
Coda

The Newsletter of the Greater Bridgeport Youth Orchestras

Volume 19 Issue 1

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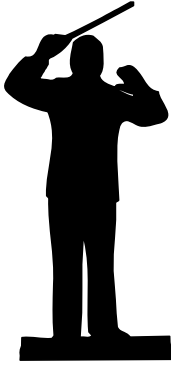
THANK YOU to the families and friends of the GBYO community who helped to make the Spring Fund Drive an unqualified success. We surpassed our \$5000 goal by raising

\$5290!

Don't forget. You can still register for an audition for the 2005-06 season!!!

Auditions are August 31– September 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

Wow, what a concert in May! My heartiest congratulations to all the players, conductors and coaches.

The final concert of this season was great. It gave me great satisfaction to hear such beautiful playing from the younger orchestras. Each group performed with confidence, sprit and musicianship. It was a fine culminating experience to a very

successful season.

The Principal Orchestra reached its full potential this season. The group performed five challenging programs and did themselves proud. The final concert was particularly good, beginning with stellar performances by two outstanding senior soloists. Katie Jalbert performed the brilliant Hummel *Trumpet Concerto* in fine fashion and was followed by Lean Quintiliano in the rhapsodic *Hungarian Fantasia* by Doppler. The Principal Orchestra's rendition of Sibeliou' *Finlandia* was also outstanding. String, winds and percussion, led by exceptional section leaders, performed this climactic piece very well. Bernstein's overture to *Candide* was a fitting finale to a great concert. The audience was most appreciative and gave the orchestra a standing ovation.

Once again, my congratulations to all who participated in this fine concert.

AUDITIONS FOR 2005-06 SEASON

There will be openings in all sections in each of the four orchestras this coming season. Position in the orchestras are determined by audition. It is important for students, parents and teacher 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.

THE ANNUAL RETREATS

Each of the orchestras will participate in a retreat in September. The retreat is an important activity in the GBYO program. The intense rehearsals are valuable in getting the groups off to a good music start. Also, because our members come from nearly 30 communities and more than fifty schools, the retreats serve the purpose of developing a sense of camaraderie through the socializing that takes place. Students not only share music, but they eat together, play games together and generally get to know each other.

The Symphony and Concert Orchestras will have their retreat on September 17 at Western Connecticut State University. **The String Orchestra will have their retreat the same day** at Fairfield Ludlowe High School.

The Principal Orchestra retreat will be held at the University of Rhode Island, September 23-25. This is a new retreat venue at a beautiful facility on a nature preserve. The new site offers comfortable accommodations, good food choices, fine rehearsal space and recreational opportunities.



All members of the GBYO are expected to participate in their respective retreats!

About our graduates:

From *Amity Senior High School*:

Elizabeth Johnston, Principal Orchestra first violinist, played field hockey and participated in track and field. She will attend Lehigh University to major in Environmental Science and minor in Music.

From *Bunnell High School*:

Leah Quintiliano, Principal Orchestra principal flute, was one of the soloists at the GBYO May 2005 concert. Leah was Vice-President of National Honor Society, Assistant Editor of Bunnell's Award-winning Yearbook *Laurel*, a member of the Executive Board for Student Council, and the coordinator for the high school to elementary school volunteer program *Partnership 2000*. Leah has played flute, trombone, and bassoon in various ensembles at Bunnell, and has participated in the Connecticut Western Region Orchestra. Leah will attend Yale University to study Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology.

From *Central Magnet High School*:

Diana De los Santos, Concert Orchestra, participated in Marching Band, Concert Band, Academic Decathlon, Fairfield University Orchestra, and Cheshire Community Band. She received the Harvard Book Award and Outstanding Drum Major. Diana will attend Harvard University to major in Engineering.

