



MONTEUX

SCHOOL & MUSIC FESTIVAL

ORCHESTRAL
ACADEMY AND
SCHOOL FOR
CONDUCTORS

FALL 2024

**LETTERS FROM THE
BOARD PRESIDENT,
MUSIC DIRECTOR, &
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS

**ASSOCIATE SPOTLIGHT ON
MIKE H. SUMMERER, M.D.**

CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS

2025 SEASON IN PHOTOS

**DAVID KATZ
RETURNS TO
HANCOCK –
JUNE 2025**

AND MORE!



NEWSLETTER



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Phil and Phoebe Devenish

From Board of Trustees President
PHIL DEVENISH

Dear Monteux Friends,

A phrase I love that I first became familiar with many years ago in England is “value for money.” The Monteux School and Music Festival is precisely that!

Our fees for student tuition—both conductors and instrumentalists—compare very favorably with our peer institutions (and competitors). That’s the “money” part; and the musical “value” we provide is very high, indeed.

To use a more thoroughly American phrase, the Monteux School is also “big bang for the buck”—and now I mean not that of our students, but of yours, our donors.

If you scroll to the very end of our website (monteuxmusic.org—which I encourage you to do for all sorts of reasons), you will see how we are ranked for fiscal performance (“value for money” and “bang for the buck”) by both ‘Candid’ and ‘Charity Navigator,’ the two most important platforms for assessing how nonprofits use their money. Here are the results:

Candid: “Platinum Transparency”—with every statistical category you can imagine

Charity Navigator: a “Four Star” Charity—as judged by the widest spectrum of issues

Both in what we do and how we do it, we score at the very top of the nonprofit heap. Why is this?

It’s because you all know our executive and musical leadership personally: Stan and Tiffany—that’s it. That and very part-time costs for accounting and bookkeeping, along with scholarship help from student interns and assistants. And this and hundreds of unpaid, volunteer hours from Board and Associates. If we are hardly ‘mean,’ we are certainly ‘lean.’ Low fat, no frills.

I am very proud of this. The Monteux School began 81 years ago as a strictly ‘family affair’ sponsored by the *noblesse oblige* of Pierre and Doris. When we started, we had the Forest Studio, but nothing else. Now we have our own housing for all of our sixty-plus students every season. In the era of Airbnb and Vrbo, this is absolutely essential. Compared with our housing costs of fifteen years ago, today they are almost zilch.

And what this all means—and what it means for you, our donors—is that when you write a check or give appreciated stock or include us in the minimum distribution from your IRA—or however you give, you can know that your money is being put to the very best use possible. It supports the music and the personal grown in the lives of our musicians,

That is our mission, and it is “value for money” in the fullest meaning of the phrase.

As ever,
Phil Devenish



Tiffany Lu and Student
Conductor Ana Vashakmadze

From the Music Director **TIFFANY LU**

atmosphere of the place to his teaching and his example. It has been the most rewarding realization that we are capable not only of carrying his (and Maestros Bruck and Monteux's) torch but bringing it to the future.

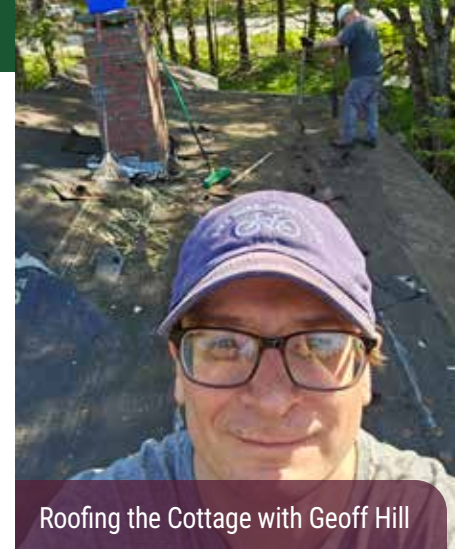
I would love to also use this platform to widely acknowledge the work of the Monteux Board, Executive Director Stan Renard, and Associate Conductor Kyle Ritenauer, all of whom have been peerless in their dedication and the caliber of their work on behalf of the School. It was that infrastructure that allowed me to fully turn my mind to the challenge of teaching the conductors and orchestra musicians during this first season. And it is their energy that allows us to already be able to announce that we are hard at work constructing the Monteux 2025 season, for which we have already confirmed longtime eminent supporter and Monteux alumnus Maestro Ludovic

Morlot as well as Dr. Jeffery Meyer (Director of Orchestral Activities at Indiana University, and one of my earliest conducting mentors) as clinicians and guest conductors. The application portal is open already, and in the coming months I will travel to recruit on behalf of the School and create a memorable, exciting season (details to come)!

Wonderful things are coming to the School, but in this moment and season I would simply like to express gratitude for the circumstances, years of devotion, and unbelievable amounts of hard work that have allowed the School to flourish, and for me to play a part in the next chapter of its story.

