

POCONO
YOUTH
ORCHESTRA

Winter Concerts

Saturday, January 17, 2015

Sunday, January 18, 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, 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.

PYO logo design: © T.H. Lawrence

Program typesetting: MCMAHON +DESIGN



POCONO YOUTH ORCHESTRA

ANTHONY SIMONS, MUSIC DIRECTOR

AUDREY SIMONS, ASSISTANT MUSIC DIRECTOR

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 2015

7:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 2015

3:00 P.M.

AUDITORIUM

STROUDSBURG HIGH SCHOOL

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

Music from *Frozen* Kristen Anderson-Lopez & Robert Lopez
Do You Want to Build a Snowman? arr. Robert Longfield
Let It Go
For the First Time in Forever

A Suite of Three Madrigals Thomas Morley & John Farmer
I. Now is the Month of Maying arr. Bud Caputo
II. Sing We and Chant it
III. Fair Phyllis

*PJSO with the East Stroudsburg HS South Choraliers
(David Lantz, Director)*

M To the Third Power Carol D Nunez

Billy & St. Anne Tip the Canoe Traditional
arr. Gary Gackstatter

Nia Esposito, Violin Soloist

Inverno Antonio Vivaldi
arr. Todd Parrish

INTERMISSION

Pocono Youth Orchestra

Introduction to Act III of *Lohengrin* Richard Wagner

Carmen Suite No. 1 Georges Bizet
I. Prelude
Ia. Aragonaise
II. Intermezzo
III. Sequedille
IV. Le dragons d'Alcala
V. Les Toreadors

Of Glorious Plumage Richard Meyer

PYO Strings

The Emergence (*Premiere Performance*) Abigail Lantz

*PYO with the East Stroudsburg HS South Choraliers
(David Lantz, Director)*

Concert Medley from *Star Wars Episode III* John Williams
arr. Jerry Brubaker

Hungarian March from *The Damnation of Faust* Hector Berlioz

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
Olivia O'Grady
Hannah Persuad
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
Hannah Lee
Kariem Morssy+
Charles Nutaitis
Sarah Osman+
Olivia Reed+
Sarah Reinhardt
Adam Snyder
Joseph Snyder+
Justin Stanton
Kaiti Stylianides
Elise Tomaszewski
Rebecca Xi

Cello

Sarah Chesko
Sienna Fernandez
Nell Kopytnik
Emma Kowzun
Gabriella Mohring
Nadia Moustafa
Sophia Rostock+
Elizabeth Whidden+
Anthony Wong

Bass

Nicholas Bradley
Meredith Constable
Timothy Geiger
Johnny Valinote

Flute

Krista Nash+
Carina Cohen+

Oboe

Woodrow Battle+

Clarinet

Luke Simons
Jessica Ng+
Steven Visceglia+

Bass Clarinet

Steven Visceglia+

Horn

Stephanie Fritz
Tristan Flanagan+
Edward Harbison+

Trumpet

Pierce O'Dowd
Ryan Murphy
Christina Zhang

Trombone

Eric Wolf
Dan Magan, Guest

Tuba

Joshua Cloward

Percussion

Nicholas Fleming+
Liuba Miranosava
Joseph Visceglia+

Piano

Amy Zhang

Viola

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

*string seating rotates
+graduating seniors

Our Students in PJSO

Paraskevi Briegel is a 5th grade student at Stroudsburg Middle School. This is her first year participating in PJSO. In addition to playing viola, she also has been playing piano for 6 years and enjoys theatre and singing. At Shawnee Playhouse she was seen as Suzy Walker in *Miracle on 34th Street*. She has also performed in *Pinocchio*, *Miracle Worker*, *Mozart - A Musical Timeline*; *Tiny Tim's A Christmas Carol* and *Aladdin*. At the Sherman Theatre, she was cast in *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*. In school, she is a member of the orchestra, chorus, and basketball intra-mural program. Outside of school, she loves to Greek dance and play tennis. She is excited and honored to be part of PJSO this year. She also aspires to attend an Ivy League School when graduating high school.

This is **Vasilia Briegel's** second year playing violin in PJSO. As a 7th grader in Stroudsburg Middle School, she is a member of the chorus, girls' basketball team, and orchestra. Last April, she was invited to participate in the 2014 PMEA District 10 Elementary Band and Orchestra Festival. She also 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 *Pinocchio*, *Miracle Worker*, *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 also enjoys Greek Dancing, tennis and baking. 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.

Molly Magann Han Christy is in the fifth grade at Stroudsburg Middle School and is playing viola for the first year with the PJSO. She also plays the piano. Her favorite subject is science, and she enjoys practicing violin and piano, skiing and snowboarding. One of Molly's favorite composers is John Williams, and she likes both classical and pop music. Favorite authors include Chris Colfer, Suzanne Collins, J.K. Rowling, Veronica Roth and Grace Lin. Molly enjoys playing in the PJSO because it is both challenging and fun. She certainly wants for music to be a part of her future.

Chelsea Cirillo is an eighth grader at Notre Dame Junior/Senior High School and is playing viola for the second year in the PJSO. She also plays violin, tap dances and participates at Shawnee Playhouse. Her favorite subject is science, and her favorite author is John Green. She lists *The Fault in our Stars* as her favorite book. Chelsea likes Broadway and pop as well as music by Tchaikovsky. She does well in spelling bees and hopes to have a career in music. Chelsea likes to play music in the orchestra with other kids that share her interests.

Olivia DeRosa is in the sixth grade at Stroudsburg Middle School and is playing violin for the second year with the PJSO. Her favorite subject is

music, and she likes singing, acting, playing violin, dancing and running. Olivia's favorite composers are Mozart and Beethoven. She also likes pop music. Olivia is on the high honor roll. PJSO helps her express her feelings, not in words but in music. She would like a career in acting after going to a good college.

Dylan Nicholas DiLauro is a high honor roll sixth grader at Monsignor McHugh School and is playing violin in the PJSO for the first time. He likes classical music especially by Bach. Math is his favorite subject, and he hopes to become a mathematician. Dylan lists Scott O'Dell as his favorite author and *Magic Tree House* as his favorite book. His hobbies include playing basketball, soccer and video games. Dylan enjoys orchestra and playing music with others. He plans to continue to play the fiddle and classical music.

Nia Esposito is a homeschooled eighth grader who is playing violin in the PJSO for the sixth year. She is also a guitarist, and lists Vivaldi, Bach, Mozart and Hans Zimmer among her favorite composers. She enjoys classical, country, contemporary Christian and epic movie scores. Nia's other musical affiliations include: the Junior String Philharmonic of Lehigh Valley, the East Stroudsburg University/Community Orchestra, the PA Lyric Opera Theater Pit Orchestra, Project One Step Community Orchestra, IN3 String Quartet, and the Generations String Duo. She has won numerous Youth in Music Excellence Awards for both the solo and ensemble performances, and has consistently received Superior ratings in numerous categories from the National Federation of Music Clubs. Nia rarely misses an opportunity to share her love of music with others and performs regularly at daycare centers, nursing homes, club events, soup kitchens and fundraisers. The diversity of music is one of the things Nia loves most about playing with the PJSO. When not playing, she can usually be found reading a classic or writing a novel of her own. Nia would like to double major in writing and music in college.

