

DIANE WITTRY

Conductor

DianeWittry@gmail.com

908-432-5188

CAREER OVERVIEW

Recently named as one of Musical America's "*Top 30 Professional Musicians - Dec. 2015*," Diane Wittry brings a proven track record regarding her ability to inspire musicians and to build an orchestra artistically and organizationally.

A frequent guest conductor of professional orchestras across the country, Diane Wittry has guest conducted orchestras in 10 countries throughout Europe and Asia, and served as the Artistic Director of the International Cultural Exchange Program for Classical Musicians with the Sarajevo Philharmonic in Bosnia.

As the Music Director and Conductor of the Allentown Symphony Orchestra, PA, a professional orchestra with a 3.2 million budget that performs about 28 concerts a year, Diane Wittry has established a reputation for her creative programming and innovative approach to concert formats. She has a proven ability to develop an orchestra musically and an extensive knowledge and experience with orchestral repertoire.

Other orchestras that Diane Wittry has been the Music Director and Conductor of include the Norwalk Symphony (CT), the Ridgewood Symphony (NJ), the Pizazz Symphony (NJ), the Southern California Sinfonia (CA), and the Symphony of Southeast Texas, (Beaumont, TX), where her work garnered the League of American Orchestra's *Helen M Thompson Award*. She also was the Music Director and Conductor of the Greater Miami Youth Symphony (FL), a program with 200 students, three orchestras, and 12 chamber music ensembles, and the Meremblum Junior Symphony (CA).

As a teacher, Diane Wittry, is a frequent guest lecturer at the Juilliard School, the Manhattan School of Music, and the Curtis Institute of Music, as well as other Universities and Colleges. In 2013 she was named the "Outstanding Alumnus" of the Thornton School of Music at USC and she gave the graduation speech. She has been a faculty member at Lamar University (Beaumont, TX) where she successfully recruited a large class of string students from Europe and Asia for the Lamar Chamber Orchestra, and a lecturer at the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music where she taught conducting courses. Diane Wittry has the ability to organize and build a nationally recognized orchestral program, and is sought after as a clinician, adjudicator, and conductor for All-State Orchestras. More recently, she conducted the Oregon All-State Orchestra, and she was the featured Master class Conducting Teacher at the national conference of the College Orchestra Director's Association (CODA).

In the area of scholarly research, Diane Wittry's first book, "*Beyond the Baton - What Every Conductor Needs to Know*" (Oxford University Press 2007) has become a standard required text for the orchestral conducting industry nationally and internationally. Her second book "*Baton Basics - Communicating Music Through Gestures*" (Oxford University Press, Dec. 2014) has already been adapted as a text for conducting classes at Universities across the United States, and is the subject of an International conducting workshop.

Diane Wittry has taught national and international conducting courses and workshops through the International Conductor's Institute, the New York Conductor's Institute, the Pacific Northwest Conductor's Institute, the South Carolina Conductor's Institute, and the Beyond the Baton Conducting Seminars and Workshops. She is active as a national conducting mentor with both the League of American Orchestras, and the International Conductors Guild.

Websites: www.DianeWittry.com www.AllentownSymphony.org www.BeyondtheBaton.com

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EDUCATION

THE SAINT PETERSBURG CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC 2001, 2002

Advanced Study of Conducting with Leonid Korchmar, Staff Conductor, Kirov

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA 1985

Masters of Music, Instrumental Conducting with Daniel Lewis

Departmental Award – Instrumental Conducting

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA 1983

Bachelor of Music - Summa cum Laude

Conducting Assistant - Great Woods Summer Institute (with Michael Tilson Thomas)

Associate Conductor - Ojai Music Festival

(with Peter Maxwell Davies, Nicholas McGegan, Pierre Boulez)

Conducting Fellow - Aspen Music Festival with Paul Vermel)

Assistant Conductor- National Orchestral Institute

(with James DePriest, Catherine Comet, Maximiano Valdes)

Understudy Conductor - Scottish Chamber Orchestra National Tour

(with Peter Maxwell Davies)

PROFESSIONAL GUEST CONDUCTING

The Los Angeles Philharmonic, The Milwaukee Symphony, The San Diego Symphony, The Houston Symphony, The Buffalo Philharmonic, The Florida Philharmonic, The Little Orchestra Society of New York, The Springfield Symphony, The Santa Cruz Symphony, The Augusta Symphony, The B.B.E Orchestra, The Wichita Symphony Orchestra, The Stockton Symphony, The Topeka Symphony, The Beaumont Symphony, The Wichita Falls Symphony, The Santa Maria Symphony, The York Symphony, The Olympia Philharmonic Orchestra, The Johnstown Symphony, The Pottstown Symphony, The Adelphi Chamber Orchestra, and the summer festivals of Ojai California, Hammock's Pops Festival Florida, Penn's Woods Festival PA, and I-Park Artist's Retreat CT.

