



NOTEWORTHY

Fall, 2000

Newsletter of the Oakland Youth Orchestra

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Oakland Youth Orchestra
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Michael Morgan, Artistic Director
Scott Parkman, Principal Conductor
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Who Are We?

The 76 members of OYO range in age from 12 to 21.

52% come from Alameda County; 33% from Contra Costa; 4% from San Francisco; and 11% from Marin.

We are 47% female; 53% male.

We all play music.

The Challenge: every member to Italy Tour 2000

SAVE THESE DATES!!

Pops Concert, Dinner & Auction
February 4, 2001, 3:00 pm
Scottish Rite Ballroom

Spring Concert
Sunday, March 25, 2001, 3 pm
Calvin Simmons Theatre

Season Finale
Sunday, May 27, 2001, 3 pm
Calvin Simmons Theatre

Oakland Zoo Concert
Sunday, June 3, 11-3



Gaby Holmquist at OYO Retreat



OYO Wish List

Laser Printer (Windows compatible)
Heavy Duty Copy Machine (11"x 17")
Flatbed Scanner
Timpani

OYO is proud to have
HILLS NEWSPAPERS
as our Media Sponsor.

Noteworthy is published by the Oakland Youth Orchestra, a tax-exempt 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

The Oakland Youth Orchestra covers only about 22% of our expenses through tuition and fees. The remainder must be raised each year through events, fundraisers, grants, and donations. Help us maintain our internationally acclaimed program and scholarship assistance. We welcome inquiries concerning charitable trusts.

Tour Donation In memory In honor of _____

Enclosed please find my contribution \$50 \$100 \$150 \$_____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Contributions made in support of the Oakland Youth Orchestra are tax-deductible.

WHAT ELSE ARE THEY DOING?

Alyssa Mathias, violinist, daughter of Lenora Mathias & Richard Mathias, and member of the San Francisco Girls' Chorus, was too busy to play with OYO during this concert period. A member of the SF Girls' Chorus, she was singing with the SF Opera! She auditioned for and landed the role of Elizabeth in *The Ballad of Baby Doe*, starring Ruth Ann Swenson (below).



Kristin Arendt is working on a BA at UCB in Molecular and Cell Biology Neurobiology with a minor in Music. She also is a competitive gymnast at Lamoreem Gymnastics as a level 7 gymnast. • **Bryan Fenchel** is 1st chair in Las Lomas Wind Ensemble and also in Las Lomas Jazz Ensemble. Played for the musicals *Fiddler On the Roof* and *Seven Brides And Seven Brothers*. Last year he was a member of the Contra Costa County Honor Band • **Al Goldenberg**, pianist and percussionist, has played in YPSO and the Bay Area Wind Symphony as well as the Piedmont High Jazz Band. • **Shavon Hutchison**, SF State music major, just performed in a production of *Don Giovanni* with the Livermore Opera Company. • **Crystal Leung** was Concertmaster of Contra Costa Youth Orchestra and a finalist for the Contra Costa String Association Competition last year. • **Isaac Melamed**, a member of SFSU and Lowell High Orchestras recently performed the Bruch *Kol Nidre Cello Concerto*. • **Vidya Pai**, 12 year old violinist and pianist, has won during the

last two years the MTAC Sonata Competition as well as the Concerto Competition for piano and received command performance for violin at the CMEA. She also sings South Indian classical music. • **Vinay Parameswaran**, cello and percussion, is also a member of the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra. • **Anne Rainwater** won the Marin Music Chest Scholarship 5 years in a row. • **Alex Reicher**, trombone, is also a member of the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra. • **Carla Roberts**, with a 4.0+ GPA, was invited to play in the Contra Costa County and CA All-State Honor Bands 2000. • **Dustin Smurthwaite** recently earned his Eagle Scout award by producing a teen suicide prevention video for which he also composed and performed the musical score on piano. • **Danielle Taylor** won a Music Teachers Association of California Discovery Scholarship • **Nicole Thomas**, a member of Bay Area Music Makers (BAMM), is raising money to buy instruments for elementary students. She is also a member of the Crystal Springs Uplands Bell Choir and Chamber Orchestra. • **April Wood** is teaching 6 beginning-intermediate flute students, is principal flute for YOSAC and for her high school orchestra where she'll be doing a concerto this year. •



Nick True

WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?

Sixteen-year-old cellist Nele Kemmerich is spending one year in exotic Piedmont, where members of her family live. She attends the 12th Grade at Piedmont High and will graduate this year.

Nele's public high school in Cologne, Germany, was quite supportive of her music activities and would excuse her from homework assignments or absences when she had a concert. Generally speaking, music is a more common interest among young people in Germany than it is here.

