A Note from SYSO’s Board President

Dear SYSO Families,

As we embark on the 75th Anniversary season, on behalf of SYSO’s Board of Directors, I want to share some exciting new initiatives at SYSO.

The board has asked Kathleen Allen to serve as SYSO’s new Executive Director. As you all may be aware, Kathleen was the Interim Executive Director for the 2017-2018 season. She has been with the organization for seven seasons and previously held the position of SYSO’s Director of Education and Partnerships. She has been an educator and administrator in the arts community for more than twenty years and is excited to bring new energy into SYSO’s many programs. The board is looking forward to working with Kathleen in her new role as Executive Director as she continues her administrative leadership.

This coming season you will also see updates in SYSO’s systems to ensure your interactions with the organization are easier and more effective. The feedback SYSO received from the last season’s Academic Year Orchestra end-of-year survey will inform improvements ranging from the functionality of the SYSO website to how we sell concert tickets. We always appreciate feedback and encourage parents and students to reach out with comments, recommendations and, of course, kudos. Kathleen, Stephen and the Board of Directors welcome your engagement and we hope to have ongoing dialogue with all of you.

Last but not least, this next season is a very exciting time at SYSO as we celebrate the organization’s 75th Anniversary. The year will highlight SYSO’s distinguished past, vibrant present, and promising future. Watch for more information about the exciting array of guest performers, partnerships, and alumni engagement to be announced at the beginning of the 2018-2019 season. We also hope SYSO parents will feel encouraged to help build our community by assisting us with all of the amazing events in the pipeline to celebrate the 75th Anniversary Year!

Best Regards,

Alice Ikeda
SYSO Board President and SYSO alumna
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SYSO Programs</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SYSO Rules &amp; Expectations</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auditions</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition, Financial Aid, &amp; Work-Study</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communicating with SYSO</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance Information</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent Association</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting SYSO</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seattle Conservatory of Music</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer and In-School Programs</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directions</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SYSO Board</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SYSO Staff</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key SYSO Events 2018-2019</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SYSO MISSION & VISION

Mission
SYSO harnesses the power of music education to provide young people pathways to artistic excellence, intellectual development, and emotional growth.

Vision
SYSO will positively shape the artistic, social, emotional, and intellectual development of young people. We will be recognized as a leader in music education locally and nationally. Our programs and performances will be celebrated for their innovation and excellence. We will ensure equitable access to our programs, remain a model of financial sustainability and earn generous, committed and broad-based community support.

SYSO PROGRAMS

Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra (SYSO) is one of the largest youth symphony organizations in the United States. SYSO operates five orchestras during the academic year, presents the Marrowstone Music Festival at Western Washington University and SYSO Summer Music, and operates the programs of the Seattle Conservatory of Music. SYSO also runs in-school programs as part of the SYSO in the Schools initiative. These include the Endangered Instruments Program (EIP), a special in-school program providing free musical instruction on less-commonly studied orchestral instruments. The Musical Pathways Project (MPP) is a collaboration with Seattle Public Schools to strengthen the schools’ capacity to provide high quality music instruction to students from elementary through high school in under-resourced areas of the school district. Each year more than 1,800 students participate in at least one of these SYSO programs.

SYSO Academic Year Orchestras

Prelude String Orchestra (PSO) is the newest addition to the SYSO orchestra family. Under the direction of Mika Armaly, the PSO serves as the very first orchestral ensemble experience for beginning string musicians.

Symphonette Orchestra (SO) presents beginning and intermediate musicians with the opportunity to gain valuable performance experience in a full orchestra environment that includes strings, winds, brass, and percussion. Repertoire is varied and serves as an introduction to the full orchestral experience.

Debut Symphony Orchestra (DSO), which was founded in 1946 as a training group for Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra, was referred to as the “Little Symphony” until 1990.

Junior Symphony Orchestra (JSO) is the penultimate orchestra whose repertoire, which is both varied and challenging, consists primarily of larger scale 19th and 20th century works.

Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra (YSO), founded in 1942 under the direction of Francis Aranyi, is SYSO’s flagship orchestra comprised of the most talented and accomplished players. Repertoire encompasses a variety of styles ranging from early music to world premieres. YSO members also often participate in partnership programs with other major arts institutions, such as performing for the Pacific Northwest Ballet School dancers or side-by-side with Seattle Symphony Orchestra musicians.

Rehearsals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Orchestra</th>
<th>Conductor</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prelude String Orchestra</td>
<td>Mika Armaly</td>
<td>Shorecrest High School</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Symphonette Orchestra</td>
<td>Kate Labiak</td>
<td>Shorecrest High School</td>
<td>10:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debut Symphony Orchestra</td>
<td>Mark Adamo</td>
<td>Shorecrest High School</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Symphony Orchestra</td>
<td>Marcus Tsutakawa</td>
<td>Shorecrest High School</td>
<td>11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra</td>
<td>Dr. Anna Edwards</td>
<td>Music School, University of Washington</td>
<td>9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SYSO RULES & EXPECTATIONS

General Guidelines

- Bring all music, a music stand, and a pencil to every rehearsal and come musically prepared.
- Arrive 10 minutes before rehearsal begins, instrument ready, music stand out with music in place, and ready to begin.
- Make rehearsals a priority by honoring the attendance policy (see below).
- Becoming a section leader or principal is an honor to earn and with it comes a higher level of responsibility. These musicians must be available for all rehearsals and the Music Director considers them “assistant conductors.” They will be expected to model excellent attendance, attitude, leadership, discipline, and cooperation.
- Percussionists are required to assist in the moving, setting up, dismantling and putting away of all percussion equipment for rehearsals and concerts. They must arrive to rehearsal at least 15 minutes early to set up the section and plan to stay until all percussion equipment is put away.
- All orchestra members are responsible for setting up their sections and putting away their stands in a neat and orderly fashion.
- Respect all members’ desire to participate fully without distraction. If your behavior becomes a distraction, you will be asked to leave the rehearsal.
- SYSO is a guest of rehearsal facilities and all SYSO members are expected to abide by all facility rules and regulations.
- Food or drinks are not allowed in the rehearsal rooms.
- Pick up all trash around the rehearsal room and turn in extra music at the conclusion of each rehearsal, sectional, or concert.
- It is possible for a student to be a full time member in more than one orchestra; however, a second tuition will be charged.
- SYSO makes available all information about rehearsals, concerts, special events, and changes. It is the responsibility of the parent and/or student to obtain this information and to be aware of any changes. This information will be available at the tables located outside your student’s rehearsal hall. It can also be acquired in the SYSO office or through SYSO’s online communications and website. Any questions about the schedule should be directed to your Orchestra Secretary. (See Communicating with SYSO, page 7 for more information.)

