



Hawaii Youth Symphony

# Hawaii Youth Symphony Newsletter

## ...OF NOTE

A TRADITION OF MUSICAL EXCELLENCE

Fall 2007

### SAVE THE DATE

#### Concert String Orchestra & String Orchestra Ensemble Auditions

Sat., Aug. 25  
UH Music School

#### He Makana O Na Mele

Featuring YSI and JAKE SHIMABUKURO  
Sun., Nov. 4, 5:30 pm  
Hilton Hawaiian Village

#### Concert Orchestra Mall Concert

Sat., Nov. 17, 2:00 pm  
Windward Mall, Free

#### Youth Symphony II Mall Concert

Sun., Nov. 18, 12:00 noon  
Kahala Mall, Free

#### WINTER CONCERT SERIES Concert Orchestra and Strings Program

Sun., Dec. 2, 3:30 pm  
Pearl City Cultural Center

#### Youth Symphony I & II

Sun., Dec. 9, 4:00 pm  
Pearl City Cultural Center

#### Listen & Learn

#### Educational Concerts

Symphony concerts for youth  
Dec. 10, 11, 13

9:30 am, 10:45 am, 12:30 pm  
Pearl City Cultural Center

Free for schools

#### Chamber Music Recital

Fri., Jan. 25

7:00 pm

Orvis Auditorium,

UH Music Dept., Free

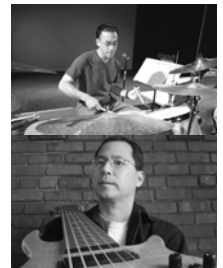
Additional program information at  
[www.HiYouthSymphony.org](http://www.HiYouthSymphony.org)  
or call 941-9706.

## JAKE and Friends Jam with HYS

Sunday, November 4, Hilton Hawaiian Village, Coral Ballroom  
4:30 Silent Auction      5:30 Buffet Dinner      7:00 Concert



Don't miss this spectacular benefit concert featuring 89 Youth Symphony I students with ukulele virtuoso JAKE SHIMABUKURO, Dean Taba on bass and Noel Okimoto on drums. Tickets are \$80, available and selling quickly. Download an order form at [www.HiYouthSymphony.org](http://www.HiYouthSymphony.org) or call 941-9706 to make your reservations. Silent auction donations also welcome, call 941-9706. Enjoy this highly-anticipated concert of extraordinary talent knowing you are supporting 100s of Hawaii's young musicians. ♪



## 20th Annual Pacific Music Institute: Summer Blockbuster *by Kelly Shigeta*

As old friends were reunited, and new friendships blossomed, the Pacific Music Institute commenced on Saturday, July 14, at the University of Hawaii-Manoa Music Department. 119 students, grades 7-12, from Oahu, Maui, Kauai, the Big Island and Japan congregated for this nine-day camp. Each student auditioned and was given the opportunity to perform in a variety of ensembles that included the Concert Band (Lance Jo, Wayne Kawakami, Henry Miyamura, conductors), String Orchestra (Chad Uyehara, conductor), Symphony Orchestra (Henry Miyamura, conductor), Jazz Band (Ira Wong, conductor) and Chamber Ensembles. 29 patient and passionate clinicians (professional musicians, music teachers & educators) tutored the students with their music, taught them about their instruments, and emphasized the importance of teamwork. Over the course of the camp, any one student performed anywhere between 5 and 15 works at the concerts held at the Pearl City Cultural Center on the final two days of the camp. Mahalo to our student and parent volunteers. ♪



top: Percussionists with clinicians  
Ira Wong and Susan Tanabe  
bottom: PMI trumpet section

Photos by Kelly Shigeta

## HYS Closes '07 Season with (ko)Aloha



Photos by Tom Bingham

HYS closed the '06-'07 season with its Aloha Concert Luncheon on May 20, graduating 68 seniors and featuring vocalist Alvin Okami and the KoAloha gang (2), Irish dancer and HYS senior Audrey Knuth (3), and a performance on shoe by percussionists (4). KoAloha generously donated ukuleles to two lucky students: Amanda Igeta pictured with KoAloha gang (1), Henry Miyamura and honoree and HYS's good friend, Neil McKay, pictured with wife, Marion (5). ♪

## Letter from the Executive Director

Dear HYS Friend,

HYS opens its 43<sup>rd</sup> year with 415 students from 104 schools on 4 islands. We humbly send our **thanks** to community partners for sharing their facilities for rehearsals including long-time friends UH Music School, University Lab School, and new this year Niu Valley Middle School and the Boys and Girls Club's Spalding Clubhouse.

