

Texas Rangers Speakers Bureau

Kyle Bartlett

Director, Marketing & Advertising

Kyle has served as the Director of Marketing for the Texas Rangers since 2021 after joining the Club as the Globe Life Field Project Manager in March of 2019. Kyle oversees marketing team operations, orchestrates campaign planning and strategy, and manages Rangers Globe Life Field branding and activations. Before joining the Rangers, Kyle worked in professional golf as a Corporate Partnerships Manager for the CJ Cup Byron Nelson in Dallas and an Account Supervisor at The Marketing Arm in Dallas. A native of The Colony, TX, Kyle earned his Bachelor of Business Administration from Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, TX. Kyle is a proud girl dad of two and husband to Lexi.

Scott Biggers

Vice President, Creative

Scott joined the Rangers marketing team in 2019. And what an eventful time it's been. Going from worst to first. From saying goodbye to Globe Life Park to storytelling on the Globe Life Field walls. From cardboard Dopplerrangers to mythical Peagles. As the creative director, Scott oversees the creative work, strategy, brand campaign planning, and brand stories (like the City Connect uniforms) for the Texas Rangers. Before joining the Rangers, he created integrated campaigns, experiences, and content for clients like AT&T, American Airlines, Goodyear, Hilton, and Turtle Bay Resort. Scott is passionate about storytelling, the power of why, curiosity, and asking good questions.

John Blake

Executive Vice President, Public Affairs

John Blake transitioned into the role of Executive Vice President, Public Affairs in January 2022. He currently serves as a senior advisor to ownership and Rangers' management on communications and broadcast initiatives while overseeing alumni activities, photography, archives, and publications. Blake also has involvement in the organization's special projects and events.

He had served as the Rangers Executive Vice President, Communications since November 2008, when he rejoined the organization after three years (2006-08) as Vice President, Media Relations for the Boston Red Sox.

Now in his 46th year in professional baseball, John originally joined the Rangers in November 1984 and served as Media Relations Director, Vice President of Public Relations, and Senior Vice President of Communications in two decades with the Rangers organization (1984-2004). Blake was with the Baltimore Orioles from 1979-1984 as Assistant Public Relations Director and Media

Information Director. He also served as Sports Information Director at Georgetown University from 1977-79 and was a radio broadcaster for the Hoyas' nationally ranked men's basketball team from 1977-84.

He was the Director of Information for the inaugural World Baseball Classic in 2006 and served as the public relations officer for Team Dominican Republic during the 2023 WBC.

The 2023 World Series marked the 31st time that Blake has worked in a communications role at Major League Baseball's Fall Classic which includes championships with the Orioles (1983), Red Sox (2007), and Rangers (2023). He was elected to the Texas Baseball Hall of Fame in 1995 and the Texas Rangers Baseball Hall of Fame in 2022.

Josh Boyd

Vice President/Assistant General Manager, Professional, Amateur, and Pacific Rim Scouting

Josh Boyd is in his 17th year in the Rangers organization and currently serves as the Vice President/Assistant General Manager for Scouting. He oversees the player evaluation and player acquisition processes across the amateur, professional and Pacific Rim scouting departments, and advises General Manager Chris Young on all player personnel matters. Josh is instrumental in hiring for key roles, and staff development, throughout Rangers Baseball Operations. Prior to his time with the Rangers, he covered four drafts as an area scout for the San Diego Padres after four years as a writer for Baseball America.

Ray Casas

Senior Director, Community Impact

Ray's professional career began at the University of Texas at Arlington where he rose through the ranks and became Assistant Director of Undergraduate Admissions.

After 8 years in higher education, Ray moved on to Washington, DC and worked the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute under Chairwoman Grace Flores Napolitano (CA). After his time spent on Capitol Hill, Ray then accepted a role with MTV Networks in New York City, overseeing the public affairs department for then start-up, MTV Tr3s, a channel aimed at reaching U.S. Latino Millennials.

