Christmas Pops Spectacular

Dear Friends and Supporters of the YSO:

On Sunday, December 7th, at 4:00pm we will continue our 2014-15 Season, Heavenly Thoughts, with our annual Christmas Pops Spectacular. This concert, suitable for the whole family, represents a blend of tradition and innovation.

On the one hand, the orchestra and chorus will perform all of your favorite Christmas classics from Leroy Anderson’s Sleigh Ride to Handel’s “Hallelujah Chorus” from the Messiah. On the other hand, each year we include fresh new music and present a different guest group to join the orchestra and chorus.

This year, we will be joined by a steel drum ensemble called Bram Bratá; B. J. Leggett, Director. This group is part of the Tri-Cities Steel Band Association. They will add a Caribbean Christmas flavor to several of the selections on this year’s program!

I would also like to point out that our own Executive Director, David Rogers, an accomplished composer, has created two arrangements of Christmas standards for steel drum ensemble and orchestra especially for this event.

Finally, make sure to warm up your vocal chords and be ready to join the entire cast at the end of the concert for our traditional sing-along that includes family favorites from Joy to the World to Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer!

We look forward to seeing you on December 7th at the Capitol Theatre as we continue along with Heavenly Thoughts!

Sincerely,

Lawrence Golan
The Helen N. Jewett Music Director
Yakima Symphony Orchestra

Give the Gift of Live Symphonic Music!

Subscriptions are still available for a limited time! Reserve seats for our remaining concerts, with a discount of between 13–29% off single-ticket prices. Call (509) 248-1414 for information or to place an order.

SINGLE TICKETS:
853-ARTS or (877) 330-ARTS
Online, link to TicketsWest from www.ysomusic.org

Stay in touch for music, podcasts and concert information. www.ysomusic.org
Share Your Love of the Symphony!

- Beautiful “concert black” caps, aprons, bags and knapsacks
- 2014-15 posters (artist Barbara Smith Gilbert)
- 2012-13 posters (artist Consuelo Soto Murphy)
- Packages of 2014-15 notecards
- CDs of multiple YSO musicians

Our gift cart will be open before concerts and during intermission on concert nights. All items also can be purchased in person at the YSO office (8am–5pm, Monday–Friday) or by viewing them online (www.ysomusic.org) and calling your order in to the office at (509) 248-1414.

From the Executive Director

The YSO has accomplished much in the past year. We have provided the community with extraordinary musical performances including a fully-staged opera, a multisensory program featuring specially choreographed dance, outstanding solo appearances by current and former YSO principal musicians such as Denise Dillenbeck and Jeff Brooks, and diverse collaborations with our Yakima Symphony Chorus. We have offered exceptional educational programs, establishing a new YSO Teaching Artist Program last January with Yakima Musica en Acción, continuing our presentation of ensemble performances at local schools in conjunction with our school concert at the Capitol Theatre, and providing administrative sponsorship of our affiliate youth orchestra programs. We have also grown in value as a regional cultural and economic asset through new initiatives such as Meet the Orchestra (profiled on the opposite page), enhanced partnerships with local organizations like the Yakima-Morelia Sister City Association and the Cowiche Canyon Conservancy, and ongoing efforts to contribute more meaningfully to a vibrant downtown economy and social environment.

Each of these areas of growth corresponds to an element of our YSO mission statement, which also includes one other important caveat: that we accomplish these goals within a sustainable financial structure. As we enter the traditional holiday season, I hope you will consider supporting this sustainable structure in two ways. The first is through a contribution to our Annual Fund campaign, which launched in late November; while we derive support also from ticket sales, sponsorships, investments and other sources, our Annual Fund provides 24% of the revenue needed to maintain the scope and quality that you have come to expect from the programs of the Yakima Symphony Orchestra. The second is by sharing the experience of live symphonic music with others in the community—bring friends and acquaintances to our concerts, give your tickets to others when you can’t attend, and help us tell all of the Yakima Valley what a remarkable treasure we have in our symphony.

