



CALIFORNIA YOUTH SYMPHONY

Quarter Notes

JIM HOGAN, EDITOR

MAY 2018

The California Youth Symphony celebrates the close of its 66th season with a series of marvelous concerts featuring all 8 of our orchestras and ensembles, and culminating with the Senior Orchestra's highly anticipated tour to Latvia, Estonia and Finland. You'll want to attend as many of these concerts as you can to experience the remarkable talents of the finest young musicians in the Bay Area.

SENIOR ORCHESTRA FINAL CONCERT SERIES

The CYS Senior Orchestra wraps up its regular season on May 13 at the Flint Center in Cupertino and on May 20 at the San Mateo Performing Arts Center. Both concerts are at 2:30pm. Maestro Leo Eylar will conduct one of the iconic American works of the 20th Century: Aaron Copland's *Billy the Kid*. A concert favorite since its premiere in 1939, the work makes use of numerous American folk tunes as it narrates the life and times of one of the most famous outlaws of the Wild West. The program opens with Dvorak's energetic and exuberant *Carnival Overture*, a tour-de-force of orchestral virtuoso writing. We are also excited to present Nathaniel Stookey's *The Composer is Dead*, a brilliant work in the tradition of *Peter and the Wolf* and Britten's *Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*, in that it introduces all of the instruments of the orchestra with narrator. The text, written by Lemony Snicket, adds a twist by weaving a murder mystery into the scenario, to hilarious effect. Our guest narrator, Omari Tau, will both entertain and enlighten you with his skills and oratory. We are also pleased to feature a world premiere arrangement of Debussy's "Passepied" from his *Suite bergamasque*, composed by Darioush Mackani. Our Senior Soloist competition winner, William Sallomi, will perform movements from Weber's *Concerto for Bassoon and Orchestra*. Be sure to attend this very special and unusual final concert series!



GUEST NARRATOR, OMARI TAU



Omari Tau will be the guest narrator as CYS presents *The Composer is Dead*, by Nathaniel Stookey. Omari is a multi-talented vocalist whose styles encompass Classical, Jazz, and Musical Theatre, Pop and R&B. He received his Bachelor Degree in Music Education at Michigan State University and his Master of Music in Vocal Performance at the University of Houston, Moores School of Music where he studied with mezzo-soprano,

Katherine Ciesinski. In 2012, he became Director of Opera Theatre at Sacramento State University and continues that role while also leading the Vocal Studies Program at Cosumnes River College. Among his many achievements, Omari toured for nearly nine years with Disney's *Lion King* and he was commissioned by Houston Grand Opera's HGOco in conjunction with The Anti-Defamation League to create the ongoing socio-musical, theatrical experience *I Am Called "Me"* in conjunction with their *No Place For Hate* campaign.

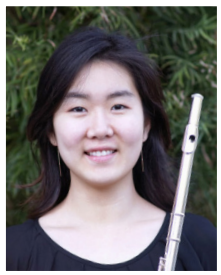
BASSOON SOLOIST, WILLIAM SALLOMI



Eighteen-year-old **William Sallomi** was the winner of the 2017 California Youth Symphony Senior Soloist Concerto Competition. He performs the Weber Bassoon Concerto in F Major on our May 13 concert at the Flint Center and our May 20 concert at the San Mateo Performing Arts Center. William began his musical studies at the age of seven, studying piano. After switching to clarinet and then later to bass clarinet, William began studying the bassoon at the age of 13 under Dr. Yueh Chou. He has been performing in the California Youth Symphony for four years, the last two in the Senior Orchestra. He currently attends Palo Alto High School, and will begin his first year at Stanford University in the fall of 2018.

ASSOCIATE ORCHESTRA FINALE

The CYS Associate Orchestra, under the baton of Maestro Leo Eylar, concludes its season on May 27 at 2pm in the theater at Cañada College, Redwood City. Maestro Eylar has chosen a program of both light classics and a selection of some unusual gems from the concert repertoire such as Cecile Chaminade's *Concertino for Flute and Orchestra*, featuring our solo competition winner Kristie Park. Alexander Borodin's *Polovetsian Dances* and Edvard Grieg's *Norwegian Dances* help round out our themed program from the ballet world, along with Rossini's scintillating *Overture to La Giza Ladra*. As a special "dance" treat, Maestro Eylar offers music from Leonard Bernstein's *West Side Story*. Be sure to join us to experience the energy of this landmark American theater work with its smash hit songs such as "America", "I Feel Pretty", "Cool", and other beloved tunes. There is no admission charge for the concert.



