

Caravan World Rhythms – Board Chair

Board & Organizational Leadership

Caravan World Rhythms is seeking a Chair for our Board of Directors that will play a vital role in the coming year to support and ensure the succession, leadership and sustainability of Caravan World Rhythms into the future. Working directly with the Managing Artistic Director and board members you will help steward the organization and establish a foundation for Caravan to maintain and develop its relevance to the community.

Caravan Profile & Mission

Caravan World Rhythms Society, founded in 2000, has as its mission to enrich the lives of Canadians by presenting high-quality, spirited culturally diverse music & dance events, featuring artists from around the world. We present a year-round series of 15-20 events at various venues around Metro Vancouver and vicinity, and the occasional thematic festival. We also provide educational and participatory opportunities for audience through workshops, talks and other activities; offer collaborative and creative opportunities for artists; and develop key partnerships with various community stakeholders from ethno-cultural communities. Caravan World Rhythms is the hub for world music and dance activity in British Columbia.

Highlights of our programming over the years include the legendary Ravi Shankar, the Soweto Gospel Choir, Les Ballets National de Guinée, Salif Keita, Flamenco Ballet Nacional de España, Mohamed Reza Shajarian, Goran Bregovic, Dakhabrakha, Spirit of Africa Festival, Tibetan Cultural Festival, to name a few. Caravan also prides itself on presenting lesser-known artists and forms of musical traditions, including polyphonic choirs from southern France; throat-singing from the republic of Tuva; Mbira healing music from Zimbabwe; Balinese gamelan music and dance; and much more. The organization is now ready for an exciting renewal, led by its founder Robert Benaroya, and key new staff and board members. We are seeking enthusiastic new board members with diverse skills and common values to support our renewal.

Future Plans

- Continue to present some of the best artists from BC, Canada, and around the world.
- Present regular thematic festivals on an annual basis, at regular time periods, in addition to our existing year-round concert series.
- Offer the public and other stakeholders an engaging and current online and social media platform, guided by a dynamic communications strategy.
- Recruit key new staff to invigorate and support the renewal of the organization
- Recruit and develop a new board, and develop an exciting and sustainable long-term strategic plan.

Qualifications of Board Chair/President

- Strong connection with the arts and culture community in the Vancouver region
- Minimum 2 years of previous experience on a non-profit board of directors, with knowledge of how board's function, its role vis-à-vis staff, and the board's legal responsibilities.
- Skilled and experienced meeting facilitator/chair.
- Comfortable with public speaking
- Experience and/or knowledge of human resources and hiring practices desired

- Active volunteer and supporter of the arts
- We welcome people from the diverse cultures and backgrounds that are reflected in our work - Experience and exposure to culturally diverse communities preferred

Time Commitment:

- A commitment to the role for two-years is required.
- 8-10 hours per month for 2 years, with fluctuations throughout the year.

Responsibilities:

- Provide leadership to the Board and Staff through a process of organizational renewal
- Work closely with senior staff to develop and oversee the society's strategic and operating plans
- Support, advocate, and maintain the mission of CWR
- Provide support to the Managing Artistic Director
- Act as a spokesperson for CWR as required and requested by the Managing Artistic Director
- Support Human Resource planning along with the Managing Artistic Director
- Coordinate and set the agenda for all Board, Executive, and meetings of the members. There will be 4 Board meetings/year plus one AGM.
- Ensure that individual Board members are fulfilling their roles as per the operating and strategic plan (to be developed)
- Be a relationship builder, promoting the organization in the community
- Take an active role recruiting other Board members for CWR

Accountability: The Chair is responsible to the Board of Directors

Benefits:

- Free pair of tickets to every Caravan event
- Engagement with culturally diverse artists from around the world
- Contribution to enriching the lives of British Columbian audiences, artists and communities
- Learning about the curating and production of cultural events

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