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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we approach the end of the season, I have always felt it is nice to look back and appreciate the accomplishments of all of our young musicians. As an alumnus, my years at CYS served as an impressive foundation for my experience with orchestra music. For most of our musicians, next year awaits with more music and camaraderie. For our graduating seniors, the end of this season will close their multi-year chapter of CYS, and hopefully lead into new musical adventures and new friends.

If I may, I would like to impart two pieces of advice for our graduating seniors. First, I hope you all find ways to participate in music as much as your life allows as you explore college and everything the world has to offer. It will open doors to new experiences, communities, and friends. And second, is to cherish what you have built at CYS and stay connected with your fellow alumni. As we get older, it becomes harder to find groups of harmonic spirits. The community you have at CYS is incredible, and I encourage all of you to nurture your friendships even as lives evolve.

I would like to congratulate Maestro Leo Eylar again for a wonderful 35th season. CYS continues to be a strong program thanks to his tireless effort and the incredible effort from our artistic staff – String Ensembles Director Kati Kyme, Wind Symphony Director Pete Nowlen, Wind Ensembles Director Anthony Lanzino, and Percussion Director Artie Storch.

Finally, a hearty congratulations to all of our soloists today. Please enjoy their hard work and the work of everyone who has made today's concert possible. And keep your wits about you... someone has murdered the composer. The violas are always suspect but it could be anyone!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tyson Mao". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Tyson Mao  
President, CYS Board of Directors

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# CALIFORNIA YOUTH SYMPHONY

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June 1, 2025 | 2:30 PM

San Mateo Performing Arts Center

Leo Eylar, Music Director

## 73RD SEASON | THIRD CONCERT

### CYS SENIOR ORCHESTRA

Leo Eylar, Conductor

*Blue Cathedral* . . . . . Jennifer Higdon (b. 1962)

Violin Concerto No. 2 in G Minor, Op. 63. . . . . Sergei Prokofiev

I. Allegro moderato (1891-1953)

*David Wang, violin*

Piano Concerto No. 2 in C Minor, Op. 18 . . . . Sergei Rachmaninoff

I. Moderato (1873-1943)

*Leah Galant, piano*

\*\*\*\*\* INTERMISSION \*\*\*\*\*

Cello Concerto in E-minor, Op. 85. . . . . Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

IV. Finale

*Gabriel Irazabal, cello*

*The Composer is Dead* . . . . . Nathaniel Stookey (b. 1970)

with text by Lemony Snicket

*Omari Tau, narrator*

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## LEO EYLAR

### **Music Director**

### **Senior and Associate Orchestras**

Conductor-Composer Leo Eylar grew up in a musical family. He began studying violin at the age of nine and was accepted into the private studios of both Jascha Heifitz and Ruggiero Ricci. His early teachers included Virginia Baker, Joachim Chassman and Eudice Shapiro. Eylar attended Northwestern University and the University of Southern California, where he received his Bachelor of Music degree Summa cum Laude.

His violin teachers included Glenn Dicterow, Concertmaster of the New York Philharmonic, and Samuel Magad, Concertmaster of the Chicago Symphony. In 1980 Eylar joined the Seattle Symphony and in 1982 he was awarded an International Rotary Foundation Grant to study conducting at the Hochschule für Musik in Vienna, Austria. After studies there with Otmar Suitner, he returned to the U.S. and completed his Master's Degree in conducting at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, simultaneously holding the position of Co-Concertmaster of the San Jose Symphony from 1984-89.

Eylar was on the faculty of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music from 1985-88, during which time he conducted a nationally televised performance of "America Sings" with Bobby McFerrin and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music Orchestra. He is also Professor Emeritus at California State University, Sacramento, having retired in May 2018, after 30 years as the Director of Symphony Orchestra & Opera and teaching composition, theory, history, and orchestral conducting. Since 1990 he has been Conductor and Music Director of the California Youth Symphony. Under his masterful and spirited direction the orchestra soon enhanced its reputation as one of the finest youth orchestras in the world and won first prize in the International Youth and Music Festival in Vienna, Austria, in July 1994. Over the course of his tenure, the orchestra has performed to great critical acclaim across four continents. He has also guest-conducted extensively throughout Europe and Asia, including prestigious music festivals in Japan, Austria, France, and Australia. Eylar has also been a frequent guest conductor of the San Jose Symphony. With a repertoire of over 500 symphonic works conducted, as well as numerous operas, Eylar brings a vast range of expertise and depth to his conducting.





Eylar is also a composer of international stature. His compositions, which blend a rich, coloristic neo-romanticism with elements of jazz and driving Eastern European rhythmic vitality, have been performed in Carnegie Hall, as well as in England, the Netherlands, Japan,



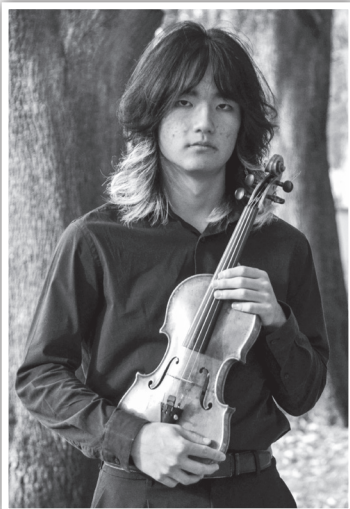
Germany, Russia, China, and Austria. His original works have been commissioned by the Dutch contemporary orchestra “De Volharding,” the San Francisco ensemble “Earplay,” and the prestigious German “Ensemble8,” among others. In 1993 *The Temptation of St. Anthony for Horn and String Orchestra* was performed by the California Youth Symphony, and was acclaimed by the press as a “symphonic gem.” In 1994 the Seattle Symphony, along with well-known trumpeter Jeffrey Silberschlag, recorded Eylar’s *Dance Suite for Trumpet and String Orchestra* on the Delos label, which received plaudits from the press. Also in 1994 his *Variations on a Troubadour Theme for String Orchestra* was performed by the San Luis Obispo County Symphony. In 1995 Eylar’s *Rhapsody for Orchestra*, which was subsequently nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, was performed by the California Youth Symphony and recorded in Japan the following year. In 1997 he conducted the world premiere of his Violin Concerto, *An Orpheus Legend*, in San Luis Obispo with noted violinist Ralph Morrison as soloist. *An Orpheus Legend* was featured by CYS during its Spanish Tour in the summer of 1998, and recorded in Spain with violin soloist Kenneth Hsu.

The world premiere of Eylar’s *Concerto for Harp and String Orchestra* took place in 1998. In 2004 the internationally recognized German string bass virtuoso Christine Hoocht recorded Eylar’s *Suite in Three Movements for Bass and Piano* as the leading work on her debut CD. Other commissions have included an octet for the German contemporary group “Ensemble8,” a 14-minute orchestral work titled *Tonescapes* to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the California Youth Symphony, a Sonata dedicated to well-known German bassoonist Frank Forst and a large-scale percussion duo titled *Two Klee Sketches* composed for CYS’ own percussion director Artie Storch and CSUS percussion director Daniel Kennedy. Eylar recently completed a work based on the Orpheus legend, scored for large symphonic wind ensemble, that was premiered on June 1, 2018 at the Mondavi Center by the UC Davis Concert Band under the baton of Pete Nowlen.

Eylar’s music is published by the well-known German publishing house, Accolade Musikverlag, in Munich.

## FEATURED SOLOISTS

### **DAVID WANG,** *Violin*



David Wang, age 17, is a violinist from San Jose. He is currently studying under Pat Burnham. He has been playing for 12 years and has been a member of CYS for the past six years. He was also a winner of the CYS Associate Orchestra Concerto Competition in 2019. Outside of CYS, David competes at various competitions, winning Second Place at the Silicon Valley Music Competition in 2023, First Place Regional Awards at VOCE in 2020, 2021,

and 2023, and First Place at the US International Open Competition in 2024. He is also the first violinist in a student-organized string quartet at Los Gatos High School. Outside of violin, David enjoys learning and covering metal vocals, drawing, folding origami, and styling his long luscious hair.

