
Coda

The Newsletter of the Greater Bridgeport Youth Orchestras

Volume 20 Issue 1

June 2006

THANK YOU to the families and friends of the GBYO community who have contributed to the Spring Fund Drive. In order to reach our \$5000 goal we only need

\$1185!

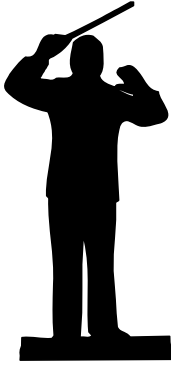
(as of June 28, 2006)

**Don't forget to register for an audition for the
2006-07 season!!!**

Auditions are August 29– September 2

**There is a *CRITICAL* need for some instruments
See article on page 3**

**Go to
www.gbyo.org/Auditions.htm
to download an audition registration form
and see hints and specific requirements
for the auditions.**



From the Music Director

~Robert Genualdi

This past season is one to remember. In spite of considerable adversity, we had a very successful year. Each of our orchestras performed well and each orchestra made musical growth.

We celebrated Mozart's 250th birthday all season and had a fine birthday party for him at our annual Young People's Concert in March. The concert was extraordinary in that it was the first time we had all four orchestras perform in the Young People's Concert. We were very fortunate to have Central High School in Bridgeport for that event this year.

After a two-day blizzard, we "weathered" the storm and pulled off a highly successful concert on a Monday evening in February. I personally wish to thank all our orchestra members and their parents for making a great effort to attend that concert. Our soloists, John Hanulik, Jr. and Zebediah Upton, did a superb job on Copland's *Quiet City*. The orchestra accompaniment for that piece was outstanding.

The Principal Orchestra was invited to play a pre-concert performance at the Greater Bridgeport Symphony concert in March. After our performance, over fifty of our members stayed to hear the GBS perform an all Mozart concert.

I was very happy with our final concert on May 21. The String Orchestra (larger than ever) performed a very difficult program quite nicely. The Concert and Symphony Orchestras also did well on very challenging music. I was particularly pleased with the trumpet playing in those groups.

The Principal Orchestra played beautifully. We will miss our first flutes, our oboes and our bassoons (all seniors). These players were outstanding in playing solos in each of our orchestra selections. Allison Nicotera, our student concerto competition winner, has developed into a wonderful player, and we are proud of her achievement.

Another year has gone by and I wish to thank the parents and the GBYO Board for the wonderful support that you provided to make the

season successful. My best wishes to our graduates for continued success and my good wishes to all to have a wonderful summer.

AUDITIONS FOR 2006-07 SEASON

WE NEED YOUR HELP

This past season was very successful musically. However, the GBYO is facing a critical time in maintaining a complete and well-balanced Principal Orchestra. We graduated ALL our **oboes, bassoons** and one **French horn** this spring. We do not presently have players in the Symphony and Concert Orchestras to replace all these graduates. In order to maintain our wonderful program and high quality orchestras, we need wind, brass and percussion players in addition to our strong string sections.



Our strongest source of recruiters is the students in our program. We need you players, your parents and your teachers to invite and encourage other young instrumentalists to audition for the GBYO. We need you to become pro-active recruiters for the GBYO.

There will be openings in all sections in each of the four orchestras this coming season. Positions in the orchestras are determined by audition. It is important for students, parents and teachers to understand that a player must demonstrate a certain level of competency to be accepted into one of our orchestras. Summer is the time that each student should prepare for a successful audition. **PRACTICE EVERY DAY!** You do have time to do that. Include scales in your daily practice. Do some sight-reading. Play duets with a friend.

Audition tips: When selecting an audition piece, please consult your teacher. The piece should be one that you can play very well. It does not have to be the most difficult piece that you have ever played. It should be one that you can play beautifully, with good tone and intonation. It should be one that you can perform with style. My best wishes to each of you on a successful audition.

About our graduates:

From *Amity Senior High School*:

Cynthia Wu, Principal Orchestra violinist, was on the Honor Roll and a CAPT Scholar She will attend UConn to major in Psychology

From *Bethel High School*:

Amy Hannequin, Symphony Orchestra flute, participates in Bethel High's Jazz Band, Wind Ensemble, Concert and Marching Bands, pit orchestras and musical and Concert Choir. She was also the past treasurer and president of the Tri-M Music Honor Society, a member of the National Honor Society and the World Language Honor Society. Outside school, Amy was a member of the Danbury Community Orchestra, Principal Flute in the CMEA 2006 Western Region Band, a participant in the 2006 All-State Band, and the 2005 Western Region Band. She was a finalist in the Danbury Concerto Competition, was awarded a Gold Rating at Young Musician's Festival. She was also a finalist in Science Horizons Fair and won First Place in Norwalk Community College Science Fair. Amy will attend Duquesne University to major in Music Education with a concentration in flute.

