

PYO

Winter 2014

NOTES

Pocono Youth Orchestra

Established 1987 - 26th Season

DATES AT A GLANCE

December 8, 2013 @ 2 p.m.

PYO Tree lighting Concert
Lawnhaven, Stroudsmoor Country
Inn, 231 Stroudsmoor Road,
Stroudsburg, PA 18360

December 17, 2013 @ 7 p.m.

Christmas "String-Along"
Grace Park
1170 West Main Street
Stroudsburg, PA 18360

January 4, 2014 @ 10 a.m.

Board Meeting
Eastern Monroe Public Library
1002 North 9th Street
Stroudsburg, PA 18360

January 18 & 19, 2014

Winter Concerts, 7:30 p.m. & 3 p.m.
Cecilia S. Cohen Recital Hall
East Stroudsburg University.

March 2, 2014

Bus Trip to Carnegie Hall, NYC
New York Youth Symphony
Concert at 2 p.m.

March 22, 2014 @ 10 a.m.

Board Meeting,
Eastern Monroe Public Library
1002 North 9th Street
Stroudsburg, PA 18360

May 3, 2014 @ 10 a.m.

Board Meeting,
Eastern Monroe Public Library
1002 North 9th Street
Stroudsburg, PA 18360

May 31 & June 1, 2014

Spring Concerts 7:30 p.m. & 3 p.m.
Cecilia S. Cohen Recital Hall,
East Stroudsburg University



President's Message

On behalf of our directors and the PYO Board, we thank everyone for their support and for their enthusiasm in helping the PYO celebrate its 25th anniversary last year. We finished the year with an alumni reunion concert and performed two compositions specially written for the PYO by Lehigh Valley composer, Ronald DeGrandis. We had hoped to do something special for the orchestras' silver anniversary and, judging by the reaction from our audiences, I think we accomplished that goal.

While we were saddened to hear of the death of long-time Board member, Suzanne Anderson, her contributions to music education will be remembered in a bequest from her Estate that will fund a scholarship for deserving students who plan a career in music. Stay tuned for details as the Board finalizes the details of a scholarship in Suzanne's name.

Although an anniversary celebration is necessarily a fond retrospective of past accomplishments, we know that the best is yet to come. Our board meetings are listed on the orchestras' website and in this newsletter. All are welcome to attend, whether it is merely to listen, or to help us plan the adventure that will be the PYO's next 25 years.

Jerry Geiger, President

Year in Review: 2012-2013 Season

Three very talented senior soloists performed during our silver Anniversary concerts.



Ty Gable



Natalie Gilbert



Amy Chryst

Ty Gable, flutist, from East Stroudsburg H.S. South performed the first movement of Mozart's Flute Concerto No. 1 in G Major, K. 313. Ty is now attending the Schwob School of Music at Columbus State University as a Woodruff Scholar studying flute.

Natalie Gilbert, Soprano Soloist, sang Donizetti's "Chacun le Sait" from Daughter of the Regiment. Natalie is attending West Chester University and is pursuing a career in music education with a concentration in voice.

Amy Chryst, violinist, performed the first movement of Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto in E Minor, Op. 64. Amy is majoring in violin performance at Ithaca College.

Ronald DeGrandis, a Lehigh Valley Musician and retired Music Educator, composed two pieces for the Orchestras in celebration of the PYO's 25th Anniversary. The PJSO performed the DeGrandis composition, "Thunderbolt," and the PYO performed DeGrandis' "Silver Celebration." DeGrandis attended both concerts and worked with the Orchestras in rehearsals prior to the performances.



Alumni – Our orchestras hosted a welcome reception for our returning alumni after which many of them performed with us on stage during one of the concerts. It was good to see familiar faces again and learn about the musical and career adventures of our former musicians.