### **LEAH GALANT,** *Piano*



Leah Galant is an 18-year-old pianist and is a senior at Newark Memorial High School. She started learning piano at the age of 6 and studies with Olya Katsman. She has been a part of California Youth Symphony for seven years, originally as a cellist, where she continued to play cello in the Associate Orchestra. After playing cello for five years, her last two were spent in senior orchestra on the piano. Leah won Second place in the California Professional Music Teachers' Concerto Competition in 2021.

She has participated annually in the Junior

Bach Festival in Berkeley. In 2019, she won First place in the Sturmpage Competition for the Performing Arts Society of Contra Costa County. In addition to piano, Leah participated in extracurricular activities such as Police Academy with the Newark and San Ramon Police Department. In her spare time, Leah loves to cook, swim, and explore around cities.

## **GABRIEL IRAZABAL,** **Cello**

Gabriel Irazabal, age 18, is a senior at Prospect High School in San Jose. He began playing the cello at age 10. He currently studies under Jonathan Koh, and previously studied under Adelle-Akiko Kearns. He is the current co-principal cellist in the California Youth Symphony Senior Orchestra, a cellist of the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra, and was the former principal cellist of the San Jose Youth Symphony Philharmonic Orchestra. In 2024, he won first place in the International Charleston Competition in addition to winning the California Youth Symphony Concerto Competition. In 2022, he won first place in the United States Open Music Competition with his piano trio from the Santa Clara Chamber Music & Young Musicians Academy. In the summer of 2024, Gabriel participated in the C'est Bon Music Academy and the Sphinx Performance Academy at Juilliard. He also participated in Carnegie Hall's National Youth Orchestra 2 as the associate principal cellist, performing in Dallas' Meyerson Symphony Center and Carnegie Hall. In addition, he was invited to perform and attend the Junior Bach Festival and Music@Menlo in 2024. Gabriel has had lessons and masterclasses with Zlatomir Fung, Natasha Brofsky, Sterling Elliott, Khari Joyner, and Tom Landschoot. Recently, Gabriel was selected to perform on NPR's From The Top as a learning and media lab fellow.



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## **OMARI TAU,** ***Narrator***

Omari was once warned, “A chameleon changes its colors, not its shape.” He’s been defying that statement ever since. With over 30 years in the arts, his constant reimagining of self in sound and style have been the ingredients to a multi-faceted career. The Sacramento native is Co-Founding Artistic Director of Rogue Music Project, Professor of Vocal Music at Cosumnes River College, and member of the band Solabel. His degrees from Michigan State University and the Moores School of Music-University of

Houston in Music Education and Vocal Music Performance helped him to feel at home in operatic and musical theatre worlds, as well as in jazz and pop genres.

Tau served as the Director of Opera Theatre at Sacramento State University for six years and directed Houston Grand Opera’s Education and Outreach program *Opera To Go!* As a performing artist, the baritone toured internationally with *Disney’s The Lion King* for nearly nine years. Other credits include roles at the Tony Award-winning Alley Theatre, the Tony Award-Winning TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, MUNY, Broadway Sacramento’s at Music Circus, and Theater Under The Stars among others. Tau appears on various recordings with Solabel as well as solo work with composer Graham Sobelman.

As a composer himself, Tau’s operas *A Night At the Algonquin*, *Hans in Luck* and *The Pre-Show Opera Lecture* were commissioned and premiered by Lone Star Lyric where they enjoyed successful runs. He composed for Houston Grand Opera’s Education and Outreach program as well as his initiative *Lions in the Library* which features chamber music accompaniments to readings of children’s books. In 2024, he was honored to arrange music for *Disney’s The Lion King* 25th Anniversary celebration on the Broadway stage.





# PROGRAM NOTES

## **Jennifer Higdon:** ***Blue Cathedral***

“blue cathedral” Blue...like the sky. Where all possibilities soar. Cathedrals...a place of thought, growth, spiritual expression...serving as a symbolic doorway in to and out of this world. Blue represents all potential and the progression of journeys. Cathedrals represent a place of beginnings, endings, solitude, fellowship, contemplation, knowledge and growth. As I was writing this piece, I found myself imagining a journey through a glass cathedral in the sky. Because the walls would be transparent, I saw the image of clouds and blueness permeating from the outside of this church. In my mind’s eye the listener would enter from the back of the sanctuary, floating along the corridor amongst giant crystal pillars, moving in a contemplative stance. The stained glass windows’ figures would start moving with song, singing a heavenly music. The listener would float down the aisle, slowly moving upward at first and then progressing at a quicker pace, rising towards an immense ceiling which would open to the sky...as this journey progressed, the speed of the traveler would increase, rushing forward and upward. I wanted to create the sensation of contemplation and quiet peace at the beginning, moving towards the feeling of celebration and ecstatic expansion of the soul, all the while singing along with that heavenly music.

These were my thoughts when The Curtis Institute of Music commissioned me to write a work to commemorate its 75th anniversary. Curtis is a house of knowledge—a place to reach towards that beautiful expression of the soul which comes through music. I began writing this piece at a unique juncture in my life and found myself pondering the question of what makes a life. The recent loss of my younger brother, Andrew Blue, made me reflect on the amazing journeys that we all make in our lives, crossing paths with so many individuals singularly and collectively, learning and growing each step of the way. This piece represents the expression of the individual and the group...our inner travels and the places our souls carry us, the lessons we learn, and the growth we experience. In tribute to my brother, I feature solos for the clarinet (the instrument he played) and the flute (the instrument I play). Because I am the older sibling, it is the flute that appears first in this dialog. At the end of the work, the two instruments continue their dialogue, but it is the flute that drops out and the clarinet that continues on in the upward progressing journey. This is a story that commemorates living and passing through places of knowledge and of sharing and of that song called life. This work was commissioned and premiered in 2000 by the Curtis Institute of Music.

**Jennifer Higdon** is one of America's most acclaimed figures in contemporary classical music, receiving the 2010 Pulitzer Prize in Music for her Violin Concerto, a 2010 Grammy for her Percussion Concerto, a 2018 Grammy for her Viola Concerto and a 2020 Grammy for her Harp Concerto. In 2018, Higdon received the prestigious Nemmers Prize, awarded to contemporary classical composers of exceptional achievement who have significantly influenced the field of composition. Most recently, she was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Higdon enjoys several hundred performances a year of her works, and *Blue Cathedral* is today's most performed contemporary orchestral work, with more than 800 performances worldwide. Her works have been recorded on more than sixty CDs. Higdon's first opera, *Cold Mountain*, won the International Opera Award for Best World Premiere and the opera recording was nominated for 2 Grammy awards. Her music is published exclusively by Lawdon Press.

## **Sergei Prokofiev (1891–1953):**

### **Violin Concerto No. 2 in G Minor, Op. 63 (1st mvmt.)**

Program Notes by Leo Eylar

#### **A Return Home**

In 1935, after twenty years living and working in Western Europe, Prokofiev decided to move back to Moscow with his wife Lina and their two sons. He famously said, "I care nothing for politics—I'm a composer first and last. Any government that lets me write my music in peace...is all right with me." In Russia, concerts and publishers came to him without begging—something he found very attractive. Little did he know that soon strict rules about what music was allowed would make life difficult for many composers.

#### **Music Under Pressure**

At that time, the Soviet government insisted that composers write music that celebrated heroic, uplifting themes—what they called "Socialist Realism." Any music deemed too modern or "decadent" risked official criticism. Prokofiev managed to navigate these rules for a while, but in 1948 he was officially reprimanded for having "formalist" tendencies.

