

# Artis—Naples

*Home of The Baker Museum  
and the Naples Philharmonic*

**For Immediate Release: July 29, 2019**

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## **RADU PAPONIU NAMED NAPLES PHILHARMONIC ASSOCIATE CONDUCTOR**

**Naples, Fla.**—Artis—Naples announced this week the promotion of Radu Paponiu to Associate Conductor of the Naples Philharmonic. Paponiu is well-known to Artis—Naples audiences having conducted 38 different classical, pops, dance and education programs since he began his tenure as Assistant Conductor in the fall of 2017.

“Whether he is conducting the Naples Philharmonic, the Naples Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, assisting me or guest conducting around the world, Radu has shown himself to be a thoughtful and talented conductor and musician,” said Music Director Andrey Boreyko. “He is an important part of the Artis—Naples artistic team and we are pleased to recognize his excellent work by naming him Associate Conductor. I look forward to working with him next season in this new role, as I am sure the musicians of the Naples Philharmonic do as well.”

Paponiu recently completed his Master of Music degree in orchestral conducting at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston where he studied with Hugh Wolff. While in Boston, he was also conductor apprentice with the Handel and Haydn Society, assisting Harry Christophers and Richard Egarr. For two consecutive summers, Paponiu furthered his studies in conducting at the American Academy of Conducting in Aspen, Colorado, where he worked with Robert Spano, Leonard Slatkin, Larry Rachleff, Patrick Summers and Federico Cortese. Additionally, Paponiu has completed both a Bachelor of Music degree and an Artist Diploma degree in violin performance at the Colburn Conservatory in Los Angeles, where he studied with Robert Lipsett.

Paponiu has appeared as guest conductor for concerts with the the North Carolina Symphony, the Colorado Music Festival Orchestra, the National Repertory Orchestra, the Transylvania State Philharmonic Orchestra and participated in a conducting workshop with the New World Symphony led by Michael Tilson Thomas. He has served on the conducting faculty for the Juilliard School Pre-College Division in New York, and he has also served as cover conductor for the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, the St. Louis Symphony and the Konzerthausorchester Berlin.

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### **About ARTIS—NAPLES**

Artis—Naples is the premier organization for the visual and performing arts in Southwest Florida. We are driven to inspire, educate and entertain by presenting world-class events that enrich our community. With the generous support of our patrons, we offer a unique range of programs including music, film, dance, comedy, lectures and exhibitions featuring internationally acclaimed artists. Our interdisciplinary approach cultivates a broader appreciation for art in its many forms.

The 8.5-acre Kimberly K. Querrey and Louis A. Simpson Cultural Campus includes two performance halls, Frances Pew Hayes Hall and Myra J. Daniels Pavilion, The Baker Museum and the Stabile Education building.

Led by CEO and President Kathleen van Bergen and Sharon and Timothy Ubben Music Director Andrey Boreyko, the organization offers audiences more than 800 paid and free events annually. Artis—Naples welcomes 300,000-plus visitors each year for a broad array of artistic and educational opportunities.

#### **NAPLES PHILHARMONIC**

The Naples Philharmonic has long been recognized as one of the cornerstones of Southwest Florida's arts community. The orchestra performs more than 140 orchestral and chamber music concerts, as well as opera and ballet, education, community and special event concerts annually between September and June. In 2009, Jack Everly was named Principal Pops Conductor and continues today in that role.

#### **THE BAKER MUSEUM**

The Baker Museum is one of the foremost fine arts museums in Southwest Florida. The museum hosts several traveling exhibitions annually to complement installations of works from its permanent collections. Comprising more than 3,500 objects, the museum's broad holdings of 20th and 21st-century art reflect the generosity and commitment of area collectors. Of particular strength are the museum's collections of American and Mexican modern art.

#### **EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY**

In addition to creating and presenting visual and performing arts, Artis—Naples provides robust education and community activities for students of all ages. More than 45,000 students from Collier County Public Schools interact with Artis—Naples education programming each year both on its cultural campus and in classrooms. Each year, the Lifelong Learning program provides engaging lectures and study opportunities for 7,000-plus adults seeking to engage more deeply with the arts.

The Friends of Artis—Naples, with over 4,000 members, offers activities, travel experiences and events geared toward fostering a deeper relationship between patrons and the arts.

In 2017, Artis—Naples acquired the Naples International Film Festival (NIFF), expanding its film offerings and providing a platform for the festival's continued excellence and growth.

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