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Manny and Claudette Laureano
ARTISTIC DIRECTORS

2009-10 STUDENT HANDBOOK



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*Tad Simons
Mpls., St. Paul Magazine*

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music@music.northwestern.edu



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2009-10 SEASON SCHEDULE



Rehearsal times:

String Orchestra	8:45 am - 11:00 am
<i>(Mandatory String Orchestra Theory Class, 10:30-11:00 am)</i>	
Philharmonic Orchestra	10:30 am - 1:00 pm
Repertory Orchestra	10:00 am - 1:00 pm
Symphony Orchestra	8:45 am - 11:45 am

Music education classes are offered in conjunction with rehearsals.
Details are listed on page 10.

- All rehearsals are held on Saturdays at Highland Jr. and Sr. High Schools.
- Dress rehearsal times and concert information will be mailed at least three weeks prior to each performance. Dress rehearsals are held at the concert venue.
- Rehearsal retreats for Philharmonic, Repertory and Symphony are held at the YMCA's Camp Pepin in Pepin, WI. The String Orchestra attends a day retreat at Highland Sr. High School. Retreat details were mailed with acceptance letters. All students are expected to attend retreats.

1ST TRIMESTER

September 2009

12	Rehearsal
19	Rehearsal
26	Rehearsal
26	Retreat, Strings
26, 27	Retreat, Philharmonic

October 2009

3	Rehearsal
3,4	Retreat, Symphony
10	Rehearsal
10,11	Retreat, Repertory
17,	Rehearsal
24	Dress Rehearsal,
	Orchestra Hall

November 2009

1	Symphony Solo Finals, 2 pm
7	Rehearsal, Wreath Orders Due
14	Rehearsal
15	Concert, 6:30 pm
	Orchestra Hall

2ND TRIMESTER

November 2009

21	Rehearsal, Wreath Pickup
28	<i>No Rehearsal</i>

December 2009

5	Rehearsal
12	Rehearsal
12	String Orchestra Holiday
	Concert, Location TBD
19	Rehearsal
26	<i>No Rehearsal</i>

2ND TRIMESTER (CONTINUED)

January 2010

2	<i>No Rehearsal</i>
9	Rehearsal
16	Rehearsal
23	Rehearsal
30	Rehearsal

February 2010

6	Dress Rehearsal,
	Orchestra Hall
7	Concert, 2 pm
	Orchestra Hall

3RD TRIMESTER

February 2010

13	<i>No Rehearsal, All-State</i>
15	<i>Symphony Side-by-Side with</i>
	<i>Minnesota Orch, 1 pm-3:30 pm</i>
20	Rehearsal
27	Rehearsal

March 2010

6	Rehearsal
6	MYS Gala, 6:00pm, St. Paul Hotel
13	Rehearsal
20	Rehearsal
27	Rehearsal

April 2010

3	Rehearsal
10	Rehearsal
17	Rehearsal
24	Dress Rehearsal,
	Orchestra Hall
25	Concert, 3 pm

MINNESOTA YOUTH SYMPHONIES

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

PHONE: (651) 699-5811
FAX: (651) 699-5812
mys@mnyouthsymphonies.org
www.mnyouthsymphonies.org

790 Cleveland Avenue S, Suite 203,
St. Paul, MN 55116
Highland Office Center
Cleveland & Ford Pkwy

*Office hours vary. Please call prior to visiting
if you do not have an appointment.*

REHEARSAL LOCATION

Highland Junior/Senior High School
1015 Snelling Ave S, St. Paul, MN 55116

MAJOR CONCERT VENUE

Orchestra Hall, 1111 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55402

AUDITION AND CONCERTS LOCATION

St. Luke Lutheran Church
1807 Field Avenue S, St. Paul, MN 55116

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Minnesota Youth Symphonies does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its services, programs or activities. Upon request, accommodations will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in all MYS services, programs and activities. MYS has a designated coordinator to facilitate compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), as required by §35.107 of the U.S. Department of Justice regulations, and to coordinate compliance with §504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as mandated by §8.53 of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations. Upon request, MYS information will be made available in alternative formats such as Braille, large print, audio cassette, CD and/or computer disk. An accessibility services coordinator will be available at all Minnesota Youth Symphonies performances to help provide accommodations for persons with disabilities.

WELCOME TO MYS

Congratulations and welcome to one of the most prestigious music programs in the nation! You have joined the ranks of some of the best musicians to emerge from Minnesota.

With the completion of yet another wonderful season, we look toward the future which begins today. We have developed wonderful memories about the young musicians we've trained and look forward to the talented youth coming through our doors for the first time.

We hope that the new world of intensive musical training, sectional and full rehearsals, and concerts change your life as a musician whether you become a professional one day or a highly educated audience member. In any case, we guarantee your time with us to be memorable.

MYS was founded in 1972 by Ralph Winkler after the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra discontinued its youth orchestra program. A series of artistic directors led the program through the 1970s and 80s, including Bill McGlaughlin (host of MPR's *Saint Paul Sunday*), Dr. Clyn Barrus and Eduoard Forner.

Many honors and achievements mark the rich history of MYS. In 1973, MYS was the first youth orchestra to tour (then) Soviet Romania. In 1992, the Symphony Orchestra performed live at the halftime show of Superbowl XXVI at the Metrodome in Minneapolis. MYS was among the first orchestras to win a position with the prestigious National Youth Orchestra Festival in Sarasota, Florida in 2000.

