FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE –

Contact: Leonard Egert (212-265-3687; Legert@musicalartists.org);

AGMA Installs New President

New York, NY (March 1, 2019) – Today, the American Guild of Musical Artists (AGMA), installed its new President, John Coleman, following the resignation of James Odom from the position. President Coleman moves into his new role per the Union’s constitution which provides that the First Vice President assumes the duties of the President upon resignation. Currently, a full-time Stage Manager at Lyric Opera of Chicago, President Coleman becomes the first Stage Manager to hold the position.

“AGMA has been a part of my life for 30 years as an Artist, Delegate, and Vice President. The membership can count on AGMA’s Board of Governors and Staff to vigorously represent their interests. I am honored and look forward to serving as AGMA’s President” said President Coleman.

“The last twelve years have been the most fulfilling of my life. Serving as AGMA’s President has been an honor beyond my ability to express. It has been a true privilege to meet so many members during contract negotiations, area and other meetings,” stated James Odom. After completing his contractual obligations as a chorister to Lyric Opera of Chicago, Mr. Odom will continue to serve AGMA’s members as the Midwest Business Representative.

“We have planned for an orderly transition as AGMA leadership is changing. On behalf of all AGMA members, I want to sincerely thank Mr. Odom for approximately 40 years of dedicated service to AGMA as a delegate, officer and President” said Leonard Egert, AGMA’s National Executive Director.

President Coleman will serve until June 1, 2019 when a new term will begin following the election for Officers and Board of Governor positions.

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American Guild of Musical Artists (AGMA) is a labor organization that represents the Artists who create and engage in America’s operatic, choral and dance performances across the world. AGMA represents approximately 7500 opera singers, ballet and modern dancers, and production personnel at all principal opera houses and ballet companies in the United States. The Union provides forceful advocacy and defense of its members’ employment and artistic rights and is affiliated with the AFL-CIO; Branch of Associated Actors and Artists of America. For more information please go to www.musicalartists.org.