

Bucharest Symphony Names New Principal Conductor

American conductor John Axelrod will step into
the role

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(Photo credit: Istvan Kohan)

Alongside the **Bucharest Symphony Orchestra** (BSO) role, **John Axelrod** will maintain his position as Principal Guest Conductor of the City of Kyoto Symphony Orchestra.

The BSO was founded privately by the Romanian cultural organization, **Philson Young Foundation**, giving it the freedom to make decisions about programming and concert presentation without the usual financial constraints. Axelrod will succeed the BSO's previous Principal Conductor **Jin Wang**, who has led the group since 2017.

Axelrod graduated from **Harvard University** in 1988. Prior to this, he completed individual conducting study with **Leonard Bernstein**. Afterward, he studied with **Ilya Musin** at the St Petersburg Conservatory and was mentored by **Christoph Eschenbach** between 1997 and 2000.

"Private, flexible and free to make music — a new orchestra model for the future?" said Axelrod of the BSO. "I am deeply honored to work with my esteemed colleagues of the Orchestra Simfonică București - Bucharest Symphony Orchestra. [There is] so much more to come."