Distinguished guest artists have conducted or performed with MYS including Osmo Vänskä, Eiji Oue, Edo de Waart, Giancarlo Guerrero, Elmer Bernstein, Henry Charles Smith III, Tom Hegg, Jorja Fleezanis, William Eddins, Butch Thompson, Nachito Herrera, Peter Ostroushko and many others. MYS has also participated in youth orchestra collaborations from cities such as Grand Forks, Omaha, Winnipeg, Pittsburgh and Boston.

Our focus is comprehensive orchestral instruction that gives students the tools to recognize and develop their musical gifts. Many of our alumni are now playing in professional orchestras and ensembles, teaching music, and serving their communities as music advocates, arts patrons and performers.

Our Mission: Minnesota Youth Symphonies develops pride, self-esteem and discipline in young people through individual musical achievement; provides access and opportunity for artistic growth through a challenging program of orchestral repertoire; fosters a lifelong appreciation of classical music; and uplifts the community through inspiring performances by dedicated young musicians.

Claudette & Manny Laureano

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND HARASSMENT POLICIES

Minnesota Youth Symphonies admits qualifying students of any race, religion, color, or national or ethnic origin to all the programs and activities generally accorded or made available to its students. It does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, disability, nationality, sexual orientation or ethnicity in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship programs, or other programs it administers. MYS is committed to maintaining a positive learning and working environment, free of harassment or discrimination of any kind. MYS will not tolerate harassment by or towards its students, conductors, staff or any other individuals associated with the organization. MYS considers harassment to be any verbal or physical conduct that creates an intimidating or hostile environment based on race, national origin, gender, age, religion, creed, sexual orientation, disability, sexual orientation or status as a Veteran. Examples of such harassment include: racial or ethnic jokes or slurs; abuse or insults regarding sexual orientation; sexist remarks or jokes; imbalance of attention based on gender or race; and assault. MYS will respond promptly to complaints of harassment and, where MYS determines that harassment has occurred, will impose any necessary corrective action. In the case of students, corrective action may include being asked not to play in certain concerts or being asked to leave the program. In the case of MYS staff, corrective action may include disciplinary action, including termination.

Sexual Harassment Policy

Introduction MYS does not tolerate sexual harassment towards its students, conductors, staff or any other individuals associated with the organization. MYS considers sexual harassment of any kind to be a serious offense and is committed to maintaining an environment free of harassment. MYS will respond promptly to complaints of sexual harassment and, where MYS determines that sexual harassment has occurred, will impose any necessary corrective action.

Definition of Sexual Harassment Under the law of Minnesota sexual harassment includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, sexually motivated physical contact or other verbal or physical conduct or communication of a sexual nature when: (1) submission to that conduct or communication is made a term or condition, either explicitly or implicitly, of obtaining employment, public accommodations or public services, education or housing; (2) submission to or rejection of that conduct or communication by an individual is used as a factor in decisions affecting that individual's employment, public accommodations or public services, education or housing; or (3) that conduct or communication has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's employment, public accommodations or public services, education or housing, or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive employment, public accommodations, public services, educational, or housing environment; and in the case of employment, the employer knows or should know of the existence of the harassment and fails to take timely and appropriate action.

Although it is not possible to list every situation that may constitute sexual harassment, some specific examples include: Promising rewards for complying with a sexually oriented request; Sexual jokes or excessive teasing; Repeated requests for dates or other social interaction; Comments or questions about body parts; Displaying suggestive pictures, calendars, or cartoons; Inappropriate touching—pinches, brushing, etc. Sexual harassment can be physical, verbal and/or psychological. In some cases, a series of events can constitute sexual harassment even if each individual incident would not. Sexual harassment includes behavior between members of the opposite sex or between members of the same sex. Employees, contractors, students and volunteers of MYS are prohibited from engaging in sexual harassment of any kind in any setting associated with MYS.

Complaints If any individuals associated with MYS believe they are the victim of sexual harassment, they should as soon as possible: Inform the harasser(s) of their unease/disapproval with the behavior (if possible); and Report the incident(s) to the Executive Director, Music Director or other member of the artistic staff, or any member of the Board of Directors of MYS. Contacts: Chuck Densinger, Board President; Diane Kruger, Board Vice President; Vicki Krueger, Executive Director; Jenni Volby, Operations Manager; Claudette and Manny Laureano, Co-Artistic Directors.

Investigation Any member of the MYS staff who receives a complaint of sexual harassment must immediately report the complaint to the Executive Director or Music Director for investigation. MYS shall promptly investigate all allegations of sexual harassment and take appropriate corrective action where warranted. To the extent possible, MYS will maintain the confidentiality of all information related to the complaint and investigation. A complete investigation will include a private interview with the person who reported the incident, any witnesses, and the alleged harasser. MYS will use its best efforts to complete any sexual harassment investigation within one week of receiving any complaint. MYS will not tolerate retaliation against anyone for complaining of sexual harassment or cooperating in any investigation of sexual harassment.