#### **About the First Movement, *Allegro moderato***

Prokofiev completed the opening movement of this concerto while on tour—drafting themes in Paris, Voronezh, and even finishing the score in Baku. When you listen:

- **Folk-like Song:** The violin begins with a simple, eight-bar melody that feels warm and familiar, almost like a folk tune.
- **Call and Response:** After the violin's opening, the lower strings echo the melody in a slightly different key, creating a gentle conversation.

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- **Flash of Prokofiev's Spark:** Soon, you'll hear bright, rapid flourishes—sudden shifts in mood and harmony that are unmistakably Prokofiev, full of energy and color.
- **Second Melody:** A new, graceful tune appears—one of Prokofiev's most memorable themes—gliding smoothly and beautifully over the orchestra.
- **Playful Development:** These two themes chase each other around in different guises—now bold, now tender—keeping you engaged with clever surprises.
- **Home Stretch:** Finally, both melodies return together for a grand farewell, before a muted horn and soft pizzicato strings bring the movement to a peaceful close.

Enjoy the journey—from gentle folk song to dazzling brilliance—that Prokofiev masterfully weaves in this opening movement.

## **Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873–1943): Piano Concerto No. 2 in C Minor, Op. 18 (1st mvmt.)**

Program Notes by Leo Eylar

Sergei Rachmaninoff once declared, “Melody is music and the foundation of all music. I do not appreciate composers who abandon melody and harmony for an orgy of noises and dissonances.” Nowhere is that credo more vividly realized than in his Second Piano Concerto, a work overflowing with warm, unforgettable tunes that captured the hearts of audiences worldwide. On one American tour, Rachmaninoff even quipped, “These Americans cannot get enough of it,” underscoring the concerto’s universal appeal.

Yet behind its lush melodies lay a story of deep personal struggle. After the critical failure of his First Symphony and the pain of a broken love affair, Rachmaninoff spent three years—between 1897 and 1900—too despondent to compose at all. He later recalled lying “half my days...on a couch” under a “paralyzing apathy.” Salvation arrived in the form of hypnosis treatment from Dr. Nikolai Dahl. Day after day, Rachmaninoff listened to the gentle suggestion, “You will begin to write your concerto...you will work with great facility...the concerto will be of an excellent quality.” Miraculously, the treatment rekindled his creativity. He dedicated the concerto to Dr. Dahl, and when the full work premiered in Moscow on October 14, 1901, under Alexander Siloti’s baton, it was greeted with wild, unfettered acclaim.



The opening movement, Moderato, begins with nine hushed chords from the piano, each one more insistent than the last, before the strings launch into a buoyant first theme. Soon the piano steps forward with a yearning second melody, tender and introspective. Rachmaninoff alternates these two contrasting ideas—sometimes weaving them together in rich, lyrical dialogue, sometimes breaking into a jaunty march-like flourish—before bringing them both back for a warm, brilliant conclusion. In this movement, as in the concerto as a whole, you’ll hear a master at the height of his powers, turning personal triumph into music that speaks directly to the soul.

## **Edward Elgar (1857–1934): Cello Concerto in E-minor, Op. 85 (Finale)**

Program Notes by Leo Eylar

By 1918, the devastation of World War I had taken its toll on Edward Elgar. He watched old friends suffer—or lose their lives—and felt the familiar rhythms of Edwardian England slipping away as new political ideas swept the country. His music, rooted in rich melodies and traditional harmony, suddenly seemed out of step with an age exploring atonal experiments. Added to this was the failing health of his beloved wife, Alice, who died in 1920. Grief-stricken, Elgar wrote almost nothing more.

The Cello Concerto—his last major work—was sketched in the shadow of these personal and public upheavals. It speaks of sorrow, nostalgia, and brave attempts at renewal. Today we hear the concerto’s closing movement, which brings that journey to a thoughtful, moving end.

From its opening bars, the cello speaks alone in a recitative so direct that it feels like a private confession. Soon, a bright rondo theme emerges, alternating with quieter episodes that nod to the march-like energy of Elgar’s earlier pieces even as they tremble with wistfulness. Throughout the movement, brief echoes of the concerto’s gentler middle sections drift back, reminding us of the work’s prevailing sense of loss. As the music nears its close, the soloist embarks on a long, heartfelt soliloquy—an unguarded moment in which the cello lays bare Elgar’s own emotions. Finally, that radiant rondo theme returns for one last, bittersweet farewell, and the concerto fades away, leaving us lingering between sorrow and solace.

## **Nathaniel Stookey: *The Composer Is Dead***

Program Notes by Leo Eylar

Imagine an orchestral concert transformed into a crime scene—that’s the delightfully macabre premise of *The Composer Is Dead*. In this whimsical murder mystery, with text by Lemony Snicket and music by Nathaniel Stookey, a savvy detective is summoned to investigate the composer’s untimely demise, only to find that every section of the orchestra has a motive. The brass open with a mournful dirge, setting a brooding atmosphere, while the narrator wryly announces, “Last night, he was neither moving nor breathing; this is called de-composing!”

As the inspector interrogates each instrumental family, the strings—violins, violas, cellos, and basses—squirm under scrutiny; the woodwinds confess to mischievous bird imitations; and the percussion admits to rattling more than just bones. Even the concertmaster is swept into the drama with a daring cadenza. Tension mounts until the detective finally levels his accusatory baton at the conductor: “You’ve been murdering composers for years!”

In a final, playful twist, the orchestra unites to reveal that their conductor never acted alone. After all, without a little “murder,” who would remember the world’s greatest composers? Brimming with witty narration, vivid musical caricatures, and sly humor, *The Composer Is Dead* celebrates the orchestra’s power to bring music to life—even as it gleefully lampoons the very creators behind the scenes.



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## CYS SENIOR ORCHESTRA – GRADUATING SENIORS



**JOSHUA CHANG**, Cello, has been in CYS for three years, including two in the Senior Orchestra. He studied with Jonathan Koh, and attended Saratoga High School. He was a member of the school orchestra.



Clarinetist **LINDA CHANG** has been with CYS for 5 years, including 2 years in Senior Orchestra, and studies with Ginger Kroft. She has served as drum major for the Homestead High School Marching Band and as Executive Director of Notelove ([www.notelove.org](http://www.notelove.org)), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to free music education. Linda has also undertaken independent scientific research, recently co-authoring a paper that was published in the IEEE Quantum Computing Conference proceedings. Linda will be studying Physics at UC Berkeley this fall.



Violinist **NATALIE CHANG** has been with CYS for a total of five years, and has been under the tutelage of Theresa Woo. She has served as Fremont High School's concertmaster for four years and started a music mentorship club, receiving two accolades for her accomplishments. She will be pursuing Cognitive Science at Case Western Reserve University with a concentration in Data Science.



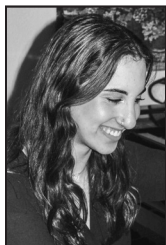
**SOPHIE CHI** has been playing the clarinet for eight years and a member of CYS for the past six years, studying under Sue Macy. She is a senior at Menlo-Atherton High School, where she runs varsity cross country and track & field, and is a treasurer for the Service-Learning Center. Next year, Sophie plans to study mechanical engineering at Duke University.



**MELODY CHIEN** has been playing harp in CYS for three years and studies with Sonya Yu. She previously played harp in Lynbrook's Chamber Orchestra for three years and in community orchestras in the Bay Area. Next year, Melody plans on attending Pomona College.



## CYS SENIOR ORCHESTRA – GRADUATING SENIORS



**LEAH GALANT** (see bio on page 8)



**APPLE GAO** is a percussionist who has been in CYS for six years. They currently study under Galen Lemmon and attend Lynbrook High School. They enjoy crafting silly little things and are going to major in instrumental performance at the University of Miami.



Cellist **RYAN GAO** has been with CYS for 7 years, and serves on the Musician's Council as Vice President. He studies with Eric Sung at SFCM Pre-College and founded his high school's piano trio, winning first at USOMC. Ryan has played as a soloist with his school orchestra and on a cello ensemble tour with cellist Benny Chu. Through Johns Hopkins University and Peabody Conservatory, Ryan aims to study at the Karajan Akademie.



