



Hawaii Youth Symphony
Celebrating FIFTY YEARS of
Serving Hawaii's Youth
Through Music

...of

NOTE

SAVE THESE DATES!

FREE YSII Community Concert
With Hawaii Youth Opera Chorus
Sun., February 2, 4:00 pm
Kawaiahao Church

FREE YSI Community Concert
Sun., February 9, 4:00 pm
Maui Arts & Cultural Center

FREE CO Community Concert
Sun., March 2, 2:00 PM
Windward Mall

3 FREE Spring Concerts
Youth Symphony I
Sun., April 13, 4:00 pm
Pearl City Cultural Center

Academy String Program
Sat., April 26, 1:00 pm
Kaimuki High School

YSII & CO
Sun., April 27, 4:00 pm
Roosevelt High School

Aloha Concert Luncheon
YSII & YSI
With Special Guests,
Hot Club of Hulaville
Sun., May 18, 11:30 am
Hilton Hawaiian Village

Symphony Program Auditions
May 24-25, 2014
May 31-June 1, 2014

More information at our website:
www.HiYouthSymphony.org

Highlights from our 2013 Winter Concert Series


Nearly 500 students performed in HYS's 2013 Winter Concert Series, presented by **First Hawaiian Bank**. Comprised of two concerts (Symphony Program on Dec. 1, 2013; Academy Strings on Dec. 14, 2013), HYS's Winter Concert Series was the perfect way to celebrate the holidays and our youth.

One of the best parts of the Winter Concert Series is the chance to see some of our youngest performers on stage for the first time. At the **Academy String Program Concert**, the **Beginning String Ensemble** (conducted by **Joan Doike**) performed a number of popular children's songs demonstrating basic string skills. Energetic performances made by the **Intermediate String Ensemble**, conducted by **Helen Fong**, and the **String Orchestra Ensemble and Concert String Orchestra** (both conducted by **Chad Uyehara**) showcased student improvement and the ability to play together.

At the Symphony Program Winter Concert, **Concert Orchestra** made its season debut. CO is HYS's entry-level symphony orchestra, and is conducted by **Susan Ochi-Onishi** and **Hannah Watanabe**. CO students performed Richard Meyer's "Millennium," Antonin Dvorak's Slavonic Dance Op. 46, No. 8; Tchaikovsky's "Sleeping Beauty" Waltz; and highlights from *Jurassic Park*.

Youth Symphony II conductors **Derrick Yamane** and **Elton Masaki** led the group in difficult orchestral repertoire, including the overture from Johann Strauss II's *Die Fledermaus*, Antonio Vivaldi's *Gloria*, "Jupiter, Bringer of Jollity" from Gustav Holst's *The Planets*, and selections from *Les Miserables*.

Henry Miyamura and **Youth Symphony I** ended the concert. YSI, who had just performed a full program of 13 pieces at the Na Mele fundraiser, played an entirely new program for the Winter Concert. Concertmaster Justin Park, violin, and principal cellist Kahler Suzuki, both of Iolani School, were featured on Armand Russell's composition *Elegy for Times Past*. The orchestra performed Gioacchino Rossini's "La Gazza Ladra," Tchaikovsky's *Capriccio Italien*, and reprised the "Broadway Show-Stoppers Overture" that had been a huge hit at Na Mele.

CONGRATS to all of our hardworking musicians for doing such a terrific job at the Winter Concerts! 



Letter from the Executive Director

Dear HYS Friends,

Happy New Year! As HYS enters 2014 and begins to think about our 50th Anniversary, I have been thinking much about our commitment to the community and our commitment to serving Hawaii's youth through music education.

Once upon a time, access to classical music (and live music, in general) was prevalent and thriving in Hawaii. However our children are growing up in different times. Sure, one can see a symphony on YouTube or hear a recital on Soundcloud, but taking music in through those avenues is not the same as experiencing it live—and certainly nothing like having the opportunity to perform it yourself or see it performed by peers.

One of my favorite things about HYS is that it's in our lifeblood to give children the means to create, experience, and otherwise explore the world of music together. There's nothing quite like observing the dynamics of group learning. The setting that orchestral learning provides is one that is simultaneously active, reflective, intuitive, and cognitive. When I observe our faculty and students in class, I am reminded of the effort, determination, and teamwork required to pull off a single piece of music, let alone an entire concert and multiple performances throughout the year.

