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FM 91 WELCOMES NEW CLASSICAL MUSIC DIRECTOR

Toledo, OH – We are pleased and excited to share with you that Brad Cresswell on Monday, April 6, will become the new Classical Music Director of WGTE Public Radio. He succeeds Greg Kostraba who left us in January to become Program Manager at WBAA in West Lafayette, Indiana.

Brad will program the station's daily classical music service and will be an on-air host for three programs including Afternoon Classics, broadcast Monday-Friday from 1 to 4 p.m., FM 91 in Concert and Live From FM 91.

Brad comes to WGTE from WNYC Public Radio in New York, where he has been an award-winning producer, programmer, and host for the past several years. At WNYC, Brad frequently programmed and hosted both of the station's flagship music shows, Overnight Music and Evening Music, and oversaw the creation of WNYC's 24/7 classical music service on the Internet and HD Radio, WNYC2.

As a contributing producer at WNYC, Brad was a co-recipient of the first ASCAP Deems Taylor Multimedia Award in 2007, and managed live broadcasts ranging from the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra's concert series to Sir Paul McCartney's oratorio "Ecce Cor Meum" at Carnegie Hall. For the last four years, he has also managed and produced most of the music-related content on the station's Website at wnyc.org.

In New York, Brad also freelanced as a scriptwriter for the Metropolitan Opera Channel on Sirius Satellite Radio, and continues to appear as an occasional guest panelist for the Met Opera Quiz during their Saturday afternoon broadcasts. In addition, he has been a writer for Playbill Magazine, contributing program notes for Carnegie Hall, and has performed voice-over work for multiple NPR-distributed programs, as well as for HBO and Cinemax.

Before entering public radio, Brad enjoyed a 16-year career as an operatic tenor, performing principal roles with leading opera companies across the United States and in South America. During that time, he worked alongside many luminaries in the field, including conductors Leonard Bernstein, Seiji Ozawa, Michael Tilson Thomas and Dennis Russell Davies; singers Placido Domingo, Bryn Terfel, René Pape and Christa Ludwig; as well as composers Philip Glass, Dominick Argento, Sir Michael Tippett, and Luciano Berio. His solo voice appears on recordings issued by the Deutsche Grammophon, Philips, New World, Innova, and Carlton Classics record labels.

Originally from Moline, Illinois, Brad graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa, and attended the St. Louis Conservatory and the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston before his opera

career whisked him away from graduate studies. Brad is thrilled to be relocating to his wife Jennifer's hometown of Toledo, where her extended family still resides. The couple is expecting their first child in July.

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WGTE Public Media (The Public Broadcasting Foundation of Northwest Ohio) is a non-profit organization providing quality broadcasting and educational resources to Northwest and West Central Ohio and Southeast Michigan for more than 50 years. WGTE Public Media operates WGTE TV, Toledo; WGTE FM 91.3, Toledo; WGLE FM 90.7, Lima; WGBE FM 90.9, Bryan; WGDE FM 91.9, Defiance; wgte.org; The Educational Resource Center; and The Early Learning and Outreach Center.