



California Youth Symphony

QUARTERNOTES

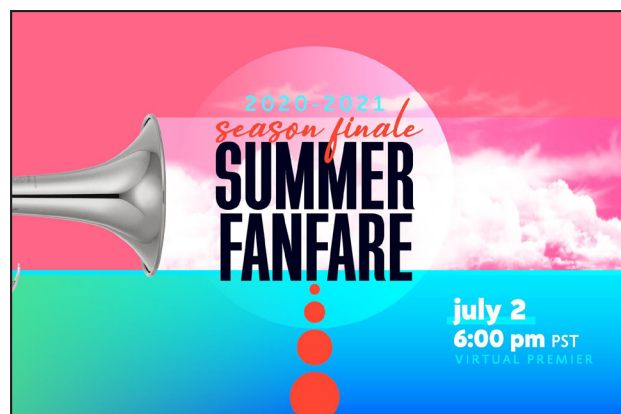
JIM HOGAN, EDITOR

JUNE / 2021

“SUMMER FANFARE”

CYS Presents our GRAND FINALE concert to triumphantly close the 2020-2021 season.

Following on the heels of our three highly successful full-length on line concerts this season, Maestros Leo Eylar and Pete Nowlen are delighted to offer a mesmerizing finale to the 2020-21 CYS season on July 2 at 6:00 PM (Pacific Time). In honor of Independence Day celebrations, we also give a nod to favorite patriotic gems such as *Rushmore* by Alfred Reed, *American Salute* by Morton Gould, and John Williams' *Liberty Fanfare*, composed in 1986 to commemorate the renovation ceremony for the Statue of Liberty. The seven CYS ensembles, comprising over 400 young musicians, will perform a wide range of repertoire spanning the



Baroque to Contemporary age. String Ensemble Director Kati Kyme will lead her groups in the well-known *Arrival of the Queen of Sheba* by Handel, as well as presenting Haydn's *Kaiser Quartet* in C Major. Rosita Amador's Wind Ensembles will present works by Albeniz, Rossini, and the delightful *Cat-y-Bird* by Stefan Rotter. The CYS Wind Symphony will perform selections from Darius Milhaud's *Suite Francaise*, and the Associate Orchestra will offer the scintillating *Farandole* from Bizet's *L'Arlésienne*, Suite No. 2 as well as Ippolitov-Ivanov's evocative *Procession of the Sardar*. The Senior Orchestra will close our program with the stunning and brilliant final movement from Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade*, one of the most virtuosic and beloved of all orchestral showpieces. This final concert is sure to amaze and delight you! Visit www.cys.org/summerfanfare.

Be sure to join us on Friday, July 2, at 6:00 pm on our You Tube channel.

This concert broadcast will be free for all to enjoy on Friday, July 2, at 6:00 pm Pacific | 9:00 pm Eastern.

DEB SHIDLER OBOE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

All of us with CYS mourn the passing of our beloved oboe coach, Deb Shidler. She was an incredible human being and teacher who left a lasting impact on every student who crossed her path. To honor her memory and continue her mission of promoting music education and love of the oboe, her family has started scholarship funds to benefit oboe students who wish to further their studies in music. In addition to the California Youth Symphony, the Berkeley Symphony and the Sacramento State University Music Department will also be establishing Deb Shidler Oboe Scholarships. Please visit www.cys.org/shidler for further information.

CYS GRADUATING SENIORS



HUNTER BAUMAN

Hunter Bauman, flute, has been in CYS for 1 year. He studies with Lars Johannesson. He plans to take a gap year before pursuing studies in Music and History. Hunter received a Certificate of Merit for Advanced Level Flute and Piano, as well as awards in the MTAC Talent Bank Competition. In addition, Hunter won the Santa Cruz County Youth Symphony Concerto Competition.



