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**NATIONAL YOUTH ORCHESTRA OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
LAUNCHES INAUGURAL RESIDENCY AND TOUR**

**** June 30 – July 21, 2013 ****

**120 Outstanding Young Musicians from 42 States and Over 100 Cities
Come Together June 30 for Two Week Training Residency Followed by
International Tour with Conductor Valery Gergiev and Violinist Joshua Bell**

**Tour: Concerts at Purchase College, SUNY and Washington DC's Kennedy Center,
Great Hall of The Moscow Conservatory, St. Petersburg's New Mariinsky II, and
Concluding at London's Royal Albert Hall as Part of the BBC Proms**

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(June 6, 2013; NEW YORK, NY)—Beginning Sunday, June 30, 120 of the country's finest young musicians, ages 16-19, come together for the inaugural residency and tour of the **National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America**, a new annual tuition-free program created by Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute. NYO-USA's 2013 summer schedule includes five concerts in the US and abroad from July 11 to 21, with performances in Purchase, NY; Washington, DC; Moscow and St. Petersburg in Russia; and London, England.



"We're very excited to welcome the musicians of the NYO-USA for the first time this summer," said Clive Gillinson, Executive and Artistic Director of Carnegie Hall. "Though they come from every corner of the United States, all share a commitment to being the finest musicians they can be. We hope that this will be a life-changing experience for them, not just musically, as they train alongside their peers with some of the greatest orchestral players from around the US, but also personally, as they form friendships that last a lifetime and represent the best of their country around the globe."

Capping a two-week summer residency at Purchase College, SUNY, just outside New York City in Westchester County, in which the young musicians will train with section leaders from some of the country's best orchestras, world-renowned conductor **Valery Gergiev** will lead the NYO-USA in its first public performance with acclaimed violinist **Joshua Bell** at Purchase's Performing Arts Center on Thursday, July 11. From there, the orchestra embarks on its inaugural tour, starting in the nation's capital to make its debut at Washington DC's John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts on Saturday, July 13.

Following these two engagements, Maestro Gergiev, Mr. Bell, and the NYO-USA will travel overseas for two concerts in Mr. Gergiev's home country: in Moscow, at The Great Hall of the Moscow Conservatory on Tuesday, July 16 and, in St. Petersburg, at the recently unveiled Mariinsky II theater on Thursday, July 18 as part of Gergiev's Stars of the White Nights Festival. The orchestra's first tour culminates with a concert at London's Royal Albert Hall on Sunday, July 21, as part of the BBC Proms. The NYO-USA's Proms performance will be broadcast live on BBC Radio 3 and recorded for a later television broadcast,

scheduled to air on BBC Four on July 26. WQXR will broadcast NYO-USA's BBC Proms concert on July 27 at 5:00 p.m. ET, bringing it to New York area radio audiences and online listeners worldwide at wqxr.org.

The orchestra's concert program for all summer 2013 performances includes Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto with Mr. Bell as soloist; Shostakovich's Symphony No. 10 in E Minor; and *Magiya*, a new work by American composer Sean Shepherd, co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall and BBC Radio 3, specifically for NYO-USA. As part of their travel schedule, the NYO-USA players will also have the exciting opportunity to explore the cities in which they will be performing, as well as the chance to interact with local young musicians at stops along the way.

When the orchestra steps on stage for its debut, the musicians will sport a youthful, elegant, and fun take on traditional concert attire—including red trousers, black jackets with satin tonal details, and black canvas low-top Converse tennis shoes with white-stars patterns—styled by Fred Bernstein, courtesy of Macy's and Bloomingdales.

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Hailing from 42 US states and over 100 cities and towns, the 120 young musicians who make up the National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America have all been recognized by Carnegie Hall as being among the finest in the country following a comprehensive, nationwide audition process. For a video preview of NYO-USA, including player-submitted performances and interviews about the project, visit the orchestra's new YouTube channel at youtube.com/nyousa. For more information on NYO-USA, visit carnegiehall.org/nyousa. The orchestra can also be followed on Facebook at facebook.com/nyousa and on Twitter at #NYOUSA.

