

Julius P. Williams Bio sep 2023

JULIUS P. WILLIAMS, conductor, composer is an award-winning conductor, composer, recording artist, educator, author and pianist. named **Musical America's Top 30 Professionals of the Year for 2022**. His career has taken him from his native New York to musical venues around the globe, and has involved virtually every musical genre. Maestro Williams Carnegie Hall conducting debut was with the "Symphony Saint Paulia" Inaugural concerts in New York. He has conducted American Orchestras in Dallas, Oakland, New Haven, New Jersey, Hartford, Akron, Vermont, Knoxville, Sacramento, Paducah, Norwalk, Tulsa, Oklahoma, Savannah, Harlem Symphony, Color of Music Festival Orchestra, and New Works Orchestra in addition, other career highlights include serving as Music Director of the Washington Symphony (1998-2003) which was the official Orchestra of Washington, DC. He was also the Conductor of the Pulitzer Prize performance of Anthony Davis Opera Central Park Five/Five originally premiering and preparing the work For Trilogy An Opera company.

His other past positions include, Artistic Director of the Music Festival of the Costa de Sol in Spain, and Artistic Director of the School of Choral Studies of New York State Summer School of the Arts for Ten seasons, He has conducted on tour with the Oberlin Conservatory Opera and the Cleveland Opera Theater receiving rave reviews for the performances of the Opera "Harriett Tubman". He was a Guest Conductor with the One World Festival Orchestra in Virginia in 2019 and on Labor Day 2019 and he conducted a Gala performance with the Dallas Symphony at the Black Academy Third Annual Riverfest Festival in Dallas Texas. In the past, he has served as Assistant Conductor to the late Maestro Lucas Foss with The Brooklyn Philharmonic and with The American Symphony in New York. He is currently Artistic Director and Conductor of the Berklee Contemporary Symphony Orchestra in Boston at the Berklee College of Music and Music Director and Conductor of the Trilogy An Opera Company in New Jersey, and Currently Immediate Past President of the International Conductors Guild and Co Chair of the League of American Orchestras Conductors Constituency additionally, he served as Composer with the Boston Symphony Orchestra "Composer In Residence, Project" (2018-20) as well as a cover (understudy) conductor to the Boston Pops Orchestra (BSO) in Boston and he has served as a cover conductor to the Rhode Island Philharmonic. Most recently he was the conductor of the Academy Award eligible film Sky Blossom in 2021. In the 2021 season he was selected as a guest conductor of the Color of Music Festival in South Carolina featuring the wonderful artist Vanessa Williams and he appeared with the Inner City Youth Orchestra at the League of American Orchestras National Conference and this past season included the Color of Music Festival Orchestra in Sacramento and the concert series at the Gardner Museum

in Boston, and this past summer he appeared with the Monteux Festival in Maine as guest conductor and teacher and Sinfónica Juvenil José Joaquín De Olmedo as a Guest Conductor, Ecuador, July 2023, in the 2023-2024 season subscription concert he will appear with the Buffalo Philharmonic in October.

In Europe, Maestro Williams has performed and recorded with The Prague Radio Symphony, The Moscow Conservatory Symphony Orchestra, Principal Military Orchestra of the Defense Ministry of the Russian Federation, The Dvorak Symphony Orchestra, The Volvodanksa Symphony of Serbia, The Dubrovnik Symphony of Croatia, The Brno State Philharmonic, The Bohuslav-Martinu Philharmonic Orchestra, and The Music Festival of the Costa del Sol, Spain.