Reporting an Absence

Follow these instructions if you are unable to attend a rehearsal or sectional: If the student will be absent for any reason s/he must submit an excuse with the reason for the absence and turn it into the orchestra secretary, two weeks prior to the anticipated absence.

For an illness or family emergency: Notify the Orchestra Secretary before the scheduled rehearsal time, by emailing or calling your Orchestra Secretary, or by leaving a message at 206.660.6616.

Absence from a Dress Rehearsal: Missing a scheduled dress rehearsal is unacceptable. Even if the student has not missed any rehearsals for that concert period, missing a dress rehearsal puts participation in the upcoming concert at the discretion of the conductor. If the student misses a dress rehearsal, regardless of the issue, prior notification to the Orchestra Secretary is required.

Absence from a Concert Performance: Giving less than a month’s notice for an absence from a concert puts remaining participation in the SYSO program in jeopardy and at the discretion of the conductor and Music Director. Prior notification to the Orchestra Secretary or to SYSO’s Manager of Orchestra Operations (by calling 206.660.6616) is required.

Tardiness: A late arrival to a rehearsal is disruptive. If a student is late to rehearsal twice will be counted as one absence. Being late to rehearsal twice will be counted as one absence.

Extended Absences: We realize that families have busy schedules and there may be occasions when a student needs to take a trimester off. This is acceptable with significant advance notice. Please note that families will still be required to pay a full year of tuition.

Inclement Weather Policy

To determine if a Saturday rehearsal is cancelled due to inclement weather, please follow these procedures:

- Call the SYSO emergency number (206.660.6616) after 6 a.m.
- If possible, please check email. The Orchestra Coordinator will notify each Orchestra Secretary of the status of the rehearsal. Then Orchestra Secretaries will send a rehearsal status update email to all orchestra members.
- Of course, weather and road conditions fluctuate from area to area, so if the roads are not safe to travel in the area please let the Orchestra Secretary know of the absence by phone or email.

Attendance Policy

Each participant will be allowed only two absences during the preparation time for each concert. If a third absence occurs, participation in the upcoming concert is at the discretion of the conductor and will require an audition of the part for the conductor. If a fourth absence occurs or the third absence is the Dress Rehearsal, the conductor will decide whether or not the student will be allowed to play in the concert, with or without an audition.

School Participation Policy

SYSO is committed to an alliance with our public and private schools. SYSO students are strongly encouraged to participate in their school music programs where they exist. Beyond playing their SYSO instrument in the school orchestra, students can meet this expectation in any number of ways, including: playing other instruments they are interested in, singing in choirs, taking part in school musical theatre performances, or coaching younger students.
What to Prepare for an Audition

Below are the general required elements of a SYSO audition, however, audition requirements can vary depending on the orchestra level. Please consult the Auditions page at syso.org/auditions to review the Audition Preparation Guidelines.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1) Scales</th>
<th>2) Prepared Piece</th>
<th>3) Sight Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 major and 1 minor of your choice; Winds &amp; Brass: 1-2 octaves and Strings: 2-3 octaves</td>
<td>A piece or an excerpt (doesn’t need to be memorized) no longer than 2 minutes in length; select a piece that best demonstrates your playing ability.</td>
<td>Material will be provided for sight reading at the audition, according to ability.</td>
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Open Auditions

Open auditions for the coming season occur at the end of August. The dates for these open auditions for the Academic Year Orchestras are announced in the preceding spring. Each instrument is scheduled on a specific date and time. Auditioning students can complete applications and schedule an audition time online at syso.org. Preparations for auditions of this size are a complex organizational undertaking. The focus of the organization is not only the 600+ young musicians, but also the availability of our conductors, coaches, staff and rental space. Therefore, the online application and scheduling process is usually accessible by late spring.

Yearly Orchestra Advancement

Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra prides itself for its sequential curriculum of musical growth and advancement. Each orchestra presents students with new technical and expressive challenges. Advancement through the SYSO orchestral curriculum from year-to-year is dependent on individual student progress, demonstrated musical and technical growth, and attendance and attentiveness in rehearsals. Returning students who do not demonstrate appropriate growth in these areas may not be offered a position in an orchestra. Students participating in our programs are strongly encouraged to work with their private teachers and in their personal practice regimen both during the year and over the summer to ensure satisfactory progress through our orchestras.

Movement Between the Orchestras

If an orchestra vacancy occurs during the year, a new member is often, but not always, selected to fill the position. In the event a position is to be filled, the first chair player of the orchestra(s) under the orchestra with the vacancy will be invited to audition for the position. A student placed in a specific orchestra at the fall auditions who decides not to participate in one complete concert period is not eligible to move to the next level without first participating through an entire concert period in their originally assigned orchestra.

Seating Auditions

Seating auditions are required for each member of each orchestra for each concert cycle. These auditions serve to provide conductors and coaches an opportunity to evaluate student progress, plan rehearsals, select repertoire, and provide extra help if necessary. Generally, sectional rehearsals and coaching sessions will provide students with basic preparation for seating and part assignment auditions. However students are strongly advised to work on audition excerpts in their personal practice and private lessons.

The schedules for seating auditions are at syso.org, and are available from Orchestra Secretaries, and at the main auditions in August/September.

Students unable to attend a scheduled seating audition during the season must arrange a private audition with their coach to take place at least 2 weeks in advance of the scheduled audition date. A $20 Early Audition Fee will apply and must be delivered to the Orchestra Secretary at the time of the audition.