INTRODUCING OUR STUDENT SOLOISTS FOR THE 2014 WINTER CONCERTS

Jeremiah Boeman



Jeremiah Boeman, a senior at Pleasant Valley High School, will be featured in a performance of Richard Strauss' Waldhorn Concerto. "Waldhorn" is German for French Horn (literally "Forest Horn"). The instrument is misnamed since the horn is German in origin, not French. Strauss grew up listening to his father play the Horn so it is no surprise that Strauss composed a piece featuring the instrument. However, even Strauss' father found the solo in this piece extremely difficult and too risky to perform in public.

Come see Jer and the PYO perform this great Strauss Horn Concerto.

Eric Papa

Eric Papa, a senior at East Stroudsburg High School South will perform "Concertino for Clarinet" by German composer, Carl Maria von Weber. Weber wrote his Concertino for clarinet and orchestra in E flat major (1811) for Heinrich Bärmann, one of the most accomplished clarinetists of the day. As the instrument was relatively new, Weber's works for the clarinet broke new ground by affording it a new measure of prominence and displaying its wide-ranging capabilities for both expressivity and virtuosic display. Eric is a gifted clarinetist and we expect you will enjoy his performance of this difficult but entertaining piece.



PYO's Trip to Carnegie Hall

On March 2, 2014, the PYO will sponsor a bus trip to New York City



to hear the New York Youth Symphony perform at Carnegie Hall.

Brahms's Fourth Symphony anchors a program that includes the debut of a quartet comprised of flute, oboe, cello and keyboard calling themselves "The Pleasure is the Law." They will perform Olivier Messiaen's rarely performed Concert à quatre. The group has performed recital programs at various venues including the Aspen

Music Festival and School, Bard College Conservatory, Ridgewood (NJ) Patron Series at Westside Church, and Bargemusic. They take their name and inspiration from this quote of Claude Debussy: "Some people wish above all to conform to the rules. I wish only to render what I can hear. There is no theory. You have only to listen. Pleasure is the law." Details of the trip will be distributed to orchestra members soon.

Preview of the Winter Concerts

Tony and Audrey Simons have planned a challenging repertoire for the Winter Concerts. The PJSO will perform Handel's Passacaglia, Saint-Saens Carnival of the Animals, Holst's "In the Bleak Midwinter", Meyer's "Momentum" and a fun piece called "Chicken Foot Transplant."

The PYO will feature two talented seniors in separate concertos for French Horn and Clarinet that are sure to please our audiences. We will also hear Richard Wagner's, Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg, and Gustav Holst's Jupiter from the Planets. On a less serious note, the PYO will perform a challenging piece composed by Briton, Paul Hart, called the "Cartoon." This whimsical piece celebrates the artistically creative music of Saturday morning cartoons with the big opening credits, a cat and mouse tease and chase, a strutting swagger, and a big finale appealing to the child in each of us.

Finally, to get into the holiday spirit, please join our orchestras at the Stroudsmoor Country Inn on December 8, 2013, when we play at our annual "tree lighting" event. Details are on our webpage.

POCONO YOUTH ORCHESTRA 2013-2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

Jerry Geiger, President
Jennifer White, Vice-President
Deborah Prince, Treasurer
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Lisa Snyder
Marie Snyder
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Karen Stylianides
Luis Vidal

Musical Directors

Anthony Simons
Audrey Simons

Pocono Youth Orchestra

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Stroudsburg, PA 18360
<http://www.pocono-youth-orchestra.org>
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610-965-0268

We ask for your support!

Running a high quality program requires significant financial resources, not all of which are covered by student tuition.

Our costs include Directors' salaries, music purchases, the printing of programs and the partial subsidy of our annual field trip to Carnegie Hall. Student tuition is much lower than that of similar orchestras.

Therefore, we depend upon generous donations from parents, friends, alumni and the community to support our young musicians. Your contributions are invited and are always greatly appreciated.

To make a contribution, please see our web page at www.pocono-youth-orchestra.org for contribution forms and visit us on Facebook to get up to the minute news about PYO events.



"Were you at last night's performance?
I heard they're going to Carnegie Hall next year!"