

POCONO
YOUTH
ORCHESTRA

Winter Concerts

Saturday, January 18, 2014

Sunday, January 19, 2014

2013-2014 SEASON

Christmas Tree Lighting at Stroudsmoor, December 8, 2013

String-Along at Grace Park Retirement Community, December 17, 2013

Winter Concerts, January 18 & 19, 2014

Carnegie Hall Trip to New York Youth Symphony Concert,
March 2, 2014

Spring Concerts, May 31 & June 1, 2014

2014-2015 Season Auditions, June 2, 2014

AUDITIONS NOTICE

Auditions for new members for both the PYO and the PJSO will be held on Monday, June 2, 2014, 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, tuba, 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.

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Program typesetting: MCMAHON +DESIGN



POCONO YOUTH ORCHESTRA

ANTHONY SIMONS, *MUSIC DIRECTOR*
AUDREY SIMONS, *STRINGS ASSISTANT*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 2014

7:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2014

3:00 P.M.

CECILIA S. COHEN RECITAL HALL
EAST STROUDSBURG UNIVERSITY

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

Carnival of the Animals

I. Royal March of the Lion

V. The Elephant

XII. Fossils

Camille Saint-Saens

arr. Frank J. Halferty

Chicken Foot Transplant

Matt Turner

In the Bleak Midwinter

Gustav Holst

arr. Brendan McBrien

Passacaglia

George Frederic Handel

arr. Robert S. Frost

Momentum

Richard Meyer

INTERMISSION

Pocono Youth Orchestra

American Salute

Morton Gould

Horn Concerto No. 1 in E-flat Major, Op. 11

Richard Strauss

I. Allegro

Jeremiah Boeman, Horn Soloist

Cartoon

Paul Hart

Concertino for Clarinet in E-flat Major, Op. 26

Carl Maria von Weber

Eric Papa, Clarinet Soloist

Jupiter, the Bringer of Jollity,
from *The Planets*

Gustav Holst

*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
Luke Dougherty
Nia Esposito
Elias Fernandez
Leah Jardel
Amy Kadonoff
Christie Lee
Rebekah Livermore
Olivia O'Grady
Isabel Rivera
Victoria Robles
Cameron Rothstein
Nicole Sekol
Adam Snyder

Elise Tomaszewski
Terease Tomaszewski
Claire Weitzmann
Juliet Whidden
Rebecca Xi

Viola

Melissa Salvadeo
Antonios Stylianides
Brooke Givens
Samantha Tsang
Kara Lawlor
Chelsea Cirillo
Madelyn Gasper
Jack O'Brien

Cello

Sienna Fernandez
Emma Kowzun
Elizabeth Mathiesen
Niamh McCabe
Rweza Rugabandana

Bass

Timothy Geiger
Meredith Constable

*seating rotates

POCONO YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Violin

India Baker
Amanda Berwick+
Tristan Boheim
Josh Charlton
Cameron Dougherty
Maura Dougherty
Emily Fleming
Jennifer Jolivet+
Alexandra Kozak+
Abigail Lantz
Meaghan Lawlor
Jessie Liu+
Kariem Morssy
Charles Nutaitis
Sarah Osman
Evalyn Palmer+
Olivia Reed
Sarah Reinhardt
Richard Sarker
Joseph Snyder
Rosie Sobrinski+
Kaiti Stylianides
Eva Marie Swartout+
Alanis Torres+
Alexa Vaghenas

Viola

Emily Geiger
Maci Kendrick
Olivia Szablinski
Augustin Cavalier

Cello

Kristen Weaver+
Maria Biery+
Sophia Rostock
Elizabeth Whidden
Nell Kopytnik
Sarah Chesko
Sienna Fernandez
Anthony Wong

Bass

Edwin Sanchez+
Nicholas Bradley

Flute

Meghan Ertle+
Krista Nash
Adriana Velez+

Oboe

Woodrow Battle

Clarinet

Luke Simons
Eric Papa+
Jessica Ng
Steven Visceglia

Bass Clarinet

Steven Visceglia

Bassoon

Derrick Simms

Horn

Jeremiah Boeman+
Tristan Flanagan
Katie Cleveland+
Edward Harbison

Trumpet

Katerina Ramos+

Trombone

Eric Wolf
Bryce Pandolfo+
Dan Magan, Guest

Tuba

Josh Charlton

Percussion

Nicholas Fleming
Liuba Miranosava
Mark Van Auken+
Joseph Visceglia

Piano

Jessie Liu+

*string seating rotates
+graduating seniors

Our Students in PYO

India Baker is a freshman at Pocono Mountain East High School and plays the violin. This is her first year in the PYO after having played four years in the PJSO. Her favorite subject in school is Spanish, and she enjoys listening to pop, rap, and classical music. Her favorite composer is Vivaldi. She is very involved and passionate about dance and has been performing with the Notara Dance Theater Senior Company as well as participating as an intern with the Buck Hill Skytop Music Festival. In school, she is a member of the Odyssey of the Mind team and Mensa member/columnist. She has been named to the Distinguished Honor Roll and Mensa Honor Society. She enjoys being in the orchestra because it gives her a chance to play her violin at a high skill level and meet new people. In the future, she would like to go to college and find a career that would involve helping animals.

Woodrow Battle is a junior at Stroudsburg High School. In his third season with PYO, Woody plays the oboe and also plays the alto and tenor saxophones. At school, he participates in Marching Band and Jazz Band. He lists Hans Zimmer as one of his favorite composers and history as his favorite school subject. Woody enjoys running and wants to always keep laughing. He values PYO since he has the opportunity to be a soloist.

Amanda Berwick, a senior at Stroudsburg High School, has been playing violin in the PYO for the three years. She also enjoys playing the guitar and has begun piano studies as well. Amanda's favorite subject is math, and her extra-curricular activities include playing softball for Stroudsburg's senior league and spending as much time outdoors as possible. Amanda enjoys hiking, camping, boating, biking, archery, and art. Being a part of the orchestra relaxes Amanda and gives her a sense of happiness. She enjoys listening to the classical works of Bach, Handel, Vivaldi, and Beethoven but has a broad range of musical interests that include many different genres. Books at the top of Amanda's list include *Carnal Innocence* by Nora Roberts and the *Twilight* series. Amanda plans on continuing her education in the field of criminal justice.

Maria Biery is a twelfth-grade student at Moravian Academy. She is in her third year of the PYO, following one year in PJSO. Maria plays the cello in PYO, but also plays piano and saxophone. Maria likes studying history in school. Her favorite composers are Schumann, Debussy, Rachmaninoff, and Brahms, and she prefers jazz, pop, and classical music. Her favorite authors are George Orwell, Stephenie Meyer, and Suzanne Collins, and her favorite books are *1984*, the *Twilight Saga*, and the *Hunger Games*. She is a member of Model UN, YAF, the cross country team, Jazz Band, and Orchestra. Her awards and honor include eight consecutive superior ratings for her piano performances in the National Federation of Music Clubs Festival, National Junior Honor Society, Highest Academic Average in Sophomore Class, AP Scholar, and

Outstanding Social Studies Student. Her hobbies include running and practicing instruments. She enjoys orchestra because it gives her the opportunity to play challenging music with a dedicated group of musicians. Maria has received a full scholarship to the University of Pennsylvania where she will pursue degrees in political science and music.

Jeremiah Boeman “Jer” is a senior at Pleasant Valley High School where his favorite subject is music theory. Jer has been a member of the PYO for three years. He plays the French horn, tuba, and electric bass. His honors and awards include: • 2012 – *performed at the Allentown Bands Side-By-Side concert; PMEA District 10 Band; PMEA District Orchestra; Certificate Academic Excellence in tenth-grade band.* • 2013 – *PMEA District 10 Band; PVHS Performing Arts Award for Outstanding Bass player.* Favorite composers include an eclectic assortment of musical talent – American composers: Steve Jablonsky, Kevin Riepl, and Jeremy Soule who are best known for music in video games, television, and film; Ramin Djawadi, an Iranian-German composer who is best known for his scores for *Iron Man, Pacific Rim, and Game of Thrones.* When not playing music, Jer enjoys reading the works of Phillip Farkas (*The Art of French Horn Playing*) and Dan Brown. Favorite books include *The Infernal City* and *The DaVinci Code*. Jer plans on continuing his education with a concentration in computer science and information technology.

Tristan Boheim is a tenth grader at Pocono Mountain East High School. Tristan plays the violin and saxophone and has been a member of the PJSO for three years and PYO for the past two years. The orchestra allows him to meet peers from other schools who share similar interests. He enjoys listening to House music and rap. Favorite composers include Vivaldi and Elliot del Borgo, an American composer for winds and strings. Tristan enjoys snowboarding, skateboarding, and is a member of his school's tennis and debate teams. Tristan enjoys a good book by his favorite author George R.R. Martin. Tristan is considering a career in Journalism.

