

APM Conductor Bio

José Daniel Flores-Caraballo

Artistic Director

Albany Pro Musica welcomed new Artistic and Executive Director, Dr. José Daniel Flores-Caraballo, to the Capital Region for his inaugural 2014-2015 season. Dr. Flores-Caraballo comes to Albany Pro Musica from Vero Beach, Florida, where he was a musical force for more than a decade.

Prior to moving to the continental U.S., Flores was dean of Academic Affairs at the Conservatory of Music founded by Pablo Casals in San Juan, Puerto Rico. He led prize winning choral programs at San Ignacio and Maria Reina private schools as well as prestigious church music programs in Puerto Rico and the USA such as the Union Church of San Juan, St. John's United Methodist Church in Albuquerque, New Mexico and the Community Church of Vero Beach, Florida.

In Vero Beach Dr. Flores-Caraballo founded and directed three auditioned, community choral groups that transformed the musical landscape in the Treasure Coast : the Atlantic Symphonic Chorus, an intergenerational chorus that performs major choral works with orchestra; the Atlantic Schola Cantorum, a 24 member choir performing a cappella and accompanied chamber choral literature; and the Atlantic Children's Chorale, a children's chorus nationally known for their exceptional quality and mature sound.

Making an immediate mark on the Northeast, Dr. Flores-Caraballo was appointed Conductor-In-Residence at the University at Albany (SUNY) and Chorus Director for the Vermont Symphony Orchestra Chorus, following retirement of its founder, the preeminent composer and director Maestro Robert DeCormier. Known for his integrity in stylistic performance of choral literature and a precise approach to music learning, Flores has prepared his choirs for prominent conductors, including Bramwell Tovey and Stéphane Dénéve-Philadelphia Orchestra, Andrews Sill-New York City Ballet, David Allan Miller-Albany Symphony Orchestra, and Anthony Princiotti-Vermont Symphony Orchestra. A gifted teacher, Flores exhibits patience, good humor, collegiality and aesthetic creativity—a unique combination of talents that empowers students and musicians to perform at the highest levels.

A native of Puerto Rico, Dr. Flores-Caraballo has studied under highly regarded conductors Helmuth Rilling, Don Moses, Fred Stoltzfus, Roselyn Pabón, and others. His organ teachers include Michael Farris at the University of Illinois and post-graduate studies and master classes with Anton Pauw at the St. Bravo Cathedral in Haarlem, Netherlands; Mme. Marie-Louise

Langlais from the Paris Conservatory; James David Christie from the Oberlin Conservatory; and Todd Wilson from the Cleveland Institute of Music. Dr. Flores-Caraballo's comprehensive training includes a doctorate in Sacred Music with an emphasis on Choral and Instrumental Conducting from the Graduate Theological Foundation, a master's in Choral Conducting and Organ from the University of Illinois; and a bachelor's in Music Education and Instrumental Conducting from the Conservatory of Music in San Juan.

Dr. Flores-Caraballo is featured as a conductor and organist on numerous recordings, including several world premieres. He is a sought-after lecturer and has taken choral groups on tours throughout the U.S. and Europe. In a departure from his choral conducting career, José Daniel periodically joins his brother, Marcos Daniel, in a touring show titled "The Dueling Brothers." With José on organ and Marcos on piano, the music aficionados celebrate a playful rivalry between instruments (and siblings) that evokes laughter while also delivering a challenging repertoire.

Dr. Flores-Caraballo and his wife Dharma live in Halfmoon with their cocker spaniel, Nala. Their grown children Frances, Carlos, and daughter-in-law Connie are glad to call New York their second home.