ELLIE CHAE

After 7 years at CYS, Ellie Chae will be moving on to UC Irvine, where she will major in Cello Performance. Her private teacher is Jonathan Koh. Ellie's numerous awards include a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition from U.S. Congressman Eric Swalwell. In addition, she won 2nd place in the 2019 American Protege Piano and Strings Competition and 2019 AFAF International Concerto Competition.



SARAH CHANG

Sarah Chang, violin, currently studies with Gulnar Spurlock. She has been with CYS for 6 years. Next year, she will be studying Chemical Engineering at UC Berkeley. At Leigh High School, Sarah participated in a District Digital Communications Internship and was a part of the National Honor Society. She was a National Merit Finalist.



ERNEST CHAU

Ernest Chau has been with CYS for 3 years and studies with Brenda Schuman-Post. He will be working towards a dual degree in Biology and Oboe Performance at the University of Rochester and Eastman School of Music. He was the Drum Major for the Mountain View High School Marching Band, was a member of the SCCBDA Honor Band, and received the John Philip Sousa award.



ALLISON CHENG

After 6 years with CYS, Allison Cheng, Flute, will be studying Computer Science at Occidental College. Her private teacher is Natalie Haworth-Liu. In addition to working on the theater crew at Archbishop Mitty High School, she received the Gary Braia Service award, and was listed on the Presidential Honor Roll.



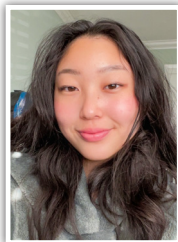
CELINE CHIEN

Celine Chien, Violin, has been with CYS for 5 years. She studies with Elizabeth Park. Next year, she will be majoring in Neuroscience at Boston University. Celine had a UCSF Internship in the ENT Department. In the USOMC Solo Competition, Senior Division, she placed 4th, and in the American Protege International Concerto, she placed 2nd.



MELODY GAWON CHOI

Co-concertmaster Melody Gawon Choi, has played Violin in CYS for 8 years. Her private teacher is Scott Homer. She will be studying English or Psychology at Princeton University. Melody has performed with numerous prestigious Youth Orchestras throughout the Bay Area, often as Concertmaster or Assistant Concertmaster. Recipient of too many awards to count on both Violin and Piano, Melody is a two-time Merit winner of the National YoungArts Competition and also won first prize at the Peninsula Symphony Young Musicians' Competition.



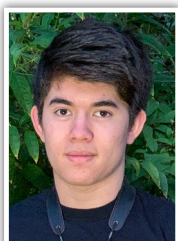
SARAH CHUNG

Cellist Sarah Chung, has been a part of CYS for 2 years. In addition to participating in many club activities, she played on the Volleyball team and served as Fish Club Vice President. She will be studying Psychology at Diablo Valley College.



NATALIE COLEGROVE

Euphonist and bass trombonist Natalie Colegrove has been with CYS for 5 years, and studies with Jason Donnelly. Highly decorated with awards from numerous competitions, Natalie's honors include: Co-Founder of Euphie's Quintet North Texas Low Brass Camp, Young Artist Solo Competition Winner in the New Zealand International Brass Festival, and Student Division Semi-Finalist in the Falcone Solo Competition. She will be majoring in Music Performance at University of Miami.



LUKE FLEES

Saxophone player Luke Flees has been with CYS for 1 year and studies with Oscar Pangilinan. At the University of Chicago, he will be pursuing his interests in Molecular Engineering, Chemistry, and Economics. He dominated as the Gunn Tetris Tournament Champion. Luke was a member of the Stanford Miles Ahead Jazz Band for 3 years and received the Woody Herman Jazz Award.



NOAH GHOSH

Noah Ghosh, violin, has been with CYS for 2 years, and his private teacher is Elizabeth Park. He will pursue degrees in Aerospace Engineering and Violin Performance at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Noah is an Eagle Scout. He was 1st place at the CAPMT Concerto Competition 2021 North Regional, and he achieved 3rd place at the USOMC 2020 Instrumental Solo Senior Competition, in the Advanced division.



