

## Welcome to the 2010-11 CYSO fall season!

We have an exciting year ahead of us with new events just around the corner. After a successful summer including one of the largest Summer Sounds programs since its inception, we are now looking forward to upcoming fall concerts, including the incredible opportunity for the Youth Symphony to perform with the world-renowned Celtic Tenors at Benaroya Hall in November, 2010.

I am always amazed by the energy and efforts of the conductors, coaches, students, parents and volunteers of CYSO who give 100% to make our concerts and events happen. CYSO is a non-profit business and there is substantial involvement required behind the scenes to run the organiza-

tion smoothly and economically. The past four years have seen extensive improvements as we have deployed a state-of-the-art website and brought onboard David Endicott, our top-notch executive director, who has introduced several new sponsors and greatly increased our visibility in the community. CYSO is also fortunate to have a large communications committee headed by Merry Tourtelot that is working to expand emerging avenues and social media outlets as communication remains central to the success of our organization. Despite the economic downturn and public school budget cuts we have continued to operate all of our programs and have managed to keep tuition increases to a minimum. This is thanks, in large part, to the generous contributions of time and donations from parents, coaches,

teachers, volunteers and the hard work and determination of each student and member of CYSO.



This fall season brings a new year of talented musicians and concerts to look forward to. I am inspired by these performances which showcase the progression of talent and the students' determination to excel and achieve their goals. I hope everyone in the CYSO family has a memorable and positive experience with CYSO and continues to enjoy and play great music.

**Craig Gill**

*Chair, Board of Directors*

## The Celts Are Coming!

Mark your calendar for Saturday, November 20, 2010 at 2:00 pm for "The Celtic Tenors in concert with the Cascade Youth Symphony" at Benaroya Hall. The Celtic Tenors are the most successful classical crossover artists ever to have come out of Ireland. And they begin their next U.S. tour with the Cascade Youth Symphony in Seattle!

"This is an amazing opportunity for the entire organization to have this venue and perform in partnership with the Celtic Tenors," said Gerry Marsh, music director. "This shows the special kind of experiences that CYSO offers its members and I sincerely hope that everyone in the CYSO family will take advantage of this opportunity to attend the concert in November."



**The Celtic Tenors**  
in concert with the  
**Cascade Youth Symphony**

**Saturday, November 20, 2010**  
**Starting at 2:00 p.m.**  
**S. Mark Taper Foundation Auditorium**  
**BENAROYA HALL**

*Presented by Cascade Youth Symphony Orchestras*

**Bring your family and friends, you won't want to miss this concert!**

Tickets are available starting at \$17 at the Benaroya Hall Ticket Office. Tickets may be purchased online at [www.SeattleSymphony.org](http://www.SeattleSymphony.org), click on the Benaroya Hall tab, then select the November 20th Concert or by calling 206-215-4747 or 1-800-866-4747 toll-free outside local area. Discounts are available for groups of 10 or more.

## Resounding Success for SUMMER SOUNDS 2010

CYSO's *Summer Sounds* is a different music camp experience than any other. While most camps concentrate on the music, we concentrate on the musician first. Though the camp has expanded, it retains a sense of family so students feel like they belong and are part of a close-knit community. Every college coach is proof that our goal of creating

well-rounded musicians is working as more Summer Sounds alumni apply than can be appointed to return and help out each year.

This summer's 2010 program was a huge success with one of the highest numbers of campers ever attending. The two weekly themes were Phantom of the Opera and Mamma Mia, both of



CASCADE YOUTH  
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS  
**Summer  
2010  
Sounds**

Most have been with us for over a decade and are professional teachers and

performers who are leaders in their field. Without their expertise and love for students, our camp would not be what it is. I am privileged to work with such fantastic individuals.

Of the many events that take place during the two weeks of Summer Sounds, I am most proud of the performances that happen twice each week. To see the faces of the family and friends as these musicians tackle difficult pieces with great success in one week is really rewarding.

Our students walk out from these performances year after year feeling a great sense of accomplishment. Self esteem comes from doing something estimable and this camp creates that for every student.

**Travis Marsh**  
Director, Summer Sounds



which were performed with the Festival orchestra, a combination of the smaller Symphonia and Concertante orchestras. Several other selections were performed as well, including *The Bartered Bride* by Bedrich Smetana.

As director of Summer Sounds for the past five years, I have seen first hand the hard work that our coaches put into this program and they deserve all the credit for the success each season.

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

### Conductor, Composer, and Clarinetist Extraordinaire

**Brendan McMullen**, a clarinetist in his third year with the Youth Symphony, joined CYSO in 2004 with the Sinfonette and quickly progressed to the Premiere Orchestra, Junior Symphony and most recently played side-by-side the Seattle Symphony last spring with the Youth Symphony.

Currently in his junior year at Roosevelt High School, Brendan also studies conducting and performs chamber music at the Academy of Music Northwest.