We at the YSO are proud of what we have accomplished and deeply grateful for your help and support to make it possible. I look forward to seeing you in the concert hall and wish you a joyous holiday season!

David Rogers, Executive Director
Yakima Symphony Orchestra

RBC WEALTH MANAGEMENT IS A PROUD SPONSOR OF THE YAKIMA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

We are celebrating our 20th Year serving the Yakima Area and glad to provide volunteer and financial support to worthy causes that make the Yakima area a better place to live and work.

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RBC Wealth Management

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ENCORE! is our awesome new group for young patrons over age 21. We had our first event on October 25th, a pre-concert beer tasting of Iron Horse Brewery’s Irish Death and Mocha Death, paired with savory delicacies from Essencia Bakery.

ENCORE! membership benefits include:
• Special pre and/or post-concert events;
• Discounts on pre-concert and post-concert opportunities at participating venues (with ENCORE! membership card and ticket/ticket stub);
• Discounted Lunches With Lawrence;
• and more!

Membership is $50 per season (July 1 through June 30); $25 if joining mid-season. Discounted memberships available for students, professionals participating in internships/residencies and spouses/partners of the same. Inquire for details.

To join, please contact the YSO office at (509) 248-1414 or use the CONTACT US form on the website.

Affiliate & Partnership Updates
Yakima Youth Symphony Orchestra (YYSO) & Yakima Ensemble for Strings (YES!) www.yyso.org
Bruce Walker, YYSO Conductor and YSO Cover Conductor
Christy Baisinger, YES! Conductor

Performances: The YYSO and YES! performed wonderfully at their Halloween Spooktacular concert! Please join them for the following FREE concerts! Bring all your friends and family members!
- December 6, Saturday, 12:00 noon: YYSO performs at the Holiday Open House at the Yakima Valley Museum
- December 14, Sunday, 3:00pm: YYSO and YES! perform their Winter Concert at the Capitol Theatre

Auditions For Spring Semester: Auditions for new/aspiring student musicians will be held on Saturday, January 3rd. For details, please send an email inquiry to us via the CONTACT US form on the website: www.yyso.org.

Concerto Competition: The YYSO 2015 Concerto Competition will be held on Saturday, January 10th. Details and application information are available on the website: www.yyso.org. Applications due December 12th.

Yakima Music en Acción (YAMA)
Stephanie Hsu, Director

We are thrilled to announce that the Yakima Valley Community Foundation has become a partner in our YSO Teaching Artist program. Through an award from their Responsive Grant Program, our students will continue to receive weekly musical instruction and mentoring from YSO musicians.

Our next performance will be at the Garfield Elementary School Holiday Show on Thursday, December 18th at 7:00pm. From our third-year YAMA veterans to this year’s first-timers, the YAMA Orchestra will inspire you with their passion and dedication – please join us in celebrating the season and sharing our progress! Garfield Elementary is located at 612 North 6th Avenue (at Fairbanks Avenue) in Yakima.

For more information about YAMA, contact Program Director Stephanie Hsu: s.hsu@yvoic.org.

Please note that Lunch with Lawrence, Open Rehearsal and ConcerTalk occur prior to Classical Series concerts—these will not take place before our December 7th Christmas Pops Spectacular.

RAISE THE BATON

Mark your calendars for Friday, April 10, 2015, 5:30pm at the 4th Street Theatre for the YSO’s annual Raise the Baton! fundraiser. This year’s theme is “Starry Night” after the Van Gogh painting of the same name. Entertainment by Maestro Lawrence Golan and YSO musicians, a divine dinner, and exciting auctions with Laura Michalek, Fundraising Auctioneer, will make this a night to remember! Purchase tickets today by calling (509) 248-1414. $75 per ticket or $500 per table.
Memorial Family of Services Pops Series  
Christmas Pops Spectacular

