



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

[January 12, 2022]

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**ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA NAMES JULIE GIBBS VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF
PHILANTHROPY OFFICER**

(January 12, 2022, St. Louis, MO) – Today, St. Louis Symphony Orchestra President and CEO Marie-Hélène Bernard announced the appointment of **Julie Gibbs** as the institution's Vice President and Chief Philanthropy Officer. Gibbs succeeds John Easley, who served in the position on an interim basis since October 2021.

Marie-Hélène Bernard, St. Louis Symphony Orchestra President and CEO, said, "Julie Gibbs is a proven fundraiser and strategist, and brings exceptional experience in major gift work, planned giving, annual campaigns, capital campaigns, corporate sponsorships, and events. She has a passion for the SLSO that spans more than 30 years, having previously worked as a member of our team. Julie's approach aligns with the SLSO's commitment to nurture strong relationships in support of the philanthropic spirit of our community. I am delighted to welcome her back to the SLSO family."

Nancy Galvin, Chair of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra Philanthropy Committee, said, "Julie Gibbs has a wonderful track record to making community connections. Her strong ties to the SLSO and the St. Louis community, and her belief in the SLSO's mission, make her an ideal fit to lead our team. I look forward to partnering with Julie as we advance the philanthropic efforts of the SLSO."



Julie Gibbs

Julie Gibbs said, "I'm beyond excited to return to the SLSO in this role to build on the successes of the past and, alongside Marie-Hélène, Nancy, and the entire SLSO family, help ensure the future of this beloved institution. The orchestra and its stunning home at Powell Hall bring so much joy to so many—I look forward to helping our community connect even more to the orchestra and music they love."

A St. Louis native and graduate of Parkway Central High School and the University of Missouri School of Journalism, Gibbs rejoins the SLSO after previously serving for ten years in marketing and development from 1988 to 1998. Most recently, she served as the Vice President of Development at the Jewish Federation of St. Louis. In that role, Gibbs led the development team, exceeding goals in annual fundraising and planned giving. In her eight years there, she led growth within Women's Philanthropy and helped create their now signature women's campaign and community event, L'Chaim. She previously held the positions of Director of Major Gifts and Affinity Groups and Director of Women's Philanthropy.



**St. Louis Symphony
Orchestra**

stéphane denève : music director

: news

She and her husband Ron have two adult children.

The SLSO recently reported \$7.758 million in philanthropic giving in FY21, which followed two years of record giving by the St. Louis community, with \$8.06 million raised for the Annual Fund in FY20, up from a record \$8.01 million in FY19.

About the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra

Celebrated as a leading American orchestra, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra is the second-oldest orchestra in the country, marking its 142nd year with the 2021/2022 season and its third with Music Director Stéphane Denève. The SLSO maintains its commitment to artistic excellence, educational impact, and community collaborations, honoring its mission of enriching lives through the power of music.

The SLSO serves as a convener of individuals, creators, and ideas, and is committed to building community through compelling and inclusive musical experiences. As it continues its longstanding focus on equity, diversity, inclusion, and access, the SLSO embraces 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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