Elias Fernandez is an eighth grader at Pocono Mountain East Junior High playing violin with the PJSO for the sixth year. He also plays the euphonium, likes pop music and lists Bach and Vivaldi as his favorite composers. Elias enjoys playing soccer, basketball football, biking and hiking. His favorite subject is science, and Suzanne Collins is his favorite author. He likes the *39 Clues* series and the *Al Capone* series. Elias is active in the Jehovah's Witnesses. He enjoys orchestra because he gets to learn new music and the challenge of the music is fun.

Madelyne M. Gasper is in the sixth grade at the Stroudsburg Middle School. This is her second year with the PJSO performing with her viola. Her favorite subject is math, and her favorite composers are Beethoven and Tchaikovsky. She enjoys listening to classical and pop music. Her favorite author is James Patterson, and she enjoyed reading *Confessions*. She received the President's Award for physical education and academics, and in her spare time she participates in Irish Step Dancing. She finds performing in the orchestra both fun and challenging as it transports her to a different world. In the future, she aspires to attend Harvard Law School, earn her PhD and minor in music.

Maggie Gralinski is a high honor roll eighth grader at Notre Dame Junior/Senior High School playing violin for the first time in the PJSO. She also plays the piano and likes pop, rap, Celtic, 60's, 70's and 80's music. Her long lists include Richard Rodgers, Burgmuller, Kabalevsky and Haydn as composers and Veronica Roth, Gayle Forman and Gary Paulsen as authors. Her favorite subject is math, and her favorite books are *If I Stay*, *Where She Went*, *The Hunger Games*, *The Giver* and *Divergent*. Maggie participates in the St. Luke's Church Choir and the Gallagher School of Irish Dance as well as Junior Music Festival. She feels that playing with and listening to the orchestra helps her to learn more about the violin and improves upon her playing skills. She wants to be the best she can be at Irish Dancing and be able to play her instruments to the best of her ability. She wants to go to Georgetown University and become an attorney. From there, she would like to work in forensics for the FBI or the CIA.

Sierra Holbert is a seventh grader at Stroudsburg Middle School playing bass in the PJSO for the first time. She also plays piano and likes jazz and pop music. Sierra lists math and social studies as her favorite subjects and Veronica Roth and J.K. Rowling as her favorite authors with the *Divergent* series and the *Harry Potter* series at the top of her list. She participates in chamber orchestra, chorus and basketball at school and lists playing music, gymnastics, dance, and sports as her hobbies. Sierra likes playing in the orchestra because she loves music, playing the bass and exploring new things. Her future plan is to finish seventh grade!

Violinist **Leah Jardel** is in her fifth year with PJSO and is an eighth-grade student at JTL Middle School. Her favorite composer is Bach, but she also likes pop music. Leah enjoys studio broadcasting and media design in school, and author John Green and the *Perks of Being a Wallflower* are among her favorites. She has received multiple gold cups in violin solo performance from the NFMC Junior Music Festival. She also is involved in swim team, Irish dance, and soccer. Leah enjoys participating in PJSO "because you get to meet new people and play different types of challenging music." Her future plans include getting a full ride to either Liberty University or Boston College.

Amy Kadonoff is a fifth-grade homeschool student. This is her second year with the PJSO playing violin. Her favorite subject in school is history, and her favorite composers are Tchaikovsky and Mozart and Taylor Swift. She enjoys classical and rock 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 may possibly become an engineer, airline pilot or flight attendant.

Solei Lasanta is a sixth grader in the Stroudsburg Middle School. This is her first year performing on her violin with the PJSO. Her favorite subjects are orchestra and math, and her favorite composer is Lindsey Stirling. She enjoys listening to pop music and reading books by John Green, Suzanne Collins, and Lois Lowry. Her favorite stories include *Gathering Blue*, *Mocking Jay*, and *The Fault in Our Stars*. She is a member of the Stroudsburg Middle School orchestra and was featured as a soloist last

year. Her hobbies include orchestra and playing ROBLOX, a multiplayer online game. She enjoys the PJSO because she has a love of the instruments and would like to learn to play a variety of them. In the future, she plans to improve her skill level of performance.

Rebekah Livermore is a seventh grader in the Nazareth Area Middle School. This is her second year with the PJSO playing violin. Her favorite subjects in school are science and algebra, and her favorite music is by the artist Adele. She enjoys reading the *Maze Runner* series by James Dashner and other serial action stories. Her extracurricular activities include playing on the recreational soccer team, running cross country for her middle school, playing bass drum in her school marching band 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 is a high honor roll seventh grader at Stroudsburg Middle School playing cello in the PJSO for the second year. She likes classical music especially written by Handel, Vivaldi, Bach and Beethoven. Her favorite authors are Rick Riordan and Richard Adams with *Heroes of Olympus Series* and *Watership Down* as her favorite books. Elizabeth's favorite subjects are math and social studies, and she has won the Highest Class Average awards in Language Arts, Science and Social Studies. She participates in Stroudsburg Little League Softball and School Orchestra and likes drawing, writing and hiking. She thinks it is exciting playing the cello and learning new music. She looks forward to the challenge of the PJSO. Elizabeth hopes to get through high school with High Honors every year.

Niamh McCabe is a seventh grader at Stroudsburg Middle School playing cello in the PJSO for the second year. She likes alternative music and lists Adele as her favorite composer. She is on the track team and likes singing, writing and reading. Niamh's favorite authors are J.K. Rowling, Elizabeth Scott, Rick Riordan, Richelle Mead, and Lauren Kate. Her list of favorite books includes the *Harry Potter* series, the *Vampire Academy* series, *Something Maybe*, the *Bloodlines* series and *What Would Emma Do*. Niamh has won a President's Award for Academic Excellence. She loves orchestra because she loves being a part of music and hearing it all around her. Future plans include becoming an author with an amazing editor because she can't spell very well.

Jack O'Brien is a sixth grader at Stroudsburg Middle School playing viola for the second year in the PJSO. He likes pop music and music by Beethoven. Jack lists James Dashner as his favorite author, *The Maze Runner* series as his favorite books, and math as his favorite subject. His hobbies include snowboarding, soccer and orchestra. Jack likes PJSO because it is fun. When he grows up, he wants to be a lawyer.

Olivia O'Grady is a sixth grader at the Dingman-Delaware Middle School. This is her second year with the PJSO playing violin. Olivia also plays the piano. Her favorite subject in school is math, and her favorite composers include Vivaldi and Beethoven. She enjoys listening to all

types of music, especially pop. Her favorite authors are Rick Riordan and Veronica Roth as she enjoyed reading *Percy Jackson* series and *Divergent* series. Her extracurricular activities include drama club, chorus, soccer, and softball. Awards include receiving a black belt in music and being named "most outstanding orchestra player." She enjoys the PJSO because she loves to play the violin and improve upon her skills. In the future, she plans to keep practicing and hopefully qualify for a PYO scholarship.

