

Christopher Confessore

Christopher Confessore celebrates his sixteenth season as Music Director and Principal Conductor of the Brevard Symphony Orchestra and his seventh season as Resident Conductor of the Alabama Symphony Orchestra in 2010-2011. During his tenure in Brevard, the orchestra has performed a broad repertoire—including the world premieres of seven compositions commissioned by the orchestra—and enjoyed a dramatic period of artistic growth, increased attendance at all performances, and financial stability. Mr. Confessore joined the Alabama Symphony Orchestra as its Associate Conductor in 2000. His appearances on the ASO's Masterworks series have garnered rave reviews from the Birmingham News for his “special talent for drawing the broadly lyrical out of his orchestra.”

He also leads the orchestra in a wide variety of educational and outreach performances, and serves as Conductor of the Alabama Symphony POPS!

Mr. Confessore's schedule as a guest conductor has included appearances with the Houston Symphony, the Florida Orchestra, the Chattanooga Symphony Orchestra and the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra. He made his international debut in June of 2004, conducting the Sibiu Philharmonic Orchestra in Romania.

During the 1999-2000 Season, Mr. Confessore served as Interim Education and Outreach Conductor of the Houston Symphony, conducting multiple performances on the orchestra's Lollipops, Discovery, and First Concerts series, as well as other community outreach concerts. In June of 2007, he conducted eight

performances on the Houston Symphony's Sounds Like Fun Community Outreach series.

From 1992-2000 Mr. Confessore served as Associate Conductor of the Florida West Coast Symphony in Sarasota. From 1990-1995 he served as Education Director of the Florida West Coast Symphony, administering one of the most intensive orchestral education programs in the country.

Hailed by the Birmingham News as a leader with "firm vision and confidence," Christopher Confessore has accompanied a distinguished list of artists, including Itzhak Perlman, Joshua Bell, Lang Lang, Glenn Dicterow and Carol Wincenc. As a Pops conductor, he has appeared with a diverse group of performers, including Grammy Award winners Art Garfunkel, Roberta Flack, Peabo Bryson, Larry Gatlin and Nanci Griffith, and Tony Award winners Debbie Gravitte and Michael Maguire. In April of 2005, music columnist Mary Colurso of The Birmingham News remarked "Anyone who regards the symphony as stuffy and elitist hasn't been to a SuperPops show when Confessore's in charge. He exudes nice-guy appeal on stage, along with real warmth, a sense of humor and smarts to spare."

Mr. Confessore has studied with internationally acclaimed conductor Leonard Slatkin and has attended workshops and seminars led by Gustav Meier, Harold Farberman, and Lawrence Leighton Smith. He holds a Master of Music degree in Instrumental Conducting from the University of Southern California and the Bachelor of Music degree in Bassoon Performance from Florida State University.