



PEABODY PREPARATORY

YOUNG PEOPLE'S STRING PROGRAM (YPSP)

STUDENT NEWSLETTER – LATE FALL/EARLY WINTER 2011

A Word from the YPSP Coordinators

From the YPSP Program Coordinator...



I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new and returning YPSP families. As always, we are all looking forward to a great year of making music together. Our annual **YPSP Halloween Concert** is coming very soon, and it is fun to hear the sounds of the concert melodies as I walk through the halls and visit the groups. I can't wait to hear and see this year's concert.

This year brings some new and returning faces to our faculty. We are so happy and excited to have these wonderful and dedicated teachers with us. Here is a little bit about them. I hope many of you will soon get to know and work with these teachers:

Libby Bellamy, violin teacher, is returning to the Preparatory after a few years away. She began teaching violin at the Peabody Preparatory in 1989, and she returns this fall to the violin faculty of the **Young People's String Program**. She is teaching many new and continuing students, and our **YPSP Neveu** (Peabody downtown and Towson campuses) and **Joachim** (Towson) groups. In addition to the Peabody and Towson campuses, Ms. Bellamy is also teaching this fall at our Howard County locations.

Hana Morford, viola and violin teacher, is joining the faculty part-time teaching at our Peabody (downtown) campus and Howard County locations. She is teaching our **Paganini** group (Peabody downtown campus). Besides her work at the Preparatory, Ms. Morford is the educator director of the Greater Baltimore Youth Orchestra (GBYO) **Bridges** program, as well as a faculty member in the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra's **OrchKids** program, and the Baltimore School for the Arts' **TWIGS** program.

Lauren Rausch, violin teacher, is teaching several of **Yoon Young Bae's** students while she is on maternity leave. Ms. Rausch is also assisting with our **Paganini** (Peabody downtown campus) group. Ms. Rausch is an active freelance performer and teacher. She is currently a violin teacher in the Greater Baltimore Youth Orchestra's (GBYO) **Bridges** program and also the Odyssey School in Baltimore. She has been teaching violin for ten years and is a registered Suzuki teacher and Music Mind Games instructor.

Congratulations to **Yoon Young Bae** on the arrival of baby **Caleb**.

We are also happy to have **Alicia Ward** join our cello department; for more about her, please see Cello Coordinator **Bai-Chi Chen's** remarks.

Happy music making!

Sincerely,

Janet Melnicoff-Brown
YPSP Program Coordinator

From the YPSP Cello Coordinator...



I would like to extend a BIG welcome to our new YPSP cello families. We are honored you have chosen Peabody Preparatory for your musical education. We have a group of dedicated and enthusiastic teachers plus a team of hard working and helpful staff who do their very best to make your learning experience at Peabody Preparatory a successful and rewarding one.

I would also like to welcome our newest teacher, **Alicia Ward**. We are sad to say goodgoodbye to Miss **Jill Collier**, but happy for her that she is back in her home state; closer to her family and newly married. Ms. Alicia is teaching the **DuPre** class. We are lucky to have her in the cello department; she is both fun and very engaging with her students. I hope many of you will have an opportunity to work with her. Ms. Alicia is a graduate of the Peabody Institute and the New England Conservatory of Music.

We are now a month into our Fall 2011 semester. After a week or two of adjustments, most students are on track with regular practice. We are in full preparation mode for the annual **YPSP Halloween Concert** on October 30. Please make sure you spend a portion of your private lesson time every week on the concert repertoire, especially the review pieces. Reviewing old pieces is a fantastic way to fine tune your skills as a cellist and gain artistry as a musician.

Finally, as we get deeper into the holiday season, remember Dr. Suzuki said, "*You only practice on the days you eat!*" Please make every effort to practice every day, even if only for a shortened session. Don't skip the whole practice just because you don't have enough time for it; instead, do a focus practice for a specific section of a new piece or polish a review piece. Please ask your teacher for more ideas.

Have a great year! As always, let me know how I can help make your study at Peabody more enjoyable. Feel free to email me at 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.

Preparatory Elementary Group for Strings (PEGS) Presents Fall 2011 Concert

The **Preparatory Elementary Group for Strings (PEGS)** orchestra program, conducted by **Louise Hildreth-Grasso**, is proud to present its Fall 2011 semester concert performance on Saturday, November 19, 2011 at 12:30 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 in only their first seven weeks together. 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.



Young Preparatory violin students rehearsing together.

