



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

MYA's Master Class Series Presents, Francis Akos

Sunday, January 13 at 12:00 PM

Master Class Series Presents: Francis Akos, Assistant Concertmaster Emeritus, Chicago Symphony Orchestra and former Music Director, Highland Park Strings. Master classes are Free and Open to the Public. Students, teachers and parents are encouraged to attend! Please go to MYA's Concert & Events page for more information.

1st Sunday Soiree of the New Year – January 13 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.

OPEN HOUSE – Sunday, January 13 at 4:30 PM

For MYA's Choristers, a choral ensemble for children in 1st – 4th grades

Do you have a child that loves to sing and is too young to join Voices Rising? Join Choristers and experience the pleasure and camaraderie of singing! No audition is required. For more information call Susan Cook at 847-926-9898 x306.

1st Annual Chicago Chamber Music Competition

Entry Deadline is approaching quickly. ALL entries need to be received by **Midnight on Friday, January 18!** Due to space constraints the competition venue has been moved to the MYA Center – Competition: February 17, 2008. Please turn in your entries ASAP – No late applications will be accepted!

Walgreens Concerto Competition – DVD's & Comments

All MYA participants may pick up their DVD and comments in the office this Saturday!

Season Ticket Holders

Parents of Concert Orchestra students who have ordered tickets for the 3:00 PM, February 23rd concert will receive tickets for the evening concert instead, unless you were contacted due to special circumstances. Please contact Donna Schardt at donnaschardt@mya.org if you do **NOT** want to have your tickets switched to evening or have any questions.

Dreamin' Jazz in January! concert tickets will be mailed out next week and all remaining season tickets will be mailed out in time for the February concerts.

Dreamin' Jazz in January! Concert

Sunday, January 27, at 5:00 PM, hear MYA's Big Bands and Jazz combos under the direction of Nic Meyer at Ravinia's Bennett-Gordon Hall. Guest Artist, New York saxophonist, Dick Oatts, will be featured at the concert and in master classes on Saturday, January 26 at the MYA Center.

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to sell *Jazz in January* tickets on Sunday, January 20th and on Sunday, January 27th. On January 20th, we need someone from 12:00 to 2:00 and from 2:00 to 4:30. On January 27th, tickets will be sold at the door from 4:00 to 5:00, and we need some volunteers to help! *Jazz in January* tickets are also available for purchase on the Concerts & Events page on our website at www.mya.org.

MYA Benefit - A Midwinter Night's Dream

The invitations have been sent! If you did not receive one, please contact the MYA office and we will get one to you. Please place your reservations by January 25th. You are welcome to use the reply card enclosed in the invitation, or, go online to MYA.org and select the benefit button on the home page. This is going to be a spectacular evening and we hope you can join in on the fun!

Chicago Chamber Musicians (CCM) Children's Concert

Amy Pikler, Emily Jones, Leah Ferguson and Ben Solomonow will be performing at CCM's Classical Idol! – an hour-long interactive concert for ages 4 and up. Midwest Young Artists' students and families receive \$2 off! Performances are January 19 & 20 at 10:00 & 11:30 AM. Please check the MYA bulletin board for more details. Faculty member Rami Solomonow and MYA parent and board member Barbara Butler are CCM Members!

Special Volunteer Opportunity

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to play the Oboe? Mrs. Bendorf Frisch needs volunteers to help her teach Music Education students at DePaul University how to teach the basics of playing the Oboe. You would need to come to DePaul on one Thursday evening in late January/early February where you'd be taught a song on the Oboe, and you get to keep the reed! NHS Volunteer hours can be earned or just do it for fun! If you're interested, see Naomi or email her at naomibendorf@mya.org.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

CHORAL

Chorale

If you are interested in singing at the MYA fundraiser on February 9th as part of a madrigal group, there will be a 6:15 rehearsal at MYA this Sunday in the Theory Room.

If you know of any talented singers who would be a good fit for MYA, do not hesitate to encourage them to contact Ben Gray directly or bring them with you to rehearsal this Sunday.

ORCHESTRA

Please Note: **Seating Auditions this Saturday for Violin I & II for Concert, Prep and Cadet Orchestras** during your regular rehearsal time.

