CARNEGIE HALL’S WEILL MUSIC INSTITUTE ANNOUNCES 2017–2018 SEASON, WITH MUSIC EDUCATION AND SOCIAL IMPACT PROGRAMMING AT CARNEGIE HALL, IN NEW YORK CITY, AND AROUND THE WORLD

Marin Alsop leads National Youth Orchestra of the USA at Carnegie Hall in July 2017, followed by NYO-USA’s inaugural tour to Latin America

NYO2 debuts at Carnegie Hall in summer 2017 with members of The Philadelphia Orchestra and conductor Giancarlo Guerrero

Additional 2017–2018 Season Highlights:

- Marilyn Horne leads The Song Continues in her final season as Artistic Advisor
- New York City teens create and perform original songs in Future Music Project
- Create Justice forums bring together policymakers, artists, and activists for series of national forums on the role of the arts in juvenile justice reform, culminating in March 2018 concert at Carnegie Hall
- Orchestra of St. Luke’s performs Carnegie Hall Family Concert featuring new works by Caroline Shaw and Robert Xavier Rodriguez
- Link Up presented by over 100 partner orchestras around the globe, as Weill Music Institute reaches over half a million people during the 2017–2018 season

(For Immediate Release: January 25, 2017, NEW YORK)—Carnegie Hall today announced a wide range of music education and social impact programs offered by the Weill Music Institute (WMI) throughout the 2017–2018 season, specially designed for students, teachers, families, young musicians, and audience members of all ages. WMI’s visionary programs—most offered at low or no cost to participants—feature collaborations with some of the world’s finest artists and ensembles on the stages at Carnegie Hall, in the Resnick Education Wing, and in school and community settings. Reaching more than half a million people in the coming season, WMI’s programs are designed to introduce audiences of all ages to music, train and nurture young artists, and harness the power of music to create opportunities for social impact, making a meaningful difference in people’s lives.

Highlights of WMI’s season include the National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America’s inaugural tour to Latin America in summer 2017, led by conductor Marin Alsop, and NYO2’s Carnegie Hall debut this July. The Philadelphia Orchestra and conductor Giancarlo Guerrero will return as partners for NYO2, working to provide a transformative orchestral experience for young teens who may not have access to the same advanced training opportunities in the areas in which they live. PlayUSA supports partner organizations across the country that offer instrumental music education programs to low-income and underserved K–12 students. During the 2016–2017 season, PlayUSA is
providing financial and creative support for projects in Atlanta, Birmingham, Chicago, El Paso, New Orleans, New York, and Providence.

Link Up, Carnegie Hall’s music education program for grades 3–5, continues to grow, reaching over 400,000 students and teachers through partnerships with more than 100 orchestras across the country and beyond during the 2017–2018 season, and Musical Explorers, for grades K–2, continues its work in New York City classrooms and with partners across the country. The Music Educators Workshop also brings teachers together to share best practices and cultivate a strong community through professional development sessions during the school year and an intensive summer program. Each of the Music Educators Workshop participants reach nearly 200 students in a single school year, and through the 180 individual teachers that participate in the program, approximately 36,000 students are served annually.

“At Carnegie Hall, we strive to have a transformational impact on people’s lives through music,” said Sarah Johnson, Director of Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute. “We believe the arts can serve as a powerful force for change within the community, and our programs empower participants to create their own music and explore and express their own voices. In 2017–2018, Create Justice will bring together artists and policy-makers to consider the role of the arts in juvenile justice reform. We will continue to connect aspiring young musicians to the very best in their fields, introduce new audiences to music, and support our colleagues in the music education field. WMI is proud to be a leader in music education, fulfilling the Hall’s mission of making meaningful musical experiences available to as many people as possible.”

