

## OYO Partners with Oakland Rotary Taste of California a Big Hit

Downtown Oakland was alive with the sound of music as the Oakland Youth Orchestra opened its 43rd season with a selection of tunes from the Rogers and Hammerstein classic at the annual Taste of California Food, Wine and Beer Festival. The event, organized by the Oakland Rotary Club, was held on Sunday, September 17 in the garden courtyard of the Oakland Museum of California. Nearly 1000 attendees enjoyed great music, sunny skies, and a wide range of delicious gourmet treats.

Led by Principal conductor Bryan Nies, OYO's full orchestra also performed Shubert's *Rosamunde Overture* and Rossini's *Variations*, the latter featuring a solo performance by OYO coach and board member Heghine Boyolan. Boyolan, who performs with such ensembles as Oakland East Bay Symphony, the Santa Rosa Symphony and the Berkeley Symphony Orchestra, also directs OYO's Armenian and Greek String Orchestra, which performed Corelli's *Concerto Grosso*, as well as a selection of Greek and Armenian folk songs and dances. The OYO groups were joined by Khalil Shaheed's Oaktown Jazz Workshops.

"This newly developed strategic partnership with Rotary has resulted in one of OYO's best season openings," said OYO Board President Maurice Arnold. "the venue, vendors and audience allowed us to maximize exposure of our talented kids and really promote the orchestra."

The event benefited a number of Oakland Arts organizations, including The Oakland East Bay Symphony, the Oakland Museum of California, and OYO's Greek tour fund. In addition, proceeds support a wide range of Oakland Rotary programs, including annual scholarship awards, a city literacy program, a home-building program, and emergency food assistance to city residents.

## OYO Fantastic Fall Concert Allen Temple Baptist Church November 12, 2006, 3 pm tickets available at the door and online at [www.oyo.org](http://www.oyo.org)

Allen Temple Baptist Church is one of Oakland's great institutions and OYO has been performing regular concerts in their Family Life Center since it opened in 2000. But behind this wonderful venue is a real partnership which has at its center Michael Morgan and that other great Oakland institution Betty Gadling, the ATBC Minister of Music, whom Michael Morgan has called a "force of nature." Betty is the dynamo behind the well-known annual production of the "Black Nativity." Less well known is her project to outfit the Center with music rooms in which to conduct after school and summer programs for the children of the congregation and the neighborhood. This summer she had the assistance not only of Michael Morgan, with who she shares a mission of building musicianship among the youth of Oakland, but their mutual protégé, Sobrante Park neighbor, and OYO alumna Danielle Taylor, now a Sophomore at the Oberlin Conservatory. Word is that Danielle is a fabulous teacher. Kudos to all, especially to the teachers of teachers! This will be a great concert for kids! See inside pages for more.



OYO Board Vice President, coach and leader of the Armenian Group, Heghine Boloyan solos with OYO for the Rotary guests.

## OYO at Allen Temple



Michael Morgan conducting OYO from the harpsichord and Danielle Taylor, concertmaster. 11/21/04.



Bryan conducting OYO and Oakland Symphony Chorus at ATBC. 11/13/05.

## OYO at Taste of California



Bryan Nies and OYO in a moment of unscored hilarity.



Concertmaster Sarah Lee, Reuben Moss,

Lorraine Hunt Lieberson  
1954-2006  
OYO 1969-1972



The worlds of classical music and opera were stunned this summer to learn of the passing of mezzo-soprano Lorraine Hunt Lieberson. The loss of this great musician and great soul was felt around the world, but nowhere more than here in Oakland, where as a teen called Lori she played viola with us under the batons of Bob Hughes and Denis deCoteau. Bob, along with her standmates Betsy London and Lynne Morrow felt her loss deeply. Conductor Karla Lemon who was a bass player in those days remembers her as “a luminous presence in our lives, a wonderful, loving friend who could talk and listen on the phone for hours.” The New Yorker issue of 9/25/06 carries a remembrance by Alex Ross, which reminds us of the artistic glories which young talent can summon:

“At a concert by the Oakland Youth Orchestra, in 1972, she stepped forward to deliver an aria from Saint-Saëns’s ‘Samson and Delilah,’ and Charles Shere, in a perceptive review for the Oakland Tribune, described a now familiar spell being cast for perhaps the first time: ‘She simply stood there and sang, hardly even opening her mouth, with an even range, secure high notes, and marvelous control of dynamics in the swells.’”

Four Join OYO Board

The OYO Board is pleased to announce the recent election of four new members. **Kathrynn Lyle** is a composer, music teacher in the Oakland Public Schools and Director of the Oakland Elementary MUSE Orchestra. **Michael Mendelson** is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley and the New England Conservatory and is an experienced music administrator and works with the Young Musicians Program. **Carol Cade**, mother of OYO bassoonist Antonio Cade is an Oakland native, a business professional, and a huge supporter of youth music. OYO just elected its own representative to the Board, a long standing tradition in promoting youth leadership. **Lucy Archer** is Principal of the Viola section, and a junior at Maybeck. Congrats and thanks to all! We look forward to a productive and meaningful relationship with the many communities of Oakland and the Bay Area.

