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**FW** **FORT WORTH**  
**SO** **SYMPHONY**  
**ORCHESTRA**

Miguel Harth-Bedoya, *Music Director*

**FWSO Announces First Annual Festival of Orchestras**

May 13, 2017 | Bass Performance Hall | Miguel Harth-Bedoya

**FORT WORTH, TX—April 3, 2017**—The Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra and Music Director Miguel Harth-Bedoya are delighted to announce the first annual **Festival of Orchestras**, set to take place **May 13, 2017** in Bass Performance Hall. The Festival is a day-long celebration featuring non-professional and student orchestras from around the state of Texas. Eight orchestras were selected to perform with each orchestra’s music director leading their own performance. The day culminates in a Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra concert with Music Director Miguel-Harth-Bedoya.

“The Festival of Orchestras is a wonderful new project intended to attract a diverse group of orchestras from the State of Texas to the heart of downtown Fort Worth,” said Harth-Bedoya. “We wanted to provide professional space for non-professional orchestras that might not otherwise get the chance to perform in such an acoustically superb space like Bass Hall.”

The orchestras selected to perform at the festival are: Centennial High School Honor String Orchestra (Frisco), Flower Mound Symphony Orchestra, Fort Worth Civic Orchestra, Martin High School Symphony Orchestra (Arlington), Midway High School Symphony Orchestra (Waco), Northeast Orchestra (North Richland Hills), Paschal High School Symphony Orchestra (Fort Worth), and the Shepton High School Chamber Orchestra (Plano).

“The Shepton Chamber Orchestra is really excited for the opportunity to perform in the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra’s Festival of Orchestras,” said Joshua Thompson, orchestra director and head of the music department at Shepton High School. “As Bass Hall is a premier performance hall that normally doesn’t hold festivals for school groups, we are really looking forward to performing in such a prestigious performance venue.”

The Festival of Orchestras takes place **Saturday, May 13** beginning at 10:00 a.m. in Bass Performance Hall with each orchestra performing a 40-minute concert at the top of each hour. All performances are **free and open to the public**. At 7:30, the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra will perform its regularly scheduled concert (this performance is ticketed as usual).

## **About the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra**

Since 1912, Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra has educated, entertained and enhanced the cultural life of Cowtown. The Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra performs a broad range of symphonic and pops concerts from August through May. In addition to its own concert series, the Orchestra also collaborates with the Texas Ballet Theater, Fort Worth Opera, Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, Southwestern Seminary Master Chorale, and the Children's Education Program of Bass Performance Hall. Concerts In The Garden, Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra's summer music festival, was launched in 1990 and takes place each June - July at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden. For more information about Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, visit [www.fwsymphony.org](http://www.fwsymphony.org).

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