



Midwest Young Artists
inspiration through music

Tuning Fork

MYA's Weekly News

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GENERAL INFO

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Midwest Young Artists:
Building a Home
with the Power of Music
to Enrich the Lives
of our Students
and Community

Sunday Soiree Series Features a Woodwind Showcase

December 2 at 1:00 & 2:00 PM

MYA's Sunday Soiree Series continues this weekend. This is a great way to enjoy a free hour of chamber music in a relaxing and homey environment. Bring your family and friends and hear members from MYA's award-winning chamber music program. Go to MYA's Concert & Events page for program information.

Walgreens Concerto Competition Deadline is SATURDAY!!

Don't forget to submit your applications on-line. The Walgreens Concerto deadline is approaching quickly! The due date is absolutely NO LATER THAN Midnight, December 1, 2007.

Luckily the deadline falls on Saturday, December 1, this year so we have another big chance to remind everyone to get their Walgreens Concerto Competition applications submitted on-line by midnight! The registration fee may be submitted on-line too. If it is mailed in, it must be postmarked by December 1. Please do not make us feel bad that someone missed the deadline this year. Every year 1 – 2 MYA students miss it, and we feel bad when they are disappointed that there are no exceptions to this deadline. Competition times and information will be mailed out to all those who have signed up by December 14.

MYA on Channel 19 this Weekend!

A big "Thank you" to board member Steve Fatum, who was able to arrange for a taping and airing of MYA's Millennium Park performance this past August. The segment entitled *Millennium Park Young Artists: Millennium Park Presents/ Destination Silk Road* will feature MYA's Orchestra & Chorus. MYA's Jazz will be in a different segment on a different date. Please turn on your televisions at the following times:

Saturday Dec 1st, 2007 at 12:30PM on public cable channel 19.
Saturday Dec 8th, 2007 at 6:30PM on public cable channel 19.

Spiritwear is in!

Spiritwear orders may be picked up this weekend at MYA!

Magical Dreams, A Family Holiday Concert: December 15th

MYA's 2nd Annual Holiday performance at the Harris Theater for Music and Dance is quickly approaching. There are 2 concerts at 1:00 & 4:00 PM. Both concerts are identical and will be approximately 1 hour in length. The concerts are comprised of holiday selections from the Nutcracker Suite by both Tchaikovsky and Duke Ellington, along with many other holiday favorites. Featuring MYA's Symphony Orchestra, Big Band and Chorale, tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7 for students & seniors. This concert makes a wonderful holiday gift and gives folks a chance to enjoy all of the fun events, shopping and sites of downtown Chicago! Tickets may be purchased at the Harris Theater box office, by calling 312-344-7777 or at www.harristheaterchicago.org. MYA is also partnering with the Autism Society of Illinois, and ½ of all proceeds (after MYA's costs are covered), will be donated to this wonderful and extremely important organization.

Host Families Needed for Chinese Student Visit

We need host families for two (2) boys that are coming from Beijing. This would mean picking them up at the MYA Center late Sunday afternoon, December 16, taking them to school with you on Monday, and bringing them back to the MYA Center on Tuesday morning by 9:00 AM. If you would like to host a student, please contact Karen Dennis at mya@mya.org or at 847-926-9898 ext. 304.

MYA's Benefit, February 9

Invitations to MYA's Benefit will be mailed out soon. We will be mailing out invitations to all MYA families. If you know of anyone who might like to come with you or who would enjoy the evening, please e-mail mya@mya.org with their contact information, or stop by the office and let us know how many invitations you would like to personally send out so that we can get them ready.

As those of you know who have attended meetings on MYA's *Dream With Us* campaign, all individual contributions to MYA this fiscal year will be deposited directly into restricted accounts so that we can meet our goals and finish the campaign. Therefore, a successful Benefit this year is very important to ensure that we meet our annual financial operating needs. The price of tickets will be \$250/person. This year for the first time, we will also have another fun fund-raising event that will be accessible to all MYA families and friends on May 18. Auction items that we solicit now will be available at this event, too, so please think of MYA and ask for donations to our auctions while you are doing holiday shopping or frequenting your favorite restaurant. Auction Donation Forms are available in the office or on the website. Thank you very much!

PROGRAM INFORMATION

CHORAL

Voices Rising

Important! We will have a **meeting for all members and at least one parent** of each member following rehearsal on **Sunday, December 9, at 6:30 PM** to discuss the trip to perform at the United Nations in March 2008. This meeting will be brief-- about 20 minutes. You'll get more information in direct emails, but please plan to attend this meeting!

Chorale

Thanks to all who recorded rehearsal tracks for the Nutcracker pieces! We have only two rehearsals left, so it is imperative that you use the tracks to **memorize your music right away!** Mr. Dan Gregerman will join us this Sunday to help us prepare for a great performance on December 15.

