



Laura Holley Appointed to Succeed Jane Whichard as Executive Director of The Music Academy of North Carolina

The Board of Directors of The Music Academy of North Carolina is pleased to announce the appointment of Laura Holley as the new Executive Director, effective June 1st.

Currently Associate Director, Laura joined The Music Academy's piano faculty in 1993. As an instructor, she received 5 Faculty Merit and Service Awards, directed the National Piano Competition, and eventually chaired the Piano Department. In 2001, she became the Director of Program Development and was later appointed Director of Development (2007) and Associate Director (2008).

Active in the broader nonprofit community, Laura is chair of the Steering Committee of the Guilford Nonprofit Consortium and was previously chair of the Program Committee. In 2009, she was selected to attend the American Express Nonprofit Leadership Academy, a nation-wide program that develops the country's finest emerging leaders who are dedicated and poised to be at the helm of the nonprofit sector. The curriculum of the week-long program, held at American Express offices, focuses on building the personal, business and leadership skills needed to run a successful nonprofit organization.

Laura has a Bachelor's Degree in Piano Performance from the University of Southern Mississippi and a Master's Degree in Piano from the Peabody Conservatory of Music. Additional post-graduate education includes coursework towards the Duke Certificate in Nonprofit Management, and training in the implementation of the Benevon Model, a systematic approach to building sustainable funding for nonprofit organizations.

The Music Academy's Board of Directors is confident that Laura Holley's 17 years of commitment to the school's mission, her strong history as a performer and teacher, and her vision for the organization's future make her a wise choice to lead The Music Academy of North Carolina.
