City of Seattle
Notice of Appointment

Name: *Karen P. Thomas*		☐ **Executive Appointment** ☐ **Reappointment** ☒ **Legislative Appointment** ☐ **Agency Appointment** ☐ **PDA Council** ☐ **PDA Constituency**
Residential Neighborhood: *Ballard*	**Zip Code:** *98107*	**Contact Phone No.:** 206-781-2766
Appointed to: *Seattle Music Commission*		**Date of Appointment:** *9/11/2013*
Authority (Ord., Res.): *Resolution 31173*		**Term of Office:** **From:** 9/11/2013 **To:** 9/11/2016

Background:

Karen P. Thomas, composer and conductor, is the Artistic Director and Conductor of Seattle Pro Musica, with whom she has produced nine critically-acclaimed commercial CD recordings, and has received the Margaret Hillis Award for Choral Excellence and the ASCAP-Chorus America Award for Adventuresome Programming of Contemporary Music. . With Seattle Pro Musica she has collaborated with the Seattle Symphony Orchestra and co-hosted the2013 Chorus America National Conference. Her compositions are regularly performed internationally, by groups such as The Hilliard Ensemble and The Vocal Consort of Brussels, among numerous others. As a conductor, she has been lauded for her *"charismatic...magnetic podium presence."*

Ms. Thomas is a recipient of composition grants and awards from the NEA, American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, and ASCAP, among others. Her commissions include works for the Grand Jubilee in Rome, the American Guild of Organists, and the Association of Anglican Musicians. She has guest conducted at international festivals in Europe and North America, and for conventions of the American Choral Director's Association and the American Guild of Organists. She currently serves on the boards of the American Choral Directors Association (NW Region), the Greater Seattle Choral Consortium, and the Seattle Girl's Choir, and recently completed her term on the Board of Governors for the Recording Academy (Grammy - Pacific NW). She has served on the faculties of Pacific Lutheran University, Evergreen State College, Cornish College and Edmonds Community College.

Authorizing Signature:	**Name and Title of Officer Making Appointments:** **Nick Licata, Councilmember**

CURRICULUM VITAE

Karen P. Thomas

Conductor • Composer

karen@seattlepromusica.org
karenpthomas.com

EMPLOYMENT

1987-present **Seattle Pro Musica, Artistic/Executive Director and Conductor**

- Provide artistic and executive direction for 70-voice semi-professional choral ensemble.
- Lead and oversee all operations to ensure continuous growth and achievement, including artistic management, strategic planning, fund development, budget management, marketing, educational programs and audience development.
- Conduct multiple performances of four major concert programs per year, in addition to numerous festival performances, outreach concerts and touring performances.
- Supervise artistic and management staff; contract professional soloists and orchestra personnel.
- **ACHEIVEMENTS:**
  - Grew organization from a small community choir to a semi-professional ensemble, nationally recognized as a leader in the choral field.
  - Recorded and produced nine critically-acclaimed CD recordings.
  - Increased budget from $11,000 to $400,000
  - Co-hosted the 2013 National Conference of Chorus America, in collaboration with the Seattle Symphony Orchestra.
  - Selected by National Endowment for the Arts as one of seven conductors nationwide to lead the NEA's American Masterpieces Choral Initiative in 2006-07. Received and successfully managed five significant National Endowment for the Arts grants.
  - Produced the American Masterpieces Choral Festival 2007, featuring twelve choirs and over 600 singers; with guest conductor Dale Warland and guest composer Morten Lauridsen.
  - Responsible for receipt of continuing grants from ArtsFund, Allen Family Foundation, Seattle Foundation, Nesholm Family Foundation, state, county and city arts commissions; numerous others.
  - Received national awards for excellence in performance, programming and recordings.

1994-present **University Unitarian Church, Director of Music**

- Develop and lead a comprehensive music program including adult choirs, children's and youth choirs, instrumental ensembles and vocal and instrumental soloists.
- Conduct choirs in concerts and weekly services.
- Supervise 6-person music staff; contract professional soloists and orchestra personnel.
- Manage music expenditure and revenue accounts.
- Develop and supervise annual concert series.