From *Bunnell High School*:

Kaitlyn William, Concert Orchestra flute, will attend Sacred Heart University to major in Pre-veterinary Science. She has been an Honor Roll student and member of Bunnell's Environmental Club and Wind Ensemble. In addition she is a Religious Education teacher at her church.

From *Christian Heritage School*:

Alysha Hickman, Principal Orchestra French horn, participated in girls' varsity volleyball (Captain 2005-06) and the senior high band. She received the ACSI Distinguished Christian High School Student Award, the Kingsmen Award for Volleyball, the United States National Art and Band Awards. She was also a member of the CMEA Western Region Band, 2005-06. Alysha will attend WestConn to major in Music Education.

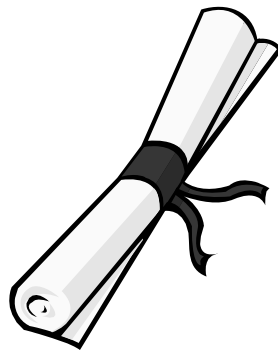
From *Fairfield College Preparatory School*:

Nick Smith, Principal Orchestra trumpet, graduated from Prep *cum laude*. While at Prep, he participated in Jazz Band and tennis. Nick will

attend Franklin and Marshall College. He has not yet decided on a major.

From *Fairfield Ludlowe High School*:

Ilana Prior, Principal Orchestra violin, graduated with High Honors. She will attend Middlebury College with a science-related major.



From *Fairfield Warde High School*:

Carolyn Anaya, Principal Orchestra violin, was a member and president of Tri-M, vice-president of the student government and participated in Symphonic and Chamber Orchestras. She was on the Headmaster's List, a member of the National Honor Society and a recipient of the Connecticut Association of Schools Fine Arts Award. Carolyn will attend the University of Virginia to major in International Business.

Brianna Lebert, Principal Orchestra viola, was a member of the lacrosse team and Chamber Orchestra. She also worked at Wakeman Boy's and Girl's Club. She has not decided on a major but will attend UConn in the fall.

Derek Leslie, Principal Orchestra cello, was vice-president of Tri-M, and played in Warde's Jazz Band. He also participated in the CMEA Western Region Orchestra. Derek will major in Jazz Bass Performance at WestConn.

Katie Roberts, Principal Orchestra principal oboe, was the president of the French Honor Society and vice-president of the National Honor Society at FWHS. She will attend Ithaca College to major in Occupational Therapy.

Laura Sacks, Principal Orchestra principal viola, has played classical piano for 13 years and is a three-time recipient of the Schubert Piano Club award. She participated in FWHS's Symphonic and Chamber Orchestras, Tri-M, was captain of the field hockey and lacrosse teams and received ALL FCIAC 11 for lacrosse 2005. Laura will attend New York University to major in Viola Performance.

Laura Titrud, Principal Orchestra percussion, was a member of the advanced percussion ensemble at the Jim Royle Drum Studio, a member of the National Honor Society and Tri-M. She has been a peer mentor for a support group at the Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital, classroom volunteer at Stratfield Elementary School and Pequot House treasurer at FWHS. Laura was awarded the AXA Achievement Community Scholarship and a scholarship from the Music Department of the University of Connecticut where she will study Music Education and percussion.

From *Harding Health Magnet*:

Louise Lisboa, Symphony Orchestra violin, also attends Housatonic Community College on a part-time basis. Her major extracurricular activities include Girl Scouts, Harding High VICE, HOSA, Youthspeak RYSA, Student Representative to the Bridgeport Public Education Fund and Junior Achievement. She belongs to the National Honor Society, has been on the Honor Roll at Harding (graduating high school in three years) and the Dean's List at Housatonic. She is a Future Woman of Distinction, and received the CABE Student Leadership Award. She will graduate from HCC Honors Program with her Associate Degree in Nursing and Pre-Law in June 2007.

From *Holy Cross High School*:

Megan Keenan, Symphony Orchestra French horn, plans to attend the University of Pennsylvania to major in Music Education.



