

POCONO YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Spring Concerts

Saturday, May 30, 2015

Sunday, May 31, 2015

2014-2015 SEASON

String-Along at Hillcrest Retirement Community, December 16, 2014

Winter Concerts, January 17 & 18, 2015

Carnegie Hall Trip to New York Youth Symphony Concert,
March 8, 2015

Spring Concerts, May 30 & 31, 2015

2015-16 Season Auditions, June 1, 2015

AUDITIONS NOTICE

Auditions for new members for both the PYO and the PJSO will be held on Monday, June 1, 2015, at Stroudsburg Area Junior High School. Openings are anticipated in the PYO for high school musicians playing violin, viola, cello, string bass, flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, horn, trumpet, trombone, and percussion. All students through present high school juniors are eligible to apply. In the PJSO, performing opportunities exist for all accomplished young string instrumentalists in elementary and middle school. Minimum requirements are at least two years of private instruction and strong music reading ability.

Auditions, which last about ten minutes, will be scheduled by appointment. Students will be asked to perform a prepared solo piece of their choice, and to sight read appropriate music for their instrument.

Both orchestras rehearse weekly throughout the school year on Monday evenings. They perform two formal concerts each year as well as a Christmas "String-Along," and other performance opportunities. Each year orchestra members also attend a New York Youth Symphony concert at Carnegie Hall.

To schedule an audition or for more information, please call Anthony or Audrey Simons at (610) 965-0268 or visit our website at www.pocono-youth-orchestra.org or follow us on facebook.

POCONO YOUTH ORCHESTRA

ANTHONY SIMONS, *MUSIC DIRECTOR*

AUDREY SIMONS, *ASSISTANT MUSIC DIRECTOR*

SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2015

7:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2015

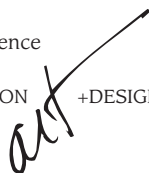
3:00 P.M.

AUDITORIUM

STROUDSBURG HIGH SCHOOL

PYO logo design: © T.H. Lawrence

Program typesetting: MCMAHON +DESIGN



THE DIRECTORS

Anthony Simons, music director, maintains a career as an orchestral performer, chamber music musician, solo recitalist and music educator. Mr. Simons has been a member of the Maryland Symphony Orchestra, the Pocono Pops Orchestra and the Chaminade Wind Quintet. In addition, he has served as the principal clarinetist of the Pennsylvania Sinfonia Orchestra and the Haff Chamber Music Series, and has performed with the Alexandria (VA) Symphony, Annapolis (MD) Symphony Orchestra, the Champaign-Urbana (IL) Symphony, Lehigh Valley Chamber Orchestra, Allentown Symphony, and Pottstown Symphony, as well as numerous theatre and opera orchestras. He received the Artist Diploma in clarinet from the Peabody Conservatory of Music, the Master of Music degree in clarinet performance and literature from the University of Illinois, and a music education degree from West Chester University. Mr. Simons is presently on the music faculty at Muhlenberg College, and the East Penn School District, and teaches a private studio of young clarinetists. In 2005, he was selected for inclusion in the 9th Edition of *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*.

Audrey Simons, assistant music director, is an active cellist and instructor. Mrs. Simons is a cellist in the Allentown Symphony Orchestra, and is a founding member of the Chestnut Hill Chamber Players, based in the Lehigh Valley. She also performs with the Pennsylvania String Ensemble. She received the Bachelor of Music degree in cello performance from Susquehanna University. She was subsequently awarded a teaching assistantship at the Temple University Esther Boyer College of Music, where she received the Master of Music degree in music history with summa cum laude honors. In 1996, while teaching music history at Montgomery County Community College, she received the Faculty Award for Teaching Excellence. In 2002, she was selected for inclusion in the 23rd Edition of *Who's Who of American Women*. Currently, Mrs. Simons is a cello instructor on the music faculty and teaches a Cello Techniques class for music education majors at Moravian College.

PROGRAM

Pocono Junior String Orchestra

L'estro Armonica	Antonio Vivaldi & Johann Sebastian Bach arr. Bob Lipton
Celtic Canon	Johann Pachelbel/Traditional arr. Crystal Plohma
Arabian Dreams	Soon Hee Newbold
A Fiddler's Fancy	Richard Meyer
Steampunk	Richard Meyer

INTERMISSION

Pocono Youth Orchestra

Triumphal March and Ballet Music from <i>Aida</i>	Giuseppe Verdi
The Rhythm of Figaro	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart arr. Porter Eidam

Percussion Ensemble

Joseph Visceglia, Nick Fleming, Liuba Miranosava, Luke Simons

Brandenburg Concerto No. 6 in B ^b Major, BWV 1051 I. (Allegro moderato)	Johann Sebastian Bach arr. Christopher Souza
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Emily Geiger, Viola Soloist
Sophia Rostock, Cello Soloist

Concerto for Violin and Orchestra, Op. 14 I. Allegro	Samuel Barber
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Joseph Snyder, Violin Soloist

"Die böse Farbe" from <i>Die schone Müllerin</i>	Franz Schubert
<i>Steven Visceglia, Tenor Soloist</i> <i>Amy Zhang, Pianist</i>	

Selections from <i>The Phantom of the Opera</i> <i>The Phantom of the Opera - Think of Me -</i> <i>Angel of Music - The Music of the Night -</i> <i>Masquerade - All I Ask of You</i>	Andrew Lloyd Webber arr. Calvin Custer
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Finlandia, Op. 26, No. 7	Jean Sibelius
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The music is partially funded through grants provided by the Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts and the East Stroudsburg Savings Association Charitable Foundation.