Nicholas J. Bradley is a freshman at Stroudsburg Junior High School. This is his first year playing double bass with the PYO. His favorite subject in school is social studies, and his favorite classical composer is Bach. He enjoys alternative music but also listens to all forms of music. His favorite author is Rick Riordan and his book titled *39 Clues*. He is a member of the junior high school chamber orchestra and has been awarded the President's Award for Academic Excellence. His hobbies include video gaming, running, and playing the bass. He enjoys the orchestra because he likes to hear how the new music sounds, and he absolutely loves the concert days when he can see how his hard work and practice has paid off. In the future, he plans to obtain a business or science degree from Temple University.

Augustin Cavalier is a junior homeschooled student playing viola in the PYO this year. Previously he played violin for five years in the PJSO and one year in the PYO. Augustin's favorite subject is history, and he likes to write computer software. His favorite composers are Adam Agee, Mozart and Beethoven. His favorite musical works include any-

thing by Stellar Kart as well as Beethoven's Fifth Symphony and Rossini's *William Tell* Overture. Richard Paul Evans and G. K. Chesterton are his favorite authors. He likes playing in the orchestra with others who share a love of music. Augustine's future plans include college studying computer science.

Josh Charlton is an eleventh-grade student at Easton Area High School, where he is a member of the marching and concert bands, symphony orchestra, chamber string ensemble, brass quintet and pit orchestra. He was a member of PJSO for four years playing violin, and has played both violin and tuba in the PYO, where he is in his third year. His favorite composers are Tchaikovsky and Chopin, and he enjoys both classical and indie music. Josh has participated in both the PMEA District X and Region V bands, the Allentown Band Side-By-Side concert, and the Susquehanna High School Wind Ensemble Institute. His favorite school subject is European history and a favorite book is *The Catcher in the Rye*. He also is a member of Boy Scout Troop 29. Josh enjoys the musical literature that he has the opportunity to play with PYO.

Sarah Chesko is in tenth grade at Stroudsburg High School where her favorite subject is music theory. She has been playing the cello for PYO for two years. Sarah's favorite composer is Tchaikovsky, and she enjoys all kinds of music. Stephen King is her favorite author and the *Hunger Games* Trilogy is among her favorite books. She is a member of Saint Luke's Youth Group. Sarah finds playing with PYO "challenging and yet calming." She plans to pursue a career in the music industry.

Katie Cleveland is a senior at East Stroudsburg High School South. This is her first year playing the French horn in PYO. She plays in her school's marching band and also the Salvation Army Band. Katie's favorite subject is math, and she lists Richard Strauss as one of her favorite composers. One of her favorite books is *Lord of the Flies*, and one of her favorite authors is Dr. Seuss. At PYO rehearsals, she loves hearing the sounds of the string instruments combined with the winds, brass and percussion. Katie plans to attend college to study to become a pediatrician.

Cameron Dougherty is a junior at Scranton Prep playing violin for the second year in the PYO after three years in the PJSO. His favorite subject is science, and he enjoys reading, building, drawing and cross-country. Cameron lists Wagner and Queen as his favorite composers and also enjoys alternative rock music. His favorite authors are John Delaney and Frank Herbert while his favorite books are *The Last Apprentice* and *Dune*. He is planning to become a mechanical engineer and enjoys orchestra because it allows him to relax after a long day.

Maura Dougherty is an eleventh-grade student at Easton Area High School where her favorite subjects are English and calculus. She played violin for three years in PJSO, and this is her third year in PYO. Her favorite composers are Tchaikovsky and Mozart. She enjoys listening to metal, classical and rock. Her favorite authors are Amy Reed and Jane Austin. *Clean* and *Pride and Prejudice* are among her favorite books. She

is a member of the National Honor Society and the National French Honor Society. She is active in Keep Africa Well, Chamber Orchestra, Youth Quake Explosion, and Easton Area Catholic Youth Group. Maura's hobbies include reading, writing, and playing piano. She enjoys PYO for the opportunity to play advanced music with a group of talented musicians. Maura plans to attend college and major in chemistry.

Meghan Ertle is a senior at Pleasant Valley High School. This is her second year in PYO. She plays flute and piccolo in the orchestra and also plays trombone in the Pleasant Valley Marching Band and Jazz Band. Meghan adores math; her favorite class is trigonometry. Meghan enjoys music by the composers John Powell, James Newton Howard, and Danny Elfman. She enjoys listening to English artists such as Passenger and other music in the alternative genre. Her favorite authors and novels are George R.R. Martin (*Game of Thrones*) and James Dashner (*Maze Runner*). Meghan is the secretary of National Honor Society and The Music Honor Society (Tri-M). Her hobbies include watching movies, attending zumba-thons, and baking. She plans on majoring in mathematics.

Sienna Fernandez is a freshman at Pocono Mountain East High School. This is her first year playing cello with the PYO. She played with the PJSO for two years prior. She also plays the piano and the clarinet. Her favorite subjects in school are biology and math. Her favorite composers are Handel and Bach, and she enjoys listening to pop and Spanish music. Her favorite authors are Patricia Cornwell and Agatha Christie, and she enjoyed reading *The Glass Castle* and the *Hunger Games* series of books. She is involved in her church activities and likes to read and bake. She participated in the PMEA Intermediate District Band throughout middle and junior high school. She enjoys the orchestra to meet new people and to accept the challenge of playing more difficult music. In the future, she plans to go to nursing school and work in the health care field.

Tristan Flanagan is a sophomore at Stroudsburg Junior High School playing French horn in the PYO for his third year. He also plays melophone, trumpet and piano and likes music by John Williams and Alfred Reed. He plays in the Marching Band, the Concert Band, the Jazz Band and sings in the Chorale. He also does lighting design for Black Sheep Productions. Tristan's hobbies include filmmaking, arranging music and lighting design. He enjoys the *Harry Potter* series. He says that the PYO "provides a unique learning experience and lets me learn different styles of music." Tristan plans to go to film school and become a professional filmmaker.

Emily Fleming is a tenth grader at Stroudsburg High School. This is her second year playing violin for the PYO, and she feels it is a great way to relax at the end of the day while still providing the challenge of complex musical goals. Emily also enjoys playing the flute in the SHS Marching Band and is a member of the Future Business Leaders of America. Honors and awards include being chosen to play in the 2011/2012 PMEA District 10 Intermediate Orchestra and earning an

academic standing of high honors. Emily enjoys English and science. Her favorite composers are Mozart, Vivaldi, and Beethoven, but she enjoys listening to alternative and pop as well. Emily enjoys reading books by her favorite authors Nicholas Sparks, Suzanne Collins, and Jodi Picoult. Favorite books are *Dear John* and the *Hunger Games* series. Emily plans on attending college when she graduates and continuing her music.

Nick Fleming is a Junior at Stroudsburg High School. This is his third year in PYO. He plays percussion in the orchestra and also plays keyboard. His favorite subjects include sciences and music. Nick's favorite composers are David Brubeck and Brian Balmages, and he enjoys listening to just about all different types of music. His favorite book is David Baldacci's *Hell's Corner*. Nick also participates in Stroudsburg Marching Band, Concert band, Show Choir, National Honor Society, and is an avid snowboarder at local ski resorts. He is an alumnus of People to People Student Ambassadors and NYLF. He enjoys orchestra for the music and friends. He would like to have a career in Special Effects with a minor in Music Technology and Physics, and hopes to someday be designing auditoriums and running the equipment inside them.

Emily Geiger is a junior at Stroudsburg High School. This is her third year with the PYO playing viola. She was a member of the PJSO for five years playing violin and viola. Her favorite subjects in school are German and anatomy. Her favorite composers are Wagner and Hindemith. She enjoys listening to pop and country 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 school chamber orchestra, pit orchestra, FBLA, Sports Club, varsity Tennis, National Honor Society, 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 for the past six years. She has made High Honor Roll, Honor Roll, regional and state competitions for FBLA, and is the Junior Representative in the high school orchestra. Her hobbies include playing tennis, reading, listening to music, shopping, and Zumba. She enjoys the orchestra because she likes learning new and challenging music, performing with friends, and enjoying the delicious cookies at break time. In the future, she plans to attend college, major in the science or medical field, and continue playing the viola.

Edward Harbison is an eleventh grader at Pleasant Valley High School and has been playing the horn for PYO this past year. He enjoys being a part of the orchestra because of the challenging music and interaction with peers who share similar interests. He also plays the mellophone and piano. Math is a favorite subject, and he plans to continue his studies of mathematics or chemistry when he attends college next year. Favorite composers include Debussy and Khachaturian, a Soviet Armenian composer. Edward likes listening to Dub Step and Glitch Hop and reading the works of Shakespeare and Douglas Adams. His favorites include *Hamlet* and the *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*. Edward

is an active member of Marching band, Concert band, Jazz club, Pep club, and the jazz and men's choir. In his spare time, he enjoys playing Minecraft and Halo. Edward has received awards in Life Scouts, Boy Scouts, and has received honors in mathematics.

