

The logo for Ash Lawn Opera features the word "Opera" in a large, elegant, black cursive script. Above the "per" portion of "Opera", the words "ASH LAWN" are written in a smaller, black, all-caps serif font. The entire logo is positioned in the upper right quadrant of the page.

ASH LAWN

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ASH LAWN OPERA FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES  
NEW PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Frank Buck completes four years of leadership; Anne Fife elected as new President**

The Board of Directors of the Ash Lawn Opera Festival announces that Anne Fife has been unanimously elected as the President of its Board of Directors.

Anne Fife brings extensive experience in classical music both as a singer and as a Board member. Having studied classical music at the New England Conservatory of Music and the Juilliard School of Music, Fife has performed opera and taught singing. She also worked in public relations at the San Francisco Opera and handled special projects for its legendary General Director, Kurt Herbert Adler.

A long-time member of the Ash Lawn Opera Festival Board of Directors, Fife also serves on the Boards of the New England Conservatory of Music, Duke University Trinity College of Arts & Sciences, The Paramount Theater, and is a founding committee member of the Charlottesville Chamber Music Festival. She has also served on the Boards of University of Virginia's Council for the Arts and Piedmont CASA.

The Board of Directors expresses deep gratitude to Frank Buck for his leadership since 2007. During that challenging period, he guided the company from its thirty-year home at Ash Lawn-Highland to The Paramount Theater in 2009, from the 23 year leadership of Judith Walker to Michelle Krisel as General Director in 2010, and from the financial support of the College of William & Mary to complete independence in 2011.

As a four-term (1980-1988) mayor, Buck was a leader in the revitalization of Downtown Charlottesville as the entertainment and cultural center of Charlottesville. A past president of the Charlottesville/Albemarle Bar Association, Buck will continue to be a member of the Ash Lawn Opera Board of Directors and serve on its Executive Committee as a past president.

Ash Lawn Opera Festival is a professional opera company presenting fully-staged opera and musical theatre at the Paramount Theater in Downtown Charlottesville. The Festival is committed to providing the highest quality artistic and educational programming for the community, Commonwealth, and nation.

The 2011 season will include *The Barber of Seville* by Rossini and *The King and I* by Rodgers & Hammerstein.