POCONO JUNIOR STRING ORCHESTRA

Violin

Vasilia Briegel
Olivia DeRosa
Dylan DiLauro
Nia Esposito
Elias Fernandez
Maggie Gralinski
Leah Jardel
Amy Kadonoff
Solei Lasanta
Rebekah Livermore
Megan McLain
Olivia O'Grady
Hannah Persaud
Ellie Pinchback
Isabel Rivera

Victoria Robles
Cameron Rothstein
Nicole Sekol
Terease Tomaszewski
Claire Weitzmann
Juliet Whidden
Claire Xie

Viola

Paras Briegel
Molly Christy
Chelsea Cirillo
Madelyne Gasper
Jack O'Brien
Samantha Tsang

Cello

Elizabeth Mathiesen
Niamh McCabe
Dana Persaud
Ryan Pinchback
Rweza Rugabandana
Gwenn Strasser

Bass

Sierra Holbert

POCONO YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Violin

India Baker
Tristan Boheim
Cameron Dougherty+
Luke Dougherty
Maura Dougherty+
Emily Fleming
Abigail Lantz+
Meaghan Lawlor+
Christie Lee
Kariem Morssy+
Charles Nutaitis
Sarah Osman+
Olivia Reed+
Sarah Reinhardt
Adam Snyder
Joseph Snyder+
Justin Stanton
Kaiti Stylianides
Elise Tomaszewski
Brianna Weaver, Guest
Rebecca Xi

Cello

Sarah Chesko
Sienna Fernandez
Nell Kopytnik
Emma Kowzun
Gabriella Mohring
Nadia Moustafa
Sophia Rostock+
Sarah Strohschein
Kristen Weaver, Guest
Elizabeth Whidden+
Anthony Wong

Bass

Nicholas Bradley
Meredith Constable
Timothy Geiger
Johnny Valinote

Flute

Krista Nash+
Carina Cohen+

Viola

Augustin Cavalier+
Emily Geiger+
Brooke Givens
Maci Kendrick
Kara Lawlor
Sarah Portz
Melissa Salvadeo
Antonios Stylianides
Olivia Szablinska

Oboe

Woodrow Battle+
Nikki Weaver, Guest

Clarinet

Luke Simons
Jessica Ng+
Steven Visceglia+

Bass Clarinet

Steven Visceglia+

Bassoon

Derrick Simms, Guest

Alto Saxophone

Woodrow Battle+

Horn

Stephanie Fritz
Tristan Flanagan+
Edward Harbison+
Daniel Cano+

Trumpet

Pierce O'Dowd
Ryan Murphy
Christina Zhang

Trombone

Eric Wolf
Mike Preston
Dan Magan, Guest

Tuba

Joshua Cloward

Percussion

Nicholas Fleming+
Liuba Miranosava
Joseph Visceglia+

Piano

Amy Zhang

*string seating rotates
+graduating seniors

Our Soloists



Emily Geiger is a senior at Stroudsburg High School and performed with our orchestras for nine years, a current PYO record. Emily 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.

Marsha Cahn and Christopher Souza mentored Emily on violin and later, viola, starting when Emily was just 5 years old. She credits their instruction with the passion that she has for performing. Thank you, Marsha and Chris!

Emily represented Stroudsburg at the PMEA District 10 Orchestra for three years. She received a superior

rating in viola performance for 3 years from the National Federation of Music Clubs' annual festival held at East Stroudsburg University. Emily participated in the Youth in Music Excellence competition through the Pocono Arts Council for 3 years.

Emily attended 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 began playing together for several years before becoming a string quartet with violinist, and friend, Joseph Snyder. During the summer of her freshman and sophomore years she attended the Performing Arts Institute at Wyoming Seminary where she performed weekly 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*. She performed at the orchestra festival in Hershey as a freshman. Emily thanks her Stroudsburg music teachers, including Mary Bechtel, Wendy Wilson, Shannon Smith, Gretchen Taylor, and Lisa Rogers for their support and guidance.

Emily performed with the *Sound of Strings* Quartet at the COTA jazz festival for the past 3 years. Her ensemble performs at weddings, Pocono Arts Council functions, and other community events. Her performances with her friends, Joe Snyder, Olivia Reed, and Sophia Rostock, have been a total pleasure and an unforgettable experience.

During her high school years, Emily's extra-curricular activities included varsity tennis, FBLA, Sports Club, and the Pocono Medical Explorers. She is a member of the National Honor Society and is currently the Vice-President. This fall, Emily will attend the George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

Emily thanks her family for their support, encouragement, and the many car rides and lessons over the years. She thanks her friend, Sophia Rostock, who she met in third grade, for her friendship and for performing a duet for their final curtain calls in high school. Finally, Emily thanks Tony and Audrey Simons for giving her the pleasure of performing with a first-rate group of musicians made possible by your inspiring leadership.

