



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For additional information, please contact:

**Rachel Howard, Marketing & Community
Engagement Manager**

412-391-1984 (o)

814-934-8385 (c)

rachel@TRYPOandPYC.org

Three Rivers Young Peoples Orchestras Names Brian Worsdale as Music Director

Pittsburgh, PA - The Board of Directors of Three Rivers Young Peoples Orchestras (TRYPO) has announced the selection of Brian Worsdale as the organization's next music director, effective September 2018.

The Brooklyn born and raised conductor, educator, and instrumentalist served over twenty years with the InterSchool Orchestras of New York where he held various conducting positions and founded the ISO Symphonic Band. His commitment to education has led to work with All-State, Regional, and District Bands and Orchestras in Texas, Indiana, New York, New Jersey, and Florida. Worsdale will relocate to Pittsburgh full-time, and during the summer months will continue his role as Artistic Director and Conductor of the French Woods Festival of the Performing Arts (Delaware County, New York).

"Growing up in Brooklyn, New York, allows for a young person to have a small town feel in a big city. Pittsburgh may be away from my birth place, but it shares so many wonderful attributes. I'm attracted to the community feel in a city as wonderful as Pittsburgh," Worsdale says. "It's going to be an exciting journey."

Worsdale brings with him time-honored experience building and sustaining youth programs in New York and looks forward to building positive relationships with music educators to grow music education in the Pittsburgh community. "Being selected to serve the students of Pittsburgh as Music Director of TRYPO is a privilege and an honor," he shared. "I will serve with passion and purpose as we continue to bring music to life in Pittsburgh. TRYPO has a great history of providing a safe and encouraging environment for its young musicians. It is my hope to expand that reach of musicians and celebrate the wide diversity that Pittsburgh has through its citizens."

Dr. Becky Stephan, Fairview Elementary School Principal and TRYPO Board President, described the search process for TRYPO's next music director: "Our Music Director Search Committee engaged in thorough and careful consideration of each candidate in collaboration with student musicians, coaches, music educators, and board members. The four-round process consisted of resume screening as well as phone, conducting, and final interviews."

"Throughout the process—from crafting the job description to selecting the finalists—an emphasis was placed on passion, dedication, and leadership in working with young musicians;

conducting experience and artistic excellence; vision spanning concert programming to long-term growth; and a collaborative spirit embracing both the TRYPO community and the region in which it serves,” adds Dr. Paul F. Doerksen, Associate Professor and Chair of Music Education and Music Therapy at Duquesne University’s Mary Pappert School of Music and TRYPO Board of Directors Vice President. “Thanks go to all members for their considerable contributions and to a first-class pool of applicants for their interest. Congratulations, Brian Worsdale and TRYPO.”

“When current Music Director, Maestro John Wilcox, announced last year that he would be stepping down at the conclusion of the 2017-18 season, we all knew this appointment was coming at a critical juncture in TRYPO’s 44-year history,” TRYPO Executive Director, Lindsey Nova, explains. “Not only have TRYPO’s seven music directors created an incredible legacy to follow, but the work we need to do in Pittsburgh is only growing. Music can make a big difference in the lives of Pittsburgh kids, but a large piece of that is making sure students from all backgrounds have access to it. We were looking for someone who could provide the artistic leadership and vision for the future both on the podium and in the community; for someone who is not only a top-notch conductor but is also a music educator at the core. We were humbled to have had so many qualified and talented candidates who offered many different unique combinations of skills and gave the committee so many different visions for our future. However, after the extensive search process, it was clear that Worsdale has the perfect combination of skills and talents that TRYPO and Pittsburgh need. We are thrilled to have Worsdale lead TRYPO into our 45th season as TRYPO’s eighth Music Director.”

Worsdale will be formally introduced to board members, donors, musicians, and parents later this year, and his first official performance as music director for the orchestra will be TRYPO’s annual winter concert on December 9, 2018, at the Carnegie Music Hall of Oakland.

For more information, visit www.trypo.org or contact Marketing and Community Engagement Manager, Rachel Howard, at 412.391.1984 / Rachel@TRYPOandPYC.org.

