

emerging leaders program

League
of American
Orchestras



Photo Credit: Anna Sykes

Brian Precht

Percussionist
Baltimore Symphony Orchestra
Baltimore, Maryland

A member of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra since 2003, prior to that Brian Precht spent 14 seasons as a member of the Fort Wayne Philharmonic and before that held Principal Percussion positions in the Columbus Symphony and the Toledo Symphony Orchestras. Since 1992 he has spent summers in Jackson Hole, Wyoming as a performer in the Grand Teton Music Festival. He graduated with high distinction from the University of Michigan in 1984 with a Bachelor of Music and earned his Master of Music from Temple University in 1986, where he studied with members of the Philadelphia Orchestra and performed as a substitute player in Philadelphia.

Education is a major focus. Mr. Precht has been a leader in BSO's outreach program, OrchKids, since its inception 11 years ago. He teaches percussion and his "bucket band" program has served as a model for El Sistema programs across the country. He recently published "Bucket Band Basics," a primer for teaching artists, and in 2016 was awarded a *Ford Award for Excellence in Community Service* from the League of American Orchestras for his work in OrchKids.

An active composer, he has had world premiere performances at the Grand Teton Music Festival, Eastman School of Music, Colorado Symphony Orchestra and in Baltimore. He has won composition prizes from the Percussive Arts Society and the College Music Society. Since 2011 he has served as the composer in residence for the Community Concerts at Second Chamber Music Series. He recently produced a CD of his compositions for music and the spoken word, which are settings of Walt Whitman's Poetry from *Leaves of Grass*.

Very active in orchestra governance, Brian currently serves as co-chair of the BSO Musicians Players' Committee and has been pivotal in leading throughout the recent lockout and the ensuing resolution, which have allowed the Baltimore Symphony Musicians to return to the stage. He also serves as union steward and ICSOM Delegate.

