

2022-2023 IAVM SLATE OF OFFICERS



Chairman of the Board: Adina Erwin, CVE

Adina Erwin, CVE is General Manager of the Barclays Center in Brooklyn, New York. Home to the NBA Brooklyn Nets and the WNBA New York Liberty, the Barclays Center hosts over 200 events per year and has emerged as “the convening place” for community engagement and activism.

Prior to joining the Barclays Center, Erwin served as the Senior Vice President of Business Operations for TD Garden in Boston, Massachusetts and the Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for the Fox Theatre in Atlanta, GA. During her tenure at the Fox Theatre, Erwin launched the award-winning Fox Theatre Institute, an innovative community engagement and consulting division that has provided over \$3 Million in grant funding and support to communities in Georgia. She also developed and led a master plan that enhanced existing revenue streams, introduced new revenue opportunities and improved guest and premium experience assets for the Fox Theatre.

Since 1993, Erwin has worked in various types of entertainment venues including arenas, convention centers and theaters. She served as the Director of the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts in Jacksonville, Florida, home to the award-winning Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra and a diverse mix of events from Broadway productions to concerts and corporate functions. In addition to her role at the Times-Union Center, Erwin also served on the Super Bowl Host Committee and Event Team for Super Bowl XXXIX.

Erwin has served as an Instructor at the International Association of Venue Managers (IAVM) Venue Management School (VMS) since 2003. She has served as Chair of the Board of Regents for VMS and as the 2011 Exchange Instructor for the Venue Management School in Australia. In 2013, she was awarded the Ray W. Ward Award for her dedication and extraordinary contributions to the overall success and quality of VMS.

VenuesNow Magazine recognized Adina as a “Woman of Influence” as well as a 2021 “All-Star” in the sports and entertainment industry. She was selected as one of the 2017 “Women Who Mean Business” by the Atlanta Business Chronicle.



First Vice Chair: Kerry Painter, CVE, CEM, CMP

Kerry Painter, CVE, CEM, CMP is the General Manager/Director of the Raleigh Convention and Performing Arts Complex which encompasses the Raleigh Convention Center, Duke Energy

Performing Arts Center, Red Hat Amphitheater and Walnut Creek Amphitheater. Previously, Painter was the AGM in Tulsa Oklahoma where the convention center won the Venue Excellence award in 2017. Earlier to that, Painter was the President/GM in Niagara Falls Canada and has assisted in constructing/opening five venues in total throughout her lengthy career.

Painter is a member of IAVM, IAEE and PCMA, and has served on several boards/committees both within the industry and in her communities. She currently serves as the Audit Committee chair, on the IAVM Foundation Board of Trustees, and the Board of Regents. Painter created the 100+ Women campaign now launched into its sixth year. She was awarded Venues Today Woman of Influence in 2015, and Woman of Distinction in 2017.

Painter teaches at the Venue Management School yearly and was the Exchange Instructor in 2013 for the Venue Management school in Australia. As well, she teaches both domestic and internationally for CEM classes through IAEE (Korea, Saudi and Bangkok), and advises for Meredith woman's college in Raleigh. Painter is a graduate of University of Michigan majoring in Business, Economics and Communications.



Second Vice Chair: Adam Cook, CVE

Adam Cook, CVE serves as the Director of Tacoma Venues & Events (TVE) where he is responsible for leading the operations and management of the City's public assembly facilities. TVE manages renowned venues, including the Tacoma Dome (5,000-23,000 capacity); the Greater Tacoma Convention Center (119,000 sq.ft.); Cheney Stadium, home of the Tacoma Rainiers; and the historic Pantages and Rialto Theaters, and Theatre on the Square.

Cook has led sports and entertainment venues across North America for more than 20 years. His experience includes serving as Deputy Director for TVE, Vice President of Business Operations for Seafair (Seattle, WA), Vice President and General Manager at the Rose Quarter (Portland, OR), Venue Director and General Manager at Edmonton Expo Centre and Rexall Place (Edmonton, AB, Canada), and Acting General Manager for Global Spectrum at Comcast Arena (Everett, WA).