Dana Persaud is a fifth-grader at Stroudsburg Middle School playing cello in the PJSO for her first year. She also plays the clarinet and guitar. Her favorite composers include John Williams and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, and she enjoys a variety of music from pop to country to classical. She lists Rick Riordan and Veronica Roth as favorite authors and the *Percy Jackson* series and *Divergent* series as favorite books. She loves running, for which she has received two awards, and swim team, for which she has also received an award. In school, she participates in orchestra, band and swim team. Dana likes to play in the orchestra because "it is fun and exciting, and when you hear everyone playing together, it sounds beautiful." She plans to improve her skills on the cello and clarinet, and, ultimately, master these instruments and see if it leads to other organizations.

Hannah Persaud is a seventh grader at Stroudsburg Middle School playing violin in the PJSO for her second year. She also plays the trumpet. Her favorite composer is Yasuharu Takanashi, and she enjoys hip hop, irish, and soft rock music. She lists Richelle Mead and James Patterson as her favorite authors and *Vampire Academy* as her favorite book. She has received awards in running and swimming in which she made districts and hopes to make states next year. In school, she participates in orchestra, chamber orchestra, and jazz band, and also participated in the PMEA District 10 Intermediate Orchestra Festival and belongs to the Pocono Piranhas Family YMCA swim team. Hannah likes to play in the orchestra because she loves the violin and likes the sound everyone makes as a whole. She plans to become an archeologist or teacher and to become a better competitive swimmer.

Ellie Pinchback is a fifth grader at Stroudsburg Middle School playing violin for the first time in the PJSO. She also plays flute and piano. Ellie's favorite composer is Vivaldi, and her favorite subject is science. Her hobbies include horseback riding and tennis. Ellie enjoys orchestra because she loves to play.

Ryan Pinchback is a seventh grader at Stroudsburg Middle School playing cello for the first time in the PJSO. He also plays piano, lists Beethoven as his favorite composer and Jack White as his favorite music. His favorite subject is math. Ryan's favorite author is Tom Clancy and his favorite book is *The Chocolate War*. He is active in Boy Scouts and likes to play tennis.

Isabel O. Rivera is participating in her second year playing violin in the PJSO. She is in fifth grade at Stroudsburg Middle 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 Hunger Games*

series is her preferred reading choice. Isabel is also a competitive Irish Step dancer. 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 physician's assistant.

Victoria Robles is a seventh grader at Stroudsburg Middle School. This is her second year with PJSO playing the violin. She also wants to one day learn to play the cello. Her favorite subject is reading, and she enjoys listening to pop, jazz, and classical music by some of her favorite composers including John Williams and Scott Joplin. Her favorite authors are Cassandra Clare, John Green, and Jennifer E. Smith. She has enjoyed reading *The Mortal Instruments*, *The Infernal Devices*, *The Fault In Our Stars*, *Paper Towns* and many more. She is involved with the Girls on the Run and auditioned for the school chamber orchestra. She has received the Presidential Award, went to Districts, and made High Honor Roll. In her free time, she likes to read, play her violin, run, play other sports, 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 violinist.

Cameron Rothstein is a seventh grader at Warren Hills Middle School playing violin for the second year with the PJSO. He also plays drums and is an honorary member of the New Sussex Symphony Orchestra. He likes all kinds of music especially written by Bach and Haydn. Cameron's favorite authors are Neil Gaiman and Rick Riordan with *The Graveyard Book* and *The Percy Jackson* series as his favorite books. His hobbies include soccer and lacrosse. Cameron enjoys PJSO because it makes him feel like he is a part of something greater than himself. He plans to go to college and become a surgeon.

Rweza Rugabandana is 11 years old and in the sixth grade at Stroudsburg Middle School. This is his second 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, Bach and Macpherson are his favorite classical composers, 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.

This is **Nicole Sekol's** 2nd year playing violin in the PJSO. She is an eleventh-grade student of Commonwealth Connections Academy (cyber-school). She has played violin for 4 years and piano for 8 years. Nicole enjoys playing with the PJSO members and looks forward to moving up to the PYO next year.

Gwenn Strasser is in the seventh grade at Notre Dame Junior High School. This is her first year with the PJSO performing with her cello. She first began to learn to read and play music with Mrs. Eleanor Bender on piano and received a couple of awards in piano solo competitions. When she was in the fourth grade and went to the school fair, she heard a high

school student playing the cello. Soon after, she put aside the piano lessons and opted for the rich and beautiful sound of the cello. Her first cello teacher was Cindy Mathiesen. Gwenn's goal is to be a television journalist or an attorney, or any field that will allow her endless hours of reading!

Terease Tomaszewski is a homeschooled seventh grader playing violin in the PJSO for the third year. She likes pop, country and classical music and lists Vivaldi and Bach as her favorite composers. Her favorite authors are C.S. Lewis and O. Henry with *The Narnia Series* and *Witch of Blackbird Pond* as her favorite books. Terease's favorite subject is creative writing, and her hobbies include ballet and listening to music. She participates in the Cartesion Dance Academy and Quiet Valley Living Historical Farm as well as adventure skiing. Terease likes the PJSO because she enjoys playing with the other instruments and learning new music. She wants to continue playing violin and become an allergy doctor.

Samantha Tsang is a high honor roll eighth-grade student at Notre Dame Junior/Senior High School playing viola with the PJSO for the third year. She also plays piano and likes all subjects. She likes both classical and pop music. Samantha lists Bach, Beethoven, Mozart and Handel as her favorite composers, and Suzanne Collin, J.K. Rowling, Veronica Roth and Rick Riordan as her favorite authors. Her favorite books include the *Divergent* series, *Mortal Instrument* series and the *Hunger Games* Trilogy. She is active in her church youth group and enjoys playing tennis and reading. Samantha likes orchestra because it allows her to express herself in music. She hopes to become a doctor.

Claire Weitzmann is in the sixth grade at Stroudsburg Middle School. She is in her second 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 her school's chorus. Her favorite authors are Suzanne Collins and John Green. In addition, Claire dances in the junior company at the Notara School of Dance where she was recently a Mouse, a Candied Lady, 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 an eighth-grade student at Stroudsburg Junior High playing violin in the PJSO for the fourth year. She loves running and dancing as well as pop music and Taylor Swift. She participates in cross-country, she helps to coach Girls on the Run, and she takes ballet, pointe, and jazz dance lessons at Notara School of Dance and Acting. Juliet won first place in the regional math competition and third place in junior high cross-country. Her favorite books include 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 to study science or math.

Claire Xie is a third grader at Stroudsburg Intermediate Elementary School playing violin for the first time in the PJSO. She also plays piano. Claire's favorite composer is J.S. Bach, and she especially enjoys playing his *Gavotte* for violin. Her hobbies include riding bicycle and skiing. Claire

enjoys the orchestra since her parents and grandparents all love music and listening to string instruments. In the future, she aspires to become a professional violin player.

And in PYO

India Baker is a sophomore at Pocono Mountain East High School and plays the violin. This is her second year in the PYO after having played four years in the PJSO. Her favorite subject in school is AP Biology, 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 outreach intern with the Buck Hill Skytop Music Festival as well as the Pocono Community Theater. In school, she is a member of the Odyssey of the Mind team and Mensa Honor Society Silver member/columnist. She has been named to the Distinguished Honor Roll. She enjoys being in the orchestra because it gives her a chance to play her violin at a high skill level and make music with her friends. In the future, she plans to attend college and become a psychiatrist.

