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## **Jazz St. Louis Retains Phillips Oppenheim for Executive Search**

*Celia L. Hosler will lead during the transition as Interim President & CEO*

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St. Louis (January 27, 2022) – Jazz St. Louis (JSL) has engaged Phillips Oppenheim, a national executive search firm, to assist in the recruitment of a President & CEO for JSL. Celebrating 30 years as a premier executive search firm, New York-based Phillips Oppenheim specializes in the nonprofit sector with a dedication to diversity, equity, and inclusion. The firm is distinguished for recruiting senior leaders for top visual and performing art organizations. Locally, this includes the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra President and CEO, Marie-Hélène Bernard.

Bill Higley, chair of the Jazz St. Louis Board of Directors, leads the search committee with members of the Board.

“Under the leadership of Gene Dobbs Bradford,” Higley said, “JSL has grown from a hotel jazz bar to a multifaceted arts organization now respected internationally for its music education, historic collaborations, and community engagement, in addition to being home to one of the finest listening rooms in the world.”

The organization seeks a President and CEO who is a skilled leader and proven manager to lead JSL at a critical point in its history, offering engagement, creativity, and guidance to both the organization and the multifaceted communities it serves.

“Through our performance and educational offerings to our various partnerships, we’ve witnessed the demonstrable healing power of jazz for individuals and communities.” Higley stated, “Thanks to Gene we are well-positioned for explosive growth.”

Effective February 1, 2022, Celia L. Hosler will lead the organization as part-time Interim President and CEO. Hosler has spent much of her career in the nonprofit sector, including serving as COO and CFO at COCA and consulting with numerous local arts organizations. In fall 2019, Hosler stepped in as interim leader of the Regional Arts Commission during their Executive Director transition.

Jazz St. Louis envisions naming a new President and CEO within four-to-six months.

### **About Jazz St. Louis**

Jazz St. Louis advances the uniquely American art of jazz through performance, education, and community engagement. Each year, this non-profit organization presents over 270 performances in its internationally acclaimed concert series. Jazz St. Louis takes a three-pronged approach to its work: presenting jazz, encouraging and educating future audiences, and nurturing budding musicians. For more information about Jazz St. Louis visit [www.jazzstl.org](http://www.jazzstl.org) or [www.facebook.com/jazzstl](http://www.facebook.com/jazzstl).