



OMAHA SYMPHONY

The Omaha Symphony is proud to present Educator as Maestro, a music educator conducting masterclass at the Nebraska Music Educators Association Conference!

Date of Sessions: Friday, November 21, 2025

Session 1: 1:15 – 2:15 PM, Room #116 Westbrook Music Building, UNL Campus

Session 2: 2:30 – 3:30 PM, Room #116 Westbrook Music Building, UNL Campus

What is Educator as Maestro?

In this conducting masterclass, you will have the opportunity to watch and learn along with your peers as they conduct the Omaha Symphony with Assistant Conductor Serena Reuten. The session will focus on conducting technique, communication skills, and musicianship – in a real-life laboratory setting with a professional orchestra. Using repertoire from participating teachers' classrooms, this session aims to support every educator as a maestro.

If you are interested in participating as a podium conductor in Educator as Maestro, please complete and submit the following brief application no later than ***Friday, October 10***. Participants will be notified by Tuesday, October 14 of their acceptance and will only be selected for a conducting time slot in one of the above sessions. Both sessions will be open to all NMEA conference attendees as auditors.

Serena Reuten, Omaha Symphony Assistant Conductor

Serena Reuten is a German-Canadian conductor currently serving as the Assistant Conductor of the Omaha Symphony. Between 2024-2026 she will also join the third cohort of the Orchestre Métropolitain's Orchestral Conducting Academy mentorship program under the guidance of Yannick Nézet-Séguin. Recent activities include participating in the 2024 Järvi Conducting Academy in Pärnu, Estonia under the mentorship of Paavo Järvi, Neeme Järvi, and Leonid Grin. She has served as guest assistant conductor for the Toronto Symphony and National Arts Centre Orchestra, as well as guest conductor with the Winnipeg Symphony during their annual Winnipeg New Music Festival. In 2023, she was the inaugural recipient of the Bernhard Gueller Conducting Fellowship with Symphony Nova Scotia as well as one of CBC's 30 under 30 Classical Musicians. Over the past few summers she has also attended several international conducting masterclasses, studying under such conductors as Alexander Shelley and Cristian Măcelaru.

Serena recently completed her graduate studies in orchestral conducting at the Eastman School of Music with Neil Varon. Also active in Rochester's broader musical community, she served as the director of the New Horizons String Ensemble at the Eastman Community Music School and worked with ensembles such as OSSIA, the Eastman Chamber Orchestra, and the Eastman Graduate Composers Sinfonietta. Serena holds degrees in flute performance from the University of Ottawa and University of Montreal, and in her spare time enjoys learning languages and dancing.

1905 Harney Street, Suite 400 | Omaha, NE 68102-2318 | 402.342.3836
www.omahasymphony.org

Jennifer Boomgaarden Daoud
President & CEO

Ankush Kumar Bahl
Artistic Partner

Ernest Richardson
Principal Pops Conductor
Resident Conductor

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

D. David Slosburg
Chairman

Arun Agarwal

Chanda Chacón

Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D.

Jeff Gordman

Eric N. Gurley

Fred R. Hunzeker

Brian Ketcham

Joanne Li, Ph.D.

Randy Pritza, M.D, MMM

McKell V. Purnell

Angie Quinn

Rob Reed

Constance M. Ryan

Joel Schlessinger, M.D.

Leonard Sommer

Jesse Sullivan

David Vandeginste

Sarah Singletary Walker, Ph.D.

Dana E. Washington, J.D.

Beth F. Whited

EX OFFICIO

James Davenport
Chair, Governing Members

Bobby Scharmann
Orchestra Committee Chair

Brett Hodge
Musician Representative

DIRECTOR EMERITUS

David A. Diamond

RETURN THIS FORM NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, to lkweisser@omahasymphony.org,
or to Omaha Symphony Education Office, 1905 Harney Street, Suite 400, Omaha, NE 68102.

Educator as Maestro | Conducting Participant Application

NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE _____

YEARS OF TEACHING EXPERIENCE: _____

SCHOOL AFFILIATION: (School Name, Address, District, etc.)

WHAT ENSEMBLE(S) DO YOU CURRENTLY CONDUCT AT YOUR SCHOOL?

WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO ACHIEVE THROUGH THIS EXPERIENCE?

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO IMPROVE ABOUT YOUR CONDUCTING?

IF SELECTED, WHAT REPERTOIRE WOULD YOU CHOOSE FOR YOUR SESSION?

Should you be chosen to participate in Educator as Maestro as a conductor, you will be working with the Omaha Symphony during one of our sessions at the Nebraska Music Educators Association Conference on November 21, 2025, in Lincoln, Nebraska. Participating conductors **MUST** be registered attendees.

Conductors will be notified of their acceptance by **Tuesday, October 14**, and must have their selected repertoire submitted to the Omaha Symphony no later than **Thursday, October 16, 2025**.