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## Music Director Alexander Treger to conclude AYS Tenure at the end of the 2014-15 Season

**Los Angeles, CA** – After seventeen successful years with the orchestra, Maestro Alexander Treger will step down as the music director at the end of the American Youth Symphony's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season in Spring 2015.

Maestro Treger states: "Working for the last 17 years with so many exceptional young musicians, I have been inspired by their dedication and artistry. It has been a joy to guide them from talented student to professional performer; in fact, it has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my career."

"The southern California classical music community has greatly benefitted from Maestro Treger's AYS tenure," says Kevin Dretzka, Chairman of the AYS Board. "Maestro Treger's talent, knowledge, and command of the repertory has improved the performance level of AYS and provided audiences with inspired concert experiences," says Dretzka.

Treger came to the American Youth Symphony in 1998, succeeding AYS co-founder Maestro Mehli Mehta – the only other Music Director in the 50 year history of this esteemed organization – while maintaining the highest standard of training and performance quality. Treger has garnered numerous accolades for his gifts as an educator, his talent on the podium and, of course, his 36 years at the Los Angeles Philharmonic, which included the concertmaster position. Under his leadership, the American Youth Symphony has performed at Carnegie Hall and Walt Disney Concert Hall and has worked with numerous world-class musicians including Yefim Bronfman, Sarah Chang, Midori, Johannes Moser, Alan Silvestri, and John Williams.



The Symphony will honor Maestro Treger for his years of stellar leadership at the Celebration Concert and Annual Gala on April 26, 2015, where he will lead the orchestra in Tchaikovsky's magnificent 6<sup>th</sup> Symphony, selected by Treger to commemorate this occasion.

The Orchestra's search for its next music director will begin in 2015.

The American Youth Symphony, named "the finest youth symphony on earth," by KUCS's Jim Svejda, is one of the nation's leading pre-professional orchestras. The mission of AYS is to inspire the future of a timeless art form by sharing exceptional, innovative concerts based on its landmark training of musicians ages 15-27. The orchestra provides paid fellowships to musicians representing extraordinary talent from all over the world. AYS concerts are presented free of charge, creating an opportunity for everyone to experience the joy, beauty, and exuberance of remarkable orchestral performances.

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