

# Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon

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## Membership News

### Concert Season Giving & Friends of the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon

As the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon organization begins its 2014-2015 Concert Season, I would like to thank the individuals, businesses, foundations and agencies providing financial assistance to the YSSO organization. The governing board, staff, volunteers, families and musicians appreciate each and every gift of support.

The musicians involved in the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon each year demonstrate the instrumental value of music in learning and achievement, and the value of music in our lives and communities. Participation in a music ensemble teaches young people to listen and work cooperatively, nurtures habits that are essential for success, and develops important lifelong skills such as confidence, empathy, motivation and discipline. The YSSO organization increases access to cultural opportunities and augments programs in schools. The outstanding performances engage hearts, hands and minds, and bring together people of all ages and backgrounds.

Your investment helps the YSSO maintain high standards and present inspiring, affordable concerts. The organization receives support through contributions from individuals, concert partner (sponsor) funding, and foundation, corporate and agency grants. The YSSO generates additional revenue through ticket sales, program advertising and nominal tuition. Members of the governing board coordinate special events to generate financial support. The Youth Symphony of

Southern Oregon is dedicated to artistic quality, professional management, thoughtful governance and responsible stewardship of resources.

As you consider a gift in support of the Concert Season, please know that every contribution makes an impact on the YSSO. Contributions from individuals help pay for music, rehearsal facilities, concert venues and operations, and help underwrite tuition waiver and lesson assistance for YSSO musicians. When you receive a letter from the YSSO, please renew your membership or offer a Concert Season gift to honor a friend, colleague or a family member. Checks should be made payable to the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon and sent to the YSSO, P.O. Box 4291, Medford, OR 97501. The YSSO is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization and your gift may be tax-deductible. Please consult your professional tax advisor.

The YSSO organization looks forward to offering music opportunities for young people and building new audiences for classical music this year and into the future. Thank you for investing in the remarkable Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon organization and for joining the musicians at the performances this season.

Sharon Wilson  
Executive Director

# Quarter NOTES



## Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon 2014-2015 Concert Season Opens with Performances of Beethoven's First Symphony and Egmont Overture

The Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon's 27th Concert Season opens with Fall Concert Series performances on November 15 & 16, 2014. Music Director and Conductor Cynthia Hutton shared, "The Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon looks forward to another season of outstanding performances by gifted young instrumental musicians from throughout the region. The season will include a wide range of repertoire from Beethoven and Dvorak to Tchaikovsky and Copland, and will culminate in the premiere of a new work for orchestra by Mark Eliot Jacobs. We will begin the season by highlighting the energy, passion and musical genius of Beethoven."

The Fall Concert Series includes a performance in Medford at the Collier Center's Craterian Theater at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, November 15. The series continues with an Ashland performance at Southern Oregon University's Music Recital Hall at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 16. Tickets are \$10 (general admission) and \$5 (students w/ ID). Tickets for the November 15 performance in Medford are available through the Craterian Theater box office (541-779-3000). Other ticket outlets include Paddington Station in Ashland and Larry's Music in Medford.

The 75-member Youth Symphony will perform Beethoven's *Symphony No. 1 in C Major* and the *Egmont Overture*. The Youth Orchestra will perform arrangements of Beethoven's *Symphony No. 7 (mov. 2)* and other works.

More than 155 accomplished public school, private school, home school and college musicians from Medford, Ashland, Grants Pass, Jacksonville, Talent, Phoenix, Williams, Klamath Falls and the surrounding region, including Fort Jones, California, were selected to participate in the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon this season.

The Carpenter Foundation, Carrico Family Foundation, City of Ashland, Collins Foundation and The Oregon Community Foundation have awarded funding for the season. In addition, this project is funded in part by the Oregon Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts. James M. Collier is the 2014-2015 Concert Season Partner. YSSO organization initiatives and operations are supported by annual gifts from individuals, business contributions, Concert Series program advertising, Concert Series Partners and funding from foundations.