Symphony & Concert Orchestras

John Bruce Yeh will be subbing for Dr. this week.

Concert Orchestra

February 23rd Concert at Pick-Staiger - Concert Orchestra has been changed to perform on the **Evening Concert at 7:30 PM**. Please make this change on your calendars!

Cadet & Prep Orchestras

STRING SECTIONALS: This Saturday!

8:45-9:30 a.m. Cadet Orchestra

2:00 -2:45 p.m. Prep Orchestra

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

We are starting a new recognition program for volunteers. We would like to spotlight "A Volunteer of the Week" in our newsletters. If you know of someone who has been going above and beyond in their commitment to MYA, we would like to know about it. You will find a nomination form on our website <http://www.mya.org/support/volunteer.php> click on "Volunteer of the Week"

Volunteer Spotlight!

Imagine being an eight year old, relatively new trumpet player and orchestra member that constitutes the entire brass section of an orchestra. Intimidating? Frightening? Unsettling? Absolutely! But then, an unheralded hero appears carrying a trumpet of his own. Our own, Billy Thoms. Billy, a member of our Symphony Orchestra, has volunteered all year as a mentor in our Reading Orchestra. A talented musician, Billy has gone above and beyond, volunteering his time, musicianship and friendship. Billy Thoms is a terrific role model. We are proud to recognize him as our first volunteer of the week. He so aptly represents MYA's mission, and truly inspires others through his musical talents.

Thanks!

We missed thanking a few people in the newsletter last week. **Laura Biersteker**/Sym volunteered both days of the concerto competition 24 hours in all! **Charley Mattenson**(Sam/Con) helped put together the invitation mailing for the benefit as well as another mailing.

Volunteer Opportunities

- Benefit meeting in the Lobby January 12 at noon.
- **Soiree "Back Stage"** – We are looking for a coordinator to make sure we have a volunteer to help "back stage" for our Sunday Soirees – contact Gena (genaandreasen@mya.org) (This could be a work study position)
- Help **solicit auction items** – contact Ann Reilly alreilly@comcast.net.
- We are in need of fire wood if anyone has a connection
- Sell tickets at the Jazz Concert January 27 – contact Donna donnaschardt@mya.org
- Sell raffle tickets at Jazz Concert – contact Gena
- Turn in your ensemble basket donations.

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.

Prospect High School: Symphony Orchestra/Jazz IMEA Home Concert, Prospect Cafeteria, **Thursday, January 24 at 8:00 PM.**

Stevenson High School: Consortium Choral Concert, Performing Arts Center, **Monday, January 28 at 7:00 PM.**

Stevenson High School: Consortium Band Festival, Performing Arts Center, **Tuesday, January 29 at 7:00 PM.**

Vernon Hills High School: Band Concert, Auditorium, **Tuesday, January 29 at 7:30 PM,** Tickets: \$3 Adults, \$2 Students.

Deerfield High School: Concert & Symphonic Band Concert, Auditorium, **Wednesday, January 30 at 7:30 PM.**

North Shore Country Day School: All School Band Concert, Diller Street Theater, Winnetka, **Thursday, January 31 at 7:30 PM.**

KUDOS, B-DAYS & OTHER!

Kudos & Other

♪ **Josh Plotner (saxophone/JazzO)** will be performing in the pit orchestra for the All-State Production of Parade at Illinois State University this Friday 1/11 and Saturday 1/12. Josh will be playing Reed 1 – alto & soprano saxophones, clarinet, flute & piccolo. Performances: Friday at 7:00 PM, and Saturday 9:30 AM & 2:00 PM.

Member Birthdays!

01/13, Mary Clare Becks, voice, Chorale
01/15, Brian Chang, piano, Chamber Music
01/15, Peter Widitz, violin, Concert
01/16, Jennifer Lang, bassoon, Symphony
01/16, John McHugh, cello, Cadet
01/16, Tiffany Scheer, voice, Voices Rising
01/17, Cala M. O'Connor, horn, Symphony
01/18, Cole Buehler, trumpet, Prep
01/19, Jennifer Gardner, oboe, Symphony
01/19, Noah Cummins, voice, Voices Rising