

ALASKA YOUTH ORCHESTRAS



2024-2025

FALL CELEBRATION

Featuring the Anchorage Youth Symphony with performances by AYO's Symphony School Ensembles

David Hagen, Principal Conductor

Monday 🎵 November 4, 2024 🎵 6:30 pm
Atwood Concert Hall

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ALASKA YOUTH ORCHESTRAS

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- Albert Einstein

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ALASKA YOUTH ORCHESTRAS

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ALASKA YOUTH ORCHESTRAS

2024-25 SEASON

FALL CELEBRATION CONCERT

Featuring the Anchorage Youth Symphony, with performances by AYO's Symphony School ensembles

*Monday, Nov. 4, 2024 @ 6:30 pm
Atwood Concert Hall*



COMMUNITY CONCERT

Featuring performances by AYO chamber music ensembles
Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2024 @ 6:30 pm / The Nave

WINTER CELEBRATION CONCERT

Featuring the Anchorage Youth Symphony performing with AYO's 2024-25 Concerto Competition winner

*Sunday, Feb. 23, 2025 @ 4:00 pm
Discovery Theatre*



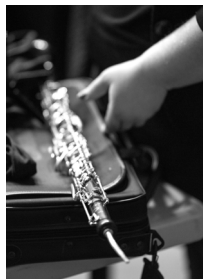
COMMUNITY CONCERT

Featuring performances by AYO chamber music ensembles
Tuesday, Apr. 29, 2025 @ 6:30 pm / The Nave

CLASSICS & COCKTAILS

AYO's annual fundraising event featuring delicious food, beautiful auction items, and a private concert by the Anchorage Youth Symphony!

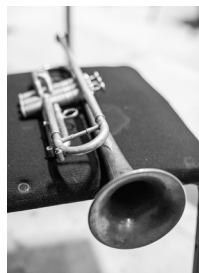
*Saturday, May 17, 2025 @ 6:00 pm
Alaska Center for the Performing Arts*



SPRING CELEBRATION CONCERT

Join us for our exciting season finale featuring the Anchorage Youth Symphony, with performances by AYO's Symphony School ensembles

*Sunday, May 18, 2025 @ 4:00 pm
Atwood Concert Hall*



A NOTE FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT

Welcome back to another great season for AYO! I am excited to return as the Board Chair for a second year. As a second generation alum of the Youth Symphony, AYO holds a special place in my heart and I am thrilled to serve the group in this capacity. I am proud of the work of this organization, and can't wait to share it with you in the upcoming season.



It is also a joy to welcome David Hagen as our AYS Principal Conductor for the 2024-25 Season. As both a respected conductor and a lifetime music educator, David brings a wealth of knowledge and musical excellence, and we look forward to working with him!

I would like to thank our donors, supporters, volunteers, and—most importantly—all of our musicians and their families. We appreciate all the time and effort that every single one of you puts into making this organization function. We could not do this without you!

Enjoy tonight's concert, and thank you so much for supporting Alaska Youth Orchestras!

Sincerely,

Nate Berry
Board President, AYO alum ('05-'09)



ALASKA YOUTH ORCHESTRAS PROGRAMS

ANCHORAGE YOUTH SYMPHONY



Providing high school and college age musicians with a low-cost, professional performance experience.

Funded in part by a generous grant from the Atwood Foundation.

SYMPHONY SCHOOL



Providing low-cost, low barrier teaching ensembles and classes for youth musicians in grades 4-12.

Funded in part by the Richard L and Diane M Block Foundation. Additional support from the Alaska State Council on the Arts.

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Providing free music education and inspiration to hundreds of future musicians in partnership with Camp Fire Alaska.

Funded in part by ConocoPhillips Alaska, The Carr Foundation, the Alaska State Council on the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Rasmuson Foundation.

A NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Welcome to AYO's Fall Celebration Concert! This is our first concert of the 2024-25 Season, and we're thrilled to be back in Atwood Concert Hall. Thank you for coming to celebrate and support our young musicians!