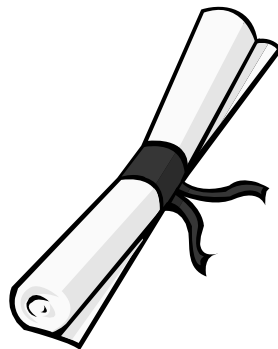
Carolyn Medina, Concert Orchestra flutist, participated in National Honor Society, marching band, and figure skating. She received the Who's Who Among American High School Students award and was a Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholar. Carolyn will attend Harvard College, where she intends to study English Literature.

From *Fairfield Warde High School*:

Brian Belitto, Principal Orchestra percussionist, was a senior member of the Jim Royle Percussion Ensemble. He has been part of the Jim Royle Studio for 10 years and the FHS Jazz Band for 4 years. Brian will attend Northeastern University to major in Music Industry.

Sara Brandt, Principal Orchestra flutist, was a member of the FHS Varsity Fencing Team, Student Editor for the Fairfield Minuteman Newspaper, Founder and Co-President of the FHS Biology Club, Captain

of the 2004 Yale Physics Olympics Team, and volunteer at the "Enchanted Castle" Charity Fundraiser. Sara received the Barnard College Book Award for Achievement in Science, the 2005 Superintendent's Award, and the IBM Watson Scholarship. She also participated in National Honor Society and was Historian of Tri-M. Sara plans to work at Educational Innovations over the summer and attend Duke University in the fall to major in Biochemistry and Genetics.



Nathan Clark, Principal Orchestra assistant principal bassist, participated in Tri-M, Chamber Orchestra, Jazz Band II, the singing group Talisman, and the jazz/jam band "Fidel and the Infidels." In addition to bass, he took piano lessons. Nathan was a member of Western Regional and All State Connecticut Orchestras. He will attend Hartt School of Music, where he has received a merit scholarship. Nathan will major in String Bass Performance.

Frances Ente, Principal Orchestra co-principal clarinetist, participated in gymnastics with the Darien YMCA Travel Team. Frances was a Level 9 State, Regional, and Eastern Junior Olympics Qualifier and a 2003 State Games of America Silver Medallist. She was also a member of National Honor Society, Tri-M, and Mu Alpha Theta. Frances will attend Ithaca College to major in Physical Therapy.

Katie Jalbert, Principal Orchestra principal trumpet, was one of the soloists at the GBYO May 2005 concert. Katie was chosen as one of only two students from Fairfield County to participate in the All Eastern Music Festival in Baltimore. She has attended All State Music Festival and Western Region Music Festival. Katie was a starting player on the FHS Varsity Girls Softball team and a Varsity Goalie for the FHS Girls Soccer team. Katie will attend Florida State University to study Music Education and Performance.

George Philips, Principal Orchestra first violinist, was Concertmaster this year. He has been in the All-State Orchestra and been a member of Tri-M since sophomore year. He has also participated in Odyssey of the Mind. George received a sizeable scholarship to attend the Eastman School of Music to major in Music Education.

Kate Terry, Principal Orchestra first violinist, is Assistant Concertmaster. She was a member of Tri-M and Concertmaster of both FWHS Chamber Orchestra and Symphonic Orchestra. Kate placed 1st in the 2005 Warwick Music Festival Soloist Competition. She will attend George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. Kate is undecided about her major but plans to study abroad.

Ellen Thunberg, Principal Orchestra first violinist, is Co-Valedictorian of her graduating class. She received the Brown University Book Award and the Oberlin College Book Award, and was a National Merit Commended Student. Ellen participated in National Honor Society, French Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, and the FWHS Chamber Orchestra. Ellen will attend Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, New York, where she will double-major in Linguistics and English Literature.

From *Hopkins School*:

Michael Bernasek, Principal Orchestra trombonist, was Yearbook Editor-in-Chief, Captain of the Varsity Golf Team, and Captain of the Varsity JETS (Physics) Team. He was a National Merit Scholar and was on the NI-League Golf Team. Michael will attend Swarthmore College to major in Political Science.