Introduced to the clarinet in the third grade, Brendan was inspired by a woodwind quintet including Mary Kantor, a clarinetist who became his music teacher. He was amazed by the wide dynamic and pitch range of the instrument and has recently expanded to the E flat clarinet, which he fondly remembers Mary Kantor describing as having “only two dynamic levels: stun



Photo courtesy of Alwin Li, Alwin's Photography

and kill” which he agrees is entertaining and figuratively true. Some of his other mentors include his composition teacher Eric Flesher, conducting teacher Arthur Shaw and the legendary composer and clarinetist William O. Smith, whom he had the opportunity to take lessons from last summer.

“Every teacher I have studied with has inspired me in some way,” said Brendan. “Every time I get a chance to work with a mentor, I memorize at least one

quote that will help me as I continue to develop my musical career.”

Brendan’s determination has helped him to accomplish numerous achievements including being accepted into the Seattle Symphony’s Merriman Family Young Composer’s workshop, winning the Flute Orchestra Division of the Bellevue Youth Symphony’s C. Keith Birkenfeld Composition Contest, and being one of the three winners of the CYSO concerto competition. He also attended the Vianden Music Festival in Luxembourg last summer where he took clarinet lessons with Dr. Caroline Hartig from Michigan State University and performed a few pieces including his own composition, *Regalis Suite* for violin, cello, clarinet, oboe and bassoon.

Brendan is looking forward to CYSO’s Eastern European Tour next summer and for future plans, he comments that “for about four years now, I have known my career is going to involve music. My plan is to pursue conducting, composition and continue to play my clarinet.”

### Inspiration Turns to Aspirations

Inspired at the age of five by an exchange student and CYSO violinist, **Laura Sorensen** began playing the violin and joined CYSO in the winter of 2005 just after turning eight.

Since then, she has progressed from co-concert master of Sinfonette and Premiere Symphony, to co-principal 2nd violin and third chair 1st violin of Junior Symphony, where she earned first place two years in a row in the Edmunds Music Teacher Association Ensemble Concerto Festival.

Now in the eighth grade at Maplewood Coop, Laura has played Principal 2nd violin with the Youth Symphony for the past year in which the highlight was performing side-by-side with the Seattle Symphony under the direction of Maestro Gerard Schwartz.

“One of my greatest achievements was being accepted into the Youth Orchestra as a 12 year old and being under the direction of Gerry Marsh,” said Laura. “I’ve enjoyed having the privilege and opportunity to play with so many talented musicians and am thrilled to join the Youth Symphony on the Europe trip this upcoming summer.” After playing side-by-side with the Seattle Symphony last spring, Laura has already experienced a bit of fame and now has so impressed by Laura



that she introduced herself after the concert, asked for a photo with Laura and even gave an invitation to join her family for lunch.

“I’ve been asked if I want to be a famous violin player some day and my answer is that I don’t care if I become famous. I’d rather use the gift God gave me as a way to bring joy to people who might listen to me.”

## THANK YOU For Your Support!

The Cascade Youth Symphony Orchestras are deeply appreciative of all ways in which you help us find the fuel we need to put great youth orchestras on the stage and open the wonderful world of instrumental music to our young people.

Time, talent and treasure are precious resources and CYSO depends on the generosity and efforts of volunteers, parents, coaches, instructors, teach-

ers and the hard work and dedication of our students. Please help us continue to strive to create an exceptional environment that, as described by our mission statement, “promotes personal growth and self-esteem in young musicians, while teaching the values of teamwork and excellence.”

For ways to contribute, please visit [www.cyso.us/giving](http://www.cyso.us/giving) or contact David Endicott at [daviden@cyso.us](mailto:daviden@cyso.us).

## CYSO Upcoming Concerts – Save These Dates!

**Youth Symphony with the Celtic Tenors**  
**S. Mark Taper Foundation Auditorium**  
**Benaroya Hall**  
**November 20th, 2010 – 2:00 p.m.**

**Junior Symphony and Premiere Orchestra**  
**Edmonds/Woodway High School**  
**November 21st, 2010 – 4:00 p.m.**



## Volunteer Virtuoso

Vicki Ault (left), a volunteer who helped alongside Eileen Treusch, conductor, at this year’s Summer Sounds, started with CYSO as a staff member last fall, conducting the Shoreline Preparatory Strings Group. She quickly realized that “you can’t spend time around the CYSO folks without wanting to help out” and found herself not only volunteering for the summer program but also helping to kick off rehearsal for the Edmonds Preparatory Strings group this fall. As an orchestra director and musician in a band named Heartwood, Vicki also contributed her time by playing for the Shoreline Aegis residents as a thank you for rehearsal space.

“When you volunteer, you get to be creative, finding unique ways to help the situation you find yourself in that day,” said Vicki. “The CYSO folks will pick up on your talents and will put your skills to good use! I have felt greatly appreciated by CYSO and they encourage me to take risks. This organization has a positive belief in people and what we can achieve, which brings out the best in all of us. I’m sure I will volunteer for them more in the future.”

For more information on volunteer opportunities, contact David Endicott at [daviden@cyso.us](mailto:daviden@cyso.us).