From *Hopkins School*:

Adam Jacoby, Principal Orchestra bassoon, will attend Brown University to major in Classics. At Hopkins, he won the junior school and high school classic awards. His extracurricular activities included community service (inner-city tutoring), newspaper (film critic and entertainment editor), intramural basketball and the Jets (physics) team.

From *Masuk High School*:

Allison Nicotera, Principal Orchestra principal bassoon, was the GBYO 2005-06 concerto competition winner and soloed at the May Concert. At Masuk, Allison participated in band, wind ensemble, chorus, chamber choir, jazz band and pit orchestras. She was also drum major for the marching band and was awarded the Connecticut Association of Schools Award for Excellence in Arts. Allison also participated in multiple CMEA Region and All-State Festivals. After taking a year to study with top bassoonists across the country, Allison plans to attend a college or conservatory to major in Bassoon Performance



Jeremy Zimmerman, Principal Orchestra principal trombone was a member of Jazz Band, Wind Ensemble, Chamber Choir, Camerata and Ultimate Frisbee. He was a member of the High Honor Roll and chosen Outstanding Choral Singer. He participated in the CMEA Western Region Festival for two years and All-State one year. Jeremy will attend Trinity College. His major is undecided, but he will minor in Music.

From *Newtown High School*:

Alison Lones, Principal Orchestra violinist, was a member of Newtown High School Chamber Ensemble and pit orchestras, and EMT class with Newtown Ambulance. She received the AMC Math Award and the COLT Spanish Award and was nominated for the Congressional Student Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. Alison will major in Chemistry at UConn.

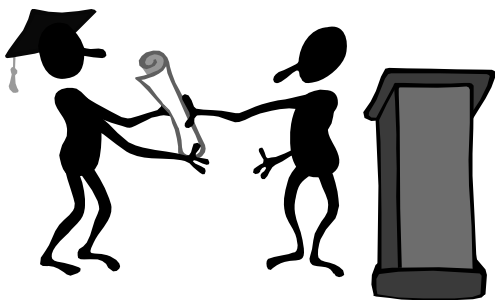
From *Shelton High School*:

Ramya Tadipatri, Principal Orchestra violin, participated in her high school marching band, Chess Club, Math Club, Latin Club, French Club, JETS and Academic Bowl. She placed sixth in Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee, is a National Merit Scholarship finalist, was third in the statewide American Legion Oratorical Contest, was a member of Johns Hopkins Student of Exceptional Talent, a Meinig Family Cornell National Scholar and Big Y scholar. She is a recipient of the Judith Resnik—Challenger Scholarship (Carnegie Mellon), the Weller

Science Award and the Laurel Girls State Talent Show Instrumental Award. Ramya will major in Biomedical Engineering at Cornell University.

From *Stratford High School*:

Kevin Harrington, Principal Orchestra percussion, was selected the Outstanding Performer at the Washington adjudication for Stratford High School Jazz and Wind Ensemble. He was a member of Bunnell's Marching Band, Wind Ensemble, Stratford High District Jazz Band and Connecticut Hurricanes. He was also a drum coach for the Stratford Town Wide Elementary School Jazz Band. Kevin will attend the University of Massachusetts at Amherst to major in Jazz Performance.



Colleen Hermann, Principal Orchestra, co-principal flute, participate in Wind Ensemble, Select Choir, Drama Society and cheerleading. She was awarded the Julius Baker scholarship from WestConn where she will major in Music.

From *Trumbull High School*:

Sean O'Donnell, Principal Orchestra co-principal flute, has been very active in his church and was chosen to the Connecticut Diocese Youth Council. The past three years Sean has received a Gold certification in the New Canaan Young Musician's Festival. He will attend Central Connecticut State University to major in Flute Performance.

From *West Haven High School*:

Justine Surh, Principal Orchestra oboe, participated in Varsity tennis, marching and concert bands, Brass-Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band, Model United Nations and National Honor Society. She received the Bayer Award, Academic Achievement Award and Scholar Athlete Award. Justine will attend UConn to major in Medicine.

From *Weston High School*:

Elizabeth Morgan, Principal Orchestra cello, was very involved in theatre (acting and improvisation with the Weston High School Company, Center Stage Company and Staples Summer Theatre), Tri-M, National Honor Society, Chamber Singers and Triple Trio. She was a section editor for the Weston High School Yearbook and participated in national work with the Episcopal Church. Elizabeth is a National Merit Commended Scholar, a National Achievement Finalist and the recipient of the AP Scholar Award and the Weston High School Student Leadership Award. She will attend Brown University to study English and Theatre Arts.

