

AYS Alumni Notes

By the time you receive this newsletter, the 46th season of your Albuquerque Youth Symphony will have begun our 27th year at Hummingbird Music Camp. For those of you from the 1960's and 1970's era, you will be disappointed to know that the condition of the dorm and rehearsal hall at the DH Lawrence Ranch is so depressing! While driving through Taos last summer, I decided to make a quick visit as it would be my first return since we moved the AYS camp to Hummingbird, in the Jemez Mountains. As you might guess, the gruff, unsmiling guardian of this small paradise, Al Bearce, met me. I'm sure the facilities we enjoyed have not been used in years, perhaps not since we were last there. The dining hall is piled with junk, the pipes and stairwells are rusted, boards cover the windows, and the volleyball area is covered with weeds. It was sad, because I truly believe the success of the AYS Program as we know it today all started with those weeklong camps which permitted the AYS to begin achieving a higher standard of music performance and yearly tours. Dale, enough nostalgia!

I am pleased to share happy news in that the AYS returned from Spain in early June as a part of our 45th anniversary celebration. A highlight of the tour was a concert on the last night of an eight-day festival in Segovia. The concert took place in a church, Iglesia San Juan de los Caballeros, which was originally built in the 6th century. Fortunately, the music critic who reviewed our concert for a Spanish newspaper had impeccable good taste. The headline read "Fresh and Brilliant" "Works were performed with magnificent utility...the sound is one of the greatest virtues of this orchestra." I have recommended that this reviewer be hired by the Albuquerque Journal (wishful thinking...).

Perhaps you have heard that I will retire as AYS Conductor at the end of our 2001-2002 season, but will still continue as Music Director. I will still be very involved in the future planning and stability of your AYS Program. I know my decision will bring me very



Dale Kempter to Retire as AYS Conductor in 2002

mixed emotions throughout the year, but feel very comfortable in knowing that the time is right for me and for the Program. A year long search for a new conductor has already been set in motion. I was somewhat disappointed when the committee was writing the job description, as I wanted my successor to agree to commit to a minimum of forty years to the position! The suggestion was not even discussed!

I sincerely hope you are wealthy, healthy and happy and continue to enjoy your daily practice!
Love,
Mr. K

AYS ALUMNI RECEPTION

September 30, 2001—Following AYS Concert
5:00 pm at University House - 1901 Roma NE
Free to AYS Alumni

Call AYS office 875-1319 to rsvp and to receive
your free ticket to the concert!

From Your Alumni President, Jeff Brody...

Hi All, believe it or not, it's over a year since we had the first ever AYS Reunion Concert, and we've spent the time since then recovering and figuring out what to do for an encore. We're not going to do another concert anytime soon. We are, however, going to invite you to come listen to the Youth Symphony's first concert on September 30 and then come to a get-together right after. If you're a golfer (or even if you're not), the 4th annual AYS golf tournament will be the day after - all the details are inside. And next April there will be a dinner honoring Dale, who is retiring as AYS conductor after this year.

Our Endowment fund has reached \$91,000! That leaves us with only \$209,000 to go to reach our goal of \$300,000! I encourage you to renew your annual membership contribution, almost all of which goes directly to the endowment. Inside you'll find a couple of articles on other ways to beef up the endowment, through estate planning and United Way directed donations.

About the Endowment: it isn't when a Youth Symphony member comes up to you and sells you a box of Luminarias or a raffle ticket, or asks you to pledge for the Playathon, they're raising operating funds or money for the annual tour. The Youth Symphony program has an annual budget of close to \$200,000, which pays for conductors, instructors, and operating expenses for 5 (count 'em, 5) orchestras. A good piece of this comes from fundraising: the kids sell luminarias at Christmas and calendars at the Balloon fiesta to raise Tour money, and hold an annual Playathon to raise operating funds. This year the Playathon will be at Winrock on February 2, 2002.

Another big chunk comes from a relatively modest tuition fee, and the rest comes from grants, contributions from UNM and APS, and corporate sponsorships. The primary goal of the Endowment is to give the Program some financial stability, so if a funding source suddenly goes away we can keep things going while we find new ones. Please keep those contributions coming so we can keep our Youth Symphony program the best in the country!

Be sure to check out the great website put together for us by Anais Chakerian (1990, violin), at www.aysmusic.org. We're putting together an on-line alumni directory as well as trying to get photos of alums to grace the site. We're also trying to figure out a way to make alumni information available to graduating seniors for career and school contacts. If you know of any "missing" alumni who have not been getting a newsletter be sure to send us their address. Please let us know what you're doing and come see us in September!

