

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Music from the Americas | November 12 at 7:30pm

### Symphony Orchestra conducted by Music Director, Raúl Gómez

Metropolitan Youth Symphony (MYS) kicks off the season with an opening night concert at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall on Sunday, November 12th at 7:30pm.

The MYS Symphony Orchestra will perform under the baton of Music Director, Raúl Gómez. Gómez, who has now been with MYS for over a year, previously served as the Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of the Mississippi Youth Symphony Orchestra and Music Director of Kids' Orchestra in Baton Rouge, LA. He also currently serves as Assistant Conductor and Artistic Producer for YOA Orchestra of the Americas. Originally from Costa Rica, Gómez's international experience has enriched MYS musicians whose talent will be showcased in their opening night performance.

Our opening concert celebrates the beautifully diverse musical landscape of the Americas, as we echo the Oregon Symphony's exploration of the topic of immigration within their *Sounds of Home* series. The program opens with the vibrant *Three Latin American Dances* by American composer Gabriela Lena Frank. Gabriela draws from her multicultural background to create three musical vignettes derived from pan-Amazonian dance forms. Next, George Gershwin's jazz-infused *An American in Paris* evokes the French capital in the 1920s, through the eyes and ears of a foreign visitor. Finally, student mariachi groups *Una Voz* from Hillsboro and *Tradición* from Forest Grove join our orchestra for a grand finale featuring favorite mariachi tunes. Also featuring performances by Concert Orchestra and Interlude Orchestra.

#### Program

- » George Gershwin: *American in Paris*
- » Gabriela Lena Frank: *Three Latin American Dances*
- » Selections with Mariachi *Una Voz* and Mariachi *Tradición*

#### Concert Tickets: \$11 - \$40

MYS offers discount prices for students and seniors. Tickets are available on the [MYS website](#) through 1:00pm on Friday, November 10th. Tickets may also be purchased by calling the MYS office at 503-239-4566 or by [downloading a ticket form](#) on our website and mailing it to MYS' offices.

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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 community collaboration, and continue to devote time and effort to community impact, equity, growth and education.