With excitement and deepest appreciation,

Tiffany S. Lu
Music Director



Roofing the Cottage with Geoff Hill

Dear Friends of the Monteux School and Music Festival,

Reflecting on this past summer in Hancock brings me great joy. The weather was exceptionally beautiful, with mostly sunny days—a rarity compared to some of my student days at the school.

I arrived in Maine earlier than usual this year to get a head start on preparations. This proved to be a wise decision, as I discovered upon arrival that the Cottage, one of our oldest buildings, had suffered significant storm damage. The roof, interior ceilings in the kitchen, bathroom, utility room, and part of the living room needed urgent repairs (see photos in the campus improvement section of this newsletter). This historic building, where Sir Neville Mariner once stayed when he was a pupil of Pierre Monteux, required immediate attention.

Two friends, Geoff Hill and Bill Gibson, joined me in this endeavor. Geoff, a dedicated friend of the school, and Bill, a contractor and dear friend visiting from Vermont, generously offered their time and expertise. Thanks to their help, we completed the necessary repairs within a week, allowing us to welcome four musicians this summer that would otherwise not have been possible. Given the labor shortage in Maine, hiring a contractor would have taken up to six months, so we had to roll up our sleeves and get to work.

From the Executive Director **STAN RENARD**

Another highlight was celebrating Tiffany Lu's first official season as Music Director. We hosted a delightful outdoor party with over 100 attendees, including audience members, board members, and musicians. The two large cakes we ordered were gone within an hour, and it was a wonderful time for all. We are fortunate to have Tiffany as our fourth Music Director in the school's 82-year history.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to long-time Monteux alumnus, conductor, and cellist, John Norine Jr., for his dedication in cataloging the Jinbo Library. John studied with Michael Jinbo at Monteux for several seasons, and he once more took time away from his family to participate in the Monteux School and Music Festival for six weeks this past summer. Thank you, John, for this invaluable contribution to our school.

And now we are thrilled to announce that the Michael Jinbo Library has been fully inventoried and will be ready for use in our 2025 season. The collection features 1,634 scores that belonged to Maestro Michael Jinbo, along with 222 scores donated by Monteux alumna Karen Lane. Additionally, the library boasts 140 books and reference manuals on conducting and music-making.

This Fall 2024 Newsletter features the achievements of many alumni and highlights David Katz's return to Hancock. David will present an entertaining evening about his play "Muse of Fire" and offer a seminar on the American Prize, a significant achievement for conductors and instrumentalists. We also spotlight Monteux Associate Mike Summerer, who

maintains our fleet of 15 bicycles and offers a highly anticipated baton-turning workshop each summer. Additionally, you'll find a recap of this past summer in pictures and information on new benefits for our 2025 concert subscribers.

As you consider your charitable giving priorities this fall, I encourage you to think of the Monteux School and Music Festival. We have several initiatives that may interest you, such as installing another washer and dryer on our Melody Lane Campus - we currently only have one laundry facility that serves 34 musicians! -, purchasing a defibrillator for the Forest Studio, and installing air conditioning and an airflow system in our green room. Scholarships remain our top priority, as attending Monteux often means our musicians forgo employment opportunities and income and often still pay rent or a mortgage, while attending Monteux. Over 85% of our musicians received scholarships in 2024, and we continue to seek support for them. The cost of tuition for 2025 is \$3,200 for Conductors and \$1,500 for Instrumentalists. Despite being more affordable than most other festivals, our musicians still need your support.

Thank you to everyone who generously supports the Monteux School and attends our concerts season after season.

Warmest regards,
Stan

Please do not hesitate to contact me anytime at info@monteuxmusic.org



DAVID KATZ

Returns to Hancock, June 2025

CHARLES BRUCK: The Monteux School's MUSE of FIRE—
June 18, 2025

Professional conductor, actor and playwright, David Katz (left), channels the ghost of his mentor (and occasional tormentor), Charles Bruck, in MUSE of FIRE, his acclaimed one-man play about the Monteux School and the art of conducting. The play script of MUSE of FIRE will be published by Delgatto Press in 2025, featuring an extensive consideration of the play written by the great American pianist, conductor and pedagogue, Lorin Hollander.

David returns to the Monteux Festival on June 18, 2025 to sign copies of MUSE of FIRE and give dramatic readings from the play, while offering personal reminiscences about the man many considered America's greatest teacher of conducting.

Charles Bruck was Pierre Monteux's first pupil in Paris and master teacher of the Monteux School for twenty-six years, from 1969 until his death in Hancock in July 1995. Among his many pupils are such podium luminaries as Ludovic Morlot, Carlos Miguel Prieto, Neal Gittleman, Hugh Wolff, and of course, Michael Jinbo.

Katz studied at the Monteux School from 1984 to '88 and later led the Monteux Opera Festival and OperaMaine. He premiered MUSE of FIRE in 2005 to commemorate the tenth anniversary of his teacher's death. Katz is also the founder and chief judge of The American Prize National Nonprofit Competitions in the Performing Arts.

