

## About the Conductor

Composer Vartan Aghababian (b. 1964, Detroit, Michigan) began piano studies at the age of eight and soon after started composing. His grammar school years of music study were infused with Orff Schulwerke and Dalcroze Eurhythmics; in the years which followed, his private studies were augmented to include the recorder, the oboe and English Horn, voice and dance. His experience includes performances in choirs, orchestras, wind ensembles as well as many solo and chamber performances. He studied with William Bolcom and Leslie Bassett during his undergraduate years (BM, 1987) at the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor) and afterwards with James Hartway of Wayne State University (Detroit). After receiving a diploma in film scoring from the Berklee College of Music (Boston), he moved to Los Angeles pursue a career as a film music editor with Warner Brothers Studios (Burbank). Following the two years in southern California, he returned to Boston to work as a freelance composer, scoring short documentary films and composing on commission.

He completed his master's degree in composition at the Longy School of Music (Cambridge, MA) (MM,2002) studying with Eric Sawyer. He recently completed his doctoral studies in composition at Boston University (DMA, 2008) studying with Samuel Headrick. His music has been performed across the United States, in east Asia and Europe. Currently, Dr. Aghababian is the Composer in Residence for the vocal ensemble Recuerdo (Cambridge, MA) a position which he has held for eight years. In addition to his position with the Longy School of Music he is a member of the music theory and composition faculties at Boston University, the South Shore Conservatory (Hingham, MA) and at the Winchester Community Music School (Winchester, MA); he teaches privately and continues to compose on commission.

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**Longy**  
School of Music

# Longy Junior Chamber Orchestra

Vartan Aghababian, Conductor

**2011-2012**

## Ensemble Handbook

## LONGY JUNIOR CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

### REHEARSALS

Saturdays 11:00 am—12:15 pm in Pickman Hall

Arrival time is 10:45 am

### PERFORMANCES

Saturday, January 14, 2012

Dress Rehearsal @ 4:00pm

Concert @ 5:00pm

Saturday, May 19, 2012

Dress Rehearsal @ 4:00pm

Concert @ 5:00pm

### Dress Code:

White top with black pants or skirt.

Black socks and shoes.

Colorful accessories optional.

### Rehearsal Etiquette and Expectations:

- Please arrive at least 15 minutes before the start of the rehearsal to have your instrument tuned and your music ready. No food or beverages are allowed into the rehearsal room, please.
- Always bring your music, instrument, and a sharpened pencil to all rehearsals.
- Please write your name and telephone number/e-mail on your folder so that it can be returned if it is lost.
- You are expected to work regularly with your private teacher, practice independently at home, and learn your part well. **The conductor has the right to suspend a student from a performance should his/her level of preparation be deemed inadequate.**
- Be attentive, respectful, and cooperative.
- Students are expected to commit themselves to both semesters.

### Attendance Policy

- You are expected to be at every rehearsal and performance.
- **All absences must be communicated to the Community Programs Office via e-mail at [communityprograms@longy.edu](mailto:communityprograms@longy.edu).**
- As a courtesy to your conductor, please give advanced notice of any pre-existing conflicts.
- Students are allowed only two absences per semester. If a student is absent three or more times during a preparation for a concert, special permission must be obtained from the conductor in order to perform. Please check the performance dates carefully. If you are tardy three times it is considered an absence.

### Audition Policy

- The mission of the Preparatory Studies Division is to strive for educational excellence as well as foster high personal and musical goals within a caring and nurturing environment.
- Returning members of Community Programs Orchestras ARE NOT required to perform an audition for re-admission to the program at the end of the school year. Students wishing to move up to the next level DO need to audition.
- Community Programs' 2012-2013 Ensemble Auditions will be held from May 31, 2012 – June 2, 2012. **Good luck!**