Cook currently serves on the Venue Management School (VMS) Board of Regents and has served on IAVM's Governance, Arenas, and Membership committees, as a member of its Board of Directors, and as a part of Region 4's leadership. He was named a recipient of the Venues Today Generation Next Award in 2014, and has engaged in speaking opportunities and published articles throughout the industry.



Past Chair: Eric D. Hart, CVE

Eric Hart, CVE is the President/CEO of the Tampa Sports Authority (TSA) in Tampa, Florida. The TSA manages Raymond James Stadium, home of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the University of South Florida Bulls, the Hillsborough County Tournament Sportsplex and three City of Tampa municipal golf courses. The TSA also serves as the landlord for Amalie Arena, home of the Tampa Bay Lightning and Steinbrenner Field, spring home for the New York Yankees.

Hart previously served as the President and CEO of the Lansing Entertainment and Public Facilities Authority. Prior to Lansing, Hart served as the Director of Event Services for the Minneapolis Convention Center and as Associate Director for the UIC Pavilion in Chicago. He began his career at the Iowa State Center in Ames, Iowa where he served as the Guest Services Manager and was later promoted to Event Coordinator.

Hart received a BS in Finance and a MS in Business Education and Administration from Illinois State University. He earned his Certified Venue Executive (CVE) designation in 2013.

Eric and his wife Beth are the proud parents of two daughters, Brooke and Paige.



Director – Region 1: Jana Brooks, CVP

Jana Brooks, CVP is the Manager of Events and Tenant Services for the Maryland Stadium Authority – owner/operators of Oriole Park at Camden Yards, M&T Bank Stadium, the B&O Warehouse in Baltimore, MD. Brooks is responsible for the planning and execution of all parking lot events on the 85-acre Camden Yards Sports Complex, facilitating the operational and maintenance needs of the office tenants within the 300,000+ square feet of the Warehouse. She is also in charge of overhauling the sustainability efforts across the Complex, as well as maintaining responsibilities surrounding the Orioles and Ravens home games and special events – to include managing the Mass Vaccination site and recent Vice Presidential site visit.

Brooks received her Bachelors in Business and Marketing from the University of Baltimore. She has also completed a Sports Management certification from Columbia University and The George Washington University Event Management Certificate program. She is active in the Green Sports Alliance (GSA), serves as a board member of an area private school and the Vice President of her high school alumnae association. Brooks is looking forward to her new role as the rising Director of Region 1 within the International Association of Venue Managers (IAVM) where she earned her Certified Venue Professional designation in June 2018.



Director – Region 2: Maria Talbert, CVE

Maria Talbert, CVE serves as Managing Director at Indiana University Auditorium, a 3,200-seat theatre that has been a model of campus and community programming and engagement since it was built in 1941. She holds a master's in Arts Administration from IU and has over 25 years of marketing, event, and venue management experience.

Talbert joined IAVM in 2003 and earned her Certified Venue Executive (CVE) designation in 2016. She has not only been active in Region 2 leadership and volunteerism, but has served on the Performing Arts, Mentoring, Industry Affairs, Governance, and Young Professionals Committees.

When she's not at the Auditorium, you can find Talbert hiking at McCormick's Creek State Park, practicing yoga, reading, or spending time with her spouse, Brian, and their daughter, Emily.



Director – Region 3: Scott Mullen, CVE

Scott Mullen, CVE has been the Executive Director of the TaxSlayer Center since March of 2005. Mullen received his B.S.Ed. degree from Drake University, an M.S. Ed in Sports Administration from Temple University while interning with NACDA and Philadelphia's Veterans and JFK Stadiums.

He has held event & operations positions at Temple University, Bender Arena, Nassau Coliseum, the Philadelphia Civic Center and the Long Beach Convention and Entertainment Center. Mullen has also held General Manager Positions at the Arizona Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Phoenix, AZ, the Hersheypark Sports & Entertainment Complex in Hershey, PA and Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum.

