



Hawaii Youth Symphony

Hawaii Youth Symphony Newsletter

...OF NOTE

A TRADITION OF MUSICAL EXCELLENCE

Spring 2007

SAVE THE DATE

Chamber Music Finale Performance

Fri., May 18, 7:00 pm, FREE
Orvis Auditorium

Aloha Concert Luncheon

with vocalist Alvin Okami
Sun., May 27
10:30 am silent auction
11:30 am luncheon and concert
Hilton Hawaiian Village
Coral Ballroom

2007-2008 Season Auditions

For Youth Symphony I & II,
Concert Orchestra
June 2-3, June 9-10
University of Hawaii Music Dept.

Summer Strings Program

For beginning and intermediate
string players
June 12-July 13, M-F
St. Andrews Priory School

Pacific Music Institute

July 14-22
University of Hawaii and
Pearl City Cultural Center

String Orchestra and Jazz Band Concert

Sat., July 21, 5:30 pm, FREE
Pearl City Cultural Center

Finale Concert

Sun., July 22, 5:00 pm, FREE
Pearl City Cultural Center

He Makana O Na Mele

Benefit Concert with
Jake Shimabukuro & Friends
Sun., Nov. 4, 2007
Hilton Hawaiian Village

Program information at
www.HiYouthSymphony.org
or call 941-9706.

An Historical Weekend

HYS has first side-by-side with the Honolulu Symphony

Youth Symphony I performed two concerts as part of the Honolulu Symphony's MasterWorks series on April 13 and 15 at the Blaisdell Concert Hall. YSI performed two works on its own: Rimsky-Korsakov's "Russian Easter" and a piece by local student composer **Michael Foumai**, HYS '05, entitled "Dynasty: Concerto for Orchestra". The first half of each concert was capped off by the first full side-by-side performance ever between HYS and the Honolulu Symphony, a

(Continued on page 4; also see related poem, p. 5)



Nearly 160 musicians of all ages filled the Blaisdell Concert Hall stage for Hawaii's first side-by-side performance between the Honolulu Symphony and the Hawaii Youth Symphony. Henry Miyamura conducted this historical event.

Summer Tunes: Programs to beat the heat

HYS offers its **SUMMER STRING** program to students eight years and older. Instruction is available for students on the violin, viola, cello or bass. Instrument rentals are available. There are two daily classes scheduled Monday through Friday, **June 12-July 13**:

Beginning Class for students with no previous experience; 1:30-2:30 pm

Intermediate Class for students with at least one year of string instrument experience; 3:00-4:00 pm



Classes are held at St. Andrews Priory, Music Building, 224 Queen Emma Square. The fee for the five-week session is \$185. Affordable instrument rentals available. Send your child on a musical journey this summer. ♪

From **July 14-22**, serious music students from all islands of Hawaii, the mainland and Japan will participate in HYS's **PACIFIC MUSIC INSTITUTE (PMI)**. PMI creates an environment where students with a genuine interest in music can study under some of Hawaii's finest professional musicians and instructors. Students participate in daily workshops, sectionals, private lessons and rehearsals. The immersion program culminates with a series of free concerts. PMI takes place at the University of Hawaii and Pearl City Cultural Center. Housing packages available for students flying in for the Institute.

The Institute offers string ensembles, chamber music, concert band and symphony orchestra. There is a jazz band for saxophone, trumpet, trombone and rhythm section players. Students must be in grades 8-12 with at least two years of instrumental experience. ♪

For more information on HYS's summer programs, call 941-9706 or visit our website at www.HiYouthSymphony.org where you can also download registration forms.

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear HYS Family,

HYS has been focusing on strengthening its infrastructure. We are extremely pleased that every major concert has seen an increase in attendance over previous years. The Kauai community concert had a record attendance of more than 500, and the most recent YSII/CO concert drew nearly 680 audience members, a 40% increase over last year. Thanks to our sponsors, both concerts were offered free to the public.

The first-ever side-by-side concert between HYS and the Honolulu Symphony was a long-time coming and extremely well-received. HYS is grateful to everyone who helped with this momentous event which we hope will continue on a regular basis.

HYS spent a lot of time this winter and spring navigating the state capitol and learning about the legislative process. A partnership with three other youth arts groups, Ballet Hawaii, Hawaii Youth Opera Chorus and Honolulu Theatre for Youth, has incorporated to develop a **Hawaii Arts Center for Youth (HACY)**.