ANAHITA HASSAN

Violist Anahita Hassan, who studies with Dr. Jiang Wu, has been with CYS for 3 years. At Carnegie Mellon University, she plans to major in Statistics and Machine Learning and minor in Computer Science. She was the winner of the 2020 StarHacks Hackathon, and Semifinalist in the UC Berkeley Open Taekwondo Tournament. Anahita also received a Presidential Volunteer Service Award for tutoring.



EVELYN HO

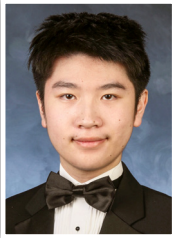
Evelyn Ho, Cello, has been with CYS for 2 years. Her private teacher is Jonathan Koh. She will be majoring in Psychology at UC Santa Barbara. She served as President of the MSJ Anime Club and Cello Instructor at Hopkins Junior High School. She earned third place in American Protege International Competition in the Romance Category.



EILEEN HUNG

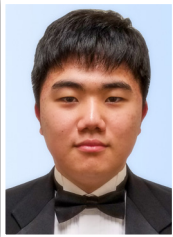
As she concludes 7 years in CYS, Eileen Hung plans to study Chemical Engineering at Carnegie Mellon University. Her private flute teacher is Laurie Benson. Eileen has been included in the Tri-M Music Honors Society and performed as a member of the National Flute Convention High School Flute Choir. She was also recognized as a National Merit Commended Scholar.

CYS GRADUATING SENIORS



BRIAN HWANG

Violinist Brian Hwang has been in CYS for 9 years! He has studies with Ying Zhao. He will be attending UC Santa Barbara. He has been recognized by the Tri-M Music Honor Society and was a member of the California All-State Honor Symphony Orchestra. Brian achieved 1st Place at the United States Open Competition.



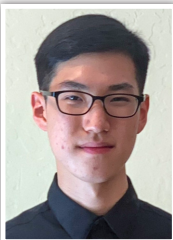
JOONHA HWANG

Joonha Hwang studies cello with Jihee Kim and has been with CYS for 8 years. He will be studying Mechanical Engineering at GeorgiaTech. Joonha was the Co-President of Lynbrook Robotics Club, and the Co-VP of Bello Ensemble, a charity organization. He qualified for the American Invitational Math Exam three times, as a member of Lynbrook Math Honor Society.



TIFFANY HWANG

A 6-year member of CYS, Tiffany Hwang plays clarinet, and studies with Ginger Kroft. She will be attending UCLA, where she will be majoring in Computer Science. Tiffany participated in the Science Olympiad, and Silicon Valley Stem 4 Youth. She received the President's Silver Volunteer Award.



SIHYUN JEON

Sihyun Jeon, Viola, has been with CYS for 1 year, and his private teacher is Yunsun Kim. At Emory University, Sihyun will study Cellular/Molecular Biology as he pursues a career as a biomedical researcher. In addition to receiving the President's Gold Volunteer Service Award for three years, Sihyun was a finalist in the Northern California Viola Society Youth Viola Competition and earned 2nd place at the United States International Music Competition in the High School Division on Viola.



FRANK JIANG

A student of Fred Rast, Clarinetist Frank Jiang has been with CYS for 3 years. He will be studying Computer Science and Engineering at UCLA. Frank was also a member of Evergreen Valley Youth Orchestra. He received a President's Volunteer Service Award, and was listed on the American Mathematics Competition Honor Roll.



CHRISTY KIM

After 9 years with CYS, Violinist Christy Kim will be moving on to Carnegie Mellon University, where she will pursue a double major in Business Administration and Violin Performance. She received the NAKS Bronze Junior Leadership Award, as well as awards in the American Protege and USIMC competitions.



