

2026-2027 IAVM SLATE OF OFFICERS



Chair of the Board: Brett Mitchell, CVE

Brett C. Mitchell, CVE is General Manager of the Overland Park Convention Center.

In 2010, motivated to spend more time with his children, Mitchell resigned his position as Vice President of Convention Center Operations for Global Spectrum (now Oak View Group), choosing to return as General Manager of the Overland Park Convention Center.

Within the past five years Exhibitor Magazine named Overland Park Convention Center the Best Small Convention Center in North America three times and once Best Customer Service & On-Site Support for centers of any size.

Mitchell earned a Sports Business Management degree from Brigham Young University and later served on the Industry Advisory Council for the school's Facility Management Program. He has served on the Board of Directors for the Center for Exhibition Industry Research (CEIR), as Chair of the International Association of Venue Managers' (IAVM) Convention Centers Committee, and as Co-Chair of the Exhibition Services and Contractors Association (ESCA) Venue Council. In 2021, he was honored with ESCA's Volunteer of the Year award.

Mitchell, son of a United States Marine Corps General, is married to Sheila Cook Mitchell of Vernal, Utah and is most proud of being the father of Georgia, Emma, Noah, and Maia.



First Vice Chair: Matt Hollander, CVE

Matt Hollander, CVE has been a member of IAVM since 1992 and earned his CVE in 2009. In his current role, Hollander works for Oak View Group as the General Manager of the Greenville (SC) Convention Center.

Hollander has been an active volunteer leader with IAVM over the years. He served as the Region 1 Director, a long-time member of the Convention Center Committee (including as its Chair), on the Audit Committee, on the Leadership Development Committee, and as a member of the VenueConnect planning committee. Hollander currently serves as the Chair of the Audit Committee.

Hollander's 35+ years of venue management have included senior positions in convention centers, arenas, theaters, and amphitheaters. He remains excited to help shape the future of the association to build engagement amongst our current and future venue industry professionals and the allied members who support our industry.



Second Vice Chair: Jamie Galileo, CVE

Jamie Galileo, CVE, was born in Montreal, Canada, and later moved to Phoenix, Arizona, where he attended Arizona State University before beginning his career in the construction industry. He subsequently earned a Bachelor of Science in Business from the University of Phoenix.

Galileo's career in venue operations began as an electrician at America West Arena, home of the Phoenix Suns. He later joined the Miller Group as Maintenance Manager for the Delta Center, home of the Utah Jazz. During his tenure with the Miller Group, he supported a diverse portfolio of sports and entertainment properties, including a minor league baseball team and stadium, an F1 race track, retail operations, and movie theaters.

Today, Galileo serves as Senior Vice President of Facilities Operations and Construction for Smith Entertainment Group, overseeing facilities and construction operations for the Utah Jazz, Utah Mammoth, and Delta Center.

A graduate of the Venue Management School (VMS) and Leadership Institute, Galileo earned his Certified Venue Executive (CVE) designation in 2015. He has been an active leader within the industry, serving as Region 7 Director, IAVM executive committee and serving within the Utah IAVM Chapter.



Past Chair: Stacey Church, CVE

Stacey Church, CVE currently serves as the COO at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, Georgia. Georgia World Congress Center (GWCC) features 1.5 million square feet of prime exhibit space and is the world's largest LEED certified convention center. Consisting of three interconnected buildings, the GWCC offers a variety of flexible and dynamic spaces and hosts hundreds of world-class events each year.

She previously served as the General Manager at Dallas Fair Park in Dallas, TX. Covering 277-acres just east of downtown Dallas, Fair Park's cultural, historical, and entertainment venues play host to visitors from around the world every day of the year.

Church began her venue management career as Director of Finance in South Bend, IN at the Century Center and then in Springfield, MA at the MassMutual Center in both Assistant General Manager and General Manager capacities. She has also held leadership roles at the Fort Worth Convention Center and Will Rogers Memorial Center in Fort Worth, TX; the Kentucky International Convention Center in Louisville, KY where she reopened the newly renovated convention center; and served as the Assistant General Manager at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center in Dallas.

Church, a graduate of the University of Kentucky (GO CATS!), earned her Certified Venue Executive (CVE) designation in 2022. She has a passion for giving back through volunteerism and has served on multiple IAVM committees.



Director – Region 1: Kady Chambers

Kady Chambers is the Senior Director of Venue Rentals and Operations at The Music Center at Strathmore in North Bethesda, Maryland. In her role Chambers oversees the daily operations, management, and rentals for both Strathmore's 1,800-seat Concert Hall as well as the historic Strathmore Mansion.