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

Tristan Boheim is an eleventh 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 three 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 concert band, varsity tennis and debate teams. Tristan enjoys a good book by his favorite author George R.R. Martin. Tristan is considering a career in Music Therapy or Economics.

Nicholas J. Bradley is a sophomore at Stroudsburg High School. This is his second year playing double bass with the PYO. His favorite subject in school is global issues, and his favorite classical composer is Mozart. He enjoys alternative music but also listens to all forms of music. He is a member of the high school chamber orchestra and has been awarded the President's Award for Academic Excellence. His hobbies include video gaming, running, and, of course, 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 legal or science degree from Temple University.

Augustin Cavalier is a senior homeschooled student playing viola in his third year with PYO. Previously he played violin for five years in the PJSO. Augustin's favorite subject is history, and he likes to write computer software. His favorite composers are Handel and Mozart. His favorite musical works include anything by Stellar Kart or Mikeschair as well as Handel's *Gloria* and Mozart's *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik*. G.K. Chesterton's *The Man Who Was Thursday* and Grimm's *Fairy Tales* are his favorite books. In addition, Augustin has received seven consecutive superior ratings for his string performances at the festival sponsored by the National Federation of Music Clubs and earned 1st in category at the Lehigh Valley Science Fair. He likes playing in the orchestra with others who are talented and share a love of music. Augustine's future plans include attending college as a computer science or math major.

Sarah Chesko is in eleventh grade at Stroudsburg High School where her favorite subject is Accounting. She has been playing the cello in the PYO for three years. Sarah's favorite composer is Tchaikovsky, and she enjoys all kinds of music. The *Dollanganger* series by V.C. Andrews are 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.

Josh Cloward is a sophomore at East Stroudsburg High School South. He is playing for PYO for the first time. He has gone to District Band since he was an 8th grader. In his free time, he likes to play video games with his friends and learn new instruments. He plans to go to college for Music Education and become a music teacher in the future.

A senior at East Stroudsburg High School South, **Carina Cohen** is playing the flute and piccolo in the PYO for the first time. She has been playing flute since the 4th grade and piccolo since the 8th grade. In addition to these instruments, she enjoys playing the piano and kazoo. Her favorite subject in school is calculus. Her favorite composers are John Williams, Gustav Holst, and John Mackey. She listens mainly to classic rock (Billy Joel, Queen, Elton John, Styx, Toto, and the like) and Broadway music but is open to most genres of music. Some of her favorite books include the *Harry Potter* series by J.K. Rowling, *Lord of the Flies*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and those written by James Patterson. In school, Cohen is a member of marching band, the spring musical production, Choraliers, Science Olympiad, Scholastic Scrimmage, and Reading Olympics. She is also the current salutatorian of her graduating class. In her somewhat nonexistent free time, she likes to read, sleep, sing everywhere, and love her cat. Cohen enjoys the orchestra because it gives her the opportunity to share her passion in a new setting that was not previously experienced. In college, she plans to major in both psychology and mathematics to become a psychological researcher.

Meredith Constable is a ninth grader at Stroudsburg Junior High School playing bass for the first time in the PYO after two years in the PJSO. She also plays cello and lists Richard Meyer and Yiruma as her favorite composers. Science is her favorite subject, and she enjoys horseback riding. Meredith lists Markus Zusak and Harper Lee as her favorite authors with *The Book Thief* and *To Kill a Mockingbird* as her favorite books. She enjoys

orchestra because the music is challenging and she enjoys playing in a group.

Cameron Dougherty is a senior at Scranton Prep this year. His favorite subjects are German and Art. He is the Vice President of the Creative Writing Club, and a member of the Art Society. He spent this past summer refurbishing a transition home for the Salvation Army, landscaping properties for The ARC of Northeastern PA, and traveling to Italy and Germany. He is busy researching different Universities where he would like to study mechanical engineering. Cameron has been playing the violin for 12 years; was a member of the PJSO for three years and is now entering his third year in the PYO. Cameron likes listening to Alternative and Punk Rock. His favorite composer is Rise Against. His favorite authors include Frank Herbert and H.P. Lovecraft. Favorite book is *Dune*. Cameron has achieved superior ratings for his solo violin performances in the NFMC Junior Music Festivals and has been chosen to perform in PMEA District 10 Intermediate Orchestra Festivals. Membership in the PYO has allowed Cameron to flesh out his musical interests while bringing him closer to friends.

Luke Dougherty is a freshman at Scranton Prep. He's received 1st honors and made it to States in cross-country. His favorite subject this year is math. Luke has been playing the violin for 9 years, was a member of the PJSO for four years and is now entering his first year in the PYO. He has achieved superior ratings for his solo violin performances in the NFMC Junior Music Festivals and has been chosen to perform in PMEA District 10 Intermediate Orchestra Festivals. He enjoys listening to Rap music as well as the classical works of Bach and Mozart. Luke's favorite author is Tolstoy; *Shane* and *The Hobbit* are at the top of his favorite reads this year. Luke swims competitively for the Pocono Piranhas, and he enjoys playing video games. Luke enjoys the musical challenges offered by the orchestra. He is considering a career in the field of accounting.

Maura Dougherty is a twelfth-grade student at Easton Area High School where her favorite subject is Physics. She played violin for three years in PJSO, and this is her fourth year in PYO. Her favorite composer is Krystoff Penderecki. She enjoys listening to classical, metal and celtic. Favorite authors include Jane Austen and Shakespeare. At school, she is a member of Symphony Orchestra, String Quartet, Concert Choir, Chamber Singers, National Honor Society and the National French Honor Society. She is active in Keep Africa Well, Youth Quake Explosion, and the National Historical and Genealogical Society. Maura is recognized as a Commended National Merit Scholar and AP Scholar with Distinction. Her hobbies include playing piano, singing, stress-baking, sleep deprivation, and creating bad puns! She enjoys PYO for the opportunity to play a variety of music literature. A shout-out to Josh Charlton for asking her to join all those years ago! In the future, Maura plans to attend college and have a dual major in physics and public policy, and possibly open her own bakery someday.

Sienna Fernandez is a tenth grader at Pocono Mountain East High School playing cello for the first time in the PYO after two years in the PJSO. She also plays clarinet and piano and lists math and science as her

favorite subjects. Sienna is open to any kind of music except rap and lists Bach as her favorite composer. Agatha Christie is her favorite author, and the *Maze Runner* series are among her favorite books. She participates in the Jehovah's Witnesses and enjoys reading and listening to music. Sienna likes orchestra because she meets new people and plays music that challenges her. In the future, she hopes to go to nursing school.

Tristan Flanagan is a senior at Stroudsburg High School playing French horn for the fifth year in the PYO. He also plays mellophone, piano, trumpet and percussion. Alternative and electronic music are his favorites. This year, he is the drum major for the Stroudsburg Marching Band and plays in the concert band, his favorite subject. Tristan is in the top 10% of his class and participates in FBLA, Chorale and National Honor Society. His hobbies include filming videos, singing, traveling and DJ-ing. Tristan enjoys playing in the orchestra because it allows him to perform types of music that he typically does not perform or listen to. It also gives him the opportunity to work alongside many talented musicians. Tristan plans to attend a four-year university to major in film and television production.

