



El Camino

Youth Symphony Association

Dr. Jindong Cai • Music Director
Cathy Spieth • Executive Director

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ECYS ANNOUNCES EMMANUEL ISADIAR AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
EL CAMINO YOUTH SYMPHONY EFFECTIVE JAN. 3, 2017**

(Palo Alto, CA – November 30, 2016) After months of searching, the ECYS Board of Directors is pleased to announce that **Mr. Emmanuel Isadiar** will be the new Executive Director of ECYS beginning January 3, 2017.

Mr. Isadiar follows Cathy Spieth, who is retiring after twenty-two years of outstanding leadership at ECYS.

Eman brings a wealth of experience, combining a successful track record in nonprofit management with a background in music. He served as Executive Director of the Fremont Symphony during three of the most financially successful seasons in the Symphony's history, and is proud to have led it through a period of artistic and administrative transition.

In 2010, Mr. Isadiar was engaged as Executive Director of Cantabile Youth Singers of Silicon Valley and is credited for a period of unprecedented growth and exceeding financial goals in every season during his tenure. Since 2015, he has also served as Executive Director of the Bear Valley Music Festival under the baton of internationally-acclaimed conductor, Maestro Michael Morgan.

Eman received his higher education in music in the United States and France and was a faculty member at Community Music Center in San Francisco, where he taught music to under-served children. He has also taught music as a bilingual instructor at the Lycée

Français de San Francisco. Eman speaks fluent French and Farsi; is conversant in Hebrew, Italian and Spanish; and is currently working on his Mandarin.

From ECYS President Virginia Chang Kiraly and Chair of the Executive Director Search Committee, Jennifer Matthews: “Please join us in welcoming Eman to the ECYS family! We know he will continue our work of providing outstanding music education and music performance opportunities for our children. We look forward to a very successful 2016-2017 season and are grateful for the support you have given to ECYS as we move forward in the next chapter of its history.”

Two core principles underlie the **ECYS** mission: **Music Education**, to nurture, train and develop young musicians from culturally diverse backgrounds and encourage a lasting appreciation of music, and **Musical Excellence**, to provide high-quality performance opportunities for young people and outstanding musical events for the wider community. The Senior Symphony, El Camino Youth Symphony’s preeminent orchestra, is comprised of over 120 talented young musicians from all over the Bay Area who perform professional repertoire and travel internationally. ECYS offers its students the opportunity to learn from and perform with world-renowned musicians, recent guest artists include pianists Jon Nakamatsu, Ilya Yakushev and Naomi Kudo, violinists Philippe Quint and David Kim, cellist Zuill Bailey, and Brandon Ridenour, trumpet. The orchestra has been honored to perform at Davies Symphony Hall in San Francisco, most recently in January 2016 at the Bay Area Youth Orchestra Festival. Previous Music Directors include Dr. Camilla Kolchinsky, Melissa McBride, and Dr. Arthur Barnes. Virginia Kiraly is the current President of the Board of Directors.

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