

**WICHITA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
MUSIC DIRECTOR AND CONDUCTOR
DANIEL HEGE**

The 2015-2016 season marks **Daniel Hege's** sixth as Music Director and Conductor of the Wichita Symphony Orchestra. Hege is the seventh music director in the Orchestra's 70-year history. He has been widely recognized as one of America's finest young conductors, earning critical acclaim for his fresh interpretations of the standard repertoire and for his commitment to creative programming.

Daniel Hege is widely recognized as one of America's finest conductors, earning critical acclaim for his fresh interpretations of the standard repertoire and for his commitment to creative programming. He served for eleven seasons as the Music Director of the Syracuse Symphony and , as of the 2015-2016 season, he is the Principal Guest Conductor of the Tulsa Symphony.

Following a nationwide search, Mr. Hege was named Music Director of the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra in April, 1999. In June 2001, he completed a five year tenure with the Baltimore Symphony where he held the titles of Assistant, Associate and Resident Conductor and led the orchestra in subscription, family and run-out concerts. Mr. Hege also served as Associate Conductor of the Kansas City Symphony, Assistant Conductor of the Pacific Symphony, Music Director of the Encore Chamber Orchestra in Chicago and Music Director of the Chicago Youth Symphony where he was twice honored by the League of American Orchestras for innovative programming.

Daniel Hege has guest conducted the Houston, Detroit, Seattle, Indianapolis, Oregon, Colorado, San Diego, Columbus, and Phoenix symphonies; the Buffalo and Calgary Philharmonics; and led the orchestras at the Grand Teton and Aspen Music Festivals. International engagements include performances with the Singapore Symphony and the St. Petersburg Symphony at the Winter Nights Festival. In addition, Mr. Hege has worked with the Syracuse Opera with which he conducted productions of *Madame Butterfly*, *La Traviata*, *Tosca* and *Don Pasquale*.

Recent and upcoming guest conducting engagements include appearances with the Rochester, Rhode Island and Naples Philharmonics; the Louisville, Sarasota and Florida Orchestras; the Houston, Edmonton, Pacific, Puerto Rico, Hartford, Omaha, Madison, Tulsa and Virginia symphonies; and at the Music Academy of the West.

Mr. Hege has made numerous recordings, including a disc with the Baltimore Symphony and the Morgan State University Choir featuring works by Adolphus Hailstork and three CD's with the Syracuse Symphony. He also made a recording on the Cedille label titled *Violin Concertos by Black Composers of the 18th and 19th Centuries* with Rachel Barton Pine and the Encore Chamber Orchestra.

Daniel Hege received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1987 from Bethel College, Kansas where he majored in music and history. He continued his studies at the University of Utah, receiving a Master of Music degree in orchestra conducting and also founding the University Chamber Orchestra and serving as Assistant Conductor of the University Orchestra and Music Director of

the Utah Singers. He subsequently studied with Paul Vermel at the Aspen Music Festival and in Los Angeles with noted conductor and pedagogue Daniel Lewis.

In May 2004, Mr. Hege was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from Le Moyne College in Syracuse for his contributions to the cultural life in central New York State. Born in Colorado, Mr. Hege currently resides in Syracuse with his wife and their three daughters.