Sophia Rostock is graduating from Stroudsburg High School where she first started playing the cello in the fifth grade. She has been playing the cello for eight years and has taken private lessons with Audrey Simons for the past seven years. She was a member of 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 has received six superior ratings from the National Federation of Music Clubs and has 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 has 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. She also enjoys reading and petting cute animals.

Sophia has chosen to study at the Sunderman Conservatory at Gettysburg College where she will double major in Cello Performance and History. She would first like to thank her parents and family for their unwavering support and encouragement, and her friends for always supporting her as well. Growing up with a dad who is a professional musician, and in a community with so many wonderful musicians has been very inspiring for her. Sophia's Papa was also a professional trombonist and was always excited about her cello playing. Today would make him very proud.

Sophia would like to thank Tony and Audrey Simons for all the hard work they put into directing PJSO and PYO, and the vast opportunities they offer all of us. A huge thank you to her teacher and role model Audrey Simons for helping to nurture and inspire her love of classical music and for helping her grow as a musician.

Joseph 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 under the private instruction of Mrs. Christine Wetzel. He was a member of the Lower School and Middle School Ensembles and played with the School for Strings at Carnegie Hall in New York City when he was in third grade. During the summer of his elementary school years, Joseph participated in many Suzuki Camps all over the Northeast while continuing his private study of the violin with Ms. Stephanie Bell and Ms. Emily Orenstein. In seventh grade, Joe transferred to Notre Dame High School where he had the good fortune to further his violin study with Mr. Chris Souza and became a member of the Pocono Junior Strings Orchestra. He participated with the Junior Strings for two years and has been a member of the Pocono Youth Orchestra for the last four years. As a member of the Pocono Youth Orchestra, Joseph was the 2014 recipient of the Outstanding Ensemble Player Award.

Joseph 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 studied with orchestra conductor and principal bassoonist, Mark Gigliotti and violin instructor, Noah Geller of the Philadelphia Orchestra. In the summer of 2012 and 2013, Joseph had the opportunity to attend the Performing Arts Institute at Wyoming Seminary where he later became a member of the Wyoming Seminary Civic Orchestra, under the musical direction of Dr. Rick Hoffenberg of Marywood University.

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.

Joseph is also a member of the *Sound of Strings* quartet which won the Youth and Music Excellence award for the senior ensemble category in 2011. The Quartet has publicly performed on numerous occasions for the Red Cross Telethon, the opening evening services at the Church on the Mountain for the Delaware Water Gap Jazz Festival and the Gazebo summer concert series, the Pocono Community Theater, the Pocono Arts Council, and various other venues and events.

Joseph plans to continue to study the violin while in college by joining the college symphony and a chamber ensemble. He also intends to study Global Business and eventually, attend Law School to study International Corporate Law.





Steven Visceglia is a senior at Stroudsburg High School graduating in the Spring of 2015. He has succeeded academically, extra-curricularly, and musically throughout his high school career. He has been on the High Honor Roll and in the Top 10% of his class all four years. He was a player 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. Musically, he 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 has 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. Instrumentally he has been selected for Pennsylvania Music Educators

*Ich möchte ziehn in die Welt hinaus,
Hinaus in die weite Welt;
Wenn's nur so grün, so grün nicht wär,
Da draußen in Wald und Feld!*

*I'd like to go out into the world,
Out into the wide world;
If only it weren't so green, so green,
Out there in the forest and field!*

*Ich möchte die grünen Blätter all
Pflücken von jedem Zweig,
Ich möchte die grünen Gräser all
Weinen ganz totenbleich.*

*I would like to pluck all the green leaves
From every branch,
I would like to weep on all the grass
Until it is deathly pale.*

*Ach Grün, du böse Farbe du,
Was siehst mich immer an
So stolz, so keck, so schadenfroh,
Mich armen weißen Mann?*

*Ah, Green, you hateful color, you,
Why do you always look at me,
So proud, so bold, so gloating,
And me only a poor, flour-covered man?*

*Ich möchte liegen vor ihrer Tür
[In] Sturm und Regen und Schnee.
Und singen ganz leise bei Tag und Nacht
Das eine Wörtchen: Ade!*

*I would like to lay in front of her door,
In storm and rain and snow.
And sing so softly by day and by night
One little word: farewell!*

*Horch, wenn im Wald ein Jagdhorn,
Da klingt ihr Fensterlein!
Und schaut sie auch nach mir nicht aus,
Darf ich doch schauen hinein.*

*Hark, when in the forest a hunter's horn
sounds - Her window clicks!
And she looks out, but not for me;
Yet I can certainly look in.*

*O binde von der Stirn dir ab
Das grüne, grüne Band;
Ade, ade! Und reiche mir
Zum Abschied deine Hand!*

*O do unwind from your brow
That green, green ribbon;
Farewell, farewell! And give me
Your hand in parting!*

March 2015, ranking 8th in the state on his voice part. He has served as cantor at St. Matthew's Church since 9th grade. He has studied voice with Sue Jordan since 10th grade and feels he owes much of his musical growth to her guidance. He states his greatest musical influence to be his incredibly talented older sister, Victoria. Steven will be attending Syracuse University in the fall to major in Music Performance in Voice in order to follow his dreams. He also plans to add a double major in Radio and Television. Steven would like to thank everyone who has ever contributed to his success, musically or otherwise.