We are seeking state assistance to help provide a well-needed home for all of our organizations with rehearsal and office spaces. Our thanks to all the families who sent in their letters of support for HACY. It is a long-term project, and we will keep you posted as we move forward.



At the Board level, HYS's directors have embarked on a strategic planning effort which involves examination of the direction in which HYS is moving, organizational structure, succession planning and governance. The plan will ensure stability and security for HYS's future. Please stay tuned for exciting changes for the years ahead.



This spring has also been one of renewal and reflection for the HYS family. We celebrate a welcome addition and congratulate CO Assistant Conductor **Hannah Watanabe** on the April birth of her son. We are looking forward to another talented young musician joining our ranks.

HYS sadly lost long-time friend **Mamo Watanabe** who passed away in Las Vegas while vacationing with his wife, Jenny. The Watanabes have been very supportive of HYS and the Pacific Music Institute for nearly two decades and our thoughts are with Jenny and her family during this very difficult time.

Finally, HYS will be graduating the greatest number of seniors ever this year. Sixty-seven graduates will be leaving our midst to make their mark in the world. We sincerely congratulate each of them and will be sending them off at our Aloha Concert Luncheon on May 27. Join us for our season closer and a wonderful afternoon of music and achievement.



As always, we thank you for your continued support of HYS.

Aloha.

Selena Ching



In the Spotlight Long-standing Volunteer

by Judy Vierck



Win Hosaka

Edwin Hosaka, who has an access road (Hosaka Lane) named for him on the Pearl City High School campus, got a call 18 years ago from Michael Nakasone, YSII conductor. Mr. Nakasone invited "Win" to a concert luncheon, and he accepted. Before hanging up, Mr. Nakasone graciously asked if Win could bring his truck, music stands, a conductor's podium and other instruments. Later, Win asked himself chuckling, "Wait, did Nakasone invite me or my truck?" Hosaka's been supporting HYS's logistics team with good humor and a 110% attitude ever since! HYS Vice President Les Murata says "Win's crew is always available to help HYS whenever we need them. HYS jobs are made easier when Win and his crew help us with the instrument movements. Thank you, Win, for your support and contribution to HYS."

Honored for community service, Win was nominated in 1994 for the First Lady's Outstanding Volunteer Award. He's served the PCHS band for 28 years and the Farrington Alumni & Community Foundation for 21 years. Now a staff member at the Pearl City Cultural Center, Win retired from C.S. Wo & Sons after 40 years of service. He enjoys sports, diving, traveling, crafts and yard work. Hosaka runs a democratic household. He's president, and his wife of 49 years, Karen, fills the four other roles, including secretary and treasurer. On family issues, he has one vote; she has four. "I never win!" Hosaka laughs hard. Win is banking on his name bringing him good luck in Vegas... soon. Yes, WIN! He certainly has been a winner for HYS. We wish him luck in Vegas and thank him from the bottom of our hearts! ♪

Kudos Korner



Five HYS students placed among the winners at the 2007 Morning Music Club Competition, each taking home a \$1,000 scholarship award. They are: **KATHLEEN CHAO**, cello; **TODD KAWAMOTO**, horn; **JUSTIN RICAFORT**, clarinet; **HEATHER SHOHET**, violin; **CASEY TAMANAHA**, trumpet.

Half of the Hawaii Youth Concerto Competition winners were HYS students: **ANGELINE CHANG**, violin; flutist **ANNE KWOK** on piano; **MICHAEL LIM**, violin; and **EDWARD VAUSE**, violin. All performed as soloists with the Honolulu Symphony. HYS's Henry Miyamura conducted the performance.

At the 2007 Mozart Festival, **YOUNG KIM**, horn, took first place and **DANA ARBAUGH**, horn, received an honorable mention; violinist **ERIC LIAW** tied for honorable mention in the advanced piano division; violinists **BRENT RAMOS** took first place and **ERIKA LIN** took honorable mention in the elementary strings division

ASIA DOIKE, violin, was selected as Hawaii's only representative for the National Symphony Orchestra program at the Kennedy Center this summer.

If you know of a HYS member who should be listed in the Kudos Korner, call 941-9706 or email admin@hiyouthsymphony.org. ♪

Concerts Galore!

