



The Hatt Rack

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It is time to start thinking about auditions again. Around the first week of April, the members of PYCO and PYWE will receive a packet of orchestral excerpts to prepare. This packet, in addition to scales, sight-reading and (for strings only) a 90-second selection from a solo work, will be your presentation to the PYP faculty. The results of these auditions will determine your placement for next year, and your seating (for PYCO and PYWE). Therefore, it is important to prepare carefully and seriously for these auditions.

For YSE, a prepared solo, scales and sight-reading will be required.

I have written about scale practice many times here. Everyone in every ensemble has known since September that proper and regular practice of scales and arpeggios in all keys is mandatory. By this point in the year, musicians who have taken this seriously should already be fully prepared for this part of the audition. There is no tempo requirement. Scales may be played slowly as long as the tempo chosen is steady. To achieve this, scales should always be played with a metronome.

Preparing orchestral excerpts is a detailed process. It is important to obtain recordings of the works. It is difficult if not impossible to prepare properly without hearing the entire work or movement played in complete instrumentation. Practicing of the passages should begin at slow, achievable tempos, which should only be increased when technical mastery is achieved. Specific techniques called for in a particular excerpt should be worked on separately from the passage itself. It is often helpful to work on the passage using only open strings, in order to remove some of the technical obstacles.

It is expected that everyone auditioning will be nervous. There is no cure for nervousness. It is important to prepare to the point that no amount of nerves or distraction can derail your performance. In other words, prepare 125% in order to achieve 100% of what you want to show.

We developed this process because we are interested in hearing not only how much you have improved as a performer throughout the course of this year, but also that you are willing to work hard preparing in a specific time frame. That will indicate to us whether you are capable of preparing a large amount of music in a short time, as our top ensembles are now doing.

It is also important to know that you can follow directions from your conductors, such as those printed here each month as well as those given throughout the year in rehearsals. An audition with unprepared and poorly executed scales and arpeggios tells us that our directions are not being followed.

I wish for the best for each of you preparing for the upcoming auditions. We are all looking forward to hearing you. I can tell that there is a lot of hard work going on and I am proud of everything being achieved in our ensembles this year. Keep up the good work.

ANNUAL FUNDRAISING BREAKFAST

Invitation from the Executive Director

Multnomah Athletic Club (MAC)
Thursday, March 17th.

We are delighted to invite parents to be involved by sponsoring a table and acting as a 'Table Captain' (the cost is \$220 per table) for a table of your invited guests (each table has room for 10 people) or by attending as an individual.

In addition to a delicious breakfast at the MAC, you will have the opportunity to hear PYP's Chamber Orchestra perform, and hear some moving testimonials by current orchestra members and alumni.

The Master of Ceremonies for this event will be Christa Wessel, an on air host for All Classical 89.9. The event begins at 7:30am and will be over by 8:45am. Breakfast will be provided at no cost to individuals through the sponsorship of Table Captains. Near the end of this event, we will be given the opportunity to make a donation to this great organization.

Please contact the PYP office if you are interested in sponsoring a table of your guests as a Table Captain or attending as an individual at 503.223.5939 or via e-mail at information@portlandyouthphil.org.

- Kevin

• Re-Audition Information

- Sign-up sheets will be available on April 4, 6, and 7 for you to sign up for your re-audition. For those of you new to the organization, every musician in YSE, PYCO and PYWE will re-audition in May for the purpose of placement in the organization, either moving up to the next group or seating in current ensemble. There are no forms to fill out for this process and no payment is required.

Each of you in PYCO and PYWE will receive a packet of orchestral excerpts that you will prepare for the re-audition. This packet of excerpts will be handed out on April 6 and 7. If you aren't at that rehearsal, the excerpts will be mailed to you. YSE does not receive an excerpt packet.

