

**GERARD SCHWARZ'S ALL-STAR ORCHESTRA
CLASSICAL MUSIC TELEVISION SERIES WINS
5th & 6th EMMY® AWARDS**



Music Director Gerard Schwarz and Executive Director Paul Schwendener



**Results announced by The New York Chapter of The National Academy of
Television Arts and Sciences at the 60th Annual New York Emmy® Awards**

May 6, 2017 (New York, NY)— *All-Star Orchestra* took home its 5th and 6th Emmy® Awards Saturday at the 60th Annual New York Emmy® Awards, which took place at the Marriott Marquis Broadway Ballroom in New York City. “*1001 Nights – The Legend of Scheherazade*,” a program featuring Rimsky-Korsakov’s Arabian Nights orchestral fantasy, *Scheherazade*, won in the category: **Special Event Coverage (Other than News and Sports)** with Gerard Schwarz as Music Director/Conductor, Habib Azar as Video Director, Dmitriy Lipay as Audio Recording Producer, Andrew Mayatskiy as Video Editor and Paul Schwendener as Executive Director. The same program also won in the category **Audio** awarded to Dmitriy Lipay as Audio Recording Producer. “*1001 Nights – The Legend of Scheherazade*” is part of the multi-program All-Star Orchestra series featuring top musicians from across the country performing major symphonic masterpieces and works from leading contemporary American composers. The acclaimed series, currently in its second season, is being broadcast nationwide on public television since 2013. Season Three will air in fall, 2017.

These are the fifth and sixth Emmy® Awards for the All-Star Orchestra. In 2016 “*Visions of New York*,” a program featuring George Gershwin’s *Rhapsody in Blue*, Aaron Copland’s *Music for the Theatre*, and Robert Beaser’s *Ground O*, won in the category:

Special Event, and was also nominated in the category: Audio. In 2015 “*What Makes a Masterpiece,*” a program featuring Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony and Philip Glass’ *Harmonium Mountain* was awarded in the category: Special Event, and was also nominated in the category: Audio. In 2014 “Music for the Theatre,” featuring music by Stravinsky, Ravel and Bright Sheng, was awarded at the 57th New York Awards in two categories: Special Event and Audio.

Music Director Gerard Schwarz said, “For all of us at the *All-Star Orchestra*, receiving these awards from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences is a confirmation of the importance of what we are all striving for: to make accessible for free the joy and understanding of great music to the widest possible audience through public television and the world’s largest educational website: the Khan Academy. We are so grateful to all the musicians and production team, to our generous sponsors, and to the dedicated public television stations in our vast country for believing in classical music.”

Maestro Schwarz’s *All-Star Orchestra* is comprised of top players from some of the country’s greatest orchestra’s including Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Detroit, Florida, Houston, Los Angeles, Minnesota, Nashville, New Jersey, New York (the New York Philharmonic and the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra), Oregon, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, San Francisco, Seattle, St Louis, Utah, Washington D.C., and more. Together these musicians perform on one stage under the leadership of Maestro Schwarz, who led the Seattle Symphony for 26 years, and now serves as Music Director of the Eastern Music Festival.

The series features classical masterpieces as well as new works from leading contemporary American composers. The series aims to expose classical music to an even broader audience while keeping the listening experience informative and accessible. In addition to performances of classical and contemporary works, the programs also feature musical excerpts, images, interviews and educational commentary by Maestro Schwarz, the *All-Star Orchestra* musicians, and special guests. The first twelve programs have been released on DVD by Naxos of America and are available from Amazon and other retailers.

The All-Star Orchestra has greatly expanded its music education program – now reaching more than 5 million students - in partnership with the world-famous **Khan Academy** (www.khanacademy.org), the free educational website that reaches 30 million students and 750,000 teachers each month in over 200 countries. The collaboration brings, for the first time, classical music to the widely visited website that teaches Math, Science, Economics, Humanities and many other subjects. [Click [here](#) for the All-Star Orchestra partner content home page.]

Season Two of the *All-Star Orchestra* is a co-production of the All-Star Orchestra (Gerard Schwarz and Paul Schwendener, co-executive producers) and Oregon Public Broadcasting (Steve Bass, President & CEO; Dave Davis, Vice President TV Production). American Public Television (APT) distributes **All-Star Orchestra** to public television stations nationwide. The series was launched in 2013 in partnership with WNET New York.

The All-Star Orchestra is made possible by contributions from the Charles and Lisa Simonyi Fund for Arts and Sciences, The Hearst Foundations, The M. J. Murdock Trust, David Gannett, Agnes Gund, The Jerome L. Greene Foundation, The Park Foundation, Microsoft, The Gladys Rubinstein Trust, Rebecca Benaroya, Alan Benaroya,

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About OPB

[Oregon Public Broadcasting](#) (OPB) is the largest cultural and education institution in Oregon and southern Washington, delivering excellence in public broadcasting to 1.5 million people each week through television, radio, and the Internet. Widely recognized as a national leader in the public broadcasting arena, OPB is a major contributor to the program schedule that serves the entire country. OPB is one of the most-used and most-supported public broadcasting services in the country and is generously supported by its members.

About WNET

As New York's flagship public media provider and the parent company of [THIRTEEN](#) and [WLIW21](#) and operator of [NJTV](#), WNET brings quality arts, education and public affairs programming to more than 5 million viewers each week. WNET produces and presents such acclaimed PBS series as [Nature](#), [Great Performances](#), [American Masters](#), [PBS NewsHour Weekend](#), [Charlie Rose](#) and a range of documentaries, children's programs, and local news and cultural offerings available on air and online.

About American Public Television

[American Public Television](#) (APT) has been a leading distributor of high-quality, top-rated programming to America's public television stations since 1961. For nearly 10 years, APT has distributed approximately half of the top 100 highest-rated public television titles. Among its 300 new program titles per year are prominent documentaries, news and current affairs programs, dramatic series, how-to programs, children's series and classic movies.

The New York Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, founded in 1955, is the preeminent membership organization serving media professionals by offering career enhancing events and networking opportunities. NYNATAS fosters creativity and inspires artistic and technical excellence through the renowned Emmy® Award, the coveted peer-recognition symbol of distinction in television.

Naxos is the world's leading classical record label, and features all of the All-Star Orchestra's programs from on DVD. "*1001 Nights – The Legend of Scheherazade*," the double Emmy® award-winning program, is available on DVD right [here](#).