



Hawaii Youth Symphony

Where Hawaii's youth make
exceptional music together

...of

NOTE

SAVE THESE DATES!

He Makana O Na Mele

Featuring YSI & Willie K
Sun., November 18, 4:30 pm
Hilton Hawaiian Village

FREE Symphony Program Winter Concerts

Sun., December 9
Pearl City Cultural Center
YSII & CO at 12:00 pm
YSI at 5:30 pm

FREE HYS Academy Concert Winter Concert

Sun., December 16, 5:00 pm
Kaimuki High School

FREE Listen & Learn Educational Concerts

Mon., Dec. 10, 9:30 & 11:00
Pearl City Cultural Center, Oahu

Mon. Jan 28, 9:00, 10:15, 11:45
Tues., Jan 29, 9:00, 10:15, 11:45
Blaisdell Concert Hall, Oahu

YSI Kauai Tour

Sun., February 10, 4:00 pm
Kauai Community College

Mon., February 11, 9:00 & 10:30
Kauai War Memorial Hall

More information at
www.HiYouthSymphony.org
808.941.9706

2012 Aloha Concert Luncheon A Rousing Success!

HYS closed out its 47th season on Mother's Day with a very successful Aloha Concert Luncheon, thanks to the nearly 700 friends, family members, and supporters who attended. Performing were Youth Symphony II, conducted by **Derrick Yamane**, and Youth Symphony I, conducted by Maestro **Henry Miyamura**. **Ben Gutierrez** of Hawaii News Now reprised his role of Master of Ceremonies. While the Aloha Concert Luncheon traditionally honors graduating seniors for their contributions to HYS, YSII's concertmistress **Kilinoelani Montgomery**, a ninth grader from Kamehameha Schools, also had a chance to shine in a performance of Antonio Vivaldi's "Winter" from *The Four Seasons*. **Christian Takemoto**, a senior from Kalani High School, gave the Luncheon's opening Invocation. Violist **Angelina Yick**, a senior at Iolani School, performed the Rhapsodie from Ernest Bloch's Suite Hebraique.



Jimmy Borges sang a beautiful rendition of "Moon River" with YSI, in an arrangement made by Dr. Neil McKay.



YSI percussionists mimicked Irish stepdancing for an arrangement of "The Lord of the Dance," with shoes and a sturdy tabletop.

HYS was very fortunate to have the talents of vocalist **Jimmy Borges** and pianist **Dan Del Negro** join YSI, for a set of velvety ballads, including "I Have Dreamed" (from *The King & I*), "Moon River," and "Love is Here to Stay." Jimmy is known to his fans as the "keeper of the flame"—referring to his musical respect for George Gershwin, Cole Porter, Jerome Kern, and other legendary American composers. Jimmy's performance with YSI was among his first after a tremendous recovery following his bout with cancer. With thanks to Dr. Neil McKay for his arrangement of "Moon River," there was not a dry eye in the house. It was a wonderful way to spend Mother's Day and celebrate yet another terrific season of exceptional music making! 🎵



HYS programs are supported by the City & County of Honolulu and the Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, through appropriations from the Hawai'i State Legislature.



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Letter from the Executive Director

Dear HYS Friends,

Our 48th season is already off to a running start! I am personally enthused about this year, as it will be the first full season I witness as HYS's new Executive Director. As you may know, my connection with HYS began over 20 years ago, as bassist in String Orchestra; eventually working my way up to Youth Symphony I, and returning many summers in college and beyond as a clinician at HYS's Pacific Music Institute.



With so many worthy causes out there to support, HYS is especially grateful for your dedication to our work. Although we will continue to weather the loss of some one-time grants this season, we have already begun to make new connections and are welcoming new supporters to our family. As you know, my predecessor Selena Ching did a fantastic job with all aspects of HYS, and therefore I intend, at a minimum, to both maintain last season's gains and continue HYS's forward momentum.

Thankfully, classical music (and specifically that of symphony orchestras), is trying to make a comeback here in the islands. The professional symphony, the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra, played a 16-week season last Spring, to stellar applause. I myself attended most of the concerts (and even played in a few) and saw many HYS students and families in attendance. There were also a handful of fellow HYS alumni on stage! This reinforced to me how large HYS's footprint is, and reminded me that investments made in HYS truly have lifelong returns.

Mahalo again for being a part of our Hawaii Youth Symphony family. There is so much planned for this season that our office is brimming with delight and excitement as each successive concert makes its way to the stage. I know you'll be enthralled with the return of **Willie K** for our 2012 *He Makana O Nā Mele* fundraiser. Likewise, this Spring we will welcome two outstanding young winners from the Aloha International Piano Festival to perform with our top orchestras, YSI and YSII. Please keep in touch with us, whether its via Facebook or "snail mail." We love to hear from you and look forward to seeing you at our concerts throughout the season!

