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**Founder and President:** Aaron P. Dworkin

**Artistic Director and Vice President of Programming:** Afa Sadykhly Dworkin

### **Vision Statement**

Sphinx envisions a world in which classical music reflects cultural diversity and plays a role in the everyday lives of youth.

### **Mission Statement**

Celebrating 15 years of building diversity in classical music, Sphinx is the national arts and youth development organization with a mission to:

- **Increase the participation of Blacks and Latinos**
  - **In music schools**
  - **As professional musicians**
  - **As classical music audiences**
- **Administer youth development initiatives in underserved communities through music education**
- **Promote the creation, performance, and preservation of works by Black and Latino composers**

### **Organizational History**

Founded in 1996 by Aaron P. Dworkin, the Sphinx Organization has grown from an annual competition for young Black and Latino string players, into a national arts and youth development organization. In 2010, Aaron P. Dworkin was President Obama's first nominee to the National Council on the Arts.

Today, Sphinx programs reach more than 30,000 students, as well as live and broadcast audiences of over two million annually.

As the organization has grown, so has its acclaim. Sphinx has been featured in *The New York Times*, *Newsweek*, *People Magazine*, *The Detroit Free Press*, and on National Public Radio and NBC's *The Today Show*.