ORCHESTRA

Concert & Symphony

John Yeh, Assistant Principal Clarinet, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, will be subbing for Dr. D on Saturday. Dr. D is conducting the New York All State String Orchestra this weekend.

JAZZ

Scott Hall, Music Director, Chicago Jazz Ensemble, Columbia College, will be subbing for Nic Meyer this Sunday.

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

Thank you!

Thank you to all who have donated their time this semester. 1223 hours have been donated so far! We still have 300 families who haven't recorded any volunteer hours yet this year. Save us a call! Look at the list below, and sign up to help. Don't forget to fill out the volunteer log on-line at "www.mya.org/support/volunteer.php" or on the clip board in the office. If you have baked or brought goodies for a concert reception, or volunteered in some other way, please be sure to give yourself credit.

Special thanks go to those who have helped over the last month!

Tom Sharp(Andrew/Con), **Rich Martini**(Laura/Alum), **Jeff Andreasen**(Hannah/Sym), **Kathy Berghoff**(Dan/Sym & David/Con), **Jon Bogie**(Stuart/Alum), **Marueen Carson**(Dan/Sym/BB & Neil/BB), **Pedro Cevallos**(Antoino/Sym), **Stephen Fatum**(John/Sym/BB & Michael/Sym/BB) , **Perry Fisher**(Gwen/Alum), **Jerry Fuller**(Kevin/Con & Jack/Con), **Mee Kim**(Maria/Alum), **Cathy Popp**(Zach/Sym) for their leadership on the MYA Board of Directors.

Joyce Allen(Stephanie/Con), **Pam Owens Harmon**(Aryn/Read, Ellyn/Read, and Elisabeth/Sym/Chorale) **Midori O'Connell**(Evelyn/Sym), **Diane Naftzger**(Devon/Con/Sym), **Cathy Popp**(Zach/Sym) attended the benefit meeting. **Judith Horwitz**(Marcello Molinaro/JazzO), **Ann Reilly**(Jackie/VR), **Adina Salmansohn**(Raphael Chapman/Prep/VR & Ariel Chapman/Con/Sym) worked on the auction. **Genny Joyce**(Max/Read), **Jan Quigley**(Kirstin/Sym), **Cathy Popp**(Zach/Sym), **Anne Feeney**(Ian/JazzE), **Adina Salmansohn** (Ariel Chapman/Con/Sym & Raphael Chapman/Prep/VR), sold raffle tickets.

Valerie Shapiro(Jake/JazzC) organized the reception after the Jazz Combo Concert, and helped to inform all the jazz member families of the details. Thank you to all who brought goodies to the reception after the Concert. **Karen and Vinnie Franco**(James/Sym) sold tickets at the New and Early Music Concert.

Patti Brand (Codelia/Con), **Raphael Chapman/Prep/VR & Adina Salmansohn** (Ariel Chapman/Con/Sym), **Linda Gilbert**(Lauren/VR), **Kate Householder**(Grace/Con), **Judi Lewis**(Marion/Prep), **Ramsey Family**(Greta/Cad, Lydia/Sym & Soren/Prep), **Julia Steinberg/Con**, **Shirley Xie & Li Zhuang**(Katherine/Cad) donated baked goods and other yummy treats. **Gretchen & David Livingston**(Clara/Cad), **Connie Mason**(Eugene/Con) picked up the bagels every week for our concessions. **David Beugger** (Erin/Cad), **Nancy Clark**(Natalie/Cad), **Madeline & M.C. Chow**(Abigail/Prep), **Yuelin Dai**(Michael Brown/Prep), **Melinda Hoiland**(Britta/Con), **Dave Kalensky**(Fiona/Cad), **Judi Lewis**(Marion/Prep), **Jennifer Li**(Shannon He/Prep), **David Livingston**(Clara/Cad), **Steve & Phyllis Lubor**(Brienne/Prep & Sam/Prep), **Jennifer Mayer/Sym**, **Jennifer Meyer/Sym**, **Rosann Park-Jones**(Carrie/Con, Rachel/Con, & Emily/Con), **Jo Ann Sheldon**(Courtney/Sym), **Janet Smith**(Katelyn/Sym), **Carolyn Steinberg**(Julia/Con), **Kathy Widitz**(Peter/Con), **Steve Yadanza**(Emily/Prep) sold concessions.

Pam Owens Harmon(Aryn/Read, Ellyn/Read, and Elisabeth/Sym/Chorale) organized the home stays for the Chinese families. **Yiding Hao/Con**, **Jasmine Lee/Sym**, and **Billy Thoms/Sym** helped students in Reading, Cadet or Prep Orchestra.