Mullen has been an active member in IAVM since 1993, earned a Certified Venue Executive (CVE) designation in 2000, served as a District 1 Director in 1999 and Region 3 Asst Director in 2021. Mullen has served as Chair of the IAVM Arenas Committee and Board of Directors. He is a VMS graduate and has served on IAVM's Crowd Management, Stadiums, Convention Centers, Annual Conference Planning, Industry Affairs and Governance Committees as well as the COVID-19 and GBAC Working Groups.



Director – Region 4: Sara Waltemire, CVP, CMP

Sara Waltemire, CVP, CMP is the Chief Operating Officer at Meydenbauer Center, a convention center in Bellevue, Washington. She started her career at Meydenbauer Center immediately after graduating from University of Oregon as an event assistant. Since then, she has progressed through multiple roles in event management and sales before stepping into her current role in 2021.

Waltemire also has corporate event management experience from a brief stint at Zillow Group.

Waltemire has been awarded a place in the 30|Under|30 programs in both 425 Business magazine and through the International Association of Venue Managers (IAVM). When not at Meydenbauer Center, she spends her time travelling around the Pacific Northwest, wine tasting and checking out restaurants, or at home with her husband and two cats.



Director – Region 5: Kathryn Carlson, CVP

Kathryn Carlson, CVP, is the Orlando Venues Security Manager. The City of Orlando proudly manages 18,500 seat Amway Center, 65,000 seat Camping World Stadium, historic Tinker Field festival grounds, 50-acre Leu Gardens, and the Mennello Museum of American Art.

In her current role, Carlson is responsible for setting the vision for the Orlando Venues Security Department. She oversees emergency, security, parking, and event transportation planning operations in addition to cultivating talent and bringing legendary service to employee, guest, and client safety experiences.

Carlson actively serves IAVM as Vice Chair of the Venue Safety & Security Committee and a member of the Region 5 Board. In 2012, Carlson helped establish the Women in Leadership Program for IAVM's VenueConnect.

Having obtained an undergraduate Business Administration and Mass Communication degree from the University of Florida, Carlson then earned a Master's degree in Sport & Entertainment Management from the University of South Carolina. Carlson has completed IAVM's Venue Management School (VMS) and Academy for Venue Safety & Security (AVSS) and has earned the Certified Venue Professional (CVP) designation.



Director – Region 6: Nick Zazal, CVP

Nick Zazal, CVP is General Manager of the Walmart Arkansas Music Pavilion (AMP) in Northwest Arkansas. Previously he has served as Director of Events and Patron Services for the Walton Arts Center (Fayetteville, AR) and Events Director for the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts (Champaign-Urbana, IL) along with several freelance positions with The Christie Clinic Illinois Marathon, International Festival of Arts and Ideas (New Haven), Colorado Shakespeare Festival (Boulder) and Wildwood Park for the Performing Arts (Little Rock).

Zazal has served on several IAVM Committees including Membership (Chair 2015-2017), Performing Arts, Amphitheaters & Fairgrounds, Industry Affairs and the Region Guidelines Task Force. He has been an officer in Region 6 since 2017.

Zazal holds a BFA in Stage Management (2004) and an MS in Recreation, Sports and Tourism (2010) both from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. A VMS graduate in 2013, he earned his CVP in 2017.

Zazal lives in Fayetteville, AR with his wife, Sallie, and two kids, Anya and Jack.



Director – Region 7: Dianne Javier

Dianne Javier has over 15+ years of professional experience in the venue management and event operations industry. Currently, she safely manages large scale association, tradeshow and corporate events with up to 135,000 attendees as Senior Event Manager with the San Diego Convention Center.

Javier has served as an officer in Region 7 since 2018 and enjoys the duties as Director of Region 7. She has also served diligently as a member of IAVM's Southern California Chapter, Diversity and Inclusive Leadership Committee and Audit Committee.

Javier graduated magna cum laude with a degree in Sports Management and is a recent graduate of Venue Management School (VMS). While she loves being a part of the venue management industry, she's passionate about world travel, and about volunteering her time to service her community.



