

## Leadership Team Biographies

**Rachel Meyer**, Executive Director, joined CuriOdyssey (then Coyote Point Museum) in April 2007. Prior to joining the museum, she served as the Executive Director of the Palo Alto Junior Museum and Zoo for 11 years, where she led a turnaround effort that included capital upgrades, new exhibits, and new programs. Prior to that, Rachel worked at the Exploratorium in San Francisco for 19 years, nine of which were under the tutelage of Exploratorium founder and renowned physicist Dr. Frank Oppenheimer, serving as Director of Facilities, Director of Programs, and Chief Exhibit Curator. While at the Exploratorium, Rachel advised numerous science and children's museums, nationally and internationally, on effective interactive educational strategies.

**Marilyn Bancel**, CFRE, Director of Development, joined CuriOdyssey's staff in 2012 following a long consulting career as west coast Principal of The Oram Group, Inc. Her book *Preparing Your Capital Campaign* (Jossey Bass/Wiley, 2000) remains a standard planning tool in the field. In 2002, Marilyn was the recipient of the Hank Rosso Outstanding Fundraising Executive award from the Association of Fundraising Professionals Golden Gate Chapter. From 1981 to 1991 she served as Associate Director of Development at the Exploratorium under founder Dr. Frank Oppenheimer and then as Director of Development. Marilyn's earlier career included an 80-person cottage craft business in Gemlik, Turkey; a nonprofit performing arts bi-weekly journal she founded, *The Bay Arts Review*; and development director for The Oakland Symphony. Marilyn holds a B.A. in English with distinction from Indiana University with minor in French and studies in biology and physics.

**Nikii Finch-Morales**, Director of Wildlife, oversees the care of CuriOdyssey's wildlife. She started her career as a volunteer at the San Francisco Zoo's Animal Resource Center (A.R.C.) from 1990 to 2005. In 1992, she trained to be an Animal Health Technician for domestic and exotic animals at the Irving Street Veterinary Hospital in San Francisco. In 1996, Nikii joined the CuriOdyssey staff (then Coyote Point Museum) as one of the full time Animal Keepers. In 2001 she was promoted to Director of Wildlife.

**Abi Karlin-Resnick**, Director of Marketing and Business Strategy, has been at CuriOdyssey since 2006 and oversees all of the organization's marketing, membership, guest services, retail, and business development efforts. She holds a M.B.A. in public and nonprofit management from Boston University and a BA in psychology with a specialization in education from UCLA. Prior to joining the museum, she oversaw the administration and fundraising for a statewide teen pregnancy advocacy organization in Boston and coordinated several youth development programs for underserved youth in two low-income Chicago neighborhoods.

**Joan Martel**, Director of Finance and Operations, joined CuriOdyssey in 2005. Prior to coming to the museum, Joan was the CFO and co-owner of a database tracking software-company for alternative education providers. She has over 20 years experience in finance and operations with start-ups and small to mid-sized companies. She graduated from the University of Texas with a B.S. in Geology with minors in geography and physics.

**Eric Maschwitz**, Director of Exhibits, has been an exhibit and model fabricator for over 10 years. His clients have included Yosemite National Park, Smithsonian, American Museum of Natural History, Target, Microsoft, and Pepsi. Most recently he spent six years as a team leader and fabricator in the Interactives division of Academy Studios, one of the premier exhibit design houses in the country. He also spent seven years as a carpentry instructor and activity coordinator at the Science Museum of Minnesota, designing and implementing science-based curricula.

**Carl Oosterman**, Director of Education, has been with CuriOdyssey since 2004. He develops and leads school, camp, and family programs; supervises education staff; trains and oversees education volunteers; and manages a year-round youth leadership development program. Mr. Oosterman holds a B.A. in Biology with a concentration in Teaching from San Jose State University. He has held a variety of programming positions including two and a half years at Mid-Peninsula Regional Open Space District as the Community Programs Supervisor and 12 years with YMCAs throughout the Bay Area as a Senior Program Director for Youth, Teen, and Family programs.