Peili Chim(Letitia/Con) helped coordinate the groups before their performance. **Cynthia Hallas**(Ian/Sym) arranged bakers for the soirees. **Midori O'Connell**(Evelyn/Sym) accompanied a singer during a soiree.

Mary Baukert (Hannah/Con) & **Pam Owens Harmon**(Aryn/Read, Ellyn/Read, & Elisabeth/Sym/Chorale) helped make the wonderful card thanking Discover for the donation of the office furniture and cubicles to MYA.

Jo Beckwith(Andrew/Sym/BB & Daniel/JazzC), **Linda Peacock**(Meredith/Sym) decorated the lobby for the holidays. **Mark Harmon**(Aryn/Read, Ellyn/Read, and Elisabeth Owens/Sym/Chorale) helped with the theory computers. **Stuart Hersh**(Ellie/ Sym) replaced light bulbs. **David Livingston**(Clara/Cad) helped put up the stars in the north hallway. **Don Tunkl**(Aliza/Alum) helped with maintaining the building and fish tank.

Mark Adamczyk(Rain/Cad/VR), **Kathy Amato**(Jack/Sym), **David Chen**(Monica/Prep), **Sarah Glynn**(Will/Sym), **LAN Li**(Yiding Hao/Con), **Mary Jane Mandan**(Ellen/Sym), **Sue Meehan**(Sean/JazzE & Shannon/Cad), **Maureen Mitchell**(Alexandra Weaver/Sym), **Lisa Peterman**(Andy/JazzE), **Barb Rothstein**(Greg/Chorale), **Ross Shanley-Roberts**(Emily/Cad), **Bettina Swanson**(Harrison/Cad), **Maki Wiering**(Anatole/Cad), **Shirley Xie**(Catherine/Cad) for their help with on-line research.

Maribeth Dalbec(Aubrey/Sym), **Paula DeBofsky**(Dana/Sym), **Simon Hao**(Yiding/Con), **Meredith Haynes**(Robert/Cad), **Cynthia Hines**(Emily/Con), **Indon P. Joo**(Mary/Con), **Jeanne Jurasek**(Courtney/Prep), **Dave Kalensky**(Fiona/Cad), **Yu Li**(Richard/Prep/Con), **Sue Meehan**(Sean/JazzE & Shannon/Cad), **Joy Piao**(Chris Gao/Prep/Con), **Michael Quigley**(Kristin/Sym), **Janet Hersh**(Ellie/Con), **Bettina Swanson**(Harrison/Cad), **Laura, Samantha, and Isabella Vancil**(Alexandra/Cad) helped with our many mailings.

Volunteer Opportunities

- Many people are needed to help assemble the Benefit invitations Sat. Dec 8. We will begin at 9:00 AM in the lobby and work until we finish.
- We need 2 volunteers a half hour before each concert at 1:00 and 4:00 to **sell Raffle Tickets** at **Harris Theater** on December 15. We are also looking for students who are attending but not performing in the concert to dress up and help with the sales. Contact – Cathy Popp cdrewspopp@comcast.net.
- **Soiree “Back Stage” runner** – We are looking for someone to coordinate the musicians at our Sunday Soirees – contact Gena genaandreasen@mya.org
- **Walgreens Concerto Volunteers** – We need **5 people** Dec. 29 from 12:30-4:30, **4 people** for Dec. 30, 8:30-12:30, and **5 people** Dec 30, 12:30-4:30. Please contact Mary Jo Biersteker mjbierst@comcast.net or Mark Adamczyk mark@adamczyk.com if you would like to help.
- Help **solicit auction items** – contact Ann Reilly alreilly@comcast.net.
- Coordinate **Ensemble Baskets** for the Benefit – contact Mary Syc move5050@aol.com
- **Mailing Thursday, December 6** – contact Donna donnaschardt@mya.org
- **August Millennium Park Performance will be aired on Channel 19 this Saturday, Dec. 1 at 12:30 PM and Dec. 8 at 6:30 PM. We are looking for someone to record it on a DVD and give it to Susan for marketing purposes.**
- We need adult chaperones for the Symphony and Big Band lock-in scheduled for January 5 and 6th – Contact Gena if you are interested.

Attention High School Students: We need volunteers for the Walgreens Concerto Competition on December 29 and 30. You can choose the hours you would like to work. We could use your help, especially in the area of timing performances. You can watch all the great talent and you may be able to earn service hours for your school. If you are able to help, please contact Mary Jo Biersteker at mjbierst@comcast.net Thanks so much!!

UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS

MYA Posting School Events

We are including a new section in our weekly Newsletter devoted to upcoming school events. Please let us know about your upcoming concerts, competitions, etc. – email susancook@mya.org.