Previously, Chambers was at the Baltimore Convention Center as a Convention Services Manager, and the Hippodrome Theater in Baltimore as their Director of Booking, contracting and managing ticketed and non-ticketed private events for six years. Prior to her time in Baltimore, she started her career with Hershey Entertainment and Resorts as an Event Coordinator.

Chambers joined IAVM in 2018 and began serving on the Membership Committee in 2020, where she was the Chair from 2025-2026 and Co-Chair of the 2026 IAVM Super Regional Conference. She earned a B.S. in Sport, Arts, and Entertainment Management from Point Park University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

When Chambers isn't at work, she spends most of her time with her husband, Geoff, and their two rescue dogs, Oskar and Olivia.



Director – Region 2: Jeff Steeg, CVP

Jeff Steeg, CVP is the Chief Operating Officer for Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts, a three-venue campus in Carmel, IN featuring the Payne & Mencias Palladium concert hall. Entering his 15th year with Allied Solutions Center, Steeg has held multiple roles with the organization including Lead Audio Engineer, Director of Production, and Vice President of Operations. Prior to joining the Allied Solutions Center, Steeg served as a Studio Engineer for Sweetwater Sound in Fort Wayne, IN. After joining IAVM in 2017, he began serving as an officer for Region 2 in 2022.

Steeg holds a Bachelor's Degree from the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University and a Master of Business Administration from Indiana Wesleyan University. He is also a 2019 graduate of the Hamilton County Leadership Academy and continues to serve on the curriculum committee for that organization.

Steeg calls Westfield, IN home with his wife, Sarah, two kids, Brecken and Charlotte, and two dogs, Ivy and Rizzo. In his free time, he enjoys coaching various youth sports teams while also cheering on the Pacers, Colts, Hoosiers, and Cubs.



Director – Region 3: Eryn Walters, CVP

Eryn Walters, CVP is the Manager of Patron Services at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts in Kansas City, Missouri. Starting her career as an Events Coordinator for MSU-WP and then moving on to become the Business Manager and eventual Director (August 2020) of the West Plains Civic Center, she brings a decade of experience in venue and event management to her Kauffman role. In October 2024, Walters accepted the position at the Kauffman Center.

Walters is an active member of IAVM. This year she will be transitioning to the role of Region 3 Director and the Chair of the Young Professionals Committee. Since joining, she has served on the CEO Search Selection Committee, Governance Committee, VenueConnect Planning Committee, Super Regional Executive Committee, and chaired the Registration Committee for the Super Regional. She earned her CVP in June 2021 and is currently working towards her CMP certification.

In her spare time, Walters enjoys spending time with her teenage daughter where they explore the new city where they just moved.



Director – Region 4: Sara Waltemire, CVE, CVP, CMP

Sara Waltemire, CVE, CVP, CMP, serves as Chief Operating Officer at Meydenbauer Center, Bellevue's premier convention center. With more than a decade of experience in the public venue industry, she brings a comprehensive leadership background spanning sales, marketing, event management, operations, and facilities.

Waltemire earned her Certified Venue Executive (CVE) designation in 2026, having previously achieved the Certified Venue Professional (CVP) credential—reflecting her ongoing commitment to excellence and professional development within the industry.

An active leader in the International Association of Venue Managers (IAVM), Waltemire previously served as Region 4 Director from 2022 to 2024, contributing to regional engagement and industry advancement initiatives. Earlier in her career, she was recognized as one of IAVM's 30|Under|30 honorees and was also named to 425 Business magazine's 30|Under|30 list, highlighting her early leadership and impact in the field.

Waltemire is passionate about operational excellence, team development, and delivering exceptional guest and client experiences that elevate the role of public assembly venues in their communities.



Director – Region 5: Erik Waldman, CVE

Erik Waldman, CVE is Principal, Facilities Services Director for Populous. Populous designs iconic spaces for the world's most renowned names in sports and entertainment, from stadiums and arenas to event spaces and urban environments.

Previously, Waldman was the Senior Vice President of Client Services at TVS, an architectural and interior design firm that specializes in public assembly venues, as well as Senior Director of Special Events at the Georgia World Congress Authority, where he led special event operations for the world's foremost convention, sports, and entertainment destination, including Super Bowl LIII in Atlanta.