**KANON HOMMA**, trumpet, has been with CYS for 4 years and currently studies under John Freeman at the SFCM Pre-College program. While also a member of the SFSYO, Kanon has also performed with numerous orchestras, including GSYO, SJYS, YPSO, CASMEC Symphony, NAFME Symphony, and the Honor Band of America. Kanon serves as President of the CYS Musician's Council and was recently awarded valedictorian honors at his high school. Kanon hopes to pursue bioengineering at Stanford University.



**GABRIEL IRAZABAL** (see bio on page 9)

## CYS SENIOR ORCHESTRA – GRADUATING SENIORS



**NAOMI JANSSON** has been playing the flute in CYS for 5 years, and studies with Liling Chen. While at Leigh High School, she has been involved in ASB for four years and has been an officer for two. Naomi has been Principal 1st of her school's Wind Ensemble for two years and teaches three flute students outside of school. Next year, Naomi will be attending the University of California San Diego where she will be studying Political Science: International Relations.



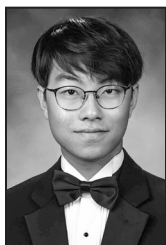
**EULINA JI**, oboe, has been with CYS for three years. She leads several clubs and does track and field. Her artwork has been selected for numerous awards and exhibitions. In her free time, she enjoys photography and exploring museums. This fall, she will be attending the University of Pennsylvania to study Economics.



**ELIANE JUANG**, oboist, has been with CYS for 6 years and studies with Diane Wyant. At Lynbrook High School, she is part of the Wind Ensemble and Marching Band. Next year, Eliane plans to major in bioengineering at the University of Pennsylvania.



**HEMANI KAMARSHI** has been a violist in CYS for four years, and studies with Ann Coombs. She goes to Monta Vista High School, where she was a cross-country team captain and won several awards for her optimism and grit. In her free time, she is a docent at the Seymour Marine Discovery Center in Santa Cruz, and a dancer with the award-winning Sahiyar Indian Folk Dance Troupe. She will be attending UC Berkeley, majoring in biology.



**SANGHYUK (ERIC) KO** has played the French horn with CYS for the past three years and has studied with Scott Hartman. While attending Homestead High School, Sanghyuk has contributed significantly to the local community through different clubs & organizations, receiving the Honorary Service Award from PTSA. Next year, he will be attending the University of Pennsylvania studying biochemistry and healthcare management.

## CYS SENIOR ORCHESTRA – GRADUATING SENIORS



**ANN KUO**, Cello, was in CYS AO for one year before moving into SO for the last two years. She is graduating from California Connections Academy, and studied Cello with Shinyu Liu. Ann participated in school orchestras and ensembles for most of her middle and high school years, as well as orchestras and recitals outside of school.



Tubist **WILLIAM KWOK**, has been part of CYS for 3 years, and studies with Joseph Murphy and Jonathan Hsu. While attending Burlingame High School, he competed in robotics competitions and created a business upcycling electronics. He will be majoring in Computer Engineering at University of California, Santa Cruz.



**ERIC LAN**, Clarinet, has been in CYS for 3 years and studies with Mariko Abe. A senior at Irvington High School, he serves as President of the Computer Science Club and volunteers at the Abode Services Sunrise Shelter. He was a member of the California All-State High School Concert Band, is a National Merit Scholar, and has received the President's Volunteer Service Award (Gold) for three consecutive years. Next year, Eric will study Environmental Economics and Policy at UC Berkeley.



Flutist **ZOE LIN** has been with CYS and Senior Orchestra for 3 years and studies with Kassey Plaha. In addition to being principal flute of Homestead High School's Wind Ensemble 1 and Symphony Orchestra, she is an avid ballet dancer, president of Science National Honor Society, and involved in biochemical research and disability advocacy. This fall, Zoe will be studying neuroscience on the pre-med track at Johns Hopkins University.



**MYLES LOONG** is currently a senior attending James Logan High School and has been playing the clarinet for 7 years. He has been in many of the music programs at Logon, including the marching band, wind symphony, and the winter percussion groups. He plans to attend one of the UC's next year, planning to pursue nutrition with a double major or minor in music.



## **VIOLIN I**

Kayla Lee,  
*Co-concertmaster*  
Jina Han,  
*Co-concertmaster*  
Hannah Lee,  
*Asst. Concertmaster*  
Michael Liu,  
*Asst. Concertmaster*  
David Wang  
Claire Choi  
Zolin Williams  
Eric Ng  
Samuel Teo  
Saarthak Shankavaram  
Henna Lam  
Michelle Liu  
Brian Choi  
Sean Kim  
Felix Chuang

## **VIOLIN II**

Dylan Chua,  
*Co-principal*

Lumi Kim,  
*Co-principal*  
Michelle Xie  
Natalie Chang  
Matthew Zhang  
Teresa Sun  
Olivia Tu  
Zavier Chen  
Kaito Porter  
Soolynn Jin  
Jasleen Lu  
Felix Wang

## **VIOLA**

Eleanor Gil,  
*Co-principal*  
Chih-Yu Tseng,  
*Co-principal*  
Jonathan Cheng  
Hemani Kamarshi  
Angel Yang  
Jason Yang  
Mia Liu  
Jun Seo Oh  
Catherine Qin

## **CELLO**

Brandon Kang,  
*Co-principal*  
Gabriel Irazabal,  
*Co-principal*  
Ryan Gao,  
*Asst. Principal*  
Aiden Kim,  
*Asst. Principal*  
Clement Lee  
Casey Kim  
Matthew Hong  
Anthony Jung  
Michelle Fang  
JP Lee  
Jaclyn Wang  
Annie Liu  
Hongjoo (Hannah) Nam  
Theodore (Teddy) Tak  
Shujun (Margaret) Wang  
Joshua Chang  
Ann Kuo

**BASS**

Tyler Nichols,  
*Principal*  
 Haku Homma\*  
 Oscar Yanez\*  
 Scarlett Rocha\*  
 Ian Kim\*

**FLUTE**

Olivia Park,  
*Co-principal 1st*  
 Zoe Lin,  
*Co-principal 1st*  
 Ryan Wang,  
*Co-principal 2nd*  
 Naomi Jansson,  
*Co-principal 2nd*  
 Qia Zhang

**PICCOLO**

Qia Zhang

**OBOE**

Eliane Juang,  
*Co-principal 1st*  
 Eulina Ji,  
*Co-principal 1st*  
 Asher Wong,  
*Co-principal 2nd*  
 Lindsay Park,  
*Co-principal 2nd*

**ENGLISH HORN**

Eliane Juang  
 Asher Wong

**CLARINET**

Sola Suzuki,  
*Principal 1st*  
 Sophie Chi  
 Linda Chang  
 Myles Loong,  
*Principal 2nd*  
 Eric Lan  
 Jiho Seo

**BASS CLARINET**

Owen Tsai

**BASSOON**

Charlotte Lucas,  
*Principal*  
 Grady McCarter,  
*Co-principal 2nd*  
 Milan Towfiq,  
*Co-principal 2nd*

**CONTRABASSOON**

Milan Towfiq

**HORN**

Annabelle Lin,  
*Co-principal*  
 Elliot Yang  
 Sanghyuk (Eric) Ko  
 Ariana Yi  
 Tommy Chang\*  
 Nick Taylor\*

**TRUMPET**

Kanon Homma,  
*Co-principal*  
 James Lee,  
*Co-principal*  
 Logan Manildi,  
*Co-principal*  
 Mihir Shankar  
 Hayden Lee

**TROMBONE**

Sourabh Bharadwaj,  
*Principal*  
 Jasper Yip  
 Mohit Kulkarni  
 Harvy Chang\*

**BASS****TROMBONE**

Lenel Gomintong

**TUBA**

William Kwok

**ERCUSSION**

Natalie Chen  
 Apple Gao  
 Darren Gao  
 Eunseo (Dana) Ryu  
 Adrian Vanderhaegen

**HARP**

Melody Chien  
 Olivia Nam

**PIANO**

Leah Galant

\*Extra Musician

## CYS SENIOR ORCHESTRA – GRADUATING SENIORS



**CHARLOTTE LUCAS**, Bassoon, has been with CYS for four years. She studies with John Givens, and goes to Lynbrook High School. She was in SCCBDA Honor band for three years, and CODA December Honor Orchestra for one. She volunteered at Happy Hollow Zoo and McClellan Ranch preserve. Next year, Charlotte will be studying Animal Biology at UC Davis.



