



**News Release | April 9, 2018**

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## The Florida Orchestra announces winner of Student Composer Competition

*Orchestra will premiere work on Masterworks concert in May*



ST. PETERSBURG, FL – The Florida Orchestra has chosen Florida Atlantic University undergrad David Browne as the winner of its Student Composer Competition. TFO will premiere his short work, *Shattered Clock Fanfare*, on the final concerts of the Masterworks series at three major halls in Tampa Bay in May.

In honor of The Florida Orchestra's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, TFO expanded the competition this year to include universities across Florida; last year's contest focused only on students at the University of South Florida in Tampa. The competition aligns with TFO's Florida Fanfare Project, which premiered the short works of five Florida music professors on Masterworks concerts in the 2017/18 season.

Browne, 22, is a senior majoring in commercial music/composition at FAU's Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters in Boca Raton. He also plays trombone and was a member of the Florida Singing Sons Boychoir for a decade. He will receive a \$1,000 honorarium for his win.

"*Shattered Clock Fanfare* is a musical depiction of a recurring dream I had as a child wherein I was forever lost in a universe where time never existed," Browne said in his artist statement.

"Throughout this piece you will hear sounds depicting heroic misadventure as well as a sense of wonder not unfamiliar to those who have ever dared to dream," he continued. The strings carry the main melody, conveying an "overall feeling of fascination."

"The boisterous and loud sections are meant to be as such, and the more sparse, intermittent sections are acting as both a reprieve and transition from one fanfare section to another," he said. "This shift in energy ... is essential to the piece's identity."

Someday Browne hopes to compose for video games, media, and professional ensembles of all sorts. After he graduates in the fall 2018 semester, he plans to compose, produce and build a portfolio of classical works and electronic music with an eye toward graduate school.

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The competition underscored TFO's commitment to education and offered an unusual opportunity for young composers to write for an orchestra, which also fits with Music Director Michael Francis' penchant for nurturing young talent. A panel of TFO staff and musicians narrowed the student finalists to three based on an artist statement, score, short electronic audio file of the work and a resume. The orchestra played through the works, each 5 minutes or less, in February. Maestro Francis had the final say on the winner.

The other finalists were Eric Delgado, a master's student at the University of Miami's Frost School of Music, and Trevor J. Smith, a master's student at Florida Atlantic University.

The Florida Orchestra, conducted by Maestro Francis, will premiere *Shattered Clock Fanfare* on the season finale of its Tampa Bay Times Masterworks series, which also features Beethoven's *Pastoral Symphony* and Brahms' *Piano Concerto No. 2*, on May 18-20 at the Straz Center in Tampa, Mahaffey Theater in St. Petersburg and Ruth Eckerd Hall in Clearwater. [Click here for concert information.](#)

Browne has composed multiple works for small ensembles, but this was his first experience writing for an orchestra.

"Having had my piece read by the orchestra in February, I came to truly understand that exciting opportunities like this only come so many times in a career if you're lucky," Browne said. "The talent and accommodating attitude presented by The Florida Orchestra and staff have been utterly astounding."

For more Florida Orchestra news and features, [click here for the TFO Blog.](#)

### [About The Florida Orchestra](#)

*Celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the 2017/18 season, The Florida Orchestra is recognized as Tampa Bay's leading performing arts institution, the largest professional symphony orchestra in Florida, and one of the most vibrant and innovative orchestras in America. Under the leadership of Music Director Michael Francis, it performs more than 130 concerts a season, with series of classical, popular, and morning coffee concerts in Tampa, St. Petersburg and Clearwater, as well as free Pops in the Park concerts. Dedicated to bringing music to all people, connecting to the community is a priority, with pre-concert talks, family and youth concerts and other educational activities. Kids and teens get in free to classical Masterworks concerts with Classical Kids tickets. To subscribe or buy tickets: 727.892.3337 or 1.800.662.7286; floridaorchestra.org.*