

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## MYS Music Director Raúl Gómez Selected for Bruno Walter National Conductor Preview

Metropolitan Youth Symphony is pleased to announce that **Music Director Raúl Gómez** been named one of six dynamic conductors to participate in the League of American Orchestra's **2018 Bruno Walter National Conductor Preview**. Chosen by a panel of leading music professionals, Gomez competed for the honor with nearly 150 conductors from around the world.

*From the League of American Orchestras:* The six conductors chosen were “selected for their experience, talent, leadership potential, and commitment to a career in service to American orchestras. Awardees are: [Ankush Kumar Bahl](#), [Mélisse Brunet](#), [Nadège Foofat](#), [Lee Mills](#), [Raúl Gómez-Rojas](#) and [Lidiya Yankovskaya](#).

“[Past Preview participants](#) include Mei-Ann Chen, music director of the Chicago Sinfonietta; Giancarlo Guerrero, music director of the Nashville Symphony; Laura Jackson, music director of the Reno Philharmonic; and Carlos Miguel Prieto, music director of the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra and the YOA Orchestra of the Americas.”

“For two days in April, the Preview showcases the six conductors in rehearsal settings.... The event culminates with a final public performance, which—for the first time in the history of the Preview—will be live-streamed. Conductors will display their versatility with an eclectic program of works by Beethoven, Bernstein, Debussy, Tchaikovsky, and Kip Winger.”

“The Preview is a major pipeline for talented conductors and helps catalyze opportunities for their careers. Since 1995, the League's Bruno Walter National Conductor Preview has showcased 85 conductors, with more than 50 orchestras engaging participants in conductor/music director appointments as a direct result. It is one of the field's most prestigious and effective pathways for orchestra search committees to encounter new talent.” For more information go to: <https://americanorchestras.org/conducting-artistic-programs/conducting/bruno-walter-national-conductor-preview.html>.

“We are thrilled that Raúl has been awarded this honor. Although he is only in his second season with MYS, his commitment to excellence and creativity, deep belief in the potential of young people, and concern for arts inclusion is having significant impact on our performances, direction, and students,” says MYS Executive Director Diana Scoggins. “Together with our outstanding conductors and coaches, MYS students have the opportunity to work with some of the nation's most talented musicians and educators.”

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**Join Music Director Gómez and the Symphony Orchestra on March 4, 7:30pm at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall for *Arabian Nights: Rimsky-Korsakov's Scheherazade and The Breathing Earth*, a commissioned piece by MYS student Katie Palka. For tickets go to [www.playmys.org](http://www.playmys.org).**

MYS is one of the nation's largest youth symphony organizations, with 14 ensembles constituting orchestra, band, percussion, and jazz, and an enrollment of over 500 school age students from the greater Portland metro area and SW Washington. We are dedicated to excellence in music education, outreach, and collaboration, and continue to devote time and effort to the community, equity, and education.