*Founded in 1988, the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to providing young musicians with opportunities to expand their knowledge of classical music by learning and performing challenging repertoire. The YSSO provides exceptional performance experiences and training for young musicians under the leadership of professional conductors and music coaches and fosters a lifelong appreciation of classical music and the arts. For more information, please contact the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon, P.O. Box 4291, Medford, OR 97501, 541-858-8859, info@yso.org or visit: www.yso.org.*

## Sarah Klein, violin 2014 Concerto Competition Winner Winter 2015 Concert Series Soloist

The Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon's Winter 2015 Concert Series performances will showcase violinist Sarah Klein, winner of the 2014 Concerto Competition. Sarah will play two movements of Piotr I. Tchaikovsky's *Violin Concerto in D Major*. The concerts take place on February 20, 21 & 22, 2015.



PHOTO BY CARL BAKER

Associate Concertmaster of the Youth Symphony, Sarah joined the YSSO organization in 2007. She studies privately with Faina Podolnaya. Other private teachers have included Laura Owen, Bethany Fuller, Mari Johnson, Lisa Truelove (cello) and Pat Dealy (piano). A Medford home school student, Sarah also attends North Medford High School (NMHS) where her school music teacher is Lynn Gervais. In addition to her involvement in the YSSO and the NMHS Chamber Orchestra, Sarah has also played in Siskiyou Violins, the Rogue Valley Symphony and in the orchestra for the recent Oregon Shakespeare Festival's production of "Into the Woods." Additionally, she has participated in master classes and lessons led by the Emerson Quartet, Calder Quartet and the Ariana Quartet.

When asked about the concerto she is preparing for the February performances, Sarah shared, "The Tchaikovsky violin concerto is a musical beast. It's intricate, passionate, difficult, colorful and brooding. Every movement offers a myriad of emotion...."

Sarah offers her profound thanks to her parents, Les and Patty Klein, and her brother Aaron for their advice, encouragement and support throughout the years, and for their never-ceasing enthusiasm for music. She also extends her gratitude to her teachers, the conductors with whom she has worked, and her musical colleagues for inspiring her. Following graduation in June, she hopes to pursue studies in English literature or philosophy. Music, however, will always play a significant role in her life.

## Governing Board Officers

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## James M. Collier Concert Season Partner



Cultural arts patron, educator and philanthropist Jim Collier has offered his support to arts organizations and to

programs benefitting young people for many years. As a former educator, Jim has a special interest in fostering the development of arts programs and a personal mission to help sustain high-quality performance opportunities for young people. Reflecting on his 35 years as an educator, Mr. Collier observed, “my instrumental music [students] were among my best-producing pupils and [were] a pleasure to have in class.”

An interest in opera sparked an exploration of other areas of the performing arts and classical music and an inheritance allowed him to embark on a new journey as an arts patron and philanthropist. Mr. Collier’s generosity has extended to groups from Des Moines, Iowa and Bakersfield, California to presenting organizations in the Rogue Valley. He has donated three concert grand pianos and four upright pianos to various organizations, including the Rogue Valley Manor, thus garnering him the title “The Piano Man.”

The Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon is honored to be a beneficiary of his generous support for the 2014-2015 Concert Season. The YSSO governing board, staff, musicians, family members and audiences wish to thank him for investing in the mission and musicians of the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon this season.

## From the Music Director...

Welcome back to the musicians, families, community volunteers, patrons and audiences! I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer and early fall and that you are excited about joining us for another wonderful year of classical music. The Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon (YSSO) has presented concerts for 27 years but this is a special year for me as it marks my twentieth full season with the organization as conductor. Even after 20 years I continue to be amazed by the array of talent in the region. When I have time to walk throughout Ashland each summer I often meet alumni of the YSSO. The former musicians always express to me what a wonderful time they had participating in the organization. Being a part of a musical team created lifelong memories for them. Of course, I always inquire if they still play their instrument(s). Some have continued to play and some are involved in other pursuits. Regardless of their involvement in music, however, their life stories enrich my life and reassure me that playing an instrument as a youngster helps create articulate, enterprising and purposeful adults. The YSSO looks forward to casting more Youth Symphony alumni into the world again this season and the organization is delighted that the audiences, patrons, volunteers and families will be part of the endeavor.

