



Hawaii Youth Symphony

Where Hawaii's youth make exceptional music together

...of

NOTE

SAVE THESE DATES!

Na Mele: The Gift of Music
With Jimmy Borges & The Waitiki 7
Sun., October 20, 4:30 pm
Hilton Hawaiian Village

YSII Community Concert
With Hawaii Youth Opera Chorus
Sat., November 16, time TBA
Kawaiahao Church

Symphony Program
Winter Concerts
YSI, YSII, CO
Sun., December 1, 4:00 pm
Blaisdell Concert Hall

Listen & Learn Concerts
YSI & YSII
Mon., Dec. 2, & Tues, Dec. 3
Blaisdell Concert Hall

CO
Mon., December 9
Pearl City Cultural Center

Academy Winter Concert
BSE, ISE, SOE, CSO
Sat., December 14, 1:00 pm
Kaimuki High School

YSII Community Concert
With Hawaii Youth Opera Chorus
Sun., February 2, 4:00 pm
Kawaiahao Church

More information at
www.HiYouthSymphony.org

Summer Programs Turn Up Heat on Music Learning



Summer is a favorite part of the year for us at HYS, as it is a time when many of our alumni return and reconnect with us to share their wonderful musicianship and teaching abilities with our up-and-coming youth. This summer was no exception! Fifteen of our esteemed alumni taught nearly 150 students in our **Summer Strings** and **Pacific Music Institute** programs.



Comprised of two classes (Beginning and Intermediate), **Summer Strings**—which met daily for five weeks—helped novice string students build skills and practice techniques that will last them their musical lives. The program was held at the Atherton YMCA, where HYS alumnus **Tony Yee** is Executive Director. Conductor **Chad Uyehara**, who also conducts HYS's top two Academy string orchestras, remarked on the importance of these summer classes. "Not only are we cultivating basic skills like how to play the instrument, but we also learn how to play in a group, follow the conductor; how to listen to each other, and how to be aware of the ensemble and ourselves." Uyehara was impressed with the students' hard work. "Within five weeks, everyone made a vast improvement!"

Uyehara was assisted by multiple HYS alums throughout the program. Cellist **Stefanie Lawton** stepped in for a week as guest instructor; **Keli Matsuura** served as teaching assistant; and siblings **Asia Doike** and **Aris Doike** introduced Beginning Strings kids to the violin and cello, respectively.

Just down the street, the 25th edition of our **Pacific Music Institute** saw its highest enrollment in recent years, with over 100 students ages 14-18 intensively studying music. The Institute was held mostly at the UH Manoa Music Dept., with the PMI Finale Concert at Pearl City Cultural Center.



Alumni **Joan Doike** (violin), **Jennifer Miyahira-Townsend** (cello), **Lynn Muramaru** (flute), **Lynne Nakaura** (clarinet), **Michael Yoshimi** (clarinet), **Curtis Noborikawa** (clarinet), **Susan Ochi-Onishi** (oboe), **Derek Fujio** (oboe), **Chris Fujiwara** (oboe), **Richard Hotoke** (saxophone), **KeAnuenue Hayashi** (trombone), **Eric Kop** (horn), and **Ira Wong** (percussion) all served as clinicians on their respective instruments. They were joined by Hawaii Symphony musicians **Helen Liu** (violin), **Colin Belisle** (viola), **John Gallagher** (bass), and **Ken Hafner** (trumpet). Conductors **Henry Miyamura**, **Grant Okamura**, **Elton Masaki**, and **Ira Wong** led the Symphony Orchestra, Concert Band, String Orchestra, and Jazz Band, respectively. 🎵

HYS programs are supported by the City & County of Honolulu and the Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, through appropriations from the Hawai'i State Legislature.



Connect with us on Facebook and other Social Media!
Instagram & Twitter: @HiYouthSymphony

Letter from the Executive Director

Greetings, HYS Friends!

With our **49th Season (2013-14)** upon us, we have much to look forward. Our summer programs were full of high-energy, enthusiastic performances, and we expect all of our ensembles and classes this year to keep up that same momentum!