1982-present **Guest Conducting Engagements**

Bergen International Festival • Berkshire Choral Festival • NPR's Saint Paul Sunday • Goodwill Arts Festival Alliance World Festival of Women's Singing • Ninth International Conference on Women in Music Festival Vancouver International • Seattle Symphony Chorale • American Guild of Organists National and Division Conventions • American Choral Directors' Assn Conventions, National and Regional

Bellevue Opera • Portland Symphonic Choir • Ernest Bloch Music Festival • Bumbershoot Arts Festival
University of Washington Opera • Cornish Chamber Opera • Clarion Brass Ensemble • Village Theater
International Clarinet Congress • Seattle Spring Festival of Contemporary Music • Whatcom Chorale
Eastern Washington University Chamber Choir • Eastern Oregon University Chamber Choir
Allegro! Dance Festival • The Contemporary Group • Cathedral Choir of St. James

PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT

1995	**Edmonds Community College,** Interim Director, Symphonic Choir
1994	**Evergreen State College**, Instructor in Music, Interim
1994	**Chorus of Westerly**, Conducting Fellow Conduct 125-voice festival chorus; private study with Sir David Willcocks.
1994	**Oregon Bach Festival**, Composition Fellow Sessions with Arvo Pärt, Helmuth Rilling, Tonu Kaljuste, Hilliard Ensemble, Alasdair Neale
1993-1994	**Hope Lutheran Church**, Choral Director
1985-1993	**Mercer Island Presbyterian Church,** Director of Music
1991-1992	**Pacific Lutheran University,** Lecturer in Music
1992	**Dorland Mountain Arts Colony**, Composition Fellow
1990-1992	**Nevada State Council on the Arts**, Artist in Residence
1987-1988	**Cornish College of the Arts,** Instructor in Music
1984-1986	**Washington Composers Forum**, Conductor and Concert Director
1983-1985	**Queen Anne Lutheran Church**, Choral Director
1981-1985	**The Contemporary Group**, Conductor
1980-1983	**Peace Lutheran Church**, Choral Director
1982-1983	**University of Washington Opera Department**, Assistant Conductor and Chorus Master

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2011	**Almquist Choral Composition Award**
2010	**The American Prize** Community Chorus, 2nd place
2009	**New York Treble Singers** Composer's Competition First Place
2007	**Roger Wagner Contemporary Choral Composition Contest** First Place
2006	**Vincent Brown Silliman Choral Anthem Competition**
2005	**Jezic Ensemble** Composer's Competition First Place
2003	**Margaret Hillis Award for Choral Excellence**
2002	**International Alliance for Women in Music** Theodore Front Prize
2001	**Seattle Arts Commission** Seattle Artists Award
1999	**Seattle Arts Commission** Seattle Artists Award
1998	**Distinguished Alumna Award** Cornish College of the Arts
1997	**His Majestie's Clerkes Choral Composition Competition** Second Prize
1996	**ASCAP-Chorus America** Award for Adventurous Programming of Contemporary Music **Artist Trust** GAP Grant

1995	**Seattle Arts Commission** Seattle Artists Award
1994	**Oregon Bach Festival** Composition Fellow • **Chorus of Westerly** Conducting Fellow
1993	**Delius Composition Contest** First Place • **Roger Wagner Center Composition Competition** **National Association of College Wind and Percussion Instructors** Composition Contest **Seattle Arts Commission** Seattle Artists Award
1992	**Artist Trust** GAP Grant • **Dorland Mountain Arts Colony** Composition Fellow
1991	**Washington State Arts Commission** Artist Fellowship Award • **Melodious Accord** Composition Contest • **King County Arts Commission** Individual Artist Grant **Seattle Arts Commission** Individual Artist Grant
1990	**National Endowment for the Arts** Challenge III Grant (Goodwill Arts Festival co-recipient)
1988	**Seattle Arts Commission** Individual Artist Grant • **New Langton Arts** (co-recipient)
1987	**Artist Trust** Fellowship
1984	**Northwest Chamber Orchestra** Composers Forum Award
1982	**American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters** Charles E. Ives Scholar **Brechemin Foundation** Scholar
1981	**International League of Women Composers'** Third Annual Search for New Music
1980	**ASCAP** Composition Contest for Young Composers (finalist)

RECORDINGS

2012	***Horizons*** • Seattle Pro Musica (SPM 9809) • conductor / producer
2011	***In Dulci Jubilo*** • Seattle Pro Musica (SPM 9808) • conductor / producer ***When night came*** • Anne Marie Wytko • composer
2009	***Navidad*** • Seattle Pro Musica (SPM 9807) • conductor / producer
2008	***American Masterpieces*** • Seattle Pro Musica (SPM 9806) • conductor / producer / composer
2006	***Music of the Spirit*** • Seattle Pro Musica (SPM 9805) • conductor / producer / composer
2002	***Weihnachten – A German Christmas*** • Seattle Pro Musica (SPM 9804) • conductor / producer
2002	***Peace in Our Time*** • Seattle Pro Musica (SPM 9803) • conductor / producer
2001	***Alnight by the Rose*** • Seattle Pro Musica (SPM 9802) • conductor / producer / composer
1998	***Rachmaninov "Alnight Vigil (Vespers)"*** • Seattle Pro Musica (SPM 9801) • conductor / producer

