

# Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra taps new leaders



Janelle Gelfand, [jgelfand@enquirer.com](mailto:jgelfand@enquirer.com) 4:34 p.m. EST November 6, 2015



Peter Landgren, dean of the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music, and rising star conductor Isaac Selya are two of the new appointees who will be guiding the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra as it searches for a music director.

The orchestra, fresh off of its experimental and highly successful Summermusik Festival, announced the creation of two new artistic positions, as well as a new board chair and the appointment of a general manager.

Landgren will take on the role of director of artistic planning, guiding the orchestra's artistic vision. The CCM dean, who spent 29 years playing French horn with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, said that he recalled performing with the Chamber Orchestra under its founding music director, Paul Nadler, while a student at CCM. He began his tenure as dean in September of 2011.

(Photo: Provided)

"I am honored that the CCO's leadership feels that my background and perspective will lend a helping hand to this important year as they prepare for the final stages of a search for a new music director," he said in a

statement.

Selya, founder and artistic director of Queen City Chamber Opera, has been appointed artistic adviser for Summermusik 2016. The two will work together to plan the second summer festival season, the first of its kind for the orchestra in its 41-year lifetime. Selya will help plan the innovative "Chamber Crawl" performances – intimate concerts in bars and alternative venues. He will also serve as assistant conductor, working with the four finalist candidates for music director, who will be conducting next season.

In addition, Wes Needham has succeeded Jennifer Funk as board president, effective Nov. 15. The Northern Kentucky resident is the lead engineer for Distribution Design with Duke Energy. LeAnne Anklan,

who has been serving as acting general manager since July 2014, has been appointed to the post of general manager. She is on the board of Cincy Emerging Arts Leaders, and helped to found the Cincinnati Contemporary Jazz Orchestra.

The Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra has selected five finalists, winnowed from 200 applicants, to be the next leader of the 32-member ensemble. They are Donato Cabrera, Sarah Ioannides, Kelly Kuo, Daniel Meyer, and Eckart Preu.

Each candidate will conduct an audition concert, and the audience will be invited to provide feedback on his or her performance. Kuo, who served as interim artistic director following the departure of former music director Mischa Santora, performed his audition in September as part of Summermusik festival. The other four candidates will each have an audition concert during Summermusik 2016.

The CCO will join the Vocal Arts Ensemble on Friday, Nov. 13, at Christ Church Cathedral, Downtown, and Sunday, Nov. 15, at St. Catherine of Siena in Westwood, for a performance of J.S. Bach's Mass in B Minor, led by Craig Hella Johnson. For information and tickets, call 513-381-3300 or visit [vaecinci.org](http://vaecinci.org).

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