

Speaker BIOS

Music:

1. Amy Williams, D.M.A.

Executive Director, **Savannah Philharmonic**

Dr. Amy Williams is the Executive Director of the Savannah Philharmonic. Over the past four years she has ambitiously and successfully built upon the Philharmonic's artistic excellence and significantly expanded its community impact, alongside Music and Artistic Director Keitaro Harada and the Board of Directors.

Dr. Williams is a true bridge builder in connecting an organization's internal community to that in which it lives, and has striven to be a leader in this capacity throughout her career.

Prior to leading the SavPhil, Dr. Williams served as Managing Director at Camerata Pacifica, where she put in place the building blocks needed to create long-term sustainability. She also held the role of Director of Artistic Administration and Education at the Santa Barbara Symphony and began her arts administration path with the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra.

A classically trained bassoonist, Dr. Williams received her Bachelor of Music from Ithaca College, her Master of Music from University of Nevada, Las Vegas and her Doctor of Musical Arts degree from The Ohio State University. She is a past board member of the Association of California Symphony Orchestras and has served on multiple committees over the years.

Dr. Williams is both delighted and honored to be serving the Savannah community through her leadership of the Philharmonic and enjoys discovering all our vibrant region has to offer together with her husband Paul.

2. Mary Armstrong Dugas

Founder & Executive Director, **Savannah Musich Collective**

Mary is a seasoned music industry executive with a distinguished career in artist management that began in 1993 in Athens, GA. She has worked in artist management for notable Georgia artists Widespread Panic and Gregg Allman. Currently, she continues to work on music legacy projects with the Gregg Allman Estate and provides management and marketing consulting for various music and community initiatives.

Savannah Music Collective represents a shift in non-profit leadership experience for Mary from governance to management. Since 2018, Mary has been on the Board of Directors for the Savannah Music Festival, where she currently serves as Board Chair. Her prior board experience includes serving on the board of the March of Dimes from 2014 to 2020, where she held the position of Executive Board Chair for Southeast

Georgia. She also served as Committee Chair in Marketing and PR for The Savannah Scottish Games from 2010 to 2019.

Mary has a deep-seated passion for music and her hometown of Savannah. She believes in the power of collaboration within the music community. "The concept of uniting the entire Savannah music community for collaboration, professional development, and artist support is fantastic. I'm excited to create an environment where everyone is welcome and we can unlock the full potential of local talent and create a thriving, music scene for all of Savannah to enjoy."

3. Andrew Sovine

*Owner **Back Room Record Studios**, Musician, Producer*

Andrew Sovine is a multi-instrumentalist, record producer, and composer originally from Nashville.

His work (most notably with Ashley McBryde) has garnered multiple Grammy nominations. In addition to his touring and recording work he also owns and operates The Back Room Record Studio in Savannah, GA.

His traditional country band (Andy's Round Up) can be seen most weeks playing in Savannah and will release their debut album this year.

4. Roger Moss (tentative)

Musician, President SCCPSS School Board

FILM:

5. Walker Dalton

*Executive Director, **The Savannah Regional Film Commission***

Walker Dalton has worked in production and photography for over 20 years. Starting out as a photo editor on Saban's Power Rangers and moving up to producing photo shoots for ABC, Disney, and NBC. While at NBC he moved into producing the Emmy awards winning Jay Leno's Garage web-series which then became broadcast show on CNBC for 7 seasons.

Walker left LA in 2018 to produce fashion and documentary films for the Savannah College Art and Design where he found a love and passion for Savannah production community.

6. Julio Saldarriaga

*Instructional Manager, **Georgia Film Academy***

Julio Saldarriaga is a two-time EMMY Award-winning filmmaker, director, editor, and Local 600 Digital Imaging Technician with a distinguished career across feature films,

television, and live broadcast. He holds a degree in Advertising from the Pontifical Bolivian University in Medellín, Colombia, and a certificate in Producing and Directing Film and Television from UCLA. Julio's credits include editing the acclaimed film *Yellow* (directed by Nick Cassavetes), working as editor and colorist on *Bullet* starring Danny Trejo, and serving as Dailies Colorist on *The Menu* (2022) and *Emperor* (2020). His work spans over 40 productions, including *Paradise Highway*, *The Poison Rose*, *Southern Gospel*, *A Savannah Haunting*, STARZ's *VIDA*, and the Golden Globes' live digital broadcasts. He also directed, co-wrote, and co-produced his original feature film *The Shifting*, showcasing his dedication to bold storytelling and independent filmmaking.

Currently, Julio leads the Savannah Hub of the Georgia Film Academy, where he mentors and trains the next generation of filmmakers, focusing on workforce-ready training that bridges education and direct entry into the film and television.

7. Beth Nelson

Savannah Field Steward, I.A.T.S.E. Local 491

Beth Nelson, AFCI Certified Film Commissioner, currently serves as the Savannah Field Steward for IATSE Local 491. She was the founding Executive Director of the Savannah Regional Film Commission and held that position from 2016 – 2022.

During her tenure Savannah saw huge growth in the entertainment industry, resulting in economic benefit to the region, as well as an increase in jobs in film and television production. Prior to assuming the role of Savannah Film Commissioner, Beth worked as a location manager for film, television, and commercial production.

Beth is a founding member of the Savannah Film Alliance. She is also a founding member of Savannah Women in Film and Television, serving as president of the organization for many years, and is currently a member of the executive board.

8. Lisle Engle

President, Eagle Post Audio

Emmy-nominated Sound Editor, Re-Recording Mixer and Musician Lisle Engle is internationally recognized for his expertise as a sound industry veteran. Born and raised in Savannah, GA, he graduated from Boston University before moving to Los Angeles to pursue a career as a rock vocalist and musician. His love for post-production sound evolved naturally, and he has collected countless film and television credits from 1991 until the present.

His film credits include *Vanilla Sky*, *American Hustle*, *Austin Powers* and *Monster's Ball*, and his innumerable TV credits include *Mad Men*, *Arrested Development*, *Riverdale*, *One Piece* and hundreds more.

He continues to actively pursue writing and performing his original music, while sharing his talent with story tellers in TV, film and music. Lisle is currently a re-recording mixer

for Warner Brothers Post Production, and has recently relocated his own studio operations from Los Angeles to Savannah which he plans to use as a home base for providing superior sound services to filmmakers across the state of Georgia.

Moderator: Matt Campbell

Professional Speaker

*VP Government Relations, **B.I.G. Entertainment Network***

Matt is the Founder and CEO of Georgia Matters, a top-ranked Government Relations Firm, and he's a Vice President at the B.I.G. Entertainment Network, the states only organization dedicated to representing to local investment in Georgia's creative and entertainment economy.

In addition to these roles Matt is a professional speaker and a member of the National Speakers Association. Matt is also an active volunteer with the Michael C. Harte Foundation, Combat Boots 2 The Boardroom, and other non-profits. He currently serves as the Georgia SERVES Board Chairman and holds a seat on the following boards: Entertainment Tourism Alliance of Georgia (ETAG), Georgia Professional Lobbyist Association, and Bryan County Chamber of Commerce.

A native Savannahian, Matt is thankful for his coastal Georgia life