A prolific composer, Maestro Williams has created works for virtually every genre of contemporary classical performance, including opera, ballet, orchestra, chamber ensemble, chorus and solo voice, dance, musical theatre and film. His music has been performed by countless symphony orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, Cleveland Orchestra, Detroit Symphony, St Louis Symphony, Boston Pops, Richmond Symphony, Hartford symphony and in the coming seasons the Boston Symphony will perform his "Songs for My Culture" for Chamber Orchestra. He has also served as Composer-in-Residence of Connecticut's Nutmeg Ballet Company, which premiered his ballet, "Cinderella". The opera "Guinevere" was performed at the Aspen Music Festival and at Dubrovnik Music Festival in Croatia. He was composer of the score for the film "What Color is Love?" and he also scored the theatrical production to "In Dahomey". His Cantata "A Journey to Freedom" for the Reston Chorale and Festival Orchestra in Virginia was recorded on his Album "Somewhere Far Away" 2009 on the Albany Record label. He composed the music "Dreams" for the Boston Children's Choir "raising the roof concert": concert televised on National Critically acclaimed television and recorded on their 2010 CD. and was recently commissioned to write the music to the score to Those Heroes Who Healed a Nation for the dedication of the Shaw 54th regiment memorial performed in 2022 by the Boston's Children's Chorus and at the 2022 Boston Pops July 4 Spectacular performed the World Premiere orchestral version on National Television with the Tanglewood Festival Chorus and the Boston Pops conducted by Keith Lockhart. He also was commissioned and wrote the Music for the jazz, Dance, and Voice Department for the One Hundred Anniversary of the Hartt School of Music University of Hartford.

Julius Williams' discography includes the critically acclaimed "Symphonic Brotherhood" a collection of African-American symphonic music, "Shades of Blue," "The New American Romanticism," Somewhere Far Away, Places in Time, The American Soloist and Midnight Tolls, all available on the Albany Records label.

"Moments of Arrival" on Centaur Records and "The Bird That Wants to Fly" a children opera on Naxos/Roven Records. In 2021 his newest recordings Songs of Love and Justice was released on the Albany Record Label. In 2024 two new albums of orchestral music will be released on the albany record label. His recordings are on the Albany, Centaur, Naxos and Videmus Record labels.

In addition to his conducting and composing careers, Williams maintains a demanding schedule of speaking engagements, consulting and academics. A dedicated educator, Williams has served on the faculties of Wesleyan University, The University of Hartford, and The University of Vermont. He has been Visiting Conductor of Orchestra at Skidmore College in Saratoga, NY, Affiliate Artist-Teacher of Composition at Purchase College of the State University of New York, and Co-Director of Videmus Records, and Visiting Associate Professor and Jessie Ball Dupont Scholar at Shenandoah University and Conservatory in Virginia. He is presently Professor of Composition and Artistic Director/conductor of the Contemporary Orchestra at the Berklee College of Music in Boston, Massachusetts and Immediate Past President of the International Conductors Guild and Music Director of Trilogy An Opera Company. Julius Williams' educational consulting and speaking engagements has included, The Tchaikovsky Conservatory in Moscow Russia and The Shanghai Conservatory in China where he served as the first American Adjudicator of the Rivers Music Competition. The League of American Symphony Orchestras as Co Chair of the Conductors Constituency, he also has served on The Advisory Panel of the National Endowment for the Arts (USA) and judge for the ASCAP Nissim prize and the Adjudication Committee for the Fulbright Awards, and Educational Consultant to the Norwalk Symphony in Connecticut and He recently has serves as Guest Curator for the Sirius XM Program "Living American" Program.

Julius P. Williams is the recipient of awards for musical and academic achievement including an Honorary Doctorate from Keene State College in New Hampshire , The Detroit Symphony "Emerging Composer Award", The Gracie Allen Documentary Award, The Distinguished Medal of Artistic Achievement of the Ecuador Youth Symphony Orchestra Foundation, The Honorary Distinguished Alumnus Award of Langston University, Marquis Who's Who Lifetime Achievement Award 2017, proclamations from the City of Newark New Jersey from the mayor and council for his artistic contribution 2023. The National Culture of the Arts Award of the Association of Foreign Language Teachers of New York and he has also received ASCAP Awards in Composition for the past forty years. Julius P. Williams has been featured on National Television as a feature Artist profiled on CBS News Sunday Morning.