International guest conducting includes: The Zabre Philharmonic (Poland), The Niagara Symphony (Canada), The Sarajevo Philharmonic (Bosnia), The National Orchestra of Ukraine (Ukraine), The Sochi Symphony (Russia), The Maikop Symphony (Russia), State Orchestra of Kosice (Slovakia), The Sinfonia Dell'Arte di Firenze (Italy), The Osaka Symphony Orchestra (Japan), among other.

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CURRENT PROFESSIONAL CONDUCTING POSITIONS

The Allentown Symphony Orchestra, PA

1996-present

Music Director and Conductor

A 75 member, professional union orchestra which performs five pairs of Classical Subscription concerts, educational concerts, Nutcracker performances, a Pops concert series, and a Family concert series (28 performances per season). The annual budget is 3.2 million (Group 3).

The Ridgewood Symphony Orchestra, NJ

2014-present

Artistic Director & Conductor

A 75 member orchestra that performed three subscription concerts and educational programs.

PAST CONDUCTING POSITIONS

International Cultural Exchange Program for Classical Musicians

2011-2017

with the Sarajevo Philharmonic, Bosnia

Artistic Director (USA)

The Norwalk Symphony Orchestra, CT

2002-2011

Music Director and Conductor

A 70 member, per-service professional orchestra that performed five classical subscription concerts, an educational concert series, and a pops concert. The annual budget \$500,000

The Symphony of Southeast Texas, TX

1991-2001

Music Director and Conductor

An 80 member, per-service professional orchestra that performed five subscription concerts, six youth concerts, pops concerts, side-by-side concerts, and run-out concerts. This organization had a yearly budget of \$650,000, a 75 member Board of Directors, and over 500 Symphony League volunteers.

The Pasadena Symphony Orchestra, CA

1987 -1995

Associate Conductor and

Conductor and Director of Educational Programs

An 80 member, professional orchestra comprised of the best musicians in the Los Angeles area. The annual budget was 2.5 million and the Music Director was Jorge Mester.

The Greater Miami Youth Symphony, FL

1988-1991

Music Director and Conductor

A program involving 180 students, three orchestras, and 12 chamber music groups.

The Southern California Sinfonia, CA

1987-1989

Music Director and Conductor

A professional Chamber Orchestra that specialized in performing concerts for young people.

The Meremblum Junior Youth Symphony, CA

1986 -1988

Music Director and Conductor

A youth orchestra comprised of Junior High and High School students in the Los Angeles area.

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TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Pacific Northwest Conducting Workshop, WA	Conducting Faculty	2017
New York International Conducting Workshop	Conducting Faculty	2017
Wyoda Chamber Music Festival, VT	Chamber Music Coach	2015-2017
Bulgaria International Conducting Workshop	Conducting Faculty	2012, 2015, 2017
Juilliard School of Music, NY	Guest Lecturer	2010 - 2017
South Carolina Conductors Institute, SC	Conducting Faculty	2008, 2014, 2015-2017
Swarthmore College, PA	Guest Speaker	2016- 2017
Conductors Guild - National Mentor	Mentor	2012-2017
International Conducting Institute, NY & CO	Conducting Faculty	2012-2017
Beyond the Baton – Conducting Seminar	Conducting Faculty	2007–2016
NYU - Steinhardt School of Music, NY	Guest Speaker	2016
Manhattan School of Music, NY	Guest Speaker	2013-2015
Mannes - the New School of Music, NY	Guest Speaker	2015
Kiev, Ukraine Conducting Workshop	Conducting Faculty	2013
Curtis Institute of Music, PA	Guest Lecturer	2007, 2011, 2012
Princeton Club, New York, NY	Guest Speaker	2008, 2010, 2011
Kutztown University, PA	Guest Clinician	2011
I-Park, Symposium, CT	Music Panelist	2010
University of Southern California, CA	Guest Lecturer	2009
League of American Orchestras, NY		
Leadership Academy	Faculty	
National Conducting Mentor		2008 -2009
Essentials of Orchestral Management Course		2006 -2009
<i>The Role of the Music Director with Regional Orchestras</i>		
Pops Programming Seminar Faculty		2002
Brandeis University, MA	Guest Lecturer	2008
I-Park, CT	Composer Open Studios, Lecturer	2008
Lamar University, Beaumont, TX	Faculty	1991-1996
Conductor: The Lamar Chamber Orchestra		
Conductor: The Lamar Opera Program		
Coach: String Chamber Music		
Courses: Music Appreciation		
Courses: Fundamentals of Music		
University of Southern California, CA (USC)	Faculty	1986-1987
Courses: Instrumental Conducting I		
University of California Los Angeles, CA (UCLA)		1988
School of Continuing Education	Lecturer	
Course: Becoming a Professional Musician		
Santa Monica School District, CA	String Specialist	1986-1988
Santa Monica High School		
2 Elementary Schools		
University of Southern California, CA (USC)	Teaching Assistant	1984-1985
Courses: Music Appreciation		