Youth Symphony Takes Kauai by Storm: February 19-20, 2007

More than 2,500 Kauai residents and visitors flocked to the Kauai War Memorial Auditorium on President's Day weekend to hear the Youth Symphony I orchestra. YSI gave a free community concert for more than 500 people on February 19. The concert brought the audience to its feet with a performance that included guest artists **Darryl Miyasato**, HYS '93, artfully playing Bottesini's "Concert No. 2 in B minor for Double Bass and Orchestra," the **Kauai High School Choruses**, under the direction of **David Conrad**, and the **Filipino Centennial Chorus**, under the direction of **Jose Bulatao**. The next morning, two Listen & Learn educational concerts attracted 2,000 Kauai students who arrived by busloads to see the orchestra. After a rigorous rehearsal and performance schedule, YSI students relaxed while visiting a Kauai landmark at Kilohana, the old Wilcox estate, where students were treated to lunch and horse-drawn cart rides around the estate thanks to **Gaylord's Restaurant** and HYS Kauai family **Justine, Doug and Donnie Albrecht**. Mahalo to **Dan Momohara** and Mayor Bryan Baptiste for making the HYS Kauai tour possible. The tour and concerts are supported in part by the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts. ♪



1) While on tour, HYS dads double as stage crew, sound technicians, photographers, videographers, traffic controllers and chaperones. David Yee, Tom Bingham and Tom Shigeta; 2) Kauai High School Chorus with YSI; 3) Henry Miyamura with Darryl Miyasato, HYS '93, bassist and Kauai High School Band Director; 4) Former HYS President and community concert emcee Bob Springer with wife, Leinani Springer, and Henry Miyamura; 5) Kauai students lining up to attend one of two Listen & Learn educational concerts by YSI.



photos 2, 5 by Tom Bingham; photos 3, 4 by Chester Vause

Chamber Groups Captivate Community

HYS's first chamber music program, funded by the **Cooke Foundation, Limited**, is showcasing 26 students from 12 schools in four string quartets, a woodwind quintet and brass quintet. Coached by Honolulu Symphony musicians and music educators, students regularly rehearse with their coaches and on their own. They impressed audiences at their first formal recital on January 26 at Orvis Auditorium. The ensembles also take their music to retirement residences, convalescent homes and hospitals around Oahu. The finale performance will be held on May 18, 7:00 pm Orvis Auditorium. Please join us for this free performance. ♪

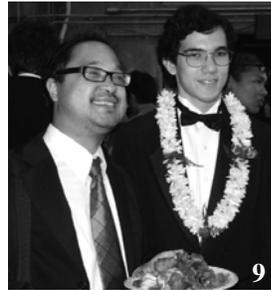
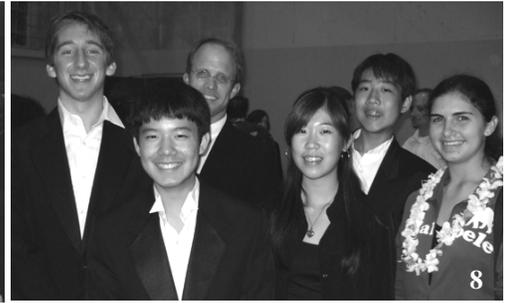


l) Lance Wong introduces himself and his clarinet to Arcadia residents while coach Paul Barrett looks on; c) Woodwind Quintet: Michelle Hwang, Alex Hayashi, Denise Shigeta, Dustin Bingham, Lance Wong; r) Brass Quintet members Alike Seu, Young Kim and Casey Tamanaha take bow with coach Mark Schubert

(Historical Weekend, continued from page 1: related poem, page 5) rousing rendition of Sibelius's "Finlandia". The students performed skillfully and impressively, earning stellar reviews from both Honolulu daily newspapers. The concert weekend concluded with a packed post-concert, back-stage reception on Sunday evening hosted by **Ellen Masaki** and HYS alumna **Nancy Masaki-Hathaway**. The reception brought together members of the Honolulu Symphony, students of the Hawaii Youth Symphony and their families. It was the perfect way to close a successful and highly-accomplished joint project. HYS is grateful to the Honolulu Symphony musicians, many of whom are teachers of our students, for their enthusiasm and hospitality and for sharing their stage with our students. It was a spectacular effort showcasing generations of musical talent in Hawaii. ♪