This season, AYO embarks on its search for its next Music Director. In this transitional year, we are delighted to welcome David Hagen to the AYO team!

Mr. Hagen is a distinguished conductor and educator in our community, and leads the Anchorage Youth Symphony in their 2024-25 Season as Principal Conductor. He joined us this fall without missing a beat, and we are grateful for his leadership and dedication.

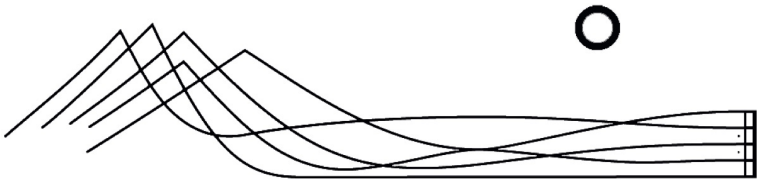
It is also a pleasure to welcome back Dr. Bruce Wood to the stage tonight. Dr. Wood has remained with AYO this fall to conduct our Symphony School ensembles, and we are excited to continue to benefit from Dr. Wood's time, experience, and expertise.

I would like to share my sincere thanks to our supporters, both in our community and far beyond. Parents, families, volunteers, donors, foundation partners, community supporters, concertgoers... you all ensure that youth music education and performance continue to play a vibrant role in our community!

I hope you will join us on December 17 at The Nave for AYO's Community Concert, featuring chamber music ensembles from both AYS and Symphony School. AYO returns to the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts in Winter and Spring, and we can't wait to see you there!

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Pierre Derycz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and "D".

Pierre Derycz
Executive Director



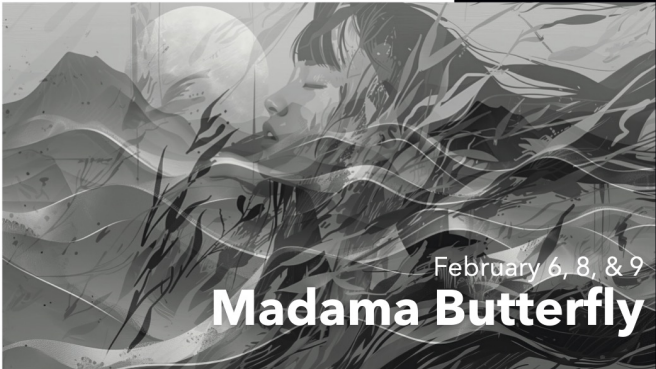
ANCHORAGE OPERA

2024 - 2025



November 14, 16, & 17

Mozart in the Museum



February 6, 8, & 9

Madama Butterfly



April 24, 26, & 27

The Italian Girl in Algiers

PROGRAM

SYMPHONY SCHOOL ~ PRELUDE

CONDUCTOR: *BRUCE WOOD, PH.D.*

Baroque Suite

Georg Philipp Telemann ~ *Arr. Michael Hopkins*

Largo

George Frideric Handel ~ *Arr. Bob Cerulli*

Allegro, from Brandenburg Concerto No. 3

Johann Sebastian Bach ~ *Arr. Richard Meyer*

SYMPHONY SCHOOL ~ OVERTURE

CONDUCTOR: *BRUCE WOOD, PH.D.*

Chester

William Billings ~ *Arr. Brad Pfeil*

Egmont Overture

Ludwig van Beethoven ~ *Arr. Richard Meyer*

The Magic of Harry Potter

John Williams ~ *Arr. Michael Story*

- INTERMISSION -

ANCHORAGE YOUTH SYMPHONY

CONDUCTOR: *DAVID HAGEN*

Semper Fidelis March

John Philip Sousa

Largo, from the Overture to Music for the Royal Fireworks

George Frideric Handel

Polovtsian Dances, from the opera *Prince Igor*

Alexander Borodin

Pavane

Gabriel Fauré

Farandole, from *L'Arlésienne* Suite No. 2

Georges Bizet

SYMPHONY SCHOOL

PRELUDE ENSEMBLE:

