

Artis—Naples

*Home of The Baker Museum
and the Naples Philharmonic*

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ARTIS—NAPLES ANNOUNCES \$1 MILLION MATCHING GIFT

Kimberly K. Querrey and Louis A. Simpson pledge \$1 million matching gift to support Artis—Naples during impact of COVID-19 pandemic

Naples, FL - Artis—Naples announced today that Board Chair Kimberly K. Querrey and her husband Louis A. Simpson have pledged a special matching gift of \$1 million to provide stability for the organization as it responds to the impact of COVID-19. This new gift will match all new and increased gifts through December 31, 2020 up to \$1 million.

Currently in the final year of her three-year tenure as Board Chair, Querrey said “Artis—Naples has built a strong fiscal and artistic foundation that will help weather the unprecedented impact of COVID-19. With this gift we hope to encourage the community to join with us and help provide additional financial support in order to allow Artis—Naples to be creative and innovative and to think differently about our relationship with our patrons during the challenging months ahead.”

CEO and President Kathleen van Bergen said “This tremendous gift is yet another example of Kimberly’s amazing leadership and will help provide additional resources for us to face the ongoing impact of the current global pandemic. There are still many questions about what activities will be possible and prudent in the fall, but we hope that Kimberly and Lou’s remarkable generosity and commitment to the future of Artis—Naples during this difficult time inspires those who believe that arts and culture are essential to the quality of life in Naples.”

In 2016, Querrey and Simpson made the largest single philanthropic commitment in the organization’s history, a \$15 million lead gift for the Future—Forward Campaign for Cultural Excellence that has, to date, raised over \$75 million. This new gift will be used to support operations and special initiatives related to the impact of COVID-19 in the coming months.

Artis—Naples has implemented modifications to its operational plans that, combined with the financial and artistic successes of the first nine months of the 2019-20 season, allow confidence as the fiscal year end approaches on June 30. The nearly 300 performances, lectures, exhibitions, museum tours, events and educational activities that were canceled between March 12 and June 30 accounted for more than \$5 million in earned revenue. While nearly 80% of loyal patrons have agreed to keep their funds on account for future seasons and many others have donated their tickets, the impact of COVID-19 on the operations of Artis—Naples has been significant.

Thanks in large part to ongoing efforts by Querrey, van Bergen, and the Board of Directors to put the organization on a solid financial footing, Artis—Naples has not had to furlough any full-time employees to date. With the current uncertainty about when large-scale gatherings will again be possible, however, the Board of Directors and administration are exploring a variety of options for presenting performances, exhibitions, and educational programs during the 2020-21 season.

As Artis—Naples continues to make plans for the upcoming season, the organization will comply with guidance from Federal, state and local authorities and will be responsible and measured in decisions about public performances and events. As has been true since this public health crisis began, Artis—Naples' main priority remains the health and safety of patrons, musicians, team members, visiting artists, students and the wider community.

ARTIS—NAPLES

Home of The Baker Museum and the Naples Philharmonic, Artis—Naples is unique among cultural institutions nationwide, equally dedicated to both the visual and performing arts featuring artists of global distinction.

KIMBERLY K. QUERREY and LOUIS A. SIMPSON CULTURAL CAMPUS

Led by CEO and President Kathleen van Bergen and Sharon and Timothy Ubben Music Director Andrey Boreyko, we offer audiences more than 800 paid and free events annually within a variety of venues and settings situated throughout the 8.5-acre Kimberly K. Querrey and Louis A. Simpson Cultural Campus. Artis—Naples welcomes more than 300,000 visitors each year for a broad array of artistic and educational opportunities perfect for audiences of all backgrounds and interests. The Kimberly K. Querrey and Louis A. Simpson Cultural Campus is home to five buildings, including two performance halls (Frances Pew Hayes Hall and Myra J. Daniels Pavilion), The Baker Museum, the Toni Stabile Education Building and the Kohan Administration Building.

In the 2014-15 season, Andrey Boreyko assumed the title of Music Director and serves in this capacity for Artis—Naples. Boreyko is internationally recognized as one of the most exciting and dynamic conductors working today. This appointment, extended through 2022, marks his first American post.

The Wall Street Journal says van Bergen and Boreyko have ushered in “an impressive new phase” for classical music in Southwest Florida.

NAPLES PHILHARMONIC

The Naples Philharmonic has long been recognized as one of the cornerstones of Southwest Florida's arts community. As part of Artis—Naples, the Naples Philharmonic performs more than 140 orchestral and chamber music concerts, as well as opera and ballet, education, community and special event concerts annually between September and June in the 1,477-seat Hayes Hall, the 283-seat Daniels Pavilion and around the Southwest Florida region.

Jack Everly is Principal Pops Conductor and in the 2019-20 season celebrates 10 years in this role, bringing pops performances that celebrate music in its many forms. In 2017, Romanian conductor Radu Paponiu was named Assistant Conductor of the Naples Philharmonic and director of the Naples Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, and in 2019 was promoted to Associate Conductor.

THE BAKER MUSEUM

The Baker Museum is one of the foremost fine art museums in Southwest Florida. The museum hosts several traveling exhibitions annually to complement installations of works from its permanent collection. Comprising more than 3,500 objects, the Museum's broad holdings of 20th and 21st century art reflect the generosity and commitment of area collectors. Of particular strength are the Museum's collections of American and Mexican modern art and significant gifts from the personal collection of Olga Hirshhorn.

With almost two decades of collecting and exhibiting, the Museum is dedicated to stewardship and scholarship from both its growing permanent collection and outside sources. At the same time, The Baker Museum seeks out the best traveling exhibitions from the leading arts institutions in the world—including recently the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Smithsonian Institutions and École des Beaux-Arts, Paris—to enrich the Southwest Florida community.

The Baker Museum exhibitions reopened to the public on December 1, 2019, after being closed for more than two years in the wake of Hurricane Irma. The repair of the museum was paired with a simultaneous expansion of the building to the south, which creates new spaces for multidisciplinary exploration and social interaction.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY

In addition to creating and presenting visual and performing arts, Artis—Naples provides robust education and community activities for students of all ages. More than 45,000 students from Collier County Public Schools interact with Artis—Naples education programming each year both on its cultural campus and in classrooms. The Lifelong Learning program provides engaging lectures and study opportunities for adults seeking to engage more deeply with the arts.

The Friends of Artis—Naples, with more than 4,000 members, offers activities, travel experiences and events geared toward creating a deeper relationship between patrons and the arts.

In 2017, Artis—Naples acquired the Naples International Film Festival (NIFF), expanding its film offerings and providing a platform for the festival's continued excellence and growth. In 2018, NIFF celebrated its tenth year in the community, and in 2019, NIFF was named one of *MovieMaker* Magazine's Top 25 Coolest Film Festivals in the World.

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