

The Fund for Public Schools - Leadership Bios

Stephanie Powell Dua, CEO, The Fund for Public Schools

As the CEO of The Fund for Public Schools, Stephanie leads the Fund, guiding its strategic direction and growth.

Prior to joining The Fund, Stephanie led the Library Initiative for the Robin Hood, a top venture philanthropy dedicated to fighting poverty in New York City. The Library Initiative is a \$50+ million project to put libraries in some of the lowest performing, highest poverty elementary schools to promote literacy. Stephanie joined Robin Hood from McKinsey & Company where she was a management consultant in the financial services industries. At McKinsey, she also developed a business-nonprofit partnership program whereby each year approximately five McKinsey consulting teams led five Robin Hood grantees (community based organizations) through a nine-month strategic planning process. The program is in its sixth year. After undergraduate studies in geology/geophysics at University of California, Los Angeles, she was an environmental consultant in Los Angeles, California. Stephanie has her Masters in Public Policy from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, where she was a Kennedy Fellow. Stephanie also serves as Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee of the Board of Directors for the Alliance for Lupus Research. She lives in New York City with her husband André and daughters Anya and Siona.

Tara M. Paone, CFO, The Fund for Public Schools

As the CFO, Tara leads all financial management activities and provides counsel and advice to the CEO, other team members, and the Board on all financial matters. Tara oversees and implements financial policies and plans for The Fund and provides overall management and direction for the accounting, budgeting, treasury, banking, grant review, and tax reporting functions.

Tara brings extensive experience from the private, governmental and nonprofit sectors to her role at The Fund. Prior to her current role, Tara served as the Chief Operating Officer at StoryCorps, a national nonprofit, overseeing the finance, human resources and information technology areas of the organization. Prior to StoryCorps, Tara was the Managing Director of the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council overseeing the daily finance and administration of the agency. Tara's experience also includes serving as the Budget Director for Coconino County in Flagstaff AZ and several positions at the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey as part of the Management & Budget and Treasury Departments, working on long-term capital planning, cash management operations and debt administration.

Tara has a BA from Mount Holyoke College in international relations and an MPA from Wagner School of Public Service in urban public policy. She serves on the Board of the Mount Holyoke Club of New York City which actively raises funds for student scholarships to the college.

Lara Holliday, Director, The Fund for Public Schools

As the Director, Lara leads the public awareness and outreach efforts for The Fund for Public Schools, raising awareness about New York City's public schools and encouraging all New Yorkers to get involved to help support our city's students. Her work includes managing The Fund's key outreach campaigns: Keep it Going NYC, Shop for Public Schools, and P.S. Arts Week.

Lara offers over a decade of experience in strategic branding and communications for leading national and global corporations. Prior to her work at The Fund for Public Schools, Lara helped launch the North American office of Dragon Rouge, an international brand strategy agency. As Account Director of Dragon Rouge, Lara was responsible for client management, strategic analysis, and creative development of award-winning branding initiatives for clients such as The Coca-Cola Company, Johnson & Johnson, and Jose Cuervo. Prior to Dragon Rouge, Lara was a Brand Consultant at Lipson Alport Glass and Associates, where she provided strategic insight for branding programs for clients such as Unilever Bestfoods, Schering-Plough, and Novartis Consumer Health. Lara's experience also includes a position as Senior Account Executive at Torrisi Design, a marketing communications agency, where she handled communications programs for clients including Chase Manhattan Bank, R.R. Donnelley Financial, and GE Capital.

Lara is the Founder and President of the Mentoring Tree Foundation, a nonprofit organization that provides enhanced educational opportunities for underserved youth of New York City. Lara also serves on the Board of Trustees of the Mary McDowell Center for Learning, Brooklyn Friends School, and Oakwood Friends School.