Her family took her to a public music school, the Rhine Music School of Cologne (RMS) at the age 4. First she attended a class for preschoolers where she got to know all the different instruments and learned to read music. After finishing this program at age 7 she used the offer of the music school to get two lessons on every instrument they offered. Then the teacher recommended certain instruments to her parents. Nele chose the cello and started to take lessons at the age of eight. The fact that she was attending the RMS gave her the chance to play with people of her age from the start.

In 1999 Nele became a member of the Youth Symphony Orchestra of the Rhine Music School of Cologne. The 80 to 100 members are between age 12 and 22. Nele describes the orchestra as similar to OYO, but less strict and formal. Members were asked to join the orchestra by the conductor or the section coaches and don't have auditions. Each section assigns its own seating subject to the approval of the conductor. This orchestra participated in an international Festival of Youth Orchestras in Murcia, Spain in April, 2000. It was a great experience for all the members.

Nele says, "I like Michael Morgan a lot. He's really funny."



WHAT DID THEY DO NEXT?

Margot Schwartz, former OYO Concertmaster, now a freshman again and concertmaster of the Oberlin Chamber Orchestra, is enjoying her studies with world-renowned Almita and Roland Vamos.

Elizabeth Morgan, winner of OYO Concerto Competition 1996-1997, was the winner of the OEBS Young Artist Competition and will perform Ravel's *Concerto for Piano in G Major* under Scott Parkman's baton on Friday, March 16 at the Paramount, and on March 17 in Kofman Auditorium in Alameda.

Teddy Abrams, OYO 1997-1999, will perform Copland's *Concerto for Clarinet* with Symphony Parnassus, Saturday, November 11 at Lincoln High School Auditorium, and on Sunday, November 12 at Calvary Presbyterian Church, both in San Francisco. Call 415-986-6026 for info.

Morgan Staples, OYO student conductor, bass player and percussionist, is enjoying his first year at the Eastman Conservatory and is reportedly hard at work on a commission for OYO to perform in the spring and on tour.

Jason Leith (OYO oboe, 1996-1999), Williams College sophomore majoring in biochemistry and still a stright-A student, has just discovered voice! While last year he was a member of the Berkshire Symphony, this year he is singing with the Williams Choir and Chamber Chorus and an *a capella* group, "The Elizabethans." Jason is also studying composition.

OYO: THE SECOND GENERATION

Violinist Graham Patzner and cellist Lewis Patzner are the sons of Carla Picchi (OYO violinist 1972-73) & Kurt Patzner.



Katie Kwan and Danielle Taylor



Anne Rainwater

OYO Retreat

at Redwood Glen

September 15-17, 2000

Was fun!

B. Stack, photos.

WHAT THEY DID AFTER THAT

On January 11, 12, and 13, 2001 The San Francisco Symphony will present **John Adams'** (OYO Advisory Board), "How Could This Happen." **Kent Nagano** (OYO Music Director 1981-1985) will conduct. And the mezzo-soprano will be **Lorraine Hunt Lieberson**, (OYO violist 1969-1972)!



Dustin Smurthwaite



April Wood, Scott Parkman, Carla Roberts, Andrei Gorchov and Maya Barrera

SAVE THE DATE
February 4, 2001, 3:00 pm
OAKLAND YOUTH ORCHESTRA
Annual Pops Concert & Fundraiser

An Entertainment Opportunity: Invite guests to join you for dinner & music:

Berlioz: *Rakoczy March*

Copland: *Hoedown* from *Rodeo*

Gershwin: *Promenade*

Puccini: *Intermezzo* from *Manon Lescaut*

Rossini: *Pas de six* from *William Tell*

Sousa: *Stars and Stripes Forever*

A Shopping Opportunity: Silent and Live Auctions, Raffle

A Performance Opportunity:

The lucky bidder will conduct the mighty OYO in Sousa's *Stars and Stripes*

An Opportunity to Help OYO:

Your help is needed to make this event a success. OYO depends on the proceeds to meet its annual operating budget. Donations can be sent to the OYO office **1428 Alice St. #202M, Oakland, CA 94612** Some ideas for donation:

- Auction items
- Money
- Season ticket holders - Donate Giants, A's, 49ers, Raiders, Sharks, or Warriors tickets
- Tickets to opera/symphony/theatre/concerts
- Use of your condo or weekend retreat for a week or a weekend
- Vintage wine
- Ask for donations from Nordstrom's, Macy's, Nieman Marcus for a fabulous shopping spree
- Spa packages
- Big Toys: Do you have a vintage pinball or coke machine, crap table, etc taking up space?
- Use of a motorhome for a week
- Electronic entertainment equipment (TVs, VCRs, DVDs, etc)
- Get together with some families and donate a special theme dinner
- Organize a theme party
- Rounds of golf
- Find a local sports celebrity willing to conduct a sports clinic for youth