VIOLIN 1

Hanna Lundebye
Concertmaster
Vanessa Vakulich
Marian Beals
Isabella Tran
Bea Besh Barber
Luna Elrod

VIOLIN 2

Jacqueline Parker
Principal
Virginia Ayer
Ellouise Peterson
Delia Moberly
Cloey Crea
Kylie Walton
Zachary Howe
Lucy Takano

VIOLA

Camille Ulrich
Principal
Nicholas Goetz

CELLO

Siri Erickson
Principal
Zynna Comeau
Ian Lim

BASS

Lyra Brosius
Principal

OVERTURE ENSEMBLE:

VIOLIN 1

Sebastian Terry
Concertmaster
Hannah Kim
Ileah Hansen
Micah Holsopple
Alejandra Choi
Olivia Lessens
Ethan Swartz
Skye Moberly

VIOLA

Cadence Church
Principal
Ava Christianson
Emma Dougherty
Jolar Castillo
Zynna Comeau

FLUTE

Joshua Warren
Principal

TRUMPET

Samuel Erickson
Principal

OBOE

Maria Witmer
Principal
Benedict Gartland

TUBA/BARIT.

Logan Williams
Principal
Deenise Lucero

VIOLIN 2

Amy Stockly
Principal
Nolan Phelps
Isabella Schirard
Lillian Beals
Mirai Moore
Fiona Salao
Ella Guzik
Cody Eakes
Amelia Ellison
Marcelo Whited
Annika Hosselkus

CELLO

Lily Bohman
Principal
Adrian Cryan
Caden Grunst
Nizoni Lommel
Primrose Ward
Ava Lundebye
Kaitlyn Dunfee
Lilly Jeppesen
Caedmon Johnson

CLARINET

Blaise Gartland
Principal
Lyla Bailly

PERCUSSION

Anya McLaughlin
Principal
John Bazin

HORN

Zoe McDonagh
Principal

PIANO

John Bazin
Principal

BASS

Samuel Temiz
Principal

HARP

Chloe Hayner
Principal

SYMPHONY SCHOOL

MENTORS:

Alaina Hansen, violin
Amber Snelling, violin
Nina Geist, viola
Eirene Hansen, viola
Rienzi Witmer, bass

Amelia Swartz, flute
Kai Burns, horn
Malachi Temiz, trumpet



Department of Music
UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE

ANCHORAGE YOUTH SYMPHONY

VIOLIN 1

Alaina Hansen
Concertmaster
Benjamin Strauss
Bryce Herda
Sarah Kim
Madison Chaitoff
Jocelyn Kerley
Ethan Kim
Ellowyn Lang
Leo Shephard
Amber Snelling
Reine Soule
Dylan Beals
Bailey Hamilton

VIOLIN 2

Kristina Kagerer
Principal
Svea Harvey
Soren Rhodes
Brandon Kim
Bruno Bookman
Nicholas Goetz
Alyiah Hufana
Ethan Ivey
Isaiah Kim
Izzy Munson
Sofia Amalia Pennino
Udith Senevirathne
Catalina Whited
Susan Yang

VIOLA

Eirene Hansen
Principal
Abigail Page
Willow Wielechowski
Nina Geist
Auda Bernier
Claire Cartee
Makayla Cobb
Lucinda Grant
Eden Rhoades

CELLO

Grant Chythlook
Principal
Isaac Ward
Ezzy Allwright
Lavinia Li
Minghan Dai
Ira Libby
Donovan Mahoney
Ethan Johnson
Kendrew Liu
Lindsey Lucas
Leah Kim
Mary Grace Cope
Zoey Dougherty
Riley Snider
Maren Lund

