

THE PHIL AND ELI TAYLOR PERFORMANCE ACADEMY FOR YOUNG ARTISTS Fact Sheet

- On April 4, 2013, The Royal Conservatory announced a transformational gift of \$2.5 million from Phil and Eli Taylor. In honour of their extraordinary contribution, The Young Artists Performance Academy was renamed **The Phil and Eli Taylor Performance Academy for Young Artists (The Taylor Academy)**.
- The Taylor Academy provides highly-gifted music students aged nine to 18 with formal, structured training and mentoring. The Taylor Academy's students represent Canada's most promising young talent, and its disciplined programs aim to ensure the maximisation of their musical gifts.
- Founded in 1991 to formalize The Royal Conservatory's existing program for extraordinary young musicians.
- Faculty consists of internationally-acclaimed performers, teachers, and scholars dedicated to providing students of The Taylor Academy with the highest standards of training and evaluation.
- The Taylor Academy's maximum enrolment of 100 students ensures small classes and encourages supportive relationships with teachers.
- Students are selected through an audition process each year. Students returning to The Taylor Academy must re-audition each year.
- The extensive Master Class program at The Taylor Academy sees more than 50 classes each year, featuring world-class artists interacting with students in The Royal Conservatory's three superb performance spaces.
- Recent Master Class artists include Emanuel Ax, James Ehnes, Andrés Díaz, Colin Carr, Jonathan Crow, John O'Connor, and Robert McDonald.
- Students benefit from performance opportunities at The Royal Conservatory's three performance spaces, including the breathtaking 1,135-seat Koerner Hall, as well as at top-tier venues across Toronto.

- Every student of The Taylor Academy receives scholarship support to reduce the financial burden associated with high-level, comprehensive classical training.
- Alumni of The Taylor Academy have established important careers as solo performers, orchestral and chamber musicians, and recording artists.
- Alumni include: former First Violin of the Tokyo String Quartet Martin Beaver, Gryphon Trio co-founder and cellist Roman Borys, violinist Yi-Jia Susanne Hou, singers Robert Gleadow and Robert Pomakov, pianists Stewart Goodyear and Jan Lisiecki, orchestral musician Mariko Anraku (Associate Principal Harpist, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra), as well as members of the St. Lawrence String Quartet.
- Director of The Phil and Eli Taylor Performance Academy for Young Artists is Barry Shiffman.

For more information on The Phil and Eli Taylor Performance Academy for Young Artists or The Royal Conservatory, please contact:

Jeff Embleton – Manager, Publicity
416.408.2824 ext. 461
jeff.embleton@rcmusic.ca