



Midwest Young Artists  
inspiration through music

# Tuning Fork

MYA's Weekly News

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

## MYA Wishes Everyone a Wonderful Winter Break!

### Rehearsal Reminders!

There are **Regular Rehearsals** for **Reading, Cadet, Prep** and **Concert Orchestras** this **Saturday, Dec. 15!**

There are **No rehearsals** for Big Bands or Choral Ensembles on **Sunday, December 16**  
**All rehearsals will resume Saturday, January 5 and Sunday, January 6.**

**Please note:** January 5 Lock-in for Symphony & Big Band – Please see Program Information for more details!

### Magical Dreams, A Family Holiday Concert – This Saturday!

MYA's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Holiday performance at the Harris Theater for Music and Dance is here! 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 Tchaikovsky, Duke Ellington, and arrangements by our very own Gary Fry, along with 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](http://www.harristheaterchicago.org). In an effort to draw in new audiences to MYA, we are partnering with the Autism Society of Illinois, and 1/2 of all proceeds (after MYA's costs are covered), will be donated to this wonderful and extremely important organization.

### DRESS REHEARSAL AND CONCERT SCHEDULE

Dec. 15, 2007 - Harris Theater

10:30 Symphony, Jazz Choir, Big Band

12:00 break before concert

1:00 Concert

4:00 Concert

### TICKETS

All season tickets for the December 15th concert have been mailed out. If you have not received yours, please e-mail [DonnaSchardt@mya.org](mailto:DonnaSchardt@mya.org). Tickets for the remaining concerts will be sent out in early January.

### Sunday Soiree Series, December 16 at 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.

## More MYA December Concerts & Events – Put them on your Calendar!!!

### MYA's Alumni Concert

Thursday, December 27, 7:00 PM  
First United Methodist Church of Evanston  
FREE and OPEN to the public!!

### Walgreens Concerto Competition

Friday & Saturday, December 29 & 30  
8:00 AM to 6:00 PM  
MYA Center at Ft. Sheridan  
Tickets are \$10 for adults/\$5 for students  
Enjoy two fabulous days of music!!!

### Raffle Tickets

Raffle tickets will be on sale this **Saturday, December 15** at the Magical Dreams Holiday Concert at the Harris Theater. First prize is a 42" Panasonic Plasma Flatscreen HDTV! Other prizes include a Mac Book computer, a Garmin Navigational System and Bose Noise-Cancelling Headphones. Take a chance and help support MYA!

## Welcome Yule! Concerts at Symphony Center featuring MYA's Voices Rising

7:00 PM, December 14 & 21

3:00 PM, December 15 & 22

1:00 & 4:30 PM, December 16 & 23

*Welcome Yule!* has become one of Chicago's most anticipated holiday happenings! Now in its 13th season, this full-length concert is brimming with the musical joys of the season. Surrounded by festive decorations in Orchestra Hall, spirits become even brighter with a visit from the North Pole's most famous resident. Tickets may be purchased at [www.cso.org](http://www.cso.org) or by calling 312-294-3000.

## MYA's Benefit, February 9

*A Midwinter Night's Dream* invitations have been mailed! Please watch for your delivery. If you don't receive one, please contact the MYA office. If you have friends that you would like to invite, we will be happy to send an invitation to them as well. Or, check out the MYA website; click on *Benefit*.

## Spiritwear is in!

Spiritwear orders may be picked up this weekend at MYA!

## Ice Skating for Visiting China Students and their Host Families

If you are hosting a visiting student from China, you are invited to bring them to the Skokie Skatium Ice Arena for an hour of ice skating. The Love's (Spencer/Sym) have arranged for an hour of ice skating on Sunday December 16 from 6:50 p.m. to 7:50 p.m. at the Skatium Ice Arena in the Weber Leisure Center located on Church Street and Gross Point Road in Skokie. Skate rental is \$2 per person. Please come with your visiting China student and your immediate family. This will be a great way to "break the ice" with your visiting student. Please RSVP to 847-470-8190 or to [brianhlove@comcast.net](mailto:brianhlove@comcast.net) with an approximate number of people that you will be bringing.

## Check out MYA on You Tube!

The link is <http://www.youtube.com/user/MidwestYoungArtists>. The uploaded videos are of Carrie Dennis' performance on Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>, and there will be plenty more to come! Please email Angela Golden at [angelagolden@mya.org](mailto:angelagolden@mya.org) so that she can link you to our channel.

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### PROGRAM INFORMATION

#### CHORAL

All Choral rehearsals will resume on Sunday, January 6, 2008.

#### ORCHESTRA

All Orchestra rehearsals will resume on Saturday, January 5, 2008. Check the website [after December 20](#) for the audition schedule - we'll also email it to you.

##### Symphony Lock-in Schedule: January 5

Regular noon to 3:00 rehearsal

3:00 Auditions

6:00 Dinner

8:00 Rehearsal

9:00 Social hour

10:30 Movies

Midnight – SLEEP

##### Sunday, January 6

9:00 Breakfast

10:00 Rehearsal

12:00 Auditions & Pick-up to go home

#### JAZZ

All Jazz Large Ensemble rehearsals will resume on Sunday, January 6, 2008.

