



# PEABODY PREPARATORY

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S STRING PROGRAM (YPSP)

### STUDENT NEWSLETTER – SPRING/SUMMER 2011

## A Word from the YPSP Coordinators

### From the YPSP Program Coordinator...

Congratulations to everyone on a beautiful Spring Concert! It is always a great feeling to sit back and listen to what you have accomplished with all your practice at home and in group classes. You each have helped make this concert a wonderful event.

Now we are moving on towards our end of the semester recitals, and we will be using some of group class time to hear each other play solos. This is a valuable experience for both the performer and the audience. When it is your turn to play, use the opportunity to practice getting your musical ideas across to your classmates. When it is your turn to listen, be thinking about what you hear, and what works or needs improvement. Also listen to the teacher's comments — you will get helpful ideas about how to practice and perform.

We will also have master class weeks which provide the opportunity for your own teacher to hear you play with your recital pianist. Please ask your teacher for the schedule.

As summer approaches, many families are thinking ahead to summer activities. Check out the information in this newsletter about Peabody Preparatory's two summer camps from string players, **Camp Allegro** and **Chamber Camp**, as well as other area possibilities for summer music study and enjoyment.

Thanks for a great semester — looking forward to our May recitals!

Sincerely,

Janet Melnicoff-Brown  
YPSP Program Coordinator



### From the YPSP Cello Coordinator...



They say time flies when you are having fun! So, I must be having fun because somehow, we are already nearing the end of the year. This year, I have three graduating seniors and it seems like yesterday that they were playing their Twinkles.

Parents, thank you for all your hard work with your children this year. We couldn't do what we do without your trust and support. Your belief that music plays an important role in a person's life is why we are here.

I want to share with you an exciting event coming up on Saturday, April 30. **Pamela Devenport**, an internationally recognized clinician will spend a day with us. She will teach three group classes and a master class. students, please make sure you know what pieces you need to prepare for each class. Two lectures are also planned for the older students, parents and teachers on the mornings of April 29 and April 30.

I strongly encourage you to attend the master class on Saturday afternoon even if you are not playing. One of the best ways to get better without practice is to listen. Chances are whatever the teacher is saying will apply to you too!

As we are approaching the end of the semester, I hope you are planning some musical activities with your child this summer, minimally, as continuing with the regular lessons is crucial. Ask your teacher for recommendations on what type of supplemental program would be beneficial for you.

Parents, as always, your love and dedication for your child is what inspires me every day. Please let me know if there is any way I can better serve you. Feel free to email me at [bchen3@peabody.jhu.edu](mailto:bchen3@peabody.jhu.edu).

Sincerely,

Bai-Chi Chen  
YPSP Cello Coordinator

# Concert Attendance Opportunities for YPSP Students & Families

## Peabody Preparatory Concerts

Our very first ensembles are our YPSP groups, and our youngest students are already learning the skills that musicians need to participate in making music meaningful and creating something that is shared and understood by all. It is a good idea to bring students to hear young performers who are playing at a high level using these same skills: listening, watching, respecting the group, and working together to create something beautiful.

*Please mark your calendars and plan to bring your child to some of these events.*

## Peabody Preparatory Orchestra Concerts

For another look at what your young string player may be getting into in the future, come hear one of our Preparatory orchestras play. Even our youngest YPSP students can anticipate being in string orchestra someday and will enjoy hearing their somewhat older colleagues in these ensembles:

### *Preparatory Elementary Group for Strings (PEGS)*

The **Preparatory Elementary Group for Strings (PEGS)** orchestra program, conducted by **Louise Hildreth-Grasso**, is proud to present its second concert performance for 2010-2011 on Saturday, April 16, 2011 at 2:45 pm in the Hilda and Douglas Goodwin Recital Hall, located in the Leakin Hall Plaza level hallway across from the Conservatory Business Office. The PEGS orchestra is open to string students in grades 2-6, who play violin, viola, cello and bass at the Suzuki Book 2-early Book 4 level. This elementary level string ensemble is designed to provide an introduction to playing in an orchestra setting in a fun group environment. PEGS students meet for seven Saturdays each semester to rehearse music written and arranged for string orchestra. On the eighth Saturday of each semester, students perform 1-3 pieces in a brief concert.