It's incredible to me how fast-paced life at HYS can be. Last season closed out with capacity crowds at our Aloha Concert Luncheon. We graduated 48 seniors from our Symphony Program, and bid them farewell; thanking them for all of their contributions towards making an unforgettable season. Just a week later, the staff and I were on hand for two weekends of YSI/YSII/CO auditions, with more than 350 students trying out for our top three orchestras. Our annual Alumni Chamber Music concert at the Hawaii State Art Museum occurred shortly thereafter, and then we were into planning sessions, Summer Strings and PMI, and Fall registration!

Throughout all of these activities, I have realized what really makes HYS a wonderful organization to be part of: Really, truly, it is all of YOU. Your friendship, your support, your attendance at concerts, your offers to volunteer. Thank you for making music education a priority for Hawaii's children. To our parents, past and present, thank you for signing your kids up for HYS; for driving them to & from rehearsal; for making time to volunteer with us on a hot summer day. When we work together, the things that we can achieve are limitless.

As I continue to learn about what our organization needs to thrive, I look forward to hearing insights from all of you. Thank you again for all that you do to keep HYS strong!

Sincerely,

Randy Wong,
Executive Director

P. S. I am thrilled to welcome the return of our professional colleagues, the **Hawaii Symphony Orchestra** and the **Hawaii Pops** to our music community. Professional musicians play a large part in our students' growth, both musically and otherwise. As a youth, I myself saw symphony musicians as valuable role models. HYS is looking forward to finding ways that we might be able to collaborate with the pros.

In addition to HYS's concerts this season, I hope you may be able to attend one or more concerts by our professional colleagues!

September is Challenge Month!

This September, HYS will be embarking on its annual *NOTEWorthy Challenge Month*, made possible by a generous grant from **The George Mason Fund of the Hawaii Community Foundation**. The George Mason Fund will match any contributions, dollar-for-dollar, up to \$20,000. Additionally, donations made by Maika'i shoppers at Foodland or SackNSave will be counted towards Foodland's GiveAloha campaign, which further matches gifts with contributions made by the Foodland and Western Union foundations. Use code **77060** at the register to designate HYS as your gift's recipient.

Last year, HYS raised a total of \$48,000. Watch your mailbox for a letter with more details on how you can participate! 🎵

MusicAlive: HYS to Perform Eight Listen & Learn School Concerts This Season

HYS's MusicAlive: Listen & Learn Educational Concerts are designed to meet both the needs of a community in need of live symphonic performances, and also further children's awareness for Hawaii Youth Symphony. Children benefit from MusicAlive because they get to see and hear performers who are just slightly older than them, thereby inspiring some to take up an instrument, seek lessons, or seek ways to participate in HYS.

This Fall, students in our three symphony orchestras will assist HYS in serving school children from throughout Oahu, via six MusicAlive: Listen & Learn Educational Concerts, to be held at Blaisdell Concert Hall and Pearl City Cultural Center. An additional two concerts will be performed at the Maui Arts & Cultural Center by Youth Symphony I, during YSI's annual neighbor island tour. Last year, 13,400 students from 91 schools attended these performances. These types of community concerts not only allow HYS to showcase its young musicians, they also instill in performing youth a sense of civic responsibility and the value of service-learning.

Other Ways You Can Help HYS

There are many avenues you can use to help HYS meet its fundraising goals. In addition to *NOTEWorthy Challenge Month* (as described above), donations to HYS may also be made via **Aloha United Way (code 79720)** and federal employees' **Combined Federal Campaign (code 38026)**. Many credit card companies have programs where you can convert card points into donations. Additionally, some firms match employees' gifts.

We also appreciate gifts of **HawaiianMiles**, stocks, office supplies & computer equipment, orchestral instruments, and sound (PA) equipment. Please inquire with us at (808) 941-9706 if you have questions or need assistance. Mahalo! 🎵

MAHALO TO OUR WONDERFUL 2012-13 TEAM!



