

PRESS RELEASE - For Immediate Release

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Chamber Music Festival of Lexington Merges with Lexington Chamber Orchestra Distinct Offerings and Programs will Continue Under Shared Governance and Administration

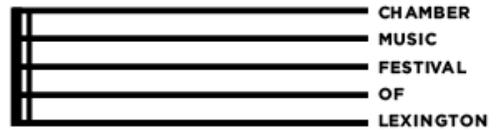
May 21, 2019- LEXINGTON, KY – The Chamber Music Festival of Lexington and the Lexington Chamber Orchestra today announced the merger of the two non-profit performing arts organizations that serve Lexington and Central Kentucky. Going forward, both organizations will be governed by a new Board of Directors comprising existing Chamber Festival board members and musicians of the Chamber Festival of Lexington. Both organizations will continue to operate as two distinct performing arts organizations with their own seasons, musicians and artistic direction, but with shared governance, management and with a common 501(c)(3) designation. Nathan Cole and Jan Pellant will continue their roles as musical directors of the Chamber Music Festival of Lexington and of the Lexington Chamber Orchestra, respectively.

Gregory Pettit, President of the Chamber Music Festival of Lexington, observed, “These two organizations have distinct brands and roles in our musical community. For over a dozen years, The Chamber Music Festival of Lexington has brought world class musicians to the Bluegrass for 10 days in August for formal concerts and informal, free performances for the public and thousands of schoolchildren. The Lexington Chamber Orchestra has for the last four years produced a year-round season performed by local musicians, with a “name your ticket price” admissions policy. They will both continue their respective seasons as before. However, we share a commitment to excellence and accessibility for the chamber music genre. Additionally, we share many of the administrative and fund-raising challenges performing arts groups face, where we believe shared leadership and administration will provide efficiencies, synergies and opportunities to advance our shared mission in the years ahead. “

Jonathan Crosmer, co-founder of the Lexington Chamber Orchestra, noted, “Central Kentucky has a vibrant musical community with many talented musicians and a growing audience for the accessibility and intimacy that chamber music offers. We are excited about this combination, which will unite both organizations under an experienced team of volunteer and professional management, helping to ensure that both the Festival and the Orchestra can continue their roles in our rich cultural landscape and find ways to benefit more of our fellow citizens.”

About the Chamber Music Festival of Lexington

Founded in 2006, The Chamber Music Festival of Lexington is held over 10 days every August in the famed Bluegrass horse country of Lexington, Kentucky. The Festival brings together a quintet of nationally recognized musicians to offer Central Kentuckians four formal concerts, concerts by its Ensemble-in-Residence, educational programs and a world class guest artist. Its core group of musicians is led by Musical Director Nathan Cole, first Associate Concertmaster of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and a Lexington native. It’s 13th season runs from August 22-September 1, 2019. For more information please go to chambermusiclex.org.



About the Lexington Chamber Orchestra

Founded in 2015, The Lexington Chamber Orchestra offers a year-round season of classical music from every era performed by a professional ensemble of local musicians. It's mission is to call fellow citizens into higher awareness and deeper community through the beauty of chamber music. Its admission policy of "name your own ticket price" aims to expand the audience members of the community unable or unaccustomed to accessing other classical concert options available. The Orchestra is led by Musical Director Jan Pellant, who holds degrees from the Prague Academy of the Performing Arts, The Prague Conservator, Carnegie Mellon University, the University of Kentucky (ABD). He is also Artistic Director of the Coeur D'Alene Symphony and guest conducts for orchestras across the US and Europe. For more information visit www.lexingtonchamberorchestra.com

Chamber Music Festival of Lexington programs are made possible through the generous support of LexArts. The annual Fund for the Arts has raised millions of dollars to support the visual, literary and performing arts in Lexington.

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