Emily Fleming is a junior at Stroudsburg High School. This is her third 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, is a member of the Future Business Leaders of America, Key Club, and the Stroudsburg High School Chamber Orchestra. 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, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and John Green. Favorite books are *Dear John*, *Looking for Alaska*, and *The Great Gatsby*. Emily plans on attending college when she graduates and continuing her music.

Nick Fleming is a senior at Stroudsburg High School. This is his fourth year in PYO. He plays percussion in the orchestra and also plays keyboard. His favorite subjects include sciences (particularly chemistry and physics) and music. Nick's favorite composers are Brian Balmages and Alfred Reed, and he enjoys listening to just about every style of music. Favorite authors include David Baldacci, Tom Clancy and Anthony Horowitz. Nick also participates in Stroudsburg Marching Band, Concert Band, Show Choir, Pit Orchestra, Percussion Ensemble and National Honor Society. In addition, he is an avid snowboarder at local ski resorts and a volunteer at local Little Leagues. He is an alumnus of People to People International Student Ambassadors and NYLF. He enjoys orchestra for the music and friends and feels that when you attend a classical concert, you step into the composer's era and their life. In the future, he plans to attend college, continue to perform, and hopefully study performing arts, special effects and acoustics.

Stephanie Fritz is a junior at Stroudsburg High School. This is her 4th year in PYO. She plays French horn in the orchestra and also plays mellophone, trumpet, and piano. Her favorite subject is music theory.

Stephanie's favorite composers are Frank Ticheli, Danny Elfman, Michael Giacchino, and Howard Shore. She enjoys listening to concert band and film score music. She has represented her school as a French Horn player at PMEA District and Region Band festivals, and as a pianist/accompanist at PMEA District Jazz Band and Monroe/Pike County Chorus. This year she will be singing with the PMEA District Choir and playing French horn in the District Band and Orchestra. She enjoys orchestra because it allows her to be exposed to different types of music and introduces a new role for the French horn to play. She hopes to go to college to major in Music Theory and Composition, and eventually have a career teaching Music Theory at a university.

Emily Geiger is a senior at Stroudsburg High School. This is her fourth 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 Physics. Her favorite composers are Wagner and Hindemith. She enjoys listening to pop, country, 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 school chamber orchestra, 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 in the PMEA District Orchestra for the past six years. She has made High Honor Roll, Honor Roll, as well as regional and state competitions for FBLA. Her hobbies include playing tennis, reading, listening to music, shopping, and walking her dog. 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.

Tim Geiger is a ninth grader in the Stroudsburg Junior High School and plays the double bass. This is his first year in the PYO. He has played in the PJSO for the past two years. He also likes to play the piano and the bass guitar. In school, his favorite subject is language arts. He likes music from all genres. His favorite books are *The Millionaire Mind* and *Ahead of the Curve*. His extracurricular activities include mock trial and tennis. He also enjoys mountain biking, watching "Top Gear," reading about high performance cars and riding on the back of his Dad's motorcycle. He enjoys the orchestra because he loves playing his bass and learning new music. In the future, his plans include business school and becoming an entrepreneur.

Brooke Givens is a ninth grader at Stroudsburg Junior High. This is her first year playing viola with the PYO after playing with the PJSO for three years. She enjoys listening to pop music. Her favorite composer is Bach, and her favorite subject is math. Brooke liked reading Stephenie Meyer's book *Twilight*. Her extracurricular activities include soccer and cheerleading. She currently is on the Stroudsburg Junior Varsity Cheering Squad. She enjoys the orchestra because it gives her the opportunity to be expressive without using words. In the future, Brooke plans to become a famous musician.

Contributions 2014-201115

Moto Perpetuo (\$250-\$499)

The Zhang Family

Presto (\$100-\$249)

The Cavalier Family

Merlyn and Elizabeth Buzzelli-Clarke

Robert Cirillo

Jim and Marina Maroney

Mary Anne Moore

Dr. Judy Obaza-Nutaitis and Prof Charles F Nutaitis

Joseph and Marie Snyder

The Peter Tsang Family

The Whidden Family

Vivace (\$50-\$99)

Michele Stolls and David Baker

Donna M. and Terry K. Griffith

The Rostock Family

Allegro (\$25-\$49)

The Constable Family

Linda Ozarow in memory of Joey Snyder's grandmother

Andante (\$5-\$24)

This list includes all contributions received as of December 15, 2014

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

Edward Harbison is a twelfth grader at Pleasant Valley High School and has been playing the horn for PYO in his second 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, trombone and piano. Chemistry is a favorite subject, and he plans to continue his studies of mathematics and chemistry when he attends college next fall. Favorite composers include Debussy and Khachaturian, a Soviet Armenian composer. Edward likes listening to dubstep music 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 Band, Pep Band, and Brass Ensemble. In his spare time, he enjoys Shakespearean dramas and Rubik's cubing. Edward has received awards in Life Scouts, Boy Scouts, and has received honors in mathematics.

Maci Kendrick is an eleventh-grade student at Stroudsburg High School where her favorite subjects are English, anatomy and history. She played the viola in the PJSO for three years, and is now in her third year playing for PYO. She also plays the cello. Her favorite classical composer is Felix Mendelssohn, and she enjoys nearly all genres of music. Cassandra Clare, John Green, and Emily Bronte are among her favorite authors. Favorite books include *Revolution*, *Looking for Alaska* and *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*. Maci is a high honor roll student and is a member of her school's National Honor Society, Student Government, Key Club, Chamber Orchestra, varsity tennis, and high school musical. Her hobbies include playing tennis, reading, writing, and posting on pinterest. She enjoys PYO for the challenge of new music. Maci's future plans include traveling the world and attending a four-year university.

Nell Kopytnik is a junior at Stroudsburg High School and has been playing the cello for the past three years in the PYO. She was previously in the PJSO for two years. In addition to cello, she enjoys playing the piano. Her favorite subject in school is math, and her favorite composers are Vivaldi, Chopin, and Tchaikovsky. She listens to music in a variety of styles including pop, classic rock, alternative and soundtrack. She reads books by Gabriel Garcia Marquez and Ernest Hemingway. Some of her favorites include *One Hundred Years of Solitude* and *A Farewell to Arms*. In high school, she is a member of the National Honor Society and is a peer tutor, and in her spare time likes to travel, read, and paint. Nell enjoys the orchestra because it gives her an excellent opportunity to play the cello in a full orchestra setting. In the future, she plans to major in economics or computer science and become a financial engineer or computer programmer.

Emma Kowzun is a ninth grader at Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts playing cello for the first time in the PYO after four years in the PJSO. She also plays piano and guitar and lists history as her favorite subject. Emma likes classical, jazz and pop music and lists Mozart and Bach as her favorite composers. Her favorite authors are John Green and Gayle Forman, and *The Fault in our Stars* and *If I Stay* are her favorite books. Emma is active in her church youth group and enjoys golf, singing and skiing. She enjoys orchestra because she can be with her friends and have fun doing what she loves: Making Music. Emma plans to go to college and go further in music.

Abby Lantz is a twelfth grader at Stroudsburg High School. She has played violin for the orchestra for over seven years, 4 years in PJSO and 4 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 hopes to attend Berklee College of Music where she attended a summer songwriting workshop during the summer of 2014. She will be majoring in Music Composition.

