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## **Navy Pier Appoints Four New Members to its Board of Directors**

*Additions include leaders from various industries and sectors, including international relations, human resources, healthcare and technology*

**CHICAGO** – Navy Pier, one of Chicago’s most iconic cultural destinations, today announced the appointment of four new members to its Board of Directors: **Gisselle Castillo-Veremis, Pamela Culpepper, Dean M. Harrison** and **Steven Koch**. These new additions bring a wealth of experience and diverse perspectives to the organization that will continue to elevate the Pier during its ongoing transformation of its physical spaces and year-round arts and cultural programming.

“The caliber and breadth of experience that these four civic leaders bring to Navy Pier’s Board of Directors is a welcomed addition to our energetic and growing group,” said **Navy Pier Board Chairman William J. Brodsky**. “Together, we look forward to continuing our work to champion Navy Pier’s mission to be the People’s Pier and a world-class destination.”

“Gisselle, Pamela, Dean and Steve are all highly-respected Chicago leaders, who will, without a doubt, contribute to Navy Pier’s continued growth and success, especially at this pivotal moment in the Pier’s dynamic transformation,” said **Navy Pier President and CEO Marilyn Gardner**.

The new board members come from various industries and sectors, including international relations, human resources, healthcare and technology, each offering a unique voice and contributing a different set of expertise that will help further advance Navy Pier’s bold vision.

Gisselle Castillo-Veremis is the Consul General of the Dominican Republic for the Midwest. Castillo-Veremis has an active role in Chicago’s international community, working closely with the Dominican Diaspora to support the country’s citizens and promote the foreign investment in the Dominican Republic. Previously, she worked directly for the President of the Dominican Republic, H.E Dr. Leonel Fernandez Reyna during his three presidential terms and at the Embassy of the Dominican Republic in Chile, where she initiated her diplomatic and political activities. Castillo-Veremis has served as the Vice-Dean of the Chicago Consular Corps since 2013. She also served as a member of the Advisory Board for the Chicago Sports Commission, and currently is a member of the International Sub-Committee of the Economic Club of Chicago (ECC).

Pamela Culpepper is Chief Human Resources Officer at Cboe Global Markets, Inc., where she leads the human resources organization and oversees the HR strategy, executive compensation, human capital management and engagement. A veteran HR executive, Culpepper joined Cboe from Golin, where she was most recently the company’s Chief People Officer. Culpepper brings more than 13 years of leadership roles with PepsiCo, Inc., including Chief Global Diversity and Inclusion Officer, Vice President, Human Resources for Quaker Foods and Snacks; Vice President, Human Resources for PepsiCo’s Beverages Supply Chain; and Vice President, Talent Management and Diversity for Quaker, Tropicana and Gatorade. Before PepsiCo, Culpepper held progressive roles with McKessonHBOC, Inc., Clorox and Wells Fargo. Culpepper is a former Board Trustee of VSO International, based in the United Kingdom.

Dean M. Harrison is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Northwestern Memorial HealthCare. Harrison serves on the boards of directors of the Center for Medical Interoperability, Economic Club of Chicago, Executives' Club of Chicago, Illinois Hospital Association, Northern Trust, Northwestern University, United Way of Metropolitan Chicago and World Business Chicago. He is a member of the Commercial Club of Chicago, its Civic Committee and the Institute of Medicine of Chicago. Harrison has been honored by B'nai B'rith International with the National Healthcare Award in 2008, the 2010 CEO Leadership Circle of Excellence Award for Diversity by the U.S. Department of Commerce Minority Business Development Agency and Chicago Minority Enterprise Development Council and the March of Dimes Healthcare Management Award in 2015.

Steven Koch is the Co-Executive Chairman of Motivate, a leading bike share company in North America. He served as the Deputy Mayor of Chicago from September, 2012 to August, 2017, during which he lead economic development, planning, job creation and development, budget issues, municipal finance, and revenue initiatives. During his 27 year tenure at Credit Suisse, Koch advised on landmark transactions in a wide variety of industries. Koch has a long history of civic engagement. He currently serves as the Chair of the Board of the Chicago Tech Collaborative and sits on the boards of the Chicago Community Trust, mHUB, the Greater Chicago Food Depository and the James Beard Foundation.

These new additions to Navy Pier's leadership come at a pivotal time when the Pier is continuing to grow as a mission-driven cultural destination and gearing up for a year filled with inspiring programs and innovative new spaces, such as the *Fifth Third Bank Family Pavilion*, set to open Memorial Day weekend, and the *Peoples Energy Welcome Pavilion*, set to debut in August. [Click here](#) to view the full list of current Navy Pier Board of Directors.

For more information, visit [www.navy Pier.org](http://www.navy Pier.org) or download the Navy Pier app on any Android or iOS device.

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#### **About Navy Pier**

Located on Lake Michigan, Navy Pier is one of the top-attended nonprofit cultural destinations in the Midwest, stretching more than six city blocks and welcoming more than 9 million guests annually. Originally opened in 1916 as a shipping and recreation facility, this Chicago landmark showcases more than 50 acres of parks, restaurants, attractions, retail shops, sightseeing and dining cruise boats, exposition facilities and more. In 2018, Navy Pier continues to usher in its second century with ongoing pier-wide redevelopment efforts – including the *Fifth Third Bank Family Pavilion*, *Peoples Energy Welcome Pavilion*, 220-room hotel and more – and free, year-round arts and cultural programming designed to inspire, educate and connect communities across the city and globe. For more information, visit [www.navy Pier.org](http://www.navy Pier.org) or download the free Navy Pier app for Android and iOS device users.

#### **Navy Pier Mission Statement**

*Navy Pier is the People's Pier, Chicago's lakefront treasure, welcoming all and offering dynamic and eclectic experiences through partnerships and programs that inspire discovery and wonder.*