



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 9, 2022

**CONTACT: Michele Holzman,
COT General Manager
PHONE: 520-730-3371
EMAIL: manager@cotmusic.org**

CIVIC ORCHESTRA OF TUCSON APPOINTS NEW MUSIC DIRECTOR

After a year-long search, the Civic Orchestra of Tucson (COT) announces the appointment of Dr. Keun Oh as its 4th Music Director. Dr. Oh is looking forward to conducting Mozart's Concerto for Flute and Harp in the upcoming COT concerts on March 19 (Oro Valley Church of the Nazarene) and March 20 (Crowder Hall, University of Arizona).

Dr. Keun Oh is an experienced and passionate young conductor who began his musical career in Korea. He has a Masters' Degree in Orchestra Conducting from Carnegie Mellon University and a Doctoral Degree in Orchestral and Opera Conducting from the University of Arizona. He has been the Assistant Conductor at Carnegie Mellon and for Maestro Thomas Cockrell at the University of Arizona. Dr. Oh placed in the top ten at the Antal Doráti International Conducting Competition in Budapest, Hungary, and was a finalist at the 53rd Besançon International Conducting Competition in France. He will assume the position of Music Director for COT in August.

COT will bid farewell this May to its outstanding conductor, Charles Bontrager, who is retiring. When Maestro Bontrager joined the organization 4½ years ago, he had recently retired from his position as the Assistant Director of Orchestra Activities at the University of Arizona, where he taught graduate level conducting. The orchestra has developed significantly under the tutelage of Maestro Bontrager. His choice of repertoire and leadership during rehearsals has lifted the orchestra to new levels. Maestro Bontrager will conduct Shostakovich's Symphony No 5 in the concerts on March 19 and 20. He will conduct his final concerts with COT on April 30 in Green Valley and May 1 at Reid Park.

Remaining Civic Orchestra of Tucson concerts this season:

Saturday, March 19 at 3:00 pm

Oro Valley Church of the Nazarene, 500 W. Calle Concordia, Oro Valley, AZ

Sunday, March 20, at 3:30 pm

Crowder Hall, Fred Fox School of Music, University of Arizona, 1017 N. Olive Rd, Tucson, AZ

Saturday, April 30, 3:00 pm

Valley Presbyterian Church, 2800 S. Camino del Sol, Green Valley, AZ

Sunday, May 1, 7:00 pm

DeMeester Outdoor Performance Center, Reid Park, 800 S. Concert Pl., Tucson, AZ

No tickets are required for these free concerts.
Visit COTmusic.org or call 520-730-3371 for more information.

*Founded in 1975, the Civic Orchestra of Tucson is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.
Donations are appreciated.*

###