Virtuosi Concerts Annual General Meeting President's Report – March 17, 2024

Welcome to Virtuosi Concerts' Annual General Meeting!

Today's meeting marks a historic first for Virtuosi Concerts — our first Annual General Meeting as an independent organization. The Virtuosi Concerts series began in 1990 and was closely associated with the University of Winnipeg for much of the past thirty years. The University of Winnipeg ended its association with Virtuosi in 2021 owing to the University's new financial prioritization resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since that time, Virtuosi has gone through organizational and creative renewal, appointing our new Artistic Director, Jennifer Thiessen in December of 2021 and new Executive Director, Heather Lewis in September of 2022. Throughout, Virtuosi has remained dedicated to presenting both emerging and established artists, performing new and progressive music alongside well-known pillars of the classical canon. Virtuosi's first two seasons as an independent organization included performances by such outstanding artists as Andriana Chuchman and the Hoosli Ukrainian Male Chorus, Ensemble Made in Canada, Infusion Baroque, and the Gryphon Trio, to name a few.

As a prolific contributor to the artistic scene of our province, Virtuosi continues to partner with other music and arts organizations, including the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, Manitoba Chamber Orchestra, and Winnipeg New Music Festival, who work together with us on a variety of projects. Virtuosi's 2023-2024 season, now underway, continues our artistic vision. Virtuosi's initiatives also include our yearly Skywalk Concert Series presented in collaboration with the Millennium Library, and our long-running Young Artist Program, which offers performance opportunities to up-and-coming Manitoba musicians.

Virtuosi Concerts deeply appreciates the unwavering support and patronage of our wonderful audience, our funding organizations, and individual donors. We particularly acknowledge our many subscribers, some of whom are in attendance at today's Annual General Meeting. Becoming a Virtuosi subscriber includes voting rights at our Annual General Meeting. We are grateful for your participation and engagement in our future plans and endeavours. We also encourage you to subscribe to our 2024-25 season, which we look forward to announcing in the near future.

Thank you again for attending today's Annual General Meeting, and we hope to see you at Virtuosi events throughout the season!

Respectfully submitted,

Paul R. J. McCulloch Board President, Virtuosi Concerts Inc.