Mid-Season Auditions

Positions for new students auditioning after the annual concert season has begun are on a space-available basis only. Please feel free to email orchestra@syso.org or call us at 206.686.3150 with any audition inquiries.
**Tuition, Financial Aid, Work-Study**

**Tuition**

Tuition may be paid in full or through our payment plan. If families have more than one child in our orchestras, please inquire about our family discount.

The first half of the tuition is due October 13, 2018 and the second half is due January 12, 2019.

The full tuition amount is due in full by the scheduled tuition payment dates listed above regardless of the student’s attendance at rehearsals or concerts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2018-19 Tuition Rates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prelude</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Symphonette</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debut</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth</td>
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</table>

**No Refund Policy**

SYSO has a No Refund policy in regard to tuition. We plan for a student to commit for the entire orchestra year. The full tuition fee will be due and payable for the entire year regardless of the student’s non-attendance at rehearsals or concerts.

**Tuition Security Deposit**

A current credit card number will be required for a Tuition Security Deposit. No charges will be made to your account provided your tuition is paid in full by the due date(s). If full tuition has not been paid by March 1, 2019 the credit card on file will be automatically charged for the full tuition amount. A 4% credit card fee is applied to all payments.

**Financial Aid**

In an effort to keep tuition affordable for all students, SYSO underwrites a significant percentage of the actual cost of each student’s participation.

SYSO does provide financial aid to ensure that financial resources are not a barrier to participation. Families requesting financial aid must complete the required financial aid form found online at syso.org. These forms are also available from the Orchestra Secretary or you may call the SYSO office and request a form to be mailed to you. We require families to submit the first page of their IRS 1040 income tax form (with social security numbers redacted) with their financial aid application.

Financial aid decisions are made using an objective methodology for calculating a family’s ability to contribute towards tuition. All information about families’ financial situations is kept strictly confidential.

If a student or parent is willing to engage in work-study, the amount of the award can be increased.

**Work-Study**

SYSO offers a limited number of student work-study positions. Work-study duties can include acting as stage crew, setting up and/or cleaning up rehearsal rooms, or assisting with SYSO events as needed. Students on work-study can receive partially subsidized tuition depending on circumstances.

There are two types of work-study positions available for parents that require a significant time commitment. 1) Orchestra Secretary—there is a position for each orchestra and requires proficiency in volunteer management, customer relations, emailing, and scheduling; 2) Parent Communications Coordinator—this is a new position responsible for writing, editing, and formatting communications to families including the Musical Monday newsletter (a detailed description of the position can be found on page 10). Please contact Janice Gatti, Manager of Orchestra Operations at 206.686.3150 or janice.gatti@syso.org to express interest and learn more about these positions.

The deadline to submit an application for Financial Aid or Work-Study is September 30, 2018.

**Instrument Liability**

All SYSO students/families are responsible for their instruments. Lost, stolen or damaged instruments (or instrument accessories) are not the responsibility of SYSO. **SYSO strongly urges you to check with your family insurance agent regarding instrument insurance.**

**Instrument Loans**

Generally, students are expected to provide their own instruments; however, SYSO has some instruments available for loan on a first-come, first-serve basis. A rental fee may apply. Please call the SYSO office at 206.686.3150 for instrument availability or for more information.
COMMUNICATING WITH SYSO

All relevant and timely information from SYSO will come through the following methods of communication. We realize that families are inundated with email and we make our best efforts to keep communication streamlined.

Orchestra Secretary Weekly Missives

Every week the Orchestra Secretary will send information about rehearsal schedules, upcoming events or other reminders. It is very important that parents/students read these emails every week.

SYSO Website

On our website, there is a wealth of information including a SYSO calendar, SYSO news, descriptions of SYSO’s various programs, audition procedures, this parent handbook, fundraising updates, parent association information, board of directors information, alumni news, and sectional coaching schedules. We will post any emergency closure information on the website. Directions to rehearsal locations and biographies of faculty and staff are also available. www.syso.org

Musical Monday

We communicate with SYSO families through the online newsletter Musical Monday, which is sent every other Monday. Musical Monday includes dates of upcoming concerts and events, and reminders pertaining to the coming week. Please look for this publication and read it thoroughly. If families are not receiving Musical Monday, we advise to first check the Spam or Junk Mail boxes. Otherwise, please contact the SYSO office at info@syso.org.

All-SYSO Email List

This list is used to distribute information pertinent to the entire SYSO community. These will include important messages about the organization’s mission, future plans, leadership, special events, etc. This method of distribution is for high-priority messages only and is unavailable for parent-generated messages.

RE chỉnhText Service

This year, SYSO is piloting the use of the REMIND group texting app for Youth Symphony only. REMIND is a texting service that is used by many high schools in the area. Important messages that need to be communicated in very short notice (for example, an immediate need to change a rehearsal location) will be sent via REMIND.

Social Media

SYSO has a presence on various social media, including Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. We use these formats to share interesting information that helps build community and keep families informed. We encourage parents, extended families, friends and community members to interact with us on these platforms. We ask families to please refrain from posting concert recordings on social media sites so as not to violate any potential music copyright stipulations.

Address Updates

Families should notify SYSO immediately of any change of address, phone numbers, or email addresses so that our records are accurate. Please forward updated information to the Orchestra Secretary, to info@syso.org and orchestra@syso.org with “Contact Information Update” in the subject line of the email.

Questions and Concerns

Parents are encouraged to ask questions, address concerns, bring forward ideas, or extend compliments. To ensure efficient and effective lines of communication, we recommend that families proceed with their questions or concerns in the following order:

Orchestra Secretary

For questions or concerns related to orchestra matters of any kind, the first person to turn to is the Orchestra Secretary. He or she will be able to liaise with SYSO administration and artistic faculty and direct families to where to find the information requested. Orchestra Secretaries are available by email or at rehearsals.

Manager of Orchestra Operations

If the Orchestra Secretary is not available or not able to address your question or concern, the next person to turn to is Janice Gatti, SYSO Manager of Orchestra Operations. Janice is available Tuesday-Saturday by phone at 206.686.3150 or by email at janice.gatti@syso.org.

