

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**MacPhail Center for Music CEO Kyle Carpenter Announces Retirement after an Illustrious Twelve Years at the Helm.**

**(Minneapolis, MN)** - MacPhail Center for Music today announced that its CEO for the past 12 years, Kyle Carpenter, will retire in August 2024. “MacPhail, under Kyle’s leadership, has achieved unprecedented growth, community access, and financial strength,” says Kate Whittington, MacPhail’s board chair, “His well-earned retirement comes at the end of a tremendous tenure.”

On Carpenter’s watch, MacPhail has nearly doubled its enrollment to 15,000 students, becoming the largest community music school in the nation. Through additional expansion sites, 70 new community partnerships, the acquisition of the Madeline Island Chamber Music summer program, and the start-up of live online music lessons across the state of Minnesota over ten years ago, MacPhail has gained a statewide presence and impact.

When COVID hit, MacPhail immediately pivoted to all live online teaching, which allowed students uninterrupted musical learning progress through the pandemic. “We were very fortunate, as an arts institution, to not experience a single layoff or furlough of personnel during the pandemic,” Carpenter says.

MacPhail has just completed Up Tempo!, a three-year comprehensive fundraising campaign. Up Tempo! was enthusiastically embraced by the community and far surpassed its \$25 million dollar goal well ahead of schedule. The funds will help MacPhail to achieve Carpenter’s primary and aspirational goal when he became CEO, “To never turn a student away because of their personal financial circumstances.”

Said Carpenter of his retirement, “I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to have helped MacPhail grow. I am proud of our community, faculty, and staff and what we have accomplished together. With the success and completion of the campaign combined with the strength of our board of directors and the remarkable skill of the senior leadership team, I am confident that

we are financially prepared and strategically equipped to take MacPhail to a new level. This is a natural time for transition to new leadership”.

“Kyle has been a remarkable leader, change agent, and innovator for MacPhail for more than a decade. His business background, his ability to listen, and his collaborative style were perfect mix for the job,” says Whittington. “He leaves MacPhail in a strong position for the next leader.”

The board has retained Doran Leadership Partners to assist in a thoughtful and inclusive process to select Carpenter’s successor. They expect a great deal of enthusiasm for the position.

### **About MacPhail Center for Music**

MacPhail Center for Music, a 501(c)3 charitable organization, is the nation’s largest center for music learning and performance and a Minnesota top ten arts organization. Since 1907, the MacPhail Center for Music has been committed to transforming lives and strengthening communities through music learning experiences that inspire. Each year, MacPhail offers programming to 15,000 students of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities, at locations in Minneapolis, Chanhassen, Apple Valley, Austin (MN), and Madeline Island, WI, as well as 103 community partnerships across Minnesota. An industry leader in online music education, MacPhail’s Live Online and Online School Partnerships programs have reached students for the past ten years. MacPhail has a 116-year history of excellence, promoting life-long learning and building long-term relationships between students and teachers. For more information, visit [macphail.org](http://macphail.org).