BASS

Violet Bowie
Principal
Rienzi Witmer
Erika Dobler
Talon Motyka
Hunter Bernas

FLUTE

Lena So
Principal
Amelia Swartz
Marley McDonagh

OBOE

Kai Peppinger
Principal
Charlotte Fontana

CLARINET

Kolter Kalt
Principal
Maximilian Erickson
Ruby Beardsley
Gavin Baker

BASSOON

Rania White
Principal
Kaitlyn Paculba
Amaya Hammatt

HORN

Kai Burns
Principal
Olivia Gressett
Josephine Leonard
Lupe Marroquin*
Erik Oder*
Lolly Rader*

TRUMPET

Malachi Temiz
Principal
Drake Ward
Noah Kurth
Liam Kraft

TROMBONE

David Schreyer
Principal
Suri Devillena
Mike Ottaviano*
Bill Klemm*

TUBA

Kristian Nudlash-Barger
Luke Thomas

PERCUSSION

Ashton Bednar
Isaac Klemm
Anya McLaughlin
Kade Bissell*

HARP

Mary Grace Cope
Greta Yeager

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or Coach*



THE NAVE

MUSIC NOTES

Baroque Suite

Georg Philipp Telemann ~ Arr. Michael Hopkins

Telemann composed a great many overtures with orchestral suites included. These three movements that Prelude will open with include a Scaramouche (little skirmisher), Harlequin and Mezzetin. In these movements, Prelude hopes to exhibit Baroque styles of playing including contrasting short and long phrases, crescendos and decrescendos, as well as stair-stepped contrasts.

Largo

George Frideric Handel ~ Arr. Bob Cerulli

The notes of this flowing piece are not hard; rather it is the control of the bow that is the challenge. The Largo has a beautiful walking cello/bass line accompanying one of the most beautiful melodies of the time.

Allegro, from Brandenburg Concerto No. 3

Johann Sebastian Bach ~ Arr. Richard Meyer

This is Prelude's "challenge" piece, which has multiple melodies and parts of melodies woven together, in what is called a contrapuntal style. Counting, string crossing, and listening to one another have been our practice mainstays.

Chester

William Billings ~ Arr. Brad Pfeil

William Billings was not only perhaps the earliest recognized American composer (1746-1800), but was friends with Samuel Adams and Paul Revere. Chester became a Revolutionary War song for the colonists and was played by Washington's Continental Army! It is a good first piece for Overture, with a broad theme and a very bold statement.

Egmont Overture

Ludwig van Beethoven ~ Arr. Richard Meyer

Beethoven was also a "defier of tyranny" and Egmont was incidental music for the poet Goethe's tragedy. It is intense in its construction, alternating between anger, love, and triumph. A challenge for Overture, but so much fun to learn.

The Magic of Harry Potter

John Williams ~ Arr. Michael Story

This arrangement contains themes from all eight motion pictures in the Harry Potter series, including Hedwig's Theme, Nimbus 2000, Fawkes the Phoenix, Double Trouble, Hogwarts Hymn, among others. The students in Overture took to learning this like ducks to water, and we hope you enjoy this version.

- NOTES BY *DR. BRUCE WOOD*



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Semper Fidelis March

John Philip Sousa

John Philip Sousa's "Semper Fidelis March" was written in 1888, and is regarded as the official march of the United States Marine Corps. This piece was one of two that was composed from a request from United States President Chester A. Arthur as a way to recognize the officers and men of the United States Marine Corps. The title Semper Fidelis means "always faithful" and is played during Change of Command Ceremonies. The march follows Sousa's classic sound of being festive and light, and is often regarded as the best march Sousa ever composed.

- *KOLTER KALT, AYS CLARINETIST*

Largo, from the Overture to Music for the Royal Fireworks

George Frideric Handel

One of the foremost composers of the Baroque era, George Frideric Handel trained in Germany but spent much of his career in London. The *Music for the Royal Fireworks* was composed in 1749 for London's Green Park fireworks, in celebration of the end of the War of the Austrian Succession. Anthony Baines and Charles Mackerras adapted the Overture for modern orchestra in the mid 1900's.