Our Seniors in PYO



Woodrow Battle is a senior at Stroudsburg High School and has been a member of the Pocono Youth Orchestra for the past four years. Woody plays the oboe and also plays the alto and tenor saxophones and piano. In school, he has participated in concert band for 8 years, jazz band for 5 years, marching band for 5 years, and percussion ensemble for one year. He has been featured in his high school's musicals for three years, and most recently played the lead role of Professor Harold Hill in *The*

Music Man. In addition to musical activities, he has been involved in varsity cross country for 4 years, varsity track and field for 4 years, student government for one year, and model congress for 5 years. He serves as the president of his class at SHS. Woody plans to attend Moravian College for political science and environmental studies with hopes of lobbying for alternative energy eventually.

"I'd like to thank my whole family for always supporting my desires and interests and all of my teachers who have instilled such vehement intrigue in music and its importance in school."

Daniel Cano, french horn player in the orchestra, has been playing since fourth grade. He chose the horn because of its unique sound and the technical demands of the instrument. He attends East Stroudsburg Area High School North where he plays in the symphonic band under the direction of Paul Bakner. He is also this year's Drum Major for the school's marching band. He has performed much of the horn repertoire including Strauss' Horn Concerto No.1 in E-Flat Major Op.11, Mozart's Horn Concerto No.4 in E-Flat K-495, Paul Dukas' Villanelle, and Robert Schumann's Adagio and Allegro. This year, he has auditioned and won chairs in both District Band and Orchestra as well as both Region Band and Orchestra. He has attended the Performing Arts Institute at Wyoming Seminary as well as the North Eastern Horn Workshop at Penn State University where he intensely studied the horn and music. After graduation, he plans to attend Penn State University to major in Music Performance as well as enter the military for the reserves. He hopes to become a professional french horn player for a major symphony orchestra. Daniel would like to thank everyone who has helped him get to where he is now; and a special thanks to the Pocono Youth Orchestra for giving him to opportunity to share a musical experience right here at home.



Augustin Cavalier has been a violist in the PYO for three years following five years as a violinist in PJSO for a total of eight years. He has served as Secretary of Mother of Divine Grace's chapter of the National Honor Society and on the leadership committee for his parish's youth group. He enjoys acting with the "Storybook Theatre" young adult theater group at Western Pocono Community Library, of which he has been a part since its inception, as well as with Quiet Valley Living Historical Farm since 2009. In his spare time, he enjoys working on the Haiku operating system, and he was recently voted onto the development team this past February. This coming fall, Augustin will be attending Christendom College in Front Royal, Virginia and will study Mathematics. After graduating, Augustin hopes to get a job "somewhere in the tech industry".



This has been **Carina Cohen's** first year in Pocono Youth Orchestra. She enjoys playing flute and piccolo in concert band and marching band at East Stroudsburg South, and had the privilege of attending both PMEA District X and Region V Band this year. This year she was also chosen to participate in the Marywood Senior Wind Band Celebration and the Allentown Band Side-by-Side concert. Carina is a member of the school's spring musical production, Scholastic Scrimmage, Science Olympiad, and National Honors Society. Carina received the Bernard F.

Clemens Mathematics Scholarship, was a National Merit Scholar Commended Student, and is in the top percent of her class. She will be attending Vassar College in the fall to study human behavior. Carina would like to thank her family and Tristan Flanagan for their constant love and support, Dan Cano and Luke Simons for all the hype, and "Dad" for everything.

Cameron Dougherty - It doesn't seem possible that this will be the last concert with the Pocono Youth Orchestra. Six years of membership as a violinist in this group has provided Cameron with many positive life experiences including a better understanding of his abilities as a musician; as well as his appreciation of being part of a music ensemble. Cameron has enjoyed being an active member of his school community and feels the diversity of these experiences has prepared him to successfully navi-



gate his freshman year in college as well as awarding him with multiple opportunities to advance in his academic career. During his senior year, Cameron has sat as the Vice President of the Creative Writing club and is a member of the Art Society and German club. He has received the rank of Magna Cum Laude on the National Latin exam and is awaiting the results of the National Myth and Epic exam. He has been involved in various clubs and ran on Cross Country and Track and Field for three years.

As a student at Scranton Prep, he is considered to be an integral part of the Jesuit community, and is responsible for completing service hours annually to contribute to the "good of all humanity". This belief system has given him the opportunity to seek out agencies that are in need of volunteers. Cameron has worked in the soup kitchen at St. Luke's R.C.C., refurbished a transition home for the Salvation Army, and landscaped properties for The ARC of Northeastern PA.

Cameron intends to major in the field of chemistry with a focus on research and development. He has received academic scholarships, covering more than two-thirds of tuition costs, at each of the schools to which he has applied and has narrowed his choice down to the University of Scranton and Drexel University. He already knows he will continue his love of music at the college level and is looking forward to playing in the orchestra. Ultimately, Cameron would like the opportunity to revisit Europe in an academic and/or professional capacity.

