

Hancock's Monteux School and Music Festival appoints new music director

HANCOCK — The Monteux School and Music Festival, an institution with an 80-year history of nurturing musical talent, has announced the appointment of Tiffany Lu as its new music director, effective immediately.

Lu's appointment follows an extensive year-long search process, which included input from alumni and students. Lu, a highly accomplished conductor, said she is honored to take on this role. Her commitment to the school and the Monteux community is driven by a decade of cherished summers spent in Maine.

"I am deeply touched by the committee, school, and Monteux community's faith and confidence in me," she said. "After 10 years of summers in Maine, it means the world to be able to commit to making the school an even greater place. You all honor me with your trust, and I can't wait to see and shape what lies ahead."

Lu is the fourth music director in the history of the Pierre Monteux School and Music Festival. In addition to her new role at Monteux, she has completed her first year as the director of orchestral activities at the University of Florida, where she earned praise for her work in UF Opera's production of "Carmen" in April 2023.

During the 2022-23 concert season, Lu made guest appearances with Symphony New Hampshire and the



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Tiffany Lu

Elgin Symphony Orchestra. She also served as the director of the Sewanee Symphony Orchestra at Sewanee University of the South from 2020 to 2022. Her journey with the Monteux School

began as associate conductor, where she contributed to the festival's legacy over five seasons.

Lu grew up in Tampa and holds degrees from Princeton University, Ithaca College (Master of Music in Orchestral Conducting) and the University of Maryland (Doctor of Musical Arts in Orchestral Conducting).

Lu's upcoming engagements include appearances with the Cumberland Symphony Orchestra at the Sewanee Summer Music Festival, as well as a guest clinician role with the 2023 New York All-State Orchestra.

Throughout her seven years in the D.C.-Maryland-Virginia area and Delaware, Lu built an impressive portfolio. Her roles included assistant conductor with the Prince Georges Philharmonic, music director of the Wilmington Community Orchestra, and positions with Washington, D.C.'s Capital City Symphony. Her innovative programming left a lasting impact on the musical landscape.

In addition to her conducting achievements, Lu maintains an active presence as an orchestral violinist, chamber music collaborator and private violin teacher. Her doctoral research focused on new models in the orchestral education of undergraduate string players, demonstrating her commitment to the development of young musicians.

The Monteux School and Music Festival said in a press release that it is proud to welcome Lu as its new music director, and it anticipates "an exciting future under her guidance."

"Her passion for music, dedication to education, and extensive experience make her an exceptional addition to the school's leadership team," the press release concluded.

Located in the town of Hancock, the Monteux School and Music Festival was founded in 1943 by the iconic conductor Pierre Monteux. His approach to conducting education, emphasizing active participation within the orchestra while absorbing the insights of peers, forms the bedrock of the school's educational philosophy.

This ethos has been meticulously sculpted into an all-encompassing six-week program, fostering an environment that nurtures creativity and fosters a sense of camaraderie, the organization said in its press release. "The program includes a rich tapestry of symphonic, chamber, and children's concerts, providing students with a well-rounded musical experience."

Alumni of the school have gone on to establish careers in orchestral, operatic and educational arenas, leaving an indelible mark not only within the United States but also across Canada, Mexico, Europe and Asia. For more information, visit monteuxmusic.org.