


NOTEWORTHY



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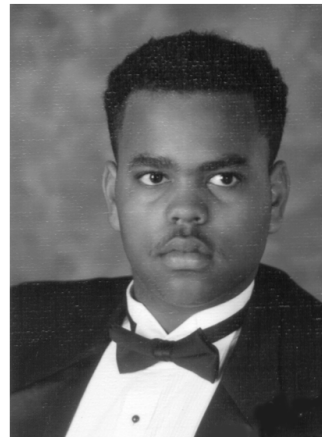
Michael Morgan, Artistic Director
 Bryan Nies, Resident Conductor
 Jay Levine, President
 Barbara Stack, Executive Director
 Ted Yuan, Operations Manager and Music Librarian
 Trina Walz, Development Director

Oakland Resolution



President of the OYO Board, Jay Levine, thanks Oakland City Councilmember Henry Chang for his Oakland City Council Resolution honoring OYO on our 40th Anniversary and presented on December 16, 2003. Shown holding the document is OYO All-Oakland String Quartet member Rachel Taylor. The actual Resolution is reproduced inside the back cover of today's concert program. Stack photo.

DeMarus Allen Wins!



OYO has just learned that DeMarus, OYO clarinetist and a senior at Pinole Valley High School, has won a KRON TV Students Rising Above Scholarship, coordinated by News Anchor Wendy Tokuda. His story will air March 9 at 6 pm, March 17 at 9 pm, and March 20 at 8:30 am. Congratulations DeMarus!

Oakland Tribune
 www.oaklandtribune.com



Noteworthy is published by the Oakland Youth Orchestra, a tax-exempt 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

Award to Bryan Nies

San Francisco Classical Voice
 Bruno Walter Award to OEBS, Nies
 By Janos Gereben
 January 27, 2004

The Oakland East Bay Symphony learned on Monday that it is the country's only regional orchestra to receive the Bruno Walter Foundation's

grant to support the position of assistant conductor. A similar grant from the foundation is going to a yet unidentified major orchestra.

Consequently, Bryan Nies will hold OEBS's new Bruno Walter Assistant Conductor Chair. He has been assistant conductor at both Opera San Jose and Walnut Creek's Festival Opera. Nies has

studied with Gustav Meier at Peabody, and with OEBS music director Michael Morgan at Tanglewood, and as resident conductor of the Oakland Youth Orchestra.

Morgan was surprised and elated: "We figured we were way too small. My teaching over the last few years might

continued

have helped to influence the decision. Also, my last assistant at OEBS, Scott Parkman, is now assistant at the St. Louis Symphony, a significant career development.” The \$10,000 grant is split between the orchestra and the assistant conductor, with the conductor’s portion “designed to help further his/her career by attendance at a conductor training session or another mentoring/career development program.” The purpose of the program, says the foundation is “to highlight the importance of assistant conductor positions as essential mentoring and learning experiences for emerging conductors.”

Four years ago, Nies, now 29, was the youngest member of Meier’s conducting class. He had studied piano and psychology at Northwestern University, but he was always interested in conducting, even as an adolescent who played French horn. He was captivated by how each part of the orchestra and the composition fit together. “In middle school, we did a band arrangement of Dvorak’s Ninth Symphony,” he said in an interview back at Peabody. “I bought a recording, found out it was 35 minutes longer than our nine-minute band arrangement, and listened to it over and over again. My ear developed a sense of how everything fit together.

“I remember missing a horn cue with the Chicago Youth Symphony in Shostakovich Five because I was too busy listening to the violins. Conducting just became a natural progression.” He aspires to be the principal conductor of an opera house, or a symphony. On the podium, he can blush with sudden intensity. His biggest problem as a conductor, he says, is self-consciousness, letting himself go: “It means in a weird sort of way not allowing thought to impede what you’re trying to create, yet consciously being focused. It’s a very hard thing to describe. You’re deliberately not thinking about things, about how the notes should go or your gestures, but you’re free to articulate the music. To get there means admitting your shortcomings as well as your strengths, and letting neither of them get in the way.”

(Janos Gereben, a regular contributor to www.sfcv.org, is arts editor of the Post Newspaper Group. His e-mail address is janosg@sbcglobal.net.)

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The OYO All-Oakland Quartet plays holiday music for the Oakland City Council on December 16: Deborah Lee and Jennifer Moriuchi, violins, OYO alumna Catherine Jolly, cello, and Rachel Taylor, viola.

