



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kristen Chesak, Executive Director | (269) 342-5059

359 S. Kalamazoo Mall, Suite 203 | Kalamazoo, MI 49007

kchesak@kalamazooarts.org | www.kalamazooarts.org

Aug. 27, 2020

Eric Oliphant Joins Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo as Office Coordinator

KALAMAZOO, Mich.—The Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo (ACGK) has announced the addition of Eric Oliphant to its staff. Oliphant joins the ACGK as the office coordinator and will be responsible for all aspects of office management.

“We are excited to welcome Eric to the Arts Council staff,” said Executive Director Kristen Chesak. “Eric has a very impressive background in the arts, both personally and professionally, and will make a great addition to our team. As the office coordinator, he fills a very important role in our organization ensuring that our day-to-day operations run smoothly.”

Most recently, Oliphant was the sales coordinator at Western Michigan University’s Miller Auditorium, where he worked alongside a team to bring touring Broadway shows, comedy acts, and performances of all kinds to Kalamazoo. He had a brief cameo as the choir director/accompanist for the “Sister’s Christmas Catechism” performance. Prior to serving as the sales coordinator, Oliphant was the auditorium’s office coordinator.

Oliphant is a percussion educator and has taught privately throughout southwestern Michigan at various high schools since 2008 and as an adjunct faculty member at Southwestern Michigan College since 2016. He has performed professionally as a percussionist, guitarist, and keyboardist in various ensembles including orchestras, pit orchestras, jazz big bands, and original music acts. Some of the notable ensembles include the Andrews University Symphony Orchestra, Lake Effect Jazz Big Band, Ed Bagatini Musical Groups, Elephant Rescue, and the Andrew Fisher Quartet.

Some of his most cherished musical accomplishments are performing in New Orleans during the Jazz & Heritage Festival in 2013, arranging music features and being Percussion Caption Head for the Watervliet High School Marching Band, performing as “The Kinks” for Bell’s Eccentric Café’s Halloween Show with the band BYJR, and curating and arranging the long-standing annual “A Night of Stevie Wonder” tribute concert held each May at The Livery Microbrewery.

He recently married his wife, Lindsey, at a socially distant home ceremony. They have two cats together and have lived in the Kalamazoo area for four years.

Oliphant is excited to bring his passion for music and the inherent value of art in modern society into his work at the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo.

###

Editor’s Note: A photo of Eric Oliphant is included for your use.