



**DuPage Symphony Orchestra**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**DuPage Symphony Orchestra Appoints Executive Director**

**Naperville, Illinois** – The DuPage Symphony Orchestra is proud to announce the appointment of Kristin Chmiel to the new position of Executive Director effective September 15, 2020. We also welcome back to the DSO family Krista DesBiens to the position of Office Coordinator. These adjustments to our organization’s administration will provide more agility as we continue to navigate the uncertainty affecting the arts in pandemic. “We are thrilled to welcome Krista DesBiens back to the DSO team,” said Board President Don Potozchny. “And elevating Kristin Chmiel to the role of Executive Director acknowledges her integral contribution.”

In reimagining our season, we’ve adapted to share our music both virtually and in small group, socially-distanced live performances throughout the region. We are also taking significant steps behind the scenes to strengthen the organization. A new, long range strategic plan is being created to not only address short term challenges but to grow the DSO’s community impact going forward. This includes increasing both our concert and educational offerings, enhancing donor and sponsor experiences, strengthening our outreach to those with limited access to music, and building financial reserves to support long term growth. A newly created task force is also working on initiatives to increase diversity both on stage and in our repertoire.

We are grateful to our donors and sponsors for their continuing support. We also wish to thank our countless subscribers who have donated their tickets or held their subscriptions for future performances. This continued support, together with emergency COVID-19 funding in support of the arts, will enable us to successfully emerge from this current crisis.

According to Board President Potoczny, “These changes position our organization for tremendous growth over the next few years. The hiatus provides a unique opportunity to develop long-range plans and build relationships to support our growth as the premier symphony orchestra in the Western Suburbs.” The DSO looks forward to the day we can once again take the stage and connect with our audience and patrons through the power of music.

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