Back Row, L to R: Les Murata, Randy Wong, Richard Fong, Gary Hirokane, Susan Hirokane, Gary Todoki, Chad Uyehara, Ivan Morita, Henry Miyamura, David Yee, Meredith Prescott, Tom Shigeta, Janet Morita, Jill Shishido, Don Hasegawa, Ann Doike, Renee Hasegawa, Jimmy Yee, Derrick Yamane.
 Middle Row: Wanda Murata, Elizabeth Coraggio, Charlotte Fukumoto, Joan Doike, Susan Ochi-Onishi, Hannah Watanabe, Helen Fong, Joy Waikoloa, Mel Uchida.
 Front Row: Cody Onishi, Wayne Fanning, Lance Uchida, Mark Nakamura, Ruth Komatsu.
 Not pictured: Gerry Kushiyama and Elton Masaki.

Alumni Chamber Music at the Hawaii State Art Museum



Melanie Yamada '00, Chris Ventura '90, Rafael Pajarillo, Ryan Ng '99, and Garrett Martin



Samantha Neudorf, '10 Katharine Lee '10, Kori Matsuura '05, Monica Luat '11



Sean Rodan '13, Emile Oshima '13, Jesse Woo '13, Oliver Jia-Richards '14, Michael Han '13

Kudos Korner



HYS alum **Lance Inouye** (YSO, Percussion, '89) was recently appointed as Director of Orchestral Activities at Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon. Lance's career has included positions with the Sarasota Youth Opera, the St. Petersburg State Symphony, the Cincinnati Symphony, and Aspen Opera Theatre. Learn more about Lance at his website, lanceinouye.com. Congrats, Lance! 🎵



Alumni clarinetists Lynne Nakaura and Todd China pose for a picture at HYS's Alumni Reception.



Who Will Be in Alumni Spotlight Next?

Do you have, or know of, an interesting HYS Alumni story we can report on? Email our Executive Director **Randy Wong '99** at Randy@HiYouthSymphony.org to let us know, or *share a memory* to our **HYS Alumni Network** page on Facebook!

HE MAKANA O NA MELE: THE GIFT OF MUSIC • OCTOBER 20, 2013

Concert Preview: 'The Golden Ages of Waikiki' with Jimmy Borges & The WAITIKI 7

On October 20, 2013, HYS will open its 49th season with a very special edition of our annual Na Mele fundraiser. This year's theme, The Golden Ages of Waikiki, pays tribute to the magical era in Waikiki's golden history of entertainment through the musical talents of Jimmy Borges and the world-renown exotica band The WAITIKI 7. "The theme for this concert is very important to us," explains HYS Music Director **Henry Miyamura**, "because it gives our students a really rare opportunity to experience this music, that was once a big part of Hawaii." Drummer and HYS alumnus **Abe Lagrimas Jr.**, who co-founded the group with **Randy Wong**, agrees: "When Randy and I grew up, we hardly knew anything about exotica music. It wasn't until we were studying music in Boston, of all places, that we learned about exotica's kama'aina roots."



Legendary singer **Jimmy Borges** will be headlining the concert, and singing famous arrangements of hits like "Blue Hawaii" (as done by Frank Sinatra) and "Nature Boy" (as recorded by Nat King Cole). "One thing that's special about this concert are the arrangements themselves," Wong said. "One of the scores is being loaned to us by the Nelson Riddle Collection from the University of Arizona Music Archives. If it weren't for them, we would have had to transcribed the music straight off the record. This way, our YSI kids get to play the music as Riddle really intended—a very special treat."

WHAT'S EXOTICA?

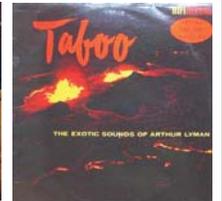
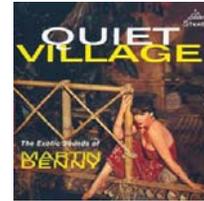
Essentially an early world music hybrid, Exotica came to life when **Martin Denny**, a Hollywood pianist and arranger, began performing Hawaiian and hapa-haole songs with his lushly instrumental combo of vibraphone, piano, upright bass, and drums. The group had a regular gig at the Hawaiian Village's outdoor Shell Bar, and (as the story goes) a young man by the name of **Augie Colon** suggested Denny add Latin percussion like bongos, congas, and guiro. From the moment that Colon began playing with the group, Denny knew a new sound was being born.