Fall Semester 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. The fall semester concerts are on Saturday, December 10, 2011. The **Preparatory String Ensemble (PSE)**, led by conductor **Matthew Horwitz-Lee**, and **Young Artists Orchestra (YAO)**, led by conductor **Daniel Levitov**, will both perform at 3:30 pm on December 10th in Leith Symington Griswold Hall. The PSE is for students playing at the intermediate level in elementary through middle school. They will perform Bizet's *Farandole* (arr. Phillippe), Bach's *Brandenburg Concerto No. 5* (arr. Merle J. Isaac) and Mozart's "Amadeus" from *Symphony No. 25* (arr. Hoffman). The YAO is for students playing at intermediate to advanced levels in middle through high school. They will present works in a variety of styles including Corelli's *Concerto Grosso in F Major, Op. 6, No. 2*, Glazunov's *Theme and Variations for String Orchestra*, and selections from Roussel's *Sinfonietta for Strings, Op. 52*.

Also on the evening of December 10, 2011 at 7:00 pm in the Miriam A. Friedberg Concert Hall, the **Peabody Youth Orchestra (PYO)**, led by musical director and conductor **Harlan D. Parker**, will perform Verdi's "Overture" to *La Forza del Destino*, Bizet's *L'Arlésienne Suite, No. 2*, and Tchaikovsky's *Symphony No. 5 in e minor, Op. 64 "The Storm"*. There will definitely be something for everyone at this concert and you are encouraged to come hear the full orchestra perform these works.



Dan Levitov conducts the Young Artists Orchestra.



Harlan D. Parker conducts the PYO in concert, May 2011, with Concerto Competition winner and soloist Alessandra Garvin.



Matthew Horwitz-Lee conducts the Preparatory String Ensemble.

Photos from the Spring 2008 PSE & YAO Concert, and 2011 PYO Spring Concert Courtesy of Will Kirk, JHU Photographic Services

Concert Attendance 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 for enjoyment, to learn from and to be inspired by!

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

FIRST, one that includes members of our Preparatory String faculty ...

In the Community ...

Sundays at Central ...

A series of free, lively and family-oriented concerts on Sunday afternoons at 3:00 pm presented by the Central Presbyterian Church on York Road in Towson. This year's program includes a classical saxophonist, a brass quintet, a mandolin orchestra, and a violin and piano recital performed by our own Preparatory violin teacher **Andréa Picard Boecker** and Peabody Conservatory DMA piano student **Irene Kim**, among others. They will present a splendid kaleidoscope of works on February 12, 2012. The violin-piano duo will bring the captivating energy of Romanian folk dances, the virtuosity of Schubert's *Rondo Brilliant*, and the romantic lyricism of Strauss' sensational *Violin Sonata*. Also featured on the program is Karen Amrhein's *Violin and Piano Sonata*, described by music host and critic William Zagorski as an "expertly composed musical snapshot." This will be an afternoon of magnificent music featuring these two award winning artists. For details on all their upcoming events in the series, visit http://www.centralpc.org/events/concert_series.

Community Concerts at Second ...

This free concert series is a wonderful opportunity to hear fine professional musicians. They are held Sunday afternoons at 3:30 pm at the Second Presbyterian Church on St. Paul Street in downtown Baltimore. This year's series includes performances by cellist **Boris Andrianov** on November 13, 2011, the **Goldstein-Peled-Fiterstein Trio** on January 15, 2012, and the **Escher String Quartet** on March 11, 2012, among others.

There is also a free evening series, on Sundays at 7:30 pm, that provides a wonderful opportunity to learn about the vast array of interesting and unusual works, as well as familiar favorites, available for chamber groups. Many of the performers are **BSO** artists. For example, on October 23, 2011, you can hear the **Atlantic String Quartet** performing works by Kahn Szymanowski, Bartok, and Beethoven. These concerts are free but donations are accepted and appreciated. For details on upcoming events, visit 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. Visit the BSO's website at <http://www.bsomusic.org/> for a complete list of upcoming concerts at both the Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall in Baltimore, and at the Strathmore in Washington, D.C.

Itzhak Perlman will appear with the BSO in January as conductor and soloist. The Preparatory is offering a group block of tickets to the Sunday, January 15, 2012 performance and a special rate – a few good seats may still be available (contact the Preparatory's Peabody campus office at 410-234-4630 to purchase while supplies last). Additional performances with tickets offered through the BSO box office will be on Thursday and Saturday, January 12 and 14, 2012. The program will include Vivaldi's "Winter" and "Summer" from *The Four Seasons*, Mozart's *Symphony No. 25*, and Brahms' *Symphony No. 4*.

Many of our families enjoy attending the concerts created especially for children and families. There are several on the concert calendar for Saturdays at 11:00 am, and these are wonderful opportunities to introduce children to the sounds of the orchestra. A complete list of children's concerts 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 ...

