

1605 HOWARD STREET | OMAHA, NE 68028 | 402.342.3836 | FAX: 402.342.3819 | OMAHASYMPHONY.ORG

CONTACT: Sarah Brownlee, Public Relations  
402.342.3836 x140 cell: 402.639.6998

[sbrownlee@omahasymphony.org](mailto:sbrownlee@omahasymphony.org)

## **Up-and-coming conductors from across the U.S. gather for unique training opportunity with Omaha Symphony**

**Omaha, Neb –** *Imagine being a young conductor. If you don't have a professional gig, where do you find an orchestra to lead? How do you get time on the conductor's podium to perfect your craft?*

The Omaha Symphony Conductor Symposium (May 21-24) offers up-and-coming conductors a chance to learn from established maestros and apply that knowledge with one of the Midwest's finest orchestras. Through seminars and podium time, sixteen aspiring conductors will be equipped with the tools needed to succeed in present and future roles with American orchestras.

Coming from as far as New York, New Mexico, and Louisiana, participants will work with renowned music faculty including Mark Gibson (Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, Director of Orchestral Studies & Conducting) and Omaha Symphony Music Director Thomas Wilkins.

"The orchestra is my instrument. One of the biggest challenges facing young conductors is simply finding an opportunity to practice their instrument!" said Maestro Wilkins. "This event is all about practical application—from how you interact with an audience to planning education concerts for kids."

The Omaha Symphony Chamber Orchestra will serve as the orchestra for the Symposium. Each participant will get 45 minutes of podium time to work through the music with the players. Selections will include Mozart's Symphony No. 41, Copland's *Appalachian Spring*, Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 4, and Schubert's Octet.

—more—

## Omaha Symphony equips aspiring conductors with tools of the trade

“This is a rare opportunity for emerging conductors and a special outreach for the Omaha Symphony. We are one of only a handful of professional orchestras who invest in the next generation of leaders in such a comprehensive way,” said Jennifer Boomgaarden, Director of Education and Community Partnerships.

For more details on the Omaha Symphony Conductor Symposium, please call Sarah Brownlee, Public Relations Manager, at 402.342.3836 x140. A complete schedule of events is available upon request.

*The Omaha Symphony is a non-profit organization, which presents more than 200 live orchestral performances from September through June. In addition to MasterWorks, Symphony Pops, Chamber, Discovery, Casual Classics, West “O” Casual Classics, and Family series concerts, the orchestra tours both Nebraska and Iowa providing education and community engagement concerts and special events. For information regarding the Omaha Symphony, call 402.342.3560 or visit [www.omahasymphony.org](http://www.omahasymphony.org).*

###