Berklee College of Music then transferring to Emory University receiving her degree in African American Studies, she is super excited to be a part of such a groundbreaking organization.

### **Grace Cox**

Grace Cox is an Atlanta based artist and educator who has been working in art-related nonprofits for over 13 years. Her favorite medium is oil painting, but she also enjoys paper mache, ceramics, and mixed media. Her artwork has been exhibited at the Fort Lauderdale Art Museum, Gallery 216, Storks, Local Three, Spruill Center for the Arts, and others. She worked as a freelance graphic designer for a while and taught adobe suite as an adjunct instructor at the AutoNation Academy of Art and Design.

Grace’s first entry into the world of nonprofit arts administration was as a curatorial assistant at the Fort Lauderdale Art Museum. She moved around within the museum, working with the education department, marketing department, and fundraising and development department, before eventually moving back to her hometown of Atlanta, Ga. After moving back in 2014, Grace became a prominent participant in the #FAFATL (Free Art Friday Atlanta) movement on Instagram. She and other artists would create small art pieces to be left around the city along with clues for art scavenger hunters to find for free. Through this movement, she was able to meet many Atlanta street artists and collaborate on permanent art pieced in the neighborhood of Little 5 Points and on the Atlanta Beltline.

In March 2022, Grace became the Youth Programs and Community Outreach Manager at Spruill Center for the Arts in Dunwoody Georgia. Since starting, she has increased the revenues from youth programming by 33%, and has created a community where families of all ages and socioeconomic backgrounds feel welcome and encouraged to participate in the arts.

**Julia Curiel**

Julia Curiel has over a decade of administration leadership experience and education to date, serving the community through administrative roles at leading organizations in which she has worked to develop pilot programs, and plan and manage large-scale projects, including nationally recognized art fairs, education workshops and outreach programming. She is currently a Recovery Coach at Freedom Through Recovery in Statesboro, GA, and serves to combat stigma for those living with mental health and substance use disorders, as well as spearheading visual art programs in partnership with Averitt Center for the Arts to make art accessible for everyone. Having graduated cum laude with a B.A. in Arts Administration from University of Kentucky in 2006, she has worked for non-profits and the Commonwealth of Kentucky to produce conferences, festivals, galas, trade shows and other events with her capable and highly productive team members. She believes the arts to be catalysts for positive social change, and is very grateful for the personal impact they have had on her life as a constant source of comfort, inspiration and strength.

**Dr. Shelton Land**

As the Douglass Theatre presses forward into a new horizon, The Friends of the Douglass Theatre Board of Directors are pleased to announce that Dr. Shelton Land, PhD has been named the new Executive Director. With more than 15-years of leadership experience in the nonprofit and performing arts fields, Dr. Land brings his purpose-driven work ethic and vision to his role at the Douglass Theatre. A native of Virginia, Dr. Land earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mass Communication from Norfolk State University (NSU), a Master of Social Work Degree from Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), and a PhD in Public Policy & Administration with a concentration in Nonprofit Leadership and Management from Walden University.

Before joining the Douglass Theatre, Dr. Land served as Vice President of Education with United Way of Central Georgia (UWCG) and was responsible for leading the organization's birth-through-eight educational initiatives across 14-counties, with Macon-Bibb as one of the primary counties. During his tenure, he helped build and lead Read United, a key initiative that supports students with grade-level reading challenges. He increased this initiative to currently serve six school districts within UWCG's service area. He also helped launch and advance the AARP Foundation's Experience Corps intergenerational tutoring program in Central Georgia. Dr. Land is a Leadership Macon alumnus and has served as Artistic Director with the annual Atlanta Black Theatre Festival. He has received various awards and accolades for his leadership and service in the nonprofit and theatre sector. He credits his natural talent of making people laugh and his spiritual faith with helping him thrive as a leader while utilizing art as an educational tool to serve and help advance the community.

**Amy Royals**

An inquisitive creator from a young age, Amy Royals graduated from Kennesaw State University with a B.F.A in Painting and Drawing with a Minor in Art History. Four years at The Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia allowed her to explore a career in many aspects of visual art and nonprofit management such as program and event planning, exhibition curation, and fundraising. During that time, she served as a panelist for agencies such as Emory University, C4 Atlanta, and the City of Atlanta Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs and was a grant review panelist for Fulton County Arts and Culture. Amy discovered her passion for nonprofit development, specifically in communications, grant writing, and campaign management. In 2018, she assumed a new role with the Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta where she is currently the Director of Annual Giving. Amy lives in Roswell with her husband and two young daughters.