Jennifer Jolivet is a senior at Stroudsburg High School playing violin in the PYO for the third year. She also plays viola, cello and flute. She lists Vivaldi, Mozart, Dvorak and Tchaikovsky as her favorite composers. She likes alternative rock, Indie rock and pop in addition to classical music. Her favorite subject is math. Jennifer lists Orwell as her favorite author and *1984*, *Invisible Man* and *Game of Thrones* as her favorite books. She is active in the National Honor Society, the Pit Orchestra, Peer Tutoring and Marching Band. Her honors include January Exchange Club Youth of the Month and PMEA District Orchestra. Her hobbies include writing and drawing. She says that PYO is a good team-building activity where she learns a lot. She hopes to study mathematics and become a neurologist.

Maci Kendrick is a tenth-grade student at Stroudsburg High School where her favorite subjects are English and history. She played the viola in the PJSO for three years, and is now in her second year playing for PYO. She also plays the cello. Her favorite composers are Bach and Mozart, and she enjoys nearly all genres of music. Cassandra Clare, John Green, and Michelle Hodkin are among her favorite authors. Favorite books include the *Mortal Instruments* series, the *Infernal Devices* series, *Paper Towns*, *Looking for Alaska*, and *The Fault in Our Stars*. Maci is a high honor roll student and is a member of her school's student government, varsity tennis, and high school musical. Her hobbies include playing tennis, reading, writing, and crafting. She enjoys the challenge PYO provides and the opportunity it gives to express herself. Maci's future plans include traveling the world and possibly earning a living through her writing.

Nell Kopytnik is a sophomore at Stroudsburg High School and has been playing the cello for the past two years in the PYO. She was previously in the PJSO for two years. In addition to cello, she enjoys playing the piano. Her favorite subjects in school are Global Issues and math, and her favorite composers are Vivaldi, Chopin, and Tchaikovsky. She listens to music in a variety of styles including pop, rock, alternative, hip-hop, soundtracks, and foreign. She reads books by F. Scott Fitzgerald, Ernest Hemingway, John Green, and Patrick Suskind. Some of her favorites include *The Great Gatsby*, *Looking for Alaska*, *Anthem*, *Perfume*, and *Catcher in the Rye*. She is a peer tutor in the high school, and in her spare time likes to travel, read, and draw. Nell enjoys the orchestra because it gives her an excellent opportunity to play the cello with a group of young musicians. In the future, she plans to major in computer science or mathematics and becoming a computer programmer or financial engineer.

Alexandra Kozak is a senior and honor roll student at Stroudsburg High School playing violin in the PYO for her third year following three years in the PJSO. She likes indie rock and country music and lists anatomy as her favorite subject. She identifies Lisa Scottoline and Nicholas Sparks as her favorite authors and *Look Again*, *Save Me*, and

The Wedding as her favorite books. Alexandra is a member of the Stroudsburg High School Orchestra, East Stroudsburg University Community Orchestra, the Pocono Medical Explorers, Best Buddies for students with disabilities, and Key Club. Her hobbies include kayaking, canoeing, swimming, hiking, playing field hockey, scuba diving and skiing/snowboarding. She enjoys orchestra because she can enhance her violin skills by playing challenging music and meet new people. Alexandra plans to attend East Stroudsburg University and major in Biotechnology.

Abby Lantz is an eleventh grader at Stroudsburg High School. She has played violin for the orchestra for over seven years, 4 years in PJSO and 3 years in PYO. Her favorite subject is math, and she enjoys listening to the music of Hans Zimmer, a German film composer and music producer, and Michael Giacchino. Abby is an active member of the West End Academy of Dance and her local youth group and likes to spend her free time playing the piano and composing music. She believes her membership in the orchestra has provided her with valuable experience regarding the inner workings of an orchestra. After graduation, she plans to attend the University of the Arts so she can major in film scoring.

Meaghan A. Lawlor is a junior at Pocono Mountain East High School. This is her second year with the PYO playing violin. She also plays the viola and the cello. In school, her favorite subject is Language Arts and history. Her favorite composers are Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, and Wagner. She enjoys listening to the music of Mumford and Sons, Foo Fighters, and Led Zeppelin. She enjoys reading books by authors Colum McCann, Victor Hugo, Jane Austen, and Cassandra Clare. She has enjoyed reading *Pride and Prejudice*, *Wuthering Heights*, *Sherlock Holmes*, and the *Mortal Instruments* series. At school, she participates in PME track team, Reading Competition, Mock Trial, and Literary Magazine. She is also the recipient of an award for overall Academic Excellence as well as Academic Excellence in English. Her hobbies include time traveling in the TARDIS and visiting 221B Baker Street. She enjoys playing violin with the other talented musicians of the PYO and finds the music diverse and challenging to play. In the future, she hopes to go to Boston College and major in journalism and English.

Jessie Liu is a twelfth-grade student at Stroudsburg High School. She plays the violin and piano in her third year with PYO. She also plays the guitar and cello, and math and psychology are her favorite subjects. Jessie likes composers such as Bach, Vivaldi, Mozart, Chopin, Liszt, Debussy and many more. She enjoys classical, jazz, and alternative rock/Indie music. Favorite authors include Jane Austen, Stephen King, James Patterson, P.C. Cast, and J.K. Rowling. *Pride and Prejudice*, *The House of Night* series, *Harry Potter* series, are among her favorite books. At school, she is a member of the National Honor Society, SHS Chamber Orchestra, SHS Pit Orchestra, Show Choir, TSA and Key Club. She is a high honor roll student, an ABRSM grade eight pianist, and the recipient of the Pocono Youth Music Award in 2009 and 2010. Her hobbies include teaching violin and piano to beginning musicians, reading, and composing. Jessie finds she is very comfortable playing with the orchestra and loves playing music that she enjoys. Jessie plans to attend college and major in applied arts and architectural design with a minor in music.

Liuba Miranosava is a sophomore at Stroudsburg High School. This is her third year playing percussion in the PYO. Her favorite subject in school is French, and her favorite composers are Johann Strauss and Eric Whitacre. She listens to alternative rock and enjoys books by the authors J.K. Rowling, Phillip Pullman, and Margaret Mitchell. Some of her favorite books include *Gone with the Wind*, *White Fang*, and the *Harry Potter* series. She is a member of the SHS Marching Band and Jazz Band and FBLA. She has attained honor roll and is in the top ten percent of her class. In her spare time, she enjoys hiking, baking, reading, watching films, and exploring. She enjoys the orchestra because she likes classical music and the experience of being part of the group. In the future, she plans to attend a university and study biology, foreign languages, or anthropology.

Kariem Morssy is a junior at Mt. Olive High School in NJ. He has been in the PYO for two years and before that the PJSO for three years playing the violin. He is interested in playing the guitar and cello. He likes AP History and Language Arts in school. He is also taking AP French. German composers are his favorite, and he listens to all types of music. He enjoys the orchestra because he finds it relieves stress and allows him to open his heart and feel vulnerable to emotions.

Krista Nash is an eleventh grader at Stroudsburg High School. She has been a member of the PYO for one year and plays flute. Krista also plays the piccolo and piano and enjoys the works of Beethoven and Debussy. Favorite authors include Veronica Roth, James Patterson, and Janet Evanovich. Favorite reads include the *Divergent* and *Mortal Instruments* series. She tutors, excels in science, enjoys reading, listening to music, and hanging out with her friends. Krista is a member of the National Honor Society, Marching Band, Key Club, Choir, and SADD and has received a Leadership Award. Krista plans on attending college upon graduation and would like to enter the medical field so she can help people.

Jessica Ng is an eleventh-grade student at Stroudsburg High School where her favorite subjects are math and French. This is her second year playing the clarinet for PYO. Her favorite composers are Antonio Vivaldi and John Williams. She enjoys listening to classical music. Her favorite author is J.K. Rowling and she has "way too many favorite books to name!" Jessica is a member of the Stroudsburg cross country team and was in the top ten percent of her tenth-grade class. Her hobbies include Concert Band, running, and playing with bunnies. She enjoys the amazing sounds that come out of her instrument in orchestra, and finds it incredible to hear it mixed with everyone else. Jessica aspires to become a surgical oncologist, but also hopes to continue playing in an orchestra or band as long as she possibly can.

