



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

**CHARLOTTE SYMPHONY ANNOUNCES 2014-2015 SPIRIT OF THE SYMPHONY
AWARD RECIPIENTS**

MARCH 26, 2015 | CHARLOTTE, NC – In recognition of their outstanding dedication to the music and mission of the Charlotte Symphony, Dr. Scott Allen Jarrett and Cheri Martin have been named the recipients of the 2014-2015 Sally Ann Hall Spirit of the Symphony Award.

The awards will be presented on Friday, March 27 at Belk Theater at the Symphony's Classics Series performance.

Director of Choruses and Assistant Conductor Dr. Scott Allen Jarrett has directed the Oratorio Singers of Charlotte, the official chorus of the Charlotte Symphony, since 2004. Traveling each week from Boston, Dr. Jarrett has prepared the 140-member, volunteer chorus for its performances with orchestra.

"Scott is an absolute treasure," says Katie Porier, president of the Oratorio Singers of Charlotte board. "Once we have experienced a piece of music with Scott, we have a deep relationship to the work, which will remain with us for the rest of our singing lives."

During his 11-year tenure with the Symphony, Dr. Jarrett also held positions as music director of Boston University's Marsh Chapel and Boston's Back Bay Chorale. He will be leaving the Symphony following the 2014-2015 season, as he has received a promotion at Boston University.

Dr. Jarrett earned his bachelor's degree from Furman University and his master's and doctorate in conducting from Boston University. He is also a member of the Oregon Bach Festival Chorus and a frequent keyboard collaborator with Miami-based Seraphic Fire.

Cheri Martin served as the finance director of the Charlotte Symphony for 20 years. She worked tirelessly toward the financial success of the organization, in addition to performing Human Resources and Information Technology duties. Martin left the Charlotte Symphony in early 2015.

"Cheri could have walked away from the CSO many times, taking her finance skills into the for-profit sector, where benefits, salary, and working conditions would have been far better," says Bob Stickler, president and CEO of the Charlotte Symphony. "But she stayed because of her dedication to the CSO, but more importantly, her dedication to the people she worked with and for."

The Sally Ann Hall Spirit of the Symphony Award was created in 2007 to honor the memory of one of its most committed patrons, Sally Ann Hall. Devoted to classical music, Sally Ann Hall (1939-2005) was a member of the Charlotte Symphony Board of Directors and served as the president of the Oratorio Singers of Charlotte board.

In 2004, she and her husband Joseph Kirkland Hall III established the Sally Ann Hall Chair for the directorship of the Oratorio Singers, which was held by Dr. Scott Allen Jarrett for 11 years. Recipients of the annual award demonstrate a commitment to the Symphony as an organization, show a profound respect for its music and musicians, and motivate and encourage others to become involved actively with the Symphony family.

Winners are chosen from an open slate of nominations by a committee that represents the CSO board, staff and musicians, and the Oratorio Singers of Charlotte. Past recipients are David Mills (2007), Dr. George Stegner (2008), Richard J. Osborne (2009), Patricia A. Rodgers (2010), Mark R. Bernstein (2011), Deena Outwater Surphlis (2012), and Frank Gentry (2013).

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

###