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NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Delaney Chesnick, Marketing Manager
delaney@augustasympphony.com | 706-530-1338

AUGUSTA SYMPHONY HIRES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Augusta, GA – The Augusta Symphony is proud to announce the appointment of Becky Dearden as the new Executive Director. Dearden brings a wealth of experience and a deep commitment to community engagement, promising to lead the Symphony to new heights. In her new role, Dearden will oversee the Symphony's operations, programming, and outreach initiatives. Her extensive background in community service and leadership makes her an ideal fit for this position.

"I am thrilled to join the Augusta Symphony and contribute to the cultural enrichment of our community," said Dearden. "I look forward to working with the talented musicians, dedicated staff, and passionate supporters to continue the Symphony's legacy of excellence."

Dearden graduated from the University of South Carolina and was previously the Marketing Director at SME CPAs. Her community involvement is extensive, demonstrating her dedication to various organizations and initiatives. She is currently serving as the Chair of the North Augusta Chamber, as a Past Board Member and VP of Communications for the Association of United State Army Fort Eisenhower Chapter (AUSA), and she is a proud alumna of the Leadership Augusta Class of 2022 and the Leadership Columbia County Class of 2020.

In recognition of her professional achievements and community service, Dearden has received several prestigious awards, including the 2021 Augusta Magazine Top 10 in 10 Young Professionals to Watch and the 2021 AUSA Third Region Outstanding Achievement Award.

"We are excited to welcome Becky Dearden to the Augusta Symphony family," said Beth Morrison, President of the Augusta Symphony Board. "Her proven leadership and passion for community engagement are invaluable assets as we continue to grow and innovate."

Now in its seventieth season, the Augusta Symphony is the primary professional orchestra for the Central Savannah River Area and pursues its mission "to share the joy of great musical performance with our community – together we are music" through annual symphonic, pops, and family concerts that reach approximately 20,000 people each year. Through its Community Chords education and outreach programs, the Symphony further strives to foster broad accessibility to live classical music performance and a lifelong appreciation of the art form among people of all ages, backgrounds, and means. The Symphony's Community Chords programs currently serve thousands of youths and adults in communities within a seventy-five mile radius of Augusta. To learn more about the Augusta Symphony, visit AugustaSymphony.com.



Season subscriptions for the upcoming season, “SEVENTIETH”, are now on sale. The anniversary season showcases artists from a variety of backgrounds and talents while telling stories of celebration and triumph with music by composers spanning centuries. From East to West, sea to sky, and classical to contemporary, there will be something for everyone. Subscriptions are available online at AugustaSymphony.com and at the Miller Theater Box Office. The Box Office is open from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday and purchases can be made in-person or via phone at 706.842.4080 ext 1.

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The Augusta Symphony Inc is a 501(c)(3) non-profit entity and is supported in part by an award from the Georgia Council for the Arts through the appropriations of the Georgia General Assembly. The Georgia Council is a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art. The Augusta Symphony is also supported in part by the Columbia County Community and Leisure Services and by the Greater Augusta Arts Council through appropriations from Augusta-Richmond County.



Post Office Box 579 | Augusta, GA 30903 | Phone: 706-826-4705 |