Conductor

Orchestra conductors make decisions about the curriculum, students’ musical progress, skills assessment, behavior, social interaction, or other related topics. Conductors are willing to discuss any of these topics with parents.

Music Director and Executive Director

Maestra Edwards and Executive Director Kathleen Allen are available, accessible, and eager to answer questions, address issues, or receive ideas related to the organization as a whole. The Music Director and Executive Director can be involved if parents wish to further pursue a student issue. Email or scheduled appointments are the preferred methods for communication.

Board of Directors

In the rare instance when parents think their concerns have not been appropriately addressed by the Music Director or the Executive Director, parents can express their concerns in writing to the SYSO Board of Directors.

See page 17 for SYSO Administrative Staff contact information.
PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Concerts
Concert dates are set well in advance. There will be a schedule of each orchestra's performance dates available at the information desk beginning at the auditions at the end of August. A calendar of events can be viewed online at syso.org.

Absence from a Concert Performance: Giving less than a month's notice of your absence from a concert puts your remaining participation in the SYSO program in jeopardy and at the discretion of the conductor and Music Director.

Partnership Performance Opportunities
Periodically SYSO has the opportunity to perform outside of our regularly scheduled programs. It is SYSO's intent to provide students the experience of many different types of performance venues. Past performances have included Seattle Symphony side-by-side concerts, partnerships with Pacific Northwest Ballet, Seattle Center's Winterfest, collaborations with Seattle Opera and The 5th Ave Theatre, and many others. Special partnership performances will be included in the yearly schedule of concerts.

Audience Concert Etiquette
SYSO is an educational organization dedicated to offering children of all ages to the excitement of live concerts; however, very young children may not be quite ready for a formal concert setting. Parents are the best judge of their child's capability to sit quietly through a concert. If a child becomes restless during a piece please exit quietly to the lobby.

For all Performance Venues: Turn off all pagers, cell phones, and watch alarms. Flash photography is strictly prohibited.
In Benaroya Hall: Videotaping is strictly prohibited.
In Meany Hall: Videotaping is allowed in designated areas of the hall only. Tripods are strictly forbidden.

Performer Concert Dress Requirements
Not adhering to the dress code will jeopardize a student's participation in the concert performance.

Prelude, Symphonette, Debut, and Junior
White top and black bottoms.
White top should be a button-up or blouse style shirt. Sleeves must be to elbows or below. Shirt is tucked in. Black bottoms may either be black dress pants OR knee-length or longer skirt with black tights/hose. Black dress shoes should be worn, open-toed shoes require black socks/tights/hose.
Black neck ties (NOT bow ties) are suggested if appropriate to that shirt. Please keep jewelry and hair adornments unobtrusive.
No sweaters. No jeans. No spandex or athletic pants. No short skirts. No sandals. No tennis shoes.

Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra
Students can either wear concert tails or formal concert black ensemble.
Concert tails: black tuxedo, long-sleeve white dress shirt, black socks, black dress shoes, and black bow tie.
Concert black: black button-up or blouse style shirt. Sleeves must be to elbows or below. Black bottoms may either be black dress pants OR long black skirt with black tights/hose. Black dress shoes should be worn, open-toed shoes require black socks/tights/hose.
Please keep jewelry and hair adornments unobtrusive.
No sweaters. No jeans. No spandex or athletic pants. No short skirts. No sandals. No tennis shoes.

Ticket Information
Visit syso.org for ticket information.

- Single Tickets
  General Admission and Reserved Seating single tickets can be purchased by visiting syso.org.

- YSO Season Subscriptions
  Season Subscriptions are available for discounted prices of up to 40% off at syso.org.

- Group Sales
  Groups of 10 people or more can purchase tickets for $5 per person. For group sales to YSO concerts, please contact Benaroya Hall Group Sales at 206.215.4818.

- One Free Ticket for Each Concert
  Each SYSO student is given one complimentary ticket to each YSO concert to share with friends, teachers, or extended family. Four Orchestras students are highly encouraged to attend YSO concerts as an inspiring learning opportunity.
Welcome

Welcome to SYSO’s Parent Association! All parents of SYSO orchestra students are automatically members of the Parent Association (PA). Join us as we create a welcoming and supportive community for all SYSO families. We hope to see you at the monthly PA meetings or as a parent volunteer. With your participation, we work together to help students deepen friendships and allow families to connect.

Meetings

The PA provides all SYSO parents and families with an open monthly forum where they can meet as a group to share ideas. The meetings are held at 10:00 AM during Saturday rehearsals in the Shorecrest High School’s Performing Arts Center (PAC) Lobby. Please check the box to the right for exact dates and the PA announcements in Musical Monday for details. Please drop in anytime to meet our enthusiastic group of parents and staff!

Structure

The Parent Association is led by the PA Co-Chairs and a core group of dedicated volunteers. The PA leadership team focuses on community building, social opportunities for students, parent education, and keeping the families informed of the PA activities. The PA leadership team plays a critical role by facilitating communications between parents and SYSO staff.

While the leadership team oversees the direction of the PA, all parents are welcome at every meeting and encouraged to participate in the discussion, and provide input and feedback. There are also many volunteer opportunities for parents available at various PA events.

Activities

During the 2018-19 season, the PA events will focus on community building and creating opportunities for students to form friendships within the orchestra. The PA sponsors the special events detailed in the calendar (page 18). Highlights this year will include Halloween Trunk-or-Treat, individual orchestra socials, and a Parent Education series.

Meeting Dates

Saturday, September 29, 2018, 10-11 a.m.
Saturday, October 20, 2018, 10-11 a.m.
Saturday, November 10, 2018, 10-11 a.m.
Saturday, December 15, 2018, 10-11 a.m.
Saturday, January 19, 2019, 10-11 a.m.
Saturday, February 9, 2019, 10-11 a.m.
Saturday, March 9, 2019, 10-11 a.m.
Saturday, April 13, 2019, 10-11 a.m.
Saturday, May 11, 2019, 10-11 a.m.

