



Iván Fischer appointed as Music Director of the European Union Youth Orchestra



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The [European Union Youth Orchestra](#) (EUYO) is delighted to announce Iván Fischer as the Orchestra's new Music Director, with immediate effect. Maestro Fischer will continue to serve as Music Director of the Budapest Festival Orchestra, as Honorary Guest Conductor of the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, and as Ehrendirigent of the Konzerthausorchester Berlin. Iván Fischer's first project with the EUYO takes place in the Orchestra's home and annual summer residency in Grafenegg during August 2024, followed by a tour to New York as part of Carnegie Hall's WOW! Festival, and to the Orchestra's annual concerts in Bolzano as part of the Bolzano Festival Bozen. As Music Director, Maestro Fischer will be involved in the planning of the Orchestra's auditions, artistic training and performances, working with the EUYO's Executive and Artistic Director.

In a major development of the current Apprenticeship Scheme that has been in operation between the EUYO and the Budapest Festival Orchestra (BFO) for ten years, Fischer and the two Orchestras have agreed to found a new European Orchestra Academy. The Academy will train future musical leaders in orchestral music, chamber music, and music promotion, focusing also on broadening the range of activities that musicians undertake in our communities, and will hold a series of residencies in all EU countries. The first project involving the Academy will be joint concerts this September of BFO and EUYO players in the 2024 edition of the Bridging Europe Festival in Brussels and Budapest, capitals of the EU's two 2024 Presidency countries, Belgium and Hungary.



European Union Youth Orchestra

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Fischer's appointment comes at the end of current EUYO Chief Conductor Vasily Petrenko's highly successful ten-year tenure as the EUYO's Chief Conductor, during which time he has overseen an increasing development in the Orchestra's standards and performances. The EUYO thanks Maestro Petrenko profusely for his work with the Orchestra and looks forward to further projects with him, including a welcome return to the Orchestra in summer 2025, to include concerts at the Orchestra's home in Grafenegg.

"I trust the new generation, they will change the world. The first step is to apply to the EUYO. We start the rest this August."

Iván Fischer

"The prospect of a musician of the talent, creativity, and humanity of Iván Fischer as the EUYO's new Music Director is quite simply momentous, and in reality, he has already opened up some remarkable vistas to the future. At the same time I should like to thank Vasily Petrenko for ten years of astute, exciting, expert work; professional beyond reproach, he has really pushed the EUYO to improve and to develop as an orchestra."

Marshall Marcus, EUYO Executive and Artistic Director

Contact:

European Union Youth Orchestra

Helen Leitner, Head of Communications and Advocacy

helen@euyo.eu | +49 151 226 72340

EUROPEAN UNION YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Honorary President Roberta Metsola, President of the European Parliament | Co-Founders Lionel & Joy Bryer
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Honorary Patrons Charles Michel, President of the European Council
Josep Borrell Fontelles High Representative and Vice-President of the European Commission

Postal address: Grafenegg 10, 3485 Grafenegg, Austria - info@euyo.eu - +44 20 7237 7671