Discipline Where MYS has determined that sexual harassment has occurred, MYS will take appropriate action. In the case of students, such action may include being asked not to play in a concert or being asked to leave the program. In the case of MYS staff, such action may include appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

Compliance A summary of this policy shall appear in all MYS handbooks and any other location deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors. MYS shall conduct sexual harassment awareness training for all staff and board members at least once every two years.

MUSIC EDUCATION CLASSES WITH TERRY BURK

Minnesota Youth Symphonies is dedicated to providing comprehensive musical experiences for students. Taking advantage of music education classes prepares students for college coursework—and may help students test out of freshman requirements! These classes are offered as part of the MYS program and are included in the tuition fee at no extra charge. Parents and siblings are also welcome to attend. **Class sizes are limited and registration is required.** Registration forms are available at rehearsal and on the MYS website at www.mnyouthsymphonies.org.

WHAT'S PLAYING AT MYS?

11:00-Noon, Senior High Choir Room

Class dates (16 sessions): Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 31, Nov. 7, 14, Nov. 21, Dec. 5, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, Feb. 20, 27, March 6. Note: Class continues through all 3 trimesters.

How about a stimulating course created for MYS parents? You deserve it! (String Orchestra students may attend as well.) Content will include background on the pieces performed by every MYS orchestra for the 2009-2010 season. We will explore the biographies of the composers plus the construction of each piece, its orchestration, history, and unique qualities. We will also compare, contrast and critique recordings of these pieces performed by the worlds finest orchestras. Bring your coffee and enjoy!

WHO'S AFRAID OF THE BIG BAD T.E.E. (Theory Entrance Exam)

Noon-1:00, Senior High Choir Room

Class dates (8 sessions): Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 10, 17, 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21

It is coming...the dreaded conservatory/college music theory entrance exam! Learn what to expect and how to "stay cool" under pressure during your test. Several MYS graduates have reported back that they were able to place in a higher level music theory class or test out of some of their freshman music theory ear training course work as a result of taking this course. Empower yourself by learning how to demonstrate what you DO know when you face your actual test. This ear-training course is designed to help students:

1. Develop relative pitch (or develop harmonic and intervallic listening skills for pitch recognizers)
2. Recognize and identify intervals, chord color and chord position
3. Learn to take melodic, rhythmic and harmonic dictation
4. Gain experience through a series of mock exams similar to those given to entering freshmen at conservatories or colleges.

FUNCTIONAL HARMONY 101: PROGRESSIVE THINKING (A.K.A A "CHORDING" TO BURK)

8:45-9:45am, Senior High Choir Room

Class dates (8 sessions): Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 27
Repertory/Philharmonic Students

During the past season (2008-2009), MYS received a multitude of requests for a course teaching the fundamentals of functional, tonal harmony. This course will explain chord colors, chord function, chord progressions, chord positions, chord choices, and will strive to answer the question: "How do I harmonize a melody?" Basic rules of voice-leading and some non-threatening harmonic analysis will also be included. Come explore how tonal harmony works!

Because of the class times that are available not all classes are open to all orchestra levels.



CLAUDETTE AND MANNY LAUREANO
ARTISTIC DIRECTORS

2009-2010 Season

Trumpeter Chuck Lazarus, of the Minnesota Orchestra, joins the MYS Symphony Orchestra as guest soloist.
Sunday, November 15, 2009, 6:30pm, Orchestra Hall, Minneapolis

Pipestone Drums perform with the MYS Philharmonic Orchestra and the 2009-10 Symphony Solo Competition winner is featured with the MYS Symphony Orchestra
Sunday, February 7, 2010, 2:00pm, Orchestra Hall, Minneapolis

The Minnesota Chorale and Singers in Accord join the MYS Symphony Orchestra for a performance of Mahler's Symphony No. 2 (5th movement, Resurrection)
Sunday, April 25, 2010, 3:00pm, Orchestra Hall, Minneapolis

For concert and event information, online ticket orders and more, call 651-699-5811 or go to
www.mnyouthsymphonies.org

"...the Minnesota Youth Symphonies...took the stage to perform to a packed house at Orchestra Hall. I felt privileged to see it, and judging from the hooting and hollering from every corner of Orchestra Hall, so did everyone else who was there."
Tad Simons, Mpls., St. Paul Magazine

ARTISTIC STAFF

MANNY LAUREANO, CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR, SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: Manny began his musical studies in the New York City public school system and received his Bachelor of Music Degree from the Juilliard School in 1977. He was appointed principal trumpet of the Seattle Symphony, a post he held for four years before serving in his current position as principal trumpet with the Minnesota Orchestra. As a conductor, he has worked with a variety of ensembles, ranging from having been Music Director of the Calhoun-Isles Community Band, Music Director of the Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra, to a guest stint with the Minnesota Orchestra. He has been in demand as a clinician for young orchestras throughout the state. In 2002, Manny and Claudette were invited to guest-conduct the National Suzuki Youth Orchestra Festival Orchestra and were invited to serve again in 2004. Manny has served as Co-Artistic Director of MYS since 1988, conducts the MYS Symphony Orchestra, and is the brass and woodwind coach for the MYS Repertory Orchestra. Manny served as Assistant Conductor of the Minnesota Orchestra during the 2005-06 season. Manny was selected to conduct the 2009 Minnesota All-State Orchestra.



MYS Conductors Pat Kelly and Jim Bartsch, with Co-Artistic Directors Claudette and Manny Laureano.

