



# NOTEWORTHY

Fall, 2002

Newsletter of the Oakland Youth Orchestra

Volume 14, No.1

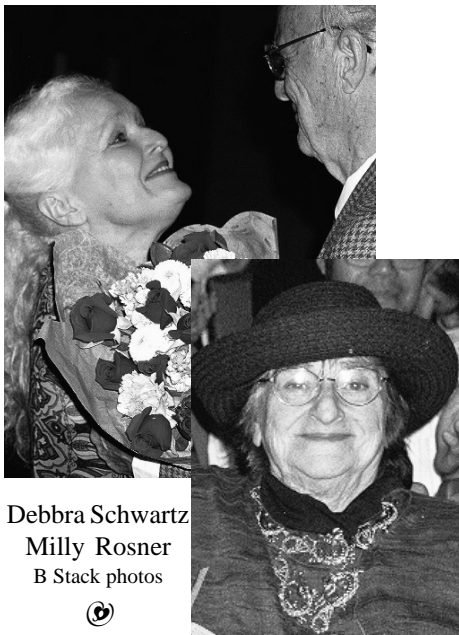


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## OYO Coaches Honored

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints honored four outstanding Oakland music teachers during National Family Week—and all of them have worked with OYO! Michael Morgan was the guest speaker at the November 9 event which honored the significant contributions to the musical life of the East Bay by: Trent Morant, Director of Oakland Youth Chorus, Milly Rosner, cello teacher and OYO coach, Debra Schwartz, artistic director of Crowden Center for Music in the Community and OYO coach and Board member, and Kahlil Shaheed, Director of Oakland Jazz Workshops.



Debra Schwartz  
Milly Rosner  
B Stack photos



## Dawn Foster Dodson

by OYO member Courtney Nippa

OYO alumnus Dawn Foster-Dodson was a member of the cello section from 1975 to 1977, under the baton of Denis de Coteau. She studied privately with Mildred Rosner, Colin Hampton, Michael Grebanier, Margaret Rowell and Bonnie Hampton, and graduated in 1982 from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Ms. Dodson has been a member of the San Francisco Opera Orchestra, the San Jose Symphony, The California Symphony, and the Midsummer Mozart Orchestra. She has soloed with the African American Chamber Orchestra (performing a piece written for her and that orchestra) and with the Oakland Youth orchestra three times! Dawn Foster-Dodson has been the principal cellist in musicals such as "Peter Pan," "The Sound of Music" and "Ragtime" at the Golden Gate Theatre in San Francisco. She has also performed recitals with piano, as a chamber musician, as well as a soloist throughout her career. Her first CD was entitled 'Kol Nidrei'. She was accompanied by organist Michael Secour, with whom she performs *Kol Nidrei* every Yom Kippur at Lafayette's Temple Isaai for the past six years now.

Through the years, Dawn has had an opportunity to mingle and perform with a wide variety of musical superstars including Stevie Wonder, Opera singer Luciano Pavarotti and cellist Yo-Yo Ma. In addition, she gives private lessons and teaches chamber ensembles at Saint Mary's college.

Currently, she is playing in the hit opera/musical "La Boheme."

Baz Lurmann's production of "La Boheme" is a great love story being played with Puccini's original music score, set in the 1950s and being sung in Italian with English subtitles and sidetitles. This show is originating in SF and will be going on Broadway in NY. for an indefinite time after November 10th. She's been playing 8 times per week since Oct. 1st to sold out houses.

Directed by the same man who brought you "Moulin Rouge," "La Boheme" has been a huge success.

"Three weeks ago an announcement came over the loudspeaker that there were no more 'house seats' (best seats available only to cast and orchestra members) available for the rest of the run, but that we could now buy tickets only for NY. Everyone is so enthusiastic about our show, including all the critics. We've gotten nothing but rave reviews time and time again since the first one in the middle of October."

"Everyone is having a ball and so appreciates the talent and expertise of Baz our producer and Constantine our conductor. Because the show started in SF we had extensive rehearsals before the first performance on October first. Sometimes two or three rehearsals were scheduled each day. This gave us a chance to put it together (it was being worked on and produced while we rehearsed) with 3 different casts! All the singers, actors and actresses are phenomenal! They were chosen out of 3,000 auditionees from all over the world during the past 2.5 years."

She also had the opportunity to make the Cast CD recording, which uses the principals from all three casts singing highlighted arias from the show.

"We recorded for four days at the SkyWalker Ranch near San Rafael last month. It's an incredible looking and sounding studio on a ranch that has its own restaurant, housing, golf course, lake, horses, fire station and much more. 'Jurassic Park' was also produced at George Lucas' Ranch."

The CD will be on the market by December 10th.

OYO is proud to have  
**HILLS NEWSPAPERS**  
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**Noteworthy** is published by the Oakland Youth Orchestra, a tax-exempt 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

## OYO Members

The 79 current members of OYO range in age from 12 to 21.

52% come from Alameda County; 39% from Contra Costa; 5% from San Francisco; 3% from Marin; 1% from Solano.

We are 57% female; 43% male.

We all play music.

## OYO Alumni News

**Emil Miland**, OYO 1974-1977, a former student of Milly Rosner, recently premiered Jake Heggie's *Cello Concerto* with the Oakland East Bay Symphony.

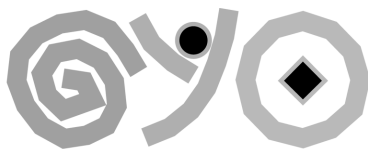
**Noah Schwartz**, OYO 1997-2000 (violin, viola & timpani), whose composition *Americana for the Suspicious Character* was premiered by OYO in 1999 (and won him an ASCAP Young Composers Award), will hear his latest, *Kneading Closure*, performed by the Oakland East Bay Symphony in their concert on April 25. Noah is currently a student at the University of Indiana.



Emil Miland



Noah Schwartz



OYO gives a special *thank you* to Allen Temple Baptist Church's **Betty Gadling** and **Carol Mason**, without whom today's concert would not have been possible!!!

## Winter Concert

**Sunday, February 2, 2003, 3 pm**  
with **Oakland Symphony Chorus**  
**Subscription Concert #2 \$12/\$8**

Gershwin: An American in Paris

Beethoven: Mass in C

Keenan Boswell: Organ Concerto No. 1\*

*\*World Premiere*

First Congregational Church  
2501 Harrison Street, Oakland

## Pops Concert

**Dinner & Silent Auction**  
**Sunday, March 9, 2003**

*Fun for all with spontaneous merriment, marches & waltzes, live auction, and special guest star*

The Crowden School

1475 Rose Street, Berkeley

## Spring Concert

**Sunday, May 18, 2003, 2 pm**  
**Subscription Concert #3 \$12/\$8**

Dean Leshner Center's Hofmann Theatre  
1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek

OYO is now accepting  
applications for auditions for  
*percussion*

please call or email OYO  
for more information

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The Oakland Youth Orchestra covers only about 22% of our seasonal expenses through tuition and fees. The remainder must be raised each year through events, fundraisers, grants, and donations. Help us maintain our internationally acclaimed program and scholarship assistance.

*Contributions made in support of the Oakland Youth Orchestra are tax-deductible.*

In memory of     In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed please find my contribution  \$50     \$100     \$150     \$\_\_\_\_\_

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Please send me information about including OYO in my will.