



for immediate release

Greater Boulder Youth Orchestras Appoint New Artistic Director, Symphony Conductor

Conductor Andres Lopera to join GBYO team

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Boulder, CO (August 1, 2016): The Greater Boulder Youth Orchestras are pleased to announce two exciting new appointments for the coming 2016-2017 concert season: Artistic Director Emily Bowman and Symphony Conductor Andres Lopera.

Ms. Bowman has been with GBYO since its founding in 2010 and conducts the Philharmonic Orchestra. She teaches strings at Shining Mountain Waldorf School and Boulder Suzuki Strings, and performs with the Baroque Chamber Orchestra of Colorado. She has long been a valuable asset to the organization in her ability to connect and invigorate young students to high-level music performance.



Mr. Lopera is the Assistant Conductor of the Colorado Symphony, one of the leading orchestras in the United States, and will be conducting the GBYO Symphony, the most advanced orchestra in the organization. Before joining the Colorado Symphony in 2015, he was Artistic Director and Conductor of the Metropolitan Youth Symphony in Portland, Oregon, where he worked with more than 450 young musicians.

Additionally, Mr. Lopera has conducted orchestras such as Oregon Symphony, Toledo Symphony, Portland Columbia Symphony Orchestra, New World Symphony Academy, and festival orchestras such as National Repertory Orchestra

and the Youth Orchestra of the Americas. Outside the US, he has conducted orchestras in his home country Colombia and worked throughout Central and South America.

A meet and greet party for Mr. Lopera will take place Sunday September 11 at Mary Williams Fine Arts Gallery in Boulder. "We are thrilled to welcome Andres to this great team," said Pris Walker, Chair of the Board. Tickets are available through the youth orchestra's website.

Ms. Bowman and Mr. Lopera will join fellow GBYO conductors Paul Rowinski and Erik Johnson for a busy and exciting concert season starting August 29th. Dr. Johnson, conductor of the GBYO Wind Ensemble and Assistant Professor of Music Education at Colorado State University, will work with Mr. Lopera to prepare for a performance at the Kennedy Center in March 2017.

"We were greatly flattered by the attention we received in our search for our next conductor," noted Executive Director Dr. Brian Jack. "We're very grateful to have worked with Gary Lewis since the beginning of GBYO, and I'm proud we will continue the GBYO tradition of excellence with maestro Andres Lopera and Artistic Director Emily Bowman. We have an exciting year ahead!"

Auditions for all ages and all strings, brass, winds, and percussion will take place August 26-28. The upcoming concert season will feature performances in Macky Auditorium, chamber music, collaborations with professional musicians, and a performance in the Kennedy Center in Washington DC.

The Greater Boulder Youth Orchestras were formed in 2010 when the two previous Boulder youth orchestras were merged together. In April 2016, founding Artistic Director and Symphony Conductor Gary Lewis stepped down after leading GBYO through its first six years. Maestro Lewis was instrumental in establishing the youth orchestra's reputation for excellence. He is Director of Orchestral Studies at CU Boulder, Music Director of the Midland-Odessa (TX) Symphony Orchestra, and Principal Guest Conductor of the Boulder Philharmonic.

More information about GBYO is available at www.greaterboulderyo.org.