Concert attendees are invited to join the **PEGS** faculty, students and their families for a reception in the Bank of America Lounge (second floor Leakin Hall) immediately following the brief concert. They will celebrate the tremendous work achieved by all these wonderful young students for the year. We applaud the success of this fantastic new youth orchestra.

No audition is necessary to join **PEGS** - everyone is welcome to enroll, regardless of whether the student receives individual instruction at the Preparatory. Participation is by semester with the class designed to be taken for a minimum of one semester, but can be taken repeatedly as the material will be new for each semester. Seating placement is determined by the conductor and students' seating will rotate each semester. For YPSP students, this groups is a supplement (not a replacement) to their group classes and students are expected to continue their participation in all YPSP group activities and individual instruction.

### *Preparatory String Ensemble (PSE) and Young Artists Orchestra (YAO)*

The **Preparatory String Ensemble (PSE)**, led by conductor **Matthew Horwitz-Lee**, and **Young Artists Orchestra (YAO)**, led by conductor **Daniel Levitov**, will perform their spring concert at 3:30 pm on Saturday, May 14, 2010. The concert will be held in the Leith Symington Griswold Hall of the Peabody downtown campus Conservatory Building, 2nd floor. The program will include the winners of the Preparatory's annual Junior Concerto Competition. This year, hear harpist **Alyssa Katahara** perform with the **YAO**, along with works from Mozart, Dittersdorf, Nielsen and Torelli. The **PSE** will feature violinist **Elizabeth Gange** as soloist, playing the first movement of Vivaldi's *Concert in a minor, Op. 3, No. 6*. The program will also include the "*B-Suite*" for Strings by Carie Lane Gruselle, *Blue Rhythmico* by Kirt Mosier, and *Stars and Stripes Forever* by John Philip Sousa, arranged by Andrew Dabczynski.



Matthew Horwitz-Lee conducts the Preparatory String Ensemble.

Photos from the Spring 2008 PSE & YAO Concert, Courtesy of Will Kirk, JHU Photographic Services



Dan Levitov conducts the Young Artists Orchestra.



Young Preparatory violin students rehearsing together.

## Peabody Youth Orchestra (PYO)

Also on Saturday, May 14, 2011, the **Peabody Youth Orchestra (PYO)**, led by musical director and conductor **Harlan D. Parker**, will feature the winner of the Preparatory's annual Concerto Competition, Preparatory cellist and YPSP alumna, **Alessandra Garvin**, performing Édouard Lalo's *Cello Concerto in d minor*. We were pleased to have Alessandra play the second movement of this piece at our YPSP Spring Concert. The concert will also include *Overture to "Die Meistersinger von Nurnberg"* by Richard Wagner, and *Symphony No. 2 in b minor* by Alexander Borodin. The PYO will perform at 7:00 pm in the Miriam A. Friedberg Concert Hall.

## Preparatory Chamber Music Program Spring Recital

The Preparatory has an active chamber music program for strings, woodwinds and piano. There is a wealth of beautiful music written for various chamber music ensembles. Many students at the intermediate and advanced levels add chamber ensembles to their schedules and find the opportunity for artistic growth very fulfilling.

For an opportunity to hear what Preparatory chamber music students perform, come to the spring **Chamber Music Recital** on Tuesday, May 10, 2011 at 6:00 pm in the Hilda and Douglas Goodwin Recital Hall. Works by Mozart, Sibelius, Dvořák, and Haydn will be performed.

