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Alum Rings in a New Day on Wall Street

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Alum Rings in a New Day on Wall Street

September 10, 2010

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Illinois Wesleyan University alum Sung Jin Hong proudly stepped onto the podium at the New York Stock Exchange Friday, September 10 at 9:30 a.m. to ring the opening bell, signifying the start of another day of trading on Wall Street.

The '97 graduate is the founder and current composer and conductor of New York's One World Symphony. Hong was invited to ring the bell in honor of the symphony's service to and presence in the community.

[One World Symphony](#) (OWS), created by Hong in 2000, is a not-for-profit organization composed of 70 musicians, 81 vocalists and 13 staff members. The symphony performs concerts throughout the NYC area, selling tickets for a fraction of the cost of many New York concert halls.

The symphony was described by *Courier-Life* as "New York's hippest orchestra" and received "top marks for gutsy programming" by Time Out New York Magazine.

Some of OWS's most famous programming includes a benefit concert, held just days after Sept. 11, for families of firefighters who died in the Twin Towers. In 2005, OWS performed another benefit concert for disaster victims affected by the tsunami in Haiti.

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