SELECTED MAJOR PERFORMANCES OF COMPOSITIONS

2013	Pacific Musicworks and Steven Stubbs, Seattle American Choral Directors Assn, National Conference, Dallas Alaska All-State Music Festival Seattle Pro Musica; Seattle & touring performances (1989-2013)
2012	American Choral Directors Assn, NW Division Conference, Seattle University of Michigan Men's Glee Club; Ann Arbor Melodia Women's Choir; New York, NY Christine Graham; Frankfurt, Germany

New York Treble Singers; New York City
Anna Marie Wytko; Scotland

2011 International Alliance for Women in Music 2011 Congress; Northern Arizona University
Bowers/Hontz Duo; Gettysburg College, PA
Athena Festival; Murray, KY
Margriet Tindemans, Laurie Monahan, Medieval Women's Choir; Seattle

2010 Vocal Consort of Brussels; Belgium
Limburgse Koorschool Cantarella; European Music Festival for Youth; Belgium – First Prize Winner
Joseph Jennings; University of South Carolina
Wake Forest University Concert Choir, Italy tour (Rome, Anzio, Assisi)
Rebecca Hopkins; Belfast, Ireland

2009 Vocaal Ensemble Kerkrade; Rome
Vocaal Ensemble Kerkrade; Netherlands
New York Treble Singers; New York City

2008 Cassie Fox-Percival; Bangkok, Thailand
North American Welsh Choir; Argentina
San Francisco Girls Chorus; San Francisco, Berkeley
Hilliard Ensemble; touring performances
Vox Musica; Sacramento

2007 National Endowment for the Arts "American Masterpieces Choral Festival; Seattle
Hilliard Ensemble; touring performances, Japan, Taiwan, UK, Austria, Canada, Ireland
Choir of the Sound; European tour
Seattle Men's Chorus; Seattle

2006 Hilliard Ensemble; touring performances, Austria, Italy, Netherlands, UK
North American Welsh Choir; Halifax, Nova Scotia & Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island
American Choral Directors Assn, NW Division Conference, Portland, OR
National Conference of Cathedral Ministers; Seattle

2005 National Conference, Society of Composers; Thelema Trio (Belgium); NC
Thelema Trio (Belgium); Lima, Peru
North American Welsh Choir
Hilliard Ensemble; touring performances

2004 Hilliard Ensemble; touring performances, Europe
World Festival of Women's Singing; Salt Lake City
Fredonia Chamber Singers; New York & Northwest Tour

2003 Festival Vancouver; Vancouver, BC, Canada
Hilliard Ensemble; touring performances, Europe
New Music & Arts Festival; Bowling Green State University, OH
North American Saxophone Alliance Convention; Minnesota

2002 Hilliard Ensemble; touring performances, Europe (UK, Germany, Austria, Netherlands)
Hilliard Ensemble; documentary film; Germany
Donne in Musica; Rome, Italy

2001 Hilliard Ensemble; touring performances, Europe
Donne in Musica; Rome, Italy
Equal Voices; New York, NY
Society of Composers Conference; Tempe, AZ

2000 Grand Jubilee for the Year 2000; Rome, Italy
"Alfeo Gigli" Festival of Composition; Bologna, Italy
American Guild of Organists National Convention 2000; Seattle

American Choral Director's Association Regional Convention; Seattle
Society of Composers Conference; Virginia

1999 IV International Festival Donne in Musica; Fiuggi, Italy
Arnaldo Freire; Goias, Brazil
Eleventh International Congress on Women in Music; London, England
Society of Composers Conference; Honolulu
Marcia Bellamy; Brighton, England
American Choral Director's Association Regional Convention; Colorado

1998 Projektenkoor Morgenrood; Amsterdam, Netherlands
Hilliard Ensemble; Touring performances in Germany, Italy, Denmark; ; Danish Radio recording
Foundation DeLink; Netherlands
North American Saxophone Alliance Biennial Conference; Northwestern University, Illinois
Brave New Works; Ann Arbor, MI

1997 International Symposium Festival Donne in Musica; Fiuggi, Italy
Prism Orchestra; New York City
Society of Composers National Conference; Miami
Women in Music Conference; Ohio University, Athens

