



# Watertown City Council

Administration Building  
149 Main Street  
Watertown, MA 02472  
Phone: 617-972-6470

## ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Mark S. Sideris,  
Council President

Vincent J. Piccirilli, Jr.,  
Vice President &  
District C Councilor

John M. Airasian,  
Councilor At Large

Caroline Bays,  
Councilor At Large

John G. Gannon,  
Councilor At Large

Anthony Palomba,  
Councilor At Large

Nicole Gardner,  
District A Councilor

Lisa J. Feltner,  
District B Councilor

Emily Izzo,  
District D Councilor

## Report of the Committee on State, Federal and Regional Government Meeting Date: June 28, 2023

The Committee convened on Tuesday June 28, 2023 at 5:30pm in the City Council Office. Present were Nicole Gardner, Chair; Anthony Palomba, Vice Chair; and Emily Izzo, Secretary. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct an interview for the Board of Election Commissioners.

### Margie Apfelbaum

This would be Ms. Apfelbaum's first time serving on the Board of Election Commissioners. Ms. Apfelbaum stated her interest in elections started from a young age when she would go with her father to vote and the moment she turned 18 years old she registered. She has been active in elections ever since. Ms. Apfelbaum has recently brought this passion to her workplace at the New England Conservatory where she is looked to as a leader. The Dean of Students asked her to assist in getting out the vote (GOTV) and encouraging students and faculty to participate in elections. She discussed her efforts in GOTV and talked passionately about registering not only students who are Massachusetts residents but also urging students registered in other states and countries to participate in their elections as well. She has been very interested in this position for many years now, and this is her third time applying for this role.

To prepare for this role she has looked at online meeting minutes from past Election Commission Meetings. Ms. Apfelbaum discussed how she has always had positive election experiences in Watertown, she mostly votes in person but has voted by mail and participated in early voting. She acknowledged the concerns around inactive voters and emphasized the importance of communicating with residents when it comes to completing their census. She also believes communication is the best way to get more participation in elections. Ms. Apfelbaum also explained how she is not afraid to disagree and feels comfortable doing so in a civil manner when her and her colleagues have not been on the same page about an issue. Finally, when it was asked of Ms. Apfelbaum what other committees she would be serving on if not the Board of Election Commissioners she stated the Public Arts and Culture Committee.

⇒ **Action Item** Councilor Izzo made a motion, seconded by Councilor Palomba, to recommend that the City Council confirm Margie Apfelbaum for appointment to the Board of Election Commissioners for a Term to Expire on April 1, 2027. Voted 3-0.

## **PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY**

- Seasoned Arts Administrator with extensive experience managing domestic and international projects for professional and educational institutions.
- Proven record of successful collaboration with seasoned high-profile professionals and emerging young artists.
- Highly skilled in managing diverse personalities, production details, and project resources.

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **New England Conservatory Boston, MA**

#### ***Director of Large Ensemble Administration***

***2012 – present***

#### ***Administrative Director of Orchestras***

***2002 – 2012***

- Oversee all operations of College Division Orchestra, Chorus, and Wind Ensemble Departments.
- Create yearly concert calendar and serve as lead staff member in facilitating the creation of concert schedule for the entire Conservatory including Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Choir, Opera, Jazz, Contemporary Improvisation Departments, and Preparatory School.
- Manage daily operations of four college division orchestras comprised of 340 students.
- Lead and organize monthly production meetings which include stage crew, orchestra librarian, and audio/visual department personnel.
- Supervise production of rehearsals and concerts for 35+ programs per year.
- Collaborate with Jazz, Opera, and Contemporary Improvisation Departments on interdepartmental productions.
- Provide and proofread all content for program booklets.
- Collaborate with conductors on creating diverse programming.
- Contract guest conductors including initiation of contact with managers.
- Serve as liaison for all guest conductors arranging logistics of schedules and travel.
- Engage, negotiate, and facilitate fee payments for faculty coaches from a pool of BSO and local freelance musicians.
- Supervise 2 full-time staff members – Performance Librarian and Administrator of Choirs.
- Hire and delegate tasks to student assistants who serve as orchestra managers, stage crew, and administrative assistants.
- Strategize methods for building audiences with marketing and public relations staff.
- Creatively formulate and maintain annual departmental budgets.
- Design and maintain Large Ensemble Department website for the dissemination of bulletin board materials to orchestra students, faculty, and staff.
- Annually create and produce multi-departmental Commencement Concert.
- Serve as lead administrator of ArtsVision database which is used by several departments.
- Collaborate with NEC's Entrepreneurial Musicianship Department on programming for orchestra students.
- Created and taught full menu of online courses to 150 international and domestic distance learning students during COVID-19 pandemic including: *Audition Intensive, Orchestra Management, and Music Cataloging of Works by Underrepresented Composers.*

**Tanglewood Music Center/ Boston Symphony Orchestra**

**Lenox/ Boston, MA**

***Manager of Student Services***

***2000 – 2002***

- Arranged and participated in cross-country audition and recruitment tour with members of Boston Symphony Orchestra.
- Served as liaison to Jacobs Pillow Dance Festival for annual collaboration between the two institutions.
- Acted as international student advisor and Primary Designated School Official in issuing M-1 student visas to foreign nationals.
- Developed and presented annual orientation session for fellows, faculty, and staff.
- Created program booklet with team of colleagues communicating all assignments and schedules to the Tanglewood Community.
- Assigned fellows to various community outreach events.