Hailed in the Chicago Sun Times for its "unique depth and humor, tremendous verve and palpable passion," Katz has presented MUSE of FIRE nearly seventy times from Baltimore to Boston and Chicago to Halifax. "...a searing and unforgettable portrait of the man who shaped a generation of conductors," wrote the Bangor Daily News, while The Reader said simply, "...superb...Katz's virtuosic performance moving as well as illuminating." "Great stories, well told," wrote The Bar Harbor Times.

David is honored to return to the space where the events depicted in the play took place, to share with the next generation of Monteux conductors and audiences the intense musicality, uncompromising artistic standards, biting wit, sarcasm and fury of the man who truly was the Monteux School's MUSE of FIRE.



Left: "Old Boys" identified:
Standing left to right: Xavier Rist,
David Katz, Neal Gittleman, Marc David
Seated: Sue Ann Armstrong,
Maestro Bruck, Michael Jinbo.
Photo dates from about 1986.

Right: "Triple Portrait with Beethoven"
(detail) by noted Chicago painter,
Diane Cutrone, presented to
David Katz in celebration of his
20th anniversary as Founding
Music Director of The Chicago Bar
Association Symphony, 2006.

Above: "Katz/Bruck" is the official
title image for MUSE of FIRE



For more information, please visit: www.museoffiretheplay.org



New Trail System behind Forest Studio
with much help from Associate Bill McArtor



2024 CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS



Phil Devenish attaching new
shingles to the back of the Barn.



Cedar shingle
repair on Barn



Heat pumps installed inside Forest Studio



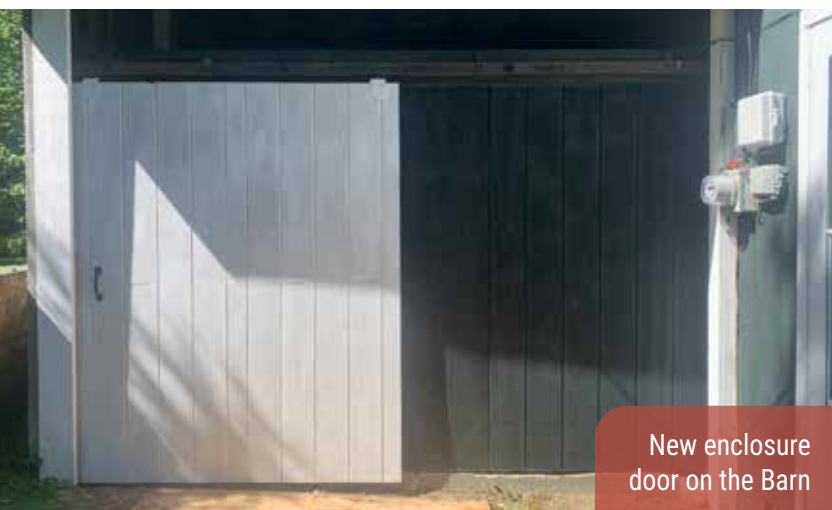
Heat pumps outside Forest Studio



New instant water heater for the cabins



Phil Devenish and friends milling pine to create bridge to access the new Monteux trail system



New enclosure door on the Barn



Devenish Hall Gets restrained compliments of Phil and Phoebe Devenish



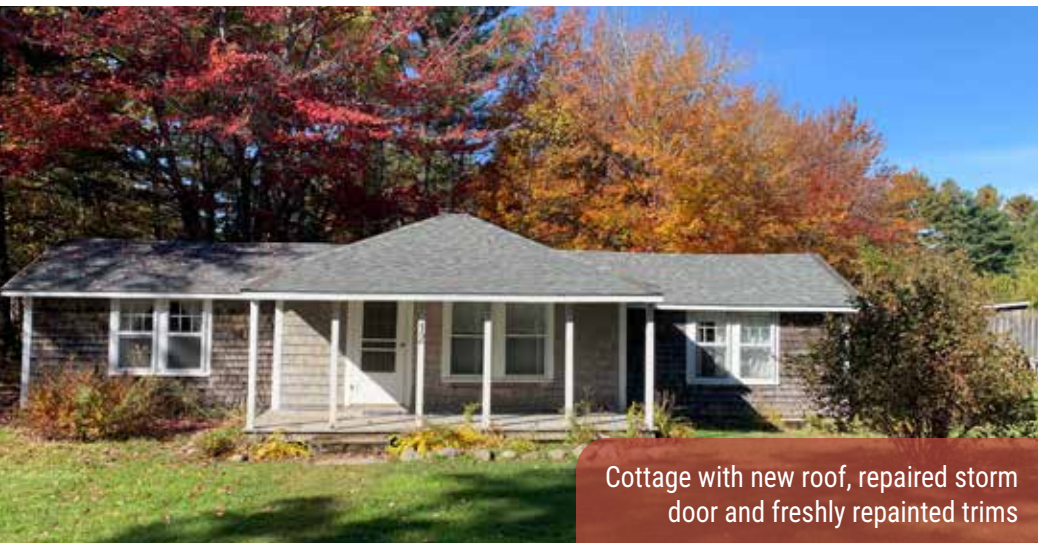
New Forest Studio Doors Compliments of Geoff Hill