I hope that you agree with me, regarding how and why a symphonic music education is important to our youth. I personally love seeing our kids perform. Not only do they play really well, but you can tell they're having fun doing it!

Next time you attend one of our concerts, please give the performers a big round of applause. Not only do our students work hard, but so do our teachers, parent volunteers, staff, and Board members. Your applause validates all of their efforts and encourages them to keep making music. As HYS carries on into our fiftieth year and beyond, I am hopeful that we will continue to see you at our concerts, and that you continue to support us in the many ways that you do.

Randy Wong

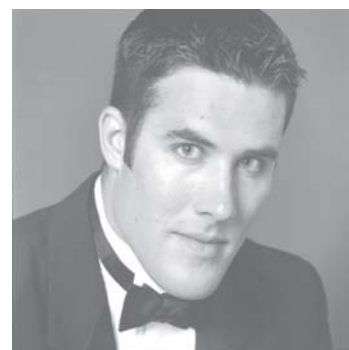
Randy Wong

Be sure to follow HYS on the Internet for the latest news!

Facebook: [HawaiiYouthSymphony](#)
Twitter & IG: [@HiYouthSymphony](#)
Web: [www.HiYouthSymphony.org](#)



UH Piano Professor Jonathan Korth to Perform with YSI on Maui



HYS is excited to feature UH piano professor Jonathan Korth with Youth Symphony I this Spring, in our Maui Community Concert on February 9, 2014 and in our YSI Spring Concert at Pearl City Cultural Center on April 13, 2014. Korth, who made his Carnegie Hall debut at Weill Recital Hall in 2002, has collaborated with members of the Emerson and Juilliard String Quartets, and is a graduate of Peabody Conservatory and Stony Brook University. Korth will be performing Franz Liszt's Totentanz with Youth Symphony I at both concerts.

Youth Symphony I's trip to Maui will be its first since 2011. Each year, HYS embarks on a neighbor island community service tour, with the goal of bringing our top orchestra to communities underserved by classical music. In addition to the Sunday Feb. 9 concert, YSI will also perform two Listen & Learn concerts for Maui children on Feb. 10. (Read more about our Listen & Learn concerts in this newsletter on page 5.) Youth Symphony I has two students from Maui this year, bassoonist Keokoa Mahi and violinist Kisa Uradomo, both whom are students at King Kekaulike High School.

Sincere thanks to the Hawaii State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, the Fred Baldwin Memorial Foundation, and the Hawaii Community Foundation for their gracious support and help in underwriting costs related to the Maui concerts. 🎵

Singing & Playing with HYOC



Youth Symphony II performed its first concert on Nov. 16, 2013 as part of Hawaii Youth Opera Chorus's 'E Mele Kakou' Festival. 🎵

Music in the Clubhouse Blasts Off!

Youth in HYS's **Music in the Clubhouse** program at the Boys & Girls Club of Hawaii's Spalding Clubhouse performed in their second annual "Kids Can Teach" day on Dec. 12, 2013, a chance for them to share what've they learned in Music4Kids general music and Clubhouse band classes. Students demonstrated their understanding of pitch, rhythm, form, dynamics, tempo and performed (on their own) nearly an hour's worth of music. The class was fun for all, as both parents and siblings had the opportunity to play rhythm instruments, sing, and clap along.

Congrats to our young musicians and Music in the Clubhouse teachers **Joy Waikoloa** and **Wayne Fanning** for a job well done!



Pictures courtesy of Natalie Pawlak, Boys & Girls Club of Hawaii

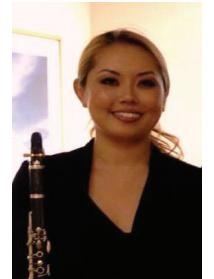


Alumni News Briefs

Bassist **Shawn Conley** (HYS '01) has released an CD of original music, titled *Slow Down, This Isn't The Mainland*, with his jazz trio, **The North**. Conley is joined by bandmates **Romain Collin**, piano and **Abe Lagrimas Jr.** (HYS '01), drums. Since graduating from Punahou School, Conley has attended festivals including the Tanglewood Music Center, Henry Mancini Institute, and Domaine Forget.