From *Joel Barlow High School*:

Erin Anderson, Principal Orchestra second violinist, enjoys music, jazz, and movies. She will attend Skidmore College to major in Music.

David Purcell, Principal Orchestra trumpet, participated in skiing, flying, Jazz Band, and various ensembles and gigs. David was an All-State participant. He will attend the University of Vermont to major in Music Education.



From *Masuk High School*:

Andrew Dow, Principal Orchestra principal oboist, is Valedictorian of his graduating class. He won the CABE Leadership Award, was a Presidential Scholar candidate, and was named the New Haven Register

Youth of the Year for Masuk High School. Andrew participated in Chamber Choir, Camerata (Madrigal Choir), Jazz Ensemble, Student Activists Community Service Organization, Contemporary Politics Club, and GAMES (Gambling Awareness Organization). He was also a Spring Musical instrumentalist. Andrew will attend Stanford University to major in Environmental Policy.

BJ Kadeg, Principal Orchestra trombonist, was a member of Jazz Band, Wind Ensemble, Pit Orchestra, and Marching Band. He received the Connecticut Association of Schools "Outstanding Arts Award" and was awarded Marching Band Drum Major. BJ will attend Western Connecticut State University to major in Music.



Christoph Whitbeck, Principal Orchestra violist, participated in theater and colorguard. In addition, he played in a rock band. Christoph will attend Boston University, and he is undecided about his major.

From *Newtown High School*:

Emily Koh, Principal Orchestra first violinist, was a member of Peer Leadership, Guidance Honors Association, Leo Club, La Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica, and National Honor Society. She gives private Japanese lessons, as well as tutors 5th and 6th graders at Reed Intermediate. Emily received the Oberlin College Book Award and the Level 3 certificate of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test. She will attend New York University to major in Journalism and Mass Communications.

From *Seymour High School*:

Kaitlin Tichy, Symphony Orchestra flutist, participates in her high school band. Kaitlin is going to Johnson State College in Johnson, Vermont, to major in Music Education.

From *Trumbull High School*:

Alyson Agler, Principal Orchestra clarinetist, played on the Girls Lacrosse Team as Varsity Goalie for 3 years and as tri-captain this year. She also played on the Girls Volleyball Team, participated in National Honor Society, and was a National Finalist in "We the People"

Constitutional Debate Team. Alyson received 3 Varsity Letters in Lacrosse and the Foreign Language Excellence in Latin Award. Alyson will attend University of Connecticut at Storrs to study Mathematics.

Suzanne Manning, Principal Orchestra second violinist, was a member of National Honor Society and Program of Excellence. She was President of the French Club and a Religious Education teacher. In addition to violin, she pursues piano studies. Suzanne will attend Lafayette College, where she will major in Psychology.

Janine Martire, Symphony Orchestra, took part in Eucharistic Ministry, altar serving, church choir, and church youth group. She was also a member of National, Spanish, and Italian Honor Societies. Janine received the Award for Excellence in Spanish, Italian, and English. She will attend Fairfield University to major in Foreign Language and Religious Studies.

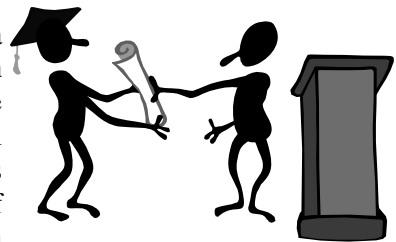
Jillian Taylor, Symphony Orchestra first violinist, participated in Varsity Cross Country and Indoor/Outdoor Track. She has practiced Irish Dancing for 12 years. Jillian was honored as a Bible Bowl Champion for 5 years. She will attend Harding University to major in Nursing.

Neha Uppal, Symphony Orchestra second violinist, participated in karate/martial arts, classical Indian dance, and yearbook. Neha was a member of the National Honor Society and was recognized by Who's Who Among American High School Students, a book that represents the top 3% of students in the US. Neha will attend Tufts University to major in Pediatric Neuropsychology.