Ray then returned to Washington, DC and served as Manager of Government Relations for Viacom (now Paramount). Ray served as one of the company's leading advocates in Washington, advising its senior executives on a wide range of policy matters affecting the entertainment industry.

In 2014, The Huffington Post included Ray as one of the "40 under 40 Latinos in American Politics." After leaving Viacom in 2016, Ray started a boutique, public relations consulting firm in Los Angeles focusing on projects that included non-profit campaigns and the entertainment world. In the same year,

In 2018, Ray accepted a front office role with the Texas Rangers Baseball Club. He currently serves as Senior Director of Community Impact and chairs their diversity, equity, and inclusion council and as of 2023 is now a World Series Champion.

Jim Cochrane

Executive Vice President, Chief Revenue Officer

Jim Cochrane became the Texas Rangers Chief Revenue Officer in January 2024 following one year as Executive Vice President, Partnerships and Client Services.

Cochrane, who has spent 27 years with the Rangers' organization, is responsible for the club's business revenue areas for partnerships, ticket and premium sales and service, analytics, broadcasting and partnerships at Texas Live and One Rangers Way. He became Vice President, Corporate Sales in 2010 and was promoted to Senior Vice President, Partnerships and Client Services, in 2014.

He played a key role in the negotiation of the ballpark naming rights agreement with Globe Life and Accident Insurance Company, which was announced in February 2014. He was also instrumental as part of the team that negotiated the extension of the naming rights agreement with Globe Life for the new Globe Life Field.

A native of Bedford, TX, he began his career with the Rangers as an intern in 1997 and has also sold partnerships and media for the Dallas Stars Hockey Club (2000-2003, 2007-2009), Hicks Sports Group (2007-2009), Cedar Park Center (2007-2009) and Mesquite Championship Rodeo (2000-2003, 2007-2009).

The University of Oklahoma graduate has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism and sits on the Board of the SMU Athletic Forum

He and his wife, Mendi, live in Fort Worth and have two daughters, Abby (23) and Jenna (18).

Stephen Cothran

Manager, Season Tickets

Stephen serves as the Manager of Season Tickets and has held positions in Season, Group, and Premium Ticket Sales. His overall focus is the mentoring/growth of sales reps and seeking ways to improve revenue generation to effectively reach season ticket goals.

He currently sits on the Board of Directors for the 1687 Foundation - a nonprofit corporation organized for Christian, educational, and charitable purposes.

When he's not filling the seats at Globe Life Field, you can find him spending quality time with his family, catching a local show at The Kessler Theater, or on the river with his fly rod.

Chris DeRuyscher

Senior Director, Entertainment and Production

Chris DeRuyscher is the Sr. Director of Ballpark Entertainment for the Texas Rangers.

2024 is his 24th season in Major League Baseball, 11th with the Rangers. Chris oversees all aspects of Game Entertainment at Globe Life Field from the Production to the LED boards to Rangers Captain to the music.

His first 13 years were with the Kansas City Royals where he worked the 2012 MLB All-Star Game, oversaw an HD Control Room and Video Board upgrade, as well as the award winning CrownVision Production staff. In 2011 they were named Best Overall Production in sports.

Chris served as the President of the IDEA Organization from 2015-2018, and other various duties from 1999 until now. He was inducted into the IDEA Hall of Fame in 2023.

Before joining the Royals, DeRuyscher worked at HuskerVision for four years at the University of Nebraska, where he received a bachelor's degree in Broadcast Journalism from the College of Journalism and Mass Communications. Chris currently lives in Flower Mound, TX with his wife Paige and children, Josi, Jalen, and Jax.

Travis Dillon

Senior Vice President, Marketing

Travis Dillon joined the Texas Rangers as Vice President, Marketing in September 2018 and was promoted to Senior Vice President, Marketing in January 2023. He leads the marketing team responsible for brand and creative strategy, fan insights, media buying, social media, influencer marketing, digital marketing, content, brand identity/design, multicultural marketing, experiential/event marketing, fan engagement and fan growth.

