

Metropolitan Youth Symphony
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Metropolitan Youth Symphony's New Music Director Leads Opening Night Concert

(Portland, OR) – Metropolitan Youth Symphony (MYS) kicks off the season with their opening night concert at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall on Sunday, November 13 at 7:30 pm.

The MYS Symphony Orchestra will perform under the baton of new Music Director, Raúl Gómez. Gómez 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 already enriched MYS musicians whose talent will be showcased in their opening night performance.

"From the very first rehearsal, I was impressed with the talent, commitment and discipline of our student musicians. We have been working very hard for this performance, with help from some of the best professional musicians and educators in Portland, including members of the Oregon Symphony. I'm convinced that audiences will walk out of the concert hall feeling proud and inspired," said Raúl Gómez, Music Director and Symphony Orchestra Conductor of MYS.

The MYS Symphony Orchestra will perform Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5 and Bernstein's Candide Overture. These audience-favorite masterpieces offer plenty of challenges and opportunities for MYS's young musicians to shine. From Tchaikovsky's lyricism and power to Bernstein's playfulness and wit, the program will put the orchestra's range in full display. Other MYS ensembles, Interlude Orchestra and Concert Orchestra, will also perform selections including music from Humperdinck's Hansel and Gretel and Dvorak's Symphony No. 9.

Concert Tickets

Tickets range from \$14 - \$37 for adult tickets, with discount prices available for students and seniors. Tickets are available online via the [Portland's 5 website](http://Portland5.com) and by calling the MYS office at 503-239-4566 or visiting www.playmys.org to download a mail order form.

About Metropolitan Youth Symphony (MYS):

Metropolitan Youth Symphony educates, develops and promotes young musicians. We enroll over 500 youth, ages 5-18, from the Greater Portland Metro area and SW Washington, in 12 orchestra, band, string, and jazz ensembles each year. MYS is one of the largest youth music organizations in the country and one of the few offering a jazz program. MYS's strong tuition assistance program ensures that all interested musicians have an opportunity to join MYS, regardless of their financial circumstances.

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