Hope Tenenbaum, Principal Orchestra violin, participated in a mentoring program in which she mentored younger violinists in Weston. She also volunteered for Friendship Circle and was a member of Key Club. Hope will major in Psychology at George Washington University.

From *Woodland High School*:

Michelle Slota, Principal Orchestra clarinet, is also a very active dancer. She plans to attend college in the fall.

Jaime and Jose Bustamente, Principal Orchestra viola and cello, respectively, were home schooled. They have enjoyed giving musical performances with family members for special events, teaching music and counseling children. Jaime and Jose have also been stalwart members of the GBYO rehearsal set-up crew. Jaime will attend UConn to major in Biological Sciences and minor in Music Performance. Jose will also attend UConn and major in Political Science with a minor in Music Composition.



From the parents of Jeremy Zimmerman, Principal Orchestra:

Dear Mr. Genualdi and Colleagues,

Over the past six years we have been truly amazed by Jeremy's growing confidence at school and the energy he has dedicated to his passion, music. This change in him has largely to do with his involvement in the Greater Bridgeport Youth Orchestras.

These six years have come with many moments, some heartfelt and others embarrassing, of which we can remember one vividly. Our family was so proud when Jeremy was received into GBYO, and going to his first concert there were no thoughts other than getting him there on time. We dropped him off and watched this little 7th grader scurry over to his friends in excitement. We proceeded to join the other families in the auditorium, wondering from where we could get the best view of Jeremy. Then they came out, and everyone but Jeremy was wearing their appropriate bowties. We had dropped him off wearing a necktie! Of course he would have rather been caught dead than be different so he opted to go sans tie, typical Jeremy.

The final concert that year we saw, for the first time, the seniors receive their recognition. At that time Jeremy was little, but we wondered about the time he would be one of those seniors, We wondered where he would be headed to college and what kind of guy he would turn out to be. From the weekend carpools to sleeping in while Jeremy drove himself, we have seen him improve scholastically and exceed our expectations with his talent on the trombone. Jeremy has decided to attend Trinity College this upcoming fall. He knows that college will be another challenge, but with the strength and maturity acquired in GBYO he is confident that he can succeed there. He also knows that music will always be a comfort to him in trying times.

Thank you very much for your continuing dedication to bringing music education to the children of the Greater Bridgeport Area. We wish you and your colleagues luck in the future, and we hope that you succeed in bringing out the best in other kids the way you did with Jeremy.

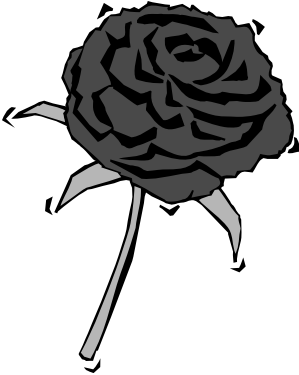
Sincerely,
The Zimmermans

P.S. This concert unlike the first, we are sending Jeremy equipped with a bowtie (he claims he knows how to tie it)!

THE GBYO CONGRATULATES

David Schmidt—GBYO Board President-elect
Nancy Medina—GBYO Second Vice-President-elect

AND EXTENDS A HUGE *THANK YOU* TO



Carol Hartten, outgoing GBYO Board President

Congratulations to all the musicians in GBYO for a terrific May concert and a wonderfully musical year. Best of luck to the graduating Seniors – may your lives continue to include music wherever you go.

As I began to write this note to all of you, so many thoughts struggled to spill out onto the paper. After 14 years of being an active member of GBYO, I will be retiring from my board position as your President, and previously as your Concert Chair. Along with the growing responsibilities and time commitment, I found myself treasuring the friendships made with both students and parents. GBYO became my extended family – its growing pains and musical accomplishments all pages in my memory scrapbook.

Next year I will continue to assist wherever needed, as my daughter enjoys her 8th season with GBYO. I will shed tears as she is recognized in the Senior ceremony, knowing that my time with the youth orchestra will truly be completed. I only hope that in some small way I have helped this wonderful orchestral program move forward in its desire to provide a musically stimulating environment for youth musicians.

May I offer all of you a standing ovation for a job *very* well done!

Carol Hartten



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