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MUSIC DIRECTOR

**For Immediate Release:**  
**The Metropolitan Youth Symphony Awards ‘Crescendo Honors’  
to All Classical Portland and Dan Bosshardt,  
Outstanding Collaborative Partners**

PORTLAND, OR (March 6) - The Metropolitan Youth Symphony’s ‘Crescendo Honors’ Awards, presented at the organization’s annual gala, provide opportunity to recognize strong, innovative and collaborative leaders who inspire and positively impact the hundreds of students that MYS educates each year. MYS’s 2019 gala, *Standing for Partnership*, takes place on April 5th, 5:30pm at Castaway Portland and specifically celebrates our community’s capacity for innovation and imagination. Aligned with this theme of creativity and “out-of-the-box” thinking, MYS will present the following awards:

- The **Musical Hero Award** recognizes All Classical Portland, Oregon’s premiere classical music radio station. With over 250,000 weekly listeners in Oregon and SW Washington on 89.9FM, and millions of worldwide listeners from over 150 countries via [allclassical.org](http://allclassical.org), All Classical Portland partners with countless organizations to build community around the arts.

Through locally produced radio programs *Played in Oregon*, *Northwest Previews*, *Thursdays @ Three*, *On Deck with Young Musicians*, and *Where We Live*, All Classical Portland shines a spotlight on local artists and organizations, and highlights outstanding artistic achievements including art that addresses social issues. Through innovative collaborations such as the radio station’s *Music Feeds* campaign with the Oregon Food Bank, and its acclaimed JOY program (Joyous Outreach to You/th), the station continues to break down barriers and create a more inclusive and equitable environment for all.

In 2019, All Classical Portland announced two new, unprecedented initiatives as part of JOY: an Artist in Residence program, which includes a young artist residency, and a second radio network for children and those who care for them. Designed for young listeners, the International Children’s Arts Network (ICAN) will be a 24/7 HD radio and online streaming service, featuring music and literature from around the world. From bedtime stories to poetry and classical music selected for children, ICAN will be a resource for children, schools, parents, and guardians, featuring content that is safe, enriching, and inspiring. ICAN will launch in April 2019.

MYS especially acknowledges the following programs for their direct engagement with MYS students:

- *On Deck with Young Musicians*: a radio program which has featured dozens of MYS musicians in performances and interviews with All Classical Portland host and producer Christa Wessel.
- *Youth Roving Reporters*: a JOY initiative offering outstanding youth mentorship in arts journalism.

For more information, visit [www.allclassical.org](http://www.allclassical.org).

- The **Community Partner Award** recognizes educator **Dan Bosshardt**, whose commitment and vision to reach *all* students through music is exceptional. Dan is the founder and Artistic Director of Mariachi Una Voz, a free, after-school Latin music program of the Hillsboro School District with a mission to promote cultural understanding and community unity through music education and performance.

After forming this program in 2010 through the support of the Hillsboro School District Office of Equity, Dan collaborated with MYS to establish its Beginning Strings program at Lincoln Street Elementary. Currently in its second season, the Hillsboro Beginning Strings program now serves 18 students at Lincoln Street Elementary and 13 students and WL Henry Elementary. Dan also advocated for the expansion of MYS' Saturday ensemble program to Hillsboro and as a result, MYS now offers two weekly Hillsboro-based string ensembles for entry-level and intermediate students. Under Dan's leadership, Mariachi Una Voz recently won a 2019 grant award from the Washington County Cultural Coalition in support of their continued participation in the annual Hillsboro Latino Festival and will receive the 2019 Schnitzer Wonder Award from the Oregon Symphony.

Through Dan's guidance and example, Mariachi Una Voz students become leaders in our community, serving as mentors and taking part in city youth leadership initiatives. Among its many performances at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall, Mariachi Una Voz performed there with the MYS Symphony Orchestra in 2016 and 2017. The band also worked directly with the MYSfits, enhancing these students' scope of musical understanding through a mariachi collaboration. In creating and directing Mariachi Una Voz (which is open to all Hillsboro School District Middle School and High School students at no charge and includes twice weekly rehearsals) and through his continuous work to expand access to music education, Dan Bosshardt provides students of our community with culturally responsive, explorative, musical opportunity.

The 2019 MYS gala, emceed by All Classical Portland Host Christa Wessel, is brought to you by title sponsor, Yorke & Curtis. Guests will celebrate with appetizers, dinner, musical performances, wine raffles, and silent and live auctions. Tickets and information about attending the gala as a sponsor, donor, or guest can be found at [playmys.org](http://playmys.org). All funds raised support MYS's music program and music access initiatives.

With a foundational commitment to access, the **Metropolitan Youth Symphony** educates, develops and promotes over 500 young musicians of all ages and levels of experience each year in one of the nation's largest youth orchestra programs. Learn more at [playmys.org](http://playmys.org).

**For additional information, media materials and interview inquiries, please contact:**  
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