New instant water hook up to propane tank



New bridge freshly milled on site to access the new Monteux trail system



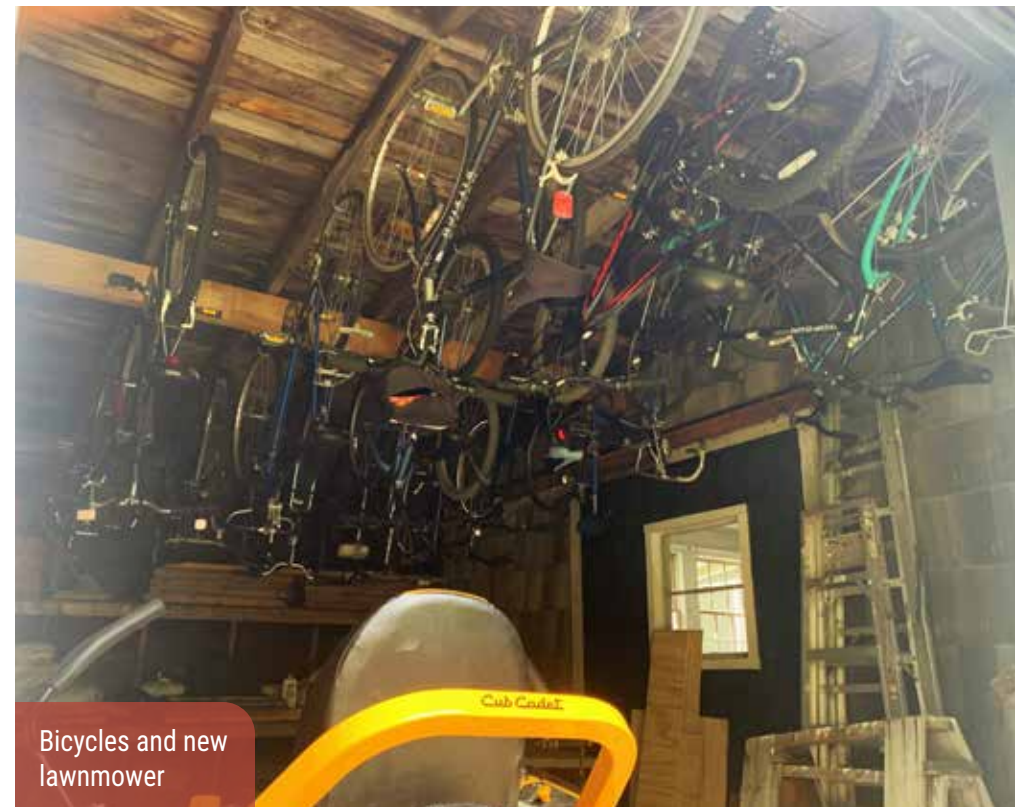
Cottage with new roof, repaired storm door and freshly repainted trims



New beds in the cottage, increasing capacity to 63



Bill Gibson assisting in installing the new drop ceiling in the Cottage



Bicycles and new lawn mower



Phil Devenish having a grand time riding the new Monteux lawn mower



Jinbo Library Entrance Door Commemorative Plaque



New drop ceiling in Cottage kitchen and bathroom



Newly framed photo of Pierre Monteux watching over the stage in the Forest Studio

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS



YIWEN SHEN (‘15, ‘17 AND ‘18) WINS SECOND HIROSHIMA INTERNATIONAL CONDUCTORS COMPETITION

We are extremely excited to share that **YIWEN SHEN**, alumni of the Monteux School (‘15, ‘17 and ‘18) and Board Member was awarded the 1st Prize at The Second Hiroshima International Conductors Competition. Yiwen also received the “Orchestra Award”, “Audience Award”, and “Hosokawa Award”. The Hiroshima Symphony Orchestra will invite him back for some concerts next season. The designated piece for the final round was Ravel’s Daphnis and Chloe Suite No. 2, which Monteux premiered.

Yiwen said: “A French conductor praised me for my correct style of French music. During preparation, rehearsals, and the concert, I couldn’t help but keep thinking about my studies at the festival and of course Michael Jinbo.”

Congratulations Yiwen!

To learn more about Yiwen go to:
www.tianjinjuilliard.edu.cn/en/faculty/yiwen-shen

Monteux alumni, **ANTOINET T. CLARK (‘15, ‘16, ‘17, ‘18, and ‘23)** receives the prestigious \$25,000 Artists Elevated award from the Greater Columbus Arts Council!