Contact the Parent Association

Ikuko Hellevik
Parent Association Co-Chair,
SYSO Board member
PA@syso.org

Katie Bell
Parent Association Co-Chair,
Social Committee Chair
PA@syso.org

Hana Park
Parent Education Chair
PAedu@syso.org

Emma Jonsson
Orchestra Social Committee
PAsocial@syso.org
Volunteer Job Descriptions

The Parent Association is led by a team of parent volunteers. The positions described below make up the PA leadership team and are responsible for organizing PA events and activities. PA leaders are expected to attend monthly PA meetings and ongoing events; some additional hours may be requested for planning and communication. Please contact the PA Co-Chairs if you’re interested in filling one of these roles!

In addition to these roles, there are a variety of ways to get involved and socialize with fellow orchestra families. Volunteer requests for specific events will be sent via emails from SignUpGenius by the Parent Association. Thank you in advance for helping to build a strong SYSO community!

Parent Association Co-Chairs
Sets goals for the Parent Association and provides directions to and supports the other members of the PA leadership team. Plans and provides the agenda for monthly PA meetings. Serves as liaisons between the PA and SYSO’s board and staff and shares parent concerns and feedback.

Parent Communications Coordinator
Prepares the biweekly Musical Mondays for publication by building the email in Constant Contact. Reviews, edits, and formats content from other PA and staff authors. Musical Monday emails keep orchestra families informed of PA activities and general updates from SYSO. Familiarity with email management tool, such as Constant Contact, required.

*NOTE: This is a work-study position. Given the amount of time required, this volunteer will be compensated through tuition discount in the same manner as Orchestra Secretaries.

Parent Education Chair
In partnership with the PA Co-Chairs, selects topics for the Parent Education series. Recruits speakers for the Parent Education series and informs parents about the events. Works with SYSO staff to ensure event logistics are met (venue reserved, refreshments planned, etc.).

Yearbook Coordinator
The Yearbook is published in early May and celebrates all graduating high school seniors in SYSO and recognizes their time at SYSO and future plans. This role is responsible for gathering and editing content for the Yearbook. Works closely with the Manager of Orchestra Operations and the SYSO graphic designer. Communicates with graduating seniors to ensure accuracy in the yearbook (high school, instrument, future plans, senior portraits, etc.).

*NOTE: This position is most active March – May 2019.

Volunteer Coordinator
Identifies volunteer needs and sends volunteer requests through SignUpGenius. Communicates with the Social Committee and Orchestra Secretaries to ensure that enough volunteers are recruited for PA events. Maintains a list of volunteers and hours to be submitted for the volunteer appreciation at the year-end.

Event Volunteers
Multiple opportunities to be assigned at each shift. Tasks may include: room set-up, assisting with registration or check-in, running craft projects, serving food, etc.

Hospitality and Food Donation
Our events succeed thanks to the generous in-kind support of SYSO parents. From home-baked cookies and refreshments to access to event space, in-kind donations from parents make our events extra special.
Thank you for your family’s participation in our Academic Year Orchestras! As your student progresses this year, you will see the impact of their education firsthand. Providing this quality education relies on support from every member of our community. We invite you to consider the effect SYSO has on your student and ask you to contribute at a meaningful level to ensure all our students have a life-changing experience. In respect for your time, but in recognition of the funds needed to deliver our programming, we request your support during two initiatives:

**SYSO Annual Fund**

The goal of the Annual Fund is to provide your student the best possible music education. Funds raised from the campaign allow us to enlist premier coaches and conductors, and provide meaningful performance opportunities for our students. The 2018-19 season is especially beneficial to our students as we celebrate SYSO’s 75th Anniversary. During this landmark season, all students will rehearse and perform alongside professional musicians. By giving at a meaningful level for your family—you make these opportunities possible.

The Annual Fund will take place during two campaigns: Winter (Nov. 1 – Dec. 31) and Spring (May 20 – June 30). Requests in the Spring will be sent to families that have not yet had the opportunity to participate.

**75th Anniversary Gala & Auction**

**Saturday May 4, 2019**

Join us for this landmark anniversary bash to celebrate with our students, families, alumni, and community. Together we raise support for SYSO scholarships.

By attending the event, bidding on auction items (at the event and online), and/or donating a prized auction item you will help ensure that all talented musicians have the opportunity to participate in SYSO programs. The 75th Anniversary Gala will take place on the evening of Saturday, May 4, 2019 at the Hyatt at Olive 8 in downtown Seattle.

**Annual Benefit Committee (up to 10 volunteers)**

You may also choose to volunteer for our only fundraising event of the season. By joining a diverse committee of parents, alumni, SYSO board members, and community members you will help shape a successful event. Committee members are asked to attend monthly meetings, as available, from October to April. Members will contribute to the event theme, messaging, and celebratory moments. You will also help recruit attendees, identify prospective table and corporate sponsors, and secure auction items.

**Double Your Impact!**

**Employer Matching Gifts and Workplace Giving**

Does your employer have a Matching Gift Program? If so, you might be able to double your donation amount. Check with your employer to learn about Matching Gift opportunities.

Does your employer host regular Workplace Giving Campaigns? If so, please consider nominating SYSO as a potential recipient. SYSO staff are always happy to help you navigate matching gift and workplace giving opportunities.

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**Frequently Asked Questions**

**How will my gift be utilized by SYSO?**

Your support provides top-tier coaches and conductors, and offers performance opportunities in premier venues for all students. By donating, you spark a love of music in our students and empower them to pursue their dreams.

**Can I direct my gift to a specific area of need, such as scholarships?**

Absolutely! Whenever you choose to donate, you will have the opportunity to direct your gift to a specific area of need. Donation forms online and those provided with mailings will offer a menu of options. We encourage you to support initiatives that are most meaningful to you.

**What benefits will I receive for donating?**

All donors are invited to special events that demonstrate the impact of their support from dress rehearsal access to concert receptions. During the Annual Fund Winter campaign we will offer a special pizza party for students in the first orchestra that reaches 100% participation. Recognition is provided in all five concert programs at your discretion. SYSO is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization; all donations are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

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**Contact SYSO’S Development Team**

**Alex Kyger**  
*Director of Development*  
206.686.7074  
alex.kyger@syso.org

**Brittany Gilbertson**  
*Development Manager*  
206.686.3146  
brbrittany.gilbertson@syso.org
The Seattle Conservatory of Music is a program of Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra. Its mission is to provide students with a full curriculum of music, academic, and performance opportunities that expand student knowledge and enrich student appreciation. Similar to high school “Advanced Placement” classes, the programs offered by the Seattle Conservatory of Music prepare students for college-level coursework and are seen as indispensable for those who are considering majoring in music in college.