1996 International Alliance for Women in Music; Washington, DC
Pacific Contemporary Music Center; Los Angeles
Fourth International Festival of Women Composers; Indiana University, Pennsylvania
Ekko!; New York City and Virginia

1995 Hilliard Ensemble; BBC World Service broadcast; concerts in Gönningen, Germany
Unitarian Universalist National Consortium; simultaneous performances in 30 U.S. cities
Foundation DeLink; Netherlands

1995 Marcia Bellamy; Schwedt, Germany
16th Annual New Music & Art Festival; Bowling Green State University, Ohio

1994 Hilliard Ensemble; Germany
Oregon Bach Festival; Eugene, Oregon
Melodious Accord, Alice Parker; New York City
MENC National Conference; Cincinnati
International Trombone Association Conference; Minneapolis
Sharon Mabry; Great Britain touring performances
College Music Society National Conference; Savannah, GA

1993 Gregg Smith Singers; Charles Ives Center for American Music; Connecticut
Ninth International Congress on Women in Music; Fairbanks, Alaska
First International Women's Brass Conference; St. Louis
National Opera Association; New Orleans

1992 Melodious Accord, Alice Parker; New York City
Eighth International Congress on Women in Music; Bilbao, Spain

1991 Cornish Chamber Opera; Seattle
Ernest Bloch Music Festival; Newport, Oregon

1990 Goodwill Arts Festival; Seattle

1988 Allegro Dance Festival; Seattle

1987 River Styx Series; St. Louis, Missouri
Performa '87; Seattle

1986 Fourth International Congress on Women in Music; Atlanta, Georgia
Bumbershoot Arts Festival; Seattle

1985	MacKenzie-Ware Duo; Köln, Germany International Congress on Women in Music, NW Regional; Seattle
1984	Northwest Chamber Orchestra, Alun Francis, conductor; Seattle
1982	Bergen International Festival; Bergen, Norway Montserrat Alavedra/Thomasa Eckert Recital; Santander and Bilbao, Spain
1981	Seattle Symphony Orchestra, Michel Singher, conductor; Seattle

COMMISSIONS

2014	Association of Anglican Musicians • Plymouth Congregational Church
2013	Seattle Girls' Choir • Universal Language Project • University Unitarian Church
2012	Pacific Musicworks, Stephen Stubbs • All Saints Episcopal, Pasadena • Seattle Pro Musica
2011	Choral Arts
2010	Medieval Women's Choir
2009	Augsburg Fortress Press • Teresa Bowers • Seattle Pro Musica
2008	Seattle Pro Musica
2004	Seattle Pro Musica
2003	Alliance World Festival of Women's Singing
2002	Joseph Adam, Cathedral Organist of St. James Cathedral
2001	Seattle Arts Commission
2000	Fondazione Donne in Musica, for the Grand Jubilee for the Year 2000 – Rome
1999	University Unitarian Church
1998	American Guild of Organists, 2000 National Convention • First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis
1997	St. James Cathedral
1996	The Prism Players • Peter S. Raible
1995	Unitarian Universalist National Consortium • Seattle Arts Commission • Louise Marley
1994	Seattle Arts Commission • Laura DeLuca • Louise Marley • Roger Cope
1993	Ninth International Congress on Women in Music • Alaska State Council on the Arts •
1993	National Assn of College Wind and Percussion Instructors • Mercer Island Presbyterian Church
1992	Clarion Brass Ensemble • Masterworks Choral Ensemble • Seattle Pro Musica
1991	Cornish College • Duende • Marcia Bellamy • Washington State Arts Commission
1990	National Endowment for the Arts (Goodwill Arts Festival co-recipient) • Pollack/McGee
1989	St. James Cathedral
1988	Seattle Arts Commission • New Langton Arts (co-recipient)
1987	Artist Trust • Soundwork • Emerald City Brass Quintet • St. James Cathedral

WORKSHOPS/LECTURES/ADJUDICATION

2013	"Inside the Mind of the Conductor" • American Choral Directors Association National Conference
1998-present	Pre-Concert Lectures • Seattle Pro Musica
2008	"Organizational Strategies for Community Choirs" • American Choral Directors Association NW Division Conference, Vancouver BC, Canada
2006	"Mozart's Unfinished Masterpiece – The Requiem" • Seattle Symphony Orchestra