**LOGAN MANILDI**, trumpet, has been in CYS for two years. He studies Trumpet with Richard Roper. Logan is an All State Honor Band alumni, Concerto Competition winner for SCYS, and plays with SFSYO. While attending Harbor High School he was an attorney for his school's Mock Trial Team and does water polo, swims, and surfs. Logan also enjoys volunteering at the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Next year, Logan Manildi will pursue a dual degree in Trumpet performance at the Eastman School of Music and Biology at the University of Rochester.



Bassoonist **GRADY MCCARTER** has been with CYS for 2 years and studies with Dr. Yueh Chou. While attending Palo Alto High School he played both golf and soccer alongside his academics. Next year Grady will be studying economics and mathematics at Duke University.



**LINDSAY PARK**, Oboe, has been with CYS for 4 years, and she has taken lessons with Diane Wyant. While a student at Menlo-Atherton High School, Lindsay participated in Journalism, photography, and the non-profit organization Curieus. She was also in the All State HS Band and was the Principal 1st Oboe for Golden State.



Violist **CATHERINE QIN** has been part of CYS for 3 years and studies under Herbert Chang. She has been dancing ballet since a young age and has won multiple national competitions. In addition to being involved in many club activities, she serves as the News Editor for her school's newspaper. Next year, Catherine will be studying Business at Boston University.



## CYS SENIOR ORCHESTRA – GRADUATING SENIORS



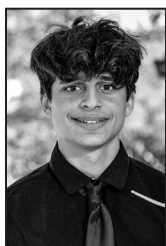
**DANA RYU**, a percussionist, has been with CYS for four years and attends Leigh High School. She enjoys spending time at church and organizing benefit concerts to support her community. Next year, she will major in Mathematics at Cornell University.



Clarinetist **JIHO SEO** has been with CYS for three years and studies with Ginger Kroft. At Gunn High School, Jiho is a member of the Wind Ensemble and Symphony Orchestra, in addition to Vice President of the Model United Nations Club and Anatomy & Physiology Club, as well as Secretary of the Chemistry Club. Additionally, he studies at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music Pre-College, where he performs with the Klarino Trio. Next year, he plans to study Aerospace Engineering in Illinois.



Violinist **SAMUEL TEO** from Monta Vista High School has played with CYS for 2 years and studies with Dr. Yoorhi Choi. He writes for his school's newsmagazine and serves as the associate concertmaster of his school's chamber orchestra. In his free time, he enjoys drawing, running, and doing calisthenics. As a Singaporean citizen, Samuel will partake in his country's mandatory national service before pursuing further studies at Carnegie Mellon University.

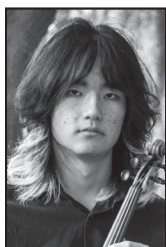


**MILAN TOWFIQ**, Bassoon and Contrabassoon, has played in CYS for 2 years, and studies with Yueh Chou. He attends Palo Alto High School, plays Squash and Piano, and has played in the CASMEC All-State Honor Band. He will study Data Science and Quantitative Sciences at Emory University.



**CHIH-YU TSENG**, violist, has been with CYS for 2 years. She studied with Yu-Ting Hou for 4 years and is currently enhancing techniques by herself. Other than viola, she also enjoys playing piano since 5 years old. Outside of CYS, she is the member of Dream Maker String Orchestra in Taiwan and participates in many fund-raising concerts. Next year, Chih-Yu plans to major in business at UC Davis.

## CYS SENIOR ORCHESTRA – GRADUATING SENIORS



**DAVID WANG** (see bio on page 8)



**JACLYN (TIFI) WANG** has been playing the cello for around a decade now and has played with CYS for the past eight years. She learns with Brady Anderson and goes to California High School. Once she graduates, she plans to study illustration to fulfill her dreams of someday becoming an artist that can create happiness for others.



**ELLIOT YANG**, French Horn, has been with CYS for six years, and started off his musical journey nine years ago as a trumpet player. He studies with Joe Kim. While attending Lynbrook High School, he participated within the Marching Band and gave back to the community with the power of music through organizations like Hopebox. Next year, Elliot will be studying Nursing at Case Western Reserve University.



**QIA ZHANG** has been playing flute and piccolo in CYS for the past 3 years and studies with Kassey LeBow Plaha. At Lynbrook High School, she is an officer in French Honor Society and Public Art Club, and also volunteers through clubs such as California Scholarship Federation and Conservation Action Association. She also plays piano and has achieved Certificate of Merit, Advanced Level. Next year, she plans to attend Wellesley College with an undeclared major.



## CYS ASSOCIATE ORCHESTRA – GRADUATING SENIORS



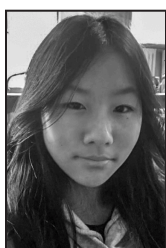
Oboist **FIONA CHAN** has been part of CYS for 3 years, and studies with Wentao Jiang. Outside of CYS, she is part of a nonprofit's marketing team that aims to spread music to those in the Bay Area. She will be pursuing a degree in Computer Science in the Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering at UC Riverside, with a focus on cybersecurity.



**MATTHEW CHANG** has been in CYS for 2 years, as a member of the Violin sections. He has played his instrument for about 8 years, and has studied with Tina Minn. While a student at Saratoga High School, Matthew was a member of the school orchestras.



French Hornist **ANANYA SAHA**, has been a part of CYS for 4 years. In addition to participating in many club activities, she served as the Varsity Water Polo captain for her high school and volunteered for many organizations including the Jenny Lin Foundation and her local special needs center. Next, Ananya will be studying Neurobiology at UC San Diego.



Violist **AMANDA ZOU** has been with CYS for 2 years, and studies with Rachel Ren. In addition to participating in many club activities, she has been a part of the Foothill High School Track & Field Team for 4 years and served as the FHS SWENext President. Next year, she will study Biological Sciences at UC Davis.



## CYS WIND SYMPHONY – GRADUATING SENIORS



**TANISH BOBDE** has played the saxophone for 9 years, 2 of those in CYS. He has played in SJYS and CYS bands since 7th grade. Tanish attends Prospect High School and will be attending University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign for Information Science and Data Science. Tanish has volunteered with his local neighborhood association for the last 4 years, is a crucial part of two non-profits, coded his own app, and is on the board for 5 school clubs.



**RODERICK MA**, an alto saxophonist, has been a member of CYS for one year. While attending Prospect High School, he has performed in his school's wind ensemble and jazz band, as well as the All-District Jazz and Wind Bands. Additionally, he is a member of the San Jose Jazz All-Stars. Roderick plans to pursue a major in Statistics at University of Toronto.



**MAXIMILIENNE PELFREY** has played the clarinet with CYS for two years and studies with Kevin Tang. As a senior at Ruth Asawa School of the Arts, she is a proud dancer of the advanced level in the Conservatory Dance Department. A dedicated volunteer and employee at the Hiller Aviation Museum, Maximilienne has completed nearly 700 hours of service. Maximilienne is excited to be attending The American University of Paris, where she will study Art History, French, and Fashion Marketing.



**ALLEN QI** currently plays bari sax for the CYS Wind Symphony and has been a part of CYS for three years. He currently attends Archbishop Mitty High School, where he is the president of the Chinese Culture Club and captain of the swim team. He also serves at his church as a youth co-worker and volunteers at a local food kitchen. He will be attending UCLA next year to pursue a degree in public health.



