



Press Release  
For Immediate Release  
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As the Greater New Orleans Youth Orchestras reflects on 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary East Coast Tour to Carnegie Hall it is fitting that we highlight some of the accomplishments of the tour. Our East Coast Tour was a huge success. GNOYO performed in Charleston SC, Williamsburg VA, Washington D.C. Philadelphia PA and at Carnegie Hall in New York N.Y. In each city the GNOYO musicians gave an amazing performance and the audience was entertained, enlightened and engaged. GNOYO was honored to have pianist Caleb Borick join us on tour. A 12-year-old native of Charleston S.C., Caleb is a pianist who displays an inspiring level of maturity and musicianship.

GNOYO musicians, accompanying parents, and staff also experienced some of the local history and culture in the tour cities. In Charleston S.C. the tour group visited Historical Fort Sumter, where the Civil War began. In Colonial Williamsburg, VA, the GNOYO tour members were transported back to the eighteenth century where they glimpsed life in the colony. In New York City, the tour group enjoyed the Tony-Award-winning musical the King and I at Lincoln Center.

Finally, on Sunday June 28, GNOYO musicians arrived at the world famous Carnegie Hall in New York City. The students grasped the magnitude of the once-in-a-lifetime experience immediately upon entering Isaac Stern Auditorium which has hosted music legends such as Leonard Bernstein, Aaron Copland, Judy Garland, Frank Sinatra, and the Beatles. The performance represented the spectrum of classical and jazz styles and included a commissioned piece by New Orleans composer Michael Rihner entitled "New Orleans Symphonic Dances." The piece depicts a variety of dances from the cultural heritage of our region and culminates with a Mardi Gras tune. New Orleans jazz legend, Dr. Michael White joined the orchestra on stage and surprised and delighted the audience with his improvisation. The GNOYO musicians gave the performance of their lives and made Carnegie Hall history by bringing the taste of our vibrant culture through our music, an audience second line and the gift of Mardi Gras beads. The concert concluded with a rousing standing ovation. The group ended this unforgettable day with a dinner cruise that toured New York Harbor and displayed beautiful views of the Statue of Liberty and the Lower Manhattan Skyline.

The success of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary East Coast Tour to Carnegie Hall would not have been possible without the support of many different individuals and groups. The Greater

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