

## **UTAH SYMPHONY | UTAH OPERA**

### **Melia P. Tourangeau, President & CEO**



Following an extensive national search for an executive to lead the Utah Symphony and Utah Opera, Melia P. Tourangeau was appointed President and Chief Executive Officer in February 2008 and officially took the reins of the organization in late April 2008. Utah Symphony | Utah Opera (USUO) is the only combined 52-week orchestra and opera organization in the United States. The company has an annual operating budget of \$18 million and employs 60 full time administrative staff and 85 contracted musicians.

Under her leadership USUO increased ticket revenue over \$1 million, returned the Annual Fund to pre-recession levels and secured over \$6 million in bridge support between 2008 and 2012. Expense increases were held to 6% over a six-year period averaging a 1% increase annually between 2007 and 2013. Utah Symphony's seventh Music

Director, Thierry Fischer, was identified and contracted beginning in 2008 and 27 new musicians were hired for the orchestra. Ms. Tourangeau strives to develop trust and communication throughout the organization and with its constituents.

Prior to joining the USUO, Ms. Tourangeau was appointed President of Grand Rapids Symphony in April 2005 after a year long national search. As President, Ms. Tourangeau was responsible for the overall financial, operational and administrative management of the organization with an \$8.5 million annual operating budget, an administrative staff of 33 and 75 contracted professional musicians. Under her leadership, GRS balanced the budget and increased community support.

Ms. Tourangeau joined the Grand Rapids Symphony as Education Director in January 1997 and was promoted to Director of Operations, then Vice President and General Manager. Prior to joining the Grand Rapids Symphony, she was the education coordinator at the Akron Symphony Orchestra where she held that position for two-and-a-half years. She received her Bachelor of Music degree in 1994 from the Oberlin College Conservatory of Music with a major in piano performance and a minor in musicology. In April 2007, she received a Master Degree in Public Administration with an emphasis on non-profit leadership at Grand Valley State University and was inducted into Pi Alpha Alpha, the honors society for public administrators. Ms. Tourangeau was on the Executive Committee and the Board of the Economic Club of Grand Rapids, was a member of the Grand Rapids Rotary Club, and on the Conservatory Committee of the Oberlin College Alumni Council.

She is a member of the Young Presidents Organization (YPO), the International Women's Forum, the League of American Orchestras, Opera America's Board of Directors, and the Alta Club. She and her husband, Michael, and their two kids, Olivia and Zach, enjoy all of the wonderful outdoor and family activities accessible on the Wasatch front.