

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR



Joel Neves is Associate Professor of Music at Michigan Technological University and in his eighth year as music director of the Keweenaw Symphony Orchestra.

Joel recently made his conducting debut in China with the Hubei Symphony Orchestra in Wuhan City, and his South American debut with the Orquesta Sinfónica de Entre Ríos in Paraná, Argentina. He returns to conduct in Argentina fall 2017.

In 2015, Joel was awarded Third Place in the American Prize in Conducting, a national competition for American orchestra conductors. He is currently national president-elect of the College Orchestra Directors Association and artistic director and conductor of the Pine Mountain Music Festival.

For three years Joel was assistant conductor of the Orchestra of Southern Utah and has conducted the Orquesta de Cadaqués (Barcelona, Spain), the Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra, and the Bard Festival Orchestra. In 2010 he was invited to conduct the Kentucky Music Educators Association All-Collegiate Orchestra.

Equally adept with theatre, Joel has directed numerous opera, ballet, and music theatre productions. He conducted Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker* with the Minnesota Ballet and Keweenaw Symphony Orchestra, and conducts Bizet's *Carmen* with the Pine Mountain Music Festival during the 2018 season. At Tech he has conducted *South Pacific* and *West Side Story*.

Joel received Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Brigham Young University and a Doctor of Musical Arts in opera and orchestral conducting from Arizona State University. He lives in Houghton with his wife—soprano Lara Neves—and their three daughters.