SELECT 2017–2018 WMI SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

♦ Marin Alsop Leads NYO-USA in Latin America, NYO2 and NYO-China debut at Carnegie Hall

In summer 2017, the National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America will travel to Latin America with conductor Marin Alsop, performing in Mexico City, Mexico; Quito, Ecuador; and Bogotá, Colombia following its annual performance at Carnegie Hall. Extended residencies in Bogotá and Mexico City will give the orchestra the opportunity to interact with local young musicians, rehearsing and performing side-by-side with them. The program includes a new Carnegie Hall-commissioned work by Gabriela Lena Frank alongside Mahler’s Symphony No. 1. In 2018, NYO-USA returns to Asia for a tour with conductor Michael Tilson Thomas and pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet.

NYO2 also performs at Carnegie Hall in July 2017, making its debut in Stern Auditorium / Perelman Stage after a concert in Philadelphia. Partnering with The Philadelphia Orchestra and conductor Giancarlo Guerrero for the second straight season, NYO2 aims to expand the pool of young musicians across the country equipped with the tools to succeed at the highest level.

NYO-USA and NYO2 will be joined at Carnegie Hall this summer by NYO-China, a new initiative inspired by NYO-USA, created to provide China’s finest young musicians with access to superior performance and training opportunities and to empower them to serve as ambassadors for classical music and their country on the world stage. NYO-China will debut at Carnegie Hall in July 2017 with conductor Ludovic Morlot and pianist Yuja Wang.

♦ Marilyn Horne leads The Song Continues in her final season as Artistic Advisor, Renée Fleming to assume leadership role in 2018–2019 season

In January 2018, the great American mezzo-soprano Marilyn Horne will celebrate her final season as Artistic Advisor for The Song Continues, the annual festival of song that she founded to nurture young talent and celebrate the art of the vocal recital. The Song Continues became a WMI program in June 2010 and is now part of the Workshops and Master Classes series. Previously, this annual event was presented by The Marilyn Horne Foundation in partnership with Carnegie Hall. During the 2018–2019
season, Ms. Horne will pass the baton to soprano Renée Fleming, who will lead the project in years to come, continuing the Marilyn Horne legacy at Carnegie Hall.

In addition to The Song Continues, four young singers will also have the opportunity to take part in master classes focusing on opera repertoire led by mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato in spring 2018. The classes will be streamed live online thanks to Carnegie Hall’s ongoing partnership with medici.tv. Additional workshop sessions for participants will focus on breathing, movement, and career development.

♦ Carnegie Hall Launches Create Justice Initiative

During the 2016–2017 and 2017–2018 seasons, Carnegie Hall and the Arts for Incarcerated Youth Network (AIYN) in Los Angeles will bring together non-profit organizations, artists, policymakers, funders, researchers, and court-involved young people for Create Justice, a series of forums in both New York City and Los Angeles over 18 months, designed to share ideas and develop plans for collaborative action around juvenile justice reform. Create Justice will culminate in a concert at Carnegie Hall in March 2018 featuring music and art developed in juvenile justice settings.

Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute has been actively working in justice settings since 2009 through the Musical Connections program, and that work will continue in the 2017–2018 season. Men who are incarcerated at Sing Sing Correctional Facility will engage in a yearlong learning experience, working with professional artists to develop composition and instrumental skills and performing for the facility’s general population. An advisory committee of former participants at Sing Sing will also meet regularly to help men transition home and continue to make music.

Court-involved teens will express themselves through Musical Connections songwriting projects in juvenile justice facilities and NeON Arts workshops at local community-based probation offices. These programs connect participants to family and community members, create pathways for continued involvement in the arts, and support a shift toward positive youth development alternatives in New York City and New York State. NeON Arts is a program of the NYC Department of Probation in partnership with Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute.

♦ Music Education Programs for Young Students Continue to Expand

During the 2017–2018 season, Link Up, Carnegie Hall’s music education program for grades 3–5, will be implemented by more than 100 partner orchestras, reaching more than 400,000 students and teachers. These partnerships span the US, stretching from Alaska to Florida, and also have international reach, including organizations in Brazil, Canada, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, and Spain. Organizations around the country are also adapting Musical Explorers, the Hall’s program for grades K–2, for use in local schools, developing versions of the program that feature artists and cultures from their own communities.