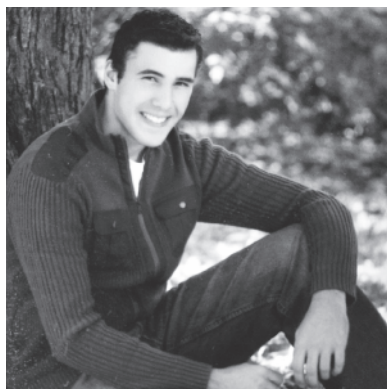
He has embodied the motto of Scranton Prep – "Ad Altiora Natus" born for higher things (St. Stanislaus Kostka).



Maura Dougherty is a senior at Easton Area High School. She has played violin with the PJSO and PYO for seven years. She has played violin since third grade, participating in Easton Area High School Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Strings, and EAHS String Quartet (String Theory). Maura is also a member of Easton Area High School Concert Choir, Camerata, and Chamber Singers as well as French Honor Society. In addition, she is orchestra librarian, choir librarian, and the fundraising co-chair of National Honor Society. Maura has been recognized as an AP Scholar

with Distinction and a commended National Merit Scholar. She is employed as a page at the Easton Area Public Library and volunteers with the Easton Area Catholic Youth Group and the Northampton County Historical and Genealogical Society. In her spare time, she enjoys playing piano, reading, and stress baking. Next year she will attend Franklin & Marshall College to study chemistry and public policy. She would like to thank her lesson teacher Mrs. Melin for mentoring her over these ten years. She would also like to thank her parents for their continual support and encouragement.

Tristan Flanagan has been playing french horn in the Pocono Youth Orchestra for five years. He is the senior drum major of the Stroudsburg High school marching band, and also participates in chorale, school musical, FBLA, percussion ensemble and national honors society. Tristan is excited to be a national competitor in FBLA after receiving first in his event of digital video production at the state level. In his free time, Tristan enjoys Djing, making videos and doing small voiceover work. Tristan plans on attending Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, California next year to study film and television production. He would like to thank his friends and family, as well as the ever so lovely Carina Cohen for supporting him in everything he chooses to do.



As a senior at Stroudsburg High School, this is **Nick Fleming's** fourth year in PYO. Throughout his career in high school, he has performed with over 10 different extracurricular ensembles, including the Stroudsburg High School Marching Band, Percussion Ensemble, Show Choir, Concert Band, and Pit Orchestra; all of which he has participated for 2 or more years. He also has performed with the PMEA District 10 Orchestra, an ensemble comprised of the best student-musicians of this area. Outside of school, he also likes to volunteer through the Stroudsburg Little League Program and the local

chapter of the National Honor Society. His honors include: Traveling to Europe with the *People to People Student Ambassador Program*, Attending a *National Youth Leadership Forum* conference in Washington DC, and Becoming an inductee to the *National Society of High School Scholars*. Next year, Nick will be attending Penn State University to pursue a degree in Engineering Science. While at University Park, Nick will stay involved with musical ensembles, and hopes to become a rising member of the Blue Band.

Emily Geiger is a senior at Stroudsburg High School. This is her fourth year with the PYO performing on viola. She joined the PJSO as a fourth-grade student and her instrument was the violin. She performed with the PJSO for five years playing viola for three years. Her favorite subjects in school are Anatomy, German and Physics. Her favorite composers are Wagner and Hindemith. She enjoys listening to pop, alternative, and dance music, as well as Christmas music near the holidays. She enjoyed

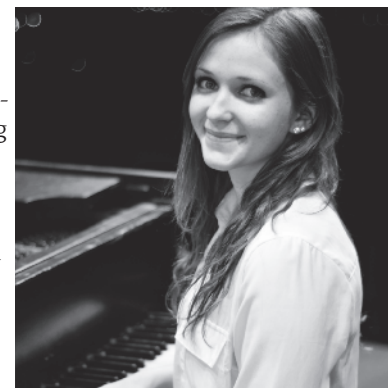


reading *My Sister's Keeper*, *The Fault in Our Stars*, and the *Harry Potter* series by her favorite authors Jodi Picoult, John Green, and J.K. Rowling. Her extra-curricular activities include the Stroudsburg High School chamber and pit orchestra, FBLA, Sports Club, varsity Tennis, National Honor Society Vice President, and a member of the *Sound of Strings* quartet. She has participated in the Youth in Music Excellence competition through the Pocono Arts Council and with the PMEA District Orchestra. She has made High Honor Roll and is in the top 10% of her class. As a member of the FBLA she has participated in the Regional and State Leadership Conferences. She received The Outstanding Ensemble Player Award during the 2015 PYO winter concert. Outside of school, Emily participated in the Medical Explorers through Pocono Medical Center and has volunteered at AWSOM animal shelter and a local nursing home. Her hobbies include playing tennis, reading, listening to music, shopping, and walking her dog. She enjoys the orchestra because she likes learning challenging music and performing with friends. She plans to attend George Washington University to major in Biology/Pre Med and pursue a career in the medical field.