Charles Nutaitis is a tenth-grade student at Pen Argyl Area High School where his favorite subject is Spanish. This is his first year in PYO playing the violin. His favorite composer is Vivaldi, and he enjoys performing music - especially pieces that are upbeat and in a quick tempo. Charles enjoys listening to many styles of music including pop, country, classical, and classic rock, and he especially enjoys the music at his school's dances. He is a member and volunteers for the Plainfield Farmers Fair organization where the group conducts a five-day agricul-

tural fair in Plainfield Township, PA. He participates in his school chorus, chamber singers, orchestra, drama club, and "Gang Green" (football pep club). He also participates in the State Theatre Summer Acting Camp. His honors include National Junior Honor Society, Principal's 90% Club; awards of excellence in chorus, technology, foreign language and Chinese. Charles' hobbies include board games, swimming, bicycling, and hiking. He enjoys orchestra because it challenges him to improve musically. It provides an opportunity to meet new people who are serious about music and enjoy playing music. He is looking forward to his school's music adjudication trip to Virginia Beach this coming spring. His future plans include attending Lafayette College, and traveling all fifty states and Europe.

Sarah Osman is an eleventh-grade student at Stroudsburg High School where her favorite subjects are math and science. She played the violin for two years in PJSO and is in her third year with PYO. She also plays the piano. Her favorite composer is Vivaldi, and she appreciates all genres of music. Sarah's favorite author is Charles Bukowski. She is a member of TSA, model congress, and Chamber Orchestra. Sarah finds orchestra to be relaxing. In the future, she hopes to become a nurse.

Evalyn Palmer is a senior playing violin in the PYO for the third year after one year in the PJSO. She also plays piano and lists English as her favorite subject. F.J. Haydn is her favorite classical composer, and she also likes alternative music. She likes to read and belongs to drama club. Rick Riordan and Lemony Snicket are her favorite authors. Evalyn lists *Heroes of Olympus* and the *Hunger Games* series as her favorite books. She hopes to become a music teacher and likes orchestra because of the musical challenge it provides.

Bryce Pandolfo is a twelfth-grade student at Pleasant Valley High School, where his favorite subject is math. This is his second year playing trombone in the PYO. His favorite type of music is alternative rock, and his favorite authors are Steven King, James Patterson, and Dan Brown. He has especially liked reading *The Dark Half*, *Digital Fortress*, and *The Beach House*. Bryce is the senior drum major of the Pleasant Valley Marching Band, a member of National Honor society, Music Honor Society, and WESL. In his free time, he enjoys playing trombone, soccer, and basketball. Bryce enjoys PYO because he can play challenging music that he can work at to better his playing. In the future, Bryce would like to attend college and become an engineer.

Eric Papa is a senior at East Stroudsburg High School South playing clarinet for the second year in the PYO. At ESHS-South, he participates in Concert Band, Marching Band, Concert Choir and Choraliers. He has been selected for both PMEA District and Regional Band and PMEA District Choir. He lists band and physics as his favorite subjects and likes to read and listen to orchestral music, both classical and contemporary. Eric lists Tchaikovsky, Liszt, Paganini, Wagner, Weber and Debussy as his favorite composers. Charles F. Haanel and Jack Canfield are his favorite authors, and *The Master Key System* is his favorite book. Eric enjoys PYO because it gives him the opportunity to express himself in a way that he cannot do in any other setting. His future goal is to earn a bachelor's degree in clarinet performance.

Katerina Ramos is a senior at Pleasant Valley High School, and this is her first year playing trumpet for the PYO. An accomplished musician, she also plays the violin, piano, saxophone, guitar, and ukulele! It's no surprise that Katerina loves the "unique and beautiful" sounds experienced in orchestra. Favorite music includes classical, pop, punk, and rock. Her top picks for reading are *The Mortal Instrument* series, *Maximum Ride*, and *Sherlock Holmes*. In her free time, Katerina enjoys running, listening to music, and playing video games.

Olivia Reed is a junior at Stroudsburg High School playing violin in the PYO for the third year after three years in the PJSO. She also plays cello and percussion. Hip-Hop is her favorite music, and Gustav Holst her favorite composer. History is Olivia's favorite subject in school. Olivia participates in Stroudsburg Chamber Orchestra and the National Honor Society. She has been a winner of Youth in Music Excellence Awards twice. She likes baking and reading and lists Suzanne Collins and Simone Elkeles as her favorite authors with the *Hunger Games* series as her favorite books. Olivia likes orchestra because she enjoys playing classical music with her friends. She plans to go to college to pursue a degree in marketing.

Sarah Reinhardt is a freshman at Stroudsburg Junior High School. She plays the violin and has been doing so for about five years. This is her first year in PYO. She enjoys listening to J-Pop the most but also likes listening to classical music when she can. In school, her favorite subject is Language Arts. Her favorite author is James Patterson, and she enjoys reading *Maximum Ride*. She is active in her school's orchestra, along with its chamber orchestra in which she is first chair. Her hobbies include drawing, writing, reading, running, and playing her violin. Sarah enjoys orchestra because "it allows me to express myself in a way that words cannot. It is also extremely relaxing." She plans to attend an art school to study music, art and literature.

Sophia Rostock is an eleventh-grade student at Stroudsburg High School where her favorite subjects are music theory and English. She played the cello for three years in PJSO and is in her third year with PYO. Her favorite composers are Antonio Vivaldi, William Henry Squire, and Gustav Mahler. Her favorite music is alternative, pop, and country. Sarah Dessen, John Green, and Suzanne Collins are among her favorite authors. Her favorite books include the *Hunger Games* series, *Looking for Alaska*, *The Fault in Our Stars*, and *If I Stay*. She is a member of the National Honor Society, FBLA, SHS Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, and the Stroudsburg Tennis Team. She is in the top ten percent of her class and has received five consecutive superior ratings at the festival sponsored by the National Federation of Music Clubs. She also plays the cello for the *Sound of Strings* Quartet. Sophia's hobbies include playing tennis, reading, and hanging with friends. She enjoys playing challenging music in orchestra and the cookie breaks. She plans on attending college in the future.

Edwin Sanchez is a senior at Stroudsburg High School where his favorite subject is biology. This is his first year playing bass for PYO. Lindsey Stirling and Casey Lee Williams are among his favorite composers. He enjoys listening to Papa Roach and Rise Against. He is a member of the Internet Club and the National Honor Society. Edwin

enjoys reading, gaming, practicing his bass, and sports. He enjoys orchestra because he loves to play the bass and enjoys learning challenging music. He plans to go to college and major in marine science.

Richard Sarker is an eleventh-grade student at Dallas High School where his favorite subjects are world literature and history. He played the violin in the PJSO for one year and is now in his third season with PYO. His favorite composer is J.S. Bach, and he enjoys almost all genres of music. His favorite authors include Harper Lee and Sapphire. *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *Push* are among his favorite books. He is also a member of Arts YOUNiverse Suzuki Strings. The Lehigh Valley Chapter AAA Performances have recognized Richard for his accomplishments. His hobbies include playing the violin while he enjoys orchestra for the variety of music and the opportunity to play with a large group. He plans to continue playing the violin as a hobby and aspires to become a doctor.

Derrick Simms is a senior at Stroudsburg High School playing bassoon for the second year in the PYO. He also plays cello, euphonium, tuba, clarinet, oboe, trumpet and horn. His favorite subject is French. Derrick enjoys PYO because of the opportunities to play challenging repertoire and perform with others. He hopes to attend college in Florida to major in music education and minor in French.

Luke Simons is in his fourth year with the PYO playing clarinet. He is a tenth-grade honor student at Southern Lehigh High School where his favorite subjects include Band and Francais Trois. Luke also plays the piano and saxophone and enjoys singing. Billy Joel is one of his favorite composers/musicians, and Rick Riordan is among his favorite authors. He has thoroughly enjoyed reading the *Percy Jackson* series. Luke is a member of the SLHS Concert Band, Marching Band, Jazz Band and Meistersingers. His hobbies include playing musical instruments, golf and baseball. Luke is a seven-year member of the Southern Lehigh Little League. For the past six years, he has received superior ratings for his piano performances at PMTA's Achievement Award Auditions, and has performed in Honors Recitals. Last year, Luke was selected by audition to participate in the PMEA District 10 Chorus. During the past two years, he played clarinet in the Lehigh County Band Festival and PMEA District 10 Band Festival. This winter, he looks forward to again participating in the PMEA District 10 Band Festival. He has also been on stage for his high school theater productions of *42nd Street* and *Shrek: The Musical*, and has performed in the pit orchestra for productions of *The Boys from Syracuse* and *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. He enjoys playing in the PYO because it gives him a chance to perform with other advanced musicians.

