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# Gregory Woodbridge Conductor



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# BIOGRAPHY

Now in his sixth season as Music Director and Conductor of the Central Pennsylvania Symphony, Gregory Woodbridge continues to evoke impassioned performances from players of all levels, student through professional, and in a wide variety of repertoire. As a result, Mr. Woodbridge is now sought after to conduct professional symphonies, collegiate-level orchestras, honors orchestras, Pops concerts, and children's concerts.

Mr. Woodbridge began his musical studies at the age of 7 as a pianist, and took up the violin at the age of 9. He holds undergraduate degrees in Piano Performance and Music Education and a Master's Degree in Orchestral Conducting from the Pennsylvania State University where he studied with Dr. Pu-Qi Jiang. While at Penn State, Mr. Woodbridge was assistant conductor for the Penn State Philharmonic, the Penn State Chamber Orchestra, and the Central Pennsylvania Youth Orchestra. Additional conducting studies include the Conductor's Institute of South Carolina and the Pierre Monteux Conducting Institute in Maine.

In 1999, Woodbridge began studying the conducting philosophy and techniques of the Russian school under students of the esteemed pedagogue Ilia Musin from the St. Petersburg Conservatory. Through invitation, Woodbridge returned to Russia in 2000 to continue his studies and to appear as a guest conductor at the helm of the Sochi Symphony Orchestra on the coast of the Black Sea. In 2005, Woodbridge attended the International Academy for Advanced Conducting in Macon, GA to study with Musin's assistant, Oleg Proskurnya, and Leonid Korchmar of the Kirov Opera and St. Petersburg Conservatory.

In addition to his responsibilities to the Central Pennsylvania Symphony, Woodbridge is the Music Director and Conductor of the Wednesday Club Youth Orchestra, a string orchestra comprised of 40 high school-aged musicians. That orchestra had the distinct honor of performing with fiddler Mark O'Connor on two separate tours to the Harrisburg area.

Previous guest conducting engagements include the York Symphony (PA), the PMEA Region IV-V State Orchestra Festival, the Lebanon Valley College-Community Orchestra, the Cumberland Valley Chamber Players, and high school county festivals in Berks, Bucks and Cumberland counties. Mr. Woodbridge is a sought-after piano accompanist and chamber musician, and plays violin with the York Symphony.

# CRITICAL ACCLAIM

This is a testimonial of the conducting skills of Greg Woodbridge. I have worked under Mr. Woodbridge as Concertmaster, section player and soloist. He demonstrates highly skilled conducting and rehearsal techniques. He encourages players to reach for their best potential without using intimidation. Mr. Woodbridge shows a thorough knowledge of the works that he is conducting, and performances reach a high level of excitement and musicianship. Mr. Woodbridge, I feel, is a very musical person with many gifts to share with everyone who has the opportunity to work under him

JOHN EAKEN

*Concertmaster, York Symphony*

*Violinist, Eaken Piano Trio*

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I had the pleasure of collaborating with Greg on the Bruch Scottish Fantasy. It was such an enjoyable experience. One can tell that the orchestra has great respect and fondness for him. He supports them while encouraging them to play their very best. He was with me as soloist every step of the way. It was like we were playing chamber music together. I would treasure any opportunity to work with this outstanding musician again in the future.

CARL IBA

*Violinist, Harrisburg Symphony--Harrisburg, PA*

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Greg Woodbridge led his community orchestra to heights they never imagined in the difficult score of Ravel's G Major Piano Concerto. His confidence, flair, and musical intelligence inspired the musicians to give it their *ALL*. Rehearsals were not only efficient and productive, but also most enjoyable and prepared the group for an outstanding concert. Greg Woodbridge's love of life, charismatic love of music, exceptional humanity, and leadership gifts make him an outstanding conductor. Many groups would cherish the opportunity to play under his baton. Without a trace of arrogance, Greg is all about the music and strives for results worthy of the composer. As a soloist in the Ravel Concerto, I could not have asked for a more fulfilling collaboration.

CECILIA DUNOYER

*Pianist*

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# REPERTOIRE

## Beethoven

Triple Concerto  
Egmont: Overture  
Prometheus: Overture  
Symphony Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 and 8

## Bernstein

Divertimento for Orchestra

## Bizet

Carmen: Suites 1 and 2

## Brahms

Academic Festival Overture  
Hungarian Dances 5,6 and 7

## Britten

Simple Symphony

## Bruch

Scottish Fantasy

## Chabrier

Espana

## Copland

*Appalachian Spring* (Chamber)  
*Billy the Kid*: Suite  
An Outdoor Overture

## Corigliano

Elegy for Orchestra

## Debussy

Dances sacree et profane  
Prelude a L'apres-midi d'un faune

## Delibes

Coppelia—Suites 1 and 2

## Dvorak

Cello Concerto  
Serenade for Strings  
Serenade for Winds  
Slavonic Dances, Op. 46  
Symphony No. 8

## Elgar

Salut d'amour  
Serenade

## Falla

El Sombrero de Tres Picos—Suites 1 and 2

## Faure

Pavane  
*Pelleas et Melisande*: Suite

## Gliere

Russian Sailors' Dance

## Glinka

*Ruslan and Ludmilla*: Overture

## Grainger

Irish Tune from County Derry

## Granados

Goyescas: Intermezzo

## Grieg

Peer Gynt: Suite 1  
Two Elegiac Melodies  
Wedding Day at Troldhaugen

## Hanson

Symphony No. 2

## Haydn

Symphony Nos. 45, 100 and 104

**Holst**

St. Paul's Suite

**Humperdinck**

*Hansel and Gretel*: Overture

**Kabalevsky**

*Colas Breugnon*—Overture

**Khachaturian**

*Spartacus*: Adagio of Spartacus and Phrygia

**Lalo**

Symphonie espagnole

**Mahler**

Songs of a Wayfarer  
Symphony No. 5: Adagietto

**Mendelssohn**

Symphony No. 4, "Italian"

