John Sparrow
Director

John Sparrow (email) brings to BoardWalk clients over 23 years' experience in nonprofit administration and performing arts venue management.   Since joining BoardWalk, John has worked with a diverse scope of clients including those serving the mentally and physically challenged, public media, public safety, childhood diseases, museums, youth empowerment, the environment and the pastoral and financial needs of people and institutional churches. He is passionate about the value that nonprofits add to communities and the important role that strong leadership plays in their success.

From 2000-12, John was Vice President and General Manager of the highly acclaimed Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, winner of 27 Grammy Awards, where he was responsible for day-to-day planning, management and operational oversight. Previously, John spent the better part of a decade with the Florida Philharmonic in both concert production and artistic administration, after which he was Director of Programming and Co-Director of External Affairs for the Performing Arts Center of Greater Miami.

Additionally, John remains committed to the education and professional development of nonprofit executives and managers and has been a lecturer at Ivey, Goizueta Business School at Emory University, Harvard Business School, the University of Texas at Austin and the Schiller College of Management at the Georgia Institute of Technology. He is also active in the community, and is on the Board of Directors of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and the Atlanta Music Project, where he is head of the Development Committee. John has also held board roles with the Atlanta Chapter of the Recording Academy and Dad's Garage Theater Company.

John received his Bachelor of Music in bassoon performance from the Eastman School of Music and his MBA from the University of Florida. He is married to Cari Dawson, an Atlanta-based partner at Alston & Bird, an AmLaw 50 law firm routinely cited among *Fortune* magazine's national list of "100 Best Companies to Work For."