

**MEDIA RELEASE****October 26, 2015**

Janet Braccio  
Bella Voce Communications  
[janetbraccio@comcast.net](mailto:janetbraccio@comcast.net)  
303-499-9031

## **Michael Butterman to Conduct Philadelphia Orchestra and Pennsylvania Philharmonic During Two Weeks of Classical and Educational Programming**

*Prominent Maestro Balances Career as Music Director and One of the Foremost Leaders in Education and Outreach for Young People*

[Michael Butterman](#), known for his leadership in shaping a new model for today's conductors, takes to the podium for a series of concerts with the recently formed [Pennsylvania Philharmonic](#), October 28, 29, 30, and November 1, 2015. The program, *The Firebird & The Violinist: Masterworks of Stravinsky & Tchaikovsky*, features Stravinsky's *Firebird Suite* and Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto with soloist Philippe Quint. He will also lead the PA Phil the following week during a series of educational concerts and will make his debut with the renowned [Philadelphia Orchestra](#) for its family concert on October 31.

"I'm delighted to be working with the marvelous Philadelphia Orchestra," Butterman said. "This opportunity will be a perfect complement to the outreach and engagement work I've been doing with orchestras around the country."

The Pennsylvania Philharmonic, now in its second season, presents high quality orchestral performances in a variety of venues and cities throughout Pennsylvania. More than half of these performances take place in schools directly benefiting students in underserved rural and urban areas outside the cities of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. Additional classical and pops concerts, designed for audiences of all ages, are presented in communities around the state, making live performances accessible to those who might not otherwise have an opportunity to experience them.

"It is gratifying to be part of an organization that's not only committed to bringing fine orchestral performances to areas all over the state, but also reaching families and young people who might be experiencing live orchestral music for the first time," said Butterman.

Butterman, who is the music director of the Boulder Philharmonic and the Shreveport Symphony Orchestras, and the resident conductor of the Jacksonville Symphony, is also the principal conductor for education and outreach with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra—the first position of its kind in the United States, and a position he has held for 15 years. This unique mix of leadership positions allows him to conduct serious masterworks programs while also championing the benefits of exposing young people to the power of live orchestral music.

"Presenting programs that engage young people is critical in today's world of easily accessible recorded music and diminished public school music education programs," said Butterman. "We hope to create a spark of inspiration that will lead students into a lifelong relationship with music. Engagement with the arts fosters precisely the sort of creative and innovative thinking that will be critical in the 21st century economy and yields a host of other benefits including self-discipline, determination, and a deeper understanding of culture."

These performances come in the midst of a busy fall for Butterman, including three programs in two weeks with the Rochester Philharmonic. In mid-October, he conducted the National Symphony Orchestra Young People's Concerts at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., the same venue where



he'll lead the Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra, one of only four orchestras selected to participate in the first year of the new weeklong SHIFT Festival, taking place in the spring of 2017. He will return to the National Symphony for additional performances in January and May. Then, coming up on November 14, 2015, Butterman leads the Boulder Philharmonic in its next masterworks concert of the season—a program that includes a world premiere, *Portraits in Season*, by the Emmy Award-winning, Denver-based composer Charles Denler, Brahms' *Schicksalslied* ("Song of Destiny"), in collaboration with the Boulder Chorale, and Brahms' Symphony No. 2.

In demand as a guest conductor, Butterman's engagements include appearances with the Cleveland Orchestra, Detroit Symphony, Houston Symphony, Colorado Symphony, Oregon Symphony, Kansas City Symphony, Hartford Symphony, San Antonio Symphony, Syracuse Symphony, New Mexico Symphony, Louisiana Philharmonic, Spokane Symphony, Santa Fe Symphony, and many others. Summer appearances include Tanglewood, the Bravo! Vail Valley Music Festival, the Colorado Music Festival, and the Wintergreen Music Festival in Virginia.

For additional information about Michael Butterman, visit [www.michaelbutterman.com](http://www.michaelbutterman.com).

###