

L O S A N G E L E S

MASTER CHORALE

GRANT GERSHON, KIKI & DAVID GINDLER ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Los Angeles Master Chorale Announces

New Chair of the Board of Directors

Susan Erburu Reardon announced as Board Chair





Los Angeles, CA – May 23, 2024 – The Grammy® Award-winning Los Angeles Master Chorale (Chorale), today announced Susan Erburu Reardon as the new Chair of the Board of Directors.

Ms. Reardon will assume this critical leadership role as the Chorale celebrates its historic 60th Anniversary Season. She is especially suited for this position due to her unique connection to the Chorale's past, present, and future. For decades, Reardon has nurtured a deep relationship with the Chorale as a philanthropist and volunteer, passionately supporting fresh and diverse works. With deep roots in the Los Angeles arts community, she keenly understands the importance of collaboration and innovation for the Chorale's future success. Ms. Reardon will succeed Philip A. Swan, who stepped down after serving the maximum term of six years as Chair and will continue to serve as a board member.

"It is with great pleasure that I announce the election of Susan Erburu Reardon to this important role with the Chorale," says Los Angeles Master Chorale President & CEO Scott Altman.

"Susan is a visionary leader dedicated to the evolution of this spectacular art form. She has long championed the commissioning of new works for the Chorale, from Eric Whitacre's *Sacred Veil* in 2017, Billy Childs' *In the Arms of the Beloved* and Ernesto Herrera's *Navidad lluviosa* in 2023, to the extraordinary 25 in 5 commissioning program.

Ms. Reardon first became a member of the Master Chorale's board of directors in 1992, serving a 27-year term until 2019. She rejoined the board in 2022 as Vice Chair after serving as LA Phil's Director of Gift Planning. Particularly passionate about fostering new work, Ms. Reardon currently supports the 25 in 5 commissioning program through the Susan Erburu and George Reardon Commissioning Fund. Starting in the 2023/24 season and over the course of five seasons, the Chorale is inviting 25 composers to create new works of varying scale and complexity for its performances and education. At least 50% of each season will feature works by composers from historically excluded groups in classical music, enriching the choral repertoire with a mosaic of cultural influences.

"It is my great honor and privilege to serve as Los Angeles Master Chorale's Board Chair as we begin our 60th anniversary year," says Ms. Reardon. "Choral singing has been a joy in my life

since college, where I met my husband singing Beethoven's Ninth Symphony with Seiji Ozawa and the Boston Symphony. George and I were members of the St. Charles Borromeo Church Choir for 27 years, led by former Los Angeles Master Chorale Artistic Director Paul Salamunovich, and we sang for 10 years as members of the Los Robles Master Chorale with Maestra Lesley Leighton. As I begin this role, realizing our vision of making Los Angeles a city of singers energizes and inspires me daily. The Chorale has been a significant part of my philanthropic and volunteer life for decades, and I look forward to leading our Board as we navigate the current challenges faced by arts organizations to advance and support the peerless vocal artists of the Los Angeles Master Chorale, led by Grant Gershon, our visionary Artistic Director, and our new Chief Executive Officer, Scott Altman. I look forward to fruitful and positive collaborations with the Board leaders of the Music Center resident companies, and with the exciting, diverse, and innovative Southern California arts community."

Ms. Reardon is Principal of True North Charitable Advising, which she has established to provide philanthropic advice to individuals and consulting services to nonprofit organizations, with a particular focus on arts and culture and public media organizations. Reardon previously served as Director, Gift Planning of the Los Angeles Philharmonic Association ("LA Phil") from September 2013 to April 2022. In her almost a decade with the LA Phil, she created and managed a reinvigorated legacy giving program where she had an overall responsibility for all solicitation, documentation, recognition, and stewardship of gifts, working with donors and their financial and legal advisors. Reardon was a nonprofit executive for 15 years with KCET (now part of PBS SoCal), joining in 1997 as Senior Vice President, General Counsel and eventually shifting roles in December 2010 to Chief Development Officer, with responsibility for management of KCET's fundraising efforts, including planned giving, major gifts, foundations and government grants, membership, corporate underwriting, and special events. She has over 40 years of experience as an attorney, including with the law firm of Gibson, Dunn &

Crutcher, where she practiced law for seventeen years and was a firm litigation partner. Her numerous community activities include serving on the Board of the Los Angeles Master Chorale, the Board of Directors of Lorelei Ensemble, Idyllwild Arts Foundation, and the Pfaffinger Foundation. Ms. Reardon was recently elected to the Board of Directors for America's Public Television Stations (APTS) and continues to serve as Vice Chair of PBS SoCal's Board of Directors and Chair of its Advancement Committee. She is a past Board member of Chorus America, the advocacy, research, and leadership development organization that advances the choral field.

The Los Angeles Master Chorale is concluding its 59th concert season with Verdi Requiem on June 8 & 9, 2024. It is a founding resident company of The Music Center and choir-in-residence at Walt Disney Concert Hall, where it presents its own concert season and regularly performs with the Los Angeles Philharmonic. The Master Chorale's 60th season will open on October 6, 2024, in Walt Disney Concert Hall.

[ABOUT THE LOS ANGELES MASTER CHORALE](#)

[ABOUT GRANT GERSHON, KIKI & DAVID GINDLER ARTISTIC DIRECTOR](#)

[ABOUT SCOTT ALTMAN, PRESIDENT & CEO](#)

[ABOUT JENNY WONG, ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR](#)

[ABOUT REENA ESMAIL, SWAN FAMILY ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE](#)

LOS ANGELES MASTER CHORALE MEDIA CONTACT:

Jennifer Urbano

Interim Chief Marketing Officer

jurbano@lmasterchorale.org

[High resolution photos are available to download from our online press room.](#)

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