The Conservatory curriculum consists of Core Academics, Electives, Performance Study, and Chamber Music. Students can be involved in any amount of the Conservatory curriculum, and students are encouraged to build a schedule that is custom-tailored to their needs.

All classes are year-long commitments that run from October 6, 2018 to May 26, 2019.

For more information please visit seattleconservatory.org or email the Conservatory Operations Manager at evan.berge@syso.org.

### Core Academics

**Music Theory**
These courses cover the basic vocabulary necessary to understand and analyze music. Fundamentals from key signatures to basic four-part harmony are taught in the first year. Second year concentrates on part-writing and analysis skills as well as exploring forms. Third year begins the study of species and tonal counterpoint. Fourth year introduces chromatic harmony and 20th c. practices. Advanced seminars are available for study after the fourth year.

**Ear Training**
These courses correspond directly with Music Theory topics. Students learn to identify musical ideas by listening: they practice taking rhythmic, melodic, and four-part dictation. Sight-reading and pitch sense are developed through singing. Students learn to use a moveable number system for sight-singing as well as the "fixed Do" system of Solfège.

**Music History & Literature**
The history courses offered help students develop a broad knowledge of music literature and historical styles that is crucial to effective performance. We use a chronological approach designed to study interrelationships between composers, styles, and surrounding cultures. All classes emphasize listening, and advanced seminars include some analysis. Classes for younger students focus upon in-class projects while older students take lecture-style courses. A comprehensive appreciation of, and familiarity with, music from all periods are fundamental goals.

### Elective Classes

**Keyboard Harmony**
Piano proficiency is a core competency for every serious music student. This class is a companion to all levels of music theory classes and teaches basic piano proficiency with an emphasis on chord formation and basic technique. No prior experience is required.

**Violin Audition Class**
This weekly orchestral excerpt for advanced violin students is taught by former Seattle Symphony concertmaster Maria Larionoff. Standard orchestral repertoire and concertmaster solos will be studied in addition to regular “mock” auditions. Audition tips and techniques will be discussed and there will be a leadership workshop to cultivate the skills necessary to effectively lead a violin section. Sight reading practice will be included, as well as an intensive spiccato seminar.

**Piano Literature**
This course surveys the wide and immensely varied repertoire for piano. Knowledge of this literature is of importance to all pianists. Students are encouraged to perform for the class to illustrate works that have been discussed. The course provides an opportunity for peers and participants to share observations and insights. Different segments of the repertoire are featured each year.

**Music Composition**
Those who have passed through Year II Music Theory are encouraged to take this class. Examples of master composers in every genre from the 12th to 20th c. are studied. In addition to weekly assignments, students in the class are expected to give presentations throughout the year while continuing to work on their compositional projects.
Performance Study

Collegiate Performance Preparation Class
This course trains students to become well-rounded, confident musicians who are capable of performing under pressure, and are knowledgeable in self-presentation. It prepares students for collegiate music school and orchestra auditions, as well as local, national, and international competitions. Weekly performance classes give students the opportunity to play and also to be evaluated by the audience. Visiting guest artists regularly present master-classes. Community performances are scheduled throughout the year. High school seniors are given solo performance opportunities in preparation for auditions and support in collegiate audition tour management. Sophomores and juniors are assigned college research projects.

Chamber Music Program
A foundational imperative for any music student is participation in a chamber music ensemble. The Seattle Conservatory’s Chamber Music program offers public performance opportunities and professional coaching sessions led by outstanding faculty coaches. Individual chamber music groups are formed to match every age and skill level, and the ensembles meet on Saturday mornings before and after Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra rehearsals, in addition to Saturday afternoons at Seattle Pacific University.

Participation in the Chamber Music Program is by audition only and is encouraged for all instrumentalists. Ensemble assignment is determined by age and experience. All Chamber Music Ensembles perform in public concerts, one in the winter and one in the spring. Ensembles are coached by faculty members on a weekly basis throughout the school year. Coaching sessions take place on Saturday mornings at Shorecrest High School, and Saturday afternoons at Seattle Pacific University.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
seattleconservatory.org
206.362.2300 | info@seattleconservatory.org

Student Testimonials

“SCM classes make learning music a much richer experience. Music history gets me in the head of the composer in the context of his era. Music theory breaks down the structure almost mathematically and shows how all the notes work together. Ear training forces me to listen more mindfully to my own playing, as well as to that of other musicians. There really is no place else like SCM...it makes me love music more, and I am in the company of friends who take music as seriously as I do.”

MARThA SPRAGUE
SCM STUDENT SINCE 2015

“The Theory, Ear Training and Collegiate Performance Prep Classes at the Seattle Conservatory of Music helped prepare me for my college auditions and gave me the academic and performance skills that I needed to be successful as a full-scholarship student at the Colburn School of Music.”

EVAN JOHANSON
SCM STUDENT
SUMMER AND IN-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

SYSO in the Summer

Marrowstone Music Festival (MMF)
MMF is the premier orchestra training program of the Pacific Northwest. Designed for students ages 14-25, Marrowstone offers a two-week session at Western Washington University in Bellingham, Washington. The program boasts an internationally renowned faculty and provides all students with an intensive orchestral and chamber music experience. Students are given the opportunity to participate in master class instruction, chamber music, chamber orchestra and more.

SYSO Summer Music (SSM)
SSM is a two-week, Seattle-based summer program designed to provide excellent musical instruction and orchestral training for younger musicians, ages 7-14, who have had at least two years of playing experience or a minimum of one year of private instruction. The program includes string and wind ensembles, sectional and full orchestra rehearsals, concerts and master classes for all students. SYSO Summer Music takes place in the greater Seattle area.

