



Beyond the Baton: What Every Conductor Needs to Know

By Diane Wittry

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Seasoned conductor Diane Wittry draws a comprehensive roadmap to a successful career in *Beyond the Baton*. With first-hand understanding of how the role of the conductor has changed across the years, she expertly examines the new set of duties--both on and off of the podium--that now fall upon the shoulders of the music director.

From getting a job to fundraising and educational outreach, Wittry's comprehensive tips and strategies guide students and professional conductors alike through the leadership and organizational skills necessary for success. Numerous real-life examples illustrate vital skills for artistic leadership such as programming subscription, pops, and educational concerts; understanding the budget and the music director's role in funding the artistic vision; and presenting speeches, and radio and televised interviews. In informative conversations with the author, successful conductors Leonard Slatkin, Robert Spano, and JoAnn Falletta offer tips from personal experience on how music directors can work successfully with orchestras, and what their roles are with the board and the community.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Being a music director for a symphony orchestra may be a demanding, tension-filled job, but if in the process of doing that job lives can be changed 'for the better,' then it is certainly worth doing well. *Beyond the Baton* will help any music conductor to do so, and that's why Wittry wrote it."-Geary Dahiny, *Norwalk Citizen*

"*Beyond the Baton* is not a text concerned with stick technique or nuances of interpretation. Rather, it is a no-nonsense explanation of the conducting profession with a distinctive philosophy of leadership. I recommend this text enthusiastically and without reservation."--Sean Burton, *Choral Journal*

"This book does a very thorough job of addressing a broad range of issues faced by conductors in the early stages of their careers, thus filling a need in the literature targeting our profession. Topics not addressed in most conducting textbooks, such as job-seeking, programming criteria, and board relations, are all covered with clarity and insight. Highly recommended as a practical resource for young conductors!"--Tonu Kalam, Music Director, University of North Carolina Symphony Orchestra, and President, Conductors Guild

"Wittry has done a wonderful job in producing what is surely a first: a guide to what lies beyond the music in the modern orchestral scene."--Paul Sarcich, *Music and Vision*

"There is much more to a successful conducting career than merely standing on the podium and making music. Diane Wittry has provided a remarkably thorough and thoughtful guide to this unique profession, one that will be of immense value to every aspiring conductor who hopes to work and flourish in American orchestras."--Henry Fogel, President and CEO, American Symphony Orchestra League

About the Author

Diane Wittry is currently the Music Director of both the Allentown and Norwalk Symphony Orchestras and a frequent guest conductor for numerous orchestras, both in the United States and throughout the world. She is the recipient of many honors and awards, including the American Symphony Orchestra League's 1996 Helen M. Thompson Award, which recognized her outstanding artistic leadership with a regional orchestra.

Users Review

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Evelina Lewis:

The particular book *Beyond the Baton: What Every Conductor Needs to Know* has a lot of info on it. So when you make sure to read this book you can get a lot of advantage. The book was written by the very famous author. Tom makes some research just before writing this book. This particular book is very easy to read; you can get the point easily after looking over this book.

Deborah Mazzearella:

In this time of globalization it is important for someone to receive information. The information will make anyone understand the condition of the world. The health of the world makes the information easier to share. You can find a lot of recommendations to get information, for example: internet, newspaper, book, and soon. You will observe that now, a lot of publishers in which print many kinds of books. The book that is recommended for you is *Beyond the Baton: What Every Conductor Needs to Know*; this publication consists of a lot of information with the condition of this world now. This book was represented so why the world has grown up. The terminology styles that the writer uses to explain it are easy to understand. Typically the writer made some study when he made this book. Here is why this book is ideal for all of you.

Lois Bottoms:

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Kevin Pennell:

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