

2026 JOHN HAZEN WHITE, SR. LEADERSHIP IN THE ARTS AWARD

KAREN PELCZARSKI

In 1986, Karen Pelczarski, along with a small group of individuals, began work to establish The Music School, Inc. After the School's founding in 1988, for twelve years, she served on its Board of Directors, including serving as president for the majority of those years. She was instrumental in effectuating the merger of the School with the Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra in 2001. Since 2001, and up to the present date, she has continually served on the Board of Directors of the RI Phil, including serving as President from 2009-2011. She has been an impactful board member and leader of the merged organization. During her long tenure on the Board, she has served on most of its committees. During her Presidency, she led efforts to craft a transformative strategic plan that increased the RI Philharmonic's visibility as both a pillar cultural and educational institution for the region. Recognized as one of the top 250 women in litigation in the nation, currently, she is the RI Phil's General Counsel and serves on its Executive Committee.

A product of Polish immigrants who came to the United States with little, Karen is a staunch believer in the power of the arts and education to transform lives and communities. She is also keenly aware of the strong reciprocal relationships between the arts, education and a healthy society and economy. Her own music education played a pivotal role in her development, including helping her to receive a four-year American Express National Merit scholarship to attend Wellesley College, where she majored in music.

For her service to the Philharmonic and larger community, as well as her steadfast commitment to expanding access to the arts and education, we are thrilled to name Karen Pelczarski as recipient of the 2026 John Hazen White Senior Leadership in the Arts Award.

SUPPORT THE GALA!
HAVE A WONDERFUL NIGHT WITH FRIENDS.
AND, GIVE THE GIFT OF MUSIC!

Every child deserves access to a high-quality music education. Every citizen deserves access to an exceptional professional orchestra that reflects their community. Your sponsorship enables RIPO & MS to provide this access.



RUTH REINHARDT
MUSIC DIRECTOR

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

ANNUAL GALA CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2026
5PM CONCERT / THE VETS
DINNER TO FOLLOW / WATERFIRE ARTS CENTER



RUTH REINHARDT
CONDUCTOR

DANIIL TRIFONOV
PIANO

**RHODE ISLAND
PHILHARMONIC
ORCHESTRA**

MATT SINNO
RI PHIL MUSIC SCHOOL ALUM
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL VIOLA, DALLAS SYMPHONY

RESERVE NOW!
LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE



ANNUAL GALA CELEBRATION

BENEFITS + RECOGNITION

RUTH REINHARDT
MUSIC DIRECTOR

	PRESENTING SPONSOR \$50,000	CONDUCTING SPONSOR \$25,000	FORTISSIMO SPONSOR \$10,000	FORTE SPONSOR \$5,000	CRESCENDO SPONSOR \$3,000
Premiere Seating	★ 14 guests	★ 12 guests	★ 8 guests	★ 6 guests	★ 4 guests
Name or logo recognition on specified print/media materials	★	★	★	★	★
Recognition in remarks made at event	★	★	★		
Recognition in season program book	★	★	★	★	★
Recognition on video screens at event	★	★	★	★	★

All proceeds support educational activities, including an event with our students. To become a sponsor or for more information, please contact **Laurie Johnson-Carvalho** at **401.248.7034** or at **ljohnson-carvalho@riphil.org**.

2026 GALA CHAIRS THE WINOKER FAMILY

Thank you for supporting the Rhode Island Philharmonic's 2026 Gala. We are thrilled to chair Music Director Ruth Reinhardt's inaugural Gala. Our mother, Marilyn, organized the first major Gala for the RI Phil, with support from our father Jim, who was her partner in all things. We are pleased to honor their legacy by continuing our family's devotion to this wonderful organization and to be part of another important first.

The 2026 Gala will also be the first RI Phil performance with the astounding pianist and superstar on the rise, Daniil Trifonov! We are also pleased and honored to recognize longtime Board Member and community leader Karen Pelczarski for her important role in shaping the RI Phil and other mission-aligned nonprofits, with the JHW, Sr. Leadership in the Arts Award.

The Gala is both a celebration of the past and a call to support a bright future where this great orchestra and music school are accessible to all. We look forward to inspiring performances by professionals and students alike. Your participation and patronage enable us to offer exceptional music to people of all ages in our community.

We hope that you enjoy this wonderful evening and we thank you for your support.

THE WINOKER FAMILY 2026 GALA CHAIRS



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- | | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| David Ames | Suzanne de la Monte | Joanne Haworth | Deming Sherman |
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