Joseph Snyder is a junior at Notre Dame High School and plays the violin. He has been performing with the PYO for three years and with the PJSO for two years prior. His favorite composer is Samuel Barber. Joe enjoys listening to hip-hop, rap, and electric dance music. As an honor roll student, Joe's favorite subject is Language Arts. His favorite author is John Grisham, and he enjoyed reading the *Harry Potter* series of books. He is a member of the Mock Trial team at school and is a black belt in Tang Soo Do. He is a violinist with the student quartet group, the *Sound of Strings*. He performed with a pit orchestra that received a Spotlight Award for Best Pit Orchestra. His hobbies include

snowboarding, basketball, and playing music as a disc jockey. He enjoys the orchestra because he likes making music with his friends. In the future, he plans to attend NYU Stern School of Business and study global business and eventually become an international corporate lawyer.

Rosie Sobrinski is a twelfth-grade student at Stroudsburg High School where her favorite subject is math. She is a high honor roll student in the top ten percent of her class. She played the violin in the PJSO for five years and PYO for four years. She also plays the piano, viola, and bass. Rosie finds the people in PYO very enjoyable and the music challenging. Her favorite composers are Vivaldi and Bach, and she likes listening to Justin Timberlake. J.K. Rowling is her favorite author, and *My Sister's Keeper* by Jodi Picoult, and *The Guardian* by Nicholas Sparks are among her favorite books. Rosie is a member of her high school chorale, chamber orchestra, marching band, key club, science Olympiad, peer tutoring, track and field, and the school musical. She also enjoys baking. Rosie plans to go to college and major in either engineering or math.

Aikaterini (Kaiti) Stylianides is a tenth-grade student at Stroudsburg High School where her favorite subjects are French and orchestra. She played violin for two years in PJSO and two years for PYO. Her favorite composers are Mozart, Handel, and Mendelssohn. She enjoys listening to 90's music, classical, rock, pop, and alternative. Kaiti's favorite authors are J.K. Rowling, Rick Riordan, and Douglas Adams. Her favorite books include *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, *Percy Jackson* series, *Harry Potter* series, and *The Olympians*. She is a member of SHS Marching Band, Chamber Orchestra, Chess Team, Key Club, FBLA, and Greek Dancing. She is in the top ten percent of her class, and she placed second at FBLA Regionals. Her hobbies include reading, writing, knitting, and Doctor Who. She enjoys orchestra because it gives her a place to be herself and have fun in a challenging environment. Kaiti's future plans include attending a four-year university to major in music and biology and ultimately to pursue a Ph.D.

Eva Marie Swartout is a senior at Stroudsburg High School and has been a member of the orchestra for 6 years – 3 years in PJSO and 3 years in PYO. She plays violin for PYO and studies piano and voice. She enjoys being a part of the orchestra because she “loves hearing the music tell a story without words.” Her favorite composers are Bach, Vivaldi, and Beethoven. Her favorite subject is English Literature and hobbies include pottery, painting, horseback riding, reading, yoga, and gardening. Favorite music is Indy, Alternative, and Pop rock. Favorite authors include Cassandra Clare, Elizabeth Chandler, and Laurie Faria Stolarz. At the top of her reading list is *The Mortal Instruments* series, *Kissed By An Angel*, and the *Touch* series. Eva is a recognized high honor roll student and is in the top 10% of her class! She is a member of the National Honor Society, Chamber Orchestra for SHS, Class Secretary, and is a USDF Equestrian Athlete. Eva will be studying Music Business at Belmont University after graduation.

Olivia Szablinska is a tenth-grade student at Stroudsburg High School where she enjoys anything that is musical. This is her second year in PYO playing the viola. John Green is her favorite author, and *The Fault in Our Stars* is among her favorite books. Olivia is a member of her

school's marching band, orchestra, and chorus. She enjoys swimming and finds PYO a good place to make new friends and perform challenging music.

Alanis Torres is a twelfth-grade student at Pocono Mountain East High School where her favorite subject is math. This is her first year in PYO where she plays the violin. She also sings. Her favorite composer is Mozart, and she enjoys listening to jazz. Riding a motorcycle is one of her favorite things to do. Alanis enjoys PYO because music is a big part of her life; "I need music in my life. It makes me feel complete." She plans to attend college and continue her music.

Alexa Vaghenas is a tenth grader at Stroudsburg High School and has been playing the violin as an orchestra member for 4 years – 2 years in PJSO and 2 years in the PYO. Her favorite composers are Mozart and Wagner. She enjoys listening to all types of music except Heavy Metal. She especially likes the diversity of music played in orchestra and finds it relaxing after a busy day. Alexa is member of Show Choir, Chorale, Cross Country, FBLA, Chamber Orchestra, Greek Dance and serves as secretary for FBLA. She enjoys running, reading, traveling, and trying new foods. Favorite authors are Cassandra Clare, Sarah Dessen, and Meg Cabot. At the top of her reading list picks is *Matched* by Ally Condie and *Between Shades of Gray* by Ruta Sepetys.

Mark Van Auken is a twelfth-grade student at Pleasant Valley High School where his favorite subject is computer programming. This is his first year playing percussion with the PYO. His favorite classical composers include Mozart and Beethoven, and his favorite musical style is rock. He lists James Patterson as his favorite author. He enjoys PYO because "it is a different setting with more challenging music." In the future, Mark plans to attend college to study computer programming.

Adriana Velez is a senior at East Stroudsburg High School – South playing flute in the PYO for the first year. She likes classical music and chorales and lists Gustav Holst as her favorite composer. She enjoys playing in the marching band and hanging out with friends. Math is her favorite subject and *Of Mice and Men* her favorite book. She enjoys hearing the violins pull together the other instruments in the orchestra. Adriana plans to attend college to major in nursing to become a pediatric nurse.

Joseph Visceglia is an eleventh-grade student at Stroudsburg High School where his favorite subjects are math and science. He has been playing percussion for four years in PYO. Brian Balmages and John Williams are his favorite composers. He enjoys listening to Pop and Rock. Suzanne Collins and Eoin Colfer are among his favorite authors. His favorite books include the *Gregor* series, the *Artemis Fowl* series, *Hamlet*, and *Oedipus*. Joe is a member of his school's Marching Band, Scholastic Scrimmage, FBLA and Science Olympiad. He is class secretary and in the top ten percent of his class; he is also a Science Olympiad medal winner. His hobbies include baseball, watching television, and playing ping pong. Joe enjoys learning challenging pieces and hanging out with friends in orchestra. In the future, he hopes to become a ping-pong Olympic champion.



Contributions 2013-2014

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Andante (\$5-\$24)

This list includes all contributions received as of December 9, 2013

Steven Visceglia is a junior at Stroudsburg High School playing clarinet and bass clarinet in the PYO for the second year. He belongs to the Show Choir, the Chorale and the National Honor Society and has been selected for PMEA District and Regional Choir. He has also won Youth in Music Excellence awards. Choir is his favorite subject and he enjoys reading and singing. He likes both popular and classical music. *The Shining* and *The Pelican Brief* are his favorite books with John Grisham and Stephen King as his favorite authors. Steven enjoys hearing the strings combined with the band instruments playing together to make one unique sound. His goal is to become a sports broadcaster.

Kristen Weaver is a senior at Stroudsburg High School playing cello for the fifth year in PYO after three years in the PJSO. She also plays flute, piccolo and piano and likes music classes best. At school, she plays in the Concert Band, Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra and Marching Band. She has been a member of the PMEA District 10 Orchestra for two years and is in the top 10% of her class. Kristen's favorite composers are Mozart, Beethoven and Tchaikovsky. Her favorite authors are J.K. Rowling, Suzanne Collins, and Rick Riordan. She lists the *Hunger Games* trilogy, the *Harry Potter* series and the *Percy Jackson* series as her favorites. Her hobbies include karate, skiing and music. Kristen likes to play in the orchestra to take her mind off the stress from the day. In the future, she plans to study animals abroad and continue her music.

Elizabeth Whidden is a junior at Stroudsburg High School playing cello for the third year following three years in the PJSO. She likes music by Lorde, Lana Del Rey, and Marina and the Diamonds. Her favorite authors include Tatiana de Rosnay, Jodi Picoult, J.K. Rowling and Dan Brown. She is a National Honor Society officer, and a senior company member of the Notara School of Dance. Elizabeth is in the top 10% of her class, has won a gold medal in the Science Olympiad and has won nine superior ratings from Festival in cello and piano. She likes to play challenging music and meet new people in the orchestra. Elizabeth's future plans include college and graduate school.

Eric Wolf is a sophomore at Stroudsburg High School. He has been playing trombone in the PYO for the past three years. He also plays the baritone and the euphonium. His favorite subject is physics, and his favorite composer is Tchaikovsky. He enjoys books by Issac Asimov. In school, he is involved in the Science Olympiad, FBLA, Scholastic Scrimmage, and the SHS Marching Band. He appreciates PYO because it allows him to participate in playing beautiful and complex music. In the future, Eric plans to be a nuclear physicist.