One evening, as the band was starting "Quiet Village" (a tune written by Les Baxter, Denny's Hollywood mentor), Colon began croaking, imitating the frogs in the lily ponds nearby. Not to be outdone, the other musicians in the band responded with bird calls and monkey howls. The crowd went wild, and the animal sounds were an instant hit. Denny eventually wrote more songs to utilize his band's jungle fever, even scoring and re-recording certain songs to maximize their appeal.

The rest, as they say, is history. Martin Denny's group found instant success. His vibraphonist **Arthur Lyman** succeeded in forming his own group, and overall, a new chapter in Hawaiian music was born.



The Martin Denny group, circa 1959



Two popular exotica albums, by Martin Denny & Arthur Lyman, respectively

Sheet music and scores aren't the only historical artifacts being used in the concert, however. Martin Denny's Estate has generously loaned HYS some of the late musician's exotic percussion instruments for the concert. WAITIKI 7 percussionist and bird-caller **Lopaka Colon**, son of **Augie Colon**, explains further: "Martin Denny collected instruments from around the world and found ways to incorporate them in his music. Nowadays we would call him a 'world' musician. But back in the Fifties, that genre didn't exist, and his band was essentially creating their own Pacific Rim sound." In addition to Denny's collection will be some of Augie's own instruments. Perhaps most interesting: **Boobams**—pitched bamboo tubes, covered on one end by a membrane, and played with fingers or mallets. 



Fascinated by these stories?

Learn more about our Na Mele concert preparations at [Facebook.com/HYS.NaMele](https://www.facebook.com/HYS.NaMele)

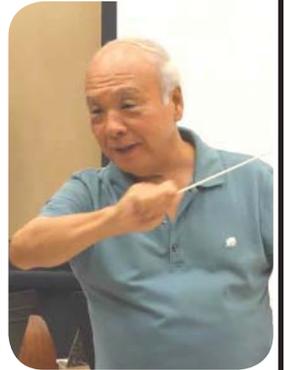
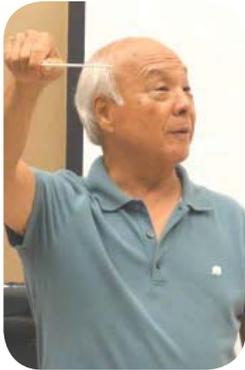
Summer Scenes: Highlights from the 25th Pacific Music Institute

PMI is always an exhilarating experience, for youth and faculty alike. This nine-day is filled with everything from large ensembles (like Symphony Orchestra and Concert Band) to chamber groups, instrumental sectionals to group masterclasses—and this year, a very special conducting class led by Maestro Henry Miyamura himself!

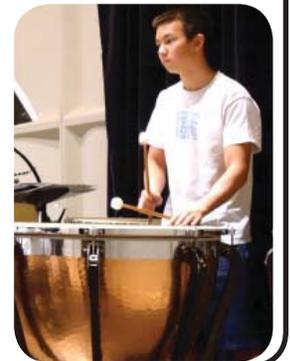
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Music is our livelihood!



SILENT AUCTION & COUNTRY STORE ITEMS WANTED!

Do you like to paint, knit, make ceramics, jewelry, or other crafts? Put your artistic talents to work and help HYS! Sales at our Silent Auction & Country Store at our Na Mele fundraiser contribute valuable funds to our budget. Proceeds go directly towards our program costs and help to keep our tuition affordable for all.

Donations of non-perishable items are being accepted at the HYS office now through Oct. 16. We will also be collecting baked goods, jams, jellies, and other food items, as the event gets closer.

Please call us at 941-9706 with any questions. Thank you!