From *Weston High School*:

Chris Lewine, Principal Orchestra principal French Horn, has been an All-State French Horn player for three years. He was president of National Honor Society and a member of his church youth group at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church. In addition

to French Horn, Chris plays bass guitar in jazz band. He received the University of Rochester Bausch & Lomb Honorary Science Award, 1st Place in Connecticut in the American Mathematics Competition, and



national ranking in the French Grand Concours. Chris will attend Yale to double-major in Applied Mathematics and International Studies.



Thank you to Ellen Thunberg for compiling the seniors' bios for inclusion in this newsletter. The GBYO extends its congratulations and best wishes to all the graduates!!!!

REHEARSAL OPEN HOUSE

Thank you to Mona Howard for chairing this season's open rehearsal. She and her committee—John Bonacci, Theresa Brasco, Asuncion Calo-Patino, Lee Ann Lee, June Malone, Amanda Mia, Loretta Murphy and Jeff Yoder—were gracious and informative hosts to the families who attended this event. Next season, please remember to invite any of your interested friends and acquaintances to come see first-hand how the GBYO functions in rehearsal.

From the GBYO President ~ Carol Hartten

Our 2004-2005 season certainly finished on a high note of musicality and audience enjoyment. All of our musicians showcased their technical growth and ensemble commitment. Special congratulations go to our graduating seniors. Best of luck in your new endeavors! Your music will continue to provide pleasure and facilitate new friendships and experiences. Make sure to come back and see us next year. We love to hear how you're doing.

It was an exciting year for the GBYO and for me, as your new President. It was a pleasure and a privilege working with everyone, and I'm looking forward to our upcoming season. The trip to Maryland for the Principal Orchestra and the performance at Woolsey Hall in New Haven for the String, Concert, and Symphony Orchestras were certainly highlights. These trips were only possible because of the continued support of our fund raising efforts. This is one area that can always be further developed; stay tuned for some new ideas on this subject. We must remember that GBYO is a continuously growing *program*, reaching out to all our surrounding towns, seeking the best student musicians, and offering them an opportunity for friendship and musical enrichment.

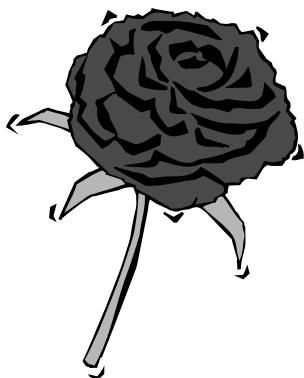
Let me extend a special thanks to all our parents. Your support, encouragement and yes, your chauffeuring duties, contribute immensely to the success of each GBYO season. This year it seems like many more parents volunteered where needed. How wonderful! And admit it, you really did have a good time!! Let's keep this trend going strong. GBYO is comprised of ALL of us working together, not the responsibility of just a few hearty souls. As the program grows, so too does the need for additional volunteer support. Take a few moments to consider where your skills can be put to good use- the time commitment can be small or large, but each effort is appreciated!

As we enjoy the warm (and perhaps sweltering), relaxing days of summer, and take a break from the grueling school schedule of academics and activities, please don't let dust cover your instrument case, or relegate it to the deepest, darkest corner of your closet or under your bed. Continued practice will facilitate a good audition in the fall. Make joyful music at the beach, in the park or on vacation. Share your love of music with others as you hone your skills. You are the GBYO...See you in the fall.

**THE GBYO EXTENDS A WARM
WELCOME TO**

Robin Osborn—GBYO's new Board Secretary,
George Caravakis—Treasurer and
June Malone, refreshment chair

AND A HUGE THANK YOU TO



Lee Ann Lee—outgoing Secretary,
John Bonacci—outgoing Treasurer
and
Gail Leslie, Regina Lones and
Pam Nicotera—our wonderful
refreshment chairs.

We'll miss you all!