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From the Podium

YOSA's 2019/20 season is underway, with nearly 500 young musicians rehearsing weekly in 9 different orchestras. With lots of great concerts coming up, here are a few that I am especially looking forward to.

On Saturday evening, September 28, top players from the YOSA Philharmonic will perform side-by-side with a dozen of their teachers and mentors from the San Antonio Symphony in **Musical Mentors**, a chamber orchestra concert at Laurel Heights United Methodist Church. San Antonio Symphony concertmaster Eric Gratz will be our soloist in Mozart's elegant Violin Concerto No. 4, written when the composer was only 19 years old. The rest of the program includes exuberant and carefree music from three different centuries by Haydn, Malcolm Arnold, and Jessie Montgomery.



Eric Gratz, violin

Renowned YOSA alumna Christine Lamprea (cello '08) will perform Shostakovich's electrifying and virtuosic Cello Concerto No. 1 during our **Russian Fireworks** concert on Sunday evening, November 3 at the Tobin Center for the Performing Arts. The first concert in the YOSA Philharmonic's Zachry Series will also feature Stravinsky's spectacular



Christine Lamprea, cello

orchestral suite from *The Firebird*, a fairytale ballet based on Russian folklore.

Before the 2020 Academy Awards telecast on Sunday, February 9, catch **At the Movies**, an afternoon concert of movie music with YOSA and the San Antonio Chamber Choir at the Tobin Center. The program will feature classics by Beethoven, Elgar, Mozart, and Orff that have appeared in Oscar-winning movies, plus beloved film music from *The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly; The Lord of the Rings; Schindler's List; Star Wars; Empire of the Sun; Edward Scissorhands;* and more.

The 2019/20 Zachry Series will close out at the Tobin Center on Sunday evening, May 12, with **Scheherazade**, Rimsky-Korsakov's evocative journey through the tales of the *Arabian Nights*, featuring the remarkable young dancers of San Antonio Youth Ballet. We'll also celebrate the 250th anniversary of Beethoven's birth with a heroic overture and explore the Bohemian countryside with Smetana's *Moldau*.

Visit our newly redesigned website at **yosa.org** to learn more about these and all our 2019/20 concerts. Join us!

Troy Peters, YOSA Music Director

You are cordially invited to attend the

OVATION LUNCHEON

BEXAR COUNTY JUDGE Nelson W. Wolff



Wednesday, October 2, 2019 - 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Pearl Stable

The fourth annual YOSA Standing Ovation Luncheon will honor Judge Nelson Wolff for his outstanding commitment to education and arts in San Antonio. Guests will enjoy a three-course meal, inspiring presentation, and raffle prizes.

Proceeds from this event benefit the 2,500 local young musicians reached by YOSA every year.



STANDING

Keynote Gpeaker

Christine Lamprea 2018 Sphinx Medal of Excellence YOSA Alumna



Master of Ceremonies **Rick Cavender** Rick Cavender Band Cavender Audi

Order your tickets today!

FAVORITE MEMORIES FROM YOSA SUMMER SYMPHONY CAMP!



The woodwind section has fun during rehearsal.

"Playing the Mendelssohn D Major Quartet with such fantastic quartet members and getting such informative coaching."



Campers participate daily in Musical Arts and Music Theory classes.



Musicians rehearse in cello and viola sectionals.



The Vivaldi Orchestra rehearses.

"The second day when I had practiced my music and was able to make meaningful music with my friends."



A string quartet prepares for their upcoming concert.

YOSA musicians had a great time at Summer Symphony Camp! From composition seminars to rock orchestras, the summer was full of music and fun.

Check out some photos and favorite memories from the campers!



A young camper watches resident ensemble Adelante Winds bring her composition to life.



"At the concert, it was so cool to see pieces that we only worked on for a week come together and sound like a professional orchestra!"

Orchestra X performs in the final camp concert of the week.

CAMP 2019

Musician Spotlight: Riley Bemis



YOSA Philharmonic Viola, YOSA musician since 2015 Cactus Pear Music Festival Young Artist Program

Tell us about your experience.

The Cactus Pear Music Festival was quite possibly one of the most defining moments in not only my career as a musician, but in my life as a whole. I found many new friends and a small little family consisting of YOSA alumni like Simon Phoa, Heidi Schuppenhauer, Giuliano Bucheli, and Elisabeth Wang, as well as some former and new members of YOSA Philharmonic including Emily Seddigzadeh and Emily Rivera.

What music did you play?

We played a wide variety of composers—many who I never knew existed—such as George Enescu, Gabriel Fauré, and William Herschel. Every song was interesting as well as unique. On top of this, we performed the world premiere of Judith Lynn Stillman's *Small Step, Giant Leap: A Lunar Fantasy,* and we were even featured in the San Antonio Express-News.

What is your biggest takeaway from the program?

My takeaway from this is simple: a good attitude is the most important thing for success. There was not a single morning throughout the entire program that any of the musicians walked in without a smile on their face as we got started for the day. There is so much more I want to say. I would like to thank the amazing directors from Cactus Pear, the other musicians, the Wang family, and most importantly YOSA for making me aware of the program.

A Summer of Music and More

YOSA Musicians participated in a variety of music, academic, volunteer, work programs, and activities during the summer!





INVITATIONAL MAY 18 & 19, 2020



Congratulations to all the 2020 YOSA Invitational ensembles who will perform and record in the Tobin Center for the Performing Arts.

Alamo Heights Junior School Chamber Orchestra BASIS at Shavano Middle School String Orchestra Briscoe Middle School Honor Orchestra Edgewood Fine Arts Academy Orchestra Fredericksburg Middle School Honor Band Harlandale High School Wind Ensemble Hays High School Wind Ensemble Health Careers High School Phoenix Varsity String Orchestra Jay High School Chamber Orchestra **Jefferson High School Wind Ensemble** Jefferson Middle School Honor Orchestra Krueger Middle School Varsity Orchestra Leal Middle School Wind Ensemble Longfellow Middle School Honor Band MacArthur High School Wind Ensemble Madison High School Symphony Orchestra **Rawlinson Middle School Honors Band Reagan High School Sinfonia Stevens High School Wind Ensemble** Veterans Memorial High School Varsity Orchestra

For a complete schedule of performance times, please visit www.yosa.org/invitational-participation.



_____YOSA _____ Rising Star Fellows

Music has the power to change kids' lives, but an opportunity gap exists that prevents access to high-quality music education for many musicallyinclined children. To address this problem, the YOSA Rising Star Fellows program provides intensive support to promising young musicians from underrepresented backgrounds who attend school in San Antonio's least affluent zip codes. After being nominated by their teachers and selected by YOSA through an observation process, YOSA Rising Star Fellows receive a suite of resources designed to boost their musical and academic potential throughout high school.

The inaugural class of YOSA Rising Star Fellows is starting their second year in the program, and we welcome the second class as they begin their journey. The next few years will see these young musicians grow musically, academically, and socially as they prepare themselves for future success.



Donors and Friends

YOSA appreciates the generosity of the many individuals, corporations, and foundations that believe in the transformative power of music. Thank you to the donors below whose gift was received between May 1 and August 15, 2019. You have changed kids' lives through music!

Shari Mao

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