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CONDUCTING BOOKS

“Beyond the Baton – What Every Conductor Needs to Know”

Oxford University Press, November, 2007 (Nominated for a Pulitzer Prize)

“There is much more to a successful conducting career than merely standing on the podium and making music. Diane Wittry has provided a remarkable thorough and thoughtful guide to this unique profession, one that will be of immense value to every aspiring conductor who hopes to work and flourish in American Orchestras” - Henry Fogel

“Baton Basics – Communicating Music Through Gestures”

Oxford University Press, December, 2014

“After her singularly successful exploration of what a modern conductor needs to know about all aspects of professional life in Beyond the Baton, Diane Wittry has written another essential book. In this lucid, comprehensive study of conducting gesture and technique, Wittry has managed to distill and clarify the essence of the conductor’s craft.”

Alan Gilbert, Music Director & Conductor, New York Philharmonic
Director of Conducting and Orchestral Studies, The Juilliard School

PUBLICATIONS

Newspaper Articles:

The Lehigh Valley Press, **Music Column**, printed in 8 weekly newspapers 2009-2017
The Norwalk Hour, **Music Column**, Daily Paper 2006-2011

Magazine Articles:

Parent Magazine, "**Smart Kids**" Oct 1998
Newsweek, "**Roll Over Beethoven, Call Me Maestra**" Sept 1994
Upbeat Magazine, "**Financing a Youth Orchestra in the 90's**" Sept 1991
The Instrumentalist "**Organizing a Summer Music Program for Children**" March 1986

ALL-STATE & HONOR ORCHESTRAS – GUEST CONDUCTING

Oregon All-State Orchestra 2013
Connecticut, Westchester Area All-State Orchestra 2009
Connecticut, Fairfield County, All-Region Orchestra 2007
Norwalk Symphony Prodigy Concerts 2007-2010
Norwalk Symphony Side-by-Side Concerts 2003-2007
Allentown Symphony Side-by-Side Concerts 2001-2006
Texas All-Region Orchestra, Region 19 1998
Arkansas All-Southern Orchestra 1997
Louisiana All-State Orchestra 1995
Texas All-Region Orchestra, Region 10 1994
Utah All-State Orchestra 1992
Symphony of Southeast Texas Side-by-Side Concerts 1992-1998
Pasadena Symphony Side-by Side Concert with Pasadena High School 1989

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PANELIST – ADJUDICATOR

Heritage Festivals and Music Clinics (New York, Washington DC, Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore)	Adjudicator	2007 - 2017
ASCAP , Rudolf Nissim Composer's Competition, NY	Adjudicator	2006, 2010 - 2013, 2016
Schadt National String Competition , PA	Adjudicator	1997 - 2016
Queens College , NY "Women in Music"	Panelist	2011
I-Park , Thanopolis Symposium, CT	Panelist	2010, 2011
National Endowment for the Arts , Washington, DC Music Grants Panel	Panelist	2006
I-Park , Composer's Artist Residency Program, CT	Adjudicator	2005
Philadelphia Orchestra , Greenberg Competition, PA	Adjudicator	2003
Allentown Symphony , PA National Schadt String Competition, PA	Adjudicator	2001-2010
Young Texas Artists Music Competition , TX	Adjudicator	1996, 1998
Beaumont String Festival , TX	Adjudicator	1995
Miami School For the Arts , FL	Clinician	1990