Waldman actively contributes to the industry's growth by serving on boards and committees with various international associations. His passion for continuous learning and dedication to enhancing the industry's success are evident in his involvement.

Waldman's extensive background in managing public assembly venues grants him a distinctive user perspective on venue design. His insightful approach not only aids architects but also assists clients in cultivating innovative ideas for revenue generation and optimizing guest experiences, uncovering opportunities that might otherwise be overlooked. He is a driving force in shaping the future of design within the dynamic realm of public assembly venues.



Director – Region 6: Andrew Sims

Originally from Peoria, IL, **Andrew Sims** is a highly motivated professional with over 28 years of experience in public assembly and facility management. He began his career as a commercial loan officer but soon realized his passion lay in managing facilities and public venues.

Sims thrives in dynamic, fast-paced environments where he can lead teams, improve processes, and drive operational efficiency. His expertise spans nearly every department within arenas, theaters, and convention centers, with a focus on streamlining operations and enhancing service delivery.

As a senior management team member, Sims has developed a broad skill set that includes team leadership, large-scale budgeting, project administration, sustainability initiatives, capital improvements, corporate business development, event and client services, and facility operations and security.

One of the highlights of Sims' career is his involvement in the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center Master Plan—a \$3 billion initiative aimed at constructing a new convention center, renovated arena and theater, and revitalizing the downtown Dallas district.

Sims remains committed to innovation, excellence, and creating impactful experiences in every venue he has the privilege to manage.



Director – Region 7: Ashley Keen, CVP

Ashley Keen, CVP is currently a Senior Consultant and key member of Theatre Project's Strategy & Operations division where she specializes in helping clients plan for the future. Keen combines her past experience of working in flexible spaces and multi-venue arts centers with a love of creative solution-finding to support clients' strategic goals.

Previously, Keen was at the Mesa Arts Center for ten years, where she held roles as an event services coordinator, responsible for managing multiple simultaneous, cross-venue events, the production supervisor, where she coordinated all back of house, production, and artist logistics for over a thousand events in a year, and a theatre technical coordinator. Before her time with the MAC, Keen was the assistant master electrician and assistant lighting designer at the historic Ogunquit Playhouse; prior to that, she held positions with Orlando Shakespeare Theater and Arizona State University.

Keen earned a Master of Education in secondary education from Grand Canyon University and a Bachelor of Arts in theatre—design and production from Arizona State University. She is a Certified Venue Professional (CVP) and a member of USITT. She is the past chair of the IAVM Young Professionals committee, a member of the Research committee and the Strategic Leadership & Resources committee, and the former IAVM Arizona State chapter representative.



Director - IAVM/VMA Asia Pacific: Megan O'Reilly

Megan O'Reilly is the Chief Operating Officer of Melbourne Park and President of the Venue Management Association (Asia and Pacific) (VMA).

As COO, Megan leads the operations and ongoing transformation of Melbourne Park, one of the world's premier sporting and entertainment precincts and home of the Australian Open. Her portfolio encompasses major event delivery, customer and hospitality experience, infrastructure and asset management, security and patron services, capital works and long-term precinct planning.

With a career spanning people leadership, operations and venue management, Megan is recognised for her collaborative leadership style, strategic thinking and passion for developing high-performing teams. Prior to her current role, she held senior leadership positions across people and culture before moving into venue and precinct operations.

A passionate advocate for the venue industry, Megan has contributed to the VMA through a range of leadership and mentoring initiatives and currently serves as President of the Association. Her appointment marked an important milestone for the VMA as only the second female President in the organisation's history.



Director - Allied: Jeff Scott

Jeff Scott is Executive Vice President of Sales for MITY Inc., where he leads sales strategy and business development across North America for the company's portfolio of commercial furniture brands serving convention centers, arenas, stadiums, performing arts centers, hotels, educational institutions, government agencies, and places of worship. With more than 20 years of leadership experience, Scott has built a career focused on helping organizations create exceptional environments that bring people together.

Throughout his career, Scott has partnered with venue operators, facility managers, architects, dealers, and industry professionals to deliver solutions that enhance guest experiences, operational efficiency, and long-term facility performance. He is recognized for building high-performing teams, fostering strategic partnerships, and driving growth through collaboration and customer-focused leadership.

An active member of the public assembly industry, Scott has been deeply involved with the International Association of Venue Managers (IAVM). Most recently, he served as Chair of the IAVM Allied Committee, helping strengthen engagement between venue professionals and industry partners while supporting initiatives focused on networking, education, and professional development. He is passionate about advancing collaboration across the industry and creating opportunities for future leaders to become involved and contribute.