Congratulations, Antoine.

A national jury has selected seven winners – one in each of seven disciplines – to receive the Greater Columbus Arts Council’s (GCAC) \$25,000 Artists Elevated awards for 2024: Antoine T. Clark (music), Gerardo Encinas (fashion), Orlando Hunter-Valentine (dance), Travis Chi Wing Lau (literary), Christopher Leyva (theater), Andrea Myers (visual arts) and Mike Olenick (film).

To learn more about Antoine visit his website at: www.antoinetclark.com



MARTÍN ALEXANDER ARELLANO (‘24), who attended Monteux this past summer received the 3rd prize in the American Prize in Conducting in its Music Theater Division, 2024 for his performance of *Something Rotten!* Congratulations Alex!

At home on the symphonic stage, the opera house, and the theater, Martín Alexander Arellano is an award winning conductor and composer of Nicaraguan & Mexican descent from California, currently based in Tampa, FL. Alex received a Master of Arts in Orchestral Conducting from the University of Iowa, and holds diplomas from the Frost School of Music at the University of Miami and the Strasbourg Conservatoire in France where he studied with Austrian Conductor Theodor Guschlbauer and Argentinian Conductor Miguel Etchegoncelay. In 2023, he was awarded 2nd prize of the jury at the Opéra de Baugé International Conducting Competition. Alex has worked on musicals in the United States and France and has conducted productions of *Oklahoma!*, *Into the Woods*, and *Little Women*. Recently, he conducted *Something Rotten!* with the University of Iowa Department of Theater Arts as assistant to Music Director Mark Bruckner.

For more about Alex, please visit:
www.alexarellano.com



DR. MATT WARDELL (‘08, ‘10, ‘11, AND ‘13) and DR. DAVID RAHBEE (‘95 – ‘16)

American Prize in Orchestral Programming—Vytautas Marijosius Memorial Award Winners

DR. MATT WARDELL (‘08, ‘10, ‘11, and ‘13) wins the American Prize in Orchestral Programming—Vytautas Marijosius Memorial Award (professional division), 2024

Matt posted on social media:
“Programming is such an important part of the job as a conductor and music director. It’s a place where I’ve always felt we can truly connect with our communities, put a unique and personal touch on our music making, and impact our field by highlighting new or lesser known works and composers. With that said, I’m really honored to have been named the winner of The American Prize: Vytautas Marijosius Memorial Award in Orchestral Programming for my work with the Ocala Symphony!”

Congratulations, Matt!

Matthew Wardell is a conductor known for his charisma, versatility, and ability to captivate audiences with joy and presence. He is the Music Director of the Ocala Symphony Orchestra, recently hailed by Grammy-winning composer Michael Daugherty as “the hardest working orchestra in Florida.” With a focus on underrepresented and living composers, he has conducted more than 400 works with the OSO, ranging from core orchestral repertoire to pops concerts and film and multimedia works. From the pit, Wardell has led 16 staged productions of large-scale opera, musical theatre, and ballet works. Additionally, Matthew has served as a visiting lecturer, guest artist, and adjunct faculty member at various universities and colleges and is currently the Interim Director of Orchestral Studies at Mount Holyoke College.

To learn more about Matt go to: www.matthewwardell.com

DR. DAVID RAHBEE (‘95 - ‘16) receives the 2nd prize in the American Prize in Orchestral Programming—Vytautas Marijosius Memorial Award (non-professional division), 2024 for his work with the University of Washington Symphony Orchestra.

Congratulations, David!

David Alexander Rahbee is currently Senior Artist in Residence at the University of Washington School of Music in Seattle, where he is Director of Orchestral Activities and is chair of orchestral conducting studies. He is recipient of the American-Austrian Foundation’s 2003 Karajan Fellowship for Young Conductors, the 2005 International Richard-Wagner-Verband Stipend, and the Acanthes Centre in Paris in 2007. He has recently worked with the Seattle Symphony, the Chattanooga Symphony, Orchesterakademie der Bochumer Symphoniker, the Seattle Modern Orchestra, National Chamber Orchestra of Armenia, and the Guernsey Symphony Orchestra. He participated in masterclasses with Kurt Masur, Sir Colin Davis, Jorma Panula, Zdeněk Mácal, Peter Eötvös, and Zoltán Peskó. His principal conducting teachers were Charles Bruck and Michael Jinbo at the Monteux School. He holds degrees from Indiana University, New England Conservatory, and University of Montreal. He also studied at Universität für Musik und Darstellende Kunst, Vienna.

To learn more about David go to: www.davidrahbee.com



Monteux Board Member and Alumni **GUILLERMO VILLARREAL RODRIGUEZ ('09, '13, and '18)** awarded the **Harold Gramatges International Prize**

University orchestra conductor and professor of the Faculty of Music of the Autonomous University of Nuevo León and Monteux Alumni and Board Member Guillermo Villarreal Rodríguez received the Harold Gramatges International Prize, given by the Union of Writers and Artists of Cuba (UNEAC) on June 18. Huge congrats, Guillermo! We are very proud of you.

