

For Immediate Release
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Bellevue Philharmonic Appoints New Music Director;
Collective Bargaining Agreement Reached with Orchestra

After an extensive search the Bellevue Philharmonic Orchestra (BPO) has appointed Michael Miropolsky as Music Director for the 2009-2010 season. A native of Russia, Mr. Miropolsky has conducted in many countries around the world and served as principal violinist with the Moscow State Symphony. "Maestro Miropolsky brings a wealth of experience and a depth of understanding of classical music that will propel the Bellevue Philharmonic to new artistic heights," stated Daniel Y. Mayer, Interim Executive Director.

Michael Miropolsky came to the United States in 1990 and has been Assistant Principal Second Violin with the Seattle Symphony Orchestra as well as a featured soloist. A proponent of the value and importance of musical education, Mr. Miropolsky continually presents at schools and colleges. He coaches young musicians and orchestras, leads master classes, and performs as a guest conductor all across the state of Washington.

He was both founder and conductor of the Jewish Community Center Chamber Orchestra, conductor of the Northwest School Orchestra in Seattle, and served as a faculty member of the University of Puget Sound. He was also a founder and conductor of the Seattle Conservatory of Music chamber orchestra "Young Virtuosi," building the finest student group in the area.

In 1999 Michael Miropolsky founded the Seattle Violin Virtuosi, and three years later founded the Seattle Chamber Orchestra. He serves as Music Director for both organizations and released with these groups seven CDs on the Ambassador label. In 2002 Michael Miropolsky was chosen to become the new Music Director of the Cascade Symphony Orchestra where he extended the orchestra season and released the orchestra's first CD, 'Symphonic Treasures' in 2007.

The BPO is also pleased to announce that a collective bargaining agreement has been reached with the Musicians' Association of Seattle, Local 96-493, American Federation of Musicians. Under the three-year contract, the musicians have agreed to play at a reduced rate for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. The rates will then be renegotiated the following year. Janis Wold, Board President, says: "This contract is a very good thing for everyone. We intend to work in partnership with our musicians and are thrilled with the outcome of these negotiations. We are very appreciative at the efforts made by our musicians to help us continue to bring great music, close to home."

“This has been a very challenging year, but one of the results from this challenge is that the musicians have come together like never before and have now established an excellent relationship with the board and incoming interim music director, Michael Miropolsky. The musicians are optimistic about the future of the BPO and are looking forward to working side by side with BPO Board President Janis Wold and the other members of the board. We think the upcoming season will be the most exciting in the 41 year history of the BPO,” said the BPO Orchestra Committee.

The BPO will present three Masterworks this season as well as a Pops concert and the annual Messiah performance with Bellevue Chamber Chorus. The performance dates are confirmed, and concert programming details will be released shortly.

Masterworks@Meydenbauer

Saturday, November 7, 2009, 7:30 pm
Sunday, November 8, 2009, 2:00 pm

Saturday, January 16, 2010, 7:30 pm
Sunday, January 17, 2010, 2:00 pm

Saturday, April 17, 2010, 7:30 pm
Sunday, April 18, 2010, 2:00 pm

Pops Concert at Meydenbauer

Saturday, March 20, 2010, 7:30 pm
Sunday, March 21, 2010, 2:00 pm

Messiah at Westminster Chapel

Sunday, December 20, 2009, 5:00 pm

Season information and a brochure will be available shortly at: www.bellevuephil.org.
Tickets will be available for purchase at www.brownpapertickets.com or by calling 800-838-3006.