

**Allan Varela started out as a child listening to music at every turn and strumming on play guitars until his first “real” guitar arrived at age 10. With six hours a day practice, he was a performing musician and composer from 1964 to 1985. He released the single “Today” for his first band, “The Weeds,” in 1964 and toured out of the country. Allan attended Stony Brook University and toured with his power trio, “Chalk.” He released his first album in 1977 with his namesake band, “Varela,” with a follow up album, “Varela: A New Plateau,” in 1980. Both albums and several singles received regular playlist radio attention and were available on his private record label, “Sunlost Publishing.”**

**Performing life ended in 1985, and that began his writing career where Allan chronicled the march of digital systems into Hollywood production for Variety, Daily Variety, Pro Sound News, Television Broadcast, On Production, Post and many others. He was a member of the Audio Engineering Society (AES), Society of Professional Recording Services (SPARS), and the Cinema Audio Society (CAS), and worked with the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers (SMPTE) and National Association of Broadcasters (NAB). He conceived and implemented an apprentice education program for SPARS involving all the major movie companies in Hollywood and Lucasfilm and hosted AES Television during conventions. From 1996 to present, Allan moved into writing press releases, articles, case studies and white papers and designing print ads and invitations for several major professional audio manufacturers.**

**Allan has maintained an active record of volunteering for many organizations that include Sagamore Children’s Center in Dix Hills, the Coalition of Disabled Musicians and the Community Alliance of Northern Brookhaven, a group involved with students and substance abuse, and local school districts. He has been involved with the Greater Port Jefferson Arts Council since 1988. In 1991 he became a board member and co-director of music. In 2000 Allan became the Arts Council’s first Executive Director and has overseen its growth from a small local group to a Brookhaven powerhouse. Allan and the Arts Council are credited with broadcasting the first music concert from a private home by a major performer over the Internet in 1997.**

**Allan lives with his wife Kate, daughter Genevieve and step-daughters Alena and Ana, and, even though he is a dog fanatic and allergic to cats, a group of six feral and three indoor cats share his life (by the grace of allergy shots every week).**

**BTW: Allan became a member of the Board of Directors of the Long Island Music Hall of Fame in 2005, led that group through the 501(c)(3) and, more importantly, certification by the New York State Board of Regents certifications and was Chair from 2008 to 2010. He happily retired as Chair Emeritus to devote time to The Hands That Rock, and that attitude rocks!**