



Contact: Nicole Mieske Knab  
Marketing & Communications Coordinator  
Piano Cleveland  
216-707-5397  
nicole.mieske@pianocleveland.org

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Marissa Glynias Moore Named Executive Director of Piano Cleveland**

**CLEVELAND, OH – October 1, 2020** Piano Cleveland, the presenting organization of the Cleveland International Piano Competition, has named Marissa Glynias Moore, Ph.D. as the Executive Director, effective October 1, 2020. In Moore's new role, she will support the organization's vision of establishing Cleveland as an international piano destination, cultivating the future of piano music in all forms, and investing in Cleveland through community engagement and new partnerships.

Moore's position represents a newly created organizational structure at Piano Cleveland, where she will lead in partnership with President Yaron Kohlberg. Kohlberg will continue to spearhead the artistic vision of the organization, cultivate donor relationships, build Piano Cleveland's local reputation and establish international connections, while Moore will ensure the successful execution of programming and partnerships through strategic initiatives and oversight.

"Marissa has proven to be an incredible asset to Piano Cleveland. Her work ethic and leadership have been instrumental in implementing new programming," said Yaron Kohlberg, President of Piano Cleveland. "With our team in place, we're excited to raise Cleveland's reputation as the piano capital in America and take Piano Cleveland to new heights."

Moore started with Piano Cleveland in May 2019 as Development Officer and instantly energized a significant transformation within the organization, resulting in a promotion to Director of Development in September 2019. She played a critical role in the rebranding of Piano Cleveland and broadening the mission of the organization through new programming and activities for pianists, audiences, and piano enthusiasts of all ages, cultures, and socioeconomic backgrounds. Moore was also instrumental in the creative development and execution of the organization's first virtual competition, *Virtu(al)oso*, which established a platform that innovated the concert experience for artists and audiences alike. As a Cleveland native, Moore will continue to strengthen ties between the storied organization and the diversity of Cleveland communities, and bring artistic excellence to Cleveland audiences and performers through new initiatives and programming.

“Marissa has more than achieved her promise showed since we hired her and immediately became an integral driver of the evolution of Piano Cleveland,” said Zeda Blau and Herb Wainer, Co-Chairs of the organization’s Board of Directors. “We are excited to elevate her to a more significant leadership role and to see Piano Cleveland evolve in new and innovative ways with her in this position.”

Moore’s history as an arts and culture professional stems from her experience as a Laurel graduate and flutist in the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra, which sparked her genuine interest in how people engage with music on personal and communal levels. Her passion for understanding musical meaning led her to pursue a dual degree at Harvard College in music and archaeology, and she received her Ph.D. in ethnomusicology – or the study of people making music - from Yale University in 2018, the first-ever granted by the institution. Moore went on to teach undergraduate courses of her own design in the Yale Department of Music. Moore has used her background in academia to seek out ways to engage the public around the arts, including previous projects with the Center for Traditional Dance in New York City and the New Haven Symphony. As the result, Moore’s work experiences range across project management, program design, grant writing, marketing, and communications.

Moore and Kohlberg are joined by Director of Operations, Crystal Carlson on the Executive Team at Piano Cleveland. Recent honoree of 2019 Musical America’s Top 30 Professionals of the Year, Carlson has been with the organization for nine years and helped navigate Piano Cleveland through monumental evolutions. She is part of the fabric of Piano Cleveland and brings great insight into the organization’s history and a wealth of knowledge to the competition world. Together the trifecta, along with the new staffing structure, will allow new opportunities for the organization to secure Piano Cleveland at the forefront of the performing arts world.

###

### **About Piano Cleveland**

Established in 1974, Piano Cleveland promotes Cleveland as a premier piano destination by presenting world-class programming and community engagement and education initiatives. The organization’s four major programs and events include the quadrennial Cleveland International Piano Competition, CIPC for Young Artists, Concert Series, and year-round education and community outreach programming. For more information, visit [pianocleveland.org](http://pianocleveland.org).