MATTHEW KIM

Matthew Kim has been with CYS for 7 years, on Clarinet. His private teacher is Debra Gardner. Matthew was a member of the Varsity Lacrosse team, as well as the KAMSA Youth Symphony Orchestra, in which he served as co-Principal. He was also recognized as a National Merit Scholar. He will be a political science major at UCLA pursuing a career in law.



MINJI KIM

Minji Kim, Violin, has been with CYS for 3 years. At Cornell University, she will study Human Biology, Health & Society. She completed 3 years with the SEED Academy (tutoring and doing arts & crafts with refugee children). Minji was recognized as a Silver Medalist in the Grand Concours (National French Exam), and received 2nd place in the 2020 American Protégé International Competition of Romantic Music.



RACHEL KIM

A member of CYS for 7 years, Rachel Sebin Kim has played the Cello in CYS for 7 years. Her private teacher is August Lee. Next year, she will be studying Communication Design (Illustration) at the Pratt Institute, for which she has received a Presidential Merit Scholarship. She has also received a Gold Junior Leadership Award from the National Association for Korean Schools, as well as a Cupertino Mayor's Certificate of Appreciation.



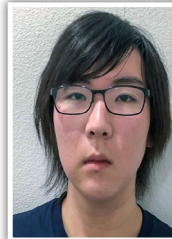
TOMMY KOH

Four-year member of CYS Tommy Koh studies with private trumpet teacher Shawn Williams. He will be pursuing a Dual BA Degree in History at Trinity College Dublin and Columbia University, which will aid him in a career in Law. As a member of the Academy of Fencing Masters, Tommy participated in Summer Nationals. He was recognized by the National Honor Society, and received a Certificate of Merit, at the Advanced Level, on Piano.



VICTORIA LAM

Violinist Victoria Lam, has been in CYS for 7 years, and studies with Jiwon Evelyn Kwark. She is the Vice President of the Spartan Dance Club. Victoria is a National Merit Finalist and will be a Regents' Scholar at UC Davis.



JOSHUA LEE

Joshua Lee, Oboe, has been with CYS for 3 years. His private teacher is Stella Yeseul Park. At the Synopsys Science & Technology Championship, he received 1st Place in Engineering. In addition to a Gold President's Volunteer Service Award, Joshua also earned 1st Place in the International Woodwinds and Brass Category of the American Protege Music Competition. He will be studying Chemical Engineering at UC Berkeley.



DORIAN LEMARCHAND

Dorian Lemarchand is a Trumpet player who has been with CYS for 5 years. He studies under private trumpet teacher John Worley. While attending Stanford Online High School, Dorian participated in the Chinese Club. Within the community, he focused on transportation advocacy. Next year, he will be traveling to Arizona to pursue a BSP degree in Urban Planning at Arizona State University.



AILEEN LIAO

Aileen Liao, Oboe, has been with CYS for 6 years. She studies with Pamela Hakl. She will be attending the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where she will study Biological Engineering. She was a Bay Area BioGENEius Challenge Finalist. Aileen earned First Place in the American Protégé International Woodwinds & Brass Competition, as well as in the International Great Composers Competition for Music of the 19th Century and Best Schumann Performance.

CYS GRADUATING SENIORS



JIAYI JACK LIU

Jack Liu, Bassoon, has been with CYS for 1 year. He studies under the private instruction of John Givens. While attending Archbishop Mitty High School, he organized and performed in community concerts with friends for elderly members of the neighborhood. Jack will be studying Computer Science and Business Management at Stanford University.



JADE JI WON SON

Cellist Jade Son, a 5-year member of CYS, studies with Nancy Kim. She was a member of the Spanish Honor Society. Jade earned three Gold President's Volunteer Service Awards and was a National Merit Finalist. Next year, she will be majoring in Psychology at New York University.



