

## **Christine M. Zrinsky Bio**

Christine Zrinsky graduated from Valparaiso University with a B.A. in Journalism and started her career at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. She joined the Development team at Chicago's Lincoln Park Zoo in 1994. Christine held a variety of positions during her nearly 28 years at the zoo and was named Senior Vice President for Development and Government Relations in February 2018. She and her staff raised funds to keep the zoo free and promote innovative initiatives through annual giving, institutional giving, sponsorship, principal and planned gifts, and membership. The staff also oversees Board-related events and activities that support capital and endowment initiatives. Working with key volunteer and staff leadership, she directed the completion of *My Kind of Zoo*, the zoo's \$125 million capital and endowment campaign, and guided the recently concluded campaign, *The Pride of Chicago*, which generated \$143 million for capital, endowment and operating resources. Christine retired from the zoo in March 2022 and remains a consultant to the Development and leadership teams.

Christine is an active volunteer for Valparaiso University and served on the alumni board for 10 years, including two years as president. She is serving her second term on the University's National Council for the College of Arts and Sciences. Christine served as President of the Association of Lutheran Development Executives (now Association of Christian Fundraisers) and had previously served as president of the organization's Chicago Chapter. Christine is a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals and is a past president of the Women In Development Profession, Chicago chapter. She helped to launch the Association of Zoos and Aquariums Advancement Committee and remains an advisory member of the group. Christine received the AFP Chicago Chapter's Benjamin Franklin award in 2019 and an Alumni Achievement Award from Valparaiso University in 2021.