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**For Immediate Release**

## **Chattanooga Symphony & Opera Announces 3rd Annual Kayoko Dan Conducting Scholarship Recipient**

Chattanooga, TN - 6/17/2019 – The Chattanooga Symphony & Opera is pleased to announce Matthew Gardner as the recipient of its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Kayoko Dan Conducting Scholarship. The scholarship will offer Mr. Gardner a unique opportunity to work directly with the CSO's Music Director Kayoko Dan during the 2019/20 season.

Mr. Gardner is a senior Instrumental Music Education major and percussionist at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. A native of Chattanooga, he graduated from Chattanooga School for the Arts and Sciences. After graduating from UTC in 2020, he plans to further his education in percussion performance and orchestral conducting. He has held principal positions in orchestras and ensembles in the Chattanooga area, including the Chattanooga Symphony & Opera Youth Orchestras and the UTC Orchestra.

"I was lucky to learn from a number of mentors when I was a young conductor, and while I can never repay them for their guidance, I can continue to 'pay it forward' by mentoring a new generation of conductors. I am excited to begin working with Matthew, a very promising young musician," said Dan, who will celebrate her ninth year as the CSO's Music Director and Conductor in September.

In addition to the scholarship, Mr. Gardner will learn score study techniques, orchestra operations, management and leadership skills, and rehearsal techniques. Individual conducting lessons with Ms. Dan are included, as well as opportunities to attend CSO rehearsals and performances throughout the season.

For more information about the Kayoko Dan Conducting Scholarship please visit:  
<http://www.chattanoogasympphony.org/conducting-scholarship>.

### **About Us**

*The Chattanooga Symphony and Opera continues to inspire, engage, and enrich the greater Chattanooga community as it enters its 87th season. In addition to Masterworks, Pops, Chamber, and special event concerts, the CSO is well known for its education and engagement events with the musicians of the CSO performing to more than 30,000 students each year throughout the greater Chattanooga Community. Conducted by Music Director Kayoko Dan, the CSO consists of top players from the Chattanooga area as well as from across the southern region.*