CLAUDETTE LAUREANO, CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR, REPERTORY ORCHESTRA: Claudette's musical training began in the public schools of New York City. She is a graduate of the Manhattan School of Music and became a teacher and freelance violinist in Seattle, Washington before coming to the Twin Cities in 1981. In 1982 Claudette was hired to begin a string program at the Breck School where she remained until 1988. In that same year Claudette, along with her husband Manny, were hired as co-directors of the Minnesota Youth Symphonies. Over the years, Claudette has guest conducted at various conferences and festivals in the Twin Cities. She was the guest conductor of the Northwest Suburban Conference Music Festival in 2003. In 2002 and again in 2004, she was asked to conduct one of the two festival orchestras at the National Suzuki Conference that was held in Minneapolis. In February 2005, Claudette conducted the Minnesota All-State Junior High School Honors Orchestra at the MMEA convention in Minneapolis. She has also been the guest conductor for the St. Paul Honors Orchestra at the Ordway Music Theater since 2002, and has also been a guest clinician for the Classic Lake Festival. In the autumn of 2003, Claudette resumed her position as String Director of Breck School and continues to enjoy working with her students on a daily basis. In 2007 Breck School awarded Claudette The Jean Wigley Award for teaching excellence.

JAMES BARTSCH, CONDUCTOR, PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA: Jim Bartsch joined MYS in 1990 as conductor of the String Orchestra, moving to Philharmonic in 1997. After teaching public school orchestra programs in Northfield and Red Wing for 16 years, he became the Minnesota Orchestra's Director of Education in 1999. He is responsible for Young People's and Family Concerts, as well as many other education and outreach programs. He writes teacher materials and speaks at dozens of schools annually, preparing students who will attend Minnesota Orchestra Concerts. Jim has been a guest conductor for many programs, including all-district festivals in Robbinsdale, Osseo and Rapid City, S.D., and State High School Orchestra Festivals in North Dakota and Montana. He has been a guest clinician for MNSOTA's Middle Level Orchestra Festival, the Classic Lakes Festival, and others. Jim is active as a freelance violinist/violist, performing regularly with the Minnesota Opera Orchestra, the Royal Strings and other area ensembles.

PATRICIA KELLY, CONDUCTOR, STRING ORCHESTRA: Pat has been teaching orchestra at Ramsey International Fine Arts Magnet Center in Minneapolis for the past 23 years. In 1998 Pat received the "Master String Educator Award" from the American String Teachers Association. Pat has a BA in Music Education and Journalism from the College of St. Catherine and an MA in Music Education from the University of Minnesota. She plays viola in the Nicolle Quartet and is currently writing her Ph.D. dissertation in Music Education at the University of Minnesota. Pat joined MYS in 1997.

CONCERT DETAILS & TICKET INFORMATION

All ticket prices are subject to change.

Fall Concert: Sunday, November 15, 2009, Orchestra Hall, Minneapolis, 6:30pm
Winter Concert: Sunday, February 7, 2010, Orchestra Hall, Minneapolis, 2:00pm
Spring Concert: Sunday, April 25, 2010, Orchestra Hall, Minneapolis, 3:00pm

Ticket prices: \$11/\$13/\$15/\$20. All seats are reserved.
Students with ID and Children: 20% off
Groups of 20 or more: 20% off
Rush tickets are available to students with ID thirty minutes prior to the start of the concert for \$6.

Purchase Tickets at the *Orchestra Hall Box Office by calling 612-371-5656 or 1-800-292-4141 or via the Orchestra Hall Box Office website, www.minnesotaorchestra.org/boxoffice.

For more concert details please visit our website, www.mnyouthsymphonies.org.

*Orchestra Hall Box Office Information

There are no service charges for in-person transactions at the Orchestra Hall Box Office. There is a \$4.75 service charge per transaction for all online, phone, fax or mail orders. Orchestra Hall adds a \$2.25 facility fee to each ticket.

Special Offers

Big Brothers/Big Sisters MYS honors discounts to card-carrying members of Big Brothers Big Sisters. The Big Brother or Sister gets in free with purchase of child's ticket.



Music Teacher Tickets Music teachers may receive one complimentary ticket to MYS concerts. In the fall, MYS sends a formal invitation to your private teacher and your school's music department announcing the ticket offer. Please make sure the MYS office has updated teacher contact information.

Accessibility

MYS makes every effort to comply with ADA accessibility requirements so persons with disabilities may enjoy MYS programs. If you or someone you know requires ADA accommodations, please contact MYS as soon as possible at 651-699-5811 or mys@mnyouthsymphonies.org.

Concert Etiquette

MYS welcomes children of all ages; however, some younger people find it challenging to sit quietly for an extended period of time. Each concert reflects the extraordinary effort of the young musicians on stage and is recorded for archival purposes. If your child is too young to quietly enjoy MYS concerts, please take them to the lobby and watch the performance on the video monitors.

CONCERT DRESS



String Orchestra ladies: Black or dark navy long skirt, knee-length skirt, or dress slacks with white short- or long-sleeve blouse or turtleneck, black hose or tights and dark, closed-toe dress shoes.

String Orchestra gentlemen: Black or dark navy pants, white long-sleeve shirt with collar and black bow tie. Dark shoes and dark socks.