Dillon joined the Rangers after 13 years with The Marketing Arm where he was a Senior Vice President on the AT&T account responsible for managing and activating their portfolio of sponsorship properties domestically and abroad. Prior to his time at TMA, Travis worked at TracyLocke, Jack Morton and Ogilvy where he was on the account service teams for Pepsi, Taco Bell, Chevrolet, General Motors, Mattel, FedEx and Visa. Dillon started his career at Country Music Television where he was a Special Projects Manager responsible for planning and executing experiential marketing events across the country.

Travis grew up in Dallas, where he attended Hillcrest High School. He graduated from Vanderbilt University with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies. Travis and his wife Caonha live in Southlake and have a daughter Coco (10) and son Fitz (7).

Colin Drake

Manager, In-Game Production & Design

Colin Drake started with the Texas Rangers in 2014 and is currently serving as Manager, In-Game Production & Design for Ballpark Entertainment. Designing and programming videoboard content for players, stats and sponsors is a main focus in his role. Growing up in Arlington, he went to his first Rangers game at Old Arlington Stadium. Becoming a part of the Texas Rangers was always a goal, but it became apparent early-on that mashing home runs wasn't in his future. Colin graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a degree in Journalism and began his professional career with the Oklahoma City Thunder.

Robert Fountain

Senior Corporate Counsel

Robert Fountain joined the Texas Rangers' Legal department in June 2021 following a decade-long tenure at Minor League Baseball and a 10-month stint at the United Soccer League. As in-house counsel for the Rangers, Robert is responsible for providing legal advice on a broad range of legal matters affecting both the baseball club and its ballpark, including commercial contracts (e.g., sponsorship, venue use, and vendor agreements), intellectual property topics, Dominican legal matters, immigration issues, and more. When he is not at the ballpark, Robert can often be found coaching youth sports in Southlake, Texas with his wife and four children.

Zak Ganter

Account Executive, Partnerships

Zak Ganter is an Account Executive in the Business Partnerships department entering his 13th season with the organization. Zak joined the Business Partnerships department in 2023 and previously served as an Account Executive of Group Sales in the Ticket Sales department. Zak graduated from the University of North Texas in 2012 with a degree in Marketing.

Jose Garcia

Manager of Multicultural & Experiential Marketing

Jose creates fan growth by diversifying the Texas Rangers brand through facilitating and creating content, apparel, partnerships, and ticket offers. Previously acted as a producer for the San Francisco Giants with a Masters in Sport Management from the University of San Francisco. As a bilingual marketing professional, Jose is experienced in creating and developing English and Spanish media content for television, radio, and social media outlets.

Juan Leonel Garciga***Senior Director, Youth Baseball & Baseball Development***

Juan has been a member of the Texas Rangers since 2018, serving as Senior Director of the Texas Rangers Youth Academy & Baseball Development. The youth academy serves thousands of kids annually and provides baseball & softball instruction for kids ages 7-18 at no cost. Prior to joining the Texas Rangers, Juan served as Manager of Player Relations and Youth Baseball at the Miami Marlins for almost 10 years. He is a proud graduate of both Florida State University (BS, Management & Physical Education) and the University of Miami (MS Education).

Erin Kearney***Senior Vice President and General Counsel***

Erin Kearney is the Senior Vice President & General Counsel for the Texas Rangers. She also proudly serves as the Corporate Secretary for the Texas Rangers Baseball Foundation. Erin oversees all legal functions for the team and its affiliated companies, providing guidance and counsel on all matters pertaining to the Club, extending from corporate governance to negotiating contracts and managing litigation matters. A native of Massachusetts, Erin earned her Bachelor of Science in from Tufts University and her J.D. summa cum laude from New York Law School. She resides in Bedford with her husband Mike and daughter Celine.

