**PRESS RELEASE**

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**Music education non-profit Give A Note Foundation selects Dendy Jarrett as the new CEO**

Current CEO and longtime Board Chair Beth Slusher to step into new role as COO

*Nashville, TN, February 15, 2024* — Give A Note Foundation, a national non-profit created to bring awareness to the importance of music and arts education through the music and arts educator, has announced the appointment of Dendy Jarrett as their new chief executive officer. Jarrett joins Give A Note from Gibson Brands, Inc., where he served the last eight years as Executive Director of Gibson’s philanthropic arm, Gibson Gives, and their employee assistance non-profit, GoldTop Foundation, as well as creating a unique program he founded at Gibson Gives known as TEMPO (Training and Empowering Musicians to Prevent Overdose). The appointment of Jarrett and a re-engaged leadership team was made by board chair and President Ed James.

In his new role, 35-year music industry veteran Jarrett will use his well-known and widely recognized passion for music education to infuse Give A Note with a strategic approach and set conditions for greater impact and success.

“While we conducted an exhaustive search for the role, we knew almost instantly that no one would match Dendy’s enthusiasm, knowledge, and passion for Give A Note,” says James. “Give A Note’s mission has never been more important, and we’re confident that Dendy will lead the charge and take us to new heights.”

“What I love about Give A Note is that, unlike the majority of music education non-profits, it celebrates the music educator,” Jarrett continues, “Outside of my parents and my faith, music educators were the mentors in my life, and I draw from the leadership they provided every day. We want to grow Give A Note to clear the way for music educators to continue to impact students.” Dendy believes that even if you didn’t pursue a career path in music but participated in music in school, it most likely impacted your life with leadership, team building, and communication skills like no other experience.

“Dendy’s vision and leadership is a welcome addition to our team, and I am thrilled to be a continued part of Give A Note’s growth and impact to music educators and students nationwide,” said Slusher.

For more information please visit: [Give A Note Foundation](https://www.giveanote.org/)

If music or arts education or a music or arts educator impacted your life, please consider [supporting Give A Note](https://www.giveanote.org/donate/).

About Give A Note Foundation:

Give A Note Foundation is a national 501(c)(3) organization with a mission to engage and empower educators, inspire students, and expand the reach and impact of music education. Founded in 2011 with an initial investment from 21st Century Fox and TV show GLEE, and in cooperation with valued partners, including CMA Foundation, Radio Disney, and National Association for Music Education, Give A Note has awarded grants in excess of $1.5 Million in support of music education. GAN’s annual Music Education Innovator Awards (MEIA) recognize teachers who have developed creative, effective in-classroom programs and provides ongoing support to encourage lasting change within a school or district. Ninety-five percent of MEIA grants serve students from underfunded metropolitan and rural K-12 public school districts where funding for music education is deficient. Nationally recognized by music educators as an organization that passionately champions their life’s work, Give A Note delivers opportunities for students to become their best selves through learning and creating music. #MusicEdMatters

Jarrett Bio: Dendy Jarrett grew up in a small rural South Carolina town and quickly gravitated to music of all genres. He is a trained percussionist who attended the University of South Carolina as a performance major, marched in a Top 12 Drum Corps, toured, and performed with several national and international acts that enjoyed #1 hits. He has a unique perspective in the music instrument space, having worked music retail as both a sales leader and General Manager, also serving in key roles with several major drum companies and has run the largest online community for musicians in the background for both Guitar Center and Gibson before entering the music non-profit space where he found his personal and professional passion. He spent the last eight years impacting music education and music wellness through his philanthropic efforts. When not impacting music education, Jarrett can be found touring the country in his Airstream Travel Trailer. He sits on the Board of Directors for The Percussion Marketing Council, the Spirit of Atlanta Drum Corps, The Shriner’s Hospital Music Wellness Advisory Committee, and the Airstream Club International’s Foundation.

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Photo file 1: DendyJarrett.JPG

Photo caption 1: Dendy Jarrett, Give A Note Foundation CEO

Photo file 2: GiveANoteFoundation\_Logo.JPG

Photo caption 2: Give A Note Foundation logo