



California Youth Symphony

QUARTERNOTES

OCT/2026

SEASON OPENER: Sunday, November 1, 2026 at 2:30 pm

San Mateo Performing Arts Center | Free Admission

California Youth Symphony launches its landmark **75th Anniversary Season** with an exhilarating program that sets the stage for one of the most ambitious seasons in our history! The **Senior Orchestra**, under the baton of **Maestro Leo Eylar**, takes off at full speed with John Adams's *Short Ride in a Fast Machine*. Written in 1986, this electrifying orchestral showpiece is a high-speed musical adventure propelled by an insistent pulse and layer upon layer of brilliant orchestral color. CYS then welcomes to the stage **Young Artist Competition Winner Sora Corro** for Edvard Grieg's beloved Piano Concerto in A Minor. A prizewinner in numerous regional, national, and international competitions, Sora has performed as both soloist and chamber musician and was named a recipient of the National Chopin Foundation Scholarship. From the thunderous cascade of the piano's famous opening measures to the breathtaking lyricism of its slow movement and the exhilarating Norwegian dance rhythms of its finale, Grieg's only completed piano concerto has captivated audiences since its premiere in 1869 and remains one of the great treasures of the Romantic repertoire. We close our opening concert with Sergei Prokofiev's magnificent *Romeo and Juliet*, presented in an expanded selection of excerpts from one of the 20th century's greatest ballet scores. By turns explosive, haunting, romantic, and fiercely dramatic, *Romeo and Juliet* provides a spectacular showcase for the CYS Senior Orchestra and a thrilling conclusion to our first concert of this historic season.



Sora Corro



26-27 Senior Orchestra

FALL CONCERT: Sunday, November 22, 2026 at 1:00 pm

Cañada College Theatre | Free Admission

Our **String and Wind Ensembles** will present an exciting and diverse afternoon of music at Cañada College Theatre. The **Intermezzi Strings** directed by **Kati Kyme** will open the concert with Vivaldi's vibrant Concerto in A Minor for Two Violins, Moussorgsky's *Hopak*, and Mozart's *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik*. The **Virtuosi Strings** will continue with Mozart's *Abduction from the Seraglio* Overture, the lyrical finale of Dvořák's "American" Quartet, and Beethoven's String Quartet No. 1 in F Major, op. 18. The **Chamber Winds**, under the direction of **Anthony Lanzino**, will take audiences on a high-energy journey with pieces including Lortz's *Moving at the Speed of Sound*, Pink Zebra's *Resilience*, and Hall's *Spiritus Invictus*. Finally, the **Wind Ensemble** will close the concert with Stanridge's *Groovitude*, Beethoven's Seventh Symphony, Allegretto, and Idio's *Aviators*. From lively dances and beloved classical melodies to energetic contemporary works, there's something for everyone to enjoy at the Fall Concert!



Brandon Lin Natsuki Fukasawa

Holiday Concert: Sunday, November 29, 2026 at 2:30 pm

San Mateo Performing Arts Center | Free Admission

This cherished event weaves together orchestral beauty, dynamic voices, and joyful spirit. The **Wind Symphony**, with conductor **Pete Nowlen**, blends the textures of Bernstein's *Candide Suite*, Chan's *Folksong of Midu*, and Sharp's *Christmas in a Nutshell*. Mahr's *A Diamond Celebration* adds topical delight for our 75th Season. Music Director **Leo Eylar** leads the **Associate Orchestra** on a journey from Gould's *American Salute* and Ippolitov-Ivanov's *Caucasian Sketches* to Ford's *Suite from Video Games Live* and Tchaikovsky's *Marche Slav*. The **Senior Orchestra** is joined by

exceptional young clarinetist **Brandon Lin**, performing a movement of Spohr's Clarinet Concerto No. 1, before Steinway artist **Natsuki Fukasawa** returns to the CYS stage for Gershwin's Variations on "I Got Rhythm." Join us for this afternoon of orchestral magic!