Below is the full press release:

UANL orchestra conductor Guillermo Villarreal received an award from the Union of Writers and Artists of Cuba for his contribution to Latin American culture and identity.

On June 18, Guillermo Villarreal Rodríguez, university orchestra conductor and professor at the School of Music at Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León, received the Harold Gramatges International Prize from the Union of Writers and Artists of Cuba (UNEAC).

The award honors the memory of Harold Gramatges, one of Cuba's most important intellectuals. Gramatges was a composer, orchestra conductor, pianist, diplomat, and a key figure in the Cuban musical avant-garde.

A friend of Mexican composers like Blas Galindo and José Pablo Moncayo, Harold Gramatges served as a mentor to Villarreal Rodríguez. Despite their 53-year age difference, they were united by deep artistic ideals, allowing Guillermo to forge a close connection with the island.

"A fundamental figure in Latin American music, Harold Gramatges was more than just a friend to me; he was a mentor, a teacher, and an advisor," said the university professor. "I was fortunate to meet him in 1998, and he remained a significant influence until his death."

"Gramatges advised Guillermo never to succumb to the allure of simple music

and easy applause—a piece of advice that Villarreal Rodríguez followed diligently. Today, he proudly accepts this extraordinary award, a source of pride for the university."

The Harold Gramatges International Award, granted by UNEAC, has been awarded only four times in the past 10 years.

THE PATH OF FRIENDSHIP

"In 2022, a member of the UNEAC approached the professor from the School of Music, suggesting that he had the qualifications to receive the award."

From that moment onward, the journey commenced, culminating in April 2024 when he received notification from Pedro de la Hoz regarding the proposal to the guild.

Sadly, Pedro lost his battle with cancer, and his final wish was for the administrative process to be completed and the award to be bestowed upon me. This carries significant emotional weight, as Pedro's influence in Latin America is profound," stated the recipient, who also holds the José María Heredia y Heredia Award, received in 2023 in Santiago de Cuba.



DESMOND SIU ('19, '21, '22, and '24) appointed **Scottsdale Symphonic Orchestra's first Music Director**

Monteux Alumni and Conductor **DESMOND SIU ('19, '21, '22, AND '24)** is appointed as Scottsdale Symphonic Orchestra's first Music Director! His first concert as Music Director was on October 20, 2024 and featured Tchaikovsky's 4th Symphony to great acclaim. Congratulations Desmond!

In a feature in the Entertainer Magazine out of Phoenix, Arizona, Desmond shares his journey that led to his appointment:

The Scottsdale Symphonic Orchestra is newer to the Valley, but it is already working to transform lives and uplift spirits through music. This year, during its second season, it will be joined by its first music director, Kin "Desmond" Siu.

The 2024-2025 season will run from Sunday, Oct. 20, to Sunday, May 11, and all concerts will be held at the Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts.

Siu, who splits his time between Flagstaff and Scottsdale, was selected as the music director after an international search that included 22 candidates. Last season, the top five candidates guest conducted concerts and took part in rehearsal processes as part of their interview process.

During the March concert which Siu guest-conducted, the orchestra performed Leonard Bernstein's Overture to "West Side Story," a William Grant Still arrangement of Florence Price's "Dances in the Canebrakes," William C. White's "Acadia Fanfare" and Antonín Dvořák's "Symphony No. 9 in E Minor from the New World, Op. 95."

The orchestra members took part in the final review and selection process. The group is made up of 70 to 90 professionally trained musicians, who are all volunteering their time.

"Most of them have been playing almost all of their lives," Siu said. "They are obviously music lovers of the classical genre . . . They come from everywhere, from music teachers, to pilots, people in customer service, engineers, you name it. They're all here to play music once a week with this orchestra. I think it's a really beautiful thing, and it's my job to make sure they sound good and have a good time."

Siu said he had to wait sometime after his final interview to hear back that he had gotten the job.

"It's not like a regular interview where you'll know within a couple of weeks," he said. "I had to wait a few months. A few people who went before me had to wait almost an entire half year... Everyone had their chance of showing what they can do, how they rehearse, how they perform, how they interact with the orchestra."

Siu grew up in Gilbert and attended Highland High School. He has been conducting for almost 10 years and is currently the artistic director and principal conductor of Orchestra Northern Arizona and an adjunct violin professor at Northern Arizona University.

He is also a violinist who has been playing the violin since age 10 and performs with the Flagstaff Symphony Orchestra, Arizona Philharmonic, San Juan Symphony and Sedona Symphony.

In the past, he has served as acting music director for Arizona Pro Arte, assistant conductor for the NAU Orchestras and assistant conductor for the Skidmore College Orchestra.