Warren Township High School: Blue Note Jazz Concert, Almond Road Campus, Gurnee, **Tuesday, December 4 at 7:00 PM.**

Nequa Valley High School: Crystal Concerts (Entire Music Dept.), Naperville, **December 6 and 7 at 6:00 & 8:15 PM.**

Warren Township High School: Winter Choir Concerts, O’Plaine Campus Auditorium, **Thursday, December 6 at 6:30 & 8:00 PM.**

Evanston Township High School: ETHS Holiday Concert, Lake St. Church, **Saturday, December 8 at 2:30 PM.**

Elgin High School: Madrigal Dinner, **Saturday, December 8 at 6:30 PM & December 9 at 3:00 PM.**

Prospect High School: Winter Concert, Mt. Prospect, **Sunday, December 9 at 3:00 PM.**

Stevenson High School: Holiday Band Concert, Performing Arts Center, **Sunday, December 9 at 3:00 PM.**

Cooper Middle School: Winter Orchestra Concert, Buffalo Grove, **Monday, December 10 at 7:30 PM.**

Northbrook Junior High School: Beginning Orchestra Concert, NBJH Gym, Highland Park, **Monday, December 10 at 7:30 PM.**

Barrington High School: Band Concert, Johnson Auditorium, **Tuesday, December 11 at 7:30 PM.**

Northbrook Junior High School: Woodwind Choir Recital, Greenbriar Auditorium, **Tuesday, December 11 at 7:00 PM.**

Elgin High School: Choir Concert, **Wednesday, December 12 at 7:00 PM.**

Northbrook Junior High School: Cadet & String Orchestra Concert with 6th Grade Chorus, **Wednesday, December 12 at 7:30 PM.**

Warren Township High School: Holiday Band Concert I, O’Plaine Campus Auditorium, Gurnee, **Wednesday, December 12 at 7:00 PM.**

Barrington High School: Orchestra Concert, Johnson Auditorium, **Thursday, December 13 at 7:30 PM.**

Deerfield High School: Holiday Choir Concert, Auditorium, **Thursday, December 13 at 7:30 PM.**

Glenbrook South: Winter Choral Concert, **Thursday, December 13.**

Highland Park High School: Winter Band Concert, **Thursday, December 13 at 7:00 PM.**

Libertyville High School: Orchestra & Choir Holiday Music Concert at LHS Auditorium, **Thursday, December 13 at 7:30 PM.**

Loyola Academy: Holiday Concert, Wilmette, **Thursday, December 13 at 7:30 PM.**

North Shore Country Day School: Winter Choral Concert, Diller Street Theater, Winnetka, **Thursday, December 13 at 7:30 PM.**

Northbrook Junior High School: Jazz Coffeehouse (Jazz Warehouse and Jazz Factory), NBJH Gym, Highland Park, **Thursday, December 13 at 7:30 PM.**

Warren Township High School: Holiday Band Concert II, O’Plaine Campus Auditorium, Gurnee, **Thursday, December 13 at 7:00 PM.**

Lake Zurich High School: Holiday Choir Concert, **Friday, December 14 at 7:30 PM.**

Evanston Township High School: Winter Music Concert (Orchestra, Chorus and Band), **Sunday, December 16 at 3:00 PM.**

Glenbrook North High School: Winter Concert, Center for the Performing Arts, **Sunday, December 16 at 3:00 PM.**

New Trier High School: Winter Music Festival, Gates Gymnasium, Winnetka, **Sunday, December 16 at 3:00 PM.**

Highland Park High School: Winter Choral Concert, Auditorium, **Monday, December 17 at 7:00 PM.**

Stevenson High School: Holiday Orchestra Concert, Performing Arts Center, **Monday, December 17 at 7:30 PM.**

Libertyville High School: Holiday Band Concert at LHS Auditorium, **Tuesday, December 18 at 7:30 PM.**

Schaumburg High School: Holiday Concert featuring: Wind Symphony, Symphony Orchestra and Brass choir, **Tuesday, December 18 at 7:30 PM.**

Stevenson High School: Holiday Choral Concert, Performing Arts Center, **Monday, December 19 at 7:30 PM.**

KUDOS, B-DAYS & OTHER!

Kudos & Other

♪ **Elena Kawazu (violin/Prep)** recently won 2nd Prize in the 5th International Louis Spohr Competition for Young Violinists, Germany. Also she is the Grand Prize winner in the IBLA International Grand Prize Competition in Italy.

Member Birthdays!

12/02, Mark Johnson, flute, Cadet

12/04, Bradley Sheneman, horn, Symphony

12/04, Kalli Angel, viola, Symphony

12/05, Lydia Ramsey, viola, Symphony

12/07, Rebecca Ritchie, trumpet, Jazz Orchestra

12/07, Mary Joo, violin, Concert

12/07, Annabel Ortega, voice, Voices Rising

12/08, Elisabeth Owens, violin, Symphony & Chorale