


California Youth Symphony

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Following this past summer's spectacularly successful tour to Europe, *CYS* is now preparing to kick off its 67th season. We hope you will join Maestro Eylar as he leads the *CYS* orchestra through a dazzling array of works on the season's opening concert series in November. The entire season promises to be memorable, with award winning young soloists and marvelous music. Please enjoy this and coming issues of *Quarter Notes* for updated *CYS* news - plus follow us on our web page - www.cys.org.

NOVEMBER CONCERT

As the celebrations for the 100th Anniversary of the birth of Leonard Bernstein come to their close, Maestro Eylar has chosen to begin the season with music from Bernstein's only original film score: *On the Waterfront*, the 1954 Marlon Brando blockbuster which garnered 8 Academy Awards. The work is one of Bernstein's most deeply felt and moving compositions, from the action-packed fight scenes to the supremely beautiful and tender love music. Our Young Artist Competition winner Abigail Leong will perform Dvořák's beloved Cello Concerto, composed in New York in 1894-95 during Dvořák's tenure as Director of the National Conservatory of Music. We round out our opening concert series with the thrilling, whirlwind opener *La Valse*, by Maurice Ravel. Don't miss this intensely romantic and high-octane inaugural concert series!



CALIFORNIA YOUTH SYMPHONY

Leo Eylar, Conductor

La Valse Maurice Ravel
Cello Concerto Antonín Dvořák
Abigail Leong, soloist
Suite from On the Waterfront Leonard Bernstein

Sunday, November 4, 2:30 pm

2:30pm
Flint Center
DeAnza College Campus
21250 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino

Sunday, November 18, 2018

2:30 pm
San Mateo Performing Arts Center
San Mateo High School
600 N. Delaware St., San Mateo

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

TOUR 2018

This past summer the *CYS* Senior Orchestra embarked on its 20th international tour. This year took us to Latvia, Estonia, Finland and Sweden. The tour was a spectacular success in all ways, creating lasting memories for *CYS* musicians and chaperones alike. Local audiences were astounded at the level of performance by "mere youths" and they showered their admiration on our virtuoso young piano soloist, Parker Van Ostrand, who performed Gershwin's Concerto in F. A 2020 tour is now in the planning stages.



Abigail Leong



Fourteen year old cello sensation Abigail Leong is the winner of the 2018 CYS Young Artist Competition held at Stanford University last spring. She performs the Dvořák Cello Concerto with CYS on November 4 at the Flint Center in Cupertino and on November 18 at the San Mateo Performing Arts Center. Abigail started learning cello at the age of four. She currently studies with Jonathan Koh of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music Pre-College Division, where she is furthering her music education. Her previous teachers include Irene Sharp, Michail Gelfandbein and Amy Hsieh. At the age of ten Abigail made her solo debut at Carnegie Hall, performing the first movement of the Saint-Saëns Cello Concerto. An avid chamber musician, Abigail studied at the California Music Preparatory Academy for three years, and also studied at the Young Chamber Musicians (YCM) Program and worked with noted faculty members Susan Bates and Debra Fong, among others. She is a member of Trio Cantare, which was awarded third prize at the 2018 Yehudi Menuhin Festival Galante Competition. Abigail has won numerous first prize awards from competitions including: MTNA State, MTAC VOCE State, MTAC VOCE San Francisco, Pacific Musical Society Foundation Competition, Burlingame Music Club Competition, Korean-American Music Supporters Association Competition, DVC/HNU Young Artist String Competition, United States International Music Competition, ENKOR International Music Competition, and the American Protege International Concerto Competition. Abigail enjoys music outreach at retirement homes and hospitals. Abigail's other passion is dancing -- tap, modern, and hip hop. She attends The King's Academy in Sunnyvale.

Diana McGrory



Flutist Diana McGrory, fourteen, is the winner of the 2018 CYS Associate Orchestra Concerto Competition. She will perform the Gordeli Concertino for Flute and Orchestra at the CYS Holiday Concert on December 9 at the San Mateo Performing Arts Center. Diana began playing the flute at age six and has studied with Jill Heinke Moen for the past five years. Diana has won awards in competitions such as the Music Teachers' Association of California (MTAC) VOCE solo and chamber divisions, at both regional and state levels. She has also achieved the highest ratings at the California Music Educators' Association (CMEA) State Solo and Ensemble festivals. Diana has performed in master classes led by Mary Karen Clardy, Jill Felber, and Amy Porter, and has worked privately with Susan Milan and Patricia Surman. Diana recently collaborated with composer Vince Oliver on an original piece featuring flute with symphonic band accompaniment. In addition to flute, Diana plays the piccolo, saxophone, and piano. She is the lead alto sax in the Woodside High Jazz Ensemble and has also played with several other jazz bands and combos. Diana shares her love of music by teaching young musicians and by performing at community venues such as senior homes, churches, and the Veterans Affairs campus. Diana's other interests include dance, gymnastics, and skiing. She lives in Menlo Park and is a freshman at Woodside High School.



Holiday Concerts

Our yearly Holiday Concert will be held at 2:30pm on December 9th at the San Mateo Performing Arts Center. Admission is free and this is a wonderful opportunity to hear three of our top performing groups at CYS: our Wind Symphony, directed by Dr. Richard Roper, and the Associate and Senior Orchestras, conducted by Maestro Leo Eylar. The Associate Orchestra will perform one of the holiday season's *all-time* favorites, the Overture to Hansel and Gretel, by Humperdinck, as well as light-classic gems by Britten and Auber. The orchestra will also perform the rousing Finale to Tchaikovsky's Symphony no. 4. Dr. Roper will lead the Wind Symphony in Percy Grainger's *Molly on the Shore*, Robert Hazo's brilliant *Ride*, Vaughan-Williams' *English Folk Song Suite*, and John Mackey's *This Cruel Moon*. We are delighted to feature senior orchestra flautist Diana McGrory as our soloist, performing the jazz-inspired Flute Concerto by Gordeli. As a special holiday treat, we offer our first-time-ever performance of Prokofiev's *Lieutenant Kije Suite*. As always, the CYS Senior Orchestra will get you into the Holiday spirit with its selection of holiday favorites such as *White Christmas*, *Deck the Halls*, *Joy to the World*, and selections from the perennial favorite, Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker*. There is something for everyone in this rich and varied festive event!

And to get a head start on the holiday spirit our younger ensembles will present their Holiday Concert at 1:30pm in the Smithwick Theatre at Foothill College, Los Altos Hills. The CYS String Ensembles, under the direction of Kati Kyme, and the CYS Wind Ensembles, directed by Rosita Amador, will perform classical works by Grieg, Saint-Saëns, Rimsky-Korsakov, Mozart, Handel, Dvořák, Beethoven, and Schubert. Admission is free and these aspiring younger musicians are sure to amaze you!



With a Little Help for our Friends



Once again this year CYS will host a toy drive for an outstanding Bay Area charity. *Sunday Friends* is a non-profit organization serving South Bay families in need since 1997. Each holiday season, *Sunday Friends* makes it possible for children and parents from very-low-income families to earn, select and gift-wrap gifts to give each other. CYS has partnered with this fine organization that provides many services to disadvantaged families right here in the Bay Area. We are asking CYS patrons to do two things -- come to our Holiday Concert on December 9 at the San Mateo Performing Arts Center and bring a new toy that we will share with our *Sunday Friends*. Something educational is preferred, but not necessary -- but please, no weapons or edibles of any kind. And don't forget re-gifting! Search your home for lovely gifts you have received but never used. There will be donation boxes at the concert hall on December 9. Thanks!