

PYP NOTES

A newsletter for musicians, parents, friends, and family of the Portland Youth Philharmonic Association

Oct 2007



Johnson's Java

by Larry Johnson
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Welcome everyone to PYP's 2007-08 season. I trust that you all had a great summer and are ready to embrace the challenges this season holds for us.

This will be an exciting year as PYP searches for its new music director. PYP is truly blessed to have a collection of such remarkable talent in Ken Selden, Alastair Willis, Huw Edwards, and Mei-Ann Chen grace our podium. Along with these great musicians comes a season of repertoire that is rarely experienced by any orchestra all at once: Symphonic Dances of Rachmaninoff, La Mer, Symphony No.5 of Gustav Mahler, and Bruckner's Symphony No. 4!! This is a season for the ages!

I am very excited about the potential of both PYCO and PYWE. As this article leaves my desk, we will have had a

couple of rehearsals under our belts. There is a level of tone quality and maturity in our music making that is higher than at any time during my tenure with this organization at such an early stage. If we are able to sustain this energy, both ensembles will reach new levels of accomplishment.

Johnson's Java continue on page two.

Hubbard's Cupboard

by John Hubbard
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Welcome to a new season YSE! After our very first rehearsal, I'm thrilled with the potential I see for this year. This will be my eighth season with YSE, although it seems like it was just yesterday that I first took the podium as Conductor of PYP's Young String Ensemble. I think it's funny that, given the very young average age of this ensemble, many of you were not even born yet when I started here eight years ago.

Now, in thinking about the age and experience of our group, I would like to acknowledge a strong sense of gratitude to all of you "older" returning veterans. I know that many of you have friends that moved on into PYCO, and it hurts that you aren't joining them right now. You WILL join them soon, but for now, I want to let you know how vital you are in the creating of momentum, and the rapid raising of the musical bar as we make the transition from year to year. You veterans are doing a great service to PYP!

CHECK OUT the NEW BLOG

<http://www.portlandyouthphil.org/musicblog>

You are invited to follow along from week to week as PYP rehearses for the Fall Concert. Various section principals will post updates about what they are working on and how it is going. We hope you enjoy this insider's perspective about orchestra life.



Diane's Corner

by Diane Syrcle

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I love this time of year. Buying new clothes and school supplies brings back the nostalgia of being in school. What I love most about it, however, is that after the long summer you all come back to rehearsal. Our life in the office is once again filled with enrollment forms, musicians, and music. You make our work joyful. Welcome back.

As you know, PYP is engaging in an International Search for a new Conductor and Music Director for the organization. In the orchestra world conductors and musicians don't just apply for a job by having an interview. The process is much more involved because they also have a live audition with an orchestra to show their musical expertise.

This month the Search Committee will meet to review materials from 107 applicants. After review, led by Donald Thulean – national expert on conductor searches, the Search Committee will narrow the field of 107 applicants to the top thirty and then to the top ten. The Search Committee will review resumes and visual materials to make their determinations.

The Search Committee represents members of our community and we are pleased to have representation from the Oregon Symphony, West Linn High School, Chamber Music Northwest, PYP Alumni, current PYP musicians, current and past parents, and leaders from the business community. We are confident that their expertise will ensure the best possible candidates emerge for live auditions later this winter. Stay tuned...Diane

Johnson's Java continued from front page.

In PYCO we will explore the rarely performed Symphony No. 2 of Antonin Dvorak and Tchaikovsky's gorgeous Francesca da Rimini. These pieces will challenge us in meaningful ways this season.

PYWE, in its third season, is now a fully mature ensemble, capable of any of the symphonic bands' most difficult repertoire. Some of this season's highlights will include Phillip Sparke's Symphony No. 1, Heroes Lost and Fallen of David Gillingham, Music for Prague by Karl Husa, Finale from Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4, and John William's music from the Star Wars Movies.

I want to wish you all the very best for the coming season. Work hard and remember to practice with both the metronome and the tuner.