FLUTE SOLOIST, KRISTIE PARK

Kristie Park, 15, is a winner of the CYS Associate Orchestra Soloist Competition. She performs the Chaminade *Concertino for Flute and Orchestra* with the Associate Orchestra on May 28 at Cañada College. Kristie began playing flute when she was in 4th grade and has been part of CYS, as well as the California All State Honor Band, for the past four years. She currently studies with Ms. Jiwon Lee. She is a sophomore at Archbishop Mitty High School where she is active in both band and pit orchestra. She was invited to play at the Music Teachers' Association of California Convention after completing all of her Certificate of Merit levels. Outside of music, Kristie is a competitive Taekwondo athlete, competing at national and international events. She has also participated in a mission trip to Africa, teaching children and introducing them to healthy, active lifestyles.

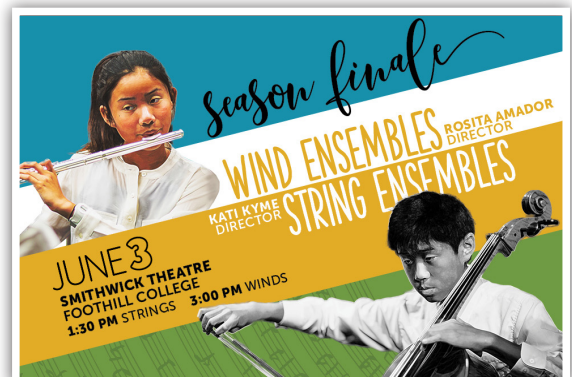


WIND SYMPHONY FINALE

The new CYS Wind Symphony, under the direction of Chris Florio, wraps up its 2017-18 season on Sunday May 27 at 5pm in the theater at Cañada College, Redwood City. Now in its second season, the Wind Symphony has already amazed local audiences and earned popular praise for the level of its performances. Director Chris Florio received his graduate and undergraduate music degrees from UCLA and he is currently the director of the instrumental music program at the Harker School in San Jose. The May 27 concert will feature works by Chance, Lecuona, Whitacre, and more. There is no admission charge for the concert.

CYS STRING & WIND ENSEMBLES SEASON FINALE CONCERT

The California Youth Symphony closes its 2017-18 season with performances by the String and Wind Ensembles, Sunday June 3 in the Smithwick Theatre on the campus of Foothill College, Los Altos Hills. The CYS String Ensembles, under the direction of Kati Kyme, will perform at 1:30pm. Kati received her music degrees from UC Berkeley and Yale. One of the Bay Area's most sought after violinists, she is a member and frequent concertmaster with the award winning Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra.



The Wind Ensembles under the direction of Rosita Amador, begin the afternoon's music at 3:00pm. Rosita received her music degree from San Jose State University and has been active as a soloist, chamber musician and orchestra musician for many years. She has been teaching instrumental music in the Berryessa Union School District and directing the California Youth Symphony Wind Ensembles for over 15 years. She has a private clarinet studio in Saratoga.

Join us on June 3 to enjoy the talents of these young musicians-in-training, as they perform classical and film works by Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Williams, and more. There is no admission charge for the concerts.



TOUR PREVIEW CONCERT

As loyal readers of *Quarter Notes* are well aware, the California Youth Symphony became the first American youth orchestra to tour overseas when, in 1963, we accepted an invitation to mount a concert tour of Japan. After blazing a trail for countless other youth music groups, CYS is now prepared to launch its 21st international tour in late June when the orchestra visits Latvia, Estonia and Finland for the first time. After performances in these countries, the orchestra will finish its tour with some sightseeing in the charming city of Stockholm. Maestro Eylar has selected works by three of the titans of American music – Gershwin, Copland and Bernstein – to share with the European audiences. But local music fans needn't worry about being able to share in the excitement and enjoyment of this outstanding program. CYS will present its Tour Preview Concert on Sunday, June 17 at 2:30pm in the Performing Arts Center at Chabot College, Hayward. The featured work will be Gershwin's beloved *Concerto in F*, long considered to be Gershwin's magnum opus for piano and orchestra. Joining the orchestra for this concert, and for the tour, will be the amazing young pianist Parker Van Ostrand who delighted CYS audiences last year with his performance of Beethoven's *Piano Concerto no. 2*. Be sure to join us at Chabot College on June 17 for this very special concert.

