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**Gustavo Dudamel To Be Awarded
Leonard Bernstein Lifetime Achievement Award
By Longy School of Music of Bard College
At “Sistema Side by Side” Open Rehearsal and Gala**

March 22, 2014 | MIT’s Kresge Auditorium

Cambridge, MA: [Longy School of Music of Bard College](#) will award its prestigious Leonard Bernstein Lifetime Achievement Award to Los Angeles Philharmonic Music Director and Grammy Award-winning conductor Gustavo Dudamel on March 22 at MIT’s Kresge Auditorium. The award will be presented by Longy President Karen Zorn after an open rehearsal of the “Sistema Side by Side” orchestra conducted by Maestro Dudamel. The orchestra is comprised of 60 children from Sistema programs in Massachusetts, members of the Longy Conservatory Orchestra, and, as special guests for this date only, 10 musicians from Youth Orchestra Los Angeles ([YOLA](#)), who are making a first-ever trip to Boston for the weekend. The open rehearsal will be followed by a celebratory party to congratulate the musicians and their families, and to raise funds in support of Longy’s mission to prepare musicians to make a difference in the world and to bring music education to underserved communities.

The Leonard Bernstein Lifetime Achievement Award for the Elevation of Music in Society was authorized by the Bernstein family and established by Longy in 2000, and has celebrated great artists such as Eileen Farrell, Marilyn Horne, Leonard Slatkin, Mark Morris, Leon Botstein and Gunther Schuller. With this award, Longy recognizes an artistic leader whose life has been dedicated to inspiring and enriching lives through music. The Bernstein laureate, whether as a performer or teacher, exemplifies how music can lift spirits, raise the level of culture in society, and transform lives. Bernstein’s daughter, writer and broadcaster Jamie Bernstein, will be present to highlight the relationship of Maestro Dudamel’s career as artist and advocate for El Sistema in relation to her father’s artistry and legacy of accessibility to arts education.

The afternoon is a celebratory occasion for Longy, a Cambridge-based conservatory that has become a leading proponent in the U.S. of El Sistema, as it publicly launches its Sistema Side by Side music initiative modeled on El Sistema, the unique program from Venezuela designed to effect social change in underserved communities through intensive, ensemble-focused music education. Young musicians from El Sistema programs, or “nucleos,” in the Boston area gather at Longy and are mentored by Longy conservatory students. The Longy students are in turn mentored in their teaching by members of the Longy faculty, many of whom came up through El Sistema programs in Venezuela and have deep experience in this approach.

The open rehearsal with Maestro Dudamel on March 22 is made possible by a collaboration among Longy, Celebrity Series of Boston, and the Los Angeles Philharmonic. The event will take place as part of

[TAKE A STAND](#), Longy's partnership with the LA Phil dedicated to supporting social change through music. Longy and Celebrity Series of Boston, who is presenting the LA Phil's Symphony Hall performance on March 23, are in their second year of a musical debut series partnership that offers Longy students the opportunity to engage with featured Celebrity Series artists.

A limited number of free tickets are available to the public on a first-come basis on the day of the performance. To guarantee a seat to the open rehearsal, tickets to [Longy's 2014 Side by Side Celebration](#) can be purchased. A select number of press passes and invites to the post-concert reception are available. Contact Dayla@DaylaArabella.com if you are interested in covering this event. Check out this [preview](#) of what you'll see on March 22.

About Gustavo Dudamel

Dynamic conductor Gustavo Dudamel's passionate music making invigorates audiences of all ages worldwide. He is concurrently serving as Music Director of the Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra of Venezuela and the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and the impact of his musical leadership is felt on four continents. While his commitment to his music director posts in the United States and Venezuela accounts for the major portion of his yearly schedule, Dudamel also guest conducts with some of the world's greatest musical institutions each season, such as the Vienna Philharmonic, the Berlin Philharmonic, and La Scala in both opera and concert.

Dudamel is in his fifth season as Music Director of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, where his contract has already been extended until 2018/2019, the orchestra's 100th season. Under his leadership the Los Angeles Philharmonic has extended its reach to an unprecedented extent via LA Phil LIVE to audiences throughout North America, Europe, and South America, and through Youth Orchestra LA (YOLA), which was widely influenced by Venezuela's successful *El Sistema*.

Gustavo Dudamel is one of the most decorated conductors of his generation and was recently named *Musical America's* 2013 Musician of the Year. Born in 1981 in Barquisimeto, Venezuela, his early musical and mentoring experiences molded his commitment to music as an engine for social change – a lifelong passion. In 2012, Gustavo and Eloísa Dudamel launched The Dudamel Foundation, which is dedicated to furthering music education and social justice around the world. (www.gustavodudamel.com)

About Longy School of Music of Bard College

[Longy School of Music of Bard College](#), founded as Longy School of Music in 1915 by renowned oboist Georges Longy, is a degree-granting Conservatory located in Harvard Square in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The school serves 250 undergraduate and graduate students from 37 states and 20 countries at our central Cambridge campus and recently opened Master of Arts in Teaching campus in Los Angeles, California. Longy's mission is to prepare musicians to make a difference in the world, and it is rapidly gaining international recognition for its efforts to meet a changing musical landscape head-on, giving its classically trained graduates the skills to perform, the ambition to teach, and the ability to reach new audiences and new communities beyond those traditionally associated with classical music.

About Take a Stand

TAKE A STAND, a partnership between the Los Angeles Philharmonic and Longy School of Music of Bard College, supports social change through music, provides a national platform for pioneering educators, and advances work in music education within the United States, inspired by Venezuela's *El Sistema*. The bi-coastal alliance leverages the synergies of the LA Phil's robust existing program YOLA (Youth Orchestra Los Angeles), and Longy School of Music of Bard College's experience in developing renowned academic and socially based training programs, and role as a leader in progressive and rigorous training

for performing and teaching musicians. Based on the El Sistema model, *TAKE A STAND* seeks to unite music programs throughout the U.S., providing leaders with tools for growth through a series of conferences and workshops, and creating a pipeline of music teachers to be trained via the launch of a new Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) in Music degree program, all based in Los Angeles.

Press Inquiries

Interviews, Press Passes & High
Resolution Images

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Open Rehearsal Info

MIT Kresge Auditorium

March 22, 2014

Tickets & Information:

www.longy.edu

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