##### Big Band Lock-in Schedule: January 5

4:00 Rehearsal

6:00 Dinner

7:00 Rehearsal

9:00 Social hour

10:30 Movies

Midnight - SLEEP

##### Sunday, January 6

9:00 Breakfast

11:00 Rehearsal

12:00 Pick-up to go home

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### VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

#### Volunteer Opportunities

- **Walgreens Concerto Volunteers** – We need **4 people** Dec. 29, 12:30-6:00, **3 people** Dec. 30, 8:00-12:30 and **4 people** Dec 30, 12:30-6:00. Please contact Mary Jo Biersteker [mjbierst@comcast.net](mailto:mjbierst@comcast.net) or Mark Adamczyk [mark@adamczyk.com](mailto:mark@adamczyk.com) if you would like to help. We also need bakers to provide food for the judges and volunteers.
- Help **solicit auction items** – contact Ann Reilly [alreilly@comcast.net](mailto:alreilly@comcast.net).
- Cadet, Concert, and Jazz Combo still need an **Ensemble Basket** coordinator for the Benefit – contact Mary Syc [move5050@aol.com](mailto:move5050@aol.com)
- We would like students to help **sell raffle** tickets at the **Harris Theater**. Email Gena

- We are **handing out candy canes and chocolate coins** after 1:00 and 4:00 Harris Theater concerts. We need **4 – 6 people** (students are welcome) to help hand them out. Email Gena.
- We need adult chaperones, breakfast servers and seating audition volunteers for the Symphony and Big Band **lock-in** scheduled for January 5 and 6 – Email Gena if you are interested.

Don't forget to record your hours. We're going to tally them all up at the end of the month! You sign the volunteer log in the office or fill out the form on line <http://www.mya.org/support/volunteer.php>. Thanks!

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## 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](mailto:susancook@mya.org).

**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.**

**Evanston Township High School:** Jazz Combo Fest, the Terrace at ETHS, **Monday, December 17 at 7:00 PM.**

**Northbrook Junior High School:** Beginning Band, Jazz & Concert Bands, NBJH Gym, Highland Park, **Monday, December 17 at 7:30 PM.**

**Glenbard North High School:** Choral Holiday Concert, Auditorium, **Tuesday, December 18 at 7:30PM.**

**Stevenson High School:** Holiday Orchestra Concert, Performing Arts Center, **Monday, December 17 at 7:00 PM - Audrey Snyder (Symphony, cello)** will be featured. She is performing Tchaikovsky's Concerto *Variations on a Rococo Theme*.

**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.**

**Buffalo Grove High School:** Winter Concert (Symphonic & Concert Bands), BG Theatre, **Wednesday, December 19 at 7:30 PM.**

**Deerfield High School:** Wind Ensemble, Jazz & Orchestra Concert, Auditorium, **Wednesday, December 19 at 7:30 PM.**

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

**Barrington High School:** Choir Concert, Johnson Auditorium, **Thursday, December 20 at 7:30 PM.**

**Nequa Valley High School:** Chamber Symphony performs at Midwest, International Ballroom, Hilton Hotel, Chicago, **Thursday, December 20 at 8:30 AM.**

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## KUDOS, B-DAYS & OTHER!

### Kudos & Other

♪ **Melissa Heemskerck (voice/Chorale), Josh Poucher (voice/Chorale), Mary Clare Becks (voice/Chorale), Marissa Simmons (voice/Chorale)** for representing MYA so well at the Chicago Botanic Gardens on **ABC 7's Early Morning Show Friday morning**

♪ **Alex Miller (percussion/Chamber)** was selected for IMEA All-State Band

♪ **Evelyn O'Connell (violin/Symphony)** was selected for IMEA All-State Orchestra

♪ **Tess Smith (viola/Symphony)** was selected for IMEA All-State Orchestra

♪ **Kateri Tumminello (saxophone/Chamber)** was selected for IMEA All-State Band

♪ **Bradley Sheneman (French Horn/Symphony)** was selected for IMEA All-State Orchestra

♪ **Michael Solotke (trombone/Symphony)** was selected for IMEA All-State Orchestra

♪ **Meggan Breugger (Alum)** won a commission through The "New Music Project" - a group of musicians, professors, students who are fairly well known and travel mainly in the Midwest playing and promoting new music. Every year they have a competition with the winning composers having a new commissioned work premiered in Michigan (Kalamazoo) in April and in Chicago in May. The entries came from Colleges and Universities in the Midwest.

### Member Birthdays!

12/16 Michael Solotke, trombone, Symphony

12/17 Daniel Stone, violin, Symphony

12/17 Aubrey Dalbec, oboe, Symphony

12/18 Andy Quinn, tenor sax, Big Band

12/18 J. Maxwell Joyce, violin, Reading

12/17 Erin Beugger, cello, Cadet

12/19 Aidan Perreault, violin, Prep

12/19 James (Nathan) Peppey, tuba, Chamber

12/19 David Reiff, alto sax, Jazz Orchestra

12/20 David Binder, trombone, Symphony

12/21 Erin Kulesus, violin, Symphony

12/21 Fiona Kalensky, viola, Cadet

12/23 Joey Heimlich, percussion, Symphony

12/23 Tommy McHugh, trumpet, Cadet

12/24 Hannah Baukert, violin, Concert

12/26 Natalie Ckuj, voice, Chorale

12/27 Andrew Banzhaf, double bass, Symphony

12/28 Daniel Chmielinski, double bass, Jazz Orchestra & Concert

12/28 Alex Miller, percussion, Chamber

12/30 Brandon McQuaid, trombone, Symphony & Big Band

12/30 Elena Karahalios, voice, Choristers

01/01 Gabrielle Gottfried, violin, Cadet

01/02 Camille Michelotti, bassoon, Concert

01/02 Quinn Delaney, bassoon, Symphony

01/04 Melissa Heemskerck, voice, Chorale

01/04 Helen Ding, violin, Cadet

01/04 Kenan Serenbetz, tenor sax, Jazz Orchestra