Director - IAVM/VMA Asia Pacific: Leighton Wood

Leighton Wood joined the award-winning Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC) in November 2010 as Deputy Chief Executive and Chief Operating Officer. The 90,000 sqm MCEC sits on the edge of Melbourne's CBD. It features 420,000 square feet of clear span exhibition space, a 5,500 seat theatre and 52 configurable meeting rooms. It has historically hosted around 1,500 business, cultural and entertainment events annually, attracting over two million visitors and generating in excess of \$1 billion each year in economic impact for the State of Victoria's economy.

Leighton is currently President of the Venue Management Association (Asia Pacific). Leighton was previously CEO of Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games, Melbourne Major Events Company, Sport Knowledge Australia and the Princess Alexandra Hospital Foundation.



Director - Allied: Erik Waldman, CVE

As Vice President of Venue Services for TVS, **Erik Waldman, CVE** brings more than 23 years of proven experience overseeing guest services, operations and events at some of the country's top public assembly facilities. Prior to joining TVS, Waldman served as the Senior Director of Special Events for the Georgia World Congress Center Authority, overseeing special event operations for the top convention, sports and entertainment destination in the world.

In 2016, Waldman received his Certified Venue Executive (CVE) designation from the International Association of Venue Managers (IAVM). He was also elected to the Board of Directors for IAVM where he served until 2019, and currently sits on the leadership committee of the Region 5 Board and is a member of the Allied Committee.

Waldman's experience in the public assembly industry provides a unique user perspective to venue design. His insight not only helps architects, but clients create ideas for revenue generating and guest experience opportunities that may have been otherwise overlooked.



Director - Arenas: Jamie Galileo, CVE

Jamie Galileo, CVE currently serves as the Senior Vice-President of Facilities for Vivint Arena/Utah Jazz and the Smith Entertainment group of companies where he has worked in various capacities for the last 26 years.

Properties include the Home of the NBA Utah Jazz at the Vivint Smart Home Arena, the Salt Lake Bees triple-A affiliate to the Los Angeles Angels playing at Smith Ballpark and Zions Bank Practice center.

Galileo is a graduate of VMS and GI programs from IAVM and received his Certified Venue Executive (CVE) designation in 2015. Galileo has served Region 7 as Director, also actively involved in the Utah Chapter where he serves as director and several other positions on the chapter board.



Director – Board of Trustees: Jim Wynkoop, CVE

Jim Wynkoop, CVE is the General Manager for OVG facilities at the University of Houston Sports Venues. He is responsible for Maintenance, Conversions, Housekeeping, Capital planning, and Food Services for eight Athletics Facilities including the 40,000 seat TDECU Stadium and the 7,000 seat Fertitta Center arena. Wynkoop has been at the University of Houston since 2019.

Prior to OVG Wynkoop was with Spectra Venue Management and served as General Manager at the University of New Hampshire's Whittemore Center, Saint Louis University's Chaifetz Arena, and Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City. His time with Spectra also included roles at University of South Carolina's Colonial Life Arena, and University of Miami's Wasco Center.

Wynkoop is the current Chair of the IAVM Foundation Board of Trustees and has been on the Foundation Board of Trustees since 2014. He has been a member of the Board of Directors previously as the Sector Director for Universities where he served a partial term before leaving the University sector. He was the chair of the Universities Committee and has served multiple appointments on the Arenas Committee.

Wynkoop is a Certified Venue Executive (CVE) and graduate of Venue Management School.



Director – Convention Centers: Stacey Church

Stacey Church, a native of Elkhart, IN, graduated from the University of Kentucky with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting and has almost 15 years' experience as a venue management professional.

Church began her career with Spectra Venue Management (Spectra) as Director of Finance in South Bend, IN at the Century Center and then in Springfield, MA at the MassMutual Center in both the Assistant General Manager and General Manager capacities. She has also held leadership roles at the Fort Worth Convention Center and Will Rogers Memorial Center in Fort Worth, TX, and the Kentucky International Convention Center in Louisville, KY. Church currently serves as the Assistant General Manager at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center Dallas (KBHCCD) which is proudly managed by OVG360.

