



GRANT PARK MUSIC FESTIVAL

For Immediate Release

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THE GRANT PARK MUSIC FESTIVAL APPOINTS NEW GENERAL MANAGER CHRIS COLLINS AND CHIEF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER EMILY CANHAM

CHICAGO (March 13, 2018) — Chicago's Grant Park Music Festival President Paul Winberg announces two appointments to the staff: the recent hire of **Chris Collins** as its General Manager and **Emily Canham** as Chief Development Officer.

Mr. Collins joined the Festival on January 2, 2018 and is responsible for the planning and execution of all Festival productions including rehearsals, concerts, and education and community engagement activities. As Chief Development Officer, Ms. Canham will be leading the design, development and execution of strategies that grow the Festival's capacity to generate contributed revenue and meet annual fundraising goals. Her first day will be March 19, 2018.

"I am pleased to welcome both Chris and Emily to the Festival family. Chris' wealth of experience and industry knowledge has enabled him to hit the ground running, formalizing the details for the Grant Park Orchestra and Chorus' 2018 season, and planning ahead for next season," said Winberg. "Emily's clear record of success in fundraising leadership, management of corporate campaigns and foundation support will make her an exceptional addition to our team."

Most recently, **Chris Collins** was the Executive Director of the Children's Chorus of Greater Dallas. Earlier, he served as General Manager of the Eugene Symphony where he was responsible for overseeing the artistic operations of the orchestra. As a violinist, Mr. Collins has performed with numerous orchestras in Arkansas, Colorado, Oregon, Texas and Wyoming. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Violin Performance from the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, and both a Master of Business Administration and Master of Arts in Arts Administration from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas.

Emily Canham was Director of Institutional Giving at the Chicago Children's Museum. Prior to her role at the museum, Ms. Canham worked as the Manager of Foundation and Government Relations with the Ravinia Festival Association. She also held previous positions as Associate Director of Development at the Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies, and Manager of Corporate, Foundation and Government Relations at Columbia College. Ms. Canham holds a Master of Arts Management from Columbia College and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism from the University of Wisconsin – Madison.

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For more than 80 years, the Grant Park Music Festival has been Chicago's summer musical sensation, demonstrating that classical music, performed by a world-class orchestra and chorus can have a transformative impact on the city. Showcased in the city's most spectacular setting, the Festival continues to be the summer gathering place for all of Chicago. The Jay Pritzker Pavilion in Millennium Park is the official home of the Grant Park Music Festival, with free seats available for every concert. For more information about the Grant Park Music Festival and the 2018 season, running June 13—August 18, visit gpmf.org or call 312.742.7638.

The Grant Park Music Festival is led by Artistic Director and Principal Conductor Carlos Kalmar, along with Chorus Director Christopher Bell, Grant Park Orchestral Association President and CEO Paul Winberg, and Board Chair Stephen Smith. The Festival is proudly presented by the Grant Park Orchestral Association with key support from the Chicago Park District and the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events.

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