

Arts & Entertainment

Princeton Symphony Appoints Assistant Conductor



The Princeton Symphony Orchestra has appointed Kenneth Bean as assistant conductor. James Thoma

By TAPINTO STAFF
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Kenneth Bean, an instructor and conductor in the Philadelphia area and an active trumpet player, has been appointed assistant conductor of the Princeton Symphony Orchestra. Bean, selected following a competitive search and audition process, will serve as cover conductor for the PSO's music director Rossen Milanov and will lead rehearsals as conductor of the Symphonic Orchestra of the Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey, PSO's youth orchestra partner.

"I am thrilled to have Kenneth Bean as my artistic partner, and am very excited to welcome him to our team," said Milanov. "I believe that his talent, passion for education, and love for music will make a big difference for the Princeton Symphony Orchestra."

Added Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey artistic director Phillip Pugh: adds, "From our first meeting with Kenneth Bean, our staff and students felt an instant connection. He brings a wealth of knowledge and youth orchestra experience; but most of all, he brings a warmth and love for students. We are excited to have Kenny as our Symphonic Orchestra conductor and to continue our partnership with the Princeton Symphony Orchestra."

Bean, a graduate of the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, earned a Master of Music Education from Jackson State University. He has taught at the School District of Philadelphia, Settlement Music School, the Premier Orchestral Institute of the Mississippi Symphony, and Play On Philly. He has appeared as a guest conductor for the Marywood String Festival, Berks County Orchestra Festival, and the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. His past music director/conductor appointments include the Junior String Philharmonic of the Lehigh Valley, the Young People's Philharmonic of the Lehigh Valley, and Luzerne Music Center.

Bean currently serves as assistant conductor of Symphony in C, conductor of the Symphony in C Youth Orchestra in Collingswood, New Jersey, and director/conductor of the Young Musicians Debut Orchestra, the newest full orchestra within the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra Music Institute. In the summers, he serves as co-director of the Symphony in C Summer Camp and conductor at Kinhaven Music School Junior Session in Weston, Vermont.

Bean is scheduled to conduct the Princeton Symphony Orchestra Saturday and Sunday, February 5 and 6, with Armenian violinist Diana Adamyan making her U.S. debut. For further details and information visit the <u>Princeton Symphony</u> website.