Siu will conduct most of the concerts for Scottsdale Symphonic during the upcoming season, except for Nov. 10 and Dec. 15, when Chuck Stewart will guest-conduct.

Siu said that being the first music director for the orchestra is both exciting and daunting.

"In Flagstaff, I had some blueprints to follow the first year and a half before I found my own way," he said. "But here, they are like, 'What do you like to do? Let's hear it.' I told them, and they said, 'Cool, let's try it.' I can't wait to see what the membership thinks when we start rehearsals."

The symphonic orchestra performs a mix of classic masterworks and pieces from new conductors. Siu said it is important to the orchestra to bring works by composers with which audiences may not be as familiar.

"Part of the organization's mission is to promote underrepresented composers and underrepresented cultures within classical music," he said. "I think that's an idea that speaks to me as an Asian American."

Siu worked closely with the organization's board of directors to plan the season. He said it was important to include a mix of different classical composers, so that musicians receive equal playing time and audiences get exposure to different styles of classical music.

"Music is one of those things that you cannot know enough in," he said. "So, you just have to pursue that thirst of knowledge all the time."

The season will open with the "Fate's Return" concert on Oct. 10 featuring Coleridge-Taylor's "Ballade in A Minor" and Tchaikovsky's "Symphony No. 4 in F Minor."

To learn more about Desmond go to: www.scottsdalsymphonicorchestra.org/about/music-director



Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra Music Director and Monteux Alumni **MARC DAVID ('83 - '93) will be leaving the orchestra after 33 years at the end of the 2024-25 season.**

With the orchestra at the height of its reputation, David told CBC News, it felt like the right time to make the move.

"The level of playing is at its highest point of my 33 years with the symphony. We're one of the best regional orchestras in the country," said David.

"I'm leaving an orchestra in excellent shape. And I'd rather leave like that than leave an organization that's struggling."

David became principal conductor in 1992 and music director 19 years later. For David, the future will continue to hold music — as guest conductor, artistic director

of the Canadian Music Competition as well as consultant working with orchestras.

"I want my 40 years of experience in this field to serve other organizations in the arts community," he said.

Marc David was also celebrated recently as he received his honorary doctorate from Memorial University, Newfoundland and Labrador. Congratulations, Marc!

To learn more about Marc David, visit: cmcnational.com/2021/11/17/le-nouveau-directeur-general-et-artistique-du-cmc-canime



Monteux Alumni **DAREN WEISSFISCH ('15, '16, '21, and '22) named Music Director of the Lake Union Civic Orchestra (LUCO)!**

We are so proud of you, Daren!

"I am beyond excited and honored to share that I've been chosen as the new Musical Director for the Lake Union Civic Orchestra (LUCO) right here in Seattle, WA! I feel incredibly grateful for this opportunity and can't wait to work with such talented musicians and wonderful people. I'm thrilled to be a part of the LUCO family and look forward to an amazing debut season. Thank you all for your support!"

Daren Weissfisch is a distinguished conductor, oboist, and educator based in Seattle, Washington. He currently serves as the Principal Conductor for the Tacoma Opera and is excited to be the new Music Director of the Lake Union Civic Orchestra beginning in the 2024-2025 season. He is also Conductor for the Seattle Opera Creation Lab and has worked with local orchestras including the Bainbridge Symphony Orchestra, Harmonia Orchestra, and the Issaquah Philharmonic Orchestra.

Daren has held notable positions such as Artistic Director and Conductor of the Sinaloa Esperanza Azteca Symphony Orchestra

and Choir, which was an El Sistema based youth orchestra and choir in Culiacán, Sinaloa, Mexico. In his seven-year tenure, he positively impacted over 300 young musicians through free music education and performance opportunities. Continuing his love for music education, Daren spent the 2023-2024 academic year as interim Band Teacher leading the middle and high school bands at the Lakeside School in Seattle.

Daren earned a second Master's degree at the University of Washington in orchestral conducting—because one Master's degree in oboe just wasn't enough—and he continues to work towards completing his Doctoral degree there.

Daren is also an accomplished oboist. He has performed with various ensembles in the United States and Mexico, including a significant tenure with the Sinaloa Symphony Orchestra. He has been a soloist for works by Mozart, Strauss, and Bach, and subbed for several local orchestras in Seattle including LUCO.

To learn more about Daren got to: www.luco.org/music-director.html



Monteux Alumni, **RYAN FARRIS ('16, '17, '18, '21, and '22) becomes the new Music Director of the Bainbridge Symphony Orchestra**

Congratulations Ryan!

Read the announcement below:

The Bainbridge Symphony Orchestra (BSO) is thrilled to announce Ryan Dakota Farris as its new Music Director and Conductor. Farris brings a wealth of experience and a dynamic presence to the BSO, promising an exciting new era for our orchestra.