Music education projects across the United States will also receive grants and programmatic support from PlayUSA during the 2017–2018 season. In addition to getting instruments into the hands of young people, PlayUSA aims to create a community of music organizations across the country committed to building on best practices in the field.

With a focus on music teachers, middle school and high school ensemble directors will participate in Carnegie Hall’s Music Educators Workshop, strengthening their skills through professional development sessions throughout the school year and during a four-day summer intensive session open to educators from across the country.
Family Concert Features New Works by Caroline Shaw and Robert Xavier Rodriguez

A special Family Concert in Stern Auditorium / Perelman Stage during the 2017–2018 season will feature the Orchestra of St. Luke's performing a series of stories, including the classic tale, Peter and the Wolf, alongside two new compositions: Caroline Shaw's adaptation of The Mountain that Loved a Bird in a new work commissioned by Carnegie Hall, and Robert Xavier Rodriguez's The Dot and the Line: A Romance in Lower Mathematics, co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall.

Other family programming includes four “My City, My Song” concerts in Zankel Hall that introduce families to music from different parts of the world, and Family Days, which offer unique opportunities for children and adults to explore music outside the typical concert hall format through interactive, hands-on activities in the Resnick Education Wing.

Teens Collaborate Through Future Music Project

Carnegie Hall’s Future Music Project continues to grow, giving young people the chance to create new music, collaborate with their peers, and learn from leading artists. Weekly afterschool workshops focus on songwriting, digital music, and concert production, and open studio sessions on Saturdays include opportunities to attend master classes, jam with peers, work on independent projects, or perform. A group of talented teens also comes together multiple times a week throughout the year to form the Future Music Project Ensemble, a collective of young musicians committed to composing and producing digital and acoustic music, performing, and serving as peer mentors.

COMPLETE 2017–2018 PROGRAMS OF CARNEGIE HALL’S WEILL MUSIC INSTITUTE

For Students and Teachers

- **Musical Explorers** (grades K–2)—Basic music skills are developed in classrooms as children learn songs from different cultures, reflect on their own communities, and develop singing and listening skills. Students explore a diverse range of musical genres found in their New York City neighborhoods—including Haitian, Argentine, and South African—during the 2017–2018 season. Organizations nationwide are adapting Musical Explorers, focusing on the culture and artists in their own communities.

- **Link Up** (grades 3–5)—This program for students in grades 3–5 gives participants the opportunity to join the orchestra by teaching them to sing and play an instrument in the classroom. In culminating concerts, students perform with a professional orchestra from their seats. During the 2017-2018 season, New York City students participate in The Orchestra Sings—one of four Link Up curricula—which explores melody through orchestral repertoire, including Dvorak’s “New World” Symphony, Beethoven’s “Ode to Joy,” and Stravinsky’s Firebird Suite. Orchestras across the country and around the world also take part in Link Up. Partner organizations can use the program materials—including teacher and student guides, concert scripts, and concert visuals—in their own communities, free of charge, to engage local students and teachers in musical learning and exploration. During the 2017–2018 season, the program will be implemented by more than 100 partner orchestras, serving over 400,000 students and teachers. These partnerships span the US from Alaska to Florida, and also have international reach, including organizations in Brazil, Canada, Mexico, Spain, Kenya, and Japan.

- **PlayUSA** (grades K–12)—Carnegie Hall’s PlayUSA supports partner organizations across the country that offer instrumental music education programs to low-income and underserved K–12 students. These organizations receive funding, as well as training and professional development for teachers and arts administrators, in addition to guidance from Carnegie Hall staff to help address challenges and build on best practices.

