



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA NAMES ALEX SHAPIRO CHIEF PHILANTHROPY OFFICER

(February 26, 2023, St. Louis, MO) – Today, St. Louis Symphony Orchestra announced the appointment of **Alex Shapiro** as the institution’s Chief Philanthropy Officer, beginning February 26. Shapiro succeeds arts consultant and advisor John Easley, who served in the position on an interim basis since November 2023.

Marie-Hélène Bernard, SLSO President and CEO, said, “I am delighted to welcome Alex Shapiro to the SLSO. As a seasoned non-profit executive and philanthropy expert, he brings a deep knowledge of the orchestra industry and an impressive track record in fundraising and campaigns at arts institutions across the country. He joins the SLSO at a pivotal time as we position the institution for growth with the expansion and renovation of Powell Hall. His passion for the arts aligns with the SLSO’s mission to enrich lives through the power of music.”

Alex Shapiro, SLSO CPO, said, “I am both honored and excited to be joining the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra team. I’m passionate about music—classical music in particular—so this is an extraordinary opportunity for me to both support and work with such a talented group of musicians, staff, and board volunteers.”

Shapiro most recently served as Vice President of Philanthropy with the Kansas City Symphony for seven years. Prior to that position, he served as the Director of Institutional Advancement at the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) and Executive Director of the IAIA Foundation in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The arts have been an important thread throughout his career, including Executive Director of Santa Fe Pro Musica, Executive Director of DANCECleveland, and Director of Development with the San Francisco Museum of Performance + Design.

A New Jersey native and graduate of Columbia University in New York City, Shapiro grew up in a household of musicians and played French horn through college.

In his role, Shapiro will report to President and CEO Marie-Hélène Bernard and oversee a team of 16 toward \$10 million in annual giving, efforts to complete the capital campaign for renovation and expansion of Powell Hall, and support ongoing efforts to build the endowment fund through legacy and planned gifts.

About the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra

Celebrated as one of today’s most exciting and enduring orchestras, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra is the second-oldest orchestra in the country, marking its 144th year with the 2023/2024



St. Louis Symphony
Orchestra

Stéphane Denève : Music Director

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season and its fifth with [Stéphane Denève, The Joseph and Emily Rauh Pulitzer Music Director](#). Widely considered one of the leading American orchestras, the Grammy® Award-winning SLSO maintains its commitment to artistic excellence, educational impact, and community collaborations—all in service to its mission of enriching lives through the power of music.

The transformational expansion and renovation of its historic home, Powell Hall, slated to be completed in 2025, builds on the institution’s momentum as a civic leader in convening individuals, creators, and ideas, while fostering a culture welcoming to all. Committed to building community through compelling and inclusive musical experiences, the SLSO continues its longstanding focus on equity, diversity, inclusion, and access, embracing its strengths as a responsive, nimble organization, while investing in partnerships locally and elevating its presence globally. For more information, visit slo.org.

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