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## *For Immediate Release*

### **MANHATTAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC WELCOMES DR. JOYCE GRIGGS AS EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND PROVOST**

#### **The Seasoned Administrative Leader, Educator, Musician Takes the Reins July 1, 2018**

NEW YORK, February 21, 2018 – Following an extensive national search, Manhattan School of Music (MSM) has announced that Dr. Joyce Griggs will assume the role of Executive Vice President and Provost, beginning on July 1, 2018.

Dr. Griggs, whose deep roots and diverse leadership experience in music higher education will serve her well in her new role, comes to MSM from Cleveland Institute of Music (CIM), where she recently conceived and launched the Center for Innovative Musicianship, currently serving as Vice President and Director. She has also held the role of CIM's Interim Chief Academic Officer and Dean as well as its Associate Dean and faculty member. Prior to her work at Cleveland, Ms. Griggs held several leadership positions during her decade-and-a-half tenure at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign School of Music that culminated in a four-year appointment as the school's Associate Director.

Dr. Griggs is also an educator and saxophonist, whose passionate advocacy for diversity and inclusion and career preparation for emerging artists fueled her efforts to establish and lead CIM's Center for Innovative Musicianship (CIM<sup>2</sup>). CIM<sup>2</sup> serves as a vehicle for addressing critical issues such as increasing diversity in professional music organizations and teaching music students the business aspects of a freelance musician's life. At CIM, she also led an enrollment effort that resulted in the most diverse incoming class in CIM's history, generated nearly \$400,000 in new grants from foundations to support diversity and career development programming, and much more.

"I am deeply honored to accept President Gandre's invitation to serve as Executive Vice President and Provost of the Manhattan School of Music," said Dr. Griggs. "Joining MSM at this time is particularly exciting as we embark on our centennial year and collectively celebrate the legacy of one of America's premier conservatories. I look forward to leading and collaborating with our world-class faculty and staff as they champion students' musical pursuits and prepare future generations of performers, composers, teachers, and leaders."

The breadth of Dr. Griggs’s professional experience brings with it a deep understanding of how to effectively cultivate working partnerships among faculty, administrators, trustees, and community leaders. That instinct for inspiring productive collaboration, along with her deep experience and sustained drive, has given her a sturdy foundation from which to thrive as a leader, earning successes across a range of priorities, including faculty recruitment and hiring; contract negotiations; enrollment and fiscal management; curriculum development; financial oversight and fundraising; strategic planning; and accreditation management.

“I am delighted to have the opportunity to work with Joyce,” said MSM President James Gandre. “As Manhattan School of Music gears up for its centennial celebrations in 2018-19 – saluting past accomplishments while eagerly anticipating those that lie ahead – it is truly exciting to welcome someone with Joyce’s energy, passion for education, demonstrated track record, and clear interest in building on both MSM’s tradition of artistic excellence and commitment to innovation.”

As Executive Vice President and Provost, Dr. Griggs will be chief academic and student affairs officer and serve as the President’s second in command, overseeing all academic programs and services, faculty hiring and development, student affairs and enrollment operations, leading the School in the President’s absence, and playing a central role in the School’s budget process and allocation of resources.

“MSM has a well-established and clearly articulated dedication to its students, to excellence in education and performance, to the humanity of the School’s environment, to inclusion and diversity, and to the cultural enrichment of the larger community,” said Dr. Griggs. “I look forward to playing a role in advancing those values.”



Dr. Joyce Griggs, *Photo: Chris Brown*  
Manhattan School of Music’s new  
Executive Vice President and Provost

## **ABOUT JOYCE GRIGGS**

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Joyce Griggs enjoys a rewarding and diversified career as an educator, performing artist, and arts advocate. Her passion for teaching, devotion to supporting young musicians' aspirations, and strong executive leadership experiences led to an exciting new opportunity to launch the Cleveland Institute of Music's Center for Innovative Musicianship (CIM<sup>2</sup>).

Dr. Griggs's experiences in higher education span nearly two decades. She has successfully led faculty through curriculum and academic program review, managed department and school-wide budgets, and collaborated with colleges and community partners to develop interdisciplinary experiences for musicians. Her teaching philosophy centers on creating learning opportunities for students that are relevant and relatable to their careers. To support students' professional development, she teaches undergraduate courses, curates a guest speaker series within CIM<sup>2</sup>, and strengthens external partnerships by utilizing Cleveland as a student-driven laboratory for real-world teaching and performance experiences. She began her tenure at CIM in August 2015 as the Senior Associate Dean and in 2016 served as the Conservatory's Interim Dean and Chief Academic Officer.

As a saxophonist, Griggs has performed throughout the United States, Great Britain, Spain, and Mexico. An avid chamber musician, she has championed the expansion of saxophone chamber music repertoire with more than a dozen commissions, including Guggenheim Fellow Erin Gee's 2014 work, *Mouthpiece XXI*. Awards include the Silver Medal in the Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition and the prestigious Grainger Medallion in 2010, one of only 25 Americans to earn this award. She may be heard on several recordings, including her recent project *Percy Grainger: Music for Saxophones* (2015 Naxos USA).

Dr. Griggs contributes her time serving on several non-profit arts boards and presenting on a wide-range of topics as an invited speaker at College Music Society summits and annual National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) meetings. Upcoming engagements include the 2019 College Music Society's summit on innovation and entrepreneurship and several commitments to serve as an external evaluator for NASM accredited music schools.

She will assume the role of Executive Vice President and Provost of Manhattan School of Music on July 1, 2018.

website: [www.joycegriggs.com](http://www.joycegriggs.com)

## **ABOUT MANHATTAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC**

Founded as a settlement music school by Janet Daniels Schenck in 1918, today Manhattan School of Music is recognized for its more than 950 superbly talented undergraduate and graduate students who come from more than 50 countries and nearly all 50 states; a world-renowned artist-teacher faculty; and innovative curricula. The School is dedicated to the personal, artistic, and intellectual development of aspiring musicians, from its Precollege students through those pursuing postgraduate studies.

Offering classical, jazz, and musical theatre training, MSM grants Bachelor of Music, Master of Music, and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees, as well as the Professional Studies Certificate and Artist Diploma. Additionally, true to MSM's origins as a music school for children, the Precollege program

continues to offer superior music instruction to young musicians between the ages of five and 18. The School also serves some 2,000 New York City schoolchildren through its Arts-in-Education Program, and another 2,000 students through its critically acclaimed Distance Learning Program.

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