

# PUBLISHER'S NOTEBOOK

EAST BAY BUSINESS TIMES | MARCH 23, 2007

eastbay.bizjournals.com



Stephanie Secret | East Bay Business Times

## A conversation with the California Symphony's Stacey Street

**First job:** Summer temp at the advertising agency Young & Rubicam.

**Goal yet to be achieved:** If you want to get deep about it, my goal is to really find myself, whatever that might be, and to be true to my inner self.

**Best decision:** Moving from Boston to San Francisco on a whim. It was a chance to prove myself as an adult.

**Biggest missed opportunity:** In high school I got offered the lead in "Anything Goes" and I instead went on a chorus tour to Canada. To this day I still regret not taking the lead in that play because I've never had the opportunity again.

**Mentor:** My mother, who was the director of public relations at Neiman Marcus in Dallas in a day and age when they didn't even know what the word "feminist" was. She taught me you can do anything you want. Also, my high school chorus director because she's the one who recognized leadership ability in me. She cultivated that and I became manager of the chorus.

**Word that best describes you:** Versatile.

**Like best about job:** All the different kinds of people I get to work with, from the artists to the business members and volunteers who make up our board.

**Like least about job:** I hate writing proposals.

**Favorite composer:** The one I have the deepest connection with is Claude Debussy. The impressionistic music he played is just so voluptuous and intensely deep.

**Interests:** Singing is the one hobby I've pursued since junior high.

**Pet peeve:** Inconsiderate people.

**Most important lesson learned:** There's always something to be learned from everything that happens. When you close a door you open a window.

**Person most interested in meeting:** My great-grandmother. Her name is Lula Mae Lewis. I look startlingly like her and I never got to meet her. She ended up raising three young daughters by herself because her husband died when he was very young.

**Greatest fear:** Ending up feeling like I never found myself and achieving the goal of really feeling satisfied with my life.

**Your idea of perfect happiness:** Feeling comfortable with yourself.

**Greatest strength:** Working with other people. I'm a communicator and a good listener.

**Characteristic you most admire:** The ability to quickly size up a situation and capably make well-informed decisions.

**Characteristic you most deplore:** Self-centeredness. It's something I can't relate to or understand.

**First choice for a new career:** Organizational consultant.

**Favorite quote:** "Man's unique agony as a species is the conflict between the desire to stand out and the need to blend in."

**State of mind:** Overwhelmed.

**How do you deal with stress:** Singing and listening to music.

**Most influential book:** "The Mists of Avalon" by Marion Zimmer Bradley.

**Most ecstatic moment:** Performing the Brahms Requiem with the San Francisco Symphony Chorus. We recorded it and that recording won a Grammy Award. Also, singing with the California Symphony while pregnant and feeling my daughter inside me responding to the music.

**Most cherished possession:** My photographs. My photographs keep me in touch with people I knew and the person I used to be.

**Favorite movie:** "Breakfast at Tiffany's."

**Favorite way to spend free time:** Hanging out with my daughter and family.

### BACKGROUND

#### Stacey Street

**Organization:** California Symphony  
**Title:** Executive director  
**Years with organization:** 6  
**Career:** Interim executive director, director of development and marketing, Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra; arts management experience, San Francisco Opera, Jewish Museum San Francisco, Boston's Handel & Haydn Society.  
**Education:** B.A., magna cum laude, anthropology, Harvard University  
**Residence:** Oakland  
**Family:** Husband, Jason Anniballi; daughter, Alyssa



**MIKE CONSOL**  
Publisher, East Bay Business Times

Sponsored by

  
**Studio Blue**  
Digital Print and Copy

**EAST BAY**  
**BUSINESS TIMES**