



For Immediate Release  
Sept. 9, 2020

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## **OPERA COLUMBUS CONDUCTING NATIONAL SEARCH FOR NEXT LEADER** ***Peggy Kriha Dye leaving in October to head Virginia Opera***

(Columbus, OH) – The Opera Columbus Board announced today that they will be conducting a national search for a new General Director & CEO. After almost ten years at Opera Columbus, Peggy Kriha Dye, General Director + CEO for Opera Columbus, will leave her post in October to assume the role of General Director + CEO with the Virginia Opera.

Kriha Dye joined the Opera Columbus staff in 2011 as Director of Education and Community Programming. During her tenure with Opera Columbus she assumed the role of Artistic Director (2014-2017), General and Artistic Director (2017-2019) and most recently, General Director + CEO.

“Peggy was instrumental in paving the way for a new era of opera fans,” said Bill Miller, Opera Columbus Board of Trustees President. “From establishing the partnership with Juilliard’s Artist Diploma in Opera Studies where Juilliard students perform in Opera Columbus productions to bringing opera to local restaurants and bars through Opera on the Edge--her creativity and risk-taking were boundless.”

Kriha Dye and her work were recognized locally and nationally including the Greater Columbus Arts Council’s Artistic Excellence Winner for *The Flood*, an opera written about the 1913 flood in the Franklinton community of Columbus; *Musical America’s* 2018 Professionals of the Year, Movers and Shapers Edition; and Dora Mavor Moore Award, Best Production *Orphèe* Toronto, Canada 2018.

“Being part of Opera Columbus and the Columbus arts community for nearly a decade has been an extraordinary experience for me,” said Kriha Dye. “I will always be grateful for the amount of support I received from the Opera Columbus board, staff and patrons as well as my colleagues in the Columbus arts community---it has been an amazing journey.”

Kriha Dye begins her position at the Virginia Opera on Oct. 18. The Opera Columbus Board is conducting a national search for Kriha Dye’s succession

“The staff and board that I am leaving behind are the best I have ever worked with in my career,” said Kriha Dye. “Opera Columbus is in very good hands for its 39<sup>th</sup> season”.

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## **About Opera Columbus**

Opera Columbus is redefining the concept of regional opera with world-class productions that celebrate extraordinary talent and artistic partnerships, engaging a new, diverse audience for this most magnificent of artforms. From groundbreaking collaborations to innovative and breathtaking productions, Opera Columbus is passionate about creating artistic moments for each and every patron. Opera Columbus' slogan, "Make It Yours," demonstrates the company's commitment to inclusivity, and invites everyone in the community to join with us. For more information, visit [www.OperaColumbus.org](http://www.OperaColumbus.org), Facebook: [www.facebook.com/OperaColumbus](http://www.facebook.com/OperaColumbus), Instagram: [Opera.Columbus](https://www.instagram.com/OperaColumbus) or Twitter: [@OperaColumbus](https://twitter.com/OperaColumbus).