Photos 5-7 by Gary Arakaki



1) Reception hosts Ellen Masaki, cellist Nancy Masaki-Hathaway with clarinetist Jim Moffitt; 2) Mel Uchida, violist Mark Butin, violinist Jaycee Uchida, Christine Suehisa-Jang; 3) HSO Concertmaster Iggy Jang, Michiyo Ohara and cellist Mark Ohara; 4) Dr. Jeffrey Lim, HYS Vice President Les Murata, cellist Nancy Masaki-Hathaway; 5) pre-performance tuning; 6) Youth Symphony I orchestra; 7) timpani player Stuart Chafetz conducts a pre-show conversation with composer Michael Foumai, HYS '05; 8) Cellists Dillon Powers, Aris Doike, Andrew Eckard, Kathleen Chao, Eric Chao, Nawa Lanzilotti; 9) violinist Duane Padilla and HYS Concertmaster Edward Vause; 10) clarinetist Jim Moffitt, oboists Rachel Fukumoto and Alex Hayashi, clarinetist Norm Foster

YSII and CO: Great Performances & New Works

Youth Symphony II and Concert Orchestra held their Spring Concert for a record-breaking crowd of nearly 700 at the Pearl City Cultural Center on April 22. Both orchestras debuted world premieres by local composers. **Michael Foumai**, HYS '05, wrote a piece specifically for YSII, entitled "Poème de Fantaisie" which he also conducted at the concert. CO played one movement of **D. Kenji Akemoto's**, HYS '91, "Symphony No. 2: Moto No Ri (Truth of Origin)". The concert was offered free to the public thanks to sponsors **Dr. Arleene Skillman** and the **Mayor's Office of Culture and the Arts**. ♪



Photos by Lance S. P. Uchida

Michael Foumai; D. Kenji Akemoto with Susan Ochi-Onishi; Mayor Mufi Hannemann presents check to HYS, Mike Foumai, Mike Nakasone, Selena Ching and MOCA's Michael Pili Pang

Music You Can't Buy

As part of its service to the community, HYS performs four free concerts each season at different shopping malls. These concerts give the public a chance to see and hear the high caliber of talent in HYS orchestras. For many viewers, it's their first exposure to orchestral music. This spring, CO performed at Kahala Mall on February 25 and YSII played at Windward Mall on March 11. Our thanks to parents **Gilbert Doles** and **Verna Chinen** for emceeding these public concerts. ♪



Concert Orchestra Kahala Mall Concert, (top l) Susan Ochi-Onishi, Conductor; (top r) Hannah Watanabe, Assistant Conductor



HYS Auditions for Symphony Orchestras YSI, YSII, CO

If you know a student interested in playing in the state's best orchestras, encourage them to try out for one of HYS's three symphonies. Auditions are open to students born in or before 1996, and are accepted for the following instruments: violin, viola, cello, bass, flute (piccolo), oboe, clarinet, bassoon, horn, trumpet, trombone, baritone, tuba, harp and percussion. Auditions will be held June 2-3 and June 9-10, at the University of Hawaii Music Department. Candidates must be pre-registered. Regular applications due May 4; late applications due May 21. For more information or to download an application and audition music, visit www.HiYouthSymphony.org. ♪

Tanoue Scholarship for Summer Program Studies

Thanks to the generosity of **Mrs. Marjorie Tanoue**, HYS is once again able to offer a \$750 award to a student who is planning to attend a summer orchestra program on the mainland. The scholarship is intended to help students further their musical training. Deadline for applications is May 15. For application requirements, visit www.HiYouthSymphony.org. ♪

HYS on the Move

The **2007-2008 season** comes with some exciting changes for HYS. In an effort to align HYS rehearsal schedules with various school rehearsals and optimize participation in our programs, we will be moving **Concert Orchestra** rehearsals from the University Laboratory School to **Niu Valley Middle School**, just a 10-minute drive away. CO will meet from 12:00 noon until 3:00 pm, under the direction of Susan Ochi-Onishi and Hannah Watanabe. Rehearsing at Niu Valley makes it possible for all HYS symphony orchestras to rehearse within the same timeframe, making it easier for families with multiple children in our programs and eliminating conflicts with marching band rehearsals. HYS is grateful to **Wayne Fanning**, Niu Valley Band Director, for offering the use of his bandroom.