**ANDREW YOON** plays the French horn and has been with CYS for one year, while studying the horn with Scott Hartman. Andrew attends Monta Vista High School and has played in the school's Marching Band and Jazz Band. Andrew plans on studying Information Science at University of Maryland next year.

## CYS VIRTUOSI STRINGS – GRADUATING SENIORS



**JESSIE KO** is a violinist, has been with CYS for 5 years, and studies with Yuan-Yu Weng. At Monta Vista High School, she plays piano for her school's choir and enjoys creating arts and crafts for her friends. Next, she plans on majoring in biology.



Cellist **JACOB YOUNG** has been playing for CYS for 2 years and studies under Elliot Mallard. He is the lead web developer for HelpMynd, a local nonprofit, is in Boy Scouts and in his school's debate club. He will study Computer Science at UC Riverside or Purdue University.



## MUSIC TEACHERS

In addition to hours of CYS rehearsals, our musicians also participate in their school bands and orchestras as well as study privately. We would like to commend the following dedicated private and school music teachers whose efforts have helped to make today's concert possible:

Kirk Abe	Sharolyn Borris	Jinsun Choi
Mariko Abe	Ryan Bortz	Yoorhi Choi
Ricky Alegria	Toby Branz	Jennifer Chon
Isabella Amador	Amy Brodo	Yueh Chou
Joe Amiral	Jacob Brodski	Alexander Christensen
Yu-Tang An	Clark Brown	Joseph Christianson
Alyson Ancheta	Jeanette Brown	Linda Clements
Charles Ancheta	Roland Brown	Tony Clements
Anthony Anderson	Samuel Brown	Ed Cloyd
Brady Anderson	Kyle Bruckmann	John Collaros
Galina André	Jes Burgess	Marian Concus
Dennis Aquilina	John Burn	Gregory Conway
Annamarie Arai	Pat Burnham	Ann Coombs
Gemma Arguelles	Seo Hee Byun	Kayla Corley
Janet Averett	Jonah Cabral	Michael Corner
Rebecca Ayer	Beau Cadigan	Kris Cruz
Andres Ayola	Michelle Caimotto	Garth Cummings
Jini Baik	Heather Calame	Jieqing Dai
Taryn Baillie	Carrie Campbell	Patrick Dandrea
Dillon Baiocchi	Elaine Cao	Sara Dasovich
William Barbini	Dane Carlson	Pierre Dazin
Tanya Barnett	Katerine Carmona Arbelaez	Russ DeLuna
Diane Barton-Brown	Ronnie Cato	Lauren Diez
Wayne Basker	Alan Chan	Margarita Dimov
Craig Batanides	Chin-Fei Chan	Jim Dooley
Craig Bate	Herbert Chang	Stef Dubrowski
Daisy Bate	Isabelle Chapuis	Mark Dungan
Jonathan Bautista	Alan Chen	Shelley Durbin
James Beauton	Chi Chen	Karla Ekholm
Bryce Beckel	John Chen	Ahmed Elgasseir
Jason Bellenkes	Kitty Chen	Johnny Erdman
Judy Belson	Kuanh Suan Chen	Lei Fang
Laurie Benson	Li-Ling Chen	Jory Fankuchen
Sarah Benton	Ryan Chen	Ric Feliciano
Göran Berg	Tammy Chen	Ted Ferrucci
Yulia Berry	Yuguang Chen	William Flaherty
Bailey Bertao	Chi-man Cheng	Garon Fok
Lauren Bevilacqua	Kai-Li Cheng	Keith Fongheiser
Margaret Billin	David Chernyavsky	Jean Michel Fonteneau
Ryan Black	Emily Chiet	Lori Franke
Michael Boitz	Sin-Tung Chiu	Richard Frazier
Jason Borris	James Choi	John Freeman



Theresa Frew Onyett	Jill Hirsh	Byung Woo Kim
Leonid Fridman	Hong-Ying Ho	Christy Kim
Craig Fry	Louis Hoffman	Ellen Kim
Lynee Funkhouser	Esther Hollander	Jaclyn Kim
Ray Furuta	Dr. Scott Homer	Jihee Kim
Eric Gaenslen	Lily Homer	Joseph Kim
Kevin Gallagher	Kellie Hoover	KyungHwa Kim
Nicholas Garcia	Thomas Hornig	Min Kyeong Kim
Debra Gardner	Yu Ting Hou	Minji Kim
Dr. Jeff Gauer	Katie House	Nancy Kim
Nicholas Gaydos	Jim Howesman	Tina Kim
Allison Gessner	Ja Hsieh	Yejin Kim
Travis Geyer	Dr. Yilien Hsu	Yubeen Kim
John Gilchrist	Cecilia Huang	Yunsun Kim
John Givens	Florence Huang	Mason Kimont
Andrea Glass	Helena Huang	Leo Kitajima Geefay
Sadie Glass	Jiayi Huang	Megan Koch
Bengisu Gokce	John Huang	Jonathan Koh
Ai Goldsmith	Nathan Huie	Karen Kolber
Liza Goldstein	Alvin Hung	Kwokping Koo
AJ Gonzales	Kelley Hunt	Monica Kraft
Chris Gonzales	Harry Hwang	Armen Krakirian
Jonathan Grantham	Gilbert Iruegas	Aryn Krijnen
Audrey Gray	Aslan Isabaev	Ginger Kroft
Jimmee Greco	Darin Ishimatsu	Kent Kurrus
David Gregoric	Kumiko Ito	Jiwon Evelyn Kwark
Emily Greitzer	Noriko Iwamoto	Ohtae Kwon
Diana Gremett	Joel Jaffe	Leah Lader
Huai Guan	Amie Jan	Grace Lai
Angelo Guiliano	Justin Janer	Judy Lam
Susan Hahn	Lucy Jang	Cecily Lan
Pam Hakl Economos	Huang Jia-Yi	Anthony Lanzino
Philip Halseth	Wentao Jiang	Cheryl Larson
Justine Hamlin	Wu Jiang	Davis Law
Jehah Han	Xin Jing	Chinh Le
Jason Hansen	Conroy Jinq	Rick Leder
Paul Hanson	Dr. Michael Jones	August Lee
Dr. David Hart	Jay Jordana	Bobae Lee
Leslie Hart	Jonathan Jow	Grace Lee
Scott Hartman	Chad Kaltinger	Hijung Lee
Katie Hatley	Sonyoung Kang	Hyesung Lee
Victoria Hawk	Olya Katsman	Janet Lee
Daniel Hawkins	Chris Kay	Jinny Lee
Natalie Haworth-Liu	Adelle-Akiko Kearns	Junghee Lee
Jill Heinke	Kathleen Keating	Mickie Lee
Dr. Michael Hernandez	Joseph Kelly	Sarah Lee
Joey Herrera	Dr. Pauline Kempf	Sun Joo Lee
Andrea Hinman	Bitna Kim	Valerie Lee
Craig Hirotsuka	Byung Kim	Yen-Yin Lee

Galen Lemmon  
 Lucinda Lenicheck  
 Matthew Leung  
 Isac Levine  
 Jeff Lewis  
 Sandra Lewis  
 Vincent Lewis  
 Jeffrey Li  
 Natachia Li  
 Elizabeth Liang  
 Fred Lifszitz  
 Jin Lin  
 Juichih Lin  
 Marjorie Lin  
 Pei-Ling Lin  
 Sandy Lin  
 Shin-Hui Lin  
 Tim Lin  
 Kathleen Little  
 Amy Liu  
 Ming Liu  
 Shinyu Liu  
 Joseph Livoti  
 Wangchen Long  
 Benjamin Loomer  
 Paul Lorigan  
 Chang Lu  
 Nan Lu  
 Larissa Lyon  
 Yong-Zi Ma  
 Elizabeth MacCorquodale  
 Sue Macy  
 Daniel Magay  
 Joseph Maile  
 Oleksandr Makarenko  
 Natasha Makhijani  
 Elliot Mallard  
 Adrienne Malley  
 Yukiko Matsumoto  
 Robin May  
 Diana McGrory  
 John McGrory  
 Isabel McPherson  
 Mike McWilliams  
 Brooke Mickelson  
 Gretchen Miescke  
 Dalia Miguel  
 Kent Mikasa  
 Arthur Mikhailov

