Contact: Elisabeth Wolcott 503-701-7177 www.beavertonsymphony.org



## **NEWS RELEASE**

Beaverton Symphony Orchestra welcomes new Executive Director, Christina Devlin.

BEAVERTON, Oregon (August 3, 2020) — **Beaverton Symphony Orchestra** is delighted to announce that Christina Devlin will be joining the organization as BSO's new Executive Director. Christina brings over 30 years of experience in event management as well as a strong background in strategic planning, nonprofit leadership, fundraising, logistics, multimedia production, and special events and convention services.

"After a multi-month search, we are excited to see Christina bring to the organization her experience in nonprofit management, program stewardship, and fiscal leadership," former BSO Executive Director Mayne Mihacsi comments. "She emerged from a field of other applicants as the clear nominee for the Executive Director position by her professionalism that frankly impressed all of us on the board. We look forward to her enabling the symphony to reach its goals for the future. I, on the other hand, will continue to be a member performer and support Christina in her transition.

Christina has served on the board of directors for several nonprofit organizations including the Oregon Chapter of Meeting Professionals International, where she gained 13 years of board leadership experience.

Christina instantly connected with BSO's mission of sharing music with the public through enriching, affordable community performances. Devlin comes from a long line of German musicians and composers and grew up playing piano and cello. She first entered the world of event management in college at Western Michigan University, during which time she worked on multiple musical and theatrical productions at the local New Vic Theater and Kalamazoo Civic Auditorium.

Devlin joins BSO at a time when the organization is looking to adapt and grow through the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes finding creative ways of carrying out the organization's mission despite health restrictions that limit public gatherings.

While the 2020 concert season has been postponed out of concern for the health of audience and orchestra members, BSO is actively planning for the future. Orchestra meetings have moved to Zoom and the leadership team is engaged in finding innovative ways of sharing new music with our audience. BSO's first virtual concert, a beautiful performance of Movement IX ("Nimrod") of Edward Elgar's *Enigma Variations*, is now available on YouTube. The orchestra

has been practicing this performance during the past few weeks of social distancing and hopes to release more concerts in the near future.

Additional video performances by members of the BSO and other groups are available on our website, <u>beavertonsymphony.org</u>, YouTube channel and Facebook page. BSO will also soon be sharing content on the orchestra's Instagram account.

"I look forward to collaborating with everyone connected with the Beaverton Symphony Orchestra to present beautiful music to the community in innovative and traditional ways that will bring people together of all generations for unique and memorable experiences," says Devlin.

While many things have changed in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic, Beaverton Symphony Orchestra's commitment to creating beautiful and accessible musical experiences for our audience has never been stronger.

The Beaverton Symphony Orchestra, founded in 1984, is a community orchestra comprising 80 members. The Symphony is committed to enriching the performing arts culture of Washington County and making classical music accessible to the broadest possible audience. The Symphony presents six concerts each season. For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.beavertonsymphony.org">www.beavertonsymphony.org</a>

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