- DAVID HAGEN

Polovtsian Dances from the opera *Prince Igor*

Alexander Borodin

Alexander Borodin, the Russian composer of the opera *Prince Igor* would have thought himself as first a chemist, writing music only in his spare time. This may explain why *Prince Igor* remained unfinished at the time of Borodin's sudden death, despite him working on it for 18 years. It took two Russian composers, Rimsky-Korsakov and Aleksandr Glazunov, to complete the opera. *Prince Igor* is based on the epic poem *The Tale of Igor's Campaign*, which tells the tale of the Russian Prince Igor and his campaign to defend against invading nomadic tribes. *Polovtsian Dances* falls at the end of Act 2 where Khan Konchak orders his servants to entertain him and the captured Prince Igor. Through the music, one can see the different dances, starting with the lilting atmosphere of the Gliding Dance of the Young Maidens. It is followed by the forceful notes of the Wild Dance of the Men, then the spry tone of the Dance of the Boys, ending with the resounding finality of the General Dance. May we fulfill Khan's orders to "dispel all gloomy thoughts" with this majestic dance of music.

- ALAINA HANSEN, AYS VIOLINIST



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Pavane

Gabriel Fauré

Gabriel Fauré was an influential and prominent French composer during the late Romantic and early Modern eras of music. The *Pavane* was originally composed for piano but later arranged for the orchestra. Thereafter, an optional choral part was created, at the request of one of Fauré's supporters, Countess Greffulhe. A Pavane is a slow duple dance that was popular in the 16th and 17th centuries. Fauré's work shows this early influence, but significant elements of late 19th century romanticism are also heard in the great harmonic tension of the piece. Solo flute first presents the work's main gentle, longing melody. This is followed by solo oboe and clarinet with pizzicato strings, creating an ethereal floating quality. The listener gets lost within the fluid transitions that build tension slowly with each new entrance. There are moments that feel like fresh breaths of air within the ensemble such as when the flute passes the melody onto the violins through a prolonged trill. The middle portion contrasts with the opening with its dense and momentous statement as the lush tone of the cellos answer the high strings. With much work put in by each member of your Anchorage Youth Symphony, we hope that you enjoy the various colors of this piece as much as we enjoy presenting it to you and creating musical ideas!

- LENA SO, AYS FLUTIST



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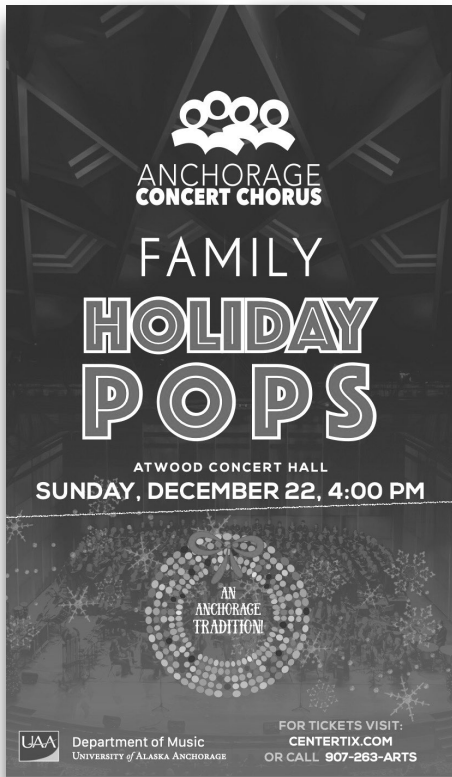
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Farandole from *L'Arlésienne*, Suite No. 2

Georges Bizet

Georges Bizet, most known for his operas, such as *Carmen* which he wrote as his last work, was a French composer of the Romantic era. Though he died at the early age of 36 in June of 1875, Bizet wrote thirty operas, one symphony, and many orchestral pieces. One of his compositions was *L'Arlésienne* which he wrote for Alphonse Daudet's short play of the same name. (In English; *The Girl from Arles*.) The play was not successful and was closed, though the music score was later used for two other suites of the same name. The last movement of the piece; *Farandole*, was inspired by the popular Christmas tune known as "March of the Kings" which dates back to 13th century France.

