

PYO

Spring 2015

NOTES

Pocono Youth Orchestra

Established 1987--27th Season

## DATES AT A GLANCE

### March 8, 2015

Bus Trip

New York Youth Symphony at  
Carnegie Hall Concert, 2:00 p.m.

### May 30, 2015

Dress Rehearsals and Performance

PJSO, 12:00 - 1:30 p.m.

PYO, 1:30 - 4:00 p.m.

Spring Concert, 7:30 p.m.

### May 31, 2015

Performance

Spring Concert, 3:00 p.m.

### June 1, 2015

Auditions for the 2015-2016 season

### September 14, 2015

First rehearsal for the  
2015-2016 season

<http://www.pocono-youth-orchestra.org>

[music@pocono-youth-orchestra.org](mailto:music@pocono-youth-orchestra.org)



## President's Message

As PYO fans are aware, beginning this past January, we changed the venue of our concerts from East Stroudsburg University to the Stroudsburg Senior High School. The staff at Stroudsburg helped make the transition painless and our students enjoyed performing their winter concert in the High School's new state of the art facility. We look forward to many more years of concerts in our new home. Thanks to Stroudsburg's administrators, faculty and staff for rolling out the red carpet!

On a bittersweet note, we have 22 seniors graduating. My daughter, Emily, is one of the graduating seniors. Emily and her friends, Sophia Rostock, Joe Snyder, and Steven Visceglia will be soloists during the Spring Concerts.

I have watched these young musicians grow up together, perform together and have had the privilege of socializing and becoming friends with their parents during our "PYO years." Although it seems like yesterday when I saw these kids playing on quarter-sized instruments, time passes more quickly than we would like. They have all grown into fine young adults. The PYO will miss all 22 seniors leaving us and we wish them well in what we know will be successful careers. We hope that our orchestras have provided them with memorable experiences and that they will keep us apprised of their adventures.

**Jerry Geiger, President**

## Introducing our PYO Soloists for the 2015 Spring Concerts



### Emily Geiger

Emily is a senior at Stroudsburg High School and performed with our orchestras for nine years, a current PYO record. Emily started on the violin at age 5. She played violin for three years with the PJSO before switching to viola. She has been the PYO's principal violist for the last two years and holds a similar position at the Stroudsburg High School.

Emily represented Stroudsburg at the PMEA District 10 Orchestra for three years. She received a superior rating in viola performance for three years from the National Federation of Music Clubs' annual festival held at East Stroudsburg University.

Emily participated in the Madcap Music Camp in Allentown with her friends, Sophia Rostock and Olivia Reed, when she was in fifth grade. They later formed a trio ensemble and played together for several years before becoming a string quartet with violinist, and

friend, Joseph Snyder. As violist with the *Sound of Strings* string quartet, Emily performed for numerous community events in Monroe County, including three years at the COTA Jazz Festival and on the Channel 13 Big Brothers, Big Sisters Telethon. During the summer of her freshman and sophomore years, Emily attended the Performing Arts Institute at Wyoming Seminary where she performed daily with international students and professional musicians.

Emily has been a member of the Stroudsburg High School chamber orchestra and the high school pit orchestra for the productions of *Anything Goes*, *Hairspray*, and *The Music Man*.

Emily was awarded the PYO Outstanding Ensemble award at the winter concert.

Emily is in the top 10% of her class, is the Vice-President of the High School's National Honor Society, is a member of the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), where she advanced to regional and state competitions. She is a four-year varsity letter recipient for Stroudsburg's varsity tennis team.

In the fall, Emily will be attending George Washington University in Washington, D.C. on a pre-med track.



### Sophia Rostock

Sophia is a senior at Stroudsburg High School and is the PYO's principal cellist. Sophia started playing cello in the fifth grade. She has played with the PJSO for three years and this is her fourth year in PYO where she currently serves as principal cellist. She is also principal cellist for the Stroudsburg High School Orchestra, SHS Chamber Orchestra, and SHS Pit Orchestra.

She is a member of the *Sound of Strings* Quartet, which performs at various venues such as weddings as well as for community service. She has represented her school at the PMEA District Orchestra Festival for the past three years and the PMEA Regional Orchestra for one year. She received six superior ratings from the National

Federation of Music Clubs and won instrumental soloist and ensemble awards at the Youth in Music Excellence awards. At the winter concert, she was one of three who received the PYO Outstanding Ensemble Player award given by an anonymous donor. For the past four summers, Sophia attended the Performing Arts Institute (PAI) at Wyoming Seminary. At PAI, she was immersed in weekly chamber and orchestral concerts, ensembles, private lessons, and the institute chorus under the direction of numerous conductors.