Anthony Wong is a ninth-grade student at Stroudsburg Junior High School where his favorite subject is physical science. He played cello for one year in PJSO and is now playing in PYO. He also plays the piano and guitar. Anthony's favorite music is classical, jazz, rock, and electronic. He is a member of Science Olympiad and FBLA. Anthony enjoys orchestra because "it conveys ideas and emotions that words cannot." His hobbies include cooking, writing, and biking. He aspires to attend the Manhattan School of Music to study music composition and production.

And in PJSO

Vasilia Briegel is a sixth-grade student at Stroudsburg Middle School. This is her first year playing violin in PJSO, enjoys playing the piano, which she has been doing since age 4, and loves singing and performing. She has appeared on the Shawnee Playhouse stage in *Miracle on 34th St.*, *Mozart - A Musical Timeline*; *Tiny Tim's A Christmas Carol* and *Aladdin*. She has also performed in *Willy Wonka* and *the Chocolate Factory* at the Sherman Theatre, and Stroudsburg High School's production of *The Wizard of Oz*. Vasilia enjoys all subjects in school and is proud to have advanced to the Final Round of the Russell C. Hughes Monroe County Spelling Championships as the only fifth grader in March 2013. Also in fifth grade she was a member of the First Lego League team which earned the first place state award, presentation category, at the "Penn FLL Championship Tournament" at the University of Pennsylvania. Vasilia also enjoys Greek Dancing, tennis and baking. In September, her baking team won 2nd place people's choice award, at the 2013 Pocono Cupcake Challenge. She is grateful to PJSO for giving her the opportunity to be part of such a talented and wonderful group of musicians. In the future, Vasilia hopes to attend an Ivy League School majoring in International Finance and own a bakery shoppe.

Chelsea Cirillo is a first-year viola player with the PJSO. She is in seventh grade. Her favorite composers are Tchaikovsky and Handel. Chelsea likes Broadway musicals and pop music. Her favorite books are the *Hunger Games* and *Matilda*. She also attends the Fusia Dance Center and Shawnee Playhouse. She was awarded a spelling and handwriting award. Chelsea treasures being a member of the PJSO because she enjoys the company of kids her own age who have similar interests.

Meredith Constable is an eighth grader at Stroudsburg Junior High School. She has been a member of PJSO playing bass for 2 years and also plays the cello. Meredith's favorite composer is Howard Shore, and she enjoys listening to music from soundtracks and classical music. Meredith is a member of ESUMC and made the Honor Roll. Other hobbies she enjoys are horseback riding, archery and reading. She takes pleasure in playing music that she loves with the PJSO.

Olivia DeRosa is in the fifth grade at Stroudsburg Middle School and is playing violin for the first year with the PJSO. Her favorite subject is social studies, and she likes singing, acting, playing violin, ballet, tap dancing and running. Olivia's favorite composers are Mozart and Beethoven. She also likes pop music. *Charlotte's Web* and *The Tale of Despereaux* are her favorite books and Eric Carle her favorite author. Olivia has won the Academic Achievement Award and is on the high honor roll. PJSO helps her express her feeling, not in words but in music. She would like a career in acting after going to a good college.

Luke Dougherty is an eighth grade, high honor roll student at Stroudsburg Junior High. So far, his favorite subject is math. Luke has been playing violin for 8 years and has been a member of PJSO for three years. He is a member of his school orchestra, is taking his first year of German, and swims competitively for the Pocono YMCA Piranhas. Luke likes rock and roll best but listens to a variety of music at home. AC/DC,

and Toby Joe Turner, also known by his stage name Tobuscus, are among his top favorites! PJSO gives Luke an opportunity to play more challenging music. He recently read *The Great Gatsby* after seeing the film version, but the *Last Apprentice* series remains his favorite. Luke is considering a career in Engineering.

Nia Esposito is a homeschooled seventh grader playing violin in the PJSO for the fifth year. She also plays guitar and lists Bach, Mozart, Vivaldi, Jeremy Cohen and Tenth Avenue North as her favorite composers. She enjoys classical, country, contemporary Christian and jazz music. Nia also plays in the Junior String Philharmonic, the East Stroudsburg University/Community Orchestra, Penn Strings Studio and the PA Lyric Opera Theater Orchestra. She has won Youth in Music Excellence Awards for Junior Ensemble for four years as well as various superior ratings from the National Federation of Music Clubs. She enjoys skiing, biking, writing, reading, making and writing music and art. Her favorite books are *The Chronicles of Narnia*, *Lord of the Rings*, *Wuthering Heights*, and *World War Me: Soul Survivor*. She enjoys orchestra because it challenges her to learn music by various composers and allows her to be a part of a group that enjoys what she loves...music! Nia would like to double major in writing and music in college.

Elias Fernandez has been a PJSO member for five years. He is a seventh grader at Pocono Mountain East Junior High School. Elias is a violinist in the PJSO and also plays the trumpet and percussion instruments. Bach, Handel, Mozart, and Strauss are his favorite composers. Math and science are Elias's favorite subjects. Authors he enjoys reading include Patricia Cornwell, Agatha Christie, Suzanne Collins and Jeff Kinney. *Journey to the Center of the Earth* and the *Hunger Games* are his favorite books. Elias placed fourth in Odyssey of the Mind. In addition to being a member of the Jehovah Witnesses, he plays soccer, basketball, football and enjoys riding bikes. Being a member of the PJSO allows Elias to "meet new people and play new music." His future includes being a computer technician.

Madelyn M. Gasper is in the fifth grade at the Stroudsburg Middle School. This is her first year with the PJSO performing with her viola. Her favorite subject is math, and her favorite composer is Beethoven. She enjoys listening to classical and Top 40 music. Her favorite author is Suzanne Collins, and she enjoyed reading the *Hunger Games*. She received the Presidential Educational Award in fourth grade, and in her spare time she participates in Irish Step Dancing. She finds performing in the orchestra fun and challenging. She loves playing her viola. In the future, she plans to continue playing her viola and perhaps learn to play other string instruments.

Tim Geiger is an eighth grader in the Stroudsburg Junior High School. This is his second year in the PJSO playing the double bass. He also likes to play the piano and bass guitar. In school, his favorite subject is language arts. His favorite music is hip hop, pop, and rap, and his favorite musicians are 2 Chainz, Drake, A\$AP Rocky, and Big Sean. He enjoyed reading several stories by the author Carl Dueker including *Gym Candy* and *Runner*. His extracurricular activities included intramural golf and soccer with the school and club teams. He enjoys playing tennis, mountain biking, his church youth group, and playing video games. He enjoys

the orchestra because he loves playing his bass and learning new music. In the future, his plans may include becoming a pediatrician, lawyer, or businessman.

Brooke Givens is an eighth grader in the Stroudsburg Junior High. This is her third year with the PJSO playing the viola. She also plays piano and enjoys listening to pop music. Her favorite composer is Bach, and her favorite subject in school is math. She liked reading Stephenie Meyer's book *Twilight*. Her extracurricular activities include soccer and cheerleading. She enjoys the orchestra because it gives her the opportunity to be expressive without using words. In the future, she plans to become a famous musician.

Violinist **Leah Jardel** is in her fourth year with PJSO, and is a seventh-grade student at JTL Middle School. Her favorite composer is Bach, but she also likes pop music. Leah enjoys Reading and English in school, author Suzanne Collins, and the *Hunger Games* series and also the book *Perks of Being a Wallflower* are her favorites. She received perfect attendance four years in a row, attended the World Championships for dance, and received the President's Academic Achievement Award. She also is involved in swim team, Irish dance, and field hockey. Leah enjoys participating in PJSO "because you get to meet new people and play all types of music." Her future plans include getting a full ride to the college of her choice.

Amy Kadanoff is a fourth-grade homeschool student. This is her first year with the PJSO playing violin. Her favorite subject in school is history, and her favorite composers are Tchaikovsky and Mozart. She enjoys classical music and reading books from the authors C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien including *The Chronicles of Narnia*. She is a member of the Little Flower Girls Club and an honorary member of the New Sussex Symphony. She enjoys the orchestra because she likes playing with a group. In the future, she plans to attend and graduate from college.

Emma Kowzun is an eighth grader at Faith Christian School playing cello for the fourth year in the PJSO. She also plays piano, guitar and handbells and sings in the church choir. Emma's favorite subject is history, and her hobbies include golf, cheerleading and volleyball. C.S. Lewis is her favorite author, and her favorite books include the *Narnia Series* and *The Bible*. Orchestra allows her to have a great experience playing with her friends. She plans to continue playing instruments and go to college.