SYSO in the Schools

Endangered Instruments Program (EIP)
The Endangered Instruments Program, created in 1990 by former SYSO conductor Walter F. Cole, supplements music education in public schools by providing free, in-school instruction on less commonly studied or “endangered” instruments such as the double bass, bassoon, viola, trombone, tuba, percussion, and French horn.

Musical Pathways Program (MPP)
The program supports school instrumental music teachers by providing highly trained teaching specialists that work directly under the supervision of classroom teachers to increase the size, diversity, and quality of school orchestra programs. Lessons occur during and after school, as a component of regularly scheduled school instrumental music classes.
DIRECTIONS

Benaroya Hall
200 University St., Seattle, WA 98101

Benaroya Hall is located on 3rd Ave between Union and University. The entrance for musicians is located on 2nd Ave at the NW corner of the building.

Driving North on I-5: Take the Seneca exit and go west. Turn right on 3rd Ave. Proceed for two blocks. Benaroya Hall is located on your left. There is parking under the hall, which can be entered from 2nd Ave.

Driving South on I-5: Take the Union exit and proceed west until you reach 2nd Ave. Benaroya Hall is on the block of Union and 2nd Ave. There is parking under the hall, which can be entered from 2nd Ave.

University of Washington—Meany Hall

Driving North or South on I-5: Take the 45th St. exit. Head east on NE 45th St to 15th Ave NE. Turn right at 15th Ave NE and proceed to NE 41st St. Turn left into the university parking structure. Once inside the garage, follow the signs directing to Meany Theater.

University of Washington—School of Music

Driving North or South on I-5: Driving North or South on I-5: Take the 45th St exit and go east until you reach 17th Ave NE. Turn right and enter the University campus. The parking attendants at the gate will give you instructions.

Shorecrest High School
15343 25th Ave NE, Shoreline, WA 98155

Driving North or South on I-5: Take the 145th St exit (#175). Head east on 145th to 25th Ave NE. Turn left on 25th and travel approximately 1/2 mile. Shorecrest will be on your left. Parking is at the rear of the school.

Shorewood High School
17300 Fremont Ave. N. Shoreline, WA 98133

Driving North or South on I-5: Take the 175th St exit (#176). Head west on 175th to corner of Fremont Ave North. Shorewood High School will be on the left.

SYSO Office
11065 Fifth Ave NE, Suite A., Seattle, WA 98125

Driving North on I-5: Take the Northgate Way exit. Turn left onto 1st Ave NE, then right onto Northgate Way NE. Go to 5th Ave NE and turn left. Office is on the left side of the street.

Driving South on I-5: Take the Northgate Way exit. Turn right onto Northgate Way NE. Go to 5th Ave NE and turn left. Office is on the left side of the street.

Pick-Up and Drop-Off Policy

It is the responsibility of the parent(s) to pick up their child on time, promptly after the conclusion of any SYSO activity.

Failure to pick up your child on time may cause them to wait at the location alone. SYSO is not responsible for your child after rehearsal ends.

Shorecrest High School:
Please be aware of the driving and parking regulations at SHS. There is absolutely no curbside or loading dock parking at any time. The parking lot can get rather hectic and often the children are not paying attention to the traffic flow. Please use caution and move very slowly through the lot to ensure no one is injured.

School of Music, UW Campus:
When picking up your child from rehearsal, please be aware there is no parking allowed on the side street bordering the Music building. You will be ticketed. Arrange to meet your student at one of the parking lots close to the School of Music.
The Board is responsible for fiduciary oversight and governance of SYSO and all of its programs. The Board meets monthly during the academic year and holds at least one meeting each summer during the Marrowstone Music Festival. The Board comprises of the following members:

**Alice Ikeda, President**  
SYSO Alumni  
Owner, Ikeda/Vanderburg Productions

**Erika Dowd**  
Non-Profit Leader  
Former Non-Profit Executive Director and Development Director

**Ginger Hunt Luce**  
Arts Leader & Musician  
Violinist, Seattle Opera

**Nancy Grauman, Vice-President**  
SYSO Alumni  
Attorney, Sheppard Mullin Richter and Hampton LLP

**Francisco J. Grijalva, Ed.D.**  
Former Head of School & Musician  
Head of School, Retired, The Overlake School

**Yoshiaki “Yoshi” Minegishi**  
Community Leader  
Retired, IBM USA and Nortel Japan

**Jefferson Eby III, Treasurer**  
SYSO Alumni Parent  
CFO, Washington Research Foundation

**Ikuko Hellevik**  
SYSO Parent  
Community Volunteer

**Paul Rafanelli**  
SYSO Alumni  
Bassoonist, Seattle Symphony

**Christine Chang, Secretary**  
SYSO Parent  
Community Volunteer

**Jonathan Jain**  
Community Leader & Musician  
Senior Product Manager, Amazon Web Services

**Robert Sokol**  
Non-Profit Leader & SYSO Alumni  
Chief Administrative Officer, Trinity Wall Street

**MaryLou Brown**  
SYSO Alumni Parent  
Retired Nurse

**Andrea Jones**  
SYSO Parent  
Community Volunteer

**Adam Tullman**  
Community Leader  
Labor and Employment Attorney/Senior Counsel, PACCAR

**Amanda Course**  
Community Leader & Musician  
Communications Officer, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

**Mae Lin**  
SYSO Alumni & Musician  
Violinist, Seattle Symphony

**Bob Dowd**  
Non-Profit Leader  
Former Non-Profit Executive Director and Development Director

**Ginger Hunt Luce**  
Arts Leader & Musician  
Violinist, Seattle Opera

**MaryLou Brown**  
SYSO Alumni Parent  
Retired Nurse

**Andrea Jones**  
SYSO Parent  
Community Volunteer

**Mae Lin**  
SYSO Alumni & Musician  
Violinist, Seattle Symphony

**Board Committees**

The **Executive Committee** is generally made up of board officers and committee chairs and can function in place of the full board if the board cannot meet on a particular issue.

The **Governance Committee** oversees the growth and development of the board. This committee is responsible for succession planning; board member identification, recruitment, cultivation and selection; board assessment; and board education.

