



# News Release

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## **GARY LEWIS ANNOUNCED TO LEAD 2013 HONOR ORCHESTRA OF AMERICA**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** – Gary Lewis, Director of Orchestral Studies and Professor of Music in the College of Music at the University of Colorado Boulder, will conduct the 2013 Honor Orchestra of America, part of the Music for All National Festival, presented by Yamaha, March 14-16 in Indianapolis.

The Honor Orchestra of America is a national honor orchestra composed of high school musicians selected by recorded audition. The 2013 Honor Orchestra will perform Friday and Saturday evenings, March 15 and 16, at Hilbert Circle Theatre as part of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra's Subscription Series. The final application deadline for the 2013 Honor Orchestra of America is September 15, 2012, with audition recordings due by October 1, 2012. Auditions are open to all high school orchestra musicians.

In addition to the Honor Orchestra of America, the Music for All National Festival comprises the National Concert Band Festival, Orchestra America National Festival, Sandy Feldstein National Percussion Festival, Middle School National Music Festival and two additional national honor ensembles: the Honor Band of America, conducted in 2013 by Jerry F. Junkin, Director of Bands at the University of Texas at Austin, and the Jazz Band of America, conducted in 2013 by Dr. Lou Fischer, Professor of Music, jazz activities coordinator and jazz ensemble director at Capital University.

### **Gary Lewis**

Gary Lewis is Director of Orchestral Studies and Professor of Music in the College of Music at the University of Colorado Boulder. He is also the Music Director and Conductor of the Midland-Odessa (TX) Symphony Orchestra. At Colorado, Mr. Lewis conducts the University Symphony Orchestra and oversees the entire orchestra

program. He also leads the graduate program in orchestral conducting, including both the masters and doctoral level. His graduate conducting students have enjoyed great success as conductors of university orchestra programs, youth orchestras, and professional orchestras alike. They have also won prestigious national conducting competitions and been awarded Fulbright grants.

“Music for All is thrilled to have Mr. Lewis leading the Honor Orchestra of America in 2013,” says Eric Martin, President and CEO of Music for All. “I know the student musicians will have an unforgettable experience working with Mr. Lewis and each other as they prepare for their Festival concert.”

The Honor Orchestra of America has a prestigious legacy and reputation for the highest level of excellence. Larry J. Livingston, Director of Thornton Orchestras at the University of Southern California, is the Honor Orchestra’s musical director. For more information about the Honor Orchestra of America and Music for All, visit [musicforall.org](http://musicforall.org).

For more on Gary Lewis, visit: <http://music.colorado.edu/faculty/gary-lewis/>

### **About the Music for All National Festival**

The Music for All National Festival features outstanding high school and middle school concert bands, percussion ensembles and orchestras, selected by recorded audition. In addition to performing, the nearly 2,000 student musicians, teachers and supporters will participate in clinics and master classes, special sessions and social events, and enjoy performances by their peers.

For more information about the Festival, visit [www.musicforall.org](http://www.musicforall.org), or call 800-848-2263.

### **About Music for All**

Music for All (MFA) is one of the nation’s largest and most influential organizations in support of active music making. Since 1975, MFA, through its Bands of America and Orchestra America programs, has been a destination and set the standard for scholastic music ensemble performance and student and teacher education. A 501(c)(3) not-for-profit educational organization, MFA uses its national profile programming to model, showcase, recognize and provide individual, teacher and organizational examples of music performance excellence and achievement. MFA’s programs include 20 annual events, including the Bands of America Grand

National Championships and Regional Championships for marching band; the Music for All Summer Symposium camp for students and teachers; and the Music for All National Festival for concert bands, orchestras and percussion ensembles. Music for All's programmatic model is designed to mirror and supplement the classroom and performance model adopted in most American scholastic settings. Music for All values and promotes societal recognition of music education and active music making as essential and core parts of every student's educational development.

Music for All's efforts are supported through sponsorships, including current partnerships with National Presenting Sponsor, Yamaha Corporation of America; Official Uniform Sponsor, Fred J. Miller, Inc.; Official Equipment Sponsor, Wenger Corporation; Official Student Travel Partner, Music Travel Consultants; Corporate Sponsor, Remo, Inc.; Strategic Advocacy Partner, NAMM; Associate Sponsors, Vic Firth, Inc., Vandoren and SmartMusic®; and Program Sponsor, Center X Productions. Music for All is also supported by the Arts Council of Indianapolis and the City of Indianapolis, by the Indianapolis Cultural Development Commission, the Ball Brothers Foundation, Chase Community Giving, LDI 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Cultural Partnerships Gift Program and by the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

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