



# GIRLS WHO CONDUCT

[www.GirlsWhoConduct.org](http://www.GirlsWhoConduct.org)

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## **GIRLS WHO CONDUCT** and Georgia Symphony Orchestra Launch Women Conductor Fellowship Program

In an effort to foster inclusivity in the field of classical music, **Girls Who Conduct** is partnering with the Georgia Symphony Orchestra to launch a new fellowship program for women conductors.

“The aim of the program is to work with aspiring women conductors from all backgrounds and with different experiences, including candidates from minority ethnic communities and those with disabilities, who currently are underrepresented in the field of classical music,” said Girls Who Conductor founder Chaowen Ting. Since its inception, GWC has mentored 50 women conductors from six countries. Ting is also an associate professor of music and Director of Orchestral Studies at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

The GSO’s partnership is a tribute to Betty Shipman Bennett, the GSO’s first conductor, who led the orchestra from 1955 to 1990. “Betty was a trailblazer in the world of symphonic music, when women conductors were a rarity,” GSO Music Director and Conductor Timothy Verville commented.

Up to six fellows will be selected to participate in the program, which will take place throughout the GSO’s full 2021-22 orchestra season. Participants will observe GSO rehearsals, participate in conducting workshops, receive mentorship by GWC members and GSO’s music staff, and engage with GSO education and outreach programs.

### **About Girls Who Conduct**

**Girls Who Conduct** is an initiative created in 2020 to empower and encourage the upcoming generation of women, women-identifying, and non-binary conductors by providing a program for training, mentorship, and camaraderie in order to foster diversity and inclusion in classical music. To learn more about Girls Who Conduct and support their mission, visit [www.girlswhoconduct.org](http://www.girlswhoconduct.org).

### **About the Georgia Symphony Orchestra**

The Georgia Symphony Orchestra is a 71 year old organization comprised of an orchestra, chorus, jazz ensemble, and the Georgia Youth Symphony Orchestra, which is the largest youth orchestra program in the southeast and in the top ten nationally based on size. The mission of the GSO is to enrich our community through accessible, high quality musical and educational experiences that instill a lifelong appreciation for the arts.