- **Music Educators Workshop** (for ensemble directors)—Music directors who work with middle school, high school, and community ensembles are given the opportunity to strengthen their skills in a series of professional training and musical activities in the Resnick Education Wing. From September to June, New York City directors at all stages of their careers have the opportunity to participate in workshops with student ensembles and visiting faculty, learn from professional artists, and attend Carnegie Hall concerts. Each July, the National Summer Music Educators Workshop offers ensemble directors an opportunity to attend four
days of intensive workshops focused on ensemble instruction and classroom strategies, observe student-ensemble demonstration rehearsals, build a community of peers, and interact with the National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America.

- **Ensemble Connect School Performance Residency**—Ensemble Connect, a program of Carnegie Hall, The Juilliard School, and the Weill Music Institute in partnership with the New York City Department of Education, is a two-year fellowship for the finest young professional classical musicians in the United States that prepares them for careers combining musical excellence with teaching, community engagement, advocacy, entrepreneurship, and leadership. It offers top-quality performance opportunities, intensive professional development, and the opportunity to partner with a New York City public school throughout the fellowship. Each fellow is paired with a public school for a residency that totals 25 days over the course of each school year. During the residency, fellows serve as musical resources to schools in all five boroughs of New York City and bring a professional performer’s perspective to music classrooms. In collaboration with the school’s instrumental music teacher, fellows help to strengthen students’ musical skills as well as share their artistry through two assembly-style interactive performances each year.

**For Young Musicians**

- **Workshops and Master Classes** (ages 18–35)—Artists on the rise are given valuable access to world-class performers and composers who have established themselves on Carnegie Hall stages. Participants for these tuition-free opportunities are selected after responding to an open call for auditions. These up-and-coming musicians receive coaching and mentoring to assist them in reaching their artistic and professional goals in the inspirational spaces of the Resnick Education Wing.

  2017–2018 workshops and master classes include:

  **The Song Continues: Recitals and Master Classes for Singers (January 2018)**—Created by the great American mezzo-soprano Marilyn Horne, this annual festival of song nurtures young talent and celebrates the art of the vocal recital. This season, soprano Renée Fleming and pianist Graham Johnson join Ms. Horne in offering master classes to a group of young singers. Additional coaching sessions, recitals that feature rising vocalists, and a panel on career development round out an intensive week for the participants.

  **Joyce DiDonato: Master Classes for Opera Singers (Spring 2018)**—Renowned mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato returns for her annual series of master classes that focus on opera repertoire. Four singers are selected to participate in a set of three public classes, which are also streamed live online via medici.tv. Additional workshop sessions focus on breathing, movement, and career development.

- **National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America** (ages 16–19)—Each summer, Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute brings together the brightest young players from across the country to form the National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America. Following a comprehensive audition process and a three-week training residency with leading professional orchestra musicians, these remarkable teenagers embark on a tour to some of the great music capitals of the world to serve as dynamic music ambassadors. In 2017, the orchestra will travel to Latin America with conductor Marin Alsop and perform a program including a new Carnegie Hall-commissioned work by Gabriela Lena Frank and Mahler’s Symphony No. 1. The tour kicks off with the orchestra’s annual concert at Carnegie Hall, continuing with stops in Mexico City, Mexico; Quito, Ecuador; and Bogotá, Colombia.

  In 2018, NYO-USA will return to Asia for a tour with conductor Michael Tilson Thomas and pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet.

- **NYO2** (ages 14–17)—Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute brings together outstanding young American instrumentalists each summer to form NYO2, an orchestral training program with a particular focus on attracting talented students from groups underserved by and underrepresented in the classical orchestral field. As a central part of this free program, participants have the opportunity to work closely with members of The Philadelphia Orchestra, an organization with its own deep commitment to education and artist training.

- **Future Music Project** (ages 14–19)—The Future Music Project gives New York City teens the opportunity to create, perform, and produce their own original music. Teens can participate in Studio 57, a free weekly open studio on Saturdays where they attend master classes, jam with their peers, and work on independent projects. Weekly afterschool classes range from songwriting and digital music creation to concert production. The Future Music Project Ensemble—a collective of young musicians—performs and produces its own music
at Carnegie Hall and across New York City. The Future Music Project also includes Count Me In, which gives eighth-grade singers the opportunity to prepare for auditions to performing arts high schools in New York City.

