



Midwest Young Artists

What People Are Saying About MYA

We've been hearing for years about the declining state of classical music in the United States. But you wouldn't know it from the talented young performers coming out of Midwest Young Artists. MYA's program, with its emphasis on chamber music and ensembles, is a model of how organizations work within the community to keep music alive and well.

-Lisa Flynn, WFMT 98.7 FM

MYA is a class act. We tell our Northwestern University students that their goal is to play the best music, with the best musicians, and to have fun while doing it. And that seems to be exactly what MYA offers to their students. As professional musicians and teachers, my husband and I evaluate on a daily basis what creates the habits of excellence, what leads to a life in music, and what makes musicians remarkable versus competent. Simultaneously teaching these young musicians large orchestra, chamber music and music theory - gives them such a head start. The atmosphere and physical surroundings of MYA's building and lobby, create a sort of "music club" that is both stimulating and comfortable for all the students who belong. Our daughter loves that she is partnered with people of like talent, regardless of age. Though she spends many hours at MYA each weekend, she loves to come, and is very proud of her individual and her groups' efforts.

**-Barbara Butler and Charles Geyer,
Northwestern University**

We believe that MYA provides a wonderful, nurturing environment in which our daughter Amy is exposed to quality musical literature. We are continually impressed with the high caliber of orchestral and chamber music instruction as well as the noticeably cooperative and home-like atmosphere provided by MYA. Amy is always challenged to do her best and has made tremendous musical progress since joining the program.

**-Charles Pikler, CSO Principal Violist & Ruth
Pikler**

MYA instills in our children a sense of discipline, perseverance and the value of teamwork. Creativity is encouraged and the potential within each individual is nurtured and allowed to bloom.

**-Jeffrey Rein, Past President of Walgreens
Corporation & MYA Parent**

MYA is the best, most comprehensive music education program for pre-college age musicians I have ever encountered! The dream of Dr. Allan Dennis has enriched the lives of countless young musicians, their families, and communities. MYA is truly special!

-John Yeh, CSO Assistant Principal Clarinet

MYA is an outstanding ensemble program, amplifying the talents of young musicians and striving to insure a bright future for them and for classical music.

**-Dorothy Andries, Music Critic of the Pioneer
Press**

MYA's orchestra was a fine group when last I heard it a few years back, but judging by Saturday's display of high artistry, it has made considerable strides in that short span. It took scarcely more than a decade for Midwest Young artists to grow from a fledgling single ensemble embryo into the premier area hub for pre-college professional music training.

Yet it would be wrong for area music lovers to consider the organization simply a premier training ground for young artists. As their reach encompasses ever more top tier performance spaces like the Harris Theater and Orchestra Hall, serious music fans should consider them a viable alternative to the local line-up of world-class professional ensembles.

-Michael Cameron, Chicago Tribune Writer