2002-2013	Repertoire Sessions • American Choral Directors Association Conferences
2004	"Singing the Music of Hildegard von Bingen" • World Festival of Women's Singing
2002	"New Music by Washington State Composers" • American Choral Directors Association
2002	Snoqualmie Valley Choral Festival • Adjudicator & Guest Conductor
2000	"Score Analysis for the Choral Conductor" • American Guild of Organists National Convention
1995	"Tried and True Ideas for Fundraising and Audience Building" • Chorus America National Convention
1990- present	"Choral Music in the Schools" • educational workshops and performances in public schools
1990- present	Choral workshops • workshops for independent and school choirs

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP

International Federation for Choral Music • American Choral Directors Association (Northwest Division Board member) • Chorus America • Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences (Grammy Awards) (Pacific Northwest Chapter Board of Governors member) • Broadcast Music, Inc. • American Composers Forum • International Alliance for Women in Music (former Board member) • Artist Trust of Washington •Society of Composers, Inc. • Greater Seattle Choral Consortium (Board member and founding member)

BOARD SERVICE

CURRENT - Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences (Grammy); Board of Governors Member

Greater Seattle Choral Consortium; Board Member; founding member

American Choral Directors Association; Northwest Division Board Member

Seattle Girls' Choir; Advisory Board Member

PREVIOUS - American Choral Directors Association; Washington State Board Member • **Conductor's Guild;** Board Member • **International Alliance for Women in Music**; Board Member; Performance Liason • **Chorus America**; Annual Conference Planning Committee • **League ISCM**; Advisory Board • **Washington Composers Forum**; Concert Director, Conductor and Founding Member • **The Contemporary Group**; Conductor, Advisory Board and Programming Chair • **Society for the Promotion of New Music** (University of Washington); President

ADVISORY REVIEW PANELIST

National Endowment for the Arts • ASCAP/Chorus America Awards • Wallace Alexander Gerbode Foundation

King County Arts Commission • Seattle Arts Commission • Oregon State Arts Commission

Seattle Music Commission

As of September 2013

21 members: Per Resolution 31173, **3-year** staggered terms
Mayoral appointees are not subject to City Council confirmation

- *10* Appointed by City Council
  11 Appointed by Mayor

D*	G	Pos. No.	Name	Appointed	Term Ends	Term #	Initial Term*	Appointed By
6	F		Elena Dubinets	05/03/10	05/01/14	2nd	1+3 yrx	City Council
6	F		Shannon Roach	09/19/11	05/01/14	1st	3 yr	City Council
6	M		Jon Stone	05/26/10	05/01/14	2nd	1+3 yrx	City Council
6	F		Emmy Jordan	06/18/12	05/01/15	1st	3 yr	City Council
2	M		DeVon Manier	05/03/10	05/01/14	2nd	2+2 yrx	City Council
6	M		Adrian Burton	05/01/11	05/01/15	2nd	1+3 yrx	City Council
2	M		Ricardo Frazer	06/18/12	05/01/15	1st	3 yr	City Council
6	M		Ben London	05/03/10	05/02/14	2nd	3 +1 yrx	City Council
6	F		Karen Thomas	09/11/13	09/11/16	1st	3 yr	City Council
6	F		Holly Hinton	05/26/10	05/02/14	2nd	3 + 1 yrx	City Council
6	M		Alex Kochan	05/01/10	05/01/14	2nd	1+3 yrx	Mayor
6	F		Nadine Zgonc	02/6/12	02/1/15	1st	3 yr	Mayor
2	F		Patricia Lee	02/6/12	02/1/15	1st	3 yr	Mayor
6	F		Joan Sandler	02/6/12	02/1/15	1st	3 yr	Mayor
6	M		Marcus Womack	05/01/10	05/01/14	2nd	2+2 yrx	Mayor
6	M		Jody McKinley	3/13/13	05/01/14	1st	1+ yr	Mayor
2	M		Wyking Garrett	05/01/10	05/01/14	2nd	2+2 yrx	Mayor
6	M		Kyle Hopkins	05/01/10	05/02/14	2nd	3 + 1 yrx	Mayor
6	F		Megan Jasper	05/01/10	05/02/14	2nd	3 + 1 yrx	Mayor
6	M		Tom Mara	05/01/10	05/02/14	2nd	3 +1 yrx	Mayor

* Term beginning and end dates vary. 'yrx' denotes extension of initial term; 4 yr maximum.

Diversity

	Men	Women	Vacant	Minority	(1) Asian-American	(2) African-American	(3) Hispanic /Latin@	(4) Native-American	(5) Other*	(6) Caucasian
Mayor	7	4	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	8
Council	5	5	-	2	-	2	0	-	-	8
Total	***11***	***10***	**-**	***4***	**-**	***4***	***0***	**-**	**-**	***16***

**Other includes diversity in any of the following: race, gender and/or ability*