Dr. Ann Miller  
 Greg Miller  
 Jeffrey Miller  
 Giyeon Min  
 Tina Minn  
 Sayyod Mirzomurodov  
 Patty Mitchell  
 Be'eri Moalem  
 Curt Moore  
 Emily Moore  
 Ken Moran  
 Bruce Moyer  
 Kiri Murakami-Loehmann  
 Kathy Murdock  
 Joseph Murphy  
 Teri Musiel  
 Ekaterina Myshliaeva  
 Sandra Na  
 Shoko Nagami  
 Ken Nakamoto  
 Christopher Nalls  
 Dr. Lu Nan  
 Cary Nasatir  
 Maxine Nemerovski  
 Dennis Ngai  
 Jan Nguyen  
 Johanna Nilsson  
 Toshiya Nishi  
 Erik Nishimori  
 Paul Nueffer  
 Nicole Nutting  
 Tennessee O'Hanlon  
 Teresa Orozco  
 Lenny Ott  
 Tiffany Ou-Ponticelli  
 ShuYi Pai  
 Michael Pakuluk  
 Huei-Yuan Pan  
 Natalie Pangilinan  
 Bradley Parese  
 Elizabeth Park  
 Ji Hyun Park  
 Soyoung Park  
 Sung-Hee Park  
 Shahrzad Parviz  
 Tina Paulson  
 Jonathan Pedroni  
 Jennifer Peng  
 Ju-Yi Peng

Kassey Plaha  
 Elliot Polot  
 Lisa Ponton  
 Sophie Powers  
 Eric Price  
 Shawn Prodhumme  
 Jonathan Pwu  
 Ker Qi  
 Sheng Qi  
 Anthony Quartuccio  
 Sadie Queally-Sammut  
 Jemal Ramirez  
 Fred Rast  
 Kevin Ren  
 Rachel Ren  
 Paul Rhodes  
 Cera Riveland  
 Cathy Robertson  
 Charlie Rodda  
 Lidia Rodriguez  
 Rian Rodriguez  
 Linda Rollo  
 Richard Roper  
 Alisa Rose  
 Aaron Rosengaus  
 Desirée Ruhstrat  
 Carolyn Russ Slous  
 Mark Russo  
 Shane Ryan  
 Katie Ryu  
 Dr. Pasha Sabouri  
 Shay Salhov  
 Steve Sánchez  
 David Sankus  
 Corina Santos  
 Jason Sarten  
 Ben Scharf  
 Bill Schray  
 Brenda Schuman-Post  
 Daniel Scoggins  
 Anthony Scuderi  
 Bitna Seol  
 Carolyn Shannon  
 Deday Shao  
 Robin Sharp  
 Aaron Shaul  
 Bob Sheets  
 Susan Shi  
 Megan Shieh-Cruz

Wenyi Shih	Ewen Tsai	Jingwen Xu
Joo-youn Shin	Liz Tsao	Rachel Xu
Sue-mi Shin	Juliana Tzeng	Shaoqing Xu
Jason Shiuan	Jenny Ugale	James Xuan
Virginia Smedberg	Dillon Vado	Jeffrey Yaeger
Caitlyn Smith Franklin	Antoine van Dongen	Aya Yaida
Robin Snyder	Karen Van Dyke	Kyoko Yamamoto
Min Son	Jill Van Gee	Chii Yang
Sunah Song	Karen Van Overen	Kaige Yang
Mark Sowlakis	Richard Vaughan	Lingling Yang
Maritza Spieller	Michael Vieyra	Melody Yang
Peter Spitzer	Sam Wang	Ken Yee
Gulnar Spurlock	Vicky Wang	Ernest Ting-Ta Yen
Atiba Starr	Yingying Wang	Zhou Yi
Kate Stenberg	Yu-Ting Wang	Zhao Ying
Bob Sterling	Stephanie Watkins	Hyemin Yoon
Asa Stern	Jeananne Weber	Katie Youn
Corina Stoian	Jordan Webster	Alan Young
Artie Storch	Zhao Wei	Amy Young
Corinne Sturgis	Amy Wen	Lofn Young
Paula Su	Yuan-Yu Weng	Matt Young
Todd Summers	Brennan Whitaker	Chiaki Yu
Yun Sun	Lauren White	Karen Yu
Eric Sung	Iskandar Widjaja	Kevin Yu
Cynthia Swenson	Eugenia Wie	Pei-San Yu
Brian Switzer	Dr. Adam Wilke	Sonya Yu
Debbie Tandoc	Megan Williams	Zhang Yu
Anyu Tang	Lori Willis	Liu Yueyi
Chi-Mei Tang	Jeffrey Willner	Hye Min Yun
David Tang	Erika Wilsen	Allison Zenner
Kevin Tang	Jeff Wilson	Leo Zhang
Daniel Tarley	Janet Witharm	Ranran Zhang
Kashmira Tata	Jaco Wong	Zachary Zhang
Alicia Telford	Marco Wong	Christine Zhao
Poh Soon Teng	Theresa Woo	Ying Zhao
Kaori Terada	Tom Woo	Zeng Zheng
Cindy Thorp	Daniel Wood	Junhong Zhou
Josh Thurston-Milgrom	Toni Woodruff	Nan Zhou
Clio Tilton	John Worley	ZhongXian Zhou
Patrick Tinney	Jiang Wu	Xuemei Zou
Jasper Tran	Diane Wyant	Zhou Zunxian
Gail Trenerry	Frank Wyant	
Elbert Tsai	Zhou Zun Xian	

## KEY VOLUNTEERS

Vicky Lin . . . . .	Senior Orchestra
Grace Chua . . . . .	Senior Orchestra
Caroline Lu . . . . .	Senior Orchestra
Yaming Qiu . . . . .	Senior Orchestra
Ranganath Shankavaram . . . . .	Senior Orchestra
Sasha Pyo . . . . .	Associate Orchestra
Ying Chen . . . . .	Associate Orchestra
Connie Yuan . . . . .	Associate Orchestra
Lori Ke . . . . .	Wind Symphony
Karen Cheong . . . . .	Wind Symphony
Michelle Shao . . . . .	Virtuosi Strings
Peter Chang . . . . .	Virtuosi Strings
Emilie Lai . . . . .	Virtuosi Strings
Shuling Liu . . . . .	Virtuosi Strings
Yanli Zhang . . . . .	Virtuosi Strings
Yong Yu . . . . .	Virtuosi Strings
Max Liang . . . . .	Intermezzi Strings
Yin-Ju Yang . . . . .	Intermezzi Strings
Lu-An Ko . . . . .	Intermezzi Strings
Hannah Chang-Farh . . . . .	Intermezzi Strings
Ying Li . . . . .	Wind Ensemble
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## THE DEBORAH SHIDLER OBOE SCHOLARSHIP



The Deborah Shidler Oboe Scholarship, created by husband and professional trumpeter, Dave Burkhart, aims at outstanding oboists in CYS who show promise for continued excellence in music.

Deb passed away on May 23, 2021, after a battle with pancreatic cancer. She was a professional oboist with SF Opera Orchestra, Symphony San Jose, and Berkeley Symphony, to name a few, and taught at UC Davis for ten years, CSU Sacramento for over 20 years, and coached at camps and workshops. Deb taught her last Zoom session with CYS the day before she went into the ICU.

