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NORTH CAROLINA OPERA SENIOR STAFF UPDATES

RALEIGH, N.C. – **North Carolina Opera** is pleased to announce the extension of Artistic & Music Director Timothy Myers' contract through the 2017-2018 season. Artistic Director of NCO since its founding in 2010, Myers has been integral to the establishment of a high artistic standard and performances that are lauded locally and nationally. In addition, Myers is very involved in fundraising and strategic activities for the company.

“**Timothy Myers** has a vision for the organization that shows the vibrancy and centrality of opera. His fantastic work with singers and orchestra has made great musical quality a hallmark of North Carolina Opera productions. We are thrilled to continue to have his vigorous artistic leadership going forward.” said Eric Mitchko, North Carolina Opera General Director.

“My work in building NCO over the last several years has been incredibly rewarding. I wholeheartedly believe that the Triangle area should have the very best in the quality of its arts organizations, and I look forward to continuing to make NCO an indelible part of the cultural fabric of our great state,” said Myers.

In addition to his work with NCO, Myers maintains an active guest conducting career with leading opera houses and symphonic orchestras around the world. His upcoming engagements include main-stage engagements with Houston Grand Opera, Washington National Opera, and Wexford Festival Opera. Timothy resides in downtown Raleigh with his wife, Christina Floyd Myers.

North Carolina Opera is also pleased to announce the appointment of Ashley Parks as the new Director of Development for the growing organization. A native of Cary, Parks comes to NCO from the Metropolitan Opera, with previous experience at Houston Grand and Washington National operas. She will oversee all aspects of fundraising and development for the organization.

Mitchko adds “We are all extremely pleased that Ashley is joining us. Her experience in opera and knowledge of the business is great, and she will be a truly wonderful addition to the NCO team.”

North Carolina Opera will complete its current season with a fully-staged production of Rossini's *THE BARBER OF SEVILLE* on Friday, April 1 at 8pm and on Sunday, April 3 at 3pm at Meymandi Concert Hall in the Duke Energy Center for the Performing Arts in downtown Raleigh. Tickets to this performance are available online at www.ncopera.org or by calling 919.792.3850.

ABOUT NORTH CAROLINA OPERA

North Carolina Opera was formed in 2010 from the merger of The Opera Company of North Carolina and Capital Opera Raleigh. It is dedicated to presenting operatic performances at

the highest level throughout the Triangle. We also have a robust education program that brings opera to schools across Wake County and surrounding counties. North Carolina Opera brings international level artists to Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill, and also engages the best in local Triangle talent. Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/NorthCarolinaOpera or on Twitter at www.twitter.com/ncopera for up to date information on events in the community, news and more.

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