

## NEWS

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### **Santa Rosa Symphony Welcomes Matthew Bringedahl as the New Debut Youth Orchestra Conductor**

(Santa Rosa, Calif.) — The Santa Rosa Symphony (SRS) is pleased to announce the appointment of Matthew Bringedahl as the new SRS Debut Youth Orchestra (DYO) conductor. DYO is a full orchestra experience designed for beginning to intermediate players 8yrs – 15yrs of age. Bringedahl begins his position on September 9, 2023.

The SRS Debut Youth Orchestra provides a solid foundation for younger students to learn to play within a full orchestra under the direction of a professional conductor. Students learn to follow the lead of a conductor, understand music notation, and style, and gain experience performing before live audiences. To qualify, students must have played their instrument for a minimum of two years. The ensemble meets at Sonoma Academy on Saturday mornings, September through April or May. In addition to full orchestra rehearsals, members receive coaching on their instruments from professional musicians from the Santa Rosa Symphony. Every season, DYO performs two concerts as well as a school assembly at a Sonoma County elementary school.

Luis Zuniga, the previous Debut Youth Orchestra and Aspirante Youth Orchestra conductor has accepted a full-time tenure track position as director of bands at Skyline College in San Francisco. The Symphony wishes him all the best. We expect to complete our search for a new conductor for Aspirante Youth Orchestra early in the season.

“I am very excited to start working with the students this year in their exploration of orchestral literature. The students are in for an educational and thrilling experience.”

**Matthew Bringedahl**, *incoming SRS Debut Youth Orchestra Conductor*

“We are so excited to have Matt as the new conductor of the SRS Debut Youth Orchestra! Matt is well known as an outstanding music educator, he is full of energy and great ideas to inspire young musicians. We know his rehearsals will be full of fun, and we look forward to hearing plenty of joyful music-making.”

**Wendy Cilman**, *SRS Director of Education*

#### **Biography:**

Matt Bringedahl is currently the Director of Instrumental Music at Maria Carrillo High School in Santa Rosa, California. He is in his 10th year teaching at that site where he leads three levels of wind band, two levels of orchestra, two levels of jazz ensembles, and multiple student-independent ensembles. Bringedahl received his BA in Music Education from Sonoma State University in the spring of 2012, his credential the following year, and his Master's Degree from Michigan State in the summer of 2018. All levels of his degrees were received with honors from each university. He studied under a multitude of professors, most notably Dr. Andy Collinsworth from Sonoma State and Dr. Kevin Sedatole from Michigan State. Bringedahl maintains an active professional musical schedule.

He spends summers working with various summer camps, conducting clinics, teaching music courses, and teaching a steady cohort of private students. In addition to teaching, he also performs with a variety of local ensembles ranging from Marin up to Ukiah. His primary instrument is the clarinet but he is also a proficient woodwind doubler.

on flute and saxophones. Bringedahl is a proud member of NAFME (National Association of Music Education), CMEA (California Music Education Association), NCBCDA (Northern California Band and Choir Association of which he is currently the President-Elect), CODA (California Orchestra Directors Association), and CAJ (California Alliance for Jazz).

He lives in Rohnert Park along with his fiancé and dog. In his downtime, he enjoys fishing and a good BBQ.

*Photos are available upon request.*

### **ABOUT SANTA ROSA SYMPHONY**

Santa Rosa Symphony, the Resident Orchestra of the Green Music Center, is the third-oldest professional orchestra in California, and the largest regional symphony north of Los Angeles. Francesco Lecce-Chong, the Symphony's fifth music director in its 96 years, began his tenure in 2018. The Symphony is committed to the core values of artistic excellence, innovative programming, comprehensive music education and community service.

The Symphony's performance schedule includes 21 Classical Series concerts (seven sets), Seven Discovery Rehearsal concerts, a three-concert Family Series and a four-concert Pops Series, as well as special concerts.

Awards include an American Symphony Orchestra League MetLife Award for Community Engagement and a first-place award for adventurous programming in the 2012-2013 season from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP).

The Symphony is recognized for having one of the most comprehensive music education programs in California, serving nearly 20,000 youth annually. Collaborations with schools and organizations across Sonoma County have gained the Santa Rosa Symphony national attention and support.