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**COLORADO SYMPHONY APPOINTS DANIEL WACHTER AS NEW PRESIDENT & CEO**

*Wachter brings over 20 years of business experience including most recently as CEO of Chromatic Technologies, Inc. in Colorado Springs*

Mar. 11, 2025 – Denver, CO – The Colorado Symphony is pleased to announce the appointment of Daniel Wachter as its new President & Chief Executive Officer, effective April 1, 2025. Wachter succeeds Mark Cantrell, who leaves the organization after a successful two-year tenure filled with significant achievements in artistic programming, community engagement, and financial growth. Under Cantrell’s leadership, the Symphony expanded its partnerships, strengthened its financial position, and reached new audiences across Colorado, leaving the organization well-positioned for continued success under Wachter’s leadership.



Wachter joined the Colorado Symphony Board of Trustees in 2023 and has served as Co-Vice Chair since 2024. Prior to his appointment as President & CEO, he spent five years at Chromatic Technologies, Inc. (CTI), initially as Chief Commercial Officer and, for the past 15 months, as CEO. His commercially driven tenure at CTI was marked by innovation & growth, underscoring his leadership and strategic vision.

Under Daniel's leadership, the Colorado Symphony will continue to build on the orchestra's legacy, leading initiatives that further elevate the cultural impact of the orchestra and enhance the experience for all patrons. The organization also remains committed to ongoing strategic and partnership

initiatives that will further enrich the community's engagement with the arts.

“Music has always been a powerful joy and force in my life – an art form that connects, inspires, and unites us in ways that transcend words. The Colorado Symphony is not just an orchestra; it is a vibrant cultural institution that brings people together through the universal language of music. It is a place where artistry meets innovation, and where tradition blends with bold pioneering ideas.



Having served on the Board in the previous 2 years, I have experienced firsthand the extraordinary dedication of our musicians, the passion of our leadership team and staff, and the unwavering support of our audiences and community. As President & CEO, my mission is to build upon this strong foundation and help propel the Symphony to even greater heights into its 2<sup>nd</sup> century—expanding our reach, deepening our community impact, and shaping the future of live symphonic music for generations to come.

I wholeheartedly believe that the arts are essential to a thriving society, and that it is good business to support the arts. They inspire creativity and innovation, foster understanding, and create shared experiences that strengthen our communities both culturally and economically. I am honored to take on this serving leadership role and look forward to working alongside our musicians, board, staff, and supporters to ensure that the Colorado Symphony remains a beacon of artistic excellence and innovation in Denver and Colorado, and far beyond.”

### **About Daniel Wachter**

A seasoned global executive and transformative business leader with extensive experience across industries, Daniel Wachter brings a wealth of experience in growth, transformation, and organizational leadership to the Colorado Symphony. With a business career spanning over 25 years, he has held executive leadership roles across multiple industries, including consumer packaged goods, healthcare and industrial packaging, and serving the performing arts on Boards since 2018. Wachter is recognized for his ability to drive turnarounds and scalability, foster innovation, and align business strategies & stakeholders in effective execution and implementation.

Wachter’s passion for music and the arts has played a significant role in his leadership journey. Prior to joining the Colorado Symphony, he served on the Board of Directors for the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra (CSO) from 2018–2023, where he worked closely with the President & CEO and Board leadership to develop and implement long-term strategic initiatives. He was instrumental in aligning the Greater Cincinnati economic development- and business community to support and join the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra’s 2020 European Tour, which was ultimately canceled due to the global pandemic. However, he facilitated the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra’s participation in the U.S. Consulate General’s virtual "Musik als Brücke – Music as a Bridge" event in November 2020, strengthening cultural ties between Munich and Cincinnati in those unprecedented times. Wachter has built lasting relationships with musicians, staff, board members, and influential leaders in the arts community, further cementing his commitment to fostering meaningful connections between the arts and business.

In addition to his strategic and hands-on leadership, Wachter has contributed to arts-based business leadership development initiatives. He hosted and facilitated a series of podcast discussions as part of *Making Leadership Tangible – Analogies in the Arts*, featuring prominent figures such as:

- François López-Ferrer, then Assistant Conductor of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra
- Julia Adolphe, contemporary classical music Composer
- Stefani Matsuo, the CSO’s first female Concertmaster



- Louis Langrée, then Music Director of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra
- Raphael von Hoensbroech, Conductor, Violinist, Artistic Director, and General Manager

Since joining the Colorado Symphony Board in 2023, Wachter has played a pivotal role in launching the “Conducting Business Leadership” Workshop series in collaboration with von Hoensbroech, which debuted in 2024 and will continue in 2025. As Co-Vice Chair since August 2024, he has worked closely with Board leadership while increasing his own personal financial contributions to the organization. His leadership was also key in facilitating a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Colorado Symphony and the Bayerische Philharmonie in Munich to enhance the newly formed economic City-2-City Partnership between Denver and Munich.