The Fall Concert Series in November 2014 opens the season with an exploration of the great classics. The Youth Symphony will play an all-Beethoven program. I love starting with Beethoven; the energy and passion of his music is a perfect fit for us. The musical genius of Beethoven comes alive in everything he has written. The Youth Symphony will play his *First Symphony in C Major* and the roaring *Egmont Overture*. The Youth Orchestra will also present a bit of Beethoven, playing an arrangement of the second movement from his famous *Symphony No. 7*, titled “*March with Variation*.” Also on the docket for the Youth Orchestra in the fall is French composer Alexandre Guilmant’s *Grand Processional for an Academic Occasion*.

The Winter Concert Series in February 2015 will showcase our 2014 Concerto Competition winner, Sarah Klein, a wonderful violinist. She will play the second and third movements of Piotr Tchaikovsky’s masterwork *Concerto for Violin in D Major*. We will pair the concerto with *Rumanian Rhapsody No. 1* by Romanian composer Georges Enesco. These works balance the seriousness and passion of Tchaikovsky with Enesco’s wild and spontaneous nature. The Youth Orchestra will continue the Russian theme with an arrangement of Tchaikovsky’s *1812 Overture*, *Tritsch Tratsch Polka* by Johann Strauss and *March Militaire Francaise* from the *Algerian Suite* by Camille Saint-Saëns. The musicians in Youth Strings will also be fea-

tured, led by Associate Conductor Faina Podolnaya.

Our Spring Concert Series in May 2014 will feature American music. We have commissioned our dear friend Mark Eliot Jacobs to compose a sequel to *The Orchard City: Medford, Oregon 1913*, which he composed for the YSSO organization’s Silver Jubilee. He will again create a composition celebrating the natural wonders and history of the region. That piece is yet to be titled, however we know it will be a grand statement about southern Oregon and its legacy. The Youth Symphony will also celebrate our nation’s history by performing Aaron Copland’s *Lincoln Portrait*. This is a very important work for orchestra and narrator, and I am very excited about sharing it with our young musicians and audience. The Youth Orchestra will continue the American celebration with *Scenes From the Old West* by Bob Cerulli, Americana - based on the American folk tune “*Shenandoah*” - by Luigi Zaninelli and Leroy Anderson Favorites arranged by Jack Bullock.

The Chamber Music Series returns this season with concerts on December 13 and 14. Participating musicians will explore the small group experience with musical friends and colleagues in the Youth Symphony and learn the rewards of learning and playing chamber music. We hope that our advanced level musicians will take advantage of this opportunity and submit an application. We also will present chamber music at the winter Community Outreach Concert for the residents and staff at the Rogue Valley Manor.

Current YSSO musicians who need financial assistance may inquire about the availability of scholarship assistance for private lessons with experienced, professional teachers. The Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon may be able to help you, but musicians must apply. The one-on-one private lesson is an amazing way to move forward. There are many great professional teachers to help you. Just ask. Please keep in mind, funding is limited and it is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

I am excited about the season and want to welcome both new and returning musicians joining us this year. As always, it is a pleasure to work with the dedicated young people of the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon and their families. For me, each Sunday rehearsal is a wonderful gift! Music touches that magical place in all of us and I look forward to sharing the magic of music with Rogue Valley audiences again this year. Off we go on a journey through another great year of making classical music together.