*How do you get to Oakland?  
Practice!*

Michael Morgan wins  
San Francisco Foundation  
Community Leadership Award

On September 26, in a gala ceremony at Herbst Theater, the SF Foundation honored Michael Morgan, along with Dr. Joseph Marshall Jr., co-founder and executive director of Omega Boys Club, Alice Waters, founder and director of the Chez Panisse Foundation and the Edible Schoolyard, and Bishop William Swing, the retired Episcopal Bishop of California. Maestro Morgan, who was nominated by OYO Board Member Conway Jones, was awarded the Helen Crocker Russell Award to an under-recognized mature artist who has made a significant and ongoing contribution in the Bay Area. Our Michael is certainly not under-recognized in Oakland. We know who you are and what you do for us all and so many, many others! Congratulations, Michael!

The event also featured a performance by the fabulous OYO String Trio, Sarah Lee, violin, Rachel Taylor, viola, and Brady Anderson, cello.



Conway Jones photo



Conway Jones photo

**above:** OYO String Trio, Sarah Lee, violin, Rachel Taylor, viola, and Brady Anderson, cello.  
**at left:** Michael Morgan and Gay Plair Cobb, Trustee, The San Francisco Foundation.

## OYO Fabulous Fall Concert

November 12, 2006, 3 pm  
Allen Temple Baptist Church  
Michael Morgan and Bryan Nies conducting

Corelli	<i>Concerto Grosso</i>
Boyce	<i>Symphony No. 8</i>
Prokofiev	<i>Lieutenant Kije Suite</i>
Copland	<i>Four Dances from Rodeo</i>

### Concerts Notes

## Feast for the Ears

Michael Morgan loves to program OYO's first concert with early music and selections from early classical music. And there are two sizzling pieces from the twentieth century too!

Arcangelo Corelli (1653-1713) perfected the unison ensemble playing of the orchestra. The drama for our audience is to see whether OYO can pull off the challenge of having all the string bows move in the same direction at the same time.

William Boyce (1710-1779), from London, was just a bit younger than the great Handel, whom he admired. He also had the additional challenge of styles popular in France and Italy. *Symphony No. 8* is in the French style. And Michael Morgan at the harpsichord is sure to give this a bit of Oakland styling as well!

Russian Sergei Prokofiev (1891-1953) wrote the *Lieutenant Kije Suite* for a film with the intent of entertaining mass audiences. We hope you will fall for its many charms!

American Aaron Copland (1900-1990) was asked by the great choreographer Agnes de Mille to write something like his earlier *Billy the Kid*. "I don't want to do another cowboy ballet," he protested. But he did and it's great. Madison Avenue loved it too, and you will recognize at least one of its great themes.

## Be instrumental!

Your generous contribution will help support OYO's internationally acclaimed programs.

OYO is a 501(c)3 organization and your contribution is tax-deductible.

Please note that you can donate conveniently online at

[www.oyo.org](http://www.oyo.org)

## Ethel London

1923-2006

OYO Manager 1967-1984

Ethel London was part of the group that invented OYO and then reinvented over and over while struggling to make it an institution of import, sustainability, and great heart. Generations of musicians and conductors remember her for her sly wit, unceasing promotions, and a can-do spirit which literally propelled us up mountains. Let us remember Ethel with our work, our creativity, and our beautiful music.



Ethel London with her maestros (l to r): Denis deCoteau, Kent Nagano, and Bob Hughes.

## OYO Tour 2007 Greece!

### Many Scholarships needed

OYO Tours for the traditional reason: to make life harder. The big challenge for OYO members is to give five fantastic concerts while following a vigorous tourist agenda, and do it in a way that everyone has a great trip. The big challenge for the OYO Board is to raise funds for the 27 scholarships we have awarded. OYO's tradition is that everyone tours. Please help make dreams come true!  
**Think Greece!!**



The Oakland Youth Orchestra covers less than a third 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. OYO Forever! OYO for Everyone!

*Contributions made in support of the Oakland Youth Orchestra are tax-deductible. OYO is a 501(c)3 organization and our Tax ID is 94-3029514.*

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

10-06  
Enclosed please find my contribution  \$50  \$100  \$200  \$\_\_\_\_\_

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Please send me information about including OYO in my will.

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Michael Morgan, Artistic Director  
 Bryan Nies, Principal Conductor  
 Maurice Arnold, President  
 Barbara Stack, Executive Director

The 76 current members of OYO range in age from 12.5 to 20.9. The average age today is 15.97.

47% come from Alameda County; 41% from Contra Costa; 6.6% from San Francisco; 1.3% from Marin; 1.3% from Napa, and 2.6% from Solano. 10 members are from Oakland; and 5 others attend schools in Oakland.

We are 54% female; 46% male.

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*Photos by*  
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*Where education...→*



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