

Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestras

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For immediate release

Media contact: Eric Murtaugh, WYSO Communications Manager

WYSO Announces Recipients of Rabin Youth Arts Awards

MADISON, WI— Since 2001, Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestras (WYSO) has awarded the Rabin Youth Arts Award in honor of its founding conductor, Dr. Marvin Rabin. Marvin was well-known for his international stature as a music educator and a researcher of youth arts.

A vigorous spokesperson for society's need to recognize the positive and creative accomplishments of young people, Marvin believed it was equally important to recognize individuals and organizations who support youth arts initiatives. The Rabin Youth Arts Award continues this legacy of Marvin's lifelong mission.

This year's Rabin Youth Arts Awards winners are:

Rick Young, in the category of Individual Philanthropic Achievement
and

Norman Gilliland, in the category of Individual Artistic Achievement

Rick Young, a Wisconsin native, has a long career in the music industry. His 30-year career with Yamaha Corporation of America culminated with an appointment as Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing. During his time at Yamaha, Rick was instrumental in securing financial support from Yamaha Corporation for Wisconsin-based youth music education endeavors such as sponsoring the Yamaha Music Technology Center at the Wisconsin Center for Music Education, annual sponsorships of WSMA's Launchpad program and State Marching Band Championships, sponsoring WYSO's 50th Anniversary Gala Celebration, and more.

Norman Gilliland has been a classical radio host with Wisconsin Public Radio since 1984. Norman's influence on youth music in Wisconsin is vast. He has featured interviews and performances by hundreds of young Wisconsin artists on the weekday classical program, The Midday. For years, Gilliland brought weekly music lessons to classrooms all over the state as part of WPR's School of the Air program. Gilliland was a founder of WPR's Neale-Silva Young Artists' Competition, which between 1990 and 2013 recognized the accomplishments and artistry of hundreds of young Wisconsin musicians.

Rick Young will receive his award during the Eugenie Mayer Bolz Family Spring Concerts on Saturday, May 19, 2018 at Mills Concert Hall. Norman Gilliland will receive his award during the Youth Orchestra Peru Tour send-off concert on Tuesday, July 3, 2018 at Olbrich Botanical Gardens.

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