



In Concert With Nature

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STERN GROVE FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION Announces New Executive Director **Bob Fiedler**

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Bob Fiedler
Executive Director

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(1938-1956)
Elise Stern Haas
(1956-1968)
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(1968-1996)

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SAN FRANCISCO, May 24, 2017 – Stern Grove Festival Association announced today that **Bob Fiedler** has been named Executive Director for the popular San Francisco summer music festival, celebrating its 80th Season of admission-free concerts. The announcement was made by Douglas E. Goldman, Chairman of Stern Grove Festival’s Board of Directors.

“As we approach our 80th consecutive season of outstanding summer concerts, Stern Grove Festival has much to acknowledge and celebrate,” commented Board Chairman Douglas E. Goldman. “Thus, on behalf of our Board of Directors and staff, I am very excited to welcome Bob Fiedler, as he becomes our new Executive Director. Bob’s background in non-profits, including arts organizations, has included an emphasis on youth education and music, which is a lifelong passion of his. A new resident of the Bay Area, Bob has spent the past couple of decades in Chicago. We are thrilled to welcome him to both the Bay Area and Stern Grove Festival!”

Mr. Fiedler stated, “I am honored to serve such a beloved and esteemed San Francisco institution and to be a part of the Stern Grove Festival community. I can’t wait to join the Board of Directors, terrific staff, volunteers, donors, and everyone who helps to present such amazing performances and educational opportunities for people of all backgrounds and ages. I look forward to building on Stern Grove Festival’s rich tradition in its ninth decade and beyond!”

Mr. Fiedler brings over 20 years of experience in the nonprofit sector, 13 at the executive level for two different arts performance/educational

organizations. Most recently he served as the Executive Director of the Chicago Human Rhythm Project (CHRP), a nonprofit performing and educational arts organization that presents dance performances and dance festivals, runs the American Rhythm Center dance school, and provides weekly dance education to public school students.

Previously, Mr. Fiedler was the Executive Director of The People's Music School (TPMS), a prestigious community music school that provides ongoing music lessons for thousands of young people completely free of charge. TPMS also provides free concerts to the public, featuring nationally recognized artists and was on the forefront of bringing the innovative "El Sistema" music education methodology to the United States. While at TPMS, Mr. Fiedler worked very closely with the Ravinia Festival to bring hundreds of children to their summer concerts and help TPMS build orchestral programs in public schools. Prior to his tenure at TPMS, Mr. Fiedler was Development Director for REST, a community-based homeless services agency in Chicago. He began his nonprofit career with the Chicago Muscular Dystrophy Association, serving first as a District Director and then moving up to Regional Coordinator.

Mr. Fiedler steps into his role as Executive Director for Stern Grove Festival Association effective immediately as the 80th Season is about to commence on June 25, 2017.

About Stern Grove Festival

Stern Grove Festival Association is a non-profit organization with an eight-decade legacy of providing the people of the Bay Area with admission-free access to diverse performing arts. Every year since 1938, the organization presents Stern Grove Festival, an admission-free performing arts series, in Sigmund Stern Grove, a beautiful outdoor amphitheater located at 19th Avenue and Sloat Boulevard in San Francisco. Stern Grove was purchased by Rosalie M. Stern and given as a gift to the City of San Francisco in 1931, in memory of her husband Sigmund, a prominent civic leader. Stern Grove itself is still owned and operated by the City of San Francisco. The fourth and fifth generation of Mrs. Stern's descendants remain actively involved in overseeing the Festival. Stern Grove Festival is truly a community service, raising nearly \$3 million each year to fund admission-free concerts and outreach programs, all presented for the benefit of the citizens of and visitors to San Francisco and the Bay Area. For more information, visit www.sterngrove.org.

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