Ed Harbison has played French horn in the Pocono Youth Orchestra for the past two years. He is Life Rank in Boy Scouts and is a member of the National Honors Society. He also partakes in the Rubik's Cube Club along with Shakespearian Players at his school. He currently runs two brass ensembles at his school (Pleasant Valley) and is a part of jazz band, pep band, concert band, marching band, and, outside of school, Pocono Youth Orchestra. He plans to go to Moravian College with a President's scholarship to major in mathematics and chemistry and minor in music.

Abby Lantz is a senior at Stroudsburg High school. She has played violin for the orchestra for eight years, 4 years in PJSO and 4 years in PYO. She started piano and singing at age 3, violin at age 4, and began playing flute in band in the 5th grade, and is currently in the Stroudsburg High School band. On piano, Abby has performed and accompanied the SJHS and SHS show choir and the High School Musical. She was musical director and accompanist for Shawnee Playhouse this season. Abby has participated in the PFMC Festival for 12 years receiving multiple gold cups in piano, violin, voice, flute and composition. She just received her 12-year certificate and fourth gold cup for piano, constituting 12 years of superiors. Abby has performed in Youth In Music Excellence Awards for piano, voice, and composition, having won twice for composition and once for voice. She entered the Junior Composer's Contest for 4 years and won



first place for the State for 2 years, and won first place for the Region which includes 6 states. Abby has studied violin with Chris Souza and is currently studying piano with Scott Besser. In addition to voice and instrumental activities, Abby has been studying dance since she was four, and is currently attending West End Academy of Dance. She believes her membership in the orchestra has provided her with valuable experience regarding the inner workings of an orchestra. She will be attending Berklee College of Music next fall where she attended a summer songwriting workshop over the summer of 2014. She will be majoring in Music Composition.



Meaghan Lawlor is a senior at Pocono Mountain East High School, and has been playing violin with PYO for three years. At school, she participates in: Concert Choir, Show Choir, this years' spring musical *Little Women*. She is also an Editor for *Reverie Literary Magazine*, has written for the school newspaper, the *Cardinal Quill*, is a member of the Spanish Honor Society, a member of Reading Olympics, and is an Honor Roll student. Outside of school, she ushers and acts at the Shawnee Playhouse, and has done numerous productions such as, *The Irish* and *How They Got That Way*, *Legally Blonde*, and

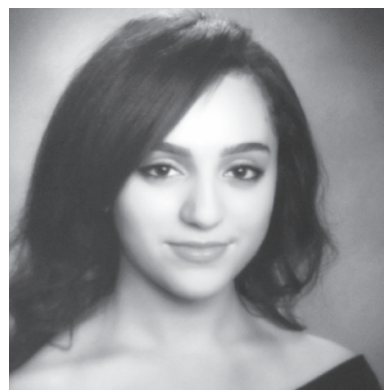
Cyrano. She thoroughly enjoys writing poetry, and prose, acting, and music and hopes she can pursue her passion to write novels or plays in the future. She plans to attend Cedar Crest College in the fall and major in English and minor in Theatre. She would like to thank her family for supporting her every step of the way and especially her best friend, Beka and her amazing family. "Here I go, and there's no turning back. My great adventure has begun! I may be small but I have giant plans to shine as brightly as the sun."—*Little Women*.

Kariem Morssy, a violinist in The Pocono Youth Orchestra, has spent the past six years with us. He is a very intelligent student, excelling highly in the fields of history, taking advanced placement courses in American, European, and World history, and wishes to further his study of politics and economics in the future. A very well-read individual, focusing on the canon of American Literature with such mind-warping novels including *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest* as well as the more socially critical novels like *Fahrenheit 451*. He plans to attend the Pennsylvania State University in the fall, also playing as a member of their concert band. He hopes to travel with the Peace Corps after college to expand his experience with the international community and to help those in need, and maybe entertain them with some music along the way.



Krista Nash has been a flutist in Pocono Youth Orchestra for two years. She is involved in many extracurricular and community activities such as Key Club, National Honor Society, Future Business Leaders of America, Peer Tutoring, World Club, Meals on Wheels, Feed the Hungry, Pocono Alliance, Relay for Life, Marching Band and Toys for Tots. She enjoys reading, listening to music, socializing with friends and helping her community in numerous ways. She will be attending the University of Pittsburgh to major in Nursing with a minor in French. Her ultimate goal is to become a Nurse Practitioner and work in a hospital.

Clarinetist and three-year member of PYO, **Jessica Ng** is a dedicated bunny enthusiast who has been the Vice President of Interact Club, member of National Honor Society, assistant coach for Girls on the Run and Jr. High Cross Country, managed the Stroudsburg Swim team, was a varsity runner for Cross Country, a teacher for Sunday School and other church activities including their orchestra, was recently involved with the pit orchestra for Stroudsburg High School musical production, *The Music Man*, and other various classified organizations. Her accomplishments include High Honor Roll, Top Ten Percent, holding her breath for thirty-four seconds, and avoiding eighty-nine percent of Stroudsburg's potholes. She plans to attend the University of Pittsburgh with a major in Biology/Pre-med while specializing in becoming a world-renowned Bruce Willis impersonator. She is a hopeful for the new President of the Oprah Winfrey fan club (nationally recognized).