REBECCA MA

Rebecca Ma, Violin, has been in CYS for 9 years! Her private teacher is Ryan Chen. She will attend UCLA, and major in Mechanical Engineering. Rebecca earned 2nd place in the Santa Clara County Science Olympiad Regional Finals for Protein Modeling, as well as the William Shakespeare Award for Academic Excellence. She was also recognized as a National Merit Scholar finalist.



BROOKLYN SWINDELLS

A member of CYS for 2 years, Brooklyn Swindells, Oboe, studies with Adrienne Malley. In preparation for pursuing degrees in Political Science and Music Performance at McGill University, Brooklyn has participated in volunteer work in the areas of political activism and music.



ICHIRO NG

Ichiro Ng, Trumpet, has been with CYS for 5 years, and studies with Nick Hewett. He served as a FUHS Foundation Student Representative, and was a 3-time All-State Musician. Ichiro earned 2nd Place in the SF Consulate-General Japanese Speech Contest. Next, he will be studying Philosophy at Columbia University.



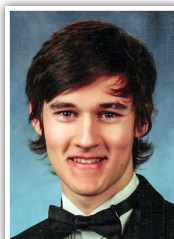
DAVID TANG

David Tang has played Viola with CYS for 2 years. His private teacher is Meichuan Song. He will be majoring in English and Computer Science at the University of Rochester. David received the Lynbrook Red White and Blue Reward, the Presidential Award for Community Service, and was the Third Prize Winner for The Art of Chamber Music Competition.



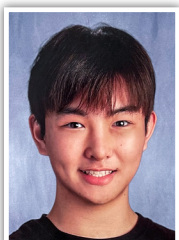
STEPHEN NISHI

After 4 years with CYS, Violinist Stephen Nishi will now be studying Human Biology at the University of Southern California. His private teacher is Patricia Burnham. In addition to playing as a Defensive Lineman for Cupertino Pioneers Varsity Football, Stephen served as Concertmaster of the Cupertino Chamber Orchestra. He earned the Judge's Distinction Honor from the American Protege International Competition in 2017.



NOAH VINCENT

Noah Vincent, Tuba, has been with CYS for 2 years. He studies under the private instruction of Tony Clements and Forrest Byram. While a student at Mountain View High School, Noah was a member of the Marching Band and Wind Ensemble. He will be majoring in Tuba Performance at Northwestern University.



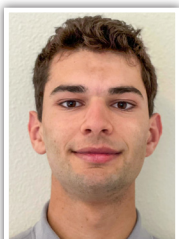
CHRISTOPHER OH

Christopher Oh, Viola, has been in CYS for 2 years. His private teacher is Yunsun Kim. He will be studying Biology (Pre-medical) at UCLA. He was a member of the 2020 High School All-State Orchestra. In addition to earning 1st place in the Silicon Valley Youth Music Competition, in the High School Viola Category, Christopher also achieved 3rd place in the United States International Music Competition Young Artist Award on Viola.



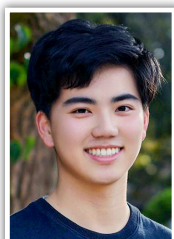
JACOB WANG

Percussionist Jacob Wang has been with CYS for 5 years. He studies with Anthony Cirone. He is the president of the Bellarmine Percussion Teachers Club. Jacob was recognized as the Gordon Engineering Leadership Center High School Fellow. He was the Grand Winner at the 2020 International Young Artists Competition, and the Third Prize Winner at the ENKOR International Competition. He will be studying Mechanical Engineering at Yale University.



SEBASTIAN SANSO

Sebastian Sanso, a 1-year member of CYS, plays Clarinet. He studies with private teacher Jell Gallagher. At Carnegie Mellon University, Sebastian will be pursuing a degree in Computer Science. He placed 6th at the CCS High Jump Championships in 2019 and was a National Hispanic Recognition Program recipient. Sebastian also received Certificate of Merit State Honors for Piano.