About TRYPO: Three Rivers Young Peoples Orchestras was founded in 1974 to provide music education and performances for young people to foster lifelong passion, appreciation, and support of music. TRYPO will serve over 205 students during the 2017-18 season, through enrollment in numerous programs, including YPO (a full symphonic orchestra), Symphonette (a string training ensemble), the Youth Chamber Connection (YC² coordinates students into small ensembles such as quartets and quintets), and YC² in CHAUTAUQUA (a summer program with a chamber music focus). Auditions to join TRYPO for the 2018-19 season take place in May/June 2018.

About Brian Worsdale: Brian Worsdale has been a major force for music and education in New York City. Young musicians and professionals alike are drawn to his engaging personality, boundless energy, and enthusiasm on and off the podium.

Born and raised in Brooklyn, Mr. Worsdale attended public schools, the Manhattan School of Music Pre-College Division, Brooklyn College, St. John’s University, and received his formal music training as a trombone student of David Finlayson (New York Philharmonic). He is a conducting protégé of the late Jonathan Strasser (Manhattan School of Music) and has continued his professional studies working with Larry Livingston (University of Southern California) and Anthony Maiello (George Mason University).

In 1992, he would begin what would become a 26-year relationship with the Interscholar Orchestras of New York. Beginning as a member of the acclaimed ISO Symphony and Concert Orchestras, Brian would don a number of hats which included assistant and associate conductor positions with the ISO Symphony and Concert Orchestra. He has served as a cover conductor of the ISO Symphony and in this year where an extensive nationwide search was convened Brian served as music director. His most involved work with ISO is the founding in 1995 of what is now the ISO Wind Symphony. In its 23 years of existence, ISO Wind Symphony is the only ensemble in New York City to welcome students from all schools and educational situations and has been at the forefront of wind band education in the New York City Area.

During his time at ISO, Brian garnered the attention of then New York Philharmonic Music Director Kurt Masur during the young conductor roundtables that Maestro Masur established during his tenure with the orchestra. Masur would take Brian on as a private student and worked with him over a period of four years.

In 2013, it was announced that Brian would serve as the next conductor of The Manhattan School of Music Precollege Symphony Orchestra. In the coming years he would also serve as cover and guest conductor of the school's other two orchestras eventually leading the MSM Precollege Philharmonic from January to May of 2017. He has also been professor of conducting in the Precollege and has conducted readings for the college Orchestral Performance program.

Avocational music has always been a love of Brian's. During his development as a musician beginning in high school he played with a number of community bands. He has led a few community bands during that time and in 2013 he was appointed artistic director of The Grand Street Community Band in Brooklyn, New York. Since that time, he has brought them to Carnegie Hall twice as an invited ensemble and in 2018 he and the band will perform at the Association of Concert Bands annual conference in Buffalo, New York.

His longest association has been with the French Woods Festival of the Performing Arts in Hancock, New York. He has been associated with French Woods since 1992 and has served as the camp's artistic director since 2010. Since 2015, French Woods has been home to The New York Pops and Friends side by side with the French Woods Symphony. Campers have an opportunity to work in an intensive with members of the New York Pops and this is followed by a concert with NY Pops Music Director Steven Reineke. At French Woods he leads the symphony orchestra, conducting classes, and numerous pit orchestras while supervising one of the largest and most comprehensive summer performing arts programs in the United States.

His work as a guest clinician and adjudicator has brought him to cities throughout the United States. He has conducted Texas' Region 23 Orchestra, The Southeastern Regional Orchestra for the State of Virginia and many other honor bands and orchestras. He is a senior teaching artist and consultant for The New York Pops and helps run their Kids on Stage program.

Having appeared on the podiums of the Brooklyn Symphony Orchestra, The Williamsburg Consort (VA), The Westchester Symphonic Winds, The Brooklyn Wind Symphony, The Kilkenny Youth Orchestra (Ireland), and the Royal Spa Brass Band (UK), he is in active demand as a guest conductor and clinician, frequently working with middle school and high school programs across the country. He is a champion of new music and young artists, having commissioned works for both wind ensembles and orchestras, including many new works from composer Michael Markowski.