**Mozart**

*Abduction from the Seraglio*:  
Overture  
*Magic Flute*: Overture  
*Marriage of Figaro*: Overture  
Violin Concerto in A major

**Mussorgsky**

Night on Bald Mountain

**Offenbach**

*La vie parisienne*: Overture

**Peck**

Flying on Instruments

**Piazzolla**

Le Grand Tango for Cello and Orchestra

**Poulenc**

The Story of Babar

**Rachmaninoff**

Piano Concerto No. 2  
Symphony No. 2  
Vocalise

**Ravel**

Piano Concerto in G  
Mother Goose Suite  
Pavane for a Dead Princess  
La Valse

**Rimsky-Korsakov**

Capriccio espagnol

**Rodrigo**

Fantasia para un gentilhombre (flute)

**Rossini**

*La gazza ladra*: Overture

**Rutter**

Suite for Strings

**Saint-Saens**

Allegro appassionato, Cello and Orchestra  
Danse macabre  
*Samson et Dalila*: Bacchanale

**Sarasate**

Zigeunerweisen

**Shostakovich**

Festive Overture

**Sibelius**

Finlandia  
Karelia Suite

**Smetana**

*Bartered Bride*: Overture

**Stravinsky**

*Firebird*: Berceuse and Finale  
Concerto in E-flat: *Dumbarton Oaks*

**Tchaikovsky**

Capriccio italien  
Marche Slave  
Romeo and Juliet Overture-fantasy  
Serenade, Op. 48  
Symphony No. 2, 5 and 6

**Trinkley, Bruce**

*Eve's Odds—World Premiere*

**Vaughan Williams**

Fantasia on "Greensleeves"  
*The Wasps*: Overture

**Wagner**

Die Meistersinger: Prelude  
Siegfried: Idyll

**Weber**

Oberon: Overture

**Wolf-Ferrari**

*L'amore medico*: Intermezzo  
*The Secret of Suzanne*: Overture

Numerous Pops, Holiday and Light Classical Selections, complete Broadway shows and vocal works. They include Pirates of Penzance, Les Miserables, Into the Woods, Children of Eden, Cats, and Beauty and the Beast.

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## GREGORY WOODBRIDGE—CONDUCTOR

### CURRENT CONDUCTING POSITIONS

The Central Pennsylvania Symphony Orchestra

June 2001-present

#### **Music Director and Conductor**

A 55-member community orchestra that performs 7 concerts a year including 4 subscription and 3 Pops.

- Improved quality of orchestra by attracting highly qualified players.
- Concert hall changed from local High School to a professional hall.
- Improved style of brochures, programs, and website.
- Developed concert partnership with local community chorus.
- Balanced the budget and increased 20% over last 6 years.

Wednesday Club Youth Orchestra

*Spring*

**2001-2007**

*Music Director and Conductor*

A 40-member string orchestra comprised of high school-aged students from the Central PA region that performs 4-6 concerts a year.

- Increased membership from 15 players to 40.
- Performed with renowned soloists.
- Provided solid string pedagogy from the podium that produced high-quality performances of the standard string literature.

York Youth Symphony

Begins Fall 2007

*Music Director and Conductor*

A 75-member regional youth orchestra serving High School students from over 20 school districts.

### GUEST CONDUCTING

York Symphony—York, PA

Sochi Symphony Orchestra—Sochi, Russia

Lebanon Valley College Community Orchestra

PMEA Region IV-V Orchestra Festival—Scranton, PA

Cumberland Valley Chamber Players—Chambersburg, PA

Berks County Orchestra Festival—Kutztown, PA

Cumberland County Orchestra Festival—Harrisburg, PA  
 Marywood College Honors Orchestra Festival—Scranton, PA  
 Dauphin County Orchestra Festival—Harrisburg, PA

### ADDITIONAL CONDUCTING STUDIES

The Pierre Monteux School for Advanced Conductors  
 International Academy for Advanced Conductors—*Mercer University*  
 Karelia-Sochi Masterclass—*Sochi, Russia*  
 Karelia Institute/Masterclass—*Karelia Republic, Russia*  
 Conductor's Institute of South Carolina

### EDUCATION

<u>Master of Music, Orchestral Conducting</u> THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY	August 1998
<u>Bachelor of Music, Piano Performance, magna cum laude</u> THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY	May 1996
<u>Bachelor of Science, Music Education, magna cum laude</u> THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY	May 1996

### TEACHERS AND MENTORS

Leonid Korchmar, Oleg Proskurnya, Andre Danilov, Michael Jinbo, Donald Portnoy,  
 Dr. Pu-qi Jiang, Dr. Robert Hart Baker, Diane Wittry

### AWARDS/PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Phi Beta Kappa  
 Outstanding Graduate Assistant Teaching Award  
 The Marjorie Jane Brewster Scholarship for Graduate Studies  
 American Symphony Orchestra League  
 Conductor's Guild

## REFERENCES

Dr. Robert Hart Baker, Music Director/ Conductor—York Symphony; St. Louis Orchestra  
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