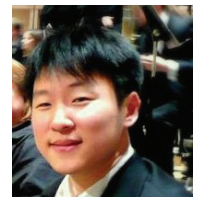
Melanie Yamada (HYS '00) recently won a job with Oregon Ballet Theatre as 2nd/Bass Clarinet. Melanie also performs with the Hawaii Symphony as 3rd/Bass Clarinet and this December, had a big duo with the preeminent banjo musician Bela Fleck in the Hawaii Symphony's performance of Fleck's concerto, *The Imposter*.



Andrew Gushiken (HYS '02), trumpet, won a job in December with the Shen Yun Performing Arts Center Orchestra. Gushiken, whose education includes New England Conservatory and Carnegie Mellon University, will have the opportunity to tour the world while performing. Not bad!



French Horn player **Young Kim** (HYS '07) won a 4th horn position this Fall with the Sarasota Orchestra. In 2011, Kim won Second Prize in the International Horn Competition of America, and has studied at Rice University and Boston University.



Congratulations to all of our alums! 🎵

Alumni Chamber Music at the Hawaii State Art Museum

Calling all alumni musicians! (Wait, isn't that all of you?) Want to give back to the community and also represent HYS? We are looking for alumni volunteers who would like to perform at our 3rd annual Alumni Chamber Music concert, to be held from 6:00-9:00 pm on June 6, 2014 at the Hawaii State Art Museum. In previous years, we have had a clarinet sextet, a brass quintet, string quartets, and string trio. Interested? Please call (808) 941-9706 or email Admin@HiYouthSymphony.org.

Who Will Be in Alumni Spotlight Next?

Do you have, or know of, an interesting HYS Alumni story we can report on? Email our Executive Director **Randy Wong '99** at Randy@HiYouthSymphony.org to let us know, or *post a message* to our **HYS Alumni Network** page on Facebook!

RECAP: HE MAKANA O NA MELE: THE GIFT OF MUSIC // THE GOLDEN AGES OF WAIKIKI

HYS's annual fundraiser, He Makana O Na Mele: The Gift of Music, was proudly presented by our title sponsor, **Symphony Honolulu Condominium** on October 20, 2013, at the Hilton Hawaiian Village's Coral Ballroom. Over 660 people attended the event, which included a concert by HYS's top orchestra, **Youth Symphony I**, conducted by **Henry Miyamura**. Joining YSI were guest artists **Jimmy Borges** and **The Waitiki 7**. Na Mele, which is HYS's only fundraising event, raised over \$61,000 in funds which will benefit ALL of HYS's programs.



Jimmy Borges



YSI Low Brass



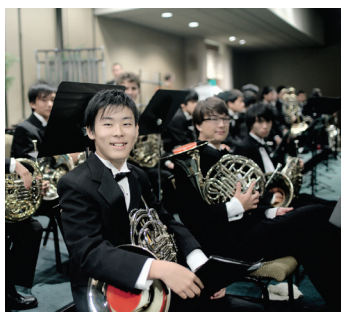
YSI First Violins performing Vittorio Monti's "Czardas"



YSI Bassists

Y I opened the concert with Mikhail Glinka's "Russlan and Ludmilla" overture, and a performance of Vittorio Monti's flashy violin showpiece, "Czardas" featuring all 12 first violins playing the solo part in unison! Most of the rest of the program featured Jimmy and The Waitiki 7. (If you closed your eyes and just listened, you'd think you were back in the fifties!) Taking the "Golden Ages of Waikiki" theme even one step further, Jimmy closed out the show with an exciting new arrangement of "Little Grass Shack" by Neil McKay in which the orchestra had to sing.

E arlier in the week, percussion students from Concert Orchestra, YSII, and YSI all had the opportunity to participate in a special, free clinic taught by Waitiki percussionists **Abe Lagrimas Jr. (HYS '01)** and **Jim Benoit**. The clinic focused on basic techniques for drumset and mallet players, an introduction to improvisation, and an opportunity to play alongside the guest artists. Students also had the chance to the artists questions, like what a professional career in music entails and how to improve one's own practice habits.



YSI French Horns



YSI Harpist Gabrielle Logan



Jim Benoit demonstrating 4-mallet technique



Tim Mayer of The Waitiki 7 taking solos on soprano sax & bass clarinet

HYS owes special thanks to this year's **Maestro's Circle** sponsors, **Accuity LLP/Jean & Kent Tsukamoto, Hawaiian Host, Inc., and Mrs. Edith Leong**, for their continuous support and generosity towards HYS. Also we send a big MAHALO to Event Chair **Tina Lau**, Silent Auction Chair **Vicky Chiu-Irion, Chris Yuen, & Les Murata** for all of their help making sure our event ran smoothly. We are also grateful to all of our sponsors, contributors, silent auction donors, and volunteers for their help in making Na Mele 2013 huge success! 🎵

INSIDER TIP: If you missed the concert but don't want to miss the music, it's now for sale as a digital download from iTunes and CDBaby.com. Search "Hawaii Youth Symphony" and it's yours! Proceeds from music sales benefit HYS.