Cynthia Hutton  
Music Director & Conductor

## President’s Letter

On behalf of my colleagues on the governing board of the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon (YSSO) and the YSSO staff, welcome to the YSSO organization’s 2014-2015 Concert Season of exemplary music programs and inspiring performances of masterworks, orchestral arrangements and chamber music.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sarah Epstein and Marilyn Versteeg for their work as members of the governing board of the YSSO organization. Sarah and Marilyn retired from the board on June 30 after six years of service to the organization. The staff and board look forward to seeing them at the performances this season. In other board-related news, I wish to welcome to the governing board three new directors, Anastasia Anderson (Eagle Point), Laurel Dryland (Ashland) and Miles Wiltout (Medford), whose terms began July 1, 2014. The YSSO thanks them for their willingness to share their time and expertise with the organization.

The governing board would like to acknowledge the tremendous generosity of James Collier. Mr. Collier has extended his support of the YSSO through the 2014-2015 season. His philanthropy and interest in the performing arts and educational programs have had a profound impact on cultural groups, audiences, young people and families in the Rogue Valley. In addition, the Oregon Arts Commission/National Endowment for the Arts, Carpenter Foundation, Carrico Family Foundation, City of Ashland, Collins Foundation and The Oregon Community Foundation have awarded funding to the YSSO for operations, concerts and special initiatives.

The Fall Concert Series opens the season with performances on November 15 in Medford at the Collier Center’s Craterian Theater and on November 16 at Southern Oregon University’s Music Recital Hall in Ashland. The program will include Ludwig van Beethoven’s *Egmont Overture* and *First Symphony*. The Winter Concert Series in February 2015 will feature 2014 Concerto Competition winner Sarah Klein playing two movements of Piotr I. Tchaikovsky’s *Violin Concerto in D Major*. The Spring Concert Series in late May 2015 will showcase the premiere of another orchestral suite by Mark Eliot Jacobs highlighting the heritage of the region. Commissioned by the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon, the initiative is being underwritten with support from the Campagna Family Fund, the William G. & Ruth T. Evans Fund and the Olsrud Family Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation. The season also includes the Chamber Music Series, Concerto Competition and three Community Outreach Concerts at the Rogue Valley Manor. Special fund raising events are being planned by the board and staff as well.

In “Music Matters: How Music Education Helps Students Learn, Achieve and Succeed,” the Arts Education Partnership national coalition offers an overview of its review of evidence-based studies concerning the impact of the arts on learning and

achievement. The findings show that music education helps develop focus, cultivates abstract reasoning and an ability to apply knowledge, and helps in the development of problem-solving, teamwork and fine motor skills. It also helps facilitate academic achievement, encourages creativity, helps develop competencies for lifelong success and nurtures discipline, empathy and important habits of mind.

The musicians in Youth Symphony, Youth Orchestra and Youth Strings demonstrate the intrinsic and instrumental value of music and the YSSO organization demonstrates that the development of skills is nurtured through best practices and high-level training. The YSSO organization believes that music must be accessible, affordable and available to all without regard for cultural, geographic or financial considerations. The YSSO expands access to cultural enrichment and augments programs in schools. The dynamic performances touch the hearts and minds of young and old alike.

As the 2014-2015 Concert Season begins, I invite you to consider the value of music in our lives and the role played by the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon in providing community music programs and powerful learning experiences for young musicians. As you plan your charitable giving, please renew your annual support or give an additional gift to honor a friend, family member or colleague. Make an investment in quality music programs by supporting the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon. The governing board is dedicated to thoughtful governance, fiscal integrity, professional management and the safeguarding of assets. Your investment will be used wisely and it will have an impact on the musicians and the future of the YSSO. A gift of any amount will be appreciated. If you are interested in becoming a Concert Series Partner, please contact Sharon Wilson, Executive Director (541-858-8859).

I look forward to seeing you at the concerts this year. The performances will be extraordinary!

Thank you.  
Frank Phillips  
President, Governing Board

Visit the Arts Education Partnership ([www.aep-arts.org](http://www.aep-arts.org)), League of American Orchestras ([www.americanorchestras.org/](http://www.americanorchestras.org/)) or the National Association for Music Education ([www.nafme.org/](http://www.nafme.org/)) websites to read about research studies and findings, learn about issues and trends in music education, and download advocacy tools and information for organizations, schools and communities.



