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## **2017–2018 Vincent C. LaGuardia, Jr. Conducting Competition Accepting Submissions in December**

Denver – The Arapahoe Philharmonic (AP), in support of its ongoing mission to recognize young talent in the classical music field, announces the opening of its 2017–2018 **Vincent C. LaGuardia, Jr. Conducting Competition** beginning Friday, December 1, 2017.

This competition is for student conductors between the ages of 18 and 28 who are not yet regularly employed in the conducting field. The winner will conduct a work, selected by the Music Director, in concert with the Arapahoe Philharmonic on **Saturday, March 10, 2018**. The winner will be presented with a cash prize of \$500 at the performance. The program is “A Night at the Movies – Final Frontier” and will include film music from *Alien*, *E.T.*, *Star Wars* and *Star Trek*.

The inaugural Conducting Competition was held during the 2013-2014 season. Nathaniel Meyer, from Indiana University’s Jacobs School of Music, won the first competition and led the Arapahoe Philharmonic in Bernstein’s *Overture to Candide* in February 2014. Nico Olarte-Hayes, from New York City, was the 2015–2016 competition winner and conducted the AP in Edvard Grieg’s *Peer Gynt* Suite No. 1 in November 2015. The Conducting Competition alternates annually with the Vincent C. LaGuardia, Jr. Composition Competition.

Eligibility and application requirements are available on our website at <http://www.arapahoe-phil.org/competitions/conducting-competition/>. All applications must be submitted online by 11:59 p.m. on Saturday, December 23, 2017.

### About the Arapahoe Philharmonic

Founded in 1953, the Arapahoe Philharmonic is among the longest established, continuously operating musical resources in Colorado. The organization is dedicated to providing the highest degree of musical excellence and cultural enrichment to the region and engaging area youth in educational opportunities promoting an interest in classical music. The orchestra’s musicians are primarily volunteers playing for the love of music, with a core of compensated section principals who provide technical leadership and support the excellence of performance.

Concerts feature repertoire spanning the centuries, from the great masters to composers of the current day. The Philharmonic is invested in future generations, presenting an annual children's concert, sponsoring outreach to schools, working with area student honor orchestras, sponsoring a Play-In for high school students to work side-by-side with experienced Arapahoe Philharmonic players, coaching the Civic Youth Orchestra in partnership with Avanti Music Academy in Highlands Ranch, and presenting three collegiate-level competitions, the T. Gordon Parks Concerto Competition and the Vincent C. LaGuardia, Jr. Conducting and Composition Competitions.

#### About the Music Director

Devin Patrick Hughes is highly regarded for his exhilarating score interpretations, advocacy for music accessibility and promotion of music of our time. He is concurrently serving as Music Director and Conductor of the Arapahoe Philharmonic and Boulder Symphony, and has established himself as a musical leader in the region through previous positions with the Santa Fe Youth Symphony Association, Denver Young Artists Orchestra, Denver Philharmonic Orchestra and Denver Contemporary Chamber Players. In 2010, Hughes was the only American selected with eleven other finalists in the Arturo Toscanini International Conducting Competition in Parma, Italy. He was recently selected from hundreds of his peers across the globe to compete in the 2017 Solti International Conducting Competition in Hungary. Hughes was a conducting fellow at the American Academy of Conducting at Aspen and has conducted ensembles across North America and Europe, including the Winnipeg Symphony, Colorado Symphony, Rochester Philharmonic, Green Bay Symphony and Filarmonica Arturo Toscanini. More information may be found at [www.devinpatrickhughes.com](http://www.devinpatrickhughes.com).

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