PARKER VAN OSTRAND, TOUR SOLOIST



Parker Van Ostrand, piano soloist for our 2018 tour, is a 9th grader at McClatchy High School in Sacramento. He began studying piano at the age of four. He performed at Carnegie Hall at age five after winning gold in the AADGT Competition. Since then he has returned to Carnegie Hall twice and has performed in numerous recitals throughout the United States, Singapore, and Japan. As a concerto competition winner, Parker performed with the Merced Symphony, the Central Valley Youth Symphony, and the California Youth Symphony. He was invited to perform with the Parnassus Symphony as a guest soloist in 2017. His recent accomplishments include winning first place at the 2017 MTAC State Final Concerto Competition, Pacific Musical Society Competition, US New Star Etude Competition, and 2018 Central Valley Youth Symphony Concerto Competition. He was a finalist at the Mondavi Young Artist Competition in 2016 and 2017. He currently studies with Ms. Linda Nakagawa and Dr. Natsuki Fukasawa. Besides piano, Parker enjoys swimming, painting, building Legos, and learning Japanese. He is a distance runner and is on his high school cross country and track team. One of his goals is to run in the Boston Marathon.



Each spring CYS holds its annual Young Artist Competition at Stanford University to select soloists for the following year. The Competition is open to any young musician under the age of 19. Congratulations to the winners of this year's Competition, held on April 15:

- 1st prize: Catherine Huang, performing *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini* by Rachmaninov
- 1st prize: Abigail Leong, performing the *Cello Concerto* by Dvořák
- 2nd Prize: Sarah Chong, *Cello Concerto No. 2* by Haydn
- Honorable Mention: Oliver Moore: *Totentanz* by Liszt

CYS HONORS ITS GRADUATING SENIORS

CYS congratulates our graduating seniors and wishes them continued success in all their future endeavors, musical and otherwise.

André Bartalos
Matthew Chan
Alison Chen
Brian Chen
Marcus Z. Chen
Bryan Chiang
Kenneth Chuang
Chastin Chung

Sayan Das
Brian Delaney
Jessica Eng
Christina Fritschen
Roy Terry Fuccio
Christopher He
Eric Hooton
Tiffany Hsia

Michael Thomas Hsieh
Christina L. Hung
Erica Hwang
Amanda Jackson
Amy Jin
Cherin Koh
Rohan Kumar
Christina C. Lau

Woongchan Lee
Ke-Tung (Kimberly) Liang
Brian Liu
Ryan Loke
Amit Nag
Helen Rhee
William Sallomi
Wilson Skjerven

Miranda Song
Cameron Wehr
Connery Wood
Kristie Wu
Michelle Yun

California Youth Symphony



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CALIFORNIA YOUTH SYMPHONY
Leo Eylar, Conductor

<i>Carnival Overture</i>	Antonín Dvořák
<i>Bassoon Concerto, Op. 75</i>	Carl Maria von Weber
<i>William Sallomi, bassoon</i>	
<i>The Composer is Dead, with text by Lemony Snicket</i>	Nathaniel Stookey
<i>Omari Tau, narrator</i>	
<i>“Passapied” from Suite bergamasque</i>	Claude Debussy/Arr. D. Mackani
<i>Billy the Kid, Ballet Suite</i>	Aaron Copland

Sunday, May 13, 2:30 pm

Flint Center
DeAnza College Campus
21250 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino

Sunday, May 20, 2:30 pm

San Mateo Performing Arts Center
San Mateo High School
600 N. Delaware St., San Mateo

TOUR PREVIEW CONCERT - JUNE 17, 2:30PM - PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, CHABOT COLLEGE

A chance for local audiences to experience the magic of the music that CYS will bring on its tour to Europe in late June. Featuring Gershwin’s Concerto in F with young piano prodigy Parker Van Ostrand.
25555 Hesperian Blvd. Bldg. 1300, Hayward, CA

Tickets available at the door or from any CYS member

CYS, 441 California Ave. #5, Palo Alto, CA 94306 • tel. 650/325-6666 • www.cys.org
No children under five, please • For Senior Citizen Ticket Information Contact: judy@cys.org