

Chad Hutchinson

Chad Hutchinson is in his second season as the Assistant Conductor of the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra and Music Director of the South Dakota Symphony Youth Orchestra. He is conducting five concerts for the SDSO this season including Pops concerts, *Christmas on the Prairie* in Hoven, a new partnership with the Sioux Falls Public Schools and Carnegie Hall called *Link Up!* and the return of Family Concert programming to the SDSO. He will also lead three orchestras within the SDSYO program on regional tours, SD premieres of three new compositions and assist with side-by-side concerts with the SDSO, Omaha Symphony and the Fargo-Moorhead Area Youth Symphony. In his first season, Hutchinson initiated a new College Student Ambassador Program, a pre-concert lecture series entitled '7 @ 7' aimed at high school and college students, and grew the Youth Orchestra program by over 30 students.

Away from the symphony, Mr. Hutchinson is in his final year as a James Sample Fellow and DMA candidate in orchestral conducting at the University of Minnesota. A student of Mark Russell Smith, he conducts three campus orchestras, assists with the University Symphony Orchestra and Opera Theater programs and is a member of the Graduate Student Advisory Council. Prior to his time in Minnesota, he served as director of Northwestern College's Chamber Orchestra and Women's Choir as well as the Coordinator and Music Director for the Siouxland Youth Orchestras.

As comfortable in the pit as on the stage, Hutchinson has recently led productions of *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Susannah* and *Lady in the Dark* with University Opera Theater at the University of Minnesota. This season, he will lead four performances of *Suor Angelica* and will be the assistant conductor for the productions of *The Rape of Lucretia* and *Gianni Schicchi*. He also was the conductor for *The Mikado* at Morningside College with director Nicholas Wuehrmann of New York City, a cover conductor for Skylark Opera's recent production of *La Rondine* and an assistant conductor for the University Opera Theater production of *La Tragedie de Carmen*.

With a long-standing commitment to education, he taught orchestra in the public schools for nine years at Williamsville South High School in Buffalo, New York, and at Roosevelt High School in Sioux Falls, South Dakota where both programs doubled in size during his tenure. His orchestras have consistently received Division I ratings at large group contest and the Roosevelt High School Chamber Ensemble was selected to perform at the South Dakota Music Educator's Convention. At Williamsville, Hutchinson introduced a biennial "A Night at the Opera" concert that culminated in performances of scenes from *Don Giovanni* and *Tosca*.

Mr. Hutchinson holds a master's degree in orchestral conducting from Bowling Green State University and a bachelor's degree in music education from Morningside College. As a conducting fellow, he has participated in conducting workshops at the Juilliard School, Eastman School of Music, the New England

Conservatory of Music and the Richmond Symphony. He has also served as a guest conductor for numerous orchestras throughout the Midwest, Montana and in New York State, most recently serving on the conducting faculty of the International Music Camp. Hutchinson resides in Sioux Falls with his wife Karen and their two daughters.