Al Harrington was a great emcee!



Randy Wong and Henry Miyamura pose for a picture with Dan Nishikawa, President of OliverMcMillan Pacific Rim, and HYS alumna and current parent Jeanne Murata

Listen & Learn: Music Comes Alive for Hawaii's Youth

HYS students performed six free 'sold-out' Listen & Learn concerts in December 2013. These shows, designed to introduce children to orchestral music, instruments, and concert etiquette, occur each season and are part of HYS's commitment towards extending music education into our community.

For many of our students, Listen & Learn concerts are among their first opportunities to give back to the community through music. It means a lot to HYS that our students get to participate in music in this way. HYS students served over 10,000 children through the December concerts! The concerts were endorsed by the State of Hawaii DOE superintendent, and aligned with DOE content & performance standards in the Fine Arts. Special thanks to HYS's education consultant Ruth Komatsu for her help in designing the teaching materials that HYS sent to schools in advance of the services.

MAHALO to our super emcees, **Ben Gutierrez**, **Lance Rae**, and **Lance Uchida** for their awesome narration, which adds so much to our Listen & Learn shows! 🎵



Get Ready to Swing: Hot Club of Hulaville Bringing 'Gypsy' Jazz to Aloha Concert Luncheon!

HYS will welcome special guest performers **Hot Club of Hulaville** (**Duane Padilla**, violin; **Jeff Linsky & Sonny Silva**, guitars) at this year's **Aloha Concert Luncheon**, **May 18, 2014** at the **Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom**.

Hot Club music is a style that blends American swing, Cafe Tango, and traditional Roma (also known as 'gypsy') music that was played in Parisian hotels and clubs of the '30s and '40s. Musicians like Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grappelli are two notable artists whose music iconic of the Hot Club style.

YSI and **YSII** will both perform at the Luncheon, which serves as HYS's annual send-off for graduating seniors. This year, HYS expects to graduate more than three dozen students. More information will be available later this Spring. Stay tuned! 🎵



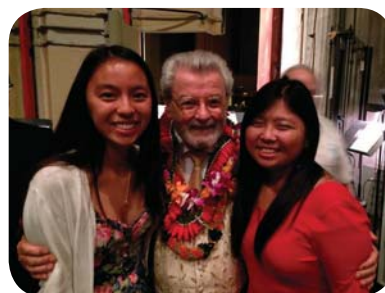
Duane Padilla

Call for HYS Memorabilia & Photos

Do you have a good collection of photos from yesteryear?
Or a particular knack for remembering or recognizing your peers?



HYS could use your help! As we gear up for our 50th Anniversary events, we are trying to put together poster boards of pictures to help us capture all of your memories. We are also looking for HYS logo apparel (t-shirts, bags, etc.) and posters to scan or photograph for our collection. Please contact the office if you are interested & would like to help us. 🎵



YSII flutists Mari Guillermo and Kristin Hasegawa with legendary flutist, Sir James Galway! Mari and Kristin presented leis to Galway on HYS's behalf. Mahalo to our friends at the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra, for the chance of a lifetime for our students!

How to Give to HYS

Help HYS continue its mission to make quality music education available to all of Hawaii's youth! For easy online giving, visit our website **HiYouthSymphony.org**. Or, give with a check made to HYS. Send to:

1110 University Avenue, Suite 200, Honolulu, HI 96826-1598.

Thanks for your support! 🎵



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Celebrating Fifty Years of Serving Hawaii's Youth Through Music



HYS COUNTRY STORE DONATIONS NEEDED!

We are seeking donations of hand-made crafts, plants, artwork, and other collectibles for our Aloha Concert Luncheon Country Store on May 18, 2014.

Proceeds go directly towards our program costs and help to keep our tuition affordable for all.

Donations are being accepted at the HYS office now through May 16. Perishable items like baked goods should be dropped off May 15-16.

Please call us at 941-9706 with any questions. Thank you!

