

# SPHINX

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## ORGANIZATION

### Key Facts

- Only 4% of America's Orchestras are Black and/or Latino combined
- Less than 1% of the works performed by orchestras are by Black or Latino composers
- Sphinx Alumni have gone on to all major music schools
- Sphinx Alumni have earned positions in 5 major orchestras
- Since Sphinx was founded in 1996, the largest orchestras in America have increased their number of African American members by 100% In all instances, the member was a Sphinx Alumni, the member was a Sphinx Symphony Orchestra member or the orchestra is a Sphinx partner.

Over the past 13 years, the Sphinx Organization has received endorsements and support from many internationally renowned musicians, many of whom serve on the Honorary Committee. They include:

Itzhak Perlman  
Yo-Yo E. Ma  
Andre Previn  
Branford Marsalis  
Mark O'Connor  
Nigel Kennedy

Jaime Laredo  
Nikki Giovanni  
Ida Kavafian  
Christopher O' Riley  
Michael Tilson Thomas  
George Walker

Previous Sphinx Competition jury panel members include:

- **Atar Arad**, former violist of the Cleveland Quartet
- **Nokothula Ngwenyama**, renowned concert violist
- **Sanford Allen**, the first Black member of the New York Philharmonic
- **Joseph Conyers**, Atlanta Symphony Bassist and Sphinx Competition alumnus
- **Paul Katz**, former cellist of the Cleveland Quartet and New England Conservatory of Music faculty member
- **Joel Smirnoff**, violinist of the Juilliard Quartet and President of the Cleveland Institute of Music
- **Jose Serebrier**, multi-year Grammy Award winning composer and conductor

Media Contact:

[www.sphinxmusic.org/press](http://www.sphinxmusic.org/press)

Alison Piech (313) 877-9100 x709 | [alison@sphinxmusic.org](mailto:alison@sphinxmusic.org)