AYS Alumni Association Officers:

President, Jeff Brody (1976 Violin)
Vice President, Jae Lee (1982 Viola)
Secretary, Laura Snyder Dickinson (1968 Viola)



HOW TO REACH US:

AYS Alumni Association
PO Box 30961
Albuquerque, NM 87190
(505) 875-1319
(505) 875-9014 fax
Email: ays@aysmusic.org



Contribute to the AYS Program through the United Way!

Did you know that you may invest in the young musicians of the Albuquerque Youth Symphony Program through the United Way? We encourage you to designate a portion or all of your United Way contribution to this outstanding organization, now in its 46th year of providing quality orchestral experiences for talented young students. A non-profit organization, Albuquerque's highly regarded Youth Symphony Program, one of the largest in the nation, includes annual participation by over 500 students from grades 3 thru 12 who attend public, private and home schools in the area.

Simply contact United Way and ask for a "donor option card" which allows you to designate a specific organization to receive a defined contribution.

Thank you in advance for your contribution to the Albuquerque Youth Symphony Program!



The AYS Program Endowment Fund now totals \$91,000!
Thanks to the following alumni who contributed to the Endowment fund in 2000-2001. Won't you join them by making your gift today?

Janie Beahm Foris (1967 Cello)
 Rachel Bernstein (1984 Cello)
 Mary Ann Boehler Dackiewicz (1978 Violin)
 Henry Bohnhoff (1974)
 Viengngeun Bounkeua (1997 Violin)
 Tim and Jackie Bowen
 (1973 Viola & 1974 Violin)
 Jeff Brody (1976 Violin)
 Candace Brower (1971 Cello)
 Paul Caskey (1988 Trombone)
 Anais Chakerian (1990 Violin)
 Kyle Champion (1973 Cello)
 Regina Chavez (1975 Violin)
 Sylvia Chavez Hale (1976 Cello)
 Tina Cutchen Minneman (1977 Violin)
 Sharon Degrodt Elman (1984 Violin)
 Debra DeGrodt Zentz (1981 Bassoon)
 John Dickinson (2000 Violin)
 Terry Edwards and Denise Fligner
 (1973 Percussion & 1972 Clarinet)
 Barbara Fisher Agresti (1968 Violin)
 Sharon Fligner Lindquist (1972 Oboe)
 Diane Fullerton Petring (1989 Cello)
 Christi Garber (1987 Violin)
 Jeanne Gerrish Mouchet (1977 Violin)
 Roberta Gettings (1969 Violin)
 Laura Glibert-Brosius (1978 Violin)
 Michele Guttmann (1974 Violin)
 Samuel Hahn (1974 Violin)
 Paul Hahn (1983 Cello)
 James Harvey (1970 Bassoon)
 Paula Higgins (1977 Flute)
 Heather Hlava (1986 Cello)
 Marilyn Hof (1966 Cello)
 G. Paul Howes (1968 Percussion)
 John & Bonnie Husler (1960 Trumpet)

Melinda Jeffers Hurley (1990 Violin)
 Jan Johnson Lucero (1974 Violin)
 Lawrence A. Jones (1981 Violin)
 Brian K. Krueger (1985 Cello)
 Russell Lenth (1966 French Horn)
 Lori Lovato (1979 Clarinet)
 Allen Miller (1992 Trumpet)
 Ramona Myers (1979 Viola)
 David Neale-Lorello (1980 Violin)
 Jennifer Novak-Chun (1984 Cello)
 Cara Ong Wilson (1996 Violin)
 Lucinda Palmer-Larson (1974 Cello)
 Joyce Phillips (1972 French Horn)
 Christine Potter (1971 Flute)
 Catherine Riccobene Castro (1982 Violin)
 Joe Richardson (1981 Viola)
 Richard E. Rivera (1980 Violin)
 Sandy Sandoval Floyd (1982 Viola)
 Carol Santistevan (1974 Violin)
 Danelle Sasser (1975 Flute)
 Lori Sasser Salisbury (1977 Flute)
 Michael Schripsema (1987 French Horn)
 Gretchen Senter Obenauf (1970 Viola)
 Cheryl Snyder Lassen (1971 Violin)
 Kurt Snyder (1974 Cello)
 Laura Snyder Dickinson (1968 Viola)
 Willard Thomas (1967 Flute)
 Julia E. Vertrees (1968 Bassoon)
 Jody and Marsha Waugh
 (1974 St. Bass & Clarinet)
 Ann Page Waugh (1972 Flute)
 H. Bernard Waugh, Jr. (1970 Violin)
 Shirley Wilcox Freeman (1990 Violin)
 Eric Williams (1977 Violin)
 Eve Yu Switzer (1986 Violin)

ff

**YES! I want to help the Albuquerque Youth Symphony Program
 build their Endowment Fund and continue to provide
 a quality educational experience for students and great music for the community .**

I have enclosed my tax-deductible check made payable to Albuquerque Youth Symphony in the amount of:
 \$1000 _____ \$500 _____ \$100 _____ \$50 _____ Other \$ _____

_____ I would like to learn more about how I can leave a legacy through a gift to the AYS Program in my will

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Featured Alumni... Continued



Aaron Robertson (1995 String Bass) and Justin Robertson (1997 Viola)

Aaron and Justin have been actively involved in music since graduating from the AYS! Aaron is a double bassist and former AYS soloist. Justin plays viola. After graduation, Aaron attended the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia and Justin attended TVI, where he studied electronics. Justin also studied string instrument repair with his father, Don Robertson.

