



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

850 Seventh Avenue · Suite 505 · New York · New York 10019-5230
Tel 212-581-5933 · Fax 212-582-6927 · nyys.org

Contact: Shauna Quill
squill@nyys.org 212-581-5933

NEW YORK YOUTH SYMPHONY APPOINTS ROBBI KEARNS AS DIRECTOR OF ARTISTIC OPERATIONS

Date: December 1, 2011

New York, NY....Shauna Quill, Executive Director of the New York Youth Symphony (NYYS), today announced Robbi Kearns has been hired as the organization's new Director of Artistic Operations. In making the announcement, Ms. Quill said, "We are thrilled to have Robbi come on board during this exciting time in our history. His vast range of experience in the field of music production and touring will be a great asset to NYYS as we move into our 50th Anniversary and expand our reach within the community and beyond."

Mr. Kearns worked with Academy Award winning composer Howard Shore on the award winning soundtracks for *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King* and *The Aviator*, and oversaw the creation of *The Lord of the Rings Symphony*. He toured worldwide managing over 100 performances of the symphony by local orchestras and choirs, and ultimately took over the management and production of the project at CAMI Music, a division of Columbia Artists Management. For the past four years Mr. Kearns has worked with Elisa Wagner/International Creative Production producing concerts and tours for artists including Jose Carreras, Dmitri Hvorstovsky with the Moscow Chamber Orchestra & Academy Choir, and Rolando Villazon with the Bolivar Soloists. He served as the President of the Seattle Folklore Society and produced concerts with musicians including Lucy Kaplansky, Lynn Miles, Richard Shindell, Cheryl Wheeler, and Dar Williams.

"I am thrilled to have the opportunity to work with the New York Youth Symphony at it reaches this milestone in its history," Mr. Kearns stated. "I am excited about working with Shauna and

the administrative staff to grow the organization as well as support the Directors of the individual programs to allow them to nurture the talent of our student musicians and composers.”

Soon to celebrate its 50th consecutive season in Carnegie Hall, the New York Youth Symphony is internationally recognized for its award-winning and innovative educational programs for talented young musicians. Founded in 1963 as an orchestra to showcase the metropolitan area’s most gifted musicians, ages 12-22, its programs have since grown to include Chamber Music groups, Jazz Band, Making Score composition program, and the commissioning program *First Music*. A leader among youth orchestras, the New York Youth Symphony offers sophisticated programs to enthusiastic audiences in a season that extends from September through May. For more information about the New York Youth Symphony visit our website at <http://www.nyys.org>

####