These concerts take place in Shriver Hall on the Johns Hopkins Homewood campus. Upcoming Shriver Hall concerts of special interest to spring players this year will include: violinist **Christian Tetzlaff** on October 30, 2011, and cellist **Steven Isserlis** on December 4, 2011, **Les Violon du Roy** on January 29, 2012, and **Takács Quartet** on April 15, 2012. Mark your calendars and plan ahead to attend these special events. 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>.

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

Related News and Announcements

YPSP Spring and Summer Outreach Performances

Every year, some of our YPSP students participate in outreach concerts in the community at various locations. Here are two recent performances...

YPSP Groups Perform at Edenwald Retirement Community

Last spring, a group that included students from the **YPSP Neveu, Paganini, Milstein, Oistrakh** and **Kreisler** groups performed at Edenwald Retirement Community, which is next door to the Preparatory Towson campus. We are frequently invited to perform for the residents there. These recitals are always very much appreciated by the residents, and are a great opportunity for students to perform and to see how much others enjoy hearing them play.



YPSP students performing at Edenwald Retirement Community, Spring 2011

YPSP Students Join OrchKids at ArtScape

This past summer, several of our YPSP students joined the **OrchKids** string players to perform at **ArtScape**. They learned a new song called Kalele (which means "welcome"), and played a Twinkle variation with the unique accompaniment of beatboxer **Shodekeh**. We look forward to more collaborations with the **OrchKids** string players in the future.

This year, we will again arrange for off-campus performance opportunities. Look for more information and invitations to participate via email from Ms. **Andréa Picard Boecker**, Assistant YPSP Coordinator.



YPSP students performing with OrchKids and Shodekeh at ArtScape, Summer 2011

Resources for YPSP Families

There is a reserved shelf in the downtown Peabody library especially for Preparatory families. There are many items there for our YPSP parents and students to enjoy, including several copies of *Nurtured By Love* by Shinichi Suzuki. This excellent book explains in depth Suzuki's philosophy of music education and his inspiration for working with young children. There are other books about the Suzuki approach and about practicing with children, including Ed Sprunger's very helpful *Helping Parents Practice*. You can borrow these materials from the library with your Preparatory ID card.

2011-2012 YPSP T-Shirt Design Contest

This year, we again held our annual YPSP t-shirt design contest. We would like to thank everyone who sent in a drawing design entry for this year's contest. It is always a pleasure to see all of your art work, and we wanted to let everyone enjoy it by including all the entries in this newsletter as well as displaying them on our bulletin boards.

We have chosen the design by **Florian Grader-Beck** for this year's t-shirts. Congratulations to Florian! *The following are all the entries for everyone to enjoy:*

WINNING ENTRY by
Florian Grader-Beck



Zoe Hsieh



Nina Shih



Minjoo Song



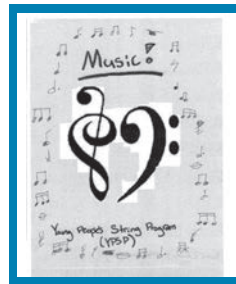
Eve Doolittle



Bailyn Erb



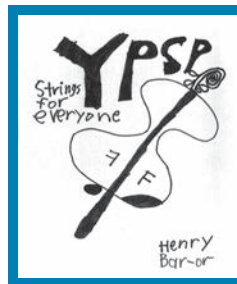
Jingjing Xu



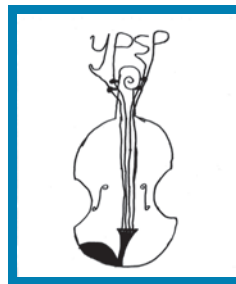
Naomi Element



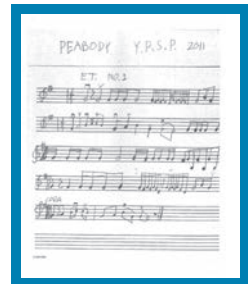
Nisha Rao



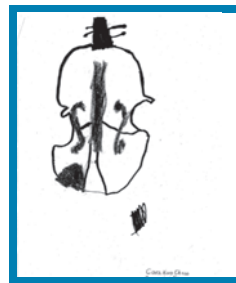
Henry Bar-Or



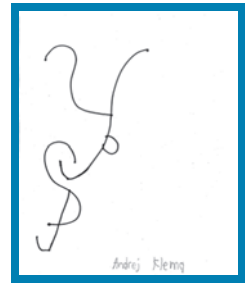
Julia Luljak



Brandon Yoon



Cara Kuo Chow



Andrej Klema