For Families

- **Family Events**—Creativity, imagination, and musical curiosity are stimulated with free and affordable events for children and families throughout the 2017—2018 season. The Resnick Education Wing is home to interactive Family Days where the entire family can sing, play, and create music, or kick back and hear family-friendly performances. Families also have the opportunity to sing together in a song circle. Songs will include lullabies from Carnegie Hall’s Lullaby Project.

  The Family Concert series brings all ages into Carnegie Hall’s legendary venues. In Zankel Hall, “My City, My Song” concerts invite the audience to discover music from different parts of the world that can be found right in their own city. A concert in Stern Auditorium / Perelman Stage features the Orchestra of St. Luke’s performing a series of stories, including the classic tale *Peter and the Wolf*, alongside two new compositions: Caroline Shaw’s adaptation of *The Mountain that Loved a Bird* commissioned by Carnegie Hall, and Robert Xavier Rodriguez’s *The Dot and the Line: A Romance in Lower Mathematics*, co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra.

For the Community

- **Neighborhood Concerts**—For more than four decades, Carnegie Hall has partnered with local community organizations to bring outstanding mainstage artists—as well as exciting rising stars of classical, jazz, and world—to neighborhoods from the tip of Brooklyn to the top of the Bronx. Tapping into the pulse of diverse communities, these free concerts bring together local residents and people from throughout the city to share in the joy of music.

- **Musical Connections**—Through Musical Connections, people collaborate with professional artists and with each other to create, perform, and produce original music and art. Participants express their voices and have new opportunities for personal growth. Their stories also connect people to each other, creating empathy, informing policy, and strengthening communities.

Music Projects in Juvenile Justice Settings

Young people in the justice system are invited to express themselves through original music in collaboration with professional artists. The program helps young participants connect to additional opportunities in schools, in their neighborhoods, and at Carnegie Hall.

Create Justice

This new initiative—led by Carnegie Hall and Los Angeles-based organization Arts for Incarcerated Youth Network (AIYN)—will bring together a diverse group of non-profits, artists, policymakers, funders, researchers, young people who have been court involved, and government agencies. People will come together for three forums in both New York City and Los Angeles over 18 months to share ideas, explore goals, and develop plans for collaborative action, culminating in a concert at Carnegie Hall in March 2018 featuring music and art developed in juvenile justice settings.

Music Residency at Sing Sing Correctional Facility

In Carnegie Hall’s ninth year of partnership, men incarcerated at Sing Sing Correctional Facility create and perform music side-by-side with professional artists. A series of workshops focuses on developing composition and instrumental skills, while several concerts for the facility’s general population feature original works written and performed by participants with professional artists. An advisory committee of participants who have come home to New York City meets regularly to help the participants support each other, inform the program, and continue to make music.

Lullaby Project

Pregnant women and new mothers work with professional artists to write personal lullabies for their babies, supporting maternal health, aiding child development, and strengthening the bond between parent and child. In New York City, the project reaches mothers in hospitals, homeless shelters, and at Rikers Island Correctional Facility. Extending across the country, the Lullaby Project enables partner organizations to support families in their own communities.
NeON Arts—NeON Arts, a free program of the NYC Department of Probation that is open to the entire city, offers young people the chance to explore the arts through a variety of creative projects at seven community-based probation offices called Neighborhood Opportunity Networks (NeONs). The Weill Music Institute manages the program’s grant-making process, coordinates citywide NeON Arts events, and works with arts organizations and NeON stakeholders to ensure that each project, including planning and implementation, is a collaboration that benefits the entire community. NeOn Arts is a program of the NYC Department of Probation in partnership with Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute.

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For more information and videos exploring the wide range of Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute programs, please visit carnegiehall.org/Education.