

# **The Bruno Walter Memorial Foundation**

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## **Bruno Walter Memorial Foundation Awards \$20,000 in Grants to Support Assistant Conductor Chairs at Dallas Opera for George Garrett Keast and Seattle Symphony Orchestra for Christian Knapp**

**Each Company receives \$7,500 and \$2,500 is granted directly to each  
Assistant Conductor for career development.**

The Bruno Walter Memorial Foundation has awarded \$10,000 grants to the Dallas Opera, in support of assistant conductor George Garrett Keast, and to the Seattle Symphony Orchestra, for assistant conductor Christian Knapp for the upcoming season. The assistant conductors will be known for the 2005-06 season as holding the Bruno Walter Assistant Conductor's Chair.

The purpose of this annual program is to highlight the importance of assistant conductor positions as essential mentoring and learning experiences for emerging conductors.

In this time when potential opportunities for emerging conductors may be diminishing, the Foundation believes it is important to take a leadership role in assisting institutions and assistant conductors by highlighting the importance of these positions to the training and careers of our future orchestral leadership. The Foundation also wishes to encourage the development of training and mentoring programs for assistant conductors. These grants are intended to remind musicians and the general public of the invaluable contribution Maestro Walter made during his lifetime to opera, symphonic music and the training of young conductors.

The Bruno Walter Assistant Conductor Chair program carries an award of \$7,500 to the symphony orchestra or opera company. In addition, the Bruno Walter Career Development Grant of \$2,500 is made to the assistant conductor for projects that furthers his or her career, such as attendance at a conductor training session or other mentoring/career development program.

This year, over 20 applicants competed for this award. Applications were submitted by a wide range of large and small symphony orchestras and opera companies and were reviewed by a panel that consisted of the Bruno Walter Memorial Foundation trustees, plus Patrick Smith, well-known music critic and former Opera and Music Theatre Program Director for the National Endowment for the Arts; and Jesse Rosen, Chief Program Officer of the American Symphony Orchestra League.

Guidelines and applications for the 2006-07 season awards will be available by January 1, 2006, for an application submission deadline of February 28, 2006. Information is available at [www.brunowalter.org](http://www.brunowalter.org).

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