

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Toronto Mendelssohn Choir Announces Elise Naccarato as Managing Director

Toronto, July 21, 2026 —The Toronto Mendelssohn Choir (TMChoir) is pleased to announce the appointment of Elise Naccarato as its new Managing Director, effective July 13, 2026. Naccarato will work in close partnership with Jean-Sébastien Vallée, TMChoir's Artistic Director and Principal Conductor, as the organization enters an exciting new chapter. Jean-Sébastien's contract was recently renewed for an additional five years through the 2030-31 season.

Naccarato brings a distinctive blend of artistic and executive leadership to the role, with a career dedicated to building ambitious, sustainable choral organizations that advance artistic innovation and strengthen choral communities. She is the founder and Artistic & Executive Director of Myriad Ensemble, which she has grown from its inception into an internationally recognized upper-voice choir of more than 80 singers. Prior to joining TMChoir, Naccarato served as Managing Director and Associate Conductor of Chorus Niagara, contributing to the organization's growth over nearly a decade. She holds an MBA in Innovation Leadership from the University of Fredericton, a Master of Music in Choral Conducting from the University of Toronto, and a Bachelor of Music from McMaster University.

"Elise's rare combination of financial discipline, organizational growth expertise and genuine choral artistry makes her exactly the right partner for this next chapter," said David Raju, Board Chair of the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir. "Her appointment follows a thoughtful search process and an organizational design review undertaken over the past year, and we are confident she will help TMChoir build on its momentum."

"It is an incredible honour to join the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir at such an important moment in its history," said Naccarato. "I have always believed that artistic excellence and strong, forward-thinking leadership go hand in hand. TMChoir's extraordinary legacy and leadership continue to propel its artistic momentum. I am excited to build on this, explore new possibilities, and collaborate alongside the remarkable TMChoir community."

The Board also extends its sincere thanks to Kathleen Stevenson, Jean-Sébastien Vallée, and TMChoir's staff for their leadership and stability throughout the organization's recent transition.

Please join us in welcoming Elise Naccarato to the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir community!



About the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir

Founded in 1894, the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir is one of Canada's leading symphonic choruses. Recognized for its artistic excellence, innovative programming, and longstanding partnerships with Canada's leading orchestras and artists, TMChoir enriches the cultural life of Toronto through performances, education, and community engagement.

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