In addition to her musical activities, Sophia is an honors student in the top 3% of her class. She is a member of the National Honor Society and Future Business Leaders of America where she has advanced to regional and state competitions. She is a four-year varsity letter recipient for the Stroudsburg Girls Tennis Team.

Sophia will be studying at the Sunderman Conservatory at Gettysburg College where she will double major in Cello Performance and History.



### Joseph Snyder

Joe Snyder is a senior at Notre Dame High School and has been playing the violin for thirteen years. He began his violin studies in Kindergarten with Moravian Academy's Lower School Suzuki Program.

Joe played with the School for Strings at Carnegie Hall in New York City when he was in third grade and participated in many Suzuki Camps during his elementary school years. Joe has played with the PJSO for two years and with the PYO for four years. In 2014, he received the PYO's Outstanding Ensemble Player Award.

Joe received two superior ratings from the National Federation of Music clubs in 2010 and 2011. In 2011, he attended the Philadelphia

International Music Festival and in 2012 and 2013, he attended the Performing Arts Institute at Wyoming Seminary.

While attending Notre Dame High School, Joseph was a member of the Pit Orchestra for his school's production of *Sugar* in which they won a Spotlight award in 2012. He also played with the Pit Orchestra for the 2014 production of *the Drowsy Chaperone*. He has provided violin accompaniment for the Notre Dame Winter and Spring Choral concerts, Liturgy, Senior Baccalaureate Masses, Big Brothers, Big Sisters Telethon, Senior Night, and Coffeehouse. He has also been active as a violinist providing accompaniment for the Adult Choir at his church, Our Lady Queen of Peace in Brodheadsville and played as a soloist for St. Bernadette's Church in Canadensis for the 9-11 Remembrance Mass.

Joe is a member of the *Sound of Strings* quartet which won the Youth in Music Excellence award for the senior ensemble category in 2011. Joe will be attending Drexel University where he plans to continue to study the violin by joining the college symphony and chamber ensemble. He intends to study Global Business and eventually attend Law School to study International Corporate Law.





## Steven Visceglia

Steven is a senior at Stroudsburg High School. He has been on the High Honor Roll and in the Top 10% of his class for all four years of High School. He played on the tennis team through his junior year. He has been an active member of Stroudsburg's chapter of Future Business Leaders of America. He has contributed to National Honor Society and Student Government for two years, being the Treasurer for NHS his senior year.

Steven is a member of Stroudsburg's Show Choir, Chorale, and the School Musical. During the school day, he contributes to the Concert Choir and Concert Band. He received honors from the Pocono Arts Council Youth in Music Excellence Awards such as

Senior Vocal Classical Winner and Senior Vocal Popular Winner four times. He was selected for the Monroe/Pike County Chorus the last two years. Steven has been selected for Pennsylvania Music Educators Association District X Band. He has successfully auditioned for the PMEA District X Chorus all four years of high school, ranking 1st in the District his senior year. He has also moved forward and been a part of the PMEA Region V Chorus all three years he was eligible, again ranking 1st his senior year. He was honored to advance to the PMEA All-State Chorus in March 2015, ranking 8th in the state on his voice part. He has served as cantor at St. Matthew's Church since 9th grade.

Steven will be attending Syracuse University in the fall to double major in Music Performance and Radio and Television.

## Promoting the PYO in the Local Media

Members of our orchestras found time last Spring to promote the PYO on the "Gary in the Morning" Radio Show on Pocono 96.7. Gary interviewed Joe Snyder (violin), Tim Geiger (bass), Sophia Rostock (cello), and Emily Geiger (viola).



## Farewell and Good Luck to our Seniors

We have 22 seniors graduating this year and they include some of our finest players. The PYO wishes them well in their future endeavors. Good luck to the following PYO seniors:

