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## **RAVINIA FESTIVAL NAMES JEFFREY P. HAYDON PRESIDENT AND CEO**

**HIGHLAND PARK, IL** — Ravinia Chairman Don Civgin today announced the hiring of Jeffrey P. Haydon as President and CEO of the nation's oldest music festival. Haydon is currently CEO of the Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts in New York and will replace Welz Kauffman, who announced in October that he would vacate the position in September 2020 after 20 successful years in that role.

"Ravinia's reputation for presenting outstanding performances by the world's greatest artists means that we can attract top talent not just to our stages but also to our staff and leadership," Civgin said. "Jeff's successful career in the arts reflects Ravinia's values and shows he can lead an organization through growth and change."

Since September 2012, Haydon has run Caramoor, which, like Ravinia, presents a diverse array of concerts and music programs, mentors young professional musicians, and provides music education opportunities to children. Prior to Caramoor, Haydon was executive director of the Ojai Music Festival and also held positions with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Fort Wayne Philharmonic, and Aspen Music Festival.

"I am honored to be asked to lead the Ravinia Festival," Haydon said. "Ravinia's international artistic reputation, legendary live-music experience, beautiful park, training of the next generation of artists, and local community impact with children provide an ideal opportunity to further inspire the world through music. I look forward to returning to Chicago to join the Ravinia Family."

The not-for-profit Ravinia Festival presents more than 120 events each summer, including the annual summer residency of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, on 37 wooded acres on Chicago's North Shore. More than a half-million people attend each summer. Ravinia's Reach Teach Play education programs serve 85,000 people each year through such services as Sistema Ravinia, which creates student orchestras by providing curriculum, instruments, and teachers to schools without programs of their own. Ravinia's Steans Music Institute is the onsite summer conservatory where young professional musicians from around the globe are immersed in music performance and study with the great artists who visit the festival. The Covid pandemic forced the cancellation of Ravinia's 2020 season, but the RTP and RSMI programs are proceeding in virtual environments. Ravinia also shares music and stories through *RaviniaTV*, with a new episode on YouTube every Friday. Visit [Ravinia.org](http://Ravinia.org) for more information.

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## JEFFREY P. HAYDON

Drawing on 25 years of arts management experience and a lifelong love of music as both an avid audience member and musician, Jeffrey P. Haydon serves as CEO of Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts. Since his arrival in September of 2012, Haydon has led a renaissance at Caramoor, including raising over \$40 million to quadruple the endowment and invest over \$15 million into the historic Rosen House, grounds, and gardens on the 90-acre estate. He has also launched several new programmatic initiatives, including a more than six-year collaboration with Jazz at Lincoln Center, an expansion of the American Roots series, and the acclaimed In the Garden of Sonic Delights sound art exhibition. Haydon led Caramoor to expand its yearly programming by over 80 percent and he initiated numerous community collaborations, all while improving Caramoor's financial performance by over 20 percent.

Previously, Haydon served as Executive Director of the Ojai Music Festival, where he led the festival through a number of major transformations to further position it as one of the preeminent musical destinations for artists and audiences alike. During a time when many cultural organizations experienced declines in donations and audiences, Haydon helped the Ojai Music Festival double its budget, triple the number of artistic and education programs produced, and improve its balance sheet. A key focus of Haydon's work was to rally the surrounding community and festival constituents to raise over \$4 million, from 2008 to 2011, to completely rebuild the historic 1,000-seat Libbey Bowl, which serves as the home for the Ojai Music Festival and many other events throughout the year.

Earlier in his career, Haydon held positions with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Fort Wayne Philharmonic, and Aspen Music Festival. As part of the League of American Orchestras' Orchestra Management Fellowship Program, Haydon worked with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Fort Wayne Philharmonic, and Seattle Symphony. He also managed the Cultural Events performing arts series in Tacoma, WA.

A native of California, Haydon earned a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration through the Business Leadership honors program and a minor in music from the University of Puget Sound. He also completed the Stanford Business School's competitive Executive Non-Profit Leaders in the Arts program in association with National Arts Strategies.

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