Philharmonic, Repertory & Symphony ladies: Black, short- or long-sleeve, floor-length dress or black floor-length skirt with black short- or long-sleeve blouse, or black dress slacks with black short- or long-sleeve blouse. Black closed-toed dress shoes and black hose or tights.

Philharmonic, Repertory & Symphony gentlemen: Black or dark navy suit or tuxedo. White shirt and black bow tie. Black dress shoes, dark socks. Note: Most tuxedo rental places sell used tuxedos at very reasonable prices.

Note: Students are required to wear concert dress to only the first dress rehearsal, October 24, 2009. Photos will be taken at this rehearsal.

Not Allowed - All Orchestras Tight-fitting skirts, side slits on skirts, jumpers, plunging necklines, backless dresses, sleeveless or strapless dresses or blouses, jeans, suspenders, leggings, dangling earrings, glitter, sequins, bracelets, extra large hair bows, open-toed or tennis shoes.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARENTS

Our parent volunteers are vital to the success of MYS. Get involved, meet new people and experience the orchestras from the inside. Most of the volunteer tasks can be accomplished at rehearsals and concerts. Here are some of the volunteer tasks where you can help:

- o Attendance check-in
- o Concert supervisors
- o Boutique sales
- o Light office housekeeping
- o Gala (March 6., 2010)
- o Special events: Music & Melody Makers, MN Orchestra sectionals, Bring a Friend
- o Saturday rehearsal aide
- o Wreath distribution, November 21st
- o General office help
- o Percussion moving
- o Parent Advisory Council

Volunteer forms are available at rehearsals and at www.mnyouthsymphonies.org. Contact Cheryl Sletten, Volunteer Coordinator, at pwsletten@yahoo.com or 715-483-1700.



TERRY BURK, INSTRUCTOR, MUSIC EDUCATION AND THEORY: Terry holds degrees in composition, music theory and vocal music education from the Lawrence University Conservatory of Music. He has taught music theory and ear training at several music schools in the Twin Cities area and currently serves as a music specialist for the Forest Lake Public Schools. Terry is a professional composer and ensembles throughout the Midwest have commissioned and performed his choral works. Terry joined the MYS staff in 1992 and also conducts choirs for MYS performances of choral pieces.



GREG GRIMES, COACH, BRASS: Greg received his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Trumpet Performance at the University of Minnesota in 2006. He works as the Information Technology Manager for Destineer Studios, a video game development studio in Plymouth. He also performs as a freelance trumpet player in the Twin Cities. Greg joined MYS in 2006.



SHELLEY HANSON, COACH, WOODWINDS: Shelley Hanson's compositions have been performed throughout the United States, and in Europe, Latin America, and Asia. Also record producer, clarinetist, and conductor, she and her band, Klezmer and All That Jazz, have performed her concerto for klezmer band and orchestra with The Minnesota Orchestra, Milwaukee Symphony, North Carolina Symphony, and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra. She received a Ph.D. in Performance, Music Theory, and Music Literature from Michigan State University. More recently, MYS commissioned LA Vida Sefardi (The Sephardic Life), which was premiered by the Repertory Orchestra. Her Master's degree in the Woodwind Specialist Program involved her studying and performing on each of the orchestra woodwind instruments. Shelley joined the MYS staff in 2002.



SARA PREUS, INSTRUCTOR, MYS/ANDERSEN SCHOOLS STRING STUDIO PROGRAM: Sara has a BA in Music Education from Concordia College and an MA in Violin Performance from the University of Iowa. She has taught strings and conducted orchestras for 10 years in public schools in Minnesota, Iowa, and most recently for 12 years in an international school in South Korea. She has played in numerous community and professional orchestras. Sara joined MYS in 2006.



JOSH CARLSON, PERCUSSION ASSISTANT: Josh received his BA in Music from Gustavus Adolphus College. While an undergrad, he studied percussion with Bob Adney, timpani with Peter Kogan, and drum set with Dave Hanzel. He's a member of the Minnesota Percussion Trio, plays regularly with the Duluth Superior Symphony Orchestra, and has performed with the Minneapolis Pops Orchestra, Minnesota Dance theater, Minnesota Ballet, Duluth Festival Opera, and the Northern Lights Music Festival. He has played in orchestras with Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, jazz piano with the great Frank Mantooth, fiddle virtuoso Natalie McMaster, Grammy award winners Riders in the Sky, and Celtic sensations Cherish The Ladies. Josh is a member of the percussion faculty at MacPhail Center for Music. He joined the MYS Staff in 2005.



JESSICA WILSON, STRING ASSISTANT & SUMMER PROGRAM COORDINATOR: Jessica is currently studying music at the University of Minnesota. She plays piano, guitar, violin, and also composes. Jessica was an MYS student from 2003-2006. She joined the MYS staff in the summer of 2006.

REHEARSALS, MUSIC AND RETREATS

Guidelines

1. Always bring a music stand to rehearsals. Label all parts of the stand with your name.
2. Always bring a sharpened #2 pencil with a good, non-abrasive eraser.
3. No gum-chewing or hat-wearing is allowed at rehearsals or concerts.
4. Prepare for rehearsals during the week with help from private teachers as needed.
5. Be prepared with supplies appropriate to the instrument: strings, reeds, slide grease, etc.

