

MIAMI SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AND UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI FROST SCHOOL OF MUSIC PARTNER ON ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR PROGRAM
Opportunity for talented graduate students to work in performance setting

MIAMI, FL (November 17, 2008) – [The Miami Symphony Orchestra](#) and Maestro Eduardo Marturet, Music Director and Conductor announced today a new *Assistant Conductor Program* created in partnership with the [University of Miami Frost School of Music](#) under the direction of Dean Shelton “Shelly” Berg. The newly created *Assistant Conductor Program* will facilitate the selection of a [University of Miami](#) Teaching Assistant who will apprentice with the Miami Symphony Orchestra for a period of two years. Working directly with Maestro Marturet, the assistant conductor will have the opportunity to conduct the orchestra in rehearsals and concerts. The Music Director of the Miami Symphony Orchestra will select the candidate from a group of graduate students presented by the University of Miami Frost School of Music.

“For the student, the *Assistant Conductor Program* presents an unparalleled opportunity to develop skills and techniques with a professional orchestra and within a professional, real-life setting,” said Marturet. “For the Miami Symphony Orchestra it represents the strengthening of our relationship with the University of Miami Frost School of Music. We have worked together to offer quality concerts to the South Florida community for two decades. Now, this initiative will create a new and stronger partnership in academics and arts between two significant artistic organizations serving South Florida.” The agreement between the Miami Symphony Orchestra and Frost School of Music was officially signed on October 20th, 2008.

“We are very excited about the partnership between the Miami Symphony and the Frost School,” said UM’s Dean Berg. “This relationship allows a brilliant Frost doctoral student to collaborate and ‘share the podium’ with the MSO’s esteemed conductor, Eduardo Marturet.”

The first University of Miami candidate selected to enter the *Assistant Conductor Program* is **Cristian Grasses**, who is completing his last year of Doctor in Musical Arts Study at Frost School of Music. “We are all excited that the program is underway, and look forward to nurturing bright young talent and advancing the musical arts in our city,” said Maestro Marturet. Cristian will conduct the Miami Symphony Orchestra’s Florida premiere of Dean Berg’s *Blackbird Pavanne, Incandescent, Iridescent, Effervescent* during the symphony’s “Made in America” concert series on February 7th and 8th, 2009 at the Gusman Concert Hall at UM and the Lincoln Theatre respectively.

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The Miami Symphony Orchestra, founded in 1989 by Maestro Manuel Ochoa, is Dade County's flagship orchestra, numbering more than 80 musicians representing 22 nationalities, drawn from the finest orchestras around the world and throughout the United States. Now celebrating its 20th performance season and under the baton and music direction of Maestro Eduardo Marturet, the MSO is hailed as "a magnificent symphonic orchestra which captures the city's spirit". The MSO made its first appearance at the new Carnival Center for the Performing Arts in February 2007, a highly successful debut in this venue, and over the years has performed at Art Basel Miami Beach and on the stage of Carnegie Hall in New York City. For the 2005-06 season, the MSO doubled its budget and adopted a five-year plan allowing an increase in the number of subscription concerts it performs to 16 a year, expand its public school program, and provide free concerts at various venues in Dade County, including the inner city of Miami. The Orchestra is located at 10300 S.W. 72nd Street, Suite 499 in Miami. For more information about the Miami Symphony Orchestra, visit the Web site at www.miamisymphony.org, or call 305-275-5666.

The Frost School of Music, one of two schools created in 1926 when the [University of Miami](http://www.universityofmiami.edu) was founded, is one of the largest and best music schools located in a private university in the U.S., and one of the most comprehensive in all of higher education. The naming gift from Dr. Phillip and Patricia Frost was one of the historic highlights in the life of the School. Building on its foundation as a Conservatory of Music, the Frost School has pioneered new curricula and was the first in the nation to offer professionally accredited bachelor's and master's degrees in Music Business and Music Engineering Technology. The Frost School was also among the first to offer degrees in Studio Music and Jazz, Music Therapy, and Accompanying and Chamber Music. In addition, the Frost School was the first in a major university to develop a student-run label, 'Cane Records, and a publishing company, Category Five. The School's innovative programs, combined with its traditional areas of concentration, offer its students one of the widest choices of career programs of any music school in the nation. The Frost School continues to lead, having recently established a new songwriting degree; the "Bruce Hornsby Creative American Music Program." Also, the world-renowned Henry Mancini Institute has relocated from Los Angeles to the Frost School.

Media Contacts:

Clarice MacGarvey
Miami Symphony Orchestra
786-338-3358
clarice@ksrteam.com

Elizabeth Amore
University of Miami
305-284-6266
eamore@miami.edu