

The Bruno Walter Memorial Foundation

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Bruno Walter Memorial Foundation Awards \$20,000 in Grants to Support Assistant Conductor Chair at The Haddonfield Symphony for Petko Dimitrov and the Assistant Conductor Chair at Des Moines Metro Opera for David Neely

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

The Bruno Walter Memorial Foundation has awarded \$10,000 grants to The Haddonfield Symphony, in support of assistant conductor Petko Dimitrov, and to the Des Moines Metro Opera, for assistant conductor David Neely for the upcoming 2007-08 season. The assistant conductors will be known for the 2007-08 season as holding the Bruno Walter Conductor's Chair. This is the fifth year of awarding Bruno Walter Memorial Foundation Emerging Conductor Chair awards.

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 emerging 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 Thor Eckert, well-known music critic and Jesse Rosen, Executive Vice President and Managing Director of the American Symphony Orchestra League.

Guidelines and applications for the 2008-09 season awards will be available by January 1, 2008, for an application submission deadline of February 28, 2008. Information is at www.brunowalter.org.

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