Kara Lawlor is in ninth grade at the Lehigh Valley Performing Arts Charter School and plays viola. This is her first year with the PYO, and she has performed with the PJSO for the past two years. Her favorite subjects are science and math, and she enjoys listening to 80's rock, Taylor Swift, and Maroon 5. Her favorite composers are Vivaldi and Bach, and her favorite authors are Cassandra Clare and Erick Kripke. She enjoyed reading the *Mortal Instruments*, the *Infernal Devices*, and *Supernatural*. Her hobbies include knitting, crocheting, and jewelry making. She enjoys the friendship and cookies at the orchestra rehearsals. Her future plans include performing professionally in an orchestra, attending college, and having a career in science or math.

Meaghan Lawlor is a senior at Pocono Mountain East High School. This is her third year with the PYO playing violin. She plays cello and enjoys listening to Mumford and Sons, Florence and the Machine, and the Foo Fighters. Her favorite composers are Wagner, Beethoven, and Mozart. Her favorite authors are Cassandra Clare, Jane Austen, and Colum McCann. She enjoyed reading *Pride and Prejudice*, *Mortal Instruments*, and *Harry Potter*. She has received an academic award in Language Arts. Her activities include Show Choir, Literary Magazine, and Spanish Honor society. Her hobbies include performing in plays at the Shawnee Playhouse, time traveling in the TARDIS, and visiting 221B Baker Street. She enjoys the orchestra for its diverse music and opportunity to challenge herself musically. Her future plans include attending Temple University or Cedar Crest College to major in English and minor in theater.

Christie Lee is a ninth grader at Stroudsburg Junior High School playing violin in the PYO for the first 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, along with Martin O'Donnell. Christie plays in the SJHS Chamber Orchestra and enjoys drawing, archery and painting. Her favorite subjects are math, art, biology, 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 an artist or a doctor.

Hannah Lee is a junior at Stroudsburg High School playing violin for the first time in the PYO. She also plays piano and enjoys alternative/indie

music. Her favorite composer is Cyril Scott. Hannah lists math, orchestra and biology as her favorite subjects and Stephen Chbosky and Veronica Roth as her favorite authors. *Looking for Alaska* and *The Outsiders Legend* are her favorite books. She is in the top 10% of her class and enjoys piano, violin, reading and drawing. Hannah says that she loves listening to and playing music with the orchestra and values the challenge of the music. She hopes to study in the medical field and to keep up with music.

Liuba Miranosava is a high honor junior at Stroudsburg High School playing percussion and keyboard percussion for the fourth year in the PYO. She also plays drumset and lists French as her favorite subject. Liuba lists Danny Elfman and Johan Strauss II as her favorite composers and likes classic rock, classical piano and Indie rock music. Her favorite books are *Gone with the Wind*, *Wuthering Heights*, *Harry Potter* and *Lord of the Rings*. She lists J.K. Rowling, Emily Bronte, Margaret Mitchell and Phillip Pullman as her favorite authors. Liuba participates in the Marching Band, FBLA, Jazz Band, Key Club, SADD, Peer Tutoring, Student Government, National Honor Society and Percussion Ensemble. She received the Stanley Kay Scholarship. Her hobbies include reading, baking, traveling, hiking and camping. Liuba enjoys orchestra because it gives her the opportunity to be part of a talented group of musicians and enhances her musical capabilities. She plans attend college to pursue a health related science.

Gabriella Mohring is a tenth grader at Stroudsburg High School playing cello for the first time with the PYO. She also plays piano and flute, likes pop and rock music and lists Edward Elgar as her favorite composer. Gabriella's favorite subjects are anatomy & physiology and chemistry. She lists John Green, Jane Austen, and J.K. Rowling as her favorite authors. Gabriella is a member of Science Olympiad, Scholastic Scrimmage, Model Congress, and FBLA. She has won several Science Olympiad State and Regional medals, gold included, since the sixth grade. Her hobbies include tennis, gymnastics and skiing. Gabriella enjoys orchestra because it is a pleasant collaboration of creativity and teamwork. She plans to attend college, medical school and to pursue a career in medicine.

Kariem Morssy, a violinist in the Pocono Youth Orchestra, has spent the past 6 years with us. He is a very intelligent student, excelling in the fields of history, taking advanced placement courses in American, European, and World history, and wishing to further his study of politics and international relations 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 American University in the fall, also joining 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 of hope. His quest is a noble one which blends his thirst for knowledge and unyielding desire to help those truly in need.

Nadia Moustafa is a tenth grader at Stroudsburg High School playing cello for the first time in the PYO. Her favorite music is Cello Suite No. 1 by Johann Sebastian Bach. She lists Becca Fitzpatrick as her favorite author and *The Fault in our Stars* as her favorite book. Chemistry is her favorite subject. Nadia participates in Key Club, Model Congress, Building Buddies and volunteers at the hospital. She has played in PMEA District 10 Intermediate Orchestra twice. She loves the sound of the cello and the challenge of the music in orchestra. She hopes to attend New York University with a career in finance.

Krista Nash is a twelfth grader at Stroudsburg High School. She has been a member of the PYO for two years 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, Pocono Alliance, Peer Tutoring, Marching Band, Concert Band and Choir, and she is the Webmaster for Key Club. She has received a Leadership Award. Krista plans on attending The University of Pittsburgh for a Bachelors in Nursing and a minor in French.

Jessica Ng is a twelfth-grade student at Stroudsburg High School where her favorite subjects are math and French. This is her third 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 an eleventh-grade student at Pen Argyl Area High School where his favorite subject is Spanish. This is his second 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 pop and country music. He is a member and volunteers for the Plainfield Farmer’s Fair Organization, a group that conducts a five-day agricultural fair in Plainfield Township, PA. At school, he is active in chorus, chamber singers, orchestra, and Gang Green (football pep club). He also participates in State Theatre Summer Acting Camp. His honors include National Junior Honor Society in 8th grade, National Honor Society in 11th grade, Principal’s 90% Club in 9th-11th grade, awards of excellence in chorus, technology, Spanish and German, and Chinese in 8th grade, the highest achievement in orchestra award in 8th grade, and the outstanding achievement in Spanish award in 10th grade. Charles’s hobbies include board games, swimming, and biking. He enjoys orchestra because it challenges him to improve musically. It provides him with 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 Hersheypark this coming spring. His future plans include attending Lafayette College and majoring in Spanish.

Pierce O'Dowd is a ninth grader at Stroudsburg Junior High School playing trumpet in the PYO for his second year. He enjoys music by artists such as Billy Joel, Elton John and others like them and lists John Williams as his favorite composer. His favorite subjects are civics, government and history, and his favorite authors are Rick Riordan and Veronica Roth with the *Legend Trilogy* as his favorite books. Pierce participates in Jazz Band, Marching Band, Boy Scouts and FBLA. He enjoys skiing and hiking. Pierce says he enjoys orchestra because he loves playing the trumpet, as it is a way of expressing himself. He also appreciates the final results that come at the end of all the practicing and rehearsing. He hopes to go to a good college and then possibly on to Law School.

Sarah Osman is a twelfth-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 fourth 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.