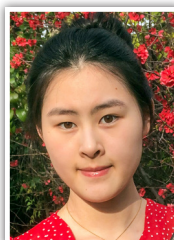
JASPER WANG

A 7-year member of CYS, Jasper Wang, Clarinet, studies with Mark Brandenburg. Jasper earned 3rd place in the FBLA Regionals Management and Decision Making Event, 2nd place in the American Fine Arts Festival Golden Era Competition, and 1st place in the American Protégé Woodwinds Competition. He will be attending Brown University, where he will major in Computer Science and Economics.



AGATHA SHI

A 4-year member of CYS, Agatha Shi, Bass, studies with Joe Lewis. During her time at Irvington High School, Agatha was a member of the Bio-Med Club, and served as a Warm Springs Elementary School Science tutor. She was also recognized as an AP Scholar With Distinction. Agatha will be attending the University of Southern California, where she will study Neuroscience and Medicine.



JULIA WANG

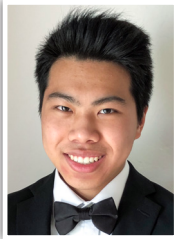
Co-concertmaster Julia Wang, Violin, has been with CYS for 8 years. Her private teacher is Zhao Wei. She will be pursuing a degree at UC Los Angeles. Julia served as concertmaster of Homestead Orchestra. The highly decorated violinist was selected as a member of NYO-USA, and was a Pacific Musical Society Gold Medalist.

CYS GRADUATING SENIORS



ETHAN WOLFF

Ethan Wolff, trombone, has been in CYS for 2 years, and his private teacher is Craig Whitwell. At Cornell University, he will be studying Environment and Sustainability and concentrating in Environmental Economics. Ethan is likely to pursue a career in consulting, energy, or sustainable investing. He volunteers with GreenTown Los Altos, and received the Scholar Athlete Award as a member of the Track and Field team. Ethan was also a member of the California Scholarship Federation.



SAMUEL WONG

Cellist Samuel Wong is a 5-year member of CYS. He studies with private teacher James Lin. Samuel is an Eagle Scout. He also earned 1st Place at the Silicon Valley Music Competition and 1st Place in the American Fine Arts Festival. He will be studying Physics at Cornell University.



ELAINE XIAO

Cellist Elaine Xiao has been with CYS for 9 years! Her private Cello instructor is David Chen. At Dartmouth College, she will be studying Cognitive Science and Clinical Psychology. In addition to pursuing independent research in Neuroscience, Elaine served as the Student Choreographer for a Dance Production) and was recognized by the Tri-M Honor Society.



MICHAEL YANG

After 4 years with CYS, Michael Yang, Horn, will be studying Economics and Accounting at UC Santa Barbara. He served as Director of Keystone Mentorship, earned National French Contest awards, and was recognized as an AP Scholar. His private teacher is Scott Hartman.



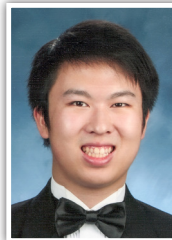
MAX YEH

Max Yeh, Bassoon, has been with CYS for 3 years, and studies with Yueh Chou. He will be pursuing a degree in Computer Science at University of California, Irvine. Max was Principal Bassoonist of the Aragon Wind Ensemble and was a member of the California All-State Wind Ensemble. He was also recognized as an AP Scholar with Distinction.



ESTHER ZHANG

Esther Zhang, Viola, has been with CYS for 2 years. She studies under the private instruction of Yun Jie Liu. During her time at Valley Christian High School, Esther participated in numerous performance opportunities with String Ensembles and Chamber Ensembles.



MICHAEL ZHAO

Michael Zhao, Horn, has been in CYS for 7 years. His private teacher is Scott Hartman. Michael will be pursuing a degree at Harvard University. He was Founder and President of Silicon Valley STEM 4 Youth, and was recognized as a National Merit Scholar. In the Santa Clara County Honor Band, Michael performed as Principal French Horn.