Soloist Competition: Sunday, October 14

It's time again for PYP's Annual Soloist Competition! Orchestra members who have been in the Philharmonic Orchestra for two full seasons or have been in the organization for three full seasons, (including one season in the Philharmonic Orchestra) are eligible to apply for the competition. The winner of the competition will solo with the Philharmonic Orchestra at the Winter Concert on March 1st and the runner-up will perform at the Postlude Concert with the Conservatory Orchestra on June 1st. To enter the competition you must complete an application form and return it to the PYP office **no later than 5:00 pm on Monday, October 1st**. Candidates will receive their audition times at rehearsal on October 8th.

Carpooling

A carpool list for each ensemble will be out at Glencoe during rehearsals. Please feel free to sign up or browse the list for others in your area. Another good resource for carpooling is the Orchestra Roster which contains contact information for those in your child's ensemble. Rosters will be handed out at rehearsals in the near future.

Absence Record Book

This year, in conjunction with our new absence policy, we now have an absence record book out at rehearsals. We ask that students fill in their absences in this book as soon as they know.

Concert Dress

As the 2007-08 Season gets underway, it is important to make sure parents and students are familiar with our Concert Dress Code. PYP, PYWE and PYCO gentlemen must wear a black suit or tuxedo and black bow tie. A white dress shirt, black socks, and black dress shoes are also required. Ladies in PYP, PYWE, and PYCO must wear an all black, nice, dressy outfit. This includes dress pants or a skirt with a nice black top, or a full dress. The outfit must be long-sleeved and ankle length (see page 18 in the handbook for further details).

YSE gentlemen must wear black dress pants, black socks and dress shoes with a white, open collar, long-sleeve dress shirt, tucked in. YSE ladies must wear long a long black skirt, or nice dress pants with black socks and shoes and a white long-sleeved dress shirt, tucked in.

Parent challenge: (Like a raffle, but better.)

Sell one of PYP's 4-concert subscription packages – and along with it, a chance to win a one-night stay at the Mark Spencer Hotel. Your friends will thank you.

We surveyed your students about who they want to see at concerts and their answers included: my parents, my grandparents, my extended family, my friends from school, my teachers. Help raise money for this organization and ask just one of those people to come and see your child in concert this year. Make it a fun event. Something to look forward to sharing. The more, the merrier. They might do it just because you asked, but they will also benefit from a year of beautiful music they might not otherwise have tried. And remember to tell them, anyone who buys a subscription is being entered to win a one-night stay for two at the Mark Spencer Hotel.

It's a win-win!



PYP STRING PLAYERS – PLEASE NOTE

PYP String Sectional will run from 4:30-6:30 on Saturday, October 20th. There will be an extra String Sectional the following Monday (October 22nd) from 8:30-9:00pm (after full rehearsal).

Events Calendar

November 4

PYCO, YSE, PYWE - Prelude Concert at George Fox University

November 5

PYP Fall Preview Concert at George Fox University

November 10

PYP Fall Concert, YSE Lobby Concert

November 22 - 24

Thanksgiving Holiday – No rehearsals

December 6

Fall Session Peer Mentor Program ends

December 26

Concert-at-Christmas

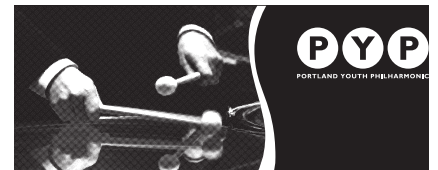
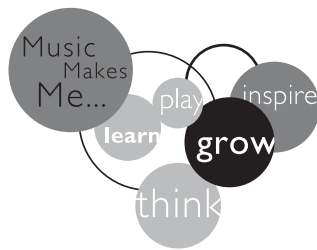


PYP Merchandise!

Show your PYP pride by purchasing new PYP gear. Order forms and sample garments are available at rehearsal. The deadline for orders is Friday, October 5, at 5:00 pm. Feel free to mail, fax, or call in your order (phone orders must be paid via Visa or Mastercard).

PYP address: 421 SW 6th Ave., Suite 1350 Portland, OR 97204
F: 503-223-5003 P: 503-223-5939

Three designs to choose from.



VISTING CONSERVATORY

A representative from Colburn Conservatory will be at Glencoe on Monday, October 29, from 6:00-6:30. Musicians accepted into the Colburn Conservatory have their tuition, on-campus housing, and board paid for by the school. Please feel free to come and ask questions about their program.

PORTLAND YOUTH PHILHARMONIC



AMERICA'S FIRST YOUTH ORCHESTRA