Church is a graduate of IAVM's Venue Management School at Oglebay and is currently working towards her Certified Venue Executive (CVE) designation. Prior to her career in venue management, Church spent time in the nonprofit sector. She currently lives in Dallas, TX with her husband Nate and their two children, Jackson (18) and Reese (15).



Director - Performing Arts: Cindy Vargo, AFMEA

Cindy Vargo is the VP of Sales at the Fabulous Fox Theatre – St. Louis MO. "The bar is set at FABULOUS!"

Vargo has over 25 years of combined experience in leading teams to exceed guest and member expectations through intentional guest service. Before joining the Fabulous Fox Theatre 19 years ago, she was Director of Membership Services for The Missouri Athletic Club. During her tenure, the MAC held Platinum status for City Clubs of America.

In her current role, Vargo oversees the sales and service initiatives that support the 32,000+ Season Ticket Holders, Group Sales, the two premium seat programs; Fabulous Fox Broadway Club and Corporate Suites, and champions the Guest Experience. She serves on the Executive Leadership Team. While at the Fabulous Fox Theatre, Vargo has been an integral part of defining the Fabulous Fox culture and creating the guest service and core value training "IT'S SHOWTIME".

Vargo has served on the International Association of Venue Managers (IAVM) Performing Arts Committee and currently serves on the Strategic Leadership and Resources Committee. She has completed both Venue Management School (VMS) and the Graduate Institute (GI) and two of the three years of the Senior Executive Symposium.

Outside of work, Vargo serves on the Vision Committee for African Vision of Hope; a Non-Profit organization bringing sustainable help to the orphans and vulnerable of Zambia. On weekends, you will find her on the main stage at FBMaryville community church hosting and welcoming thousands in person and watching online.



Director - Stadiums: Sarah Mathis, CVP

Sarah Mathis, CVP is the Director of Guest Experience for the Jacksonville Jaguars. Starting as a game day employee in 2009, her role has expanded to oversee the entire guest experience program. She is passionate about creating memorable experiences for both staff and guests at TIAA Bank Field and Daily's Place amphitheater.

Entering her 14th season in the NFL, Mathis' experiences include implementing new logos, stadium policies, the NFL's only swimming spas, opening Daily's Place, along with staff recruitment, recognition and training development for over 4,000 game day team members. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she served as the stadium's infection control officer, with work resulting in the Jaguars safely hosting fans at all home games during the 2020 NFL season at 25% capacity. Mathis also has worked five Super Bowls in a security and guest services leadership role.

Mathis graduated magna cum laude from Flagler College in 2011. She joined the River City Educational Organization board of directors in 2013 and in 2018 was elected board chair. She has been an active member of IAVM since 2015 serving on multiple committees including chairing the GuestX Committee and now serves as Stadiums Sector Director. In 2018, the International Association of Venue Managers selected her in the 30|Under|30 class and she earned the Certified Venue Professional (CVP) designation that same year. She resides in Saint Augustine, Florida with her husband and son.



Director – Universities: David Bennett, MBA, CVP

David Bennett, MBA, CVP is an experienced public assembly venue manager with a demonstrated history of working in the higher education sector. He is a talented leader and coach, and is skilled in event management, facility management, safety and security operations, and technical operations.

Bennett currently serves as the Assistant General Manager of Fifth Third Bank Stadium and Director of Event Services for Kennesaw State University's Department of Event and Venue Management. He also provides oversight to the Night Owl student employment and development program. Previously he worked for Clemson University and the Charlotte Bobcats/Time Warner Cable Arena.

Bennett has been a member of IAVM for 10 years, served as chair of the Universities Committee for 3 years, and was named to the 30|Under|30 Class of 2016. He is a graduate of Venue Management School and the Academy for Venue Safety and Security, and holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Management and a Masters of Business Administration from Clemson University.