Professionally, Wachter began his career with Storopack, a family-owned German-based global protective packaging provider. After 21 years and turning the North America business around as its President, he joined the Healthcare Packaging Division of Bemis (BMS), a then US-based corporation listed at the NYSE, as Vice President Global Sales & Marketing. With the successful commercial integration merging with Amcor (NYSE: AMCR) in June 2019, Wachter decided to leave in January 2020 and move his family to Colorado Springs CO to join Chromatic Technologies Inc. (CTI) as Shareholder and its Chief Commercial Officer, taking on its CEO role as of January 2024.

As investor, Wachter is engaged in various companies and has joined the Board of Advisors of Diesco, a privately held beverages & packaging company in the Dominican Republic with businesses & operations on the island as well as in Puerto Rico and Columbia, in 2023.

Wachter is a multilingual leader, fluent in English, German, and French, which has enabled him to build strong international relation- and partnerships throughout his career. His ability to navigate complex global markets, lead diverse teams, and implement strategic innovations has earned him recognition as a thought leader in business transformation and organizational growth in various business- as well as the performing arts industries.

He holds an Executive MBA from Steinbeis University (Germany) in cooperation with University of St. Gallen (Switzerland), the ESB Business School Reutlingen (Germany), the Kelley School of Business at the Indiana University in Bloomington (USA) as well as the DePaul University in Chicago (USA). Always one to embrace new realities and unconventional thinking, Daniel has completed executive education programs on driving digital business strategies at Harvard Business School (USA) and at the Columbia Business School (USA), which has allowed him to skillfully propel digital transformation projects to stay ahead of competition & disruption. Recently, Daniel has been nominated & selected for the Class of 2025 of the Colorado Springs Leadership Institute (CSLI).

Beyond his professional achievements, Wachter is an avid cyclist and snowboarder, embodying a deep appreciation for Colorado’s outdoor lifestyle. His serving leadership philosophy is centered around collaboration, innovation, and fostering a culture of excellence—qualities he is eager to bring to the Colorado Symphony in its next chapter.



Wachter currently lives in Colorado Springs, CO, with his wife Tina and their daughters Louisa and Fiona. In 2022, he and his family became US citizens while retaining their German citizenship.

### **Leadership Reactions**

John Street, Chair of the Colorado Symphony Board of Trustees, expressed confidence in Wachter's leadership: "Daniel's extensive experience in both corporate and nonprofit sectors, combined with his passion for the arts, makes him uniquely qualified to guide the Symphony into its next chapter. His strategic mindset, leadership expertise, and deep appreciation for music will be invaluable as we continue to grow and innovate. Over the past few years, we have witnessed firsthand his commitment to this organization through his work on the Board, and we know that his ability to bring people together and drive meaningful progress will position the Symphony for long-term success. We are excited to see him take on this role and look forward to working with him to strengthen our artistic and educational initiatives while expanding our reach in the community."

Outgoing President & CEO Mark Cantrell reflected on his tenure: "Leading the Colorado Symphony has been a privilege. I am confident that under Daniel's leadership, the Symphony will continue to thrive and enrich our community."

For more information, contact Nick Dobreff at 303.308.2477 or [ndobreff@coloradosymphony.org](mailto:ndobreff@coloradosymphony.org).

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### **CONTACTS:**

For more information or to request interviews, please contact:

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For high-resolution, downloadable images of the Colorado Symphony, contact: [ndobreff@coloradosymphony.org](mailto:ndobreff@coloradosymphony.org)

Support for the 2024/25 Colorado Symphony Season is provided by: The Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD), Genesee Mountain Foundation, Denver Arts & Venues, Bonfils-Stanton Foundation, Chamber Initiatives, and the Colorado Symphony Guild.

### **TICKETS:**

Tickets to Colorado Symphony events are available online at [coloradosymphony.org/tickets](https://coloradosymphony.org/tickets), by phone at 303.623.7876, and in person at the Boettcher Concert Hall Box Office, Denver Performing Arts Complex, 1000 14th Street. The Box Office is open Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday, noon - 5 p.m., and two hours prior to each performance.



### **ABOUT THE COLORADO SYMPHONY**

One of the leading orchestras in the United States, the Colorado Symphony Association is a not-for-profit 501 (c)(3) organization performing more than 150 concerts annually at Boettcher Concert Hall in downtown Denver and across Colorado. Led by Principal Conductor Peter Oundjian, the Colorado Symphony is home to eighty full-time musicians, representing more than a dozen nations, and regularly welcomes the most celebrated artists from the world of symphonic music and beyond. The orchestra celebrated their Centennial during the 2023/24 concert season. In the last year, the Colorado Symphony served over 340,000 people attending live performances at concert and non-traditional venues throughout Colorado's Front Range. Recognized as an incubator of innovation, creativity, and excellence, the Colorado Symphony continually expands its reach through in-person and virtual education programs, outreach, and programming. The Colorado Symphony partners with the state's leading musical artists, cultural organizations, corporations, foundations, sports teams, and individuals to expose diverse audiences to the transformative power of music. To learn more, visit [coloradosymphony.org](https://coloradosymphony.org).