



Hawaii Youth Symphony

FY13 Year End Letter

Dear Hawaii Youth Symphony Supporter:

Thank you for your continued support of Hawaii Youth Symphony! With thanks to you, we were able to sustain high momentum throughout our 48th season, finishing strong on June 30, 2013. We hope you enjoy this Year End letter which will recap some of the season's highlights.

Highlights from our 48th Season (2012-2013)

Over 600 students served

- ♪ HYS directly served nearly 650 students from 111 schools on Oahu, Maui, Kauai, and Hawaii Island. These students, ages 7-18, registered for HYS's 14 music programs and large ensembles throughout the season. We offered a diverse array of opportunities for youth to participate: from classes that serve beginners, up to our flagship Youth Symphony I, comprised of some of our state's finest young musicians. HYS has one of the country's most comprehensive programs and is Hawaii's only statewide youth orchestra organization.



24 concerts produced; 21 of them admission-free

- ♪ HYS is committed to producing concerts that service the public; not only by broadening exposure to classical music, but also by building awareness for our youth's efforts, hard work, and determination through performance. Nearly 20,000 people attended these concerts.
- ♪ Our admission-free community concerts are designed by our Music Director and conductors for community consumption. The music, often chosen for its cultural significance, also represents a variety of styles/genres, and is presented in ways that makes it accessible and educational.
- ♪ As part of HYS's commitment to serving the neighbor islands, our top orchestra Youth Symphony I traveled to Kauai Island and performed at both the Kauai Community College Performing Arts Center and at the War Memorial Convention Hall. These concerts were presented, in part, with help from the Kauai Concert Association, the Friends of Hawaii Charities, and the Annie Sinclair Knudsen Memorial Fund of the Hawaii Community Foundation.



Over \$42,000 given in financial assistance

- ♪ HYS is committed to make music education accessible to any interested student, regardless of financial means. An endowment account established by a generous gift in honor of retired conductor Michael Nakasone, ensures HYS's ability to assist families in financial hardship with the costs of tuition, registration fees, instrument rentals, and private lessons.
- ♪ Additionally, HYS reaches neighbor island communities by providing qualified students with travel assistance so that these students may participate in our Symphony Program.

Unique programming with high standards & incredible guest artists

- ♪ HYS works hard to ensure unique musical experiences for its students. In FY13, HYS partnered with a wide variety of professional musicians and guest artists, including singer Willie K, contemporary Hawaiian duo Kupaoa, young winners of the Aloha International Piano Festival & Competition Evan Lin (age 17) and Roger Shen (age 13); Kamehameha Schools Children's Chorus; Hawaii Youth Opera Chorus; composers Neil McKay and Armand Russell.
- ♪ Our youngest students—those enrolled in our Music in the Clubhouse partnership with the Boys & Girls Club, ages 7-12—had the unique opportunity of performing on the foyer of Blaisdell Concert Hall, in a special pre-show before the Youth Symphony I Spring Concert. Boys & Girls Club youth also attended a special performance by visiting Mainland guest artists from the Eruption Music Festival and by drummer/percussionist Von Baron.
- ♪ Additionally, students across all our programs, including our younger/more novice ensembles, receive coaching by professional musicians from the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Music Hawaii, and numerous private instructors and music educators who help to instill in them high standards and strong work ethic.



Over 13,000 school children attended FREE Listen & Learn educational concerts performed by fellow youth

- ♪ HYS's commitment to the community means that we attempt to make music education accessible to as many children as possible in some way. Additionally, we believe that music is a terrific medium for involving our students in community service.
- ♪ All 296 students in our Symphony Program performed in at least two Listen & Learn concerts throughout the season, for a combined total of 11 concerts on two islands (Oahu and Kauai), serving elementary and middle school children from 92 schools!



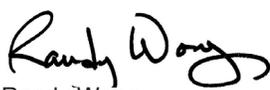
Continued Exploration into Open-Access Music Programs for Kids

- ♪ HYS continues to believe in open-access programs that encourage kids without prior experience or training to participate. Thanks to a strong partnership with the Boys & Girls Club of Hawaii, as well as grants from the Johnson Ohana Charitable Foundation, Mayor's Office of Culture and the Arts, and the Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, HYS was able to offer FREE general music and band classes via its Music in the Clubhouse program.
- ♪ 78 students were directly served, many of whom came from schools whose music programs had been severely cut or otherwise diminished.
- ♪ The Music in the Clubhouse initiative celebrated its 5th year in FY13 with a performance on the foyer of Blaisdell Concert Hall, prior to an afternoon concert by our top orchestra, Youth Symphony I.



HYS is deeply grateful for your earnest, continued support. Without you, we would not be able to continue to provide our youth with the attention, education, and opportunities in music that they desperately need and deserve. As an HYS alumnus myself, I personally remember the amazing chances HYS gave me, and believe the youth in our current programs deserve at least the same or better! The energy surrounding classical music here is incredible. We're just over a year away from celebrating our 50th season, and we intend to build as much momentum as possible to launch us into our Golden Anniversary.

Thank you again for everything that you do to help Hawaii Youth Symphony secure a musical future for Hawaii's youth!


 Randy Wong
 Executive Director