

# EDUCATIONAL RESIDENCY ACTIVITIES **WITH JAMES BLACHLY**

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**James Blachly** is a Grammy®-winning conductor dedicated to enriching the concert experience by connecting with audiences in memorable and meaningful ways. An integral part of the enrichment experience is educating people of all ages in many various aspects of music and leadership as a whole.

## **Conducting Ensembles**

James Blachly has given many clinics, masterclasses, and reading sessions to all ages. He is available to work in-depth with the following types of performers:

- Symphony orchestra/chamber orchestra/string orchestra
- Opera or singer coaching
- Choral-orchestral works
- A cappella chorus
- Band/wind Symphony

Repertoire shall be selected by the ensemble director. Depending on the residency location, a side-by-side clinic, masterclass, or reading session with members of James' Experiential Orchestra or other professional musicians can be arranged.

## **Composition Reading Sessions**

James has premiered more than 40 works for orchestra and can be invited to conduct reading sessions for composition departments or other consortia of composers for large ensembles.

## **Composition Practicum**

James can offer practical and applicable advice to composers on writing for the symphony orchestra or other ensemble sizes, such as chamber orchestra or string orchestra.

## **Conducting Masterclasses**

James is particularly passionate about helping to encourage the next generation of conductors through guest teaching and masterclasses.

## **Chamber Music**

James is also available to coach chamber music ensembles of various instrumentation, offering his unique vantage point of a composer and conductor, including insights on interpretation, score study, articulations, phrasing, breaths and bowings, and more.

Photo: Allison Stock

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## Presentations

### “The Experiential Orchestra Approach: Creative Entrepreneurship in the 21st Century”

James will use his success in building the Experiential Orchestra while referencing other successful ensembles and approaches to forging one’s own creative path in today’s musical environment.

### “From Neglected Manuscript to Grammy: The Story of Ethel Smyth’s *The Prison*”

James will describe his five-year journey with this neglected masterpiece, from his first encounter with the score to winning the first-ever Grammy® Award for Smyth’s music.

### “Expanding the American Canon: The African Diaspora Music Project”

James will trace the trajectory of scholarship on composers for orchestra of African descent, including his work with African Diaspora Music Project founder Dr. Louise Toppin in forming the influential database and engraving project that is helping the field expand the soundscape of American music heard in concert hall.

### “Conducting the Music of Arvo Pärt in Consultation with the Arvo Pärt Center”

James will explore the music of Arvo Pärt from a conductor’s perspective, including his collaboration with Michael Pärt, Eric Marinitisch, and Peter Bouteneff, as well as insights from the composer about his own music.

### “Listening as Leadership: A Conductor’s Perspective for how Listening can Change the World Around You”

James leads an engaging 80-minute program that can be tailored for donors, leaders, and others, during which participants will experience listening from the unique perspective of a professional orchestral conductor, learning how it can activate change in their work, bring out the greatness in others, enable them to navigate crises, and expand their capacity to hear multiple points of view.

An additional performance fee for a professional string quartet is required for this presentation.

## Classes

James Blachly offers lectures on a variety of subjects and is also available to participate in curated Q&A discussions. In order to best align with curricular priorities, guest lecture topics are discussed in one 30-minute phone or video conference prior to scheduled lecture.

### James has led educational residency activities for the following institutions:

- New York Philharmonic (clinics for school ensembles from middle school to high school)
- Montclair State University (week-long artist residency, including three hour-long lectures, three seminar appearances and guest conducting Symphony and Wind Symphony)
- Princeton University (guest lecture on Stravinsky’s *Rite of Spring*)
- Carnegie Mellon University (guest conducting Carnegie Mellon Philharmonia and guest conducting opera)
- Oberlin Conservatory (guest lecture, *Listening as Leadership*; guest lecturer on entrepreneurship)
- New England Conservatory (reading session with BMOP and the Lorelei Ensemble of Kati Agocs’ *Debrecen Passion*)
- Boston University, Harvard University, Berklee School of Music, and New England Conservatory (initiated consortium of composer readings)
- Indiana University of Pennsylvania (guest lecturer and guest conductor)
- New Jersey Youth Symphony (guest lecturer and guest conductor)