



**Warren Philharmonic Orchestra**  
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**Chris Cicconi, Conductor**

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Christopher Cicconi Named Conductor and Music Director of the Warren Philharmonic Orchestra**

WARREN, Ohio July 5, 2024 – The Warren Philharmonic Orchestra is thrilled to announce the appointment of Dr. Christopher M. Cicconi as its new Conductor and Music Director. Cicconi brings a wealth of experience and an impressive background in music education, orchestral conducting, and community engagement to the role.

In the fall of 2024, Chris will begin his tenure as Director of Bands and Professor of Music at James Madison University and will continue his role as Principal Conductor of the Baltimore Symphony Youth Orchestra. Formerly, Cicconi served as Director of Bands and Orchestras and Associate Professor of Music Education at Towson University. At Towson, he conducted the Towson University Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Symphony Orchestra, and Opera Orchestra, and taught courses in graduate and undergraduate conducting, methods of teaching instrumental music in secondary education, and served as an instrumental music education student teacher advisor. He also served as a conductor of the United States Naval Academy Drum and Bugle Corps.

He earned a Doctoral of Musical Arts Degree in Instrumental Conducting from the University of Miami, where he was awarded a Henry Mancini Fellowship and was a student of Mr. Gary D. Green. Cicconi completed a Master of Music Education Degree, with an emphasis in Instrumental Conducting, from Arizona State University and earned a Bachelor of Music Education Degree (summa cum laude) from **Youngstown State University**. He is a member of College Band Directors National Association, National Association for Music Education, Pi Kappa Lambda, and an honorary member of Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma.

Chris is widely recognized as a strong advocate for music education and community outreach. While in Maryland, he was an honored recipient of the Corwin Taylor Music Education Leadership and Outstanding Music Educator Awards. He is in high demand throughout the Mid-Atlantic region as a guest conductor, clinician, and speaker. Cicconi has appeared as an orchestra and band clinician in over 100 public and private institutions. His guest conducting engagements include appearances with All-State, All-Region, and All-County Bands and Orchestras in numerous states such as California, Georgia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Wyoming. Cicconi also frequently serves as a guest conductor for the internationally acclaimed Sewanee Music Festival and the New England Music Camp.

WPO Board President, William Mullane stated: “The appointment of Chris Cicconi as WPO conductor is an important step forward as the orchestra continues its work to bring classical music to our constituents in a way that is exciting, educational and fun for audiences of all ages. Chris is the perfect candidate to provide outreach to our area’s schools and their music programs and to explore new outreach initiatives across our Valley.”

In response to his appointment, Chris made this statement: “As a native of Northeast Ohio, I am thrilled and honored to return home to the Valley to work with such a fantastic organization and world class musicians. As a passionate music educator and orchestral conductor, I am excited to immerse myself into the rich history

of music education in the area and work to bring the Warren Philharmonic's performances to audiences of all ages and backgrounds. I truly hope you will join us for what is going to be an extremely exciting season!"

The Warren Philharmonic Orchestra is excited to welcome Chris Cicconi and looks forward to the vibrant and innovative leadership he will bring to the ensemble. His dedication to music education and community involvement aligns perfectly with the Orchestra's mission to inspire, educate, and enrich the community through music.

Chris will conduct his first concert for the Warren Philharmonic Orchestra this Fall.

For more information or to arrange an interview please contact:

**Leanna Dunaway**

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Connect with the Warren Philharmonic Orchestra

• Website: <https://www.warren-philharmonic.org/>

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Attached:

Chris Cicconi Photo: Color / Black & White