Seating Rotation within each orchestra is at the discretion of the conductor. String seating is rotated within each section each trimester. Seating is not necessarily an indication of ability. Brass, woodwinds and percussion are also rotated. Seats are assigned at the first rehearsal of each trimester. Questions about seating should be directed to the conductor. Additional auditions are held only if there are vacancies.

Student preparedness If it appears to a conductor that a student is struggling or unprepared for a concert, the student may be asked to play privately for the conductor. At the conductor's discretion, students may be asked to not perform in the concert if technical or musical ability is not comparable to the rest of the orchestra or if the repertoire is beyond the student's technical ability. The conductor may recommend that the student be moved to a different orchestra if a position is available.

Music and fees

1. Students are issued a music folder at the first rehearsal and are responsible for their folder and music. **Students will be charged for lost or damaged folders and music.** Contact information for the orchestra librarian is enclosed in each music folder.
2. Students are responsible for having all the assigned music. Parts may be picked up from the music librarian or rehearsal assistant. If unsure of which music is required, students should ask the librarian.
3. All folders and music must be brought to each rehearsal.
4. **All bowings, fingerings and markings must be done in soft lead pencil—NEVER INK!**
5. Extra markings that are not fingerings or bowings must be erased before music is returned.
6. Keep MYS music in good condition. Replacement cost could be as much as \$20 per part.
7. Take extra care when using rented music. Markings placed in rental music must be removed before it is returned. Most rental music is collected immediately following the performance.
8. Copyright law requires that each stand is playing with an original part at concerts. When music is distributed, MYS makes every effort to ensure one of the stand partners has an original part. Photocopied parts must never be taken on stage at concerts unless the librarian gives permission to do so. Check with the librarian or MYS staff if there are questions.

Concert details Details for each concert are distributed to students at least three weeks prior to each performance, and include dress rehearsal times and concert order information.

Retreats Overnight retreats for Philharmonic, Repertory and Symphony are held at YMCA's Camp Pepin in Pepin, WI. The fee for each student is \$90. The String Orchestra will attend a day retreat in St. Paul. The fee for each student in Strings is \$30. Retreat fees are separate from tuition. Details are mailed with acceptance letters. All students are expected to attend retreats.

Visit our website for the MYS calendar, online ticket sales, music education classes, and other program information.

www.mnyouthsymphonies.org

ADDITIONAL MUSICAL OPPORTUNITIES

Symphony Solo Competition This annual competition is open to MYS Symphony students. The winner performs a solo with the MYS Symphony Orchestra. Competition finals take place during a public performance on Sunday, November 1, 2009 at 2:00 pm at St. Luke Lutheran Church in St. Paul. Competition details and registration will be available at rehearsals and on the MYS website.



Chamber Concert MYS students are invited to perform as soloists or in ensembles for a chamber concert co-sponsored by MYS and St. Luke Lutheran Church. This concert is free and open to the public. Students interested in performing should contact the Operations Manager at the MYS office.

Small ensembles MYS receives calls throughout the season in search of small ensembles (strings, woodwinds, brass and mixed) and soloists to perform at events throughout the Greater Twin Cities. Polished ensembles and soloists will be considered for these performances. Some gigs may be for pay and others are unpaid. This is a great opportunity to hone your ensemble skills and receive visibility for your group and MYS. The Operations Manager handles the bookings. To register, see the Operations Manager at rehearsal for a registration form. (Note: Your ensemble may include non-MYS members.)

MYS Summer Music Program The music doesn't stop at MYS in the summer! Join us for two weeks in July. Courses change annually and have included beginning chamber strings, composition, conducting, singing, and a sight-reading orchestra. Watch for details posted on the MYS website in the spring.

MYS information table Brochures for summer camps, music schools, colleges and conservatories, concert information, instruments for sale and a variety of arts-related topics are available for at the MYS Information Table. The table is located in the Highland Sr. High lobby near the check-in area. Information changes weekly, so check often. To include materials on the information table, please submit them to the Operations Manager.

Bella Notte

A gala celebration of Italian music and dance

A Gala Benefit for
Minnesota Youth Symphonies

Saturday, March 6, 2010
Saint Paul Hotel Promenade Ballroom

Save the Date!

GENERAL BUSINESS

Communications - weekly information and newsletters Information handouts are frequently distributed at rehearsals. **This information is also posted at www.mnyouthsymphonie.org.** MYS sends a weekly email announcement to students and parents during the concert season. The MYS newsletter is published four times per year and is distributed via email and at rehearsals. MYS accepts interesting music-related articles and information about student accomplishments for the Student News column. MYS families may also submit want ads to sell used instruments. There is no charge for this service. Information should be submitted via e-mail to mys@mnyouthsymphonie.org. MYS reserves the right to edit or reject submitted materials.

Student Safety MYS staff arrive at Highland Junior/Senior High School at 8:00 am and leave at 1:30 pm. **Parents must be prompt in picking up their child following rehearsal.** MYS cannot be responsible for children left at the school beyond their scheduled rehearsal time. **Caution: Do not leave your car unlocked or leave valuables in your car. There have been break-ins during rehearsal times in the past.**

Donations MYS is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization. Families can help ensure the health and vitality of MYS by making a tax-deductible donation. Gifts of \$50 or more may be dedicated to someone special!