"I am tremendously excited to begin a new musical chapter with the Bainbridge Symphony. The warmth, generosity, and dedication of these musicians is infectious and I can't wait to see what we are capable of achieving together in the coming years. Getting the chance to direct and program for my own orchestra is truly a dream come true. It is my greatest hope that the orchestra and the entire Bainbridge community will be inspired by the concerts we have planned for our upcoming season."

- Ryan Dakota Farris

Farris has quickly become one of the most exciting and in-demand conductors in the Pacific Northwest. His extensive experience includes recent guest conducting appearances with the Bainbridge Symphony, Octava Chamber Orchestra, and Seattle Festival Orchestra. Currently, he serves as the assistant conductor of Lake

Union Civic Orchestra and is pursuing his doctorate in Orchestral Conducting at the University of Washington where he conducts the Campus Philharmonia and assists with the University of Washington Symphony. His musical education was enriched under the guidance of the late maestro Michael Jinbo at the Pierre Monteux School and Music Festival, alongside studies with notable conductors such as Ludovic Morlot and David Alexander Rahbee.

"We're thrilled to welcome Ryan as the newest member of the BSO/BPA community. This is a truly exciting time for BSO, and we're so grateful to have the opportunity to work with Ryan as he leads the orchestra into this bright new era."

- Elizabeth Allum, BPA Executive Director

The Bainbridge Symphony Orchestra is confident that Ryan Dakota Farris will inspire both musicians and audiences alike with his passion and expertise. Join us in welcoming him and stay tuned for the announcement of our exciting upcoming season's programming under his leadership!

To learn more about Ryan go to: www.bainbridgeperformingarts.org/bs



NEW TEACHING APPOINTMENTS

We are thrilled to announce that three Monteux Alumni have secured teaching appointment in 2024. Please join us in congratulating them!

DR. MATT WARDELL ('08, '10, '11, and '13) was appointed as the Director of Orchestras at the University of South Florida (Tampa, FL)

DR. SEAN RADERMACHER ('13, '23, and '24) will be leading the Symphony Orchestra and Conducting courses in the Music Department at Slippery Rock University (Slippery Rock, PA) while Dr. Jeong is on leave, while serving as Assistant Conductor for the Erie Philharmonic and Lakeside Symphony Orchestra.

BENJAMIN PETREE ('22 and '23) is appointed Associate Director of Orchestras at Ronald Thornton Middle School (in Ford Bend, TX).

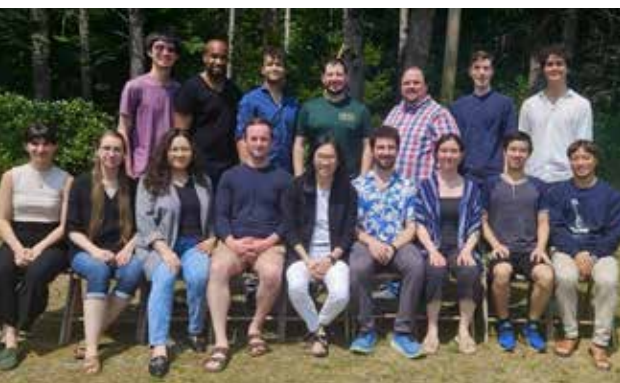


MONTEUX MEMORIES





MONTEUX MEMORIES



SUMMER 2024





MONTEUX ASSOCIATE SPOTLIGHT

Mike H. Summerer, MD

Mike Summerer is one of the many Monteux Associates, a dedicated group of volunteers who make the Monteux School and Music Festival possible. Mike assists by providing rides for musicians flying in and out of Bangor Airport, acquiring and repairing bicycles heavily used by the musicians, and offering baton-turning workshops each summer. As the President of the American Association of Woodturners, Mike described in his last address in the AAW Newsletter how baton turning came to be:

“Each summer, I am involved with a local school for orchestra conductors. Sixty-four young, mostly professional musicians gather in the woods of DownEast Maine to spend six weeks honing their performing and conducting skills. A few years ago, I offered to help some of them turn their own batons. The orchestra sees a white shaft, but the handle of a baton can be unique to the conductor, and the weight and balance can be adjusted to meet the preferences of the owner.

Initially, only three or four students took part, but this year, twenty-eight batons were created by folks who have spent most of their lives perfecting their musical skills but have never touched or been exposed to power tools or carving instruments. Several students said that their woodturning sessions were the most fun of the summer (other than performing, of course). A few of them have sought out a local woodturning chapter, and at least one has purchased his first lathe. For them, there seems to be a natural connection between musical performance and making things with their hands. I describe this as an example of how woodturning can affect other areas of human existence in a positive way.”

Many thanks Mike for all you do for our students!



2025 APPLICATION INFORMATION



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for best consideration

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Dr. Stan Renard
Executive Director



Kyle Ritenauer
Associate Conductor



Dr. Jeffery Meyer
Guest Conducting Faculty



Ludovic Morlot
Guest Conducting Faculty



For more information and to apply, visit:
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For ticket info and subscriptions, please visit:

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