

The EBYO Cadenza

Email: manager@ebyo.org

April 2021



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear EBYO Friends and Families,

A season which we hope will be unique in the annals of EBYO - and the world - is coming to an end. Our students have really risen to the occasion, with Zoom rehearsals and submissions of tracks for virtual performances. It takes a lot to stick with such a changed environment, which has provided so much less interpersonal contact and feedback from being surrounded by the sound of other instruments in rehearsals. Our students acclimated themselves very well, took their changed circumstances in stride, and produced outstanding virtual performances which can be viewed via our website, ebyo.org.

We have been checking the availability of summer opportunities for our students. Our information is that La Honda Music Camp will be meeting virtually and students can sign up for one week or two weeks. The Odd Fellows Summer Chamber Music Camp will not be held this summer. The Sequoia Chamber Music Workshop, led by our own Dr. Bill, will also not be meeting. Instead of their usual summer music camp, the Jenny Lin Foundation will offer a program of high school students mentoring middle school students, for Castro Valley residents only.

Like the rest of the world, we are deeply hopeful that we can go back to the in-person format in September and are planning for that. I think it will be a sort of revelation to feel so strongly the ties of the group experience, and I think we will all be incredibly thankful and appreciative in a way we never were before. Our auditions will still be virtual until the audition video due date of June 1, and we'll see where we are after that. With the help of donors and city and county grants, our fiscal health is strong. We look forward with great hope to the future!

Carol Morgan, Chair
EBYO Board of Directors

PEARLS FROM THE PODIUM FROM DR. BILL HARRINGTON

Thirteen months ago, EBYO played its last live concert on Sunday March 1, 2020. The Symphony's program included the Finale from Schubert's Symphony No. 9, "The Great," Kabalevsky's Piano Concerto #3, with Student Concerto Winner, Valentin Shatilenko, and the "Berceuse and Finale" from Stravinsky's *Firebird Suite*. On March 10, we had our last live rehearsal thinking we would soon return in a couple of weeks after the danger of COVID passed. Little did we realize it would take so long! As the quarantine dragged on in the Spring of 2020, EBYO was forced to cancel the rest of its season and made refunds for the remainder of the year to families who requested them.

Slowly, music educators became aware of new technologies available that could enable some resemblance of music participation. These included ZOOM rehearsals and virtual concerts where students record themselves while playing with a pre-recorded track. A video engineer aligns and stitches the videos together to produce what we now call a virtual concert. In the fall of 2020, with the help of technology, EBYO started online rehearsals with a core of loyal members and families. Under the guidance of the staff conductors and coaches, students practiced and learned music by following selected *YouTube* recordings.

EBYO produced four virtual concert videos over the next six months. These virtual concerts included Selections from *The Sound of Music*, Borodin's *Polovtzhian Dances*, *Beauty and the Beast* Medley, and a Showcase Concert video that featured students playing instrumental solos as well as Horizons Ensembles performing chamber music virtually. The *Polovtzhian Dances* video, rehearsed under the guidance of our CSUEB Associate Conductor, Omar Ortiz, was an outstanding success and very well received in the community. The video was played for the Hayward City Council in support of the City Council's Resolution to name March as *Arts Is Education Month*. Our remaining virtual concert projects include a Medley from *Phantom of the Opera* and two violin concertos by Bruch and Mozart, featuring two Student Concerto Winners, Aaron Hsi and Meghna Thumri.

Our students' response to EBYO programs was exceptional. Twenty-three of our 40 Symphony members volunteered to join one of our four Horizons Ensembles. These student-led chamber groups meet every Tuesday night 6:30-7:15 before the regular full rehearsal. Each group prepares chamber music repertoire to present to the community through virtual concerts or live at community service events if allowed by the county health officials in the near future.

There is light at the end of the tunnel! Through distribution of EBYO's virtual concert videos and widening recognition, many new families are enrolling their music students in EBYO orchestral programs. We are all looking forward to September 2021, when we can all hopefully come together again face to face!

Musically yours,

Dr. Bill

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS/DONORS

BENEFACTOR - \$1000.00 +

City of Hayward
Alameda County Arts Commission
Hayward Rotary Club
CSUEB Music Department
Eric Samuelson
Veronica Tranlong

PROMOTER - \$500.00 +

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Glenn and Patty Nicolas
Caroline and Charles Scielzo
Meena Shankar
Elena Shatilenko
Vytautas Staraitis and Aida Sakalaukaite
Judy Ann Warren (Facebook Fundraiser)
Lan Zhang



GRADUATING SENIORS!

EBYO would like to congratulate the graduating seniors of the Class of 2020 and Class of 2021. We hope that you have a successful future and may all your dreams come true.

2019-2020 (not included in last newsletter)

NOAH CAVESTANY - Has played violin with YOSAC/EBYO for 4.5 years. He is attending Foothill College and will major in Japanese/Computer Science.



HANNAH VILLANUEVA - Has played flute/piccolo with YOSAC/EBYO for 4 years. She is attending UC Riverside and will major in Music.