Bram Bratá Steel Band

Bram Bratá is a performance steel drum band out of Richland, Washington. The band consists of middle- and high-school-aged musicians playing a wide variety of songs on these remarkably versatile Caribbean instruments – bringing a touch of island attitude to all styles of music! Bram Bratá has performed all over the Pacific Northwest, as well as in Hawaii and Canada, drawing thousands of people into their “unexpected party” (Fun fact: Bram Bratá – the band’s name – stems from two Trinidadian slang words meaning “an unexpected party”). Bram Bratá plays a family-friendly, eclectic mix of traditional Trinidadian steel drum music, Caribbean favorites, soca, jazz, classical and modern pop and rock tunes, including tunes like: “Hot, Hot, Hot!,” “Bee’s Melody,” “Moondance” (Van Morrison), “Eine kleine Nachtmusik” (Mozart), “Blue Rondo a la Turk” (Dave Brubeck), and much more! For more information on Bram Bratá, visit us at www.tcsba.org.

Scott R. Peterson

Scott R. Peterson is in his 38th season as chorusmaster of the Yakima Symphony Chorus, resident chorus of the Yakima Symphony Orchestra and one of the finest community choral ensembles in Washington State. In addition to his leadership of the YSC, over the past three and a half decades Dr. Peterson has been active as a performer outside the Yakima area and was a member of the well-known Male Ensemble Northwest, which is made up of professional choral conductors and has produced four CDs. In 1993, he made his Carnegie Hall debut conducting Mozart’s Requiem. He conducted the Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival Chamber Chorale and Festival Chorus at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, from 2001 through 2007. He is active as an adjudicator, clinician and guest conductor throughout the region. In 2009, he conducted the Washington Music Education Association Junior High All-State Choirs in Burien and Spokane.

Dr. Peterson is a recently retired member of the music faculty at Yakima Valley Community College where he conducted the YVCC Concert Choir and Chamber Singers. He received the Robert Leodon Teaching Award, the most prestigious faculty award at YVCC, and the President’s Award and Choral Leadership Award from the Washington State Chapter of the American Choral Director’s Association. He is also a recipient of both the Distinguished Alumni Award and the Teaching and Mentor Award from his alma mater, Midland University in Fremont, Nebraska. He now is an adjunct professor in the Choral Studies program at Central Washington University and is conductor of the CWU Men’s Chorus.

A native of Iowa, Scott Peterson received his DMA degree in Choral Conducting from the University of Washington, where he conducted the UW Opera Chorus. He was granted Central Washington University’s first MA degree in conducting where he formed and conducted the Central Chorale, and a BA degree in music education from Midland University, where he conducted the Freshmen Chorale. He also twice performed as a member of the Robert Shaw Festival Singers in Carnegie Hall under Robert Shaw. Scott and his wife, Jane, live in Yakima where she retired from the Yakima School District as a music specialist and is co-conductor of the Yakima Children’s Choir.
Yakima Symphony Chorus

The Yakima Symphony Chorus was formed in the spring of 1971 by the Yakima Symphony Orchestra's founding music director, Brooke Creswell, as the official choral ensemble of the symphony. Dr. Scott Peterson took over as chorusmaster in 1977, and has led the chorus ever since. During this time, the chorus has performed the standard orchestral/choral literature with the YSO as well as works from the non-symphonic choral repertoire in their own right. Under Dr. Peterson's direction, the YSC has performed all over the world, including Carnegie Hall in New York, Switzerland, France, China, and more recently at the 2009 Advent Festival in Vienna, Austria and Prague, Czech Republic.

Yakima Symphony Chorus

Classical and Pops Concerts are held at the Capitol Theatre.

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Download the 2014-15 Heavenly Thoughts brochure at www.ysomusic.org

Give an ENCORE! gift package to a friend or yourself. This beautifully wrapped package includes:

- An ENCORE! membership plus
- One ticket to Fiddle-Faddle or Feelin’ Groovy plus
- One ticket to A Star is Born or Transfiguration or Resurrection plus
- A YSO Heavenly Thoughts notecard sampler

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