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# PRESS RELEASE

## Lutheran Music Program Welcomes New Executive Director

**LUTHERAN  
SUMMER  
MUSIC**  
ACADEMY & FESTIVAL



Lutheran Music Program, best known for its annual four-week Lutheran Summer Music Academy & Festival, is pleased to announce that Thomas Bandar has been named as its new Executive Director. Bandar, who currently serves as Associate Dean of Student and Academic Affairs at the Curtis Institute of Music (Philadelphia), will assume his new role in June. “We’re delighted to welcome Tom to the helm,” said Board Chair David Krause. “He brings a unique combination of skills and experience as an arts administrator, a performer, and a music educator that will serve us well, now and into

the future.”

In addition to his work at the Curtis Institute, Bandar has worked in a leadership role at the Aspen Music Festival and School, was a tenured member of the Spokane Symphony Orchestra, and was on the music faculty at Texas Lutheran University. He holds a Bachelor Degree in Music from the University of Denver, and a Master of Music from the Cleveland Institute of Music. A skilled violist, he continues to perform and teach music. He and his wife, Anne Marie, are delighted to be coming home to Minnesota, where Tom grew up.

Tom’s values and success as an arts education leader and relationship builder are a perfect match for the mission of Lutheran Music Program. “I believe in the power of music to build community and transform lives, and that music is one of God’s greatest gifts to us,” Bandar stated. “I’m excited to lead this gem of an arts organization to new levels of impact and success.”