



January 2, 2018

Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra Names Katherine Lehman as New Executive Director

The board of directors of the Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra is pleased to announce that Katherine Lehman has been named the new executive director, effective January 8, 2018. Lehman, whose recent positions have included executive director of the Bowdoin International Music Festival and director of the Sewanee Summer Music Festival, brings a wealth of vision building and collaborative leadership experience in the musical arts. She is a violinist, a teacher, and an arts presenter, and has worked for arts organizations in audience development, engagement, and strategic planning.

“Katie was a clear choice for us,” said Karyn Sawyer, board president. “She has the requisite experience, extensive knowledge of the industry, and passion for bringing the Boulder Phil to the next level of artistic achievement,” said Sawyer. “We couldn’t be more thrilled that she’s accepted this leadership position.”

Lehman succeeds Kevin Shuck, who, during his seven-year tenure, was instrumental in securing the world premiere of *Symphony No. 1 (“Formations”)* by Boulder composer Jeffrey Nytch in celebration of the 125th anniversary of the Geological Society of America, the world premiere of *All the Songs that Nature Sings* (an NEA commission) by adventurer-composer Stephen Lias, and creating the guided musical hikes, an ongoing collaboration with the city of Boulder. Under Shuck’s leadership, the Boulder Phil was selected to perform last March at the Kennedy Center as part of the SHIFT Festival of American Orchestras, in recognition of its exemplary community engagement and innovative programming.

“This is an exciting time to be part of the Boulder Phil,” said Lehman, “and I am honored and delighted to join your wonderful community as the orchestra’s new executive director. I truly believe in the transformative power of music in our communities, and nowhere is that happening more than right here in Boulder.”

“We are excited to start working closely with Katie, as we kick off the second half of our 60th anniversary season and start the planning for next season,” said Music Director Michael Buttermann. “Her experience in leading arts organizations and music festivals, and her commitment to music education, outreach, and audience engagement are a perfect fit for the Boulder Phil and our community.”

About the Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra

Celebrating its 60th Anniversary in 2017-18, the Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra is creating a new model for American orchestras through dynamic performances that reflect our community’s own values, creativity, and sense of place. Voted “Best of Boulder” for the past five years in a row, today’s Boulder



Phil is bucking national trends with growing, enthusiastic audiences under the vision and leadership of Music Director Michael Buttermann. For more information, visit www.BoulderPhil.org.

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