Congratulations CYS Graduates!

CYS MUSICIANS IN THE NATIONAL YOUTH ORCHESTRAS

We send our congratulations to four CYS musicians who have been selected from young musicians throughout the nation to play in the National Youth Orchestra created by Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute. This is a singular honor, both for these extraordinary young musicians and for the California Youth Symphony. Violinists **Melody Choi** and **Julia Wang** were chosen for NYO-USA and violinists **Yuli Choi** and **Erica Liu** were chosen for NYO-2 USA. The Carnegie Hall website states "The members of the 2021 ensembles—hailing from 41 US states—have been recognized by Carnegie Hall as being among the finest players in the country following a comprehensive and highly selective audition process." Clive Gillinson, Carnegie Hall's Executive and Artistic Director stated "The musicians selected to be a part of Carnegie Hall's national youth ensembles are among the very best players in the nation. After a challenging year in which most young musicians haven't been able to play together, we are very happy to be able to convene these groups again in person for an unforgettable summer of music-making. This will be an opportunity for these wonderful young players to connect with their peers, explore music together, and train with some of the top professional musicians in the country."



MELODY CHOI



JULIA WANG



YULI CHOI



ERICA LIU



A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

This will be the last Quarter Notes that I will be editing. After 40 wonderful and fulfilling years as Executive Director of the California Youth Symphony, I will be retiring this summer. The CYS Board of Directors is already hard at work seeking a replacement. Please see the “help wanted” ad in this issue. And while I will no longer be handling the day to day affairs of CYS, I will definitely remain a member of the CYS family. I treasure the relationships that I have developed and the dear friends that I have made over these years. Working for CYS has been enormously rewarding for me. I have attended nearly every CYS performance, for all of our ensembles, during my tenure, and I have never failed to be moved by the commitment and artistry of our young musicians and musical staff. At each of these times I knew once again that I had made the right choice for my career.

I would like to extend a special acknowledgement to our beloved Music Director, Leo Eylar. Leo has been a joy to work with and his exceptional musical talent combined with his outstanding abilities as an educator have elevated CYS to the highest levels. I am proud to remember that 31 years ago I played a significant role in identifying and hiring Leo as our third music director.

I would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our CYS families – musicians and parents – for their continued support. Without that support CYS would not exist. I look forward to seeing everyone at future CYS concerts, when that long awaited day returns when we can all enjoy music together again.

Jim Hogan

PS: Big thanks to Carmina Eylar and Leone Rivers for their help in putting this special issue of *Quarter Notes* together.

TRANSITION, CHANGE AND OPPORTUNITY

The California Youth Symphony (CYS) is seeking an Executive Director to partner with our acclaimed Music Director and artistic team to build upon our record of providing the finest musical training to the Bay Area’s top young musicians.

The Executive Director works in partnership with a 13-15 member Board of Directors and the Music Director to guide day-to-day operations and administrative priorities of the organization. The Executive Director leads an administrative staff of 3-5, supports an artistic staff of 5 plus a contract seasonal staff of 15-20, and works collaboratively with dozens of parent volunteers.

In addition to Jim’s departure, our wonderful Office Manager Mrs. ChingYing Pang will also be retiring at the same time. Mrs. Pang began as a parent volunteer with two children advancing through the CYS program, before becoming Office Manager in 1996 and keeping CYS operations running smoothly with absolute professionalism.

As we prepare for Jim’s and Mrs. Pang’s retirements this summer, the Board and staff are hard at work planning for the transition. We are confident that we will find highly qualified candidates. If you are aware of any potential candidates who may be interested in these positions, please visit www.cys.org/join for details. The deadline for applications is July 5th or until the position is filled.

For more detailed information on our team, programs, accomplishments, and upcoming events visit our website at <https://www.cys.org>.



LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH

CALIFORNIA YOUTH SYMPHONY

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