



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra Announces Next President and Managing Director, Jessica Mallow Gulley**

- The appointment follows a 9-month national search led by a committee made up of board, musicians and staff.
- Mallow Gulley is joining the SPCO from the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra in Michigan, where she served as President and CEO since 2019.
- She will begin her new role as the SPCO's President and Managing Director on Oct. 13, 2025.
- She is succeeding outgoing President and Managing Director Jon Limbacher, who announced his retirement at the end of 2024.

**SAINT PAUL, MN, SEPT. 2, 2025** — The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra (SPCO) is pleased to announce a new President and Managing Director, Jessica Mallow Gulley. Mallow Gulley is coming to Saint Paul from Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra (KSO), where she served as the President and CEO for six years.

A dynamic leader and arts executive, Mallow Gulley is recognized for her visionary fundraising, relationship-building, and organizational culture expertise.

"I am truly honored and excited to join The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra and to help shape its next era," said Mallow Gulley. "Together with the extraordinary musicians, dedicated staff, visionary board, and vibrant

community, we will imagine the next chapter of this remarkable organization — one that deepens engagement, expands accessibility, and embraces creativity at every level.”

Mallow Gulley will begin her tenure with the SPCO on Oct. 13, 2025, succeeding Jon Limbacher who will remain as an advisor to the organization through December 2025. His retirement was announced in November 2024.

The President and Managing Director oversees the strategic direction of the organization and works to achieve the SPCO’s mission under the management of the Board of Directors.

“After a national search process, we are so pleased to welcome Jessica Mallow Gulley as the new President and Managing Director of the SPCO.” said SPCO Board Chair Ann Huntrods. “Jessica’s enthusiasm, strategic thinking and knowledge of the orchestral industry shone throughout the interview process. We look forward to working with her as she leads the organization forward. I want to thank the board members, musicians, and administrative staff who helped with this thorough and thoughtful process.”

SPCO violinist and member of the search committee Nina Tso-Ning Fan said, “Jessica has a winning personality, an infectious enthusiasm, and a genuine love for the SPCO. I am confident that her leadership will bring renewed vigor and excitement to the organization and to the Arts Partnership.”

### **ABOUT JESSICA MALLOW GULLEY**

Jessica Mallow Gulley is the incoming President and Managing Director of The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, following six years of transformative leadership as President and CEO of the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra (KSO). Since 2019, she has guided the KSO through its centennial celebrations and the challenges of the global pandemic, leaving a legacy of stability, innovation, and deep community engagement.

Under her leadership, the KSO achieved its first balanced budget in more than a decade, expanded audiences by nearly 80% and grew ticket revenue by 190%. She introduced the Sound Waves Series, a groundbreaking platform for community collaboration and returned opera to Kalamazoo with a staging of Tosca. She also facilitated performances and residencies with world-renowned artists, including Yo-Yo Ma, Emanuel Ax and Branford Marsalis.

Previously, Mallow Gulley held leadership roles at the Jacksonville Symphony, Washington Performing Arts, and Orchestra Iowa. She holds a master’s in arts management from American University.

### **ABOUT THE SAINT PAUL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**

Founded in 1959, the Grammy Award-winning Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra (SPCO) is renowned for its artistic excellence, remarkable versatility of musical styles and adventurous programming. SPCO concerts are primarily musician-led and include a broad range of repertoire, from Baroque works to new music, in close collaboration with a dynamic roster of internationally acclaimed Artistic Partners. Through a distinctive musician-led artistic model, SPCO musicians lead and develop the orchestra’s programming, determine members and choose artistic collaborators.

In its commitment to making music accessible to everyone, the SPCO presents concerts in a variety of venues across the Twin Cities each year while offering the most affordable ticket prices of any professional orchestra in the United States. The orchestra also offers an innovative ticket membership model in which members pay a monthly fee to attend unlimited concerts, starting at \$5 per month.

### **MISSION OF THE SAINT PAUL CHAMBER ORHCESTRA**

Our mission is to sustain a world-class chamber orchestra at the highest standards of artistic excellence that enriches the Twin Cities community by sharing dynamic, distinctive and engaging performances. We are actively committed to accessibility and intentional inclusivity in all aspects of our work and continually strive to provide all people in our community with opportunities to connect with the music we perform.

For more information, visit [thespco.org](http://thespco.org).

### **PHOTOS**

Access photos of The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra [here](#). Click on the thumbnails to view images. Then, right click and select “Save image as...” to download.

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