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# News Release

**WIND SYMPHONY**

April 2015

Brigham Young University

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**Artistic Director**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

The Brigham Young University Wind Symphony is led by expert Dr. Donald L. Peterson, director of bands at Brigham Young University. Peterson will direct the Wind Symphony at  (Place)  on  (Date)  at  (Time) .

In keeping with the tradition of concert bands by only using woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments, BYU's Wind Symphony draws from a dynamic repertoire that includes works by composers such as John Philip Sousa, Arthur Sullivan, Dmitiri Kabalevsky, Joseph Turrin, and Dmitiri Shostakovich.

Dr. Peterson received both his B.M. and M.M. degrees in music education from Brigham Young University, followed by a D.M.A. degree in instrumental music/conducting from Arizona State University. Prior to accepting his current position, Dr. Peterson served as Associate Director of Bands, Professor of Music Education and Director of the BYU Marching Band. During his 21-year tenure as the BYU Cougar Marching Band director, Peterson performed for thousands each year, including performances at 14 post-season bowl games.

The Brigham Young University Wind Symphony has performed in China, Taiwan, the Philippines, England, Germany, New Zealand, Australia, Russia, Finland, and the Baltic States. The group is also preparing for an extended tour in May 2015 to perform in Mongolia, South Korea, and Japan. As the Wind Symphony director, Peterson is not unfamiliar with performing abroad, having worked as a conductor, clinician, and adjudicator in 21 states and 12 countries.

The most recent tour for the group was in April and May 2012, where they travelled to Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, and France. They were invited to perform in the 850<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Freiberg, Germany, as well as the Liberation Celebration in Netherlands. They shared the stage with Orkest Orventus at a performance titled "Hands

(more)

**Performing Arts  
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Across the Sea.” The group enchanted audiences, who called for as many as three encores in some cities.

In addition to his conducting, Peterson has published in leading journals, including articles in both *Bandworld Magazine* and *Band Director's Guide*, and has been involved extensively in the research of Russian band music. In 2005, he published an interactive DVD for the study of “Instrumental Rehearsal Techniques”—designed to aid in the development of both prospective music educators and younger professionals. An interesting mesh of profession and hobby—which began when he built batons for his graduating students—has grown into a custom baton service (“Don’s Batons”) with designs that are used by a number of conductors from across the country and in Europe.

A member of the National Band Association, College Band Directors National Association, and Music Educators National Conference, Dr. Peterson also maintains a very active schedule as an adjudicator, clinician, and guest conductor throughout the United States, while continuing to mentor many of his graduates teaching in the public schools. He and his wife Diane reside in Provo, Utah and are the parents of six children.

The Wind Symphony originates in the School of Music of the College of Fine Arts and Communications at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. BYU is one of the nation’s largest private universities with 30,000 students from throughout the United States and 110 foreign countries.

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