

## Jason Love

Conductor and cellist **Jason Love** leads the Columbia Orchestra in his twelfth year as Music Director, the fourth person to have held that post in its thirty-four seasons. Praised for his “intelligent and innovative programming,” the *Baltimore Sun* has called the orchestra “Howard County’s premier ensemble for instrumental music,” noting that “Love has the musicians playing not only with verve and passion, but with an awareness to enter into the emotional core of the works they perform.”

Love’s thirteen-year tenure as Artistic Director and Conductor of the Greater Baltimore Youth Orchestras was marked by continuous growth in the success and prestige of this organization. He commissioned new works, forged partnerships with other arts organizations, extended the orchestra’s community outreach programs and conducted highly successful tours of Austria, Japan, and Russia. Under his guidance the organization’s *Bridges* program began providing instruments, lessons, and orchestra for students who would not otherwise have any access to string instruction.

As a conductor and cellist, Mr. Love served for five years as Music Director for the New Horizons Chamber Ensemble, a contemporary music group based in Baltimore, MD. Under his leadership, the NHCE gave dozens of local and world premieres and became a unique resource for contemporary music in the area.

Mr. Love is also active as a cellist, performing frequently in Maryland and across the United States on a cello made in 2007 by Lawrence Wilke. He has performed a wide array of concertos with orchestra including the North Carolina premiere of Tan Dun’s multi-media work, *The Map*, and his chamber music collaborations include his work with the Columbia Orchestra Piano Trio featuring Concertmaster Brenda Anna and pianist Nancy Smith.

A highly respected educator, Mr. Love also served as Conductor of the Chesapeake Youth Repertory Orchestra in Annapolis, MD for four years. In his eleven years on the faculty of the Governor’s School of North Carolina he taught Twentieth-Century music, philosophy, and other subjects to academically gifted high school students. For the past four summers he has led the McDaniel Orchestra Camp in Westminster, MD.

Love has guest conducted a wide variety of ensembles such as the Baltimore Symphony, Washington Sinfonietta, Hopkins Chamber Orchestra, Bismarck-Mandan Symphony, Maryland Classic Youth Orchestra Chamber Orchestra, and RUCKUS, a contemporary music ensemble at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County where he also teaches conducting. Aside from classical music he performs with singer-songwriter Angela Taylor, and is collaborating with the artist Sahffi on her upcoming album.

Born in Burlington, North Carolina, Love studied violoncello with Ronald Thomas and conducting with Frederik Prausnitz at the Peabody Conservatory. He is Past President of the Peabody Alumni Association and is the 2008 Winner of the "Howie" Outstanding Artist Award which recognizes achievement in the arts in Howard County, Maryland.