Sarah Osman is a graduating senior from Stroudsburg High School. She has been a violinist in the Pocono Youth Orchestra for the past six years. She will be attending University of Massachusetts Amherst in the fall. Throughout high school, Sarah has been very involved in music. She studies violin under Fritz Valenches. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, working out, and keeping up with politics.



Olivia Reed is attending Stroudsburg High School and has been a member of the Pocono Youth Orchestra for 7 years; having 3 years PJSO and 4 years in PYO. In school, she has participated in a number of organizations. Olivia has participated in Future Business Leaders of America, Student Government, Cross Country, Chamber Orchestra, National Honor Society, and was a manager for the Boys Basketball team. For the last 4 years, Olivia has been a member of the *Sound of Strings* Quartet, with fellow PYO members Sophia Rostock, Emily

Geiger, and Joe Snyder. Olivia plans to attend Rutgers University in the fall and major in Marketing.

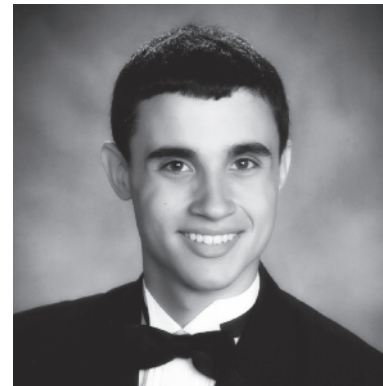
Sophia Rostock is a senior at Stroudsburg High School where her favorite subjects are orchestra, history, and biology. She played the cello for three years in PJSO and is in her fourth year with PYO. Her favorite composers are Tchaikovsky, Faure, Saint-Saens, and Bach. Her favorite music is alternative and classical. Jodi Picoult and Suzanne Collins are among her favorite authors and her favorite books include *If I Stay* and *Plain Truth*. She is a member of National Honor Society, FBLA, SHS Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, and the Stroudsburg Varsity Tennis Team. She is in the top ten percent of her class and has received six consecutive superior ratings at the festival sponsored by the National Federation of Music Clubs. She has also been selected for PMEA District and Regional Orchestra, and is a member of the Sound of Strings Quartet. Sophia's hobbies include reading, playing tennis, hanging with friends, and watching Netflix. She enjoys playing challenging music in orchestra and the cookie breaks. Sophia will attend Gettysburg College in the fall to study cello performance and history.



Joseph Snyder has been playing violin with the Pocono Junior Strings Orchestra and the Pocono Youth Orchestra for the past six years. He is a senior at Notre Dame High School and is a member of the National Honor Society, Student Council, Class Vice President for grades 9 and 11, Senior Class Treasurer, Varsity Tennis Team, and the Lead Defense Attorney for the Notre Dame Mock Trial Team under the guidance of the Honorable Michael Muth. In 2013, he was awarded "2nd Best Lawyer" and in 2014, "All Team Attorney" for the Monroe County Mock Trial Invitational. The Notre Dame Mock Trial



Team won the District title in 2014 and placed second in 2015. Joseph has been selected as a Coca Cola Scholar semifinalist and a finalist for the National Security Language Initiative for Youth program where he will spend seven weeks this summer studying in Jiaxing, Zhejiang, China. In his free time, Joseph studied Tang Soo Do for nine years with the Rising Phoenix Martial Arts Academy under the instruction of Martha Heise. He was awarded a Black Belt 1st Dan in 2011 from the World Tang Soo Do Association. Joe also started his own company, DJ J-Shock Entertainment and enjoys providing DJ music for public and private events. Joe wishes to thank Chris Souza for molding him into the violin musician that he is today, Mr. and Mrs. Simons for introducing him to a challenging yet extremely rewarding orchestra experience, Martha Heise for helping to build his character and strength, the Honorable Michael Muth for being a role model, all of the teachers for helping him along the way, local DJ, Gary Smith for believing in his abilities and work ethic, and his parents for providing him with the support and encouragement to pursue his dreams. Joseph 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.



Joseph Visceglia is a senior at Stroudsburg High School where his favorite subjects are math and science. This is his fifth year as a percussionist in PYO. He enjoys all types of music to listen to and literature to read. His favorite authors include Suzanne Collins, Eoin Colfer, and Mitch Albom. Joe is a member of the school's Marching Band, Scholastic Scrimmage, FBLA, Science Olympiad, Peer Tutoring, Student Government, Historian of National Honor Society, Concert Choir, Concert Band, and the School Musical. He is the Class Secretary and fourth in his class. He is a twenty-time medal winner in Science Olympiad and three-time award winner in FBLA. His hobbies include baseball, watching television, and playing ping-pong. He will attend Lock Haven University in the fall on a full-tuition scholarship in the Pre-Physician's Assistant accelerated program.

