

Paul Jabara

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Conductor Paul Jabara was born in Montreal and is a graduate of McGill University. Originally a trombonist, he obtained his undergraduate degree in voice and piano and a Master's degree in choral conducting, and presently divides his time between conducting and teaching.

Mr. Jabara is celebrating thirty years as music director at St-George Antiochian Orthodox Church in Montreal. He is co-founder of the period instrument ensemble l'Orchestre de la Nouvelle France and the founder of the Saint Cecilia Chamber Choir. Past engagements include performances with the Vancouver Symphony, Orchestra Metropolitan de Montreal, Montreal Sinfonietta, Vancouver Bach Choir, the Stewart Hall Singers and the McGill Choral Society. He was the artistic administrator and assistant conductor of the International Opera Festival, performing Verdi's AIDA in Montreal, Vancouver, Tokyo and Sydney Australia.

In addition to being the Coordinator of the Sacred Music Institute for the Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of North America, he was recently appointed the new Chairman of the Department of Sacred Music. He is the founder and director of the Sacred Music Chamber Choir. He was instrumental in establishing the Youth Music Ministry, the Sacred Music Byzantine Choir and the Young Conductor's Apprentice Program. He is also invited regularly as a guest conductor/clinician for choral workshops throughout the Archdiocese.

Deeply passionate about choral music, his love of both Orthodox Slavonic Music and Harmonized Byzantine music is strong. He was among the first to introduce Canadian audiences to the Orthodox music of Rachmaninov, Tchaikovsky, Chesnokov, Bortniansky, Grechanninov and Kastalsky. A dynamic conductor, he brings out the very best in his singers and inspires them to achieve new levels of performance standards.