Pops Concert

**Dinner & Silent Auction
Sunday, March 21, 2004**

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

Grofe • Gershwin • Sousa

The Crowden School
1475 Rose Street, Berkeley

40th Anniversary Concert

**Sunday, May 23, 2004, 2 pm
Subscription Concert #3 \$12/\$8**

Mendelssohn • Prokofiev • Rimsky-Korsakov
• Mozart •

Calvin Simmons Theatre
10 Tenth Street, Oakland

Alumni News

Larry London joins OYO Board

OYO alumnus (1964-67), coach, brother of alumnae, uncle of current member, son of OYO manager 1967-84 Ethel London, Larry London was elected to the OYO Board on January 12.

Larry did his undergraduate work at Harvard and earned a Master's degree in composition at Mills College. He studied with Darius Milhaud, Terry Riley and Lou Harrison. He has played clarinet in all of the Bay Area's professional orchestras and teaches music history and theory at Ohlone College. His compositions have been performed at the Aspen and Cabrillo Music Festivals, by the Oakland Symphony and the San Francisco Symphony chamber series and he has had commissions from the Telluride Music Festival, Oakland Youth Orchestra, the Stanford Orchestra and Chorus, and the Ohlone Wind Ensemble. Larry has contributed as a composer, arranger or performer to over fifty films. He composed the music for Isamu Noguchi: Stones and Paper, an American Masters documentary film, recognized as Best Portrait at the Montreal International Festival of Films in 1998. He wrote music for Poumy, A Bridge of Books, and Four Films About Love in 2002 for New Jewish Film Projects.

He recently told us: "Playing with the Oakland Youth Orchestra many years ago had a strong influence on me. It helped me form ideas I still hold today about music, intellectual development, cooperation and personal identity. In those years, almost forty years ago, I was inspired by the leadership and the whole collaborative effort that constitutes orchestral playing. I want to insure the continuation of that exhilarating experience for other generations of young, talented musicians.

Therefore I consider it an honor to be asked to join the OYO Board, and I am happy to serve a group that was so important to my musical and personal development."

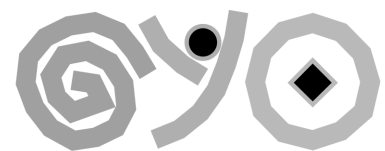
Why is the Tour 2004 destination New Zealand and Australia? Why There?

Because that's where Michael Morgan wants to go...and..because OYO has hosted the Melbourne Youth Orchestra (1998) and the Knox Abbotsleigh Youth Orchestra from Sydney(1996).



Robert Hughes and Aaron Copland listen to Larry London perform the "Clarinet Concerto"

That would be Copland's Clarinet Concerto, performed with OYO (the "Youth Chamber Orchestra"), on March 27, 1966, under the baton of Maestro Bob Hughes.



OYO Members

The 78 current members of OYO range in age from 13 to 22. The average age today is 16.37.

52.6% come from Alameda County; 37.2% from Contra Costa; 3.8% from San Francisco; 2.6% from Marin; 2.6% from Solano and 1.3 from Sonoma. 10 are from Oakland.

We are 59% female; 41% male.

We all love music.

How do you get into OYO?

1. Start playing an orchestra instrument or switch to an orchestra instrument or add on an orchestra instrument. Many of our members also play piano and many began studying an instrument at age 4.
2. Take private lessons and practice, practice, practice.
3. Join a band or a wind ensemble or a jazz group or another orchestra while you are becoming good enough for OYO.
4. Audition for OYO in the spring. Sometimes students audition 3 years in a row before they get in!

Send us your name, address, parents' names, date of birth, and instrument, and we'll put you on our list to receive an application.

Have You Registered?



Easy Online Registration
www.escrip.com

OYO Group ID
142496081

Help OYO to make our dream come true:

Tour 2004!



Be there for OYO

Be there

Taking 'There' Down Under

In coordination with Mayor Jerry Brown and the Port of Oakland, a gala fundraiser will be held on Wednesday March 17th at Oakland's Waterfront Plaza Hotel, 5:30 until 7:30 pm. All proceeds from the event will be used to provide scholarships 2004 tour to Australia and New Zealand. You can participate as a Sponsor, Donor or Attendee. For additional information or an invitation please contact Barbara Stack at OYO.

or...you know...

The Oakland Youth Orchestra covers less than half of our seasonal expenses through tuition. 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 _____
 Operations (unrestricted) Scholarships Tour

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

Name:

Phone:

Street:

City:

State:

Zip:

Please send me information about including OYO in my will.

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