Both have had many opportunities to travel because of their music. They traveled with the Curtis Orchestra to Switzerland in the summers of 1998 & 1999 and had the opportunity to play under some of the great conductors like Mischa Maisky and Yuri Bashmet. In October of 2000, the Robertsons went on a tour with the Curtis Orchestra to Spain, Portugal, Germany, Austria, and Switzerland to perform concerts with violinist Anna Sophie Mutter, with Andre Previn conducting. For the past three years Aaron has been subbing with the Philadelphia Orchestra playing last year over 80% of the concert season!

Since graduation, Justin has been working at Robertson & Sons Violin Shop. During the summer months, Aaron works at Robertson & Sons violin shop repairing and selling basses. The AYS program was the highlight of their high school years. Aaron and Justin are grateful to Mr. Kempter for all his work with the Albuquerque Youth Symphony!



Sarah Manasreh (2001 Clarinet)

This fall, Sarah plans to attend Florida State University, where she will study clarinet with Dr. Frank Kowalsky. She will major in Clarinet Performance and hopes to eventually be a clarinet professor at a university and play in a major symphony orchestra. During her time with AYS, she was on the AYS Program Board of Directors as the AYS student representative. Sarah's jobs during high school have been teaching young alto saxophone and clarinet students and working at Baum's Music.



**2001 Fourth Annual
AYS GOLF TOURNAMENT**
To benefit the Albuquerque Youth Symphony
2002 Spring Concert Tour

**Monday, October 1, 2001
Paradise Hills Country Club**

Four Person Scramble

Entry fee: \$100 per player, or \$375 per team

11:30 am Registration & Driving Range

1:00 pm Shotgun Start, 5:30 pm Awards Dinner

Call the AYS Office at 875-1319 for registration and sponsorship information

2001-2002 Calendar of Events

<u>September 30, 2001</u>	Albuquerque Youth Symphony Concert - Soloist: Aaron Baca, Cello Popejoy Hall, UNM - 3:00 p.m., \$7.00 AYS Alumni Reception at University House, 5:00pm, Free to AYS Alumni
<u>October 1, 2001</u>	AYS Golf Tournament - Paradise Hills Golf Course
<u>October 7, 2001</u>	Albuquerque Youth Orchestra Concert La Cueva High School - 3:00 p.m., FREE
<u>December 1, 2001</u>	Luminaria Delivery Day!
<u>December 15-16, 2001</u>	Albuquerque Junior Orchestra Concert - Location TBA - 7:30 p.m., FREE AJSO/AJS Concert - AJSO at 1:45 p.m., AJS at 3:00 p.m., FREE
<u>January 18-21, 2002</u>	AYS Concert Tour to Chihuahua, Mexico
<u>February 2, 2002</u>	PLAYATHON - All five of the AYS Program Orchestras Winrock Mall, 1:00 - 4:30 p.m., FREE
<u>February 3, 2002</u>	Albuquerque Youth Symphony Concert - Soloist: Montana Blanco, Oboe Popejoy Hall, UNM - 3:00 p.m., \$7.00
<u>February 5, 2002</u>	Albuquerque Youth Orchestra Concert La Cueva High School - 7:30 p.m., FREE
<u>April 13-14, 2002</u>	AJS Concert - Location TBA - 7:30 p.m., FREE AJSO/AJS Concert - AJSO at 1:45 p.m., AJS at 3:00 p.m., FREE
<u>April 22, 2002</u>	Gala Concert featuring four AYSP orchestras - Soloist: Ruth Bacon, Violin Popejoy Hall, UNM - 7:00 p.m. - FREE

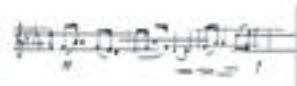


Please call the AYS Office at 875-1319 for details or tickets.
This schedule is subject to change

When Conductors retire, they just go from bar to bar!



Newsletter Edited by:
Regina Chavez
(1975 Violin)



Parents of AYS
Alumni:
Please FORWARD!

AYS PROGRAM, Inc.

Albuquerque Public Schools
PO Box 25704
Albuquerque, NM 87125-0704

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non Profit Org
US Postage
PAID
Albuquerque, NM
Permit No. 146