Sarah Portz is a tenth grader at the Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Performing Arts playing viola for the first time in the PYO. She also plays piano and guitar and lists biology as her favorite subject. Her favorite music is Arcade Fire and her favorite composers are Vivaldi, Bach, Gershwin, and Mozart. Sarah lists the *Harry Potter* series as her favorite books and Walt Whitman, Edgar Allan Poe and J.K. Rowling as her favorite authors. Sarah enjoys playing video games and drawing. She likes orchestra because music is an important part of her life, and music affects her like nothing else as it tells a story without words. In the future, Sarah plans to study music in college and further help people by exposing them to the power of music.

Olivia Reed is a senior at Stroudsburg High School playing violin in the PYO for the fourth 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, National Honor Society, and Student Government. 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 in the fall for International Relations with a minor in Marketing and eventually graduate with her Master's degree.

Sarah Reinhardt is a sophomore at Stroudsburg High School She plays the violin and has been doing so for about seven years. This is her second year in PYO. She enjoys listening to Broadway musical soundtracks. In school, her favorite subject is art. Her favorite author is Rick Riordan and enjoys reading the *Percy Jackson* series. She is active in her school's

orchestra, along with its chamber orchestra. Her hobbies include drawing. Sarah enjoys orchestra because “it allows me to express myself in a way that words cannot. It is also extremely relaxing.” She hopes to attend an art school to study music and art.

Sophia Rostock is a senior at Stroudsburg High School where her favorite subjects are orchestra 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. She plans on attending college next year to study cello performance and business.

Missy Salvadeo is a ninth grader at the Stroudsburg Junior High School. This is her first year playing the viola with the PYO following three years with the PJSO. In school, her favorite subjects are science and orchestra. She enjoys a variety of musical styles and especially admires the works of classical composers Bach, Mozart and Tchaikovsky. 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, Our Lady of Victory youth group as the president and has obtained high honor roll. In her spare time, she likes to play any instrument. She enjoys the orchestra because it helps her to escape, and it is her favorite thing to do in school. In the future, she has plans of attending the University of Scranton as a science major or auditioning for admission into the Juilliard School of the Arts in NYC.

Luke Simons is in his fifth year with the PYO playing clarinet. He is an eleventh-grade honor student at Southern Lehigh High School where his favorite subjects include Band and Francais Quatre. Luke also plays the piano and saxophone and enjoys singing. Billy Joel is one of his favorite composers/musicians. Luke is a member of the SLHS Concert Band, Marching Band, Jazz Band, Concert Choir 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. During the past three 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*, *Shrek: The Musical* and the *Sound of Music*, and has performed in the pit orchestra for productions of *Shrek*, *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.

Adam Snyder is a ninth grader at the Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts playing violin for the first time in the PYO after four years in the PJSO. He is learning flute this year as well and likes classical, country and pop music with Bach and Vivaldi as his favorite composers. Adam lists Rick Riordan and Suzanne Collins as his favorite authors with *The Hunger Games* and *Percy Jackson* as his favorite books. Adam is a student ambassador and enjoys reading and gaming. He says that orchestra is fun, and it gives him the opportunity to work with others. His current goal is to develop his skills in flute playing.

Joseph Snyder is a senior at Notre Dame High School and plays the violin. He has been performing with the PYO for four years and with the PJSO for two years prior. His favorite composers are Vivaldi and Barber. Joe enjoys listening to hip-hop, electric dance music, and classical. As an honors student, Joe's favorite subjects are English and History. His favorite author is John Grisham, and he has enjoyed reading the *Harry Potter* series of books. He has been performing with the Wyoming Seminary Civic Orchestra for the past two years and is also a violinist with the quartet group, the *Sound of Strings*. He is a member of the Mock Trial team, Student Council, and is a black belt in Tang Soo Do. He started his own DJ business, *DJ J-Shock Entertainment Company* now in its third year. His hobbies include snowboarding, basketball, and providing DJ music for parties and special events. He enjoys the orchestra because he likes making music with his friends. In the future, he plans to study Global Business and eventually become an International Corporate lawyer.

Justin Stanton is a junior at Stroudsburg High School and has been playing the violin for the past two years in the PYO. His favorite subject in school is math, and he likes listening to a variety of music including pop and smooth jazz. In high school, he is a member of the Chamber Orchestra. He is a member of his church bell choirs and is an Eagle Scout from Troop 86. Justin enjoys playing in PYO because he favors the variety of tone colors created by the full orchestra rather than just a string orchestra. He says that PYO has also given him an experience to play more difficult music to "fine tune" his skills as a violinist. He enjoys building and creating things using digital programming and in the future, he hopes to attend college for Residential Construction Management.

Aikaterini (Kaiti) Stylianides is a high honor eleventh-grade student at Stroudsburg High School where her favorite subjects are science, French and orchestra. She played violin for two years in PJSO and three years for PYO. Kaiti also plays flute, piccolo, piano and guitar. Her favorite composers are Mozart, Handel, and Mendelssohn. She enjoys listening to Decades music, Classical, Jazz, and Classic Rock. Kaiti's favorite authors are J.K. Rowling, Douglas Adams and F. Scott Fitzgerald. Her favorite books include *Harry Potters* series, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* and *The Great Gatsby*. She is a member of SHS Marching Band, Chorale, Chamber Orchestra, Chess Team, FBLA, and Greek Dancing. She is in the top ten percent of her class, and is recognized as an FBLA Regional Qualifier and 2nd place finisher in Law Day Essay. Her hobbies include reading, writing, 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 minor in French.

Antonios Stylianides is a high honor ninth grader at Stroudsburg Junior High currently playing viola for the first time in the PYO after three years in the PJSO. He also plays violin, cello alto saxophone, bouzouki, baglamadaki and piano. Classical music is his favorite and Bach, Beethoven and Mozart are his favorite composers. Antonios lists Marie Lu and Tom Angleberger as his favorite authors and the *Legend* series and *Divergent* series as his favorite books. He is active in Boy Scouts, Keystone Athletics and Greek dancing. He enjoys fishing, playing his instruments, building stuff and playing games. He enjoys orchestra for many reasons: He loves to play the viola, he likes the challenge and he likes the conductors. In the future, Antonios would like to play in a professional orchestra and become a marine biologist.

Olivia Szablinska is an eleventh-grade student at Stroudsburg High School where she enjoys math and all her music classes. This is her third year in PYO playing the viola. John Green and Veronica Roth are her favorite authors, and *The Fault in Our Stars* and the *Divergent* series are a few of her favorite books. Olivia is a member of her school's marching band, orchestra, and choir. She enjoys swimming and reading, and finds PYO a good place to play challenging music outside of school.

Elise Tomaszewski is a homeschooled tenth grader playing violin in the PYO for the first time after four years in the PJSO. She likes pop and country music and lists Mozart and Haydn as her favorite composers. Elise lists J.R.R. Tolkien, Louisa May Alcott and William Shakespeare as her favorite authors with *The Lord of the Rings Trilogy* and *Calvin and Hobbes* as her favorite books. She says that geometry and literature are her favorite subjects and her hobbies include baking and exercising. She has won Honorable Mention for the Scholastic Writing Awards. Elise enjoys orchestra because she enjoys listening to how the other instruments harmonize together to create an amazing sound. Her future plans are to go to college and become a podiatrist.