Concert CDs A compilation of the concert season will be produced and available for purchase. Details about ordering the CD will be included with the spring concert mailing, in the MYS newsletter, and in the weekly informational email. All four orchestras will be included on the CD.

MYS Boutique We sell MYS gear, music-related gifts, MYS concert CDs, and more, all online at www.mnyouthsymphonies.org/store. You may request to have items shipped to your home or picked up at rehearsal.

Wreath Sale Fundraiser Students are asked to sell holiday wreaths to raise funds for MYS. This fundraiser helps keep tuition affordable and students may win prizes for meeting sales goals! Each family is asked to sell a minimum of \$150 in wreaths to help with operational expenses; a \$75 donation is requested of those families who choose not to sell wreaths. Wreath sale information is included in the acceptance packet and is available on the MYS website.

Publicity and photos MYS submits press releases for concerts. MYS also takes a digital photograph of each student to assist the conductors and staff in getting to know students more quickly and may also be used for publicity purposes. MYS reserves the right to publish photos, videos and audio material taken at performances and rehearsals.

Instrument rental Students may be assigned special instruments by their conductor and may rent an instrument from MYS or another source. MYS has available for rent: Eb clarinet, A clarinet, bass clarinet, English horn (\$50 refundable deposit, \$35 rental fee per trimester) and contrabassoon (\$100 refundable deposit, \$50 rental fee per trimester). Those using the A clarinet must have their own mouthpiece.

Changes of address, teacher, school Changes in address, phone numbers, email addresses, private teachers and schools should be submitted to mys@mnyouthsymphonies.org. MYS needs current contact information so important mailings are not missed. MYS publishes the names of students' schools and private instructors in concert programs. Please double-check the spelling of your private teacher's name.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Please read these pages and the Student Code of Conduct on page 8 carefully and completely, so you know what is expected of you!

ATTENDANCE: THE RULES

Attendance Promptness and perfect attendance are expected of all MYS students. Because of the high level of musicianship required by MYS orchestras, attendance is a key factor in providing a complete, productive and worthwhile musical experience. Individual responsibility is critical to the ensemble's musical experience. If you have an injury that prevents you from playing, you will not be counted absent if you attend the rehearsal, sit with the orchestra and take notes.

Absences and Exceeding the limit Students are allowed a maximum of two (2) absences per concert cycle (trimester). Students with more than two (2) absences per trimester will not be allowed to play in the remaining rehearsals or perform in the concert for that trimester. Students with excessive absences may be asked to leave for the rest of the season.

Reporting Absences All absences, early departures and late arrivals must be reported to the MYS office in advance of the Saturday rehearsal.

Tardiness Tardiness is unprofessional, irresponsible and detrimental to the orchestra's ability to make music. Orchestras achieve high artistic standards when musicians are warmed up and ready to tune punctually. Tardiness or leaving rehearsal early counts as half an absence. Students who leave early must inform the attendance monitors at check-in. Tardiness or absence due to extreme weather conditions is judged on a case-by-case basis. **Arrive at least 15 minutes before rehearsal and check in with the attendance monitor every Saturday—students who don't check-in will be marked absent.** "On time" means being tuned and seated when the conductor takes the podium.



Dress rehearsals Avoid missing dress rehearsals. If you are in a leadership position (concertmaster, section leader), you may lose your position if you miss the dress rehearsal. For all students, missing a dress rehearsal may affect the opportunity to play in the concert. Dress rehearsal times and details are mailed to MYS families at least three weeks prior to each dress rehearsal - plan on keeping the whole day clear of other commitments. As a courtesy to fellow musicians and the conductor, students are asked to report dress rehearsal absences to MYS by the fourth rehearsal of the trimester, if possible.

Concerts All concerts are mandatory. Students are not allowed to rehearse with the orchestra if they cannot play the concert. A student absent from a concert without prior permission may be asked to leave the program for the rest of the season.

Types of absences There are no excused or unexcused absences. The reason for the absence is not the issue; it is the absence itself. **There are no exceptions.**

Consecutive absences Avoid missing two rehearsals in a row. Vital information is given to students at each rehearsal. When a rehearsal is missed, particularly two in a row, it puts students at a disadvantage.

Scheduling and Vacations Record rehearsal and concert schedules on the family calendar so these dates are reserved prior to other planning. When possible, plan family vacations or weekend outings to avoid conflicts with rehearsals. Consider leaving for vacations after Saturday morning rehearsals.

REPORTING ABSENCES: A QUICK REFERENCE

1. Call the MYS office, (651) 699-5811, or send an email, mys@mnyouthsymphonies.org, to report known absences, expected tardiness or requests to leave early.
2. Call in absences as far in advance as possible. This is a courtesy that helps the conductors plan their sectionals and rehearsals.
3. If students are ill on the day of rehearsal, you must still be call in your absence.
4. When calling in an absence, please state the student's full name and orchestra, and the date of and reason for the absence.

Please note: **If you have an injury and are unable to play your instrument, still come to rehearsal!** You will not be counted absent if you come to rehearsal, bring your music and a pencil and follow along during rehearsal. You will still receive valuable information, and won't use an unnecessary absence.