Kara Lawlor is an eighth grader at the Pocono Mountain East Junior High School. This is her second year playing viola with the PJSO. Her favorite subjects are art and Spanish, and her favorite composers include Vivaldi, Mozart, and Tchaikovsky. Her favorite authors are Lois Lowry, Suzanne Collins, Meg Cabot, and Margaret Atwood. She has enjoyed reading *Mocking Jay*, *Tiger Eyes*, and *Teen Idol*. She is a member of the National Junior Honor society and plays softball for fun. She enjoys the orchestra because she likes learning new songs and performing in front of friends and family. In the future, she aspires to be an engineer.

Christie Lee is an eighth grader at Stroudsburg Junior High School playing violin in the PJSO for the third year. At school, she has won an President's Award for Academic Excellence. She likes both classical and new age music and lists Vivaldi, Mozart and Beethoven as her favorite composers. Christie plays in the SJHS Chamber Orchestra and enjoys drawing, archery and painting. Her favorite subjects are math, art and orchestra. She lists J.K. Rowling as her favorite author and *Harry Potter*, *Green Heart*, and *Percy Jackson & the Olympians* as her favorite books. She enjoys orchestra because she gets to play alongside others who enjoy music. In the future, Christie hopes to become a game designer, an artist, an accountant or a doctor.

Rebekah Livermore is a sixth grader in the Nazareth Area Intermediate School. This is her first year with the PJSO playing violin. Her favorite subjects in school are reading and pre-algebra, and her favorite music is by the artist Adele. She enjoyed reading the *Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins and other serial action stories. Her extracurricular activities include playing on the school soccer team and swimming on the Nazareth YMCA Blue Fins swim team. In her spare time, she likes to read, make crafts, explore and invent. She enjoys the orchestra because she likes to be challenged. In the future, she plans to study engineering.

Elizabeth Mathiesen attends Stroudsburg Middle School and is in sixth grade. This is her first year in the PJSO, but her third year playing the cello. Her favorite subject is math in which she is in an advanced class. She finds Bach's Minuets fun to play. Her favorite author is Rick Riordan, author of the *Percy Jackson* series. Elizabeth also enjoys playing softball in the spring. She enjoys the teamwork of playing in the orchestra. She has received awards for perfect attendance and high honor roll. In the future, she would like to be a lawyer or historian.

Niamh McCabe is a sixth grader at Stroudsburg Middle School playing cello in the PJSO for the first year. She likes alternative music and lists her cousin Evelyn Burke as her favorite composer. She is on the track team and likes singing, jewelry making and reading. Niamh's favorite authors are J.K. Rowling, Elizabeth Scott, Rick Riordan and Lauren Kate. Her list of favorite books includes *Harry Potter's 1-7*, *Something Maybe*, and *What Would Emma Do*. Niamh has won a President's Award for Academic Excellence. She loves orchestra because she is able to create music with something other than her voice. Future plans include acting, traveling all over the world, using money that goes to the PSSA's educational field trips and conserving our planet.

Jack O'Brien is a fifth grader at Stroudsburg Middle School. This is his first year playing viola with the PJSO. His favorite subjects are math and orchestra. Jack enjoys listening to pop and classical music. The *Hunger Games* is his favorite book. Jack was awarded Perfect Attendance and the Presidential Awards. Playing with his friends and playing the viola are his favorite pastimes. Being a member of the PJSO is "something different than my everyday activities."

Olivia O'Grady is a fifth grader at the Dingman-Delaware Middle School. This is her first year with the PJSO playing violin. Her favorite

subject in school is art, and her favorite composer is Keith Sharp. She enjoys listening to all types of music. Her favorite authors are Rick Riordan and Avi, a pen name for author Edward Irving Wortis. She enjoyed reading *Percy Jackson* and *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*. Her extracurricular activities include choir, chorus, soccer, softball, and dance. She received a black belt in music and enjoys making bracelets. She finds the orchestra a fun experience and in the future plans to keep practicing and play well with more experience.

Isabel O. Rivera is a new violinist to the PJSO. She is a fourth grader at Stroudsburg Intermediate Elementary School. She also plays the piano and cello. Isabel enjoys listening to Top 40 songs, and her favorite classical composer is Ludwig van Beethoven. The *Goosebumps* books by R.L. Stine are her preferred reading choices. Isabel is a member of the Kiwanis and K-Kids organizations. She also Irish Step dances. The sound of all the different string instruments blended together is one of the reasons Isabel enjoys orchestra. Her future may include becoming a veterinarian or a math teacher.

Victoria Robles is a sixth grader at Stroudsburg Middle School. This is her first year with PJSO playing the violin. She also plays the flute and piano. Her favorite subject is reading, and she enjoys listening to pop and classical music by some of her favorite composers including John Williams and Scott Joplin. Her favorite authors are Lauren Kate, Kiera Cass, and Alyson Noel. She has enjoyed reading *The Selection*, *Evermore*, *Shiver*, and *City of Bones*. She is involved with the Girls on the Run and auditioned for the school chamber orchestra. She has received the Presidential Award and made High Honor Roll. In her free time, she likes to read, play her violin, and hang out with friends. She enjoys the orchestra because she loves the feeling of her heart pounding with joy from the beautiful music she and others can make. In the future, she would like to get into a good college with aspirations of becoming an author, a teacher, or a professional violin player.

Cameron Rothstein attends Mansfield Twp Elementary School and is in the sixth grade. This is his first year playing violin in the PJSO. He also plays the drums and enjoys all types of music. His favorite composers are Beethoven and Haydn. His favorite subject is science. He enjoys the PJSO because he likes to play music with other people and loves the songs he has learned. When he is not playing the violin, he spends his time playing sports like football and lacrosse and playing with his dog Luna. His favorite authors are Jeff Kinney, who wrote *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, and Neil Gaiman, who wrote *The Graveyard*. In the future, he plans to attend college and would like to be a dog trainer or a musician.

Rweza Rugabandana is 10 years old and in the fifth grade at Stroudsburg Middle School. This is his first year in the PJSO playing the cello. His favorite subject is science, and Rweza received the Outstanding Academic Excellence Award in the President's Education Awards Program in the fourth grade. Beethoven is his favorite classical composer, and he enjoys dub step music. Rweza's hobbies include video gaming. He enjoys the PJSO because it makes him feel good about his musical talent. He would eventually like to teach cello and be a game designer.

Missy Salvadeo is an eighth grader at the Stroudsburg Junior High School. This is her third year playing the viola with the PJSO. In addition to the viola, she plays the violin, cello, and the ukulele. In school, her favorite subject is science, and she enjoys all types of music. Her favorite author is John Green and she has read *The Fault in Our Stars*, *Looking for Alaska*, and *Divergent*. She is involved in the Junior High Chamber Orchestra and Our Lady of Victory youth group. In her spare time, she likes to play any instrument. She enjoys the orchestra because it is her major focus and defines who she is. In the future, she plans to audition for admission into the Juilliard School of the Arts in NYC.

Nicole Sekol is fifteen and in the tenth grade in Commonwealth Connections Academy. This is her first year playing violin in the PJSO. She enjoys learning and playing the musical repertoire with the other members. Nicole also plays piano. Geometry is her favorite subject in school, and Richard Paul Evans is her favorite author. The *Michael Vey* series are her favorite books.

Adam Snyder has been playing in the PJSO for four years. He is an eighth grader enrolled in Commonwealth Connections Academy. His favorite subject is algebra. Bach and Vivaldi are his favorite composers; however, he enjoys listening to a variety of musical styles including classical, pop and country. Adam's favorite books are *Marley and Me*, *The Lightning Thief* and *The Chamber of Secrets*. His hobbies include reading, skiing and using Apple products. Adam enjoys being a member of the PJSO because "I love music so this has been great. All the music is very fun to play!" He plans on being a math major and possibly pursuing engineering.

Antonios Stylianides Is an eighth grader at the Stroudsburg Junior High School. This is his third year playing viola with the PJSO. In addition to the viola, he plays the violin, cello, bouzouki, saxophone, and piano. His favorite subject in school is math, and his favorite composer is Mozart. He enjoys books by the authors Marie Lu and Veronica Roth including *Legend* and *Prodigy*. His extracurricular activities include cross-country, marching band, Greek dancing, Boy Scouts, and JHS chamber orchestra. He has earned three awards through the Boy Scouts which are the Arrow of Light, Heavy Shoulder, and Life Scout. His hobbies include fishing, playing games, and club soccer. He enjoys the orchestra because of the great conductors and music. In the future, he would like to join a professional orchestra, earn Eagle Scout, and become a marine biologist.

Elise Tomaszewski is a homeschooler in ninth grade. She has been a violinist in the PJSO for four years. Her favorite composer to play is Handel, and country and pop music are her preferred listening favorites. Elise enjoys science and art, and John Steinbeck is her favorite author. The exploits of *Calvin and Hobbes* are favorite books of hers. Elise enjoys skiing in the winter and competing with the Palmerton Porpoises swim team in the summer and exercising all throughout the year. It is a pleasure to be a member of the PJSO because of the challenging music to play with the different string instruments and other talented students. In the future, Elise plans to become an art teacher.