Demand for our programs continues to **grow**. At the beginning of the summer, 340 students auditioned for our three symphony orchestras. While these numbers speak favorably to our programs and the future of orchestral music in Hawaii, they also raise concern for our staff and board because we reluctantly need to turn away interested students due to limited capacity. While these string students will find placement in our String Program, wind students must wait another year to re-audition for an orchestra spot.

To address capacity issues, HYS is aggressively working on plans for its future, including a strategic plan through the year 2012 and pursuit of the Hawaii Arts Center for Youth (HACY) project.

**HACY**  
Hawai'i Arts Center for Youth is a **collaboration** among Ballet Hawaii, Hawaii Youth Opera Chorus, Honolulu Theatre for Youth and HYS. Senior management and board members from each group have been meeting regularly for nearly a year to assess needs, seek funding and plan for this multi-disciplinary center where youth from all over the state would find a welcome home to study the performing arts and hang out with other arts enthusiasts. HACY opens opportunities for cross-disciplinary projects and could serve as an anchor for the performing arts community. It would, most importantly, provide secure, adequate space for HYS, allowing us to expand our programs as needed. We are excited about this project which would have lasting impact on the state. We are grateful to the Legislature for designating funds for planning HACY, and are anxiously awaiting the Governor's release of the monies so we can continue planning for a permanent arts home for our children. We are continually in discussions with the community about locations for the facility and welcome any ideas for a viable site.

Additionally, HYS's Board of Directors has been focusing on a **strategic plan** for the organization which includes a thorough assessment of operations and programming. It will steer HYS, preparing us to not only build upon our strengths but to also face the challenges of the next 5-10 years. The board will be working with staff and other stakeholders to refine the plan which will be fully unveiled by the end of the year. At this juncture, we wanted to share the plan's five strategic priorities:

- I. Implement and sustain **consistent, high-quality, accessible programming** that ensures a comprehensive music education spectrum. The continuum is designed to recruit and flow naturally from the absolute beginner to the most accomplished student musician.*
- II. Build a **strong community** around HYS to ensure a vital future for the organization and future young musicians.*
- III. Provide **service and outreach opportunities** that not only reach underserved populations with limited access to music but also instill the value of community service in HYS students.*
- IV. **Strengthen the organizational capacity** of HYS staff and board to enable them to carry the organization effectively, securely and confidently through the next decade.*
- V. Develop a "**home**" for HYS that secures its future and mitigates the continual search for adequate rehearsal, administrative and performance space*

We welcome any input you may have about the plan's direction. Comments may be directed to me at the HYS office.

We are truly looking forward to another fulfilling season for all our HYS participants. As always, we are grateful for your support of our programs and our young musicians.

Aloha,



Selena Ching



## In the Spotlight

Highlighting HYS's Star Volunteers

by Judy Vierck



### Joanne Hanagami

HYS can't get enough of Joanne Hanagami. Volunteering for more than a decade, Joanne returns this season as lead concert parent for YSII after a two-year hiatus. What keeps her coming back even after her two children graduated from HYS nine years ago? Joanne says it's getting to know the many wonderful and dedicated HYS students, who keep her faith in young people alive. Nothing gets past Joanne. She's sharp as a tack with a wit to match. A tough cookie with an enormous heart of gold, she's been known to provide meals at rehearsals for 100-member orchestras and is never short of a good, hearty laugh. "I've been fortunate to be a part of HYS and have made many wonderful friends through the organization." Joanne gets an A+ for her passion for HYS's mission and music program and we welcome her back with big smiles and open arms. ♪



**H**uge, grateful applause for the 2007-2008 **CONCERT PARENTS** who give their time weekly to help our students and conductors at rehearsals and concerts.

*Youth Symphony I:* **VERNA CHINEN** and **LANCE UCHIDA**

*Youth Symphony II:* **JOANNE HANAGAMI**

*Concert Orchestra:* **LISA SAKAMOTO** and **JIM ARAKI**

Special mahalo to die-hard, do-it-all, 20-year, veteran volunteer leader, **Les Murata**, HYS's Vice President. ♪

### Orchestra Families: Stay In Tune

**HYS** parents, stay in tune with HYS by asking your child for your monthly *Taking Note* bulletin, issued on the last Sunday of each month, with the latest information for the upcoming month. HYS also posts weekly rehearsal schedules and updates on our website: [www.HiYouthSymphony.org](http://www.HiYouthSymphony.org), and on our outgoing message machine (941-9706, ext. 3) every Friday. ♪

## HYS Winter Concert Series

### CONCERT ORCHESTRA

#### STRING PROGRAM

#### Winter Concert

Sunday, December 2

3:30 pm

Pearl City Cultural Center

### YOUTH SYMPHONY I

#### YOUTH SYMPHONY II

#### Winter Concert

Sunday, December 9

4:00 pm

Pearl City Cultural Center

Tickets available one hour before concert at the door. Doors open half an hour before concert. General admission.