Based in Utah, Scott brings a practical, relationship-driven leadership style and a strong commitment to supporting the continued success of the public assembly industry and the communities it serves.



Director - Arenas: Darcie Tempel

Darcie Tempel was born and raised in Billings, Montana, and is a proud two-time Griz alum. She earned a bachelor's degree in business management and marketing with a Certificate in Entertainment Management from the University of Montana in 2014 and completed her MBA in 2024.

Tempel began her career as a MontanaFair intern in 2014 and now serves as Sponsorship and Marketing Manager for MetraPark and MontanaFair. She loves the events industry because it brings communities together and no two days are ever the same.

Professionally, Tempel serves as Chair of the Rocky Mountain Association of Fairs Young Professionals Group and as the IAFE Zone 7 Young Professional Representative. Within IAVM, she served on the Amphitheaters & Fairgrounds Committee and on the Arenas Committee. She also serves as Communications Chair for Region 4, supporting member engagement and regional communication efforts. Additionally, Tempel regularly attends the Safety & Security Sub-Committee – Arenas meetings and participates in the IAVM Moms Affinity Group. Following year one of Venue Management School (VMS), she was elected as an Alternate Student Representative. After taking a year off due to pregnancy, she returned to complete year two of Venue Management School and served as an ambassador to incoming Year One students.

Outside of work, Tempel is a wife, mom to two young children, and dog mom to three energetic pups. Fun facts: She is left-handed, has a first-degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do, loves turquoise, chicken strips and fries with ranch, and a good brunch with bottomless mimosas. In the summer, you'll find her camping, boating, golfing, or enjoying Montana sunshine.



Director – Convention Centers: Robert (Bob) Fingerman, CVE

Bob Fingerman, CVE has more than 25 years of industry experience managing events and public assembly facilities in both the public and private sectors. He currently serves as Assistant Director at the Phoenix Convention Center & Venues. Fingerman leads a talented team of industry professionals that are responsible for ensuring that our venues deliver on the promise of providing the highest level of professional services that creates memorable experiences for all our guests and visitors.

Throughout his career, Fingerman has ushered in numerous major events and fan experiences into Phoenix that include the Super Bowl, NCAA Men's Final Four, WrestleMania, MLB, NBA & WNBA All-Star Festivities, and Presidential visits from over the years. Prior to joining the Phoenix Convention Center in 2007, he spent his career managing performing arts centers and festivals.

Fingerman is recognized as a Certified Venue Executive (CVE) by the International Association of Venue Managers and is committed to providing the highest level of industry standards to all our clients and attendees. He received his bachelor's degree from Pennsylvania State University and holds a master's degree in Public Administration from Northern Arizona University.



Director - Performing Arts: Sarah Robertson, CVP

Sarah Robertson, CVP is the Vice President – Operations at Dayton Live in Dayton, Ohio. She joined IAVM in Fall 2009 as a Senior at Indiana University and has been an active member ever since. Previously, Robertson worked at the Alamodome, the Tobin Center for the Performing Arts, and the Peace Center.

Robertson has attended numerous IAVM conferences and served on the Performing Arts Sector and Mentoring Committees as well as the Nominating Committee for Region 2. IAVM has been a driving force in her career. The lifelong connections made through our organization have changed her life and become a network of problem-solving professionals.

When she isn't at work, Robertson spends most of her time with her baby girl, Charlotte, and her husband, Dennis. Whether it is traveling, finding our next favorite restaurant, or figuring out her daughter's latest trick, she is always ready for a new adventure.



Director - Stadiums: David Bennett, MBA, CVP

David Bennett, MBA, CVP is an experienced public assembly venue manager with a demonstrated history of working in the higher education sector. He is a talented leader and coach, and is skilled in event management, facility management, safety and security operations, and technical operations.

Bennett currently serves as the Assistant General Manager of Fifth Third Bank Stadium and Director of Event Services for Kennesaw State University's Department of Event and Venue Management. He also provides oversight to the Night Owl student employment and development program. Previously he worked for Clemson University and the Charlotte Bobcats/Time Warner Cable Arena. Bennett has been a member of IAVM for 13 years, served as chair of the Universities Committee for 3 years, and was named to the 30|Under|30 Class of 2016. He is a graduate of Venue Management School and the Academy for Venue Safety and Security, and holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Management and a Masters of Business Administration from Clemson University.