

CHAIR

Robert Marchman has taken an active role in community life since moving to Maplewood in 1991. He is a founding member of the Coalition on Race, where he served as chair in 2004. In June 2010, Robert joined the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA), the premier securities industry regulator, as Executive Vice President and Head of the Market Regulation Department's Legal Group (the Group prosecutes violations of market rules and federal securities laws). He serves as the Executive Vice President/MRD Legal Section at FINRA. Prior to that time he was responsible for managing the New York Stock Exchange Regulation's Enforcement Division and Regulatory Risk Group. Robert has had a long career in diversity and inclusion efforts in Corporate America and in nonprofits and has received numerous awards in recognition of his work to promote diversity management in the securities industry. Robert served as chair in 2017 and has been asked by the Nominating Committee to serve again in 2018.

Vice Chairs

Carol Barry-Austin is a founding member of the South Orange/Maplewood Community Coalition on Race and has dedicated her time and talents to the growth and success of the organization for the last 20 years. She served as Chair from 2006-08 after serving on the Executive Committee since the organization's inception and currently co-chairs the Coalition's Schools Committee. Under her leadership, the committee has shaped community discussion regarding the Academic Achievement Gap by providing forums, parent advocacy workshops and Achievement Gap Study Groups. Recognized as a leader in the community, Carol is often cited for her consistent efforts on behalf of the youth of the community and her commitment to integration and fair housing. She has represented the community throughout the region on panels to discuss integration and youth advocacy. Professionally, Carol served as a consultant for a New Jersey-based communications company and she spent fifteen years working for New York Telephone Company, designing and implementing communication systems for major New York corporations. Carol also has shares her time with the Columbia High School Scholarship Fund, South Orange Civic Organization, and the Tuxedo Park Neighborhood Association.

David Harris joined the Coalition as a trustee in 2014 and served on the Executive Committee in 2016. He is co-chair of the Community Engagement Committee and a member of the Coffee House discussion team. He works with several organizations that focus on racial justice, feeding and healing the working poor, and increasing opportunities in higher education. David is a trained mediator and a retired partner from Lowenstein Sandler where he managed the Business and Commercial Litigation Group tried cases in Federal and state courts throughout the United States. David has served as Chair of Board of Trustees at the Newark School of Theology, is a Board member on the Rutgers University Board of Overseers; is the Board of Directors Treasurer for the Donald M. Payne, Sr. Global Foundation; and is a Board Member at the Blanton Peale Institute. David has served on the Executive Committee since 2016.

Kelly Quirk: Kelly is a Program Director of Substance Abuse and Homeless Services at the Bowery Residents' Committee where she oversees a 32-bed medically-monitored and medically-supervised Detox unit. She is responsible for unit oversight, developing systems, and ensuring compliance. She has 12 years' worth of experience in her field and significant experience in outreach to funders. She is one of the founding members of SOMA Action, is on their steering committee, and is a co-chair of Immigrants Rights. She participated in anti-racist work when she lived in the South. In both her work and her volunteer history, Kelly has significant experience in development and grant-writing strategies, and is particularly interested in combining narrative and metrics-based strategies to support fundraising. Kelly joined the Coalition board in 2017 and has served on the Finance & Development Committee, and has started the board on an important investigation into future priorities.

Erin Scherzer: Erin is Executive Director of Career Services at the Seton Hall University Law School. She has a J.D. from Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law and a from B.A., Bates College. She has been active in a number of volunteer activities in Maplewood, including her neighborhood association, promoting economic development on Springfield Avenue, the Maplewood Planning Board, Maplewood Recreation Advisory, and many more. Erin was in the Coalition's very first Civic Engagement Institute and credits the Coalition as a resource in the decision to move to Maplewood with her multi-racial and interfaith family. Since joining the Coalition's Board of Trustees, Erin has taken on a number of leadership roles, including chairing the Residential Mission Area, overseeing the 2017 Annual Dinner, and acting as a lead voice and a liaison in the effort to reform Maplewood's police practices.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Nancy Gagnier

Nancy Gagnier has been the Executive Director of the South Orange/Maplewood Community Coalition on Race since August 2008. The Coalition is a nationally recognized, award-winning community advocacy group committed to racial integration. In her role as director, Nancy develops pro-integrative strategies that help to build a community that is supportive of diversity and inclusion. The Coalition on Race has played a critical part in transforming our community into a destination for people who value integration—with affirmative community marketing campaigns, positive media exposure, tours, as well as with community forums with high-profile national presenters to discuss important issues like the sustainability of diverse first suburbs, race relations, interfaith relations, the achievement gap, and with community-building events that bridge racial barriers.

Ms. Gagnier brings professional and academic writing, non-profit development, public relations, and teaching experience to her role. She earned her BA from St. John's College in Annapolis, a Masters in Comparative Literature and a Masters of Philosophy in English from Columbia University where she taught in the Literature Humanities program. She is a long-time resident of the two towns and has served on a number of volunteer boards and strategic planning initiatives, including the 2016 Cultural Competency Action Team for school district's strategic planning effort, the Achieve Foundation Board of Trustees, as chair of the 2005 Board of Education Strategic Planning Initiative, as chair of Mothers & More, and the stewardship, nominating, and music committees of Morrow Memorial Church. In 2001, she was elected to the South Orange/Maplewood School Board, where she focused on policy development. She and her husband have three children; two graduated from Columbia High School and are in college, and the youngest currently attends CHS. Nancy is passionate about community building through intentional integration strategies.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR: Audrey Rowe

As Program Director for the South Orange/Maplewood Community Coalition on Race, Audrey Rowe brings more than 25 years of management, marketing and community organization experience garnered through Fortune 500 corporate positions and running her own personal business. In addition, she has held numerous leadership positions in the community, including the Columbia High School Home & School Association Executive Board, South Orange-Maplewood Adult School Board of Trustees and Prospect Presbyterian Church's Board of Elders. Audrey specializes in developing creative programs to support the Community Coalition's organizational goals and in mobilizing and supporting volunteers to execute those programs. She is adept at facilitating groups and meetings and serving as public advocate for the organization. An integral part of Audrey's work includes designing and coordinating strategic events.

Audrey graduated from Missouri University at Columbia with a Pre-med undergrad major and BMS in Medical Technology. She also completed a Masters in Speech Pathology & Audiology at Kent State University and course work towards an MBA at NYU (New York University). She has lived in Maplewood, New Jersey for over thirty years with her husband Abdul Alim Mubarak. They have two daughters - Solana and Panya Rowe and a granddaughter, Savannah.