



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Longtime Hochstein President & Executive Director Margaret Quackenbush to Retire in June 2022**

At the Hochstein All-Faculty Meeting on Tuesday, September 7, **Margaret (Peggy) Quackenbush** announced that this will be her last school year as Hochstein's President & Executive Director. Quackenbush joined the Hochstein faculty in 1979, and three years later became a full-time member of the administrative staff, so this is the beginning of her 40th year on the staff at The Hochstein School.

Hochstein Board Chair Jennifer Stenzel said that a search plan has been developed and will be communicated in the coming weeks, providing opportunities for Hochstein stakeholders to have input into the decision-making process. Hochstein Advisory Director Eric Logan, Senior IT Project Manager for the City of Rochester, will chair the Search Committee.

Stenzel said, "In spite of the challenges the last 18 months has brought, Peggy has ensured that the School is in a very strong position to welcome its next leader. We will have time over the coming year to celebrate Peggy's many achievements and we thank her for her tireless work for this wonderful institution and offer her our continued support over the next school year."

Quackenbush said, "I am deeply honored and grateful to have worked with our amazing faculty, staff, and Board for all these years – truly a shared labor of love. My gratitude also goes out to all of our wonderful students, families, and donors who make Hochstein so special. This organization – made up of all the accomplished and dedicated people I've had the privilege to work with over the years – means so much to me."

Quackenbush joined Hochstein's faculty as a clarinet instructor in 1979 and became a member of the administrative staff in 1981. She has been Hochstein's President & Executive Director since 1992. Under her leadership, the school's programs in music, dance, and expressive arts therapies

have grown substantially and the Hochstein Performance Hall has become Rochester's premiere mid-sized concert hall.

An active soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral clarinetist, Dr. Quackenbush holds the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the Eastman School of Music, along with degrees from the University of Oregon's School of Music and the University of Minnesota, Morris. She is a founding member of the chamber ensemble Antara Winds, which has performed many times on Hochstein's concert series. Quackenbush is a past board member of the National Guild for Community Arts Education and the National Association of Schools of Music and is the recipient of numerous awards for her work in community arts education.

**About Hochstein:** The Hochstein School was founded in commemoration of genius and is dedicated to providing access to opportunity regardless of age, level of skill, ethnicity, or ability to pay. Hochstein's vibrant community of musicians, dancers, and supporters choose to come together to develop the ability to speak and communicate through music, dance, and expressive arts (music, art, and dance therapy). Established in 1920 as The David Hochstein Memorial Music School, today Hochstein serves approximately 3,500 students annually from a 12-county region surrounding Rochester, N.Y. and continues its commitment to the Rochester community by offering a variety of free and low-cost concerts and performances in the Hochstein Performance Hall—and locations around our city—throughout the year. For more information, visit [www.hochstein.org](http://www.hochstein.org).

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