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**HAWAII YOUTH SYMPHONY ALUMNUS FEATURED**

**ON GRAMMY NOMINATED ALBUM**

**HONOLULU (DRAFT)** – Hawai’i Youth Symphony alum, Kathryn Schulmeister, has been nominated for a GRAMMY® Music Award as a collaborating artist with Soprano Susan Narucki. Kathryn was a member of the Hawaii Youth Symphony from 2002 – 2007, and the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra from 2014 – 2017. After three seasons with the HSO, Schulmeister also performed with the Phoenix Symphony, the California Chamber Orchestra, Pacific Lyric Opera, the Maui Chamber Orchestra, and Hawaii Opera Theater.

“HYS congratulates double bassist Kathryn Schulmeister on her Grammy nomination! Kathryn’s musicianship and career trajectory are impressive, and as an HYS alumna, she is an especially incredible role model for our aspiring youth,” said HYS president, Randy Wong. “We are proud to have been part of her musical upbringing in Hawaii and wish she and her colleagues the very best for the future.”

Kathryn is one of the newest members of the ELISION Ensemble, Australia’s international contemporary music ensemble. She also currently performs as a guest with Klangforum Wien, Ensemble Dal Niente, Wild Up!, Vertixe Sonora, Fonema Consort, and various others. Schulmeister’s musical performance ranges from classical to experimental. She is a creative and active performer, appearing in a variety of festivals and concert halls.

Kathryn is currently pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Contemporary Music Performance at the University of California, San Diego, studying with internationally acclaimed bassist/improviser/composer Mark Dresser. She received her Bachelor of Music degree from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston and completed her Master of Music degree at McGill University in Montréal.

The 2020 Grammy Award Ceremony will take place on Sunday, January 26, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. HST on CBS. The Best Classical Solo Vocal Album category is to be awarded to: Vocalist(s), Collaborative Artist(s) (EX: Pianists, conductors, chamber groups), Producer(s), Recording Engineers/Mixers with 51% or more playing time of new material.

Nomination: THE EDGE OF SILENCE – WORKS FOR VOICE BY GYÖRGY KURTÁG Susan Narucki (Donald Berman, Curtis Macomber, Kathryn Schulmeister & Nicholas Tolle).

About the Album:

Grammy Award-winning American soprano Susan Narucki, one of today’s most committed advocates of the music of our time, has a deep and lasting working relationship with Hungarian composer György Kurtág which dates back to 1986. Susan’s luminous tone and distinctive artistry and Kurtág’s idiosyncratic fusion of poetry and music come together in this quintessential recorded collection of some of the composer’s most iconoclastic vocal works. In Susan’s words, “I have spent much of my life immersed in this repertoire, and it has become essential to the way I understand music; it is the heart of my practice as a musician.” Equally appreciative, Kurtág acknowledges Susan, “who sang so warmly, purely, so ‘integer’ these songs – with thanks and love.”

About Hawaii Youth Symphony:

Established as a non-profit organization in 1964, the Hawaii Youth Symphony promotes and celebrates the importance of music study on academic achievement and social-emotional development, through its mission to develop youth to their fullest potential through orchestral music. Its programs service youth through orchestral music education, performances and community engagement. Each year, the organization serves more than 700 students ages 7 through 18 from over 100 schools statewide. For more information, call (808) 941-9706 or visit HiYouthSymphony.org.

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