James Ross, associate director of The Juilliard School's conducting program and director of orchestral activities at the University of Maryland, will lead preparatory rehearsals at Purchase and help shape the residency curriculum. Comprising some of the finest players and section leaders from America's greatest orchestras, the faculty will oversee rehearsals during the orchestra's residency in Purchase and will conduct master classes, participate in chamber music readings, and lead other seminars on essential music skills, all to help prepare the musicians for their international tour. Complementing rehearsals and instrumental coachings, orchestra members will also take part in workshops on a variety of topics from improvisation, composition, and conducting, to yoga, tips for international travel, and speaking about music to a range of audiences.

The 2013 faculty members will be: **Robert Chen**, concertmaster, Chicago Symphony Orchestra; **Alison Harney**, principal second violin, St. Louis Symphony; **Carrie Dennis**, principal viola, Los Angeles Philharmonic; **John Sharp**, principal cello, Chicago Symphony Orchestra; **Jeffrey Turner**, principal bass, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra; **Jeffrey Khaner**, principal flute, The Philadelphia Orchestra; **Elaine Douvas**, principal oboe, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra; **Ricardo Morales**, principal clarinet, The Philadelphia Orchestra; **William Short**, principal bassoon, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra; **William VerMeulen**, principal horn, Houston Symphony; **David Krauss**, principal trumpet, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra; **R. Douglas Wright**, principal trombone, Minnesota Orchestra; **Alan Baer**, principal tuba, New York Philharmonic; **Cynthia Yeh**, principal percussion, Chicago Symphony Orchestra; and **Jauvon Gilliam**, principal timpanist, National Symphony Orchestra.

Purchase College, SUNY, is a key partner in Carnegie Hall's new NYO-USA initiative. During their two-week residency, orchestra members will be housed on Purchase College's scenic campus, located in Westchester County, just north of New York City, where they will undertake their initial training and rehearsals. All rehearsals will be centered at the College's highly-regarded Performing Arts Center and in the rehearsal studios of its School for the Arts Conservatory of Music.

Dates and cities for NYO-USA's 2013 inaugural residency and tour:

Sunday, June 30 – Thursday, July 11	Training Residency: Purchase, NY: Purchase College, SUNY
Thursday, July 11	Concert: Purchase, NY: The Performing Arts Center, Purchase College, SUNY
Saturday, July 13	Concert: Washington, DC: Concert Hall, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
Tuesday, July 16	Concert: Moscow: The Great Hall, Moscow Conservatory
Thursday, July 18	Concert: St. Petersburg: Mariinsky II
Sunday, July 21	Concert: London: BBC Proms/Royal Albert Hall (<i>This BBC Proms performance will be recorded for later television broadcast on BBC Four.</i>)

About the National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America

Created by Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute, the **National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America** provides an annual tuition-free opportunity for the most talented young musicians (ages 16-19) from across the US to come together with their peers, supported by a faculty of leading professional orchestra musicians and a celebrated conductor, for a two-week intensive musical residency, followed by a tour to top music capitals. Young musicians from across the country are invited to apply to this one-of-a-kind program, which is designed to shine a light on the extraordinary talent of young American instrumentalists, offering NYO-USA members a transformative musical and cultural experience as they develop their musical skills, receive training at the highest professional level, and travel abroad, serving as musical youth ambassadors for the US.

Carnegie Hall recently announced plans for the second annual National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America, which will include a US tour in summer 2014 to be led by conductor **David Robertson** with violinist **Gil Shaham** preceded by a two-week residency at Purchase College. Application information for the 2014 NYO-USA program will be made available later this spring. For information about the 2014 NYO-USA including audition requirements and details on the application process, please visit carnegiehall.org/nyousa.

About Carnegie Hall

Founded in 1891, New York City's **Carnegie Hall** presents exceptional performances by the world's finest artists on its three stages—the renowned Stern Auditorium/Perelman Stage, the intimate Weill Recital Hall, and the innovative Zankel Hall—ranging from orchestral concerts, chamber music, and solo recitals to jazz, world, and popular music. Extensive music education and community programs developed by **Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute** support Carnegie Hall's commitment to fostering the future of music. More than 400,000 people will engage in the Weill Music Institute's programs over the next year through national and international partnerships, in New York City schools and community settings, and at Carnegie Hall. For more information on Carnegie Hall and other Weill Music Institute programs supporting the ongoing development of young musicians, please visit carnegiehall.org.

National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America Lead Sponsor: Bloomberg

Lead Donors: the Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Foundation and Marina Kellen French; Ronald O. Perelman; the Robertson Foundation; and Joan and Sanford I. Weill and the Weill Family Foundation.

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