

SYMPHONY



TACOMA

SARAH IOANNIDES
MUSIC DIRECTOR

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LIESL SANTKUYL

City of Tacoma

Liesl Santkuyl has used her Master's degree in Public Health these past twenty-five years to promote health, education, and social equity in Tacoma—advocating for social justice issues that support inclusion and belonging of the Latine, immigrant and other marginalized communities.

Born in Venezuela, Liesl immigrated with her family to the United States as an infant, but lived in Mexico and Guatemala during her childhood and early twenties. Liesl's current work as Participatory Budgeting Analyst with the City of Tacoma encourages community civic engagement and voice through a process that places citizens in charge of spending a portion of the City's budget. As a volunteer, Liesl helped organize two Latino Town Halls in Tacoma (2016) and helped to form Latinx Unidos of the South Sound (LUSS). She received the Latinx Education Award from UW-Tacoma in 2021.

Liesl grew up playing violin, and played alongside her two children (now grown) throughout their early years using the Suzuki method, which teaches us that music is a universal language of love and expression.