

## Adjudicator Biographies – Stern Auditorium / Perelman Stage at Carnegie Hall

### Baldwin Wallace Conservatory Wind Ensemble Invitational – February 12, 2018



**Sylvia Alimena**, now in her 29th season as Music Director and Conductor of Brass of Peace is also the recently appointed Interim Principal Conductor of the American Youth Philharmonic and Music Director of the American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras - [aypo.org](http://aypo.org). A native of Long Island, New York, she began playing the french horn in the Hicksville Public Schools at the age of nine. Ms. Alimena considers the help and encouragement from her public school teachers a major impetus in pursuing a career in music. She was awarded a full scholarship for her first private lessons at age 15

with Arthur E. Goldstein, formerly of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

Ms. Alimena continued her musical studies at Boston University and was a pupil of Harry Shapiro of the Boston Symphony. In 1981, she was a first-place winner of the Boston University Concert-Aria Competition, and in the summer of that year was awarded a fellowship at the Tanglewood Music Center.

In 1980, Ms. Alimena began her professional career in Boston as a member of the Boston Ballet Orchestra, the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra, the Beacon Brass Quintet, and as Principal horn of the Boston Lyric Opera and the New Hampshire Symphony. Her solo and offstage performances in the Boston Lyric Opera's 1983 New York and Boston productions of Wagner's *Das Ring Des Nibelungen* were critically acclaimed in the Boston Globe as "*not only note perfect, but insouciant in the notoriously difficult solo*" July 30, 1983. In November of that year, the Beacon Brass Quintet made its Carnegie Hall debut as the only brass quintet ever to win the coveted Concert Artists Guild Award.

After spending one season with the Utah Symphony under the baton of Joseph Silverstein, Ms. Alimena arrived in Washington in the fall of 1985 to take the post of second horn of the National Symphony Orchestra under Mstislav Rostropovich. Her conducting career began in January of 1990 when she was asked by Brass of Peace founder, Gilbert Mitchell to take over the helm of Brass of Peace.

Ms. Alimena served 20 years as founding Music Director and Conductor of Eclipse Chamber Orchestra, an orchestra composed of 22 NSO members. In her role as Music Director, Ms. Alimena has conducted over a dozen world premiere works commissioned for Eclipse Chamber Orchestra many of which have now been recorded by Eclipse Chamber Orchestra on the Naxos label. Ms. Alimena has also served as Music Director of the Friday Morning Music Club Orchestra,

now known as Avanti Orchestra (1995-2004) and the McLean Orchestra (2003-2010). She is the recipient of a Boston University Distinguished Alumni Award (2004) and was voted into Washingtonian Magazine's Musical *Hall of Fame* (2003).



**Matthew Schlomer** conducts the Interlochen Arts Academy Band and teaches conducting and classical saxophone. Previous positions have been at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Luther College, Edgewood College, Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School and Sheboygan High School. He studied wind conducting with Scott Teeple and Allan McMurray, saxophone with Jean-Marie Londeix and Tom Myer, and dance with Kate Corby. Further conducting studies have been with Bob Reynolds, Craig Kirchoff, Michael Haithcock, Mallory Thompson, Jerry Junkin, John Whitwell, Frank Wickes, and Glen Adsit.

Dr. Schlomer holds a doctor of musical arts degree and master of music degree in instrumental conducting with a minor concentration in dance from the University of Wisconsin, a bachelor of music in education from the University of Colorado at Boulder, and a gold medal in saxophone from Bordeaux Regional Conservatory in France. While at UW-Madison he twice received the Richard Church Memorial Conducting Award. He is resident conductor of the experimental percussion group Clocks in Motion and has served as a clinician around the Midwest. He is a strong advocate for integrating all the arts into music education and has led fourteen arts exploration tours across the United States and Canada.



**Frank Ticheli's** music has been described as being "optimistic and thoughtful" (Los Angeles Times), "lean and muscular" (New York Times), "brilliantly effective" (Miami Herald) and "powerful, deeply felt crafted with impressive flair and an ear for striking instrumental colors" (South Florida Sun-Sentinel). Ticheli (b. 1958) joined the faculty of the University of Southern California's Thornton School of Music in 1991, where he is Professor of Composition. From 1991 to 1998, Ticheli was Composer in Residence of the Pacific Symphony.

Frank Ticheli's orchestral works have received considerable recognition in the U.S. and Europe. Orchestral performances have come from the Philadelphia Orchestra, Atlanta Symphony, Detroit Symphony, Dallas Symphony, American Composers Orchestra, the radio orchestras of Stuttgart, Frankfurt, Saarbruecken, and Austria, and the orchestras of Austin, Bridgeport, Charlotte, Colorado, Haddonfield, Harrisburg, Hong

Kong, Jacksonville, Lansing, Long Island, Louisville, Lubbock, Memphis, Nashville, Omaha, Phoenix, Portland, Richmond, San Antonio, San Jose, Wichita Falls, and others.

Ticheli is well known for his works for concert band, many of which have become standards in the repertoire. In addition to composing, he has appeared as guest conductor of his music at Carnegie Hall, at many American universities and music festivals, and in cities throughout the world, including Schladming (Austria), Beijing and Shanghai, London and Manchester, Singapore, Rome, Sydney, and numerous cities in Japan.

Frank Ticheli is the recipient of a 2012 "Arts and Letters Award" from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, his third award from that prestigious organization. His Symphony No. 2 was named winner of the 2006 NBA/William D. Revelli Memorial Band Composition Contest. Other awards include the Walter Beeler Memorial Prize and First Prize awards in the Texas Sesquicentennial Orchestral Composition Competition, Britten-on-the-Bay Choral Composition Contest, and Virginia CBDNA Symposium for New Band Music.

Ticheli was awarded national honorary membership to Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, "bestowed to individuals who have significantly contributed to the cause of music in America," and the A. Austin Harding Award by the American School Band Directors Association, "given to individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the school band movement in America." At USC, he has received the Virginia Ramo Award for excellence in teaching, and the Dean's Award for Professional Achievement.

Frank Ticheli received his doctoral and masters degrees in composition from The University of Michigan. His works are published by Manhattan Beach, Southern, Hinshaw, and Encore Music, and are recorded on the labels of Albany, Chandos, Clarion, Equilibrium, Klavier, Koch International, Mark, Naxos, and Reference.