Russell Kerschen***Manager, Premium Sales***

Russ currently serves as the Manager of Premium Sales. He started with the Texas Rangers in 2009 as an intern in the box office before being promoted to a full-time sales position. Russ has held positions in Inside Sales, Season Tickets, Suite Sales, and Premium Ticket Sales over the past 13 seasons. As the Manager of Premium Sales, his overall focus includes retaining season suite holders, supporting premium sales efforts of the ticket sales department, and increasing premium sales revenue in the all-inclusive club spaces at Globe Life Field.

Zackary Kessinger***Associate Counsel***

Zack Kessinger is Associate Counsel for the Texas Rangers. Some of his roles include drafting and negotiating real estate documents, vendor agreements, sponsorship agreements, MSAs, license agreements, rules/sweepstakes, and flooring rental agreements. Before joining the Rangers, Zack practiced law as a real estate attorney in Dallas for 5 years at a law firm called Winstead PC. Originally from Boca Raton, Florida, Zack attended Washington University in St. Louis for his undergraduate and law school studies, where he played baseball for 4 years and holds school

records. Zack and his wife, Erin, live in Ft. Worth with their golden-doodle Harper, and are expecting a beautiful baby girl in May 2024.

Jesse Malone

Manager, Academy Outreach & Education Programs

Jesse Malone began with the Texas Rangers in 2016 and is currently the Manager of Youth Academy Outreach and Education. She currently oversees community engagement, education programs, and general operations of the Texas Rangers Youth Academy. She graduated in 2017 with a bachelor's degree in business administration with a concentration in marketing from Texas Woman's University. Outside of work she mentors young women and volunteers her time in the local school district. When she is not working, she can be found meeting with her book club, or committing herself to a healthy lifestyle at the gym.

Erin McMurray

Manager, Partnership Activation

Erin McMurray is a Manager of Partnership Activation and in her 6th season with the Texas Rangers. In this role, Erin is responsible for the fulfillment of all partnership assets for accounts while managing opportunities such as events, trips, and gifting. Recently, she has begun overseeing the logistics for the World Series Trophy Tour. Before moving to Texas in 2019, Erin held multiple partnership roles in the Atlanta area with Georgia Tech IMG and the Atlanta Braves. Erin graduated from the University of Mississippi, School of Journalism and New Media in 2016 with a degree in Integrated Marketing Communications and a minor in Business and Spanish.

Chuck Morgan

Executive Vice President, Ballpark Entertainment, Promotions and Production

Chuck Morgan is in his 46th year in professional baseball and serves as the club's public address announcer and oversees all scoreboard and video production for all Rangers home games. In addition, he is responsible for the Rangers promotional schedule each year.

Morgan has announced the starting lineups for 3,244 consecutive Major League Baseball games. The microphone he used to announce his 3,000th consecutive game in September of 2020 and for the 2020 World Series was added to the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum's collection in Cooperstown, New York.

While in Nashville, he was an announcer on the Grand Ole Opry, hosted several nationally syndicated radio and television shows, and made several "cornfield" appearances on Hee Haw

In 1982, he was named the Country Music Association's Major Market Disc Jockey of the Year.

Morgan was inducted into the Texas Rangers Baseball Hall of Fame on August 14, 2021.

Karin Morris

Senior Vice President, Community Impact & Executive Director, Texas Rangers Baseball Foundation

Karin Morris was promoted to Texas Rangers Senior Vice President, Community Impact in September 2020 after being appointed Vice President, Community Outreach in January 2011. She also serves as Executive Director of the Texas Rangers Baseball Foundation.

In her role as Executive Director, Karin oversees the strategic development, fundraising, program development and fulfillment, and financials for the Texas Rangers Baseball Foundation. Under her leadership, the Foundation constructed the \$15 million Texas Rangers MLB Youth Academy at Mercy Street Sports Complex, presented by Toyota and has quadrupled its giving and funds raised. The Foundation was recognized as the 2018 Allan H. Selig Award winner for Philanthropic Excellence by Major League Baseball.

