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Arapahoe Philharmonic Announces the 2018 Vincent C. LaGuardia, Jr. Composition Competition

Littleton, Colo. – The Arapahoe Philharmonic, in support of its ongoing mission to recognize young talent in the classical music field, will be accepting applications for its 2018 ***Vincent C. LaGuardia, Jr. Composition Competition*** during the month of June.

This competition is for student composers under the age of 35 and enrolled in a US-based educational institution, and who are not yet regularly employed in the composition field. The winner will be named Composer-in-Residence with the Arapahoe Philharmonic for two seasons (2018–2019 and 2019–2020). The orchestra will perform the competition-winning composition during its May 2019 concert and will commission a new orchestral work to be performed on a Masterworks concert during the 2019–2020 concert season.

The application process and entry guidelines are outlined on the Arapahoe Philharmonic’s website at <https://www.arapahoe-phil.org/competitions/composition-competition/>. All applications must be submitted online. Submissions will be accepted beginning June 1, 2018, through 11:59 p.m. on June 30, 2018.

Three finalists’ works will be selected to advance to the final round consisting of an open rehearsal/reading of the works on Tuesday, August 14, 2018, at 7:30 p.m. (Venue information will be available on our website in July.) The reading will be open to the public and those in attendance will be invited to vote for their favorite composition. Audience member results will be considered alongside results from the competition judges and orchestra members.

The 80-member Arapahoe Philharmonic has been a valuable cultural asset in the Denver metropolitan area for 65 years. In addition to its regular season of six masterworks concerts, the orchestra offers many services to the community, including concerts for elementary school students, coaching students from area middle schools and high schools, a side-by-side Play-In for high school and community musicians, the T. Gordon Parks Concerto Competition, and the Vincent C. LaGuardia, Jr. Conducting Competition, which alternates annually with this Composition Competition.

The inaugural Composition Competition was held during the 2014–2015 season. Edgar Girtain, from New Jersey’s Rutgers University, was named as the orchestra’s first Composer-in-Residence. Our second resident composer was Jonathan Bingham from New York University.

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 engaging, enriching and inspiring our community through musical performance, education and outreach. 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.

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