**Sarah Wildes Arnett**

Sarah Wildes Arnett is Interim Associate Department Head and Associate Professor of Dance at Valdosta State University. She received a Master of Fine Arts in Dance Choreography at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and a Bachelor of Arts from Vanderbilt University. She is a certified aerial dance instructor through Born To Fly Curriculum <http://www.borntoflyaerial.com/>. Sarah's interests are interdisciplinary as she enjoys integrating her talents in film-making, photography, music composition, and physical fitness into her choreography while also expanding boundaries of genre and style. She continues to perform professionally with various companies and artists in the US, including her company SWADanceCo. Sarah has spent her summers with Peach State Summer Theatre, the official musical theatre of the state of Georgia, as a choreographer, performer, and dance captain since 2014.

## **PROJECT GRANT - Panel 4**

### **Elan Buchen**

Elan comes from the public art, festival, and experiential worlds. For the last 10 years, he has been building art experiences for guests in both the public and private realms. He has seen, firsthand, the effect public art can have on economic development, quality of life, and culture. He believes Roswell is home to some of the most beautiful natural landscapes, trails, and history, and is eager to see public art connect these great assets in the coming years. In his prior roles, Elan has helped design and implement work with attractions, museums, galleries, tradeshow, film, and gaming. His projects of note include Hamilton the Exhibition and the creation of the public art and festival program for the Atlanta BeltLine. His clients include Stone Mountain Park, Sotheby's, Disney, Google, Adult Swim, and more. Elan holds a Master of Fine Arts from the Savannah College of Art & Design in Sculpture. When not working with artists, Elan draws and sculpts out of his studio in Atlanta Georgia, living with his wife and their menagerie of animals.

### **Janet Cable**

Mrs. Janet Cable is originally from Watkinsville GA and currently lives in Thomasville, GA where she works as the K-12 Programs Manager at the Thomasville Center for the Arts. She graduated from the University of Georgia with an undergraduate degree in Art Education. Later, she earned her master's degree in Art Education from Georgia College and State University. Before arriving at the Thomasville Center for the Arts, Mrs. Cable taught high school art, history, and leadership classes for ten years and was chosen as the 2017-2018 Thomasville High School Teacher of the Year. She strives to be active in her community and enjoys volunteering her time to worthy causes that benefit youth in the Thomas County area.

### **Madia Cooper-Ashirifi**

Madia Cooper-Ashirifi is a Liberian dance educator, West African and performing artist, choreographer, and scholar. She received her Ed.D from Vanderbilt University and a Master of Fine Arts in Dance Performance and Choreography from The College at Brockport and a B.F.A. in Dance Education from Brenau University. Currently, she serves as the Chair and Associate Professor and Chair of Dance at Brenau University. As a Liberian-American, Madia shares her culture and knowledge of West African and social dances to all ages at various venues. She is a performer of the Ghanaian dance company Mawre African Dance and Drum, which travels throughout the Southeast performing and conducting residencies. Madia's other company credits include the Bill Evans Dance Company and Sankofa African Dance Ensemble. In addition, she has collaborated with various musicians, visual artists, and singers to produce multi-artistic works and performance art in the U.S. Her choreographic works and teaching credits include a variety of dance disciplines in genres of the African Diaspora, modern, afro-modern, West African, Afro-funk, and jazz. Additional teaching and choreographic credits include the American College Dance Association, University of Alabama, Darton College, Middle Tennessee State University, Amherst College, Dean College, The University of the South, The Atlanta Ballet Centre of Dance Education, The Dancers' Studio, Vanderbilt Summer Dance Intensive, New York Summer School of the Arts, and the Gainesville Ballet Summer Intensive Residency as well as others. In addition to teaching, she has had the opportunity to work and perform works of Kofi Mawuko, Robert Battle, Carolyn Adams, Donald McKayle, Cleo Parker Robinson, Dianne McIntyre, Chet Walker, Darwin Prioleau, Habib Iddrisu, Bill Evans, Larry Keigwin, Telly Fowler, and Sherry Zunker.