As the Senior Vice President of Community Impact, Karin oversees the Texas Rangers engagement, outreach, and impact within the community and the club's internal efforts. These include the efforts within the multi-cultural markets.

Karin started with the Texas Rangers in 2003 as the Director of New Market Development after working with FOX Sports Southwest in Dallas for three years. She was recognized with the 2019 Texas Rangers Jim Sundberg Community Achievement Award, only the third non-player to ever receive the honor.

Karin is involved in the community beyond the Rangers efforts and is a board member of the Arlington ISD Education Foundation, Advisory Board Member of WISE, YMSL Integrity Board member, Marcus Baseball Booster Club Board member and volunteers at her sons' schools. A graduate of Marquette University, Karin is married to Gary Morris and they have four children, Cameron (wife, Alyssa), Chip, Jackson and Jameson. She was also recognized as the Marquette University 2016 College of Business Administration Young Alumni of the Year.

Brian Nephew

Senior Director, Business Partnerships

Brian Nephew is currently Director of Corporate Partnerships. His primary responsibilities are to identify and develop strategic partnerships for the club through the sale of in-stadium signage, media, print and hospitality. In addition, Brian is responsible for overseeing the sales team to assist in generating partnership revenue for the team.

Brian is a native of Arlington, TX and was fortunate to play baseball in his hometown at University of Texas at Arlington. Him and his wife Bethany reside in Kennedale, TX with their 18-month-old son, Madden.

Grant Phifer

Director, Engineering & Maintenance

Grant Phifer is a dedicated professional in the field of construction engineering, currently serving as the Director of Engineering and Maintenance at Globe Life Field. With a Bachelor of Science in Construction Engineering from Texas Tech University, Grant has built a career driven by a genuine interest around baseball and construction. Previously served as a Project Engineer for the General Contractor overseeing the construction of Globe Life Field. His commitment extends beyond the construction phase, as he actively works to ensure the seamless operation and maintenance of the stadium.

Zain Pyarali

Manager, Social Media

Zain Pyarali is a 2018 graduate of Indiana University with a BA in Sports Media. He is entering his fourth season with the Rangers as the team's Manager of Social Media. Zain's role with the Rangers includes ideating and creating content for all Rangers social media platforms with a large emphasis on handling and posting in-game content at real time. Zain got his start in baseball as the Cleveland Guardians Social Media Intern upon his graduation. After his intern days, he worked full-time social media jobs with the XFL & PGA TOUR before landing back in MLB with the Rangers.

Nick Richardson

Vice President, Ticket Retention & New Business Development

Nick began his career with the Texas Rangers in May of 2004 as an intern following graduation from Cameron University. In his time with the Rangers, he served in various capacities in the ticket sales and service department. Career roles include inside sales representative, suite sales account executive, senior suite sales account executive, inside sales manager, new business development director, and vice president of ticket retention and new business development.

In his current role, Nick oversees entry level sales hiring and development for the Rangers as well as client retention.

Nick's passion and purpose are to help cultivate a valuable, fan friendly experience as well as developing future sales and service leaders in the sports and entertainment industry. His mission is to groom quality individuals into outstanding value creators who live by a philosophy of Grow Daily, Live Virtuously, and Create Value.

Mercedes Riley

Director, Human Resources

Mercedes Riley brings over 25 years of HR and Risk Management experience across diverse industries. Specializing in human capital management, human resources technology, compensation, and risk mitigation, she has a proven track record in risk assessment and regulatory compliance. Mercedes' collaborative approach and commitment to excellence make her a trusted advisor in her field. Passionate about continuous learning and community service, she actively contributes to professional development initiatives and volunteer programs.

Tyler Stephan

Director, Business Partnerships

Tyler Stephan serves as Manager of Business Partnerships for the Rangers and is in his 6th season with the club. Tyler is responsible for generating revenue by building and maintaining relationships with C-level executives at blue-chip and Fortune 500 companies. Researching new prospects and pitching customized presentations to brand teams requires Tyler to stay up to date on sports industry trends. Tyler manages the New Business Development team responsible for generating revenue across the Rangers non-baseball portfolio of properties. Before joining the Rangers, Tyler spent five years at the Miami HEAT in various Corporate Partnerships roles.

