



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Virginia Brown, 704-714-5112, virginiab@charlottesymphony.org

CHARLOTTE SYMPHONY ANNOUNCES NEW DIRECTOR OF CHORUSES

MARCH 26, 2015 | CHARLOTTE, NC – The Charlotte Symphony announces today its new director of choruses, Dr. Kenney Potter. Dr. Potter will direct the Charlotte Symphony’s official chorus, the Oratorio Singers of Charlotte, beginning with the 2015-2016 season. He replaces Dr. Scott Allen Jarrett, who is leaving the CSO following the 2014-2015 season after 11 years of leadership.

Dr. Potter, director of choral activities at Wingate University, holds degrees from Florida State University, Portland State University, and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

A versatile conductor, Dr. Potter has served as the artistic director and conductor of the Union Symphony Orchestra, and he annually conducts productions for the Wingate University Opera.

An official search committee, including Charlotte Symphony Music Director Christopher Warren-Green, four chorus representatives, a CSO musician representative, and key CSO staff, along with detailed written input from the Oratorio Singers, reached the decision unanimously following the interview and audition process.

“We were thrilled with the talent and level of professionalism of all of our qualified candidates, but Dr. Potter was the unanimous choice to lead our chorus,” says Maestro Warren-Green. “It is also a bonus that we are engaging a local candidate with deep roots in our region.”

As a clinician, Dr. Potter frequently conducts festival choirs and music conferences. This year, he will serve as guest clinician in festivals in North and South Carolina, Georgia, Wisconsin, and Nairobi, Kenya. His compositions are published by Hinshaw Music, Choristers Guild, and Santa Barbara Music Publishing.

He is also the founder and editor of Wingate University Music Press, which publishes *Folk Songs of South Africa*, a series of pedagogical resources that he co-authored with Dalene Hoogenhout, conductor of the Wits Choir of Johannesburg.

In addition to his work at Wingate, Dr. Potter serves as the director of adult choirs at First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church in Gastonia, North Carolina.



Dr. Kenney Potter has been named the Charlotte Symphony's new director of choruses.

“We are fortunate to have a conductor of the caliber of Dr. Potter, who brings deep ties to the local choral community and a compelling vision for the future of Oratorio,” says Katie Poirier, president of the Oratorio Singers of Charlotte board. “We look forward to continuing to learn and grow in artistic quality under his leadership.”

Dr. Potter resides in Charlotte with his wife, Heather, and their children, Syl and Calvin.

Founded in 1951, the Oratorio Singers of Charlotte engages approximately 140 auditioned, volunteer singers in Charlotte and the surrounding areas. Many of the ensemble’s members hold master’s degrees in music and teach locally. Each year, chorus members dedicate countless hours to preparation and performances of choral masterworks with orchestra.

About the Charlotte Symphony

Founded in 1932 and led by internationally renowned Music Director Christopher Warren-Green, the Charlotte Symphony is a non-profit organization that serves the whole community through music that educates, entertains, and enriches the human spirit. We are world-class musicians, music teachers, and music lovers. We put violins in the hands of Charlotte's children and actively nurture the next generation with our music education programs. We bring artistic excellence to Charlotte's parks and hospitals, schools and places of worship, stadiums and concert halls. The Charlotte Symphony is a cornerstone of the cultural community, connecting people and adding value to their lives through music.

charlottesymphony.org

###