### **Natalie DeLancey**

Natalie DeLancey currently serves as the Executive Director of City Springs Theatre Company after previously serving as the Managing Director since inception of the company. Before City Springs Theatre Company, Natalie was the Director of Arts Education & Community Outreach for ArtsBridge Foundation, the arts education outreach arm of Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre. During her time at ArtsBridge, Natalie was responsible for the development, design, implementation, and delivery of quality arts education programs targeted to students K-12 and related community audiences. Natalie managed four types of programs including: Field Trips, Master Classes, Family Performance Series & the Georgia High School Musical Theatre Awards – Shuler Hensley Awards. In addition, Natalie produced and directed the annual competition for the Shuler Awards and received a Southeast Regional Emmy Award for her 2017 Georgia High School Musical Theatre Awards production. Prior to ArtsBridge, Natalie served as the Artist Partnerships Manager at Young Audiences, Woodruff Arts Center. Before joining Woodruff, she served as the Manager on Duty at the Jennie T. Anderson Theatre in the Cobb County Civic Center complex. Natalie has a performance background in musical theatre and received a BA in Theatre & Performance Studies from Kennesaw State University's College of the Arts. Natalie was a

member of Leadership Cobb's Class of 2016, selected for the inaugural 30 Under 30 program with the International Association of Venue Managers in 2015 and a member of the 2014 Arts Leaders of Metro Atlanta class. Natalie was also the recipient of the 2016 Ernest Barrett Award from the Cobb Chamber for her commitment to excellence. She currently serves as a member of the Sandy Springs Perimeter Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Natalie is passionate about high-quality entertainment and arts education, and is thrilled to be in a community that fully supports those initiatives.

### **Dr. Larry Dooley**

Dr. Larry Dooley is Chair and Professor of Theatre and Dance at Columbus State University. He previously taught at Weber State University (Ogden, Utah) and Northwestern University (Evanston, Illinois). He holds a Ph.D. in Theatre History, Literature and Criticism from Indiana University--Bloomington, a MA from the University of South Carolina, an M.Div. from the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, and a BA from Newberry College. In addition to teaching Theatre History, Playwriting, Acting, and other courses at CSU, Larry often directs in the theatre season and serves as the Managing Director of Columbus State's Summer Repertory Theatre.

### **Terry Lowry**

Terry Lowry is the composer of over 200 works, including symphonies, concertos, oratorios, chamber works, song cycles and numerous works for solo instruments, especially piano. His iTunes podcast, *Tone Poem*, through which he often releases new compositions, has subscribers in over 100 countries. He was the Georgia Music Teacher Association Commissioned Composer for 2019.

As both pianist and conductor, Mr. Lowry maintains a very busy performing schedule. A Steinway Artist, he has performed over 1000 solo piano recitals throughout North America and Europe and he has appeared on the podium in the United States, Germany, Austria, Spain, and Italy. He is the Conductor and Music Director of the Carroll Symphony Orchestra, the Carrollton Wind Ensemble and the Carrollton Jazz Orchestra. He is also the Organist-Choirmaster at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church in Atlanta, and the pianist of the chamber ensemble Atlanta by Six. His performance repertoire ranges from Thomas Tallis to composers born in the 21st Century, and - harkening back to the days of the composer-virtuoso - he often closes his programs with improvisations on themes provided to him by the audience. He has released 17 albums, including a 2021 recording of Beethoven's *Hammerklavier*.

In 2012 he co-founded the online community Musical Overture and continues to serve as its CEO. Musical Overture is a digital platform that helps musicians connect and play together online with virtually no lag time through its Gig Room application.

He is the Executive Producer of the award-winning film (and upcoming docu-series), *Hear Us*, which premiered across North America in 2018, and he worked as producer on over 50 episodes of the syndicated radio program *The Hymn of the Week with Larry Frazier*.

He is the volunteer chairperson of the Harmonies for Healing music therapy program at Tanner Medical Center and volunteers each week at Carrollton Elementary School, teaching music to PreK students. He lives with his wife, Tara, and their five children in Carrollton, a suburb of Atlanta.