## Fall 2014 Concert Series Ticket Info

\$10.00 (general) &  
\$5.00 (students with ID)

Tickets are available at Larry’s Music in Medford, and at Paddington Station in Ashland. Tickets for the November 15 performance may be purchased at the Craterian Theater box office (541-779-3000).

## YSSO Family Ticket Policy

Each YSSO family may receive two (2) complimentary tickets to the November 15 Fall Concert Series performance at the Craterian Theater. Complimentary tickets will be available to YSSO musicians at the two Sunday rehearsals prior to the concerts. Remaining tickets will be sold to the general public.

## YSSO Musician Concert Dress Requirements

Required concert dress/appearance information for each ensemble is available online and in the Handbook. Please be aware of the expectations and comply with the concert dress code.

## YSSO Ensemble Concert Series Call Times

Youth Orchestra - 90 minutes  
before concert time  
Youth Symphony & Youth Strings  
- 60 minutes before concert time

Watch for e-mail alerts and reminders confirming or changing call times on certain dates or other information specific to each ensemble or performance.

PHOTOS BY CARI BAKER

2014-2015 Concert Season  
James M. Collier, Concert Season Partner

*(subject to change)*

**Community Outreach Concert**

Rogue Valley Manor  
Thurs., Oct. 30, 2014, 7:00 p.m.  
Youth Symphony

**Fall Concert Series**

Sat., Nov. 15, 2014, 7:30 p.m.  
Craterian Theater at The Collier Center, Medford

Sun., Nov. 16, 2014, 3:00 p.m.  
SOU Music Recital Hall, Ashland

**Chamber Music Series**

Sat., Dec. 13, 2014, 2:00 p.m.  
Historic First Presbyterian Church, Jacksonville

Sun., Dec. 14, 2014, 2:00 p.m.  
Grace Lutheran Church, Ashland

**Concerto Competition**

Mon., Jan. 26, 2015, 7:30 p.m.  
SOU Music Recital Hall, Ashland

**Community Outreach Concert**

Rogue Valley Manor  
Thurs., Feb. 5, 2015, 7:00 p.m.  
Chamber Music & Soloists

**Winter Concert Series**

Fri., Feb. 20, 2015, 7:30 p.m.  
Performing Arts Center, Grants Pass

Sat., Feb. 21, 2015, 7:30 p.m.  
Craterian Theater at The Collier Center, Medford

Sun., Feb. 22, 2015, 3:00 p.m.  
SOU Music Recital Hall, Ashland

**Community Outreach Concert**

Rogue Valley Manor  
Thurs., May 7, 2015, 7:00 p.m.  
Youth Orchestra & Youth Strings

**Spring Concert Series**

Fri., May 29, 2015, 7:30 p.m.  
SOU Music Recital Hall, Ashland

Sat., May 30, 2015, 7:30 p.m.  
Performing Arts Center, Grants Pass

Sun., May 31, 2015, 3:00 p.m.  
Craterian Theater at The Collier Center, Medford

PHOTO BY CARI BAKER





To play a wrong note is insignificant.  
 To play without passion is inexcusable.  
 -Ludwig van Beethoven



PHOTOS BY CARI BAKER



**Annual Giving: Friends of the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon**

Gifts and contributions from individuals, businesses and families generate 20 percent of the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon organization's annual revenue. Take a moment to renew or increase your gift, make an additional gift or honor a friend or colleague by making a contribution in his/her name. This is the perfect time to show your support for the YSSO organization. The Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization and contributions may be tax-deductible. Please consult a professional tax advisor for details.

Categories of giving:

- |  |          |   |         |                                      |       |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Director's Circle | \$10,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> Conductor's Circle | \$1,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor     | \$100 |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Musician's Circle | \$2,000  | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron             | \$250   | <input type="checkbox"/> Associate   | \$25  |

Please mail your gift to: **Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon**  
**P.O. Box 4291**  
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Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

*(as you wish the name/s to appear in the concert series program)*

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