Johnny Valinote is a tenth-grade student at Stroudsburg high School, and this is his first year in the PYO playing upright bass; he also plays electric bass. His favorite subject in school is history, and he especially enjoys the music of Charlie Parker as well as a variety of music including metal and jazz. Johnny lists James Patterson as his favorite author and the *Witch and Wizard* as his favorite book. In high school, he is a member of Jazz Band, Marching Band, TSA, Venture Crew and Model Congress; he is also a member of the Boy Scouts. He placed First in the state for VEX Robotics in TSA. Johnny enjoys playing in PYO because he loves to play music, and he even has his own Rock Band! In the future, he hopes to become an engineer and perform as a jazz bassist.

Joseph Visceglia is a twelfth-grade student at Stroudsburg High School where his favorite subjects are math and science. He has been playing percussion for five years in PYO. Brian Balmages, Alfred Reed and John Williams are among his favorite composers. He enjoys listening to all types of music. Suzanne Collins, Eoin Colfer and Mitch Albom are among his favorite authors. His favorite books include the *Gregor* series, the *Artemis Fowl* series, and *Tuesdays with Morrie*. 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 travel the world, never lose contact with friends and win the lotto.

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 and the National Honor Society and has been selected for PMEA District Band and PMEA District and Regional Choir. He has also won Youth in Music Excellence awards. Music is his favorite subject, 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. His goal is to make it big and sing with an opera company.

Elizabeth Whidden is a senior at Stroudsburg High School playing cello for the fourth year following three years in the PJSO. Her favorite authors include Tatiana de Rosnay, Jodi Picoult, J.K. Rowling, and Dan Brown. She is President of the National Honor Society Del Minsi Chapter, a member of the senior company at Notara School of Dance and Acting, and a co-captain for the varsity cross-country team. Elizabeth is in the top 10% of her class and the recipient of the Bausch and Lomb Honorary Science Award. She has won nine superior ratings from Festival in cello and piano, and placed 6th for Banking and Financial Systems at the FBLA State Competition. She also interns at the Northeast Wildlife DNA Lab at East Stroudsburg University. She likes to play challenging music and meet new people in the orchestra. Elizabeth's future plans include majoring in biology in college and continuing on to graduate school.

Eric Wolf is a junior at Stroudsburg High School playing trombone for the fourth year in the PYO. He also plays baritone/euphonium and plays in the SHS Jazz Band and Marching Band. Eric likes music by Bach and Duke Ellington as well as jazz music. His favorite author is Isaac Asimov and his favorite book is *Gulliver's Travels*. At school, Eric participates in National Honor Society, Scholastic Scrimmage, Science Olympiad and FBLA. His hobbies include numismatics, reading and mathematics. His honors include FBLS National Agribusiness Champion, 2013-2014 Scholastic Scrimmage Champion and Science Olympiad State Medalist. Eric enjoys the orchestra because it gives him the opportunity to play a different type of music and allows him to socialize with others who feel the same. His future ambitions include earning a PhD in physics – his favorite subject- and becoming a nuclear or particle physicist.

Anthony Wong is a tenth-grade student at Stroudsburg High School where his favorite subject is physical science. He is in the top ten percent of his class and a high honor student in his grade. He is also the Secretary for the Sophomore Student Government. Anthony is now in his second year in PYO after a year in the PJSO. He plays the cello, piano and guitar. Anthony's favorite music is classical, jazz, rock, and electronic. He is a

member of Science Olympiad, FBLA, Scholastic Scrimmage, High School Chorale and Marching Band. Anthony enjoys orchestra because "it conveys ideas and emotions that words cannot." His hobbies include composing music, writing, and biking. In his free time, Anthony likes to practice music with his band.

Rebecca Xi is a ninth grader at Blair Academy playing violin for the first time in the PYO after two years in the PJSO. She also plays piano, likes Romantic era music and lists Beethoven and Chopin as her favorite composers. Rebecca won the NEPMTA Carnegie Hall Honors Recital Award. Her favorite subject is Latin, her favorite author is Louisa May Alcott and her favorite books are *Little Men*, *Jo's Boys*, and *the Red Badge of Courage*. Rebecca's hobbies include reading, writing, pencil drawing, cross country, squash, and spending time with her two cats. She enjoys orchestra because of all the difficult music she gets to play with others. In the future, she plans to write a book, help rescue animals, teach high school students and do something with Latin.

Amy Zhang is sixteen years old and a junior at Notre Dame High School of East Stroudsburg. She has played piano for eleven years under Mrs. Kelly Scheer and has participated in the Piano Teachers' Forum of New Jersey adjudications, receiving an Outstanding ranking. Her favorite school subject is English, with her favorite authors being Neil Gaiman, Ernest Hemingway, and John Green. Some of her favorite books include *The Fault in Our Stars*, *Fragile Things*, and *The Goldfinch*. Her favorite composers are Prokofiev, Rachmaninoff, and Chopin, but her favorite style of music is alternative rock. Some of her hobbies include piano, creative writing, baking, Mock Trial, and Netflix. She appreciates how the PYO provides a chance to hear other musicians' talents and allows one to experience the unique process of putting together a performance with other musicians. In the future, Amy hopes to do something involving either physics or law.

About Our Composer



Abigail Lantz is a 12th grader at Stroudsburg High school. 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. 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. Abby has been a member of PJSO and PYO since 5th grade. She hopes to attend 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.

Boosters

Great job, Chelsea! We enjoy watching your 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

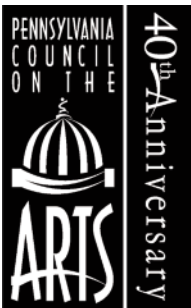
India, We share your love of music, and love to hear you play the violin.
Mom and Dad

Outstanding Ensemble Player Award:

Winter 2014 Eric Wolf, trombone
Spring 2014 Joseph Snyder, violin

Suzanne E. Anderson Memorial Scholarship Recipient for 2014:

Eric Papa, clarinet



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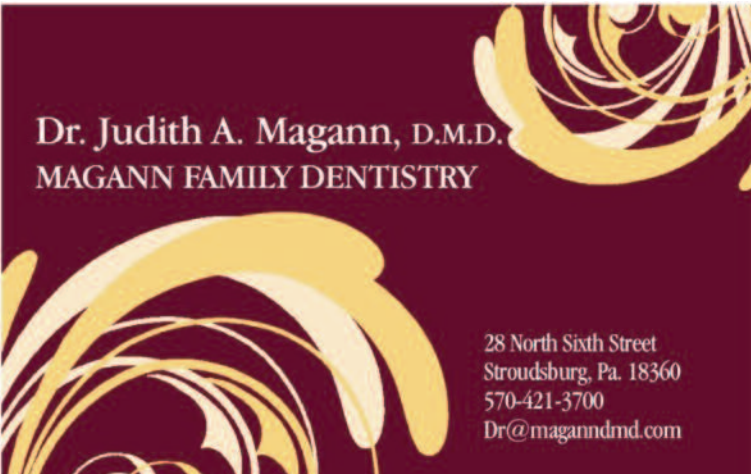
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We are grateful to the **Stroudsburg School District** and **music teachers at the Stroudsburg High School** for use of the Stroudsburg High School Auditorium and facilities for our performances. We also wish to thank the district and **music teachers 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.

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

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

Violinist **Debra Esposito** for her assistance at PJSO rehearsals.

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.

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

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