Randy Wong

Randy Wong

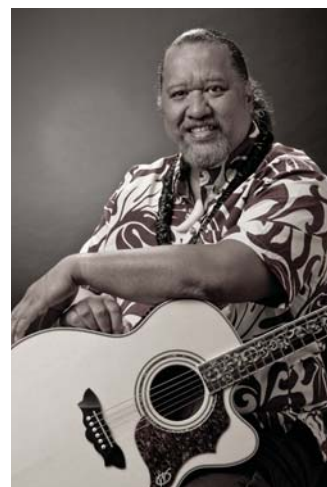
Executive Director



A concerted effort to Reach Out and Play Together

Willie K to Sing Operatic Songs at Na Mele

Legendary Hawaii entertainer Willie K will make an encore performance at HYS's annual fundraiser *He Makana O Nā Mele*. Backed by YSI, Willie K will showcase his amazing operatic talents by singing some of Luciano Pavarotti's most famous Neapolitan works, including "O Sole Mio," "Funiculi Funicula," and "Nessun Dorma."



Tickets for the Hawaiian-style dinner and concert are \$100 per seat. Please visit our website, www.HiYouthSymphony.org to purchase tickets.

Elton Masaki joins HYS as YSII Assistant Conductor

HYS warmly welcomes **Elton Masaki** to our Symphony Program Music Staff, in the position of YSII Assistant Conductor for the 2012-2013 season.

Mr. Masaki is the orchestra director at Mid-Pacific Institute, where he has been conducting since 2005. "Elton's doing a tremendous job," YSII Conductor Derrick Yamane commented. "He is a very good teacher for the kids, and together we make a great team. What he's doing for the strings is wonderful!" Derrick and Elton worked together at Mid-Pacific Institute, where Elton is currently Orchestra Director. "After every rehearsal, we stay for at least a half hour talking about what went on and how we can improve for the following week. Rehearsals are going along really well. I'm glad to have someone to talk to about the orchestra, and his assistance has completely decreased my stress level."



Elton holds a Bachelor of Education degree in Secondary Education with an emphasis in music from the University of Hawaii at Manoa and a Master of Music Education degree from Boston University. He is currently working on a PhD in Education with an emphasis in technology from the University of Hawaii.

Winter Concert Preview: “Bach to the Future”

This year's Symphony Program Winter Concerts will be unified by a central theme, *Bach to the Future*, acknowledging the music and importance of composer Johann Sebastian Bach in Western classical music.



Music Director **Henry Miyamura** consulted with each of HYS's Symphony Program conductors to find music selections that would be developmentally appropriate. “Not only did Bach have the gift of melody, but he also created and utilized compositional techniques that are used regularly by today's musicians, even jazz,” Miyamura explains. “By having a unified concert theme, we are able to help all of our students understand the magnitude of Bach's music. Everyone is doing a different voice of Bach.”

While most people are familiar with the solo, vocal, and chamber works of Bach, the composer's orchestral works are less known. YSII Assistant Conductor **Elton Masaki** explains: “The music of Bach is recognized throughout the world. But symphonic arrangements of his pieces are hard to come by, and it is somewhat rare to perform a symphonic version of a Bach piece.” Mr. Miyamura concurs: “A concert of this variety can satisfy even the most seasoned concert-goer's palate. It has been far too long since the symphonic works of Bach have been heard in the islands.”

Time travellers should set their clocks and calendars to December 9, 2012. YSII and CO perform at 12:00 pm; YSI performs at 5:30 pm. Both concerts occur at Pearl City Cultural Center. 🎵

YSI Performs on Kauai in February

Youth Symphony I will perform three concerts on Kauai, February 10-11, 2013, at Kauai Community College and at the War Memorial Auditorium, presented in partnership with **Kauai Concert Association**, and with thanks to a grant from the **Annie Sinclair Knudsen Memorial Fund of the Hawaii Community Foundation**.

YSI students will perform two school concerts on February 11 as part of HYS's *MusicAlive: Listen & Learn* initiative, which serves an estimated 12,000 children annually on Oahu and a neighbor island.

Learn more about the Kauai Concert Association at: kauai-concert.org

In the next issue of Of Note...

- ▶ Our 4th Annual Essay Contest (to be announced in late January/early February)
- ▶ Reports from the YSI Kauai Tour
- ▶ Pictures from Nā Mele and our Winter Concerts!