## Adult & Continuing Education (ACE) Spring Recital

The **Adult & Continuing Education (ACE)** program has a vibrant program for adults who want to study music and dance at the Preparatory. The ACE spring performance will feature the Preparatory's adult chamber music program, led by Preparatory faculty member **Barbara Schneider**, on Tuesday, May 17, 2011 at 7:00 pm in the Cohen-Davison Family Theatre. Amateur adult musicians who may be interested in participating in the ACE program are encouraged to attend this recital.

The adult chamber music program is designed for adult students, ages 18 and older of intermediate/advanced level, who are interested in learning and performing classical chamber repertoire. Classes will be offered this summer, as well as throughout the fall/spring school year. This program is perfect for our parents who play and want a musical experience of their own!



ACE flute student performs in recital, Spring 2008.

Harlan D. Parker conducts the PYO in concert, May 2009.



Don't miss the Spring Chamber Music recital.

## Performance Opportunities in the Community

There are many great concerts in our area, and it is a great experience for our students to hear live music!

The following are some concert suggestions in our area that may be of special interest to our YPSP string students and their families:

**FIRST, a few that include members of the BSO ...**

### In the Community ...

#### Community Concerts at Second ...

The **Community Concerts at Second** series, in North Baltimore, offers afternoon and evening concerts to the community. These concerts are a wonderful opportunity to hear these fine professional musicians, many of whom play in the **Baltimore Symphony Orchestra**, and to learn about the vast array of music available for chamber groups. There is a **Chamber Music by Candlelight Concert** on Sunday, April 17, 2011 at 7:30 pm. with works by William Bolcom, Carl Maria von Weber and Felix Mendelssohn. These concerts are free but donations are accepted and appreciated. For details on upcoming events, visit [http://www.communityconcertsatsecond.org/concert\\_calendar.php](http://www.communityconcertsatsecond.org/concert_calendar.php).

**NEXT, concert attendance opportunities around town...**

### With the BSO ...

As always, the **Baltimore Symphony Orchestra (BSO)** is a major resource for great music in our area. There is a rich variety of wonderful concerts this time of year on the BSO's schedule. String players may be especially interested in hearing the **Atlantic Quartet** on Sunday, May 1, 2011 at 3:00 pm, playing works by Haydn, Bartók and Mendelssohn.

Visit the BSO's website at <http://www.bsomusic.org/> for a complete list of upcoming concerts and for next year's schedule at both the Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall in Baltimore, and at the Strathmore in Washington, D.C. A complete list of children's concerts, educational programs and some musical games students can play online can also be found on the BSO's website at <http://www.bsomusic.org/bsokids>.

## And in the local area ... *The Shriver Hall Concert Series ...*

The last of this year's **Shriver Hall** concerts takes place on Sunday, May 1, 2011 at 5:30 pm. The **Tokyo String Quartet**, with pianist Leon Fleischer, will perform Brahms's *Quintet in f minor*. Other works will include a string quartet by Haydn and one by Szymanowski. Peabody students can attend these concerts for free, although parents who accompany them must

pay for their own tickets. The recommended age for audience members is 10 years and up. To reserve tickets, call the Shriver Hall ticket office at 410-516-7164. Be sure to reserve the free seat for your child as well. Tickets can be picked up at the Will-Call window. For more information about upcoming events, visit <http://www.shriverconcerts.org/season.php?detailID=1167>.

**Please keep these opportunities in mind  
as you plan your family activities!**

## Related News and Announcements

### YPSP Oistrakh Group Performs with Hilary Hahn in Benefit Concert for Japan

On March 24, 2011, our **YPSP Oistrakh Group** had a memorable opportunity to perform at a benefit concert for Japan with renowned violinist and Preparatory alumna **Hilary Hahn**. Since Hahn had to cancel her tour to Japan due to the tragedy there, she decided to organize an event to raise support for the victims of the terrible earthquake, tsunami and nuclear emergency.