Tyler graduated with two bachelor's degrees (Communications and English) from the University of South Carolina Aiken, where he was a member of the baseball team. Tyler received his master's degree in communication studies from the University of Miami in 2015. He and his fiancé reside in Dallas, Texas with their dog, Woodford.

Grace Tye

Senior Account Specialist, Partnership Activation

Grace Tye is a 2021 graduate of Louisiana State University (Geaux Tigers!) with a BS in Sports Administration and Commerce. She is entering her fourth season with the Rangers and serves as a Client Service Coordinator in the Business Partnerships department. Grace currently manages numerous Partnership accounts, as well as all digital and physical signing throughout Globe Life Field for both Rangers games and other Globe Life Field events. Grace got her start in sports as the Sponsorship Sales & Client Service intern for LSU Athletics, and the Sponsorship Sales inter for Major League Lacross, while getting her degree.

Delia Willms

Director, Suites and Premium Services

Delia Willms is the Director of Suites and Premium Services for the Texas Rangers. She has been with the organization for 20 seasons, starting out as an intern in 2005 and was quickly promoted to a full-time position that same year. Delia worked her way up to Coordinator of Suites and Premium Services, and then to her current position overseeing the daily operations of the department. Delia, a Puerto Rican native, is a graduate of the University of Texas at Arlington and currently resides in Arlington with her husband and son.

Hannah Wing

Manager, Influential Marketing & Digital Host

Hannah Wing Pontikes is the Digital & In-Game Host for the Texas Rangers and is also the Influencer Marketing Manager. Hannah graduated from the University of Southern California with a Broadcast Journalism degree in 2018 and started working for the Rangers shortly after. She hosts player interviews, “Hannah’s Highlights” before home games, a monthly “Rangers Report” series and more on Rangers social channels. In addition, she is the in-game host where she hosts all home games for pregame and in-game live hits throughout the ballpark. Along with Rangers 1B Nathaniel Lowe and Radio Broadcaster Jared Sandler, she is a co-host of the “Straight Up Texas Podcast Presented by Whataburger” and does a lot behind the scenes to get each episode ready. Hannah started and continues to spearhead the Rangers influencer marketing program and has proven to be one of the most successful programs in all of MLB. She handles everything from campaign management and planning events to help reach a younger demographic who might not see traditional Rangers marketing content. Finally, Hannah started the Texas Rangers College Brand Ambassador Program in 2021 that gives local college students the chance to represent the organization on their social media platforms and expand their network in the sports industry as they learn how a Major League front office is run.

Chad Wynn

Vice President, Business Partnerships

Chad spent his formative years in Sunnyvale, Texas with his paternal grandparents, Gordon and Cecilia Wynn. He attended many Rangers games at Arlington Stadium. As a kid, one of his fondest memories was attending the All-Star Game on July 10, 1995 at The Ballpark in Arlington.

Joining the Rangers front office in 2006, Chad spent four seasons working in various roles for the ticket sales department, and after the 2009 season he was asked to join the business partnerships team.

For more the last 15 years Chad and his team have taken the partnership revenue to new heights and secured three naming rights partnerships along the way. He and his teammates helped opened

the Rangers beautiful new home, Globe Life Field. His greatest career highlight came to fruition on November 1, 2023 when the Rangers won their first World Series Championship!

Chad currently serves as the Vice President of Partnerships for the team, overseeing new business development for the team, collegiate events at Globe Life Field, Texas Live!, Dallas Jackals and Choctaw Stadium. He is happily married to the love of his life, Catherine Wynn, who is the team's Sr. Manager of Suites. They make their home in Colleyville and are the proud parents of Brynlee (6) and Nolan (2), named after Dad's hero.