- KRISTINA KAGERER, *AYS* VIOLINIST



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BIOGRAPHY

DAVID HAGEN

David Hagen is delighted to have been chosen to serve as Principal Conductor of the Anchorage Youth Symphony for the 2024-25 Season. Mr. Hagen and his family have a long association with AYS: he himself played trumpet in the orchestra, and his two brothers and two sons were also members. Mr. Hagen's time playing in AYS was particularly formative for him as a young musician.



Mr. Hagen has been active as a conductor and music educator in Anchorage for many years. He became artistic director and conductor of the Alaska Chamber Singers (ACS) in 1995, succeeding founder and artistic director Elvera Voth. Mr. Hagen also served as Chorus Master with Anchorage Opera for several seasons, preparing such works as *Carmen*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Romeo et Juliette* and *Sweeney Todd*. He served as general director of the Anchorage Festival of Music, and was the founder and music director of *AVE*, a vocal ensemble that performed to much acclaim in Anchorage in the 1990's.

Mr. Hagen recently retired from the Anchorage School District, where he served as an instrumental music teacher for many years, as well as Music Curriculum Coordinator for two years. His many compositions for beginning band are regularly heard at local band festivals.

Hagen received his earliest musical training in the Anchorage School District and is a graduate of Robert Service High School. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from George Fox University and a Master of Music degree in choral conducting from the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music. He is a recipient of the Anchorage Mayor's Arts Award for Outstanding Individual Artist.

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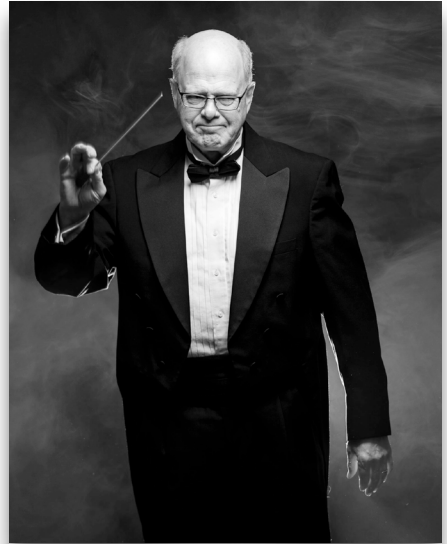
KINNEY

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BIOGRAPHY

BRUCE WOOD, PH.D.

Dr. Bruce Wood was appointed Music Director of Alaska Youth Orchestras in July of 2021. Dr. Wood was the founding Music Director of the Youth Orchestras of Lubbock, Texas while also serving on the faculty of Texas Tech University. From 2014 to 2021 Dr. Wood was the Director of Fine Arts for the Anchorage School District.



Dr. Wood received a bachelor's degree in music education from Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa and his master's and doctorate degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Dr. Wood has taught in public school settings for eleven years and at the university level for over twenty-five years. He has been published by the American String Teacher Journal, Strings Magazine, and GIA publications.

A cellist and singer, Dr. Wood has been a member of the Alaska Chamber Singers. He has also conducted a number of the performances of the Anchorage Community Chorus Messiah. Dr. Wood's wife, Brooke, works for the Anchorage Museum.