Withdrawing from the program Students withdrawing from MYS for a trimester must notify the Operations Manager at the MYS office, in writing, at least three weeks prior to the start of a new trimester. Withdrawing from an orchestra any time after a trimester begins will result in reassignment of parts, re-seating of the section, loss of principal status and/or expulsion from the orchestra. Students who leave are responsible for paying full tuition for that trimester. Students will be allowed to return only if their position has not been filled and at the discretion of the conductor. As a courtesy, please tell the conductor before leaving an orchestra.

College entrance exams ACT, SAT & PSAT tests are offered several times a year at various locations throughout the Twin Cities. School counselors can assist students in finding alternate testing dates and locations. Plan now to coordinate test dates and make every effort to schedule testing to avoid conflicts with MYS rehearsals. If possible, try not to schedule two tests in the same trimester. For test dates go to www.collegeboard.com or www.act.org.

All-State auditions, rehearsals & performances We are pleased that so many MYS students are represented in All-State. Students auditioning for All-State should consider scheduling auditions during the week or possibly at a different location. Students should speak with their school music director to make audition arrangements. There is no MYS rehearsal on All-State weekend, February 13, 2010.

Competitions A number of area organizations hold annual competitions. When scheduling competition auditions, students should tell the contest facilitator that they are members of MYS to avoid scheduling conflicts. Most groups post competition dates on their website.

Minnesota Sinfonia:	www.mnsinfonia.org	(612) 871-1701
Schubert Club:	www.schubert.org	(651) 292-3268
Thursday Musical:	www.thursdaymusical.com	(612) 333-0313
YPSCA:	www.wamsso.org	(612) 332-2654

School participation MYS strongly encourages all students to participate actively in school music programs. MYS student participation helps keep school music programs vital! School programs also require a commitment, so double-check school calendars with the MYS calendar to avoid scheduling conflicts. Students do not receive excused absences for school music programs. Remember, MYS students are allowed two absences per trimester.

Inclement weather policy If there is a question about rehearsal being canceled due to inclement weather, check the MYS website, www.mnyouthsymphonies.org, call the MYS office at 651-699-5811 for a recorded message, or tune to WCCO radio (830AM). If rehearsal is canceled or delayed, a decision is usually made by 7:00 am on the Saturday in question. Please keep in mind that MYS is unable to make up canceled rehearsals; therefore the weather would have to be particularly treacherous to cause a cancellation.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Minnesota Youth Symphonies is nationally respected for both the artistic level and the level of dedication of students and parents to making great music. As members of MYS, it is expected that our musicians will be on their best behavior during rehearsal and while at any function where they represent the orchestra. Our goal is to make sure we do our best to keep all our students safe, maintain a positive public image, and provide the proper learning environment. *Participation in MYS is subject to the observance of the rules and procedures as outlined below.*

General Rules:

1. All members should behave respectfully and politely to all musicians, conductors, coaches, staff, parents, parent volunteers, and others associated with MYS.
2. Foul language will not be tolerated.
3. Give the conductor your full attention. Be courteous by not talking during rehearsal.
4. No food, drink, or gum will be allowed in the rehearsal areas.
5. We are guests of Highland Junior and Senior High School and we must respect the space. We must leave the school in the same condition as we found it. You must pick up after yourself. No damage to or destruction of property.
6. Abusing and/or not taking proper care of the MYS equipment or music will not be tolerated.
7. Bullying will not be tolerated. Unruly behavior can become dangerous and will not be tolerated.
8. All students must follow MYS policies with regard to punctuality, attendance, dress code, etc.

This list is not exhaustive. MYS has the right to impose other reasonable behavior expectations as it deems appropriate.

Disciplinary Action: If a student violates MYS's behavior expectations, MYS will take appropriate disciplinary action to ensure that the conduct is not repeated. The nature of the disciplinary action will be determined by MYS in MYS's sole discretion on a case-by-case basis taking into account factors such as the severity and nature of the conduct, the impact of the conduct, and the student's history with regard to behavior violations. Generally speaking, the disciplinary process may include the following:

1. One verbal warning to the student.
2. If the student continues the same behavior, they will be asked to sit out the next rehearsal and it will be counted as an absence. The parents will be notified of the offense.
3. The student will only be allowed back into the program when they ask to return, and acknowledge their error and make the proper apologies to those involved.
4. The conductor has the right to refuse the student's re-entry into their orchestra.

Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, disciplinary action may include dismissal from MYS without prior warning or adherence to these steps.

Dismissal from MYS: Offenses calling for immediate dismissal from MYS with no refund of tuition include, but are not limited to:

1. Possession of any weapon or dangerous object.
2. Physical or verbal assaults or any act or words that shows threat to harm or endanger the safety of others. **(No fighting or unruly behavior of any kind is permitted!)**
3. Any threat to damage or destroy property, theft, or use of equipment belonging to MYS, Highland Junior or Senior High School without permission (at Highland Junior or Senior High School, at Orchestra Hall, your rehearsal retreat location, or any other location where MYS is gathered).
4. Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, illegal drugs, or drugs obtained illegally.
5. Dishonesty.

Procedures for immediate dismissal from MYS:

1. The student/child will be removed from rehearsal or other MYS function and taken to the Operations Manager or his/her designee.
2. The MYS staff will call the student's parent or guardian and tell them the situation and ask them to come pick up the student.
3. The student will not be allowed to return to the MYS program and tuition will not be refunded.