



Chia-Hsuan Lin **Appointed Interim Music Director**



For Immediate Release
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Contemporary Youth Orchestra, in its 26th season, announced Chia-Hsuan Lin has been appointed Interim Music Director.

"It's time for CYO's next 25 years," said Executive Director, Kimberly Deichler, "and Chia-Hsuan (pronounced Joshwin) is the perfect artist to lead our transition. She brings a depth of experience as a conductor of professional and student orchestras along with a reputation for innovation that fits our mission perfectly. In this powerhouse performer and educator we have a professional with the vision, passion and experience to make Season 26 an awesome learning experience for all our students."

"I am amazed by the quality of student that CYO attracts," said Chia-Hsuan, "when I reviewed CYO's past projects, including the video recordings, I thought wow, this is a really awesome group, you're doing all the fun things that I am excited about."

Hailed by the Virginia Gazette as "a rock solid" and "animated" conductor, Chia-Hsuan Lin delights audiences throughout the world with her trademark energy and command. Formerly the Assistant Conductor of the Fort Wayne Philharmonic, she was appointed Associate Conductor of the Richmond Symphony Orchestra and Music Director of the Youth Orchestra in 2016.

Chia-Hsuan debuted with the Minnesota Orchestra in 2020, and recently led performances with the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, Virginia Symphony, Williamsburg Symphony, Richmond Ballet, and Peninsula Music Festival Orchestra. In praise of her Brahms Fourth Symphony with RSO, Letter V wrote, "I've never heard a more compelling live performance than this one."

With a streak for innovation stemming from her work as a former member of the Taipei Percussion Group, Lin has conducted premieres by composers including Stephen Prutsman, Laura Schwendinger, and Jennifer Jolley. She has also been a featured guest with Classical Revolution RVA, bringing classical music to unconventional settings, and led the "Land Dive Project," a musical collaboration with scuba divers in partnership with the Institute for Contemporary Art at VCU. She is a trained percussionist and holds a Doctorate in Orchestral Conducting from Northwestern University.

"I knew from my time working with Chia-Hsuan at the Fort Wayne Philharmonic that she was a remarkable musician," said Ben Kipp, CYO Director of Educational Programming, "she possesses an exacting command of the repertoire and the ability to convey her vision to the musicians she conducts. As an educator, she understands the sensibility required to reach students who are still learning how to access their greatest performances."

About Cleveland and the artists here, Chia-Hsuan said: "It is humbling to join this musical community that has a long and incredible tradition, to be part of it. It's wonderful and just makes me really happy."

Her first project with CYO is a recording collaboration with Cleveland rock legend Michael Stanley set for release this holiday season. Chia-Hsuan Lin's energy and creativity promise to make the project (and the entire year) an exciting one. Find out more about her at chiahsuanlin.com. See more about CYO at cyorchestra.org.



CYO empowers students to soar in music and in life via the study and performance of new and contemporary music and introduction to careers in the creative arts industries. Confidence, integrity, independence, clarity of thought and generosity of spirit are essential values our talented community strives to embody. With a continually growing offering of experiences that excite the imagination, CYO currently consists of a 110-piece full orchestra dedicated to performing professional-level works by contemporary composers, a chamber ensemble designed to provide exceptional musicians with a deeper, more involved understanding of music and their instruments, a Drumline Intensive summer day camp for players to transform their technical chops and a College Audition Preparatory Program.