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Chris Cox, Director of Marketing and Communications

Office: 412.281.0912 ext. 217

Mobile: 412.427.7088

Email: ccox@pittsburghopera.org

Pittsburgh Opera Announces Dena and Martin LaMar as New Board Members

PITTSBURGH, PA Thursday, March 14, 2019 – Pittsburgh Opera proudly announces that Dena and Martin LaMar have joined its Board of Directors.



Dena is the Regional Vice President for the Great Lakes Regions at Advance Auto Parts Inc., the largest automotive aftermarket parts provider in North America, for professional and do-it-yourself customers.

Previously, Dena had been the Vice President of Operations for GetGo Cafe & Market, a division of Giant Eagle Corporation, and Regional General Manager for Pennsylvania for Walmart Corporation.

A graduate of North Carolina A&T State University and University of Northern Virginia, Dena also serves on Boards of Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Foundation, Pittsburgh Ballet Theater, and the Robert Morris University President Circle.

Martin is a Regional Vice President for McCormack Baron Salazar, with oversight of a billion dollar real estate portfolio. Prior to this role, he served as President and CEO of Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority, Senior Vice President of the Philadelphia Housing Authority, and multiple Director-level position within the Atlanta Housing Authority.

Martin is an alumnus of the Alabama A&M University, where he graduated with a BA in Finance; the University of Washington, where he earned Master's degrees in Social Policy and Public Administration; and Brenau (GA) University, where he earned an MBA.

Civically conscious, he also holds a Board of Directors position with the Urban League of Pittsburgh, the Robert Morris University President Circle, and supports The Pittsburgh Promise.



The LaMars live in Pittsburgh and are the proud parents of their daughter Kennedy, a student at The Ohio State University.

"We couldn't be happier to welcome Dena and Martin," says Pittsburgh Opera Board Chair Michele Fabrizi. "Their impressive credentials and track record of excellence, combined with their dedication to serving their community, makes them a true Pittsburgh power couple, and wonderful additions to our Board."

Pittsburgh Opera celebrates its 80th season in 2018-19. Established by five intrepid women in 1939, Pittsburgh Opera is viewed as one of the most vibrant opera organizations in the U.S., with a rich artistic tradition, outstanding educational programs, an acclaimed artist training program, and a progressive outlook toward the future. Its green initiative culminated in LEED® Silver certification for its Strip District headquarters, and its capacity as a true community partner has increased significantly under General Director Christopher Hahn's leadership.