In the Spotlight Highlighting HYS's Star Volunteers

ERIC LAGRIMAS



Hawaii Youth Symphony welcomes **Eric Lagrimas** as its newest Director, unanimously elected by the HYS Board of Directors on June 21. A music and entertainment industry professional, Eric is on the faculty of the MELE (Music & Entertainment Learning Experience) program at Honolulu Community College and is co-founder of Pass Out Records, an independent label with Na Hoku Hanohano award-winning artists. Eric is no stranger to the HYS ohana: his younger brother Abe Lagrimas Jr. (HYS '02) was a percussionist in YSII.

HYS Board President **Chris Yuen** remarked, “HYS is pleased to have Eric join our team. We will be looking to his entrepreneurial experience to help raise HYS's profile and also cultivate community and business partnerships. It's great to have him aboard.” 🎵

Travel with HYS

HYS is a Hawaiian Airlines Preferred Affiliate. Book your Hawaiian Air travel through our HYS website and you'll not only get the lowest available web fares, you'll also give HYS 1 mile for every \$1 you spend while still getting your own mileage credit! Additional discounts are also available through this program, including 5% off transpacific flights. Bon voyage! 🎵



2012 PMI Clinicians **KeAnuenue Hayashi** (Low Brass) and **Geoff Stone** (Double Bass) take a breather before the chamber music recital.

HYS Community Picture Page

The Hawaii Youth Symphony team is comprised of dozens of hard-working individuals, many of whom donate their time and effort to HYS beyond the demands of working full-time jobs in other industries. We are thankful to all of our 2011-2012 team members, whether they are paid staff or volunteers. Without this support, we would not be able to do the work that we do!

Volunteer Concert Parents, Volunteer Production Crew, Music & Administrative Staff



Back row, from left: Derek Loui, Robert Young, Jim Araki, Cody Onishi, Lance Uchida, Les Murata, Meredith Prescott, Mel Uchida, Gary Hirokane, Susan Hirokane, Wanda Murata, David Yee, Elizabeth Coraggio, Gary Todoki, Janet Morita, Karen Fujimoto, Ann Doike, Tom Shigeta, Ruth Young, Ivan Morita

Front row, from left: Charlotte Fukumoto, Joan Doike, Hannah Watanabe, Derrick Yamane, Henry Miyamura, Susan Ochi-Onishi, Wayne Fanning, Randy Wong

Not pictured: Helen Fong, Chad Uyehara, Joy Waikoloa

Board of Directors



Back row, from left: Les Murata, Randy Wong, Dan Momohara, Martin Hsia, Roy King, Jean Tsukamoto, Richard Ing, Laurie LaGrange, Chris Yuen, Malcolm Lau, Eric Lagrimas, Patti Look, Meredith Prescott, Keith Sakamoto

Front row, from left: Henry Miyamura, Marjorie Tanoue, Gladys Hirano, Tom Bingham

Not pictured: Tina Lau, Alan Okami, Mike Onofrietti

What a Spectacular Summer!

HYS served over **150** students in our Summer Strings and Pacific Music Institute from nearly 50 schools across the state. Students performed in family learning demonstrations as well as chamber music, jazz band, concert band, string and symphonic orchestra concerts.

HYS Summer Strings, led by **Chad Uyehara**, is a launching pad for many beginning string players!

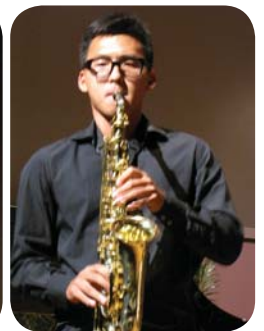


"PMI is an incredible opportunity to grow musically and a great place to make new friends."
—9th grade violinist



PMI JAZZ!

Led by Ira Wong



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 www.HiYouthsSymphony.org. Or, give with a gift made payable to HYS and send to: **1110 University Avenue, Suite 200, Honolulu, HI 96826-1598.**

Please call 941-9706 if you have any questions. Thanks for your support! 🎵



Kudos Korner

A hearty congratulations and huge MAHALO to Programs Manager **Ann Doike** for recently making ten years of service to HYS! In addition to coordinating all the logistics that go on behind the scenes, Ann has long been a dedicated HYS parent; both of her children: violinist Asia (pictured with Ann), and cellist Aris are HYS alums!

"We couldn't do anything without the magic that Ann works behind the scenes," Executive Director Randy Wong said, adding, "She keeps us going, on track and on time, and it's because she's so organized that everything goes smoothly." 🎵





Hawaii Youth Symphony Association
1110 University Ave., #200 Honolulu, HI 96826-1598
(808) 941-9706 • www.HiYouthSymphony.org

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Music is our future!



HYS COUNTRY STORE DONATIONS NEEDED!

We are seeking donations of baked goods, jams and jellies, hand-made crafts, plants, artwork, and other collectibles for our Na Mele Country Store.

Proceeds from the Country Store 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 November 16.

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