Beloved for her kindness, compassion, and sense of humor, Deb was known locally and regionally for her musical gifts and as a devoted teacher. She inspired her students with her singing sound and soaring phrasing, musical and historical insight, reed-making skill, and a “You’re doin’ it!” encouragement. Deb’s footprint in the world of instrumental music education is immeasurable. This scholarship fund for outstanding oboists will help ensure Deb Shidler’s legacy at CYS.

Those interested in donating to the Deborah Shidler Oboe Scholarship Fund may donate online at [www.cys.org/donate](http://www.cys.org/donate) or send checks made payable to the CYS, referencing “Deb Shidler” or “Oboe Scholarship” in the memo. We thank the following donors who have supported the scholarship so far:

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**The California Youth Symphony appreciates many generous donors. This list includes gifts received between April 1, 2024 and April 30, 2025.**

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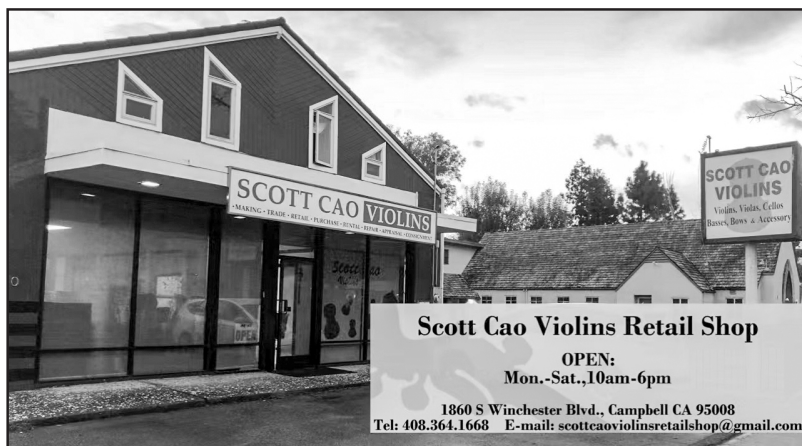
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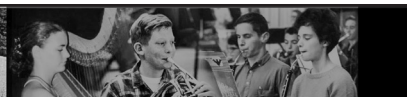
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## *Northern California Flute Camp*

July 9–17, 2025 | *Guest Artist: Jeanne Baxtresser* | [flutecamp.com](http://flutecamp.com)



*cys* CALIFORNIA YOUTH SYMPHONY ESTABLISHED 1952  
**alumni REHEARSAL & GATHERING**



## Alumni Reading Rehearsal & Gathering Calling CYS Alumni!

Reconnect with your CYS pals at our 3rd annual Alumni Reading Rehearsal and Gathering. We're looking forward to revisiting treasured memories and playing some great symphonic repertoire.

This event is free to all CYS alumni.

- **Date:** Sunday, June 8, 2025
- **Time:** 6:00 - 8:30 pm
- **Location:** Almond Elementary School, Los Altos
- **RSVP:** [www.cys.org/about/alumni](http://www.cys.org/about/alumni)

## String Camp 2025

Open to CYS and non-CYS musicians with 1 to 7 years of experience, the camp is designed for beginning- to intermediate-level string players.

There will be simultaneous sessions for two ensembles, based on experience level. **CYS String Ensembles Director, Kati Kyme**, conducts the full ensemble rehearsals, and four professional Bay Area musicians will teach musicianship, sectionals, and chamber music sessions.

- **Dates:** Monday, July 21 - Friday, July 25
- **Times:** 9:00 - 3:00 (Mon - Thurs) & 9:00 - 3:30 (Fri)
- **Location:** Monta Vista High School, Cupertino
- [www.cys.org/musicians](http://www.cys.org/musicians)



# 25-26 SEASON CALENDAR

## SEASON OPENER

November 2, 2025 | 2:30 PM  
Chabot College Performing Arts Complex, Hayward  
*Senior Orchestra*

## FALL CONCERT

November 23, 2025 | 1:00 PM  
Location TBD  
*Intermezzi Strings, Virtuosi Strings, Chamber Winds, Wind Ensemble*

## HOLIDAY CONCERT

December 7, 2025 | 2:30 PM  
San Mateo Performing Arts Center, San Mateo  
*Wind Symphony, Associate Orchestra, Senior Orchestra*

## BAY AREA YOUTH ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL (BAYOF)

January 18, 2026 | 3:00 PM  
Davies Symphony Hall, San Francisco  
*Senior Orchestra and other Bay Area Youth Orchestras*

## PERFORM-A-THON FUNDRAISER

February 7, 2026  
Time and Location TBD  
*Participation Open to all CYS Members*

## FESTIVAL CONCERTS

March 22, 2026 | 1:00 & 6:00 PM  
Smithwick Theatre, Los Altos Hills  
*Intermezzi Strings, Virtuosi Strings, Chamber Winds, Wind Ensemble, Wind Symphony, Associate Orchestra*

## SPRING CONCERT

March 29, 2026 | 7:30 PM  
California Theater, San Jose  
*Senior Orchestra*

## CODA CONCERTS

May 17, 2026 | 1:00 & 6:00 PM  
Smithwick Theatre, Los Altos Hills  
*Intermezzi Strings, Virtuosi Strings, Chamber Winds, Wind Ensemble, Wind Symphony, Associate Orchestra*

## SEASON FINALE

May 31 OR June 7, 2026 | 2:30 PM  
Location TBD  
*Senior Orchestra*

## TOUR PREVIEW CONCERT

June 26 OR June 27, 2026  
Time and Location TBD  
*Senior Orchestra*

*\*Dates, times, and locations subject to change*



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# 2024-2025 SEASON SCHEDULE

## CYS SENIOR ORCHESTRA

### SEASON OPENER

**November 3, 2024 | 2:30 PM**

**San Mateo Performing Arts Center**

Bates: *Devil's Radio*

Dvořák: *Cello Concerto* (**Huisun Hong**, soloist)

Mussorgsky/Ravel: *Pictures at an Exhibition*

### HOLIDAY CONCERT

**December 1, 2024 | 2:30 PM**

**San Mateo Performing Arts Center**

Copland: *Buckaroo Holiday* from *Rodeo*

Daughtrey: *Sea of Tranquility*

(Percussion Section)

*Plus, Classical and Seasonal Favorites by the  
CYS Orchestras and CYS Wind Symphony*

### SPRING CONCERT

**March 30, 2025 | 2:30 PM**

**Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley**

Daughtrey: *Rhyme or Reason*

(Percussion Section)

Golovko: *Colombian Marimba Concerto*

(**Apple Gao**, soloist)

Ravel: *La Valse*

Respighi: *Feste Romane*

Simon: *Fate Now Conquers*

### SEASON FINALE

**June 1, 2025 | 2:30 PM**

**San Mateo Performing Arts Center**

Higdon: *Blue Cathedral*

Stookey: *The Composer is Dead*

*Plus, additional works by CYS Graduating  
Senior Concerto Competition Winners*

## CYS ASSOCIATE ORCHESTRA & WIND SYMPHONY

### HOLIDAY CONCERT

**December 1, 2024 | 2:30 PM**

**San Mateo Performing Arts Center**

*with the CYS Senior Orchestra*

### FESTIVAL EVENING

**March 9, 2025 | 6 PM**

**Smithwick Theatre, Foothill College**

### CODA CONCERT

**May 18, 2025**

**1 PM – Assoc. Orchestra & String Ensembles**

**6 PM – Wind Symphony & Wind Ensembles**

**Smithwick Theatre, Foothill College**

## CYS STRING & WIND ENSEMBLES

### WINTER CONCERT

**December 8, 2024 | 1 PM**

**Chabot College**

### FESTIVAL AFTERNOON

**March 9, 2025 | 1 PM**

**Smithwick Theatre, Foothill College**

### CODA CONCERT

**May 18, 2025**

**1 PM – String Ensembles & Assoc. Orchestra**

**6 PM – Wind Ensembles & Wind Symphony**

**Smithwick Theatre, Foothill College**



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