The **Finance Committee** ensures the long-term financial health of the organization and reviews and approves the annual budget. This committee also creates financial policies, such as the investment policy and oversees the annual audit.

The **Development Committee** sets the annual goals for fundraising and monitors all fundraising activities of the organization to ensure that they meet these goals. Marketing and Communications is integral to this process and will function under the umbrella of the development committee.

The **Personnel Committee** oversees the setting of staff salaries and benefits and monitors policies that pertain to workplace conditions.

The **Program Committee** reviews the organization’s various programs to ensure they are meeting the mission of the organization.

The **Alumni Committee** engages and cultivates alumni to continue participating in SYSO activities, encouraging alumni to help plan alumni events, share input on alumni communication, and to attend performances and events.

The **Parent Association Committee**’s mission is to facilitate parent involvement to keep SYSO programs at the highest possible level of quality and to make them accessible to all families.

If parents are interested in joining the board or have recommendations for potential board members, contact board@syso.org
SYSO STAFF

Administrative Staff

Administrative staff can be reached at 206.362.2300 and the extension listed below.

Kathleen Allen, Executive Director
kathleen.allen@syso.org | ext. 104

Janice Gatti, Manager of Orchestra Operations
janice.gatti@syso.org | ext. 107

Izchel Chacón, Education Program Manager / SYO Summer Music Program Coordinator
izchel.chacon@syso.org | ext. 110

Alex Kyger, Director of Development
alex.kyger@syso.org | ext. 112

Brittany Gilbertson, Development Manager
brittany.gilbertson@syso.org | ext. 106

Bryan Lindeman, Data & Operations Manager
bryan.lindeman@syso.org | ext. 102

Evan Berge, Administrative & Marketing Coordinator
evan.berge@syso.org | ext. 105

Grace Li, Interim Accountant
grace.li@syso.org | ext. 103

(Open Position)
Marrowstone Music Festival Coordinator

Artistic Staff

Dr. Anna Edwards
Interim Music Advisor

SYO CONDUCTORS

Mika Armaly
Prelude String Orchestra

Kate Labiak
Symphonette Orchestra

Mark Adamo
Debut Orchestra

Marcus Tsutakawa
Junior Symphony Orchestra

Dr. Anna Edwards
Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra

Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra
11065 5th Ave NE, Suite A
Seattle, WA 98125
206.362.2300  fax: 206.361.9254

syso.org
marrowstone.org
info@syso.org
KEY SYSO EVENTS AND CONCERTS

The schedules for rehearsals, sectionals, seating auditions, additional rehearsals prior to concerts, and monthly Parent Association meetings can be found at syso.org

Saturday, September 15, 2018 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.  
**SYSO Welcome Day and Parent 101**  
Shorecrest High School

Saturday, September 29, 2018 10:00-11:00 a.m.  
**Parent Association Kickoff Meeting**  
Shorecrest High School

Saturday, October 20, 2018, 10:00-11:00 a.m.  
**October Parent Association Meeting**  
Shorecrest High School PAC Lobby

Saturday, October 27, 2018 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.  
**Trunk or Treat**  
Shorecrest High School Parking Lot

Wednesday, November 7, 2018 6:00-8:30 p.m.  
**YSO Parent Social**  
Location TBD

Saturday, November 10, 2018 10:00-11:00 a.m.  
**November Parent Association Meeting**  
Shorecrest High School PAC Lobby

Sunday, November 11, 2018 3:00 p.m.  
**Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra Performance**  
featuring 2018 Concerto Competition Winner  
Benaroya Hall

Saturday, November 17, 2018 10:00-11:30 a.m.  
**Parent Education Series #1:**  
Advancing Through SYSO  
Shorecrest High School Classroom

Saturday, December 15, 2018 10:00-11:00 a.m.  
**December Parent Association Meeting**  
Shorecrest High School PAC Lobby

Sunday, December 16, 2018 2:00 p.m.  
**Pre-Concert Parent Association Holiday Crafts**  
Meany Hall Lobby, University of Washington

Sunday, December 16, 2018 3:00 p.m.  
**Four Orchestras Performance**  
with guest artists Seattle Girls Choir  
Meany Hall, University of Washington

Monday, December 24, 2018 – Friday, January 4, 2019  
**SYSO Office Closed and No Rehearsals**

Saturday, January 19, 2019 10:00-11:00 a.m.  
**January Parent Association Meeting**  
Shorecrest High School PAC Lobby

Saturday, February 9, 2019 10:00-11:00 a.m.  
**February Parent Association Meeting**  
Shorecrest High School PAC Lobby

Saturday, March 2, 2019 10:00-11:00 a.m.  
**Parent Education Series #2: Topic TBD**  
Shorecrest High School Classroom

Saturday, March 9, 2019 10:00-11:00 a.m.  
**March Parent Association Meeting**  
Shorecrest High School PAC Lobby

Sunday, March 10, 2019 3:00 p.m.  
**Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra Performance**  
with guest artist The Seattle Symphony Horns  
Benaroya Hall

Sunday, March 24, 2019 3:00 p.m.  
**Four Orchestras Performance**  
with guest artists The Gothard Sisters and Seattle Repertory Jazz Orchestra  
Meany Hall, University of Washington

Saturday, April 13, 2019 10:00-11:00 a.m.  
**April Parent Association Meeting**  
Shorecrest High School PAC Lobby

Sunday, May 5, 2019 3:00 p.m.  
**Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra Performance**  
with 75th Anniversary Alumni Orchestra and guest artists violinist Mae Lin and The Seattle Choral Company  
Benaroya Hall

Saturday, May 5, 2019 6:00 p.m.  
**75th Anniversary Gala Event**  
Hyatt Olive 8

Saturday, May 11, 2019 10:00-11:00 a.m.  
**May Parent Association Meeting**  
Shorecrest High School PAC Lobby

Sunday, May 12, 2:00 p.m.  
**Mother’s Day Crafts, and Volunteer Appreciation**  
Benaroya Hall

Sunday, May 12, 3:00 p.m.  
**Four Orchestras Performance**  
with guest artists Skyros String Quartet  
Benaroya Hall