HYS's **String Program** will meet on **SATURDAYS** at the **Boys & Girls Club of Hawaii's Spalding Clubhouse at Washington Middle School**. This move places our String Program in a larger, more secure and suitable environment. It also allows HYS students to take advantage of Boys & Girls Club programs including sports and fitness, leadership training, arts and culture, career development and technology training centers.

HYS is also planning to roll out a **new music program** at Spalding Clubhouse in the fall for **beginning wind instrument students**. It is a way for HYS to increase its outreach to more students. This program will be run by music educators with the help of professional musicians around town. Stay tuned! ♪



Maestro Miyamura Given Governor's Award



HYS's music director Henry Miyamura was awarded the prestigious Governor Lingle Fine Arts Award at the Music Foundation of Hawaii's Legacy Awards on March 21. It's a well-deserved recognition for all of Mr. Miyamura's accomplishments during his career, including teaching more than 10,000 young people. Bravo! ♪

HYS Brings Improv to Light



World-class jazz musicians **Dean Taba** and **Noel Okimoto** offered a free improvisational class to YSI and YSII students on April 24. Students had a chance to hear demos and experiment with basic rhythmic forms. This is the first of a series of classes the two clinicians will offer to HYS students in ear-training and improv. HYS is grateful for their time and extraordinary talent. ♪

HYS is honored to print a poem, inspired by our students' performance on April 13, by a Honolulu Symphony subscriber. We extend our deep gratitude to Mr. Burtness for sharing his art with us.

HAWAII YOUTH SYMPHONY by Kenneth H. Burtness

On stage, young faces, intent eyes, taut muscles full of music

The maestro reaches the podium

His eyes sweep the young symphony

Horns are lifted, sticks raised,

Violins swung up and under chins

All is still

His baton comes up, time hangs, breath holds...

Then the baton leaps

And a great wave of music rises up

Ninety youthful musicians

Are in the pipe, perfectly positioned

No longer individuals

They are one with the greater sound

Submerged into the composer's music

Carried forward by their own enthusiasm

A thousand people lean forward in their seats

And add their rapt energy to the stage

This is a moment that will remain clear and bright

In the young musicians' old age

A moment in which everything worked

And the world was theirs

The young orchestra is glorious

Flutes entrance, Horns stand forward

Percussion sparkles, Violins weave their magic

One young woman moves gracefully from violin to piano

Adding a shimmering blue line to the music

Then returns to her violin

Amid the waving field of bows.

Watching from the balcony there are tears in my eyes

To glimpse the future so clearly

To hear that much of what is finest about the present

Will be carried into tomorrow

What a treat, what a blessing.

Join HYS for a Celebratory Afternoon of Music at the Aloha Concert Luncheon: Sunday, May 27, Hilton Hawaiian Village

Hawaii Youth Symphony is preparing for another fun-filled afternoon to close its 2006-2007 season. The entertaining and extraordinarily talented vocalist and ukulele maker **ALVIN "POPS" OKAMI** will join both YSII and YSI on stage for a musical treat that includes oldies such as "Moon River" and "Fly Me to the Moon" as well as contemporary Hawaiian pieces. HYS will also bid aloha to 67 graduating seniors and pay tribute to **Dr. Neil McKay**, composer and professor emeritus at the University of Hawaii, for all of his contributions to HYS and music in Hawaii.



The afternoon of music will include a silent auction, chaired by parent volunteer **Vicky Chiu-Irion**, a luncheon and what promises to be a very memorable concert. This is not a fundraiser for HYS. It is a family day that recognizes the accomplishments of the past year and the dedication of Hawaii's music community. Proceeds from the silent auction help to defray the cost for the event.

Tickets are \$40 per seat or \$385 for a table of 10. Call the HYS office today at 941-9706 or visit www.HiYouthSymphony.org to download an order form. Don't miss this show! ♪

SAVE THE DATE
Sunday, November 4, 2007, 5:30 pm
Hilton Hawaiian Village
He Makana O Na Mele: The Gift of Music
Silent Auction, Dinner and Concert
Hawaii Youth Symphony and JAKE SHIMABUKURO
with Noel Okimoto and Dean Taba



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