**New World Symphony**

**Miami Beach, FL**

***Orchestra Manager***

***1997 – 2000***

- Worked closely with Founding Artistic Director, Michael Tilson Thomas, in the assignment of orchestra personnel and creation of concert rosters to ensure equitable distribution of assignments.
- Developed and executed weekly orchestra schedules.
- Assisted in all personnel-related aspects for national and international tours.
- Coordinated backstage flow during concerts including stage and personnel changes.
- Selected musicians for participation in development and media events.
- Established and maintained harmonious relationship between musicians and all administrative staff.
- Served as liaison between Musicians' Orchestra Committee and senior staff.
- Designed and maintained intranet website to expedite and enhance communication with musicians.
- Engaged 250 substitute musicians each season from the local area and the entire USA.
- Arranged all airline and hotel reservations for 200 substitute musicians each year.
- Created, proposed, and tracked budget which included musician payments, hotel, and airline expenses.
- Maintained database of over 500 substitute musicians and facilitated stipend payments for all musicians.
- Processed appropriate applications for all foreign nationals to obtain F-1, H-1B, and O-1 visas.

## SELECTED SEASONAL AND FREELANCE EXPERIENCE

### **Boston Landmarks Orchestra**

**Boston, MA**

#### ***Director of Concert Operations***

***Summer 2014***

- Responsible for executing all logistics of concert production at Boston's outdoor Hatch Shell on Boston's Esplanade for 8 concerts plus 1 concert in Symphony Hall, Boston.
- Coordinated with partners such as Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), WCRB radio talent, WCVB TV talent, Free for All Concert Fund staff, American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters, dance troupes, choirs, jazz combos, and outside vendors including the security team, Massachusetts State Police, and sound and lighting crews.
- Created production books and minute-by-minute "show flows" for all concerts.
- Booked all rehearsal venues.
- Worked with personnel manager and business manager to process musician and union payments each week.
- Collaborated closely with stage manager and technical director.
- Briefed musicians on security procedures and distributed security credentials.
- Filed paperwork for performance and broadcast rights.

### **Emmanuel Music**

**Boston, MA**

#### ***Tour Manager – John Harbison's Great Gatsby at Tanglewood***

***Summer 2013***

- Managed all logistics for eighty chorus and orchestra members for 3-day residency at Tanglewood.
- Arranged hotel and housing for all personnel.
- Coordinated meal service for all Emmanuel Music participants.

## SELECTED PROFESSIONAL PROJECTS

- **Chair of NEC's Leonard Bernstein at 100 Festival** (Fall 2018) programming included a semi-staged production of *Candide*, orchestral, and chamber performances of Bernstein's works and works which influenced him. Directed all logistics for Boston showing of Grammy Museum's traveling interactive Bernstein at 100 Exhibit as part of NEC's celebration.
- **CBS Sports AFC Championship teaser with John Malkovich** (January 2018) Negotiated and oversaw project on behalf of NEC. Counseled CBS to use Jordan Hall for filming. Facilitated a site visit for the CBS crew. The spot was shown ahead of the CBS telecast of the AFL Championship game and earned four Sports Emmy Awards. Video and story: <https://www.necmusic.edu/philharmonia-nfl>
- **Co-Chair NEC's 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday Concert** (2017) Charged with creating and overseeing the production of this celebration. Conceived of idea to invite **Lake Street Dive** as featured artists and implemented my vision to have them collaborate with current NEC student ensembles (orchestra, jazz orchestra, gospel choir) for an outstanding night of music. Concert was sold out within five days of tickets going on sale. Concert review: <http://downbeat.com/news/detail/nec-celebrates-150-years-with-spirited-gala>

- **International Tour Operations** – Directed operations and personnel on orchestra concert tours to Israel, Italy, Monaco, China, Chile, and Costa Rica on behalf of NEC, Orchestra of the Americas, and New World Symphony.

## **AWARD**

### **President’s Service Award – New England Conservatory**

**September 2014**

The terms of this peer nominated annual award: superior service in support of NEC’s daily operation, a willingness to go “above and beyond” in the performance of one’s responsibilities, a collegial spirit, and respect for members of the NEC Community, and at least five years of demonstrated dedication to NEC in a staff position.

## **EDUCATION**

### **Boston University Center for Digital Imaging Arts**

***Professional Photography Certificate***

### **Boston University, School for the Arts**

***Bachelor of Music Program in French Horn Performance***

### **University of Hartford, Hartt School of Music**

***Bachelor of Music Program in French Horn Performance***