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2024-25 SEASON

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Dana Anderson	Carrie Hisaoka	Orthopedic Physicians AK
Anonymous	Andy Holleman	Renee Parks, <i>in honor of</i>
Anonymous, <i>in memory of</i>	Catherine Howard	<i>Mary Lee Plumb-Mentjes</i>
<i>Mirella Laudi</i>	Hutchings & Associates	Mary Primis Pennino
Tricia Allwardt	Margit Jensen-Cook	Linda Phillips
Victoria Backa	Mark Johnson, <i>in honor</i>	University of Puget Sound
Erik Bergh	<i>of Anna Andrews</i>	Zeke Rabkin, <i>in honor of</i>
Elizabeth Brolo	Laurie Kay	<i>Lupe Marroquin</i>
Kristi & Alan Brown	Pamela Keeler	Sherri Reddick
Sarah Collins Burtner	Alison Kelley	Sandra Redmond
The Camm Family	Richard Kern	Sasha Ringgenberg
Beverly Churchill	Bill & Elizabeth Klemm	Stetson Sannes
Christine Cadogan	The Kroger Company	Diana Slafka
Gerald E Cook	Willard Lacy	Mr. & Mrs. Francis Smaka
Grant Cooper	Martin Lang	Ben Smith
Edgar & Cindy Cowling	Tracy LeBlanc	Sean Smith
Christopher & Joyce Cryan	Erica Leman	Andrew Swartz
Pierre Derycz	Warren & Cindy Libby	Sarah Switzer
Sandrine & Peter Derycz	Michele Liu	Touchstone Executive
Latasha Dougherty	Markel's Collision Center	Coaching
Lisa Earnhart	Guadalupe Marroquin	Eva Vischer
Kathryn Eckmann	Mary Ellen McGlothlin	Anchorage Waldorf School
Laurel Epps	Tom McGregor	The Ayer-Waters Family
Lea Filippi	Lisa Moore	Spencer & Deborah
Matt Findley	Elizabeth & James Munter	Waters
Heather & Frederick Fourie	Murray Orthodontics	Josie & Chad Wilson
Michael Fredericks	William & Betty Lou	Bruce Wood
Dale Gardner	Nanovsky	Cari & Joe Zawodny, <i>in</i>
Ann Geist, <i>in honor of</i>	Katy Westfall Neher,	<i>honor of Ethan Zawodny</i>
<i>Nina Geist</i>	<i>in memory of Melissa</i>	
Jennifer Green, <i>in memory</i>	<i>Jayne Neher</i>	
<i>of Marcella Libbrecht</i>	Network for Good	
Maribel Gutierrez	Glen Newton & Jill Singer	
Carolee Hamilton	Newton	
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OUR HISTORY

The Anchorage Youth Symphony was formed in 1965 by Frank Pinkerton and has continued under the leadership of prominent local musicians and educators including Dewey Ehling, Kurt Pasch, Jeanne (Ray) Bruhn, Charles Gorsuch, Marlow Thomas, and, most recently, Linn Weeda and Dr. Bruce Wood.



In 1981 the Anchorage Youth Symphony Association began operating separately from the Anchorage School District and was granted 501(c)(3) nonprofit status. Shortly thereafter the organization adopted the name Alaska Youth Orchestras. Since then, the organization has remained an active member of the Anchorage arts community and has been a resident company of the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts since 2011.

Linn Weeda served as Music Director for 31 years, expanding the program to include coaching by local professional musicians, many who were in the youth symphony as young players. He retired in May 2021, succeeded in the role of Music Director by Bruce Wood, Ph.D. Dr. Wood and Executive Director Denise Brown-Chythlook further expanded AYO's education and performance programs, increasing their reach from 80 to 500 youth each year. The Anchorage Youth Symphony provides a professional performance experience for high school and college age musicians. Symphony School provides teaching ensembles for musicians from grades 4-12. AYO's outreach program, After School Music (a community partnership with Camp Fire Alaska), provides a music inspiration program in an after-school care setting.

In 2023, Pierre Derycz joined the AYO team as Executive Director, bringing a deep passion for music education and youth development. Under his leadership, AYO continues to participate in advocacy and community building efforts across the Anchorage Arts community.

At the conclusion of the 2023-24 Season, Dr. Bruce Wood announced his retirement from the position of Music Director. This fall, AYO begins its search for its next Music Director, with a tenure to begin in the 2025-26 Season.



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