Terease Tomaszewski has been a violin member of PJSO for two years now. She is a 12-year-old sixth grade homeschooler who has been playing violin for 4 years. Her favorite subjects are grammar and science. Bach is Terease's favorite composer, and she enjoys listening to country and pop music. Her favorite book is *The Trumpet of the Swan* and the *Mandie* series. Ballet dancing is Terease's favorite hobby, and she plans on becoming a ballet teacher. She likes being a member of the PJSO because of the new music she has the opportunity to learn.

Samantha Tsang is playing viola in the PJSO for the second year. She is a high honor roll seventh grader at Notre Dame Jr/Sr High School where she participates in student council. She also plays the piano and enjoys reading, tennis, golf, playing music, and listening to music. Samantha's favorite composers are Bach, Beethoven and Mozart. Her favorite authors are J.K. Rowling, Rick Riordan and Suzanne Collins. She lists *Harry Potter*, *Percy Jackson* and the *Hunger Games* as her favorite books. Samantha likes orchestra because it lets her express herself through music. She plans to go to college and study to be a doctor and scientist.

Claire Weitzmann is in the fifth grade at Stroudsburg Middle School. She is in her first year of playing violin in the PJSO. Claire's favorite subjects in school are science and math. She also plays the piano, and is a member of orchestra and chorus at school. Her favorite author is Suzanne Collins. In addition, Claire dances in the junior company at the Notara School of Dance where she was recently a Mouse and a Petal in Notara's production of "The Nutcracker." She enjoys the challenge of PJSO and learning many types of new music. Claire's future plans include attending college and pursuing a career in music or dance.

Juliet Whidden is a seventh grader at Stroudsburg Middle school playing violin in the PJSO for the third year. She loves math, running and dancing as well as pop music and Taylor Swift. She participates in cross-country and Notara Dance. Juliet won a first place medal in the regional math competition and fifth place in junior high cross-country. Her favorite books are the *Harry Potter* series by J.K. Rowling. Juliet likes to play in the orchestra because of the opportunities to play new music and meet new friends. She plans to go to college and become a doctor.

Rebecca Xi, a homeschooled student, is in the eighth grade. This is her second year playing violin in the PJSO. She also plays the piano and enjoys classical music, particularly the works of Beethoven and Grieg. Her favorite subjects are reading and writing. She enjoys *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings* by J.R.R. Tolkien, and *The Chronicles of Narnia* series by C.S. Lewis. Rebecca's other activities are public speaking and art. She enjoys orchestra because it gives her a chance to spend time with other kids who also play instruments. In the future, Rebecca wants to write a fantasy series, teach piano, travel to Israel and China, and become an advocate for animal rights.

About Our Soloists



Jeremiah Boeman is a senior at Pleasant Valley High School and a third-year member of the Pocono Youth Orchestra. He studies horn privately with Ms. Lenna Harris. Jeremiah began lessons on clarinet in fourth grade. Two years later, he decided he would begin to learn to play the French horn. In a very short time, he realized that the French horn would become his instrument of choice. He also plays tuba, electric bass, trombone, and occasionally trumpet. He is a member of PVHS marching band, concert band, jazz band, Vocal Jazz Stage Choir, chorus and Music Honor Society. He performed in the pit orchestra for the 2012 PVHS musical production of Oklahoma. In the 2013 marching band season, Jeremiah served as low brass co-section leader. A PVHS Certificate of Academic Excellence for band was awarded to Jer in 2012. He was also presented with a PVHS Performing Art Award for Outstanding Performance on a Brass Instrument in 2013. In addition, Jer periodically performs at St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Plainfield Township and is a member of their Brass Ensemble. In past years, he has

been selected to perform in PMEA District 10 Band and Orchestra Festivals, Allentown Band Side-by-Side Concerts, and Carbon County Band. He hopes to be selected again this year for these events.

In his free time, Jer enjoys skiing, working on computers and spending time with friends and family. Following high school graduation, he plans on attending college for a major in computer science and a minor in music.

I would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Simons for the opportunity to be a member of PYO and to my family and friends for their support. One last thank you to the many music mentors who have believed in me and who have touched my life in so many ways: Ms. Lenna Harris, Mr. James DeVivo, Mr. John DeVivo, Mr. Aaron Boligitz, Ms. Athena Yeager, Mrs. Lois A. Mann, and Mrs. Linda Kern to name a few. Music has touched my life in so many ways and for that I will always be grateful.

Eric Papa was born on the 27th of February in 1996 and has been playing the clarinet since he started in fourth grade. He decided to play the clarinet in elementary school because he always wanted to learn to play an instrument. After Intermediate School, when he started to take private lessons with Marta Oberlin, who is the principal clarinetist of the East Stroudsburg University Orchestra and a graduate of the Depauw University School of Music, he has steadily improved in his skills, and has become a promising and ambitious young musician. During his sophomore year of high school, Eric was accepted by audition to participate in the PMEA District X Band Festival, placing 13th out of 32 chosen clarinetists. In the 2012-13 school year, he qualified for and participated in both PMEA District X Band and the Region V Band Festival.

In addition to being a clarinetist in the Pocono Youth Orchestra, Eric has participated in the East Stroudsburg band program since elementary school, and is currently the

principal clarinetist of the East Stroudsburg HS-South Symphonic Band. He is also an active solo and ensemble musician. He has also participated in the East Stroudsburg HS-S Dixieland Jazz Band, the East Stroudsburg HS-S Marching Band, the Trinity Centennial Band, the Allentown Band, and the pit orchestra for *Madame Butterfly*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, and *The Merry Widow*. He has also been featured in numerous clarinet recitals in which he has performed pieces by Francis Poulenc, Henri Rabaud, Claude Debussy, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, and others. Eric is also a talented Tenor vocalist. He has participated in the PMEA District X Choir Festival, and is a member of the East Stroudsburg HS-S Concert Choir and the Choraliers. He was also discovered to have *absolute pitch*. After Eric graduates with high honors from East Stroudsburg HS-South, he plans to pursue a Bachelor's Degree in clarinet performance, and is applying to the Curtis Institute of Music and additional university music programs.



Eva Marie, We are so proud of you as a senior performer in the PYO.
Mom & Dad

*India, We now how much music means to you. You should
know how much we love to hear you make music.*
Michele Stolls and David Baker

*India, When you play the family violin, you keep the tradition alive. Your great,
great grandfather and Great Grandma Mae
would be as pleased as we are.*
Mom & Dad

Nicholas & Niamh, We are so proud of you both.
Keep Rockin'! Love You!
Mamae & Dad

Chelsea, Congratulations on your 1st year in the PYO.
We love you so much and are so proud of you.
Mom & Dad

Chelsea, Love your music and you.
Nana & Pop

*Isabel, Keep shooting for the moon and you will always
land among the stars. Love,*
Mom & Dad

*Isabel, I love to listen to you play violin,
even if it means I have to be quiet.*
Your little brother, Ilian

Dearest Isabel, You are the greatest treasure any grandparents could ever wish for.
We are extremely proud of your many accomplishments!
Na Na & Pop Pop

Isabel, Arf! You make my day. You are the best! Love Ya! Arf! Arf!
Suzie

*Isabel, How lucky I am to have a granddaughter as wonderful as you. Watching
your talents grow makes me admire how much
effort you put into your music.*
Pop Pop

*Isabel, What a pleasure it is to wish you the very best with your many
talents! Always stay as sweet and endearing as you are!*
Na Na

Isabel, I am very proud of my "Best Friend" Love you bunches!
Kathy Hudzina

Amanda, You are the greatest. I love how you play the violin.
Keep up the good work.
Love & Kisses Grammy & Pappy

Amanda, Congratulations on your success in Orchestra. You made us very proud!
Mom & Dad

We are so proud of you, Amy; Keep up the good work!
Love, Mom and Dad xoxo

So proud of you, Charles! Best wishes on your first PYO concert.
Mom & Dad



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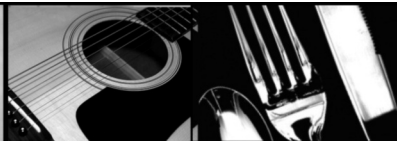
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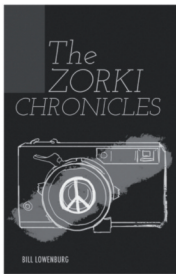


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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are grateful to the **Stroudsburg School 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 allowing us to use their facilities for our concerts.

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

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

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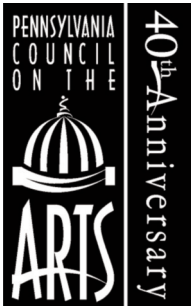


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