Since Hahn began playing violin at the Peabody Preparatory, she thought it would be nice to invite a group from our Suzuki-based program to join her for this concert. The fourteen students in the **Oistrakh Group** opened her concert with Dvořák's *Humoresque* and Seitz's *Concerto in G Major, III*. **Simona Clamplin** from the **Oistrakh Group** described her experience, "It felt like all the winds on earth came towards me revealing a gift I might never have again: playing in the same concert as Hilary Hahn and helping Japan at the same time." It was truly an exciting experience for all the students to meet and hear such a famous violinist, and to offer their talent and music for such a meaningful cause.



Hilary Hahn takes time to congratulate and thank YPSP Oistrakh group students with Andréa Picard after their performance to benefit the Japanese people.

### The Sounds of Summer at Peabody Preparatory and Beyond...

#### **Peabody Chamber Camp and Camp Allegro at the Preparatory Towson campus in August...**

Visit our Towson campus in August, after the summer session at the Preparatory is over, and you will hear the sounds of instrumental groups still playing and practicing while they have all day to devote to music. First, the **Peabody Chamber Camp** brings together students from Peabody, other area programs and teachers, and from around the country to form quartets and other

ensembles for a week of intensive coaching along with a spirited and varied end-of-camp recital. **Peabody Chamber Camp**, which runs from August 1-5, is for string players in grades 5-12. Enrollment and acceptance is based on audition with a deadline of April 14 for application. For more information and to apply online, visit <http://www.peabody.jhu.edu/chambercamp>.

**Camp Allegro**, which runs the following week from August 8-12, is for string players ages 6-12 who are playing in Suzuki books 1-5. Violin and cello groups of various levels meet in the morning. The afternoon includes enrichment classes in art and dance. This year, we are happy to have art teacher **Stacy Bentley** return with another art project to work on all week and display on our last day of camp. We are also happy to welcome dance teacher **Maria Broom** to **Camp Allegro** for the first time. Orchestra at the end of the day includes pieces that our youngest campers can play, as well as time for sectionals and coaching. More advanced students will play additional pieces. An end-of-camp recital will also be performed on the last day of camp. No audition is needed to apply and register to attend **Camp Allegro**. For more information and to apply online, visit <http://www.peabody.jhu.edu/campallegro>.

#### **Suzuki Institutes summer programs...**

**Suzuki Institutes** run in all parts of the summer and all around the country. They vary in size and scope, but generally include private lessons, group classes and enrichment activities. Some have orchestras and chamber music for more advanced students. You can find a complete list at the **Suzuki Association of America** website at <http://www.suzukiassociation.org/events/institutes>.

#### **Camp Musical des Laurentides...**

The **Camp Musical des Laurentides** is a residential camp for string and piano students up in Quebec, Canada. An hour's drive north of Montreal, the camp offers lessons, small ensembles, orchestra and recreational activities (lake, outdoor and indoor sports activities and games, etc.). Preparatory faculty member **Andréa Picard** will be teaching in the intermediate to advanced level camp that runs from July 17-30, 2011 (Bach a minor and up) and the intermediate camp that runs from July 31-August 6, 2011 (ages 9-14). Please contact **Ms. Picard** if you have any questions by email at [andrea.picard@peabody.jhu.edu](mailto:andrea.picard@peabody.jhu.edu). For more information about the camp, visit <http://www.cmlaurentides.qc.ca/>.

**Remember the summer session at the Peabody Preparatory runs from June 20-August 1. Registration is under way NOW! Talk to your individual instruction teacher about arranging lessons, as summer schedules may vary.**



THE PEABODY PREPARATORY  
OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

Young People's String Program (YPSP)  
Janet Melnicoff-Brown, Program Coordinator  
<http://www.peabody.jhu.edu/ypsp>

Peabody Preparatory  
21 E. Mount Vernon Place, Baltimore, MD 21202  
410-234-4630 (phone) 410-659-8281 (fax)  
<http://www.peabody.jhu.edu/prep>  
[prep@peabody.jhu.edu](mailto:prep@peabody.jhu.edu)