

Mr. Michael R. Gagliardo



Michael R. Gagliardo was named the second Music Director and Conductor of the Etowah Youth Orchestras in August of 1995. Since his appointment, he has led the EYO to national recognition, including the receipt of eleven ASCAP Awards for Programming of Contemporary Music; the 2006 ASCAP Award for American Programming on Foreign Tours; and "Best In Class" Awards for the ensembles of the EYO at the 1998 Gateway New Orleans, 1999 Gateway Myrtle Beach, 2001 Gateway New Orleans, and 2003 Gateway New Orleans Music Festivals. The EYO was also selected to represent the State of Alabama in the first Continental Harmony Project of the American Composers Forum.

Under Mr. Gagliardo's direction, the Orchestras have performed numerous concerts throughout the United States, Europe, and Central America, including domestic tours throughout the Southeast, the Midwest, the MidAtlantic, and the Northeast, and international tours to England and Costa Rica. Other appearances by the ensembles of the EYO include the American Honor Orchestra Conference, the Summer Teachers' Institute of the Rock And Roll Hall Of Fame And Museum, the Arts Advocacy Day 2000 Conference, the National ASTA Conference, the Alabama Music Educators Association Conference; and "by-invitation" performances at Carnegie Hall, the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and for joint sessions of the Alabama State Legislature. He will lead the EYO in its fourth performance in New York City at Roseland Ballroom in December 2011 with the Downtown Dance Conservatory. The Etowah Youth Orchestras have also commissioned and performed the world premieres of almost 40 works, and have released four compilation compact disc recordings, plus numerous complete live concert recordings, under Mr. Gagliardo's leadership. The latest EYO recording, "A Rock And Roll Christmas" featuring the Etowah Youth Symphony Orchestra, was released in November of 2007. Mr. Gagliardo has also been

featured with the EYO in two documentaries for Alabama Public Television. In addition to his duties with the Etowah Youth Orchestras, Mr. Gagliardo served for nine years as Music Director and Conductor of the Jacksonville State University/Community Orchestra and adjunct faculty member at Jacksonville State University.

Before arriving in Alabama, Mr. Gagliardo served for two years as the Principal Conductor and Administrator of the Youth Symphony Orchestra of East Central Indiana, housed at Ball State University. While at Ball State, he also was appointed Assistant Conductor of the Ball State Symphony Orchestra, and Principal Conductor for the School of Music's Composers' Forums and Student Composition Recitals. He premiered a total of 19 new works, and was awarded the School of Music's Citizenship Award, recognizing his service to the School, in April of 1995.

In all, Mr. Gagliardo has performed the premieres of almost 60 works. He has served as Guest Conductor of the 2009 and 1997 Alabama All-State Orchestra Festival, the 2008 Colorado All-State Orchestra Festival, the 2003 All-West Tennessee Honor Orchestra Festival Senior Orchestra, the Eastern Illinois University/Community Orchestra, and the Alton and Wood River Municipal Bands. He will appear with the Gadsden (AL) Symphony Orchestra in February 2011. He has also taught Music Theory and Composition, and has worked in marketing and production for the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. Gagliardo received a Bachelor of Music Degree in Music Education from Eastern Illinois University, where he graduated from the University Honors Program Cum Laude, and a Master of Music Degree in Orchestral Conducting from Ball State University. He was named Outstanding Young Alumnus of Eastern Illinois University for 1997, and Outstanding Alumnus of the School of Music at Ball State University in 2011. He was appointed President of the Alabama Orchestra Association in February of 1999, a position that he served in until May of 2003, and was a member of the Youth Orchestra Division Board of the League of American Orchestras from 1995-2001. He served as the President of the Alabama State Chapter of the American String Teachers Association from March of 2004 until May of 2006, and was named Outstanding String Teacher for the State ASTA Chapter in 2007. He has served as a presenter at the League of American Orchestras' National Conference, the Rock & Roll Hall Of Fame's Summer Teacher's Institute, the Alabama Music Educators Association Conference, and the ASTA National Conference. Mr. Gagliardo was awarded Citations for Leadership & Merit by ASTA in 2007 and 2010, and served as the Chair of the 2010 National High School Honors Orchestra for ASTA. He also served as the Green Paper Project Ambassador for ASTA and Americans for the Arts. He is currently a member of the National Advocacy Committee for ASTA, and in December 2010 was elected to a three-year term on the Arts Education Council for Americans for the Arts.

Mr. Gagliardo is the founder and CEO of Wonder Dog Press and Daphne Roo Music, publishing houses which specialize in the publication of children's literature and orchestral music for community, youth, and school orchestras. Mr. Gagliardo is also active in the community, having served as the President of the Board Of Directors of the Humane Society of Etowah County from 2005 to 2008, and serving on the Board of Directors of the Theatre of Gadsden. He was

presented with the Richard Malone Humanitarian Award by the Humane Society of Etowah County in 2009.

Mr. Roland Lister



Mr. Roland Lister is the Associate Conductor of the Etowah Youth Orchestras. In this capacity he serves as the Principal Conductor of the June Moore Bugg Prelude Strings and the Etowah String Philharmonic, and Director of the EYO's Summer Strings Camp. He also serves as the instructor for the EYO's Beginning and Intermediate Strings Program in the Etowah County and Attalla City School Systems. He holds a B.S. degree in Music Education from Jacksonville State University and a Masters degree in School Administration from the University of Alabama. He has studied viola with Mary Ann Noble and Roger James of the Alabama Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Lister taught instrumental music in the Gadsden City School System for thirty years, spending twenty years as a string orchestra director. In 1978 Mr. Lister organized and conducted the Gadsden City School System's first full symphony orchestra. He continued as an orchestra conductor until he retired in 1998 to work with the EYO. In 2000 Mr. Lister served as the conductor of the Premiere String Orchestra at the Alabama All-State Orchestra Festival. In 2003 he was chosen as conductor of the All-West Tennessee String Orchestra in Memphis. Mr. Lister conducted performances of the Etowah Youth Orchestra at Carnegie Hall in 2002 and again in 2007. He also conducted the orchestra at the Royal Elizabethan Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford, England. His string orchestra has presented a concert for the Alabama Music Educators Conference and he has twice served as a clinician for the conference. In 2007 Mr. Lister was selected as Teacher of the Year by the Alabama chapter of ASTA, and was inducted into the Alabama Music Educators Hall of Fame in 2009.