HONORS AND AWARDS

Emmy Award - Service Electric TV	Allentown Symphony - Peter and the Wolf	2017
Top 30 Professional Musicians	Musical America	2015
Recognition Award	State of Pennsylvania	2015
Achievement Award	City of Allentown, PA	2015
American Prize - 1st place	Professional Orchestra division	2014
National Achievement Award	Sarajevo Philharmonic and BHAAAS	2014
Outstanding Alumnus Award 2013	Thornton School of Music, USC	2013
Alumni Certificate of Appreciation	University of Southern California	2009
National Conducting Mentor	League of American Orchestras	2008
Fiorino Doro Award	City of Vince, Italy	2003
Top Prize Winner	Conducting Competition, Italy	2001
Women of Distinction Award	Lehigh Valley, PA	2000
Women of Excellence Award	City of Beaumont, TX	1999
Arts Ovation Award	City of Allentown, PA	1999
Helen M. Thompson Award	League of American Orchestras	1996
Outstand Merit Award	Chamber Music America	1991
Gold Crown Award	City of Pasadena, CA	1990

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COMPOSER

The music of Diane Wittry is published by the Theodore Presser Company

“Mist” (Orchestra) (2,2,2,2,-3,2,1,1, timp+1, harp, strings)	2008
“Lamentoso” (Orchestra) (*3,2,2,2,-4,3,3,1, timp+2, strings)	2010
“after the rain” (Chamber Orchestra) (*2,1,1,1,-2,1,1,0, 2 perc., string quintet)	2012
“Concerto for Homemade Instruments and Orchestra” (Orchestra) (*2,2,2,2,-2,2,2,1 timp+2, harp, strings)	2013
“Ode to Joy Fanfare” (Orchestra) (2,2,2,2,-4,2,3,0 timp+2, strings)	2015
“Leaves” (Orchestra) (*2,2,2,2,-4,2,3,1 timp+2, harp, strings)	2017

BOARD MEMBER

I-Park Artist Retreat, East Haddam, CT National Board Member	2014-2017
The Allentown Symphony, PA, Board Member	1996-2014
WDIY Public Radio, PA, Advisory Board Member	2006-2008
The Norwalk Symphony, CT, Board Member	2002-2010
Allen High School Arts Academy, PA, Advisory Board Member	2000-2002
The Conductor’s Guild, National Board Member	1997-2003
Chair: National Conference, Los Angeles	1999
Chair: Advocacy Committee	2000
Lehigh Valley Charter School of Performing Arts, PA Advisory Council	1996-1999
The Southeast Texas Youth Symphony, TX, Advisory Board	1994-1998
Young Audiences of Southeast Texas, TX, Board Member	1992-2000
The Symphony of Southeast Texas, TX, Board Member	1991-2000
The Greater Miami Youth Symphony, FL, Board Member	1987-1991

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GUEST SPEAKER

The College Orchestra Director's Association (CODA)

Guest Master Class Conducting Teacher Utah 2016

The Conductor's Guild National Conferences

Guest Speaker	Philadelphia	2017
National Mentor		2012-2016
Panelist	St. Louis	2013
New Music Presenter	St. Louis	2013
Panelist	New York	2009
New Music Presenter	Boston	2006
New Music Presenter	New York	2003

League of American Orchestras National Conferences

Moderator & Speaker		2015
Speaker		2014
Moderator		2013
Speaker		2013
Speaker		2012
Moderator		2002
Speaker		1996
Speaker		1995

Texas Association of Symphony Orchestras

Keynote Speaker - State Conference 1995

Guest Speaker

Lehigh Valley Economic Development Council, PA
Lehigh Valley Executive Women's Council, PA
Pennsylvania Music Teachers Association
Connecticut Music Teachers Association
Rotary Clubs, FL, TX, NJ, PA, CT, CA, MO
Kiwanis Clubs, PA, CT, CA
Lions Clubs, TX, CT

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RADIO AND T.V.

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| Radio Co-Host " Simply Symphonic "
<i>Co-Host of a new nationally syndicated radio show (2015) that focuses on the music of the great composers.</i> | 2017 |
| Radio Interviews, WDIY, Bethlehem, PA (88.1FM)
<i>Monthly interviews focusing on the concerts of the Allentown Symphony</i> | 1996-2017 |
| PBS 39, " Live at the I.U. " WLVT, Bethlehem, PA
<i>Developed a teacher credit music TV program that focused on the teaching materials for education concerts of the Allentown Symphony.</i> | 2005-2009 |
| Radio Interviews, KVLU, Beaumont, Texas (91.3 FM)
<i>An interview series focusing on the concerts of the Symphony of Southeast Texas</i> | 1991-1999 |
| Radio Co-Host " Trilogy " KXLU Los Angeles, CA (88.9 FM)
<i>Co-Host of a show that focused on interviews with composers, conductors, and performers.</i> | 1987-1988 |