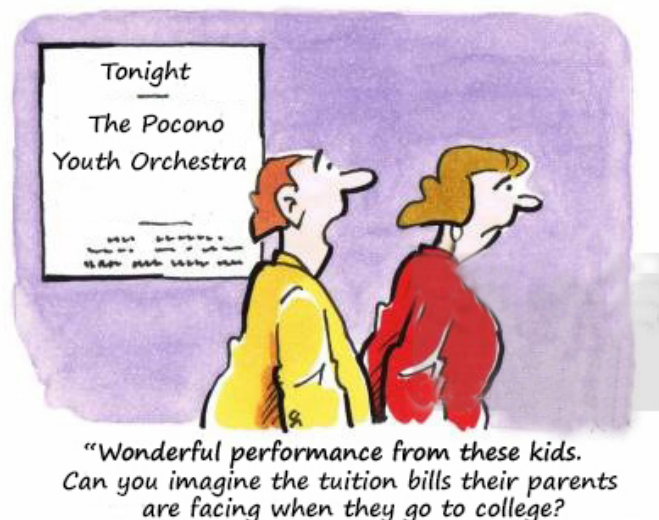
Woodrow Battle	Oboe	Stroudsburg High School
Daniel Cano	Horn	East Stroudsburg High School North
Augustin Cavalier	Viola	Homeschool
Carina Cohen	Flute	East Stroudsburg High School South
Cameron Dougherty	Violin	Scranton Preparatory School
Maura Dougherty	Violin	Easton Area High School
Tristan Flanagan	Horn	Stroudsburg High School
Nicholas Fleming	Percussion	Stroudsburg High School
Emily Geiger	Viola	Stroudsburg High School
Edward Harbison	Horn	Pleasant Valley High School
Abigail Lantz	Violin	Stroudsburg High School
Meaghan Lawlor	Violin	Pocono Mountain E High School
Kariem Morssy	Violin	Mt. Olive High School
Krista Nash	Flute	Stroudsburg High School
Jessica Ng	Clarinet	Stroudsburg High School
Sarah Osman	Violin	Stroudsburg High School
Olivia Reed	Violin	Stroudsburg High School
Sophia Rostock	Cello	Stroudsburg High School
Joseph Snyder	Violin	Notre Dame High School
Joseph Visceglia	Percussion	Stroudsburg High School
Steven Visceglia	Clarinet	Stroudsburg High School
Elizabeth Whidden	Cello	Stroudsburg High School

## The PYO Scholarships

The PYO is thankful, with the generous contributions of our donors, to be awarding three monetary awards at the Spring Concerts:

- (1) The Suzanne Anderson Memorial Scholarship;
- (2) The PYO Excellency Award; and
- (3) The Outstanding Ensemble Player Award.

Stay tuned for the announcement of our winners!



The winners of the **PYO Ensemble Award** at the Winter Concerts were:

- Maura Dougherty;
- Emily Geiger; and
- Sophia Rostock.



The PYO is enrolled in the Amazon Smile program. Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the PYO. If you are already shopping on Amazon, this is an easy way to support the orchestras at no additional cost to you. Money is starting to trickle in. The PYO endorses no retailers but, if you are

already shopping at Amazon, consider doing so through the PYO link. It adds no cost to your order; it generates money for the orchestras, and helps us to keep tuition as low as possible.

## Staying in Touch with the PYO

To make a contribution, please visit our webpage, [www.pocono-youth-orchestra.org](http://www.pocono-youth-orchestra.org) and “friend” us on Facebook to get up to the minute news about PYO events. We update our website regularly. Our website includes 17 past concert programs, all past newsletters, concert repertoires back to 1998, concert videos, many dozens of concert photos, forms, schedules and information on scholarship opportunities.

### POCONO YOUTH ORCHESTRA 2014-2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### Officers

Jerry Geiger, President  
Jennifer White, Vice-President  
Deborah Prince, Treasurer  
Karen Geiger, Secretary

#### Directors

Forrest Cavalier  
Jean Boheim  
Betsy Buzzelli-Clarke  
Judy Nutaitis  
Diane Rostock  
Joseph A. Snyder  
Joseph L. Snyder  
Lisa Snyder  
Marie Snyder  
Georgios Stylianides  
Karen Stylianides  
Luis Vidal

#### Music Directors

Anthony Simons  
Audrey Simons

#### Pocono Youth Orchestra

P.O. Box 1101  
Stroudsburg, PA 18360

<http://www.pocono-youth-orchestra.org>

[music@pocono-youth-orchestra.org](mailto:music@pocono-youth-orchestra.org)

610-965-0268

## Alumni Corner

We are confident PYO alumni are doing wonderful things. Please keep us informed about your adventures so that we can feature you in future newsletters. While we will certainly report when you win the Nobel Peace Prize, we are also interested in knowing when you travel abroad, have an interesting internship, receive a degree, get a new job, switch majors, go to graduate school, have a child, realize your parents were smarter than you thought.... You get the picture.

We reported previously that Molly Maroney, PYO Class of 2010, joined the Peace Corps and is now working in Tanzania, Africa. Here is Molly being sworn in recently as a Peace Corps volunteer. Good Luck Molly!