No reserved seats. No video taping of concerts.

## Strings Strike New Notes



**T**he String Program's four ensembles are off to a great new year with many exciting changes. The program has moved to the Spalding Clubhouse of the Boys and Girls Club behind Washington Middle School. This facility

will have areas where the students can participate in table games, a basketball court, a library, and perhaps access computers before or after rehearsals. We will also be changing rehearsals from Sundays to Saturdays. **Chad Uyehara** joins the String Program as the new Concert String Orchestra instructor. Chad, orchestra director at Saint Andrew's Priory, holds a bachelors degree in violin performance and received his masters in music education and viola performance from Northwestern University. He is an HYS alumnus and has been a Pacific Music Institute clinician and conductor and chamber program coach. Helen Nguyen remains as the Intermediate String Ensemble (previously Preparatory Strings) and String Orchestra Ensemble instructor and Charlotte Fukumoto returns as the Beginning Strings Ensemble (previously Beginning Strings) instructor and Coordinator of the String Program. It's going to be a great year for our string students who range in age from 8 to 17 years old. We hope you'll join them at one of their concerts. ♪

## HYS Cheers Chamber Musicians & Coaches

**M**ay 18 marked the closing of HYS's first chamber program when 26 students from 13 schools provided audience members with an uplifting concert showcasing what they learned during the year. Students were coached by members of the Honolulu Symphony and music educators. Our thanks extend to Iggy Jang, Claire Sakai Hazzard, Paul Barrett, Mark Schubert, Jennifer Miyahira and Chad Uyehara for dedicating so much time to coaching our young musicians. The program included regular rehearsals and community service performances. The May finale performance took place at Orvis Auditorium and was followed by an aloha reception. HYS applauds program participants and extends a sincere mahalo to the **Cooke Foundation, Limited** for providing funding for this program.

1: Brass chamber members with coach Mark Schubert and Susan Seu. 2: Lisa and Edward Vause with woodwind coach Paul Barrett. 3: Coaches Chad Uyehara and Jennifer Miyahira. 4: Coach Iggy Jang and ensemble at Shriners Hospital



# Give with Aloha to Support Our Young Musicians

From **September 1-30**, you can make a fully tax-deductible gift to the HYS (up to \$249 per person) at any **Foodland** or **Sak N Save** and Foodland will match your donation!



To increase your gift to HYS, show your Maikai Card to the cashier and tell him/her you'd like to make a donation to the Hawaii Youth Symphony (**Code 77060**). The amount of your gift will be added to your receipt. No purchase is necessary to participate in this program.



Save your store receipt. It is the only record of your contribution. HYS would like to formally acknowledge your donation. Please send us your store receipt with your full name and address where we can send a HYS acknowledgment. Foodland will not provide us with donor names.

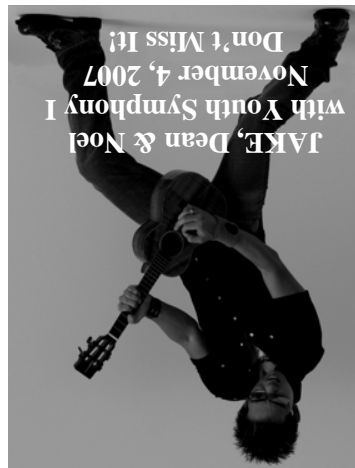
Funds will support all seven of HYS's orchestras. Our gratitude goes out to all who give at the registers and to Foodland and the Western Union Foundation for matching their generosity. Thank you for giving your aloha! ♪

## COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN

If you are a **MILITARY** or **FEDERAL GOVERNMENT** employee, you can give to HYS through easy payroll deductions. No check-writing, no postage, no hassles. Look for HYS in your upcoming Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) brochure. You can give either a single pledge or regular contributions. HYS's code number is **38026**. Every gift goes towards helping our young musicians, and every gift counts! Mahalo nui loa. ♪

*"Being in an orchestra from the early years helps the individual to grow within a healthy group, gaining invaluable intellectual, social and emotional experiences and learning the values of patience, discipline, endurance, the ability to compromise and the value of one's personal contribution in order to fulfill a collective end."*

—José Antonio Abreu, recipient of UNESCO's International Music Prize



<b>Hawaii Youth Symphony</b>	
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Hawaii Youth Symphony  
 1110 University Ave., #200  
 Honolulu, HI 96826  
 Return Service Requested  
 (808) 941-9706 phone  
 (808) 941-4995 fax  
 admin@HYYouthSymphony.org



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