

## **Project Fibonacci® Board of Directors 2019**

**Chairman - Andrew Drozd**; President and Chief Scientist, ANDRO Computational Solutions, LLC ANDRO Computational Solutions LLC, founded by Andy Drozd, is a well-established Research and Development firm with over 24 years of experience marketing solutions to technical problems to the US Government. ANDRO understands the growth difficulties faced by small businesses and has faced the issue of finding talented technical employees. ANDRO was also awarded the coveted Tibbetts Award from the Small Business Administration (SBA) for Mr. Drozd's excellence in leadership of the federal Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program (2015).

The positive impact of immersive learning is clearly, repetitively demonstrated through ANDRO's internship program and The Project Fibonacci® Foundation. The recognition of the skills gap across the STEAM disciplines belied the need for additional STEAM educational opportunities and entrepreneurial exposure. Applying this perception to the recognized George Mason University ENVISION Program yielded the Project Fibonacci® STEAM Conference model. Inclusion of the Arts is necessary to course correct for STEM-only programs that are lacking and not feeding the STEM pipeline.

**Secretary** - **Evan Drozd**; Student Representative to the Project Fibonacci® Steering Committee As a student at LeMoyne pursuing a pre-med bachelor's degree in biological sciences, Evan provides a modern youth perspective on how the Foundation will operate and what programs will be supported in the future. Evan was the catalyst for the launch of the Project Fibonacci® initiative (a progenitor to the Foundation) having participated in similar National/Global Youth Leadership Councils and conferences in 2013 and 2014 sponsored by George Mason University's Envision Program and is expected to assume a greater role in ensuring that the objectives and goals of the Project Fibonacci® Foundation, Inc. will be met over the coming years.

Evan plans to pursue masters and PhD degrees in medicine in Upstate NY and hopes to leverage the Foundation to establish STEAM collaborative research and immersive learning programs with a focus on medical research topics and related training. He is currently contributing to the development of collaborative/cooperative programs between Le Moyne's Keenan Center for Entrepreneurship, Start-Fast, and the CNY Biotech Accelerator in Syracuse, NY under the pending commercial spinoff of ANDRO where he has been a part-time intern since 2013. He is an active contributor to the annual Project Fibonacci® STEAM Conference and related activities, including his continuing role as Chair of the Volunteer Services Committee since 2015. He recently co-authored an IEEE educational peer-reviewed paper for ISEC'17, which is about to be published. He is an IEEE (Institute of Electrical & Electronics Engineers, Inc.) student member since 2016. Evan is an active member of the community, has participated in Rome School Board meetings to help secure budgets for maintaining educator positions, is active in local church activities at St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church in Rome, NY, and other civic

organizations promoting youth programs oriented towards rebuilding the youth population in the Mohawk Valley. The average number of hours he will spend as a director on Foundation matters will be approximately 16 per week while actively pursuing his academic degree(s) and at least 32 hours per week during extended breaks while attending college.

**Treasurer - Tom Benjamin**; Chief Financial Officer, ANDRO Computational Solutions, LLC Mr. Benjamin received a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from SUNY Institute of Technology, (Magna Cum Laude) and has served as the Director of Business Operations for ANDRO Computational Solutions, LLC since 2012. Mr. Benjamin is currently the Director of Accounting and Payroll for ANDRO Computational Solutions, LLC, managing an annual budget of approximately \$5 million, with nearly 50 staff members.

At-Large - Maria F. Smith; Chairperson of the 2018 Project Fibonacci® STEAM Conference Maria retired from the Rome City School District after serving for 30 years in positions of educator, principal and assistant superintendent. In her role with Project Fibonacci® she recruits, trains, and engages area teachers and administrators from area school districts. Three school district superintendents and assistant superintendents serve on Project Fibonacci®'s Steering Committee. Eighteen educators, mostly area teachers, serve as volunteer facilitators during the summer STEAM Conference. Facilitators work with students to apply the content learned at the conference to complete proposals, projects, and presentations which are competitively judged by panels of professionals in various technical fields. Maria also works with various experts – scientists, engineers, mathematicians, artists, and entrepreneurs – to develop learning opportunities for participants of the innovation camps and summer STEAM conference.

**At-Large - Bob Bojanek**; Co-Chair of the 2018 Project Fibonacci® STEAM Conference Co-founder of ShoreGroup Inc. and Optanix Inc., Bob and his partners grew ShoreGroup Inc. from start-up to a formidable international company with over 625 employees; Bob also instituted "ShoreGroup University" an internal year-long training program which has graduated over 100 aspiring engineers. As an innovator, Bob has a dozen technical patents in technology areas related to STEAM. As a community leader, Bob is a Trustee at Saint John the Baptist Church of Rome, NY, Board member of The Rome Community Foundation and founder of two community-based funds and his personal foundation, The Shoreline Group.

At-Large - Daniel J. Kostelec; Project Fibonacci® STEAM Outreach Coordinator Mr. Kostelec has worked in the improvisational education field for nearly 20 years. His artistic outreach to students includes elementary age students and beyond. Mr. Kostelec also has extensive artistic outreach experience as a Renaissance Fair entertainer whose Shakespeare-oriented efforts lead to significant understanding of the genre and the history of the time.

**At-Large** – **Carmen Luvera**; Director of Business Development, ANDRO Computational Solutions, LLC Mr. Luvera is a retired Air Force Research Lab Division Manager holding a Master's Degree in Electrical Engineering from Syracuse University as well as a Bachelor's Degree in Physics from Utica College of Syracuse University. Mr. Luvera also provides management skills based on his Certificate in Management and Public Policy granted from the Maxwell School of Syracuse University and his Certificates in Advanced Management granted from SUNY College of Technology.