SUMMER 2026: Japan Tour; String Camp; Senior Orchestra (SO) Camp



String Camp with Kati Kyme



SO Celli
with coach
Davis You
- CYS '00
& cellist
with the SF
Symphony

SAVE THE DATE

Alumni Holiday Reunion

Sunday, November 29, 2026

San Mateo

Perform-a-thon

Saturday, February 6, 2027

San Carlos

75th Alumni Homecoming Celebration

May 28 - 30, 2027

Los Altos and San Mateo

Visit www.cys.org/alumni for more information



Alumni Rehearsal May 31, 2026



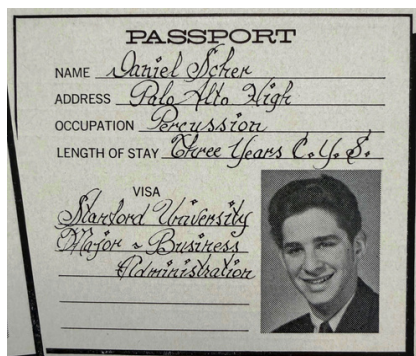
50th Season Summer Camp



CALIFORNIA YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA — OCTOBER, 1956

Alumni Spotlight - Danny Scher (CYS 1966-69)

"I began playing drums and learned to read music while attending Herbert Hoover Elementary School in Palo Alto in the 1950's. It was a concert there in fifth grade where I performed with the band that inspired me to take up drums and music for the rest of my life. I auditioned for CYS in 1966 as a percussionist, moving to timpani the following two years. In 1968, I tracked down and convinced Duke Ellington to perform a benefit concert with us to help us raise money for the 1969 Summer Australian tour, having just graduated high school and before starting college."

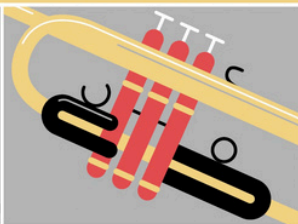


Danny Scher 1969

"Although I never took a music class in college (Stanford undergraduate and graduate), I have never given up playing music. To this date, I attend jazz camps around the world including France, Cuba, Amsterdam, and Vermont. I have gone from being the youngest, to now being one of the oldest, but playing and listening to music keeps one young. Music to me has never been an issue of what sex, color, age, persuasion, political beliefs, but – can you play? Music has always been a unifying force which is what I remember most about the CYS."

Perform-A-THON

A MUSICAL MARATHON FUNDRAISER



IT'S YOUR
TIME TO *Shine!*

Sign up for a timeslot to
perform your favorite piece
— either solo or ensemble.

Invite sponsors to support your
performance. Every dollar raised
will go toward CYS programs!

SATURDAY
12-6 PM

FEB 6

Trinity Presbyterian Church
— San Carlos —



Scan this
code to
sign up!



CALIFORNIA YOUTH SYMPHONY
CELEBRATING 75 YEARS

CYS PERFORM-A-THON

Join us on Saturday, February 6, 2027 at
Trinity Presbyterian Church in San Carlos
for the California Youth Symphony's
musical marathon fundraiser featuring CYS
musicians and alumni!

This event will be live streamed, making it
possible to share your artistry with friends,
family, and relatives in the Bay Area and
beyond. Every dollar raised will support CYS's
tuition assistance and education programs.

To sign up as a performer:

www.cys.org/fundraiser

Deadline to register as a performer:

December 9, 2026

(first-come, first-served basis)

SWEET HELP FOR CYS FROM SEE'S CANDIES



See's Candies, a long-time CYS supporter,
is partnering with us for the holiday season to help
us raise funds while providing sweet holiday treats for our
friends. By visiting cys.org/sees or scanning the QR code
on the right, CYS families and friends can order any
number of See's famous products, great for holiday gifts
or your own personal enjoyment! See's will then donate a
percentage of sales to CYS. Be sure to order early; it may
take 30 days or so to receive your treats. Please share
this information with your friends and families and help
make this a sweet holiday season for CYS.



WAYS TO GIVE

www.cys.org/donate

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For more information, please
visit **www.cys.org**



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