Here's a recap of requirements for the re-auditions:

YSE:

- major and minor scale and corresponding arpeggios (conductors will choose the key for you when you arrive)
- a short solo piece
- sight-reading (provided for you in the audition by conductors)

PYCO:

- major and minor scale and corresponding arpeggios (conductors will choose the key for you when you arrive)
- orchestral excerpts (handed out on April 7)
- a short solo piece (90 seconds maximum) -- winds, brass and percussion: your audition will NOT include this solo piece
- sight-reading (provided for you in the audition by conductors)

PYWE:

- same as PYCO except your audition will NOT include a solo piece (excerpts will be handed out on April 6)

• YSE Lobby Concert

- Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall
Saturday, March 5, 2011

Enter: Stage Door on SW Salmon
Call Time: 5:45 PM in room 316, warming up
Dress: Concert dress (See the Musician's Handbook)
Cases: Upstairs dressing room 316, where you will have rehearsal

Time Line:

5:45 pm	Call time
6:00-6:45 pm	Dress Rehearsal
7:00-7:20 pm	Lobby concert
7:20-7:30 pm	Transition – Put instruments away in 316, meet parents outside stage door on SW Salmon.
7:30 pm	PYP concert begins
9:30 pm	PYP concert ends. Return to 316 to collect belongings.

Note: BRING A MUSIC STAND. Parents and friends are not allowed past the stage door please make arrangements to meet parents outside.

Tickets:

Available for advance purchase, call the PYP office 503-223-5939. Parents can't get into the lobby without a ticket to the PYP concert. If your parents are not attending the concert they may meet you outside the stage door when you are done.

Transitions:

In order to make transitions go smoothly please have your parents meet you outside the stage door just after the lobby concert to take you to your seat for the PYP concert. You may leave your things in room 316 until after the concert. You will need to get your things after the concert by yourself, orchestra Mums and Dads will be there to help you but your parents must wait for you outside the stage door on SW Salmon.

Reception:

In the lobby of the Schnitz immediately following the PYP concert. All are welcome.

•PYP Winter Concert

•Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall
Saturday, March 5, 2011

Enter: Stage Door on SW Salmon
Call Time: 3:45 PM on stage warming up
Dress: Concert dress – See Musician’s Handbook. You may change into concert dress after the rehearsal.
Cases: Downstairs in the lounge, Celli and Basses backstage left.

Timeline:

3:45 pm	Call time
4:00-6:00 pm	Acoustic Rehearsal
6:00 pm	Rehearsal ends, Dinner break begins
7:00 pm	Call Time
7:30-9:30 pm	Concert

Concert Order:

Brahms
Tchaikovsky
Intermission
Pierne
Stravinsky

Note:

The backstage is dark from 6-7 pm. No one is permitted on the stage during this time. Only PYP musicians and authorized PYP volunteers and staff are permitted past the stage door area. Family members and friends should meet you outside the stage door during breaks and after the concert.

Tickets:

Available for advance purchase, call the PYP office 503-223-5939. A limited number of comp tickets will be available at rehearsal.

Reception:

In the lobby of the Schnitz immediately following the concert. All are welcome.

THEY SAY CHANGE IS GOOD...

The PYP Spring Preview Concert at Pacific University in Forest Grove previously scheduled for May 9 will now be held on May 2 at 7:30pm.

Rehearsals from May 16 onward will be held at Lewis & Clark College (these rehearsals were designated “location TBA” in the musician handbook).



NOMINATE YOUR TEACHER

PYP invites students to nominate their school music teachers and their outstanding programs for the public recognition they deserve. Does your school music teacher inspire students? Do they build community? Do they encourage and instill excellence and dedication? Then nominate your school music teacher for the Mary V. Dodge Award for Outstanding School Music Program.

Your prize, should you submit the winning entry, will be 100 free tickets for your teacher and fellow students from your school music program to PYP's Spring Concert on May 15, 2011 in the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall at 4:00 p.m. Submissions must be received no later than Friday, March 1, 2011.

Please submit your nomination to:

information@portlandyouthphil.org. Required information: your name, your phone number (for prize notification), your school name, teacher name and explain why your teacher deserves to win, based on the questions above.

Registration is now open for 2011!



YMA

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EVENTS CALENDAR

February 27

PYCO, PYWE Cadenza Concert,
4pm at Skyview High

February 28

PYP Winter Preview Concert, 7:30pm
at George Fox University in Newberg

March 5

YSE Lobby Concert, 7pm
PYP Winter Concert, 7:30pm

March 17

Fundraising Breakfast at MAC, 7:30am

March 21-26: Spring Break

NO REHEARSALS

April 10

Chamber Music at Mary's Woods, 4pm

April 20

PYP Children's Concerts, 10 & 11:30am

May 2 (*note date change*)

PYP Spring Preview Concert, 7:30pm at
Pacific University in Forest Grove

