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New York Youth Symphony Announces Appointment of Michael Repper as Music Director Starting 2017/18 Season

New York, NY – The [New York Youth Symphony \(NYYS\)](#) is pleased to announce the appointment of [Michael Repper](#) as Music Director of the Orchestra beginning in the 2017/18 season. The position is currently held by [Joshua Gersen](#), who is stepping down at the end of 2016/17 season. **Mr. Repper** is joining an illustrious roster of **NYYS** Music Directors, including Leonard Slatkin, David Alan Miller, Miguel Harth-Bedoya, Mischa Santora, and Paul Haas, among others.



Michael Repper

NYYS Board President and chair of the search committee, **Melissa Eisenstat** spoke of the organization's delight in **Michael Repper's** appointment: "On behalf of the **NYYS** family, we are excited to welcome **Michael Repper** as our Music Director Designate at this important and transitional moment in **NYYS's** history. I am thrilled that **Michael** has accepted our invitation to lead the Orchestra into the future. **Michael** demonstrates the culture of artistic maturity and musical excellence we strive to achieve here at **NYYS.**"

Shauna Quill, Executive Director of **NYYS**, added: "It's thrilling for us to announce the appointment of **Michael Repper** as the next **New York Youth Symphony** Music Director. We expect **Michael** will be an important catalyst of engagement and a wonderful ambassador to our audiences as we continue expand into diverse communities to touch lives with the power of music."

"I am honored and humbled by this opportunity to work with an extraordinary organization such as the **New York Youth Symphony**" said **Repper**. "I have always been passionate about working with young musicians, and I will make it my mission to preserve the highest artistic standards while imagining a new and exciting future for the orchestra's role in the community."

Michael Repper is an emerging conductor of classical music, jazz, pops, and musical theater. A graduate of Stanford University, he recently completed his doctoral residency at the Peabody Conservatory of Music as a student of Gustav Meier and his longtime mentor, Marin Alsop. **Mr. Repper** was the Peabody Institute-Baltimore Symphony Orchestra Conducting Fellow for two seasons, and continues to work with the Peabody Institute ensembles.

Mr. Repper holds leadership positions in several music organizations in the Baltimore area. He is currently Music Director of both the Northern Neck Orchestra and Baltimore Basilica, Assistant Conductor of the Concert Artists of Baltimore, and New Music Consultant for the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Repper's international performances include a recent debut with the São Paulo Symphony Orchestra in Brazil, masterclasses with the Artes Nazionale Orchestra in Florence, Italy, and performances in Australia.

Passionate about supporting youth in music, **Mr. Repper** has traveled to Venezuela to conduct the annual International Orchestral Seminar in Acarigua, an El Sistema based orchestra, and at home he takes great pride in nurturing a private studio of aspiring musicians. As Managing Director of the Chamber Music Society of Maryland, a Baltimore-based chamber music series currently in its 43rd season, he founded the Reinecke Youth Fellowship in Chamber Music, an annual \$1000 scholarship opportunity for three pre-college musicians interested in chamber music at the professional level.

About the NYYS

The **New York Youth Symphony (NYYS)** is a leader in music education, performance, and commissioning in the New York metropolitan area. Founded in 1963, the **New York Youth Symphony's** first performance at Carnegie Hall featured a young Israeli violinist, Itzhak Perlman. Now in its 54th season, the organization has grown significantly and offers groundbreaking and rigorous programs in composition, conducting, chamber music, jazz, and commissioning – and in the last two years, international touring opportunities. Its mission is to educate and inspire young musicians through exceptional ensemble training and performance opportunities. In addition the **NYYS** aims to develop the next generation of musical citizens, whose involvement in music lasts a lifetime, and whose assets built by music engagement will fuel their success in life – personal development, creativity, self-discipline, resiliency, and an ability to work well with others.

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