MEGAN HUYNH - Has played violin with EBYO for 2 years. She is attending UC Davis and will major in Cognitive Studies.



DEREK STANFORD - Has played violin with YOSAC/EBYO for 5 years. He is attending Diablo Valley College and will major in Computer Science.



2020-2021

VARSHITHA DAGGOLA - Has played double bass with EBYO for 3 years. She is undecided on which college she will be attending but will major in Computer Science.



ISABELLA LAU - Has played violin with YOSAC/EBYO for 10 years. She is planning to attend UC Santa Cruz and will major in Theater or Marine Biology (or both).



ETHAN MAC - Has played violin with YOSAC/EBYO for 8 years. He is planning to attend CA Polytechnic San Luis Obispo and will major in Aerospace Engineering.



ANASUYA SARKAR - Has played violin (1 year) and viola (3 years) with EBYO for a total of 4 years. She is undecided on which college she will be attending but will major in Actuarial Science/Statistics.



VALENTIN SHATILENKO - Has played cello with EBYO for 2 years. He is planning to attend United States Military Academy at West Point and will major in Economics with a minor in Grand Strategy/Terrorism Studies.



ASHLEY WONG - Has played violin/flute with YOSAC/EBYO for 4 years. She is planning to attend University of Ottawa and will major in BSC Nursing and minor in Law.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

AUDITION INFORMATION: Auditions for 2021-2022 EBYO Orchestras will only be held in May. All students who are planning on returning to EBYO next Fall need to submit an online audition application and either: 1. Submit a video audition or 2. Schedule an online interview with Dr. Harrington. If you would like to move up in your section (for example Violin II to Violin I) or be promoted to the Symphony Orchestra from Concert Orchestra, you will need to submit a video audition to manager@ebyo.org by June 1, 2021. If you are happy with your seating in your present orchestra assignment and plan on returning next Fall, Dr. Harrington would still like to schedule a short *Zoom* or *FaceTime* online interview and see how you are doing. Please indicate on the online audition application that you would like to schedule an online interview only. You can find audition materials and instructions at ebyo.org/application-info. **All video auditions are due by June 1, 2021.** If you know of a friend or family member who might be interested in EBYO, please refer them to us! Audition result emails will be emailed out no later than July 4, 2021.

SEE'S CANDIES FUNDRAISER: Thank you to all of the EBYO students and supporters who participated and helped us to have success in our See's Candies fundraisers for the 2019-2020 and the 2020-2021 season through See's Yum-Raising. Our profit for 2019-2020 was \$1159.14 and for 2020-2021 the profit was \$869.72.

LA HONDA MUSIC CAMP:

Good news! La Honda Music Camp is offering a virtual camp experience during two one-week sessions, July 12-17 and July 19-23, at \$150 each session. Though we're not sure exactly yet how it will be implemented, La Honda does plan to offer two half-off scholarships to EBYO to award, which we do by drawing names from a basket of those interested in receiving a scholarship. We will send an email with further information at a later date.

ALL-STATE HONOR BAND & ORCHESTRA:

EBYO is very pleased to congratulate the following students in the Symphony Orchestra who were selected by audition to be members of one of the All-State Honor Ensembles:

JaKai Bell, Violin, Celebrate California Concert String Orchestra
Edric Zhang, Oboe, Junior High All-State Concert Band
Meghna Thumri, Clarinet, Junior High All-State Concert Band
Neelim Mollick, Alto Sax, High School All-State Concert Band
Erik Munoz, Flute, High School All-State Concert Band
Rachel Harrington, Viola, High School All-State String Orchestra

COMMUNITY FOOD BANK DRIVE: Thank you to all the students and families that contributed to our annual Alameda County Community Food Bank food drive. EBYO parents and friends donated \$1000.00 to the food bank! A big thank you to an anonymous generous EBYO parent that matched the donations for a \$2000.00 grand total for this year's food bank drive.

FACEBOOK BIRTHDAY FUNDRAISER: Did you know that Facebook will let you collect donations for a charitable **501(c)(3) organization** during your birthday month for a two-week period? Just go to Fundraisers, Raise Money, select YOSAC as your Nonprofit/Charity, set a Goal Amount that you would like to raise, write a brief note to your friends and family as to why you are supporting YOSAC. It is just that easy. Facebook will send the full donation amount directly to YOSAC/EBYO approximately 45-75 days after your fundraiser concludes. Every little bit helps our great organization. Thank you in advance!

TINY TICKETS (BART): EBYO is collecting BART "tiny tickets" as a fundraiser. If you have a BART ticket that has a small amount remaining on it, please consider donating it to EBYO. You can mail it to EBYO, PO Box 3970, Hayward, CA 94540. Thank you!

EBYO Donation Form

I am sending a **tax-deductible** contribution in the amount of \$_____ to EBYO.
YOSAC tax identification number is 94-299-2643.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Mail to: EBYO, PO Box 3970, Hayward, CA 94540

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