



Gary A. Padmore

Director, Education and Community Engagement, The Sue B. Mercy Chair, New York Philharmonic

Panelist- Why the Arts Matter: Leading While Black During a Time of Change

Gary A. Padmore joined the New York Philharmonic last season with more than 15 years of experience that has led him to schools and community organizations throughout New York State. Prior to the Philharmonic, he was the director of Education & Community at Orchestra of St. Luke's (OSL), where he created a free concert series that celebrates works by composers of color, doubled enrollment in the youth orchestra program, and increased school and community partnerships throughout the five boroughs. Before OSL, he served as associate director of programs at Midori & Friends, which provides skill-based music instruction and enrichment programs in public schools throughout New York City. Mr. Padmore previously held the position of education director for the Brooklyn Philharmonic, was a teaching artist at American Composers Orchestra and Police Athletic League, and served as an adjunct lecturer at Queens College. A trumpet player and native New Yorker, he has a bachelor's degree in music from Queens College, a master's degree from Mannes School of Music, and an advanced certificate in music education from Queens College. He has completed leadership training programs with EmcArts and the League of American Orchestras. As a steward of classical music and arts education, Gary Padmore sits on the boards of the NYC Arts in Education Roundtable and The Dream Unfinished: An Activist Orchestra.