Steven Visceglia is a senior at Stroudsburg High School playing clarinet and bass clarinet in the PYO for the third year. He also studies voice. He belongs to the Show Choir, the Chorale, Future Business Leaders of America, Student Government, and is the National Honor Society Treasurer and has been selected for PMEA District Band and PMEA District, Regional, and All-State Choir. He has also won Youth in Music Excellence Awards. He was a state finalist in the 2015 Elks National Most Valuable Student



Competition and received a scholarship as a result. Music is his favorite subject in school, and he enjoys reading, singing, and watching television. He likes both popular music and classical arias and lists Mendelssohn, Schubert, and Schumann as favorite composers. *The Shining* and *How I Grew Up* are his favorite books with Stephen King and Susan Moore Jordan as his favorite authors. Steven treasures making music with his friends and creating respectable music together. He will be attending Syracuse University in the fall to major in Vocal Performance and add a double major in Radio and Television.



Elizabeth Whidden is graduating from Stroudsburg High School this spring as her class's Salutatorian. She has been a cellist in PYO for four years following three years in the PJSO. She is a National Merit Commended Scholar and a Presidential Scholar Nominee. Elizabeth is the recipient of the Stanley Becker Environmental Science Scholarship and was selected by her school as recipient of the Bausch and Lomb Honorary Science Award. Elizabeth is the President of Stroudsburg's chapter of the National Honor Society where she has organized and led many community service

events. Elizabeth was a four-year varsity runner for the Stroudsburg High School's cross country team as well as a co-captain her senior year. She is a member of her school's orchestra, chamber orchestra, and pit orchestra. She has received nine superior ratings from National Federation of Music Clubs Festival in cello and piano. She is also a member of the Environmental Club, the Vegetarian Club, Science Olympiad, and Future Business Leaders of America. Outside of school, Elizabeth is a senior company member at the Notara School of Dance and Acting and also gives cello lessons. In addition, she has held an internship at the Northeast Wildlife DNA lab at East Stroudsburg University for the past three years. Next year, she will attend Vassar College where she will major in Biology and Environmental Science and minor in Spanish.

*Please join us for refreshments
in the Auditorium Lobby
immediately following today's concert*

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Great job, Chelsea! We enjoy watching you perform every time.
Nana and Pop

Chelsea, you are a superstar. We look forward to seeing your many talented performances in the future.
Grandma and Grandpa

Chelsea, We are so proud of you. Keep reaching for the stars.
We love you!
Mom and Dad

Claire, We are so proud of the person you are! Always keep a song in your heart. Love you,
Donna and Terry

Charles, We are very proud of your dedication and hard work!
Best wishes on your performance.
Mom and Dad

India, We share your love of music, and love to hear you play the violin.
Mom and Dad

Outstanding Ensemble Player Award:

Winter 2014	Eric Wolf, trombone
Spring 2014	Joseph Snyder, violin
Winter 2015	Maura Dougherty, violin
	Emily Geiger, viola
	Sophia Rostock, cello

Suzanne E. Anderson Memorial Scholarship Recipient for 2014:

Eric Papa, clarinet



This project was supported by the Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts (PPA), the regional arts funding partnership of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency. State government funding comes through an annual appropriation by Pennsylvania's General Assembly and from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. PPA is administered in this region by the Pocono Arts Council



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are grateful to the **Stroudsburg School District** and **music teachers at the Stroudsburg High School** for use of the Stroudsburg High School Auditorium and facilities for our performances. We also wish to thank the district and **music teachers at the Earl F. Groner Junior High School** for sharing the band room with us every Monday evening for rehearsals.

We wish to thank **East Stroudsburg University and the Department of Music** for their past support of our orchestral performances.

We want to thank the **Pocono Arts Council** for all their endeavors on our behalf.

A warm *thank you* to all parents and friends who volunteered their time to help prepare for this concert. In particular, we thank:

Anonymous for providing emergency First Aid String Kit.

Jean Boheim, Karen Geiger, Diane Rostock, and Marie Snyder for their fund-raising efforts.

Claire Buss for copying the bowings in all of the string parts.

Forrest Cavalier and Jennifer White for their technology expertise.

Laurie Fleming, Donna Kowzun, and Karen Stylianides for their assistance with hospitality.

Karen Geiger for collecting Mr. Z's receipts and organizing the hall monitors.

Jerry Geiger for the creation of our PYO Newsletters.

J.R. Judd Violins for supplying the PYO and PJSO orchestra folders.

Debbie Prince for coordinating the Carnegie Hall trip, and her leadership in securing grants.

Karen Geiger and Jennifer White for their assistance with boutique items at our performances.

Violinist **Chris Souza** for his assistance with the PJSO and PYO violinists.

Georgios Stylianides for his candid photography throughout the season.

Luis Vidal for his graphic arts and banner design.

Karen Barthol for creating the PYO Web Page and **Georgios Stylianides** for currently managing the PYO Web Site. To visit the PYO Web Site, our address is: <http://www.pocono-youth-orchestra.org>.

Jerry Geiger and Luis Vidal for initiating the PYO Facebook page.

The **PYO Board of Directors, Jerry Geiger**, president, for their ongoing support and assistance throughout the year.

A MOST SINCERE THANK YOU to our Board Treasurer, Dr. Deborah Prince, for her 20 years of service to the Pocono Youth Orchestra.

PYO is a member of NFMC/PFMC and is sponsored by the Music Study Club of the Stroudsburgs.

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