

San Diego Civic Youth Orchestra

e-newsletter

JUNE 2009



Health Update: Robert Gilson is taking it easy.

Per doctor's orders, Robert Gilson is taking it easy for a while. Although he is still seen at rehearsals on Saturday and conducting auditions for Symphony and Symphonic, guest conductor, Warren Gref, has generously stepped in to rehearse the Symphony and Symphonic groups. Mr Gref will also be conducting the Symphony at the final concert at Copley Symphony Hall on June 6. You can be sure Mr. Gilson will be at the concert and present the seniors with their certificates. We are sure he will have plenty to say about them after the concert. He really doesn't want to make a big deal from this temporary set-back to his usual hectic schedule. Thank you to all who have expressed their appreciation and concern for our "one of a kind" conductor. We expect Mr. Gilson will be back in full vitality very soon - faster than most humans!

CYO

CALENDAR

June 3-4

Symphonic and Symphony auditions

Jun 6

Symphony's Year End Concert at Copley Symphony Hall

Jun 13

CYO End of Year Concert for Primary, Intermediate/Chamber Strings, Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Orchestra – Carlsbad High School Auditorium.

August 10-14

Summer Workshops for Beginning and Intermediate strings, Winds, and Symphonic Orchestra- El Camino HS



Symphony End of Year Concert

Celebrating
CYO
Seniors

The final concert for Symphony will celebrate CYO students who are graduating this June. The concert will be at the

Copley Symphony Hall in downtown San Diego. In addition to the outstanding music already planned for the program, there will be a special world premier performance of an original composition by CYO student, Andy Harris. **Mark your calendars for June 6 at 7PM because you will not want to miss this! Call time for students: 5:30PM- need to be at Copley!**

This e-mail newsletter is designed to keep you informed of all CYO events and to highlight student success. Suggestions and comments are welcome, and can be sent to slpadilla@mchsi.com

June 13th Concert



Auction Baskets!

The June 13th concert will be held at the Carlsbad High School Auditorium and will include a preconcert reception. Parents- we will need your help in donations of food for this- and to make this evening even more exciting and special- **there will be a coffee bar run by a CYO professional barista featuring your favorites at a low \$2 price, plus a silent auction!** For the auction to be successful, we are asking all CYO parents to be involved in the auction basket preparation and donations. It does not have to cost anyone a lot- just a donation of one item or some cash will help. Theme baskets have been determined and leaders have come forward. **Please see the list at right to see where you can help. With everyone involved, this should be our greatest event for raising funds for scholarships!!**

Don't forget to bring along cash or credit cards (yes, we will accept them!) for your bids on these fabulous baskets!

Symphonic orchestra has four different baskets started! Janice Lambert is

the leader for this group and is doing an outstanding job! **The baskets have four themes:** **1. Music**, which includes sheet music, CDs and music DVDs, etc. **2. Garden**, with plants, seeds, garden tools. **3. Home Emergency** which includes duct tape, batteries, all the usual handyman stuff, and **4. Car care kit**- all the things for your favorite toy including the shampoo.

The Intermediate and Chamber orchestra basket is getting started under the direction of Kathryn Rodriguez.

The themes chosen are : Home Movie Nite with all the snack foods and DVDs, Girly Spa Stuff, and the third one is Game Nite with the family board game selections. Wind Ensemble has chosen Julia O'Riordan to lead their **Summer Fun basket. Primary Strings have chosen "Day at the Beach" as their theme under leadership of **Deborah Dodaro**. If you have not already added your contribution, it is not too late- cash donations are still accepted!!!**



Andy Harris has World Premiere Performance of His Original Work

Andy Harris is 20 years old and is from Temecula, CA. He attended Temecula Valley High School and received numerous awards in music including awards in drum set, orchestral percussion, composition, jazz, and choir. He has been at Berklee College of Music since the fall of 2006 studying total percussion and film scoring. Since entering Berklee he has been educated by the likes of Thomas Newman, Howard Shore and Alan Silvestri. He is graduating in the fall of this year and plans to intern with Joey Newman

make the necessary connections and work in the film score industry. He also plays drums and writes with long time friend and rising singer songwriter, Dylan Galvin. Andy has been a member of CYO since 2005. He is honored to have his piece played by the orchestra at the concert on June 6 and would like to thank CYO, Mr. Gilson, his family and friends, and his Mom and Dad for their continued loving support.

Guest Conductor*Warren Gref*

Warren Gref is a GRAMMY-winning hornist (Complete Chamber Music of Carlos Chavez, Volume 2) who is active as a horn player, conductor,

teacher, and administrator throughout Southern California. Mr. Gref is a long-time member of the San Diego Symphony, San Diego Opera, and has been a contracted member of the San Diego Chamber Orchestra. He had performed as a substitute 4th horn with the Los Angeles Philharmonic during the 1998-99 and most of the 1999-2000 seasons which included performances at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion and the Hollywood Bowl, recording several CDs with the orchestra, and national and international tours.

Mr. Gref enjoys a full and varied career and, in addition to playing horn, is Founder of the San Dieguito Performing Arts Association and served as its first Artistic Director until he resigned from that organization in the fall of 1999. Mr. Gref is also Founder and served as Artistic Director of Seagate Concerts, Inc. Two of Mr. Gref's priorities are finding ways of making music accessible to as wide a range of the community as possible, and also bringing live music to school-age children and letting them know there are choices in music other than just what is offered on MTV and other pop venues. Having a life-long interest in conducting, Mr. Gref had the opportunity to study under such distinguished conductors

as David Zinman, Murry Sidlin, Michael Stern, Christopher Seaman, Edo de Waart and others accepted into the Fellowship program at the American Academy of Conducting at the Aspen Music Festival for the summer of 2003. Recent professional conducting engagements have included the Cabrillo Chamber Orchestra, the California Consort, Seagate Brass Ensemble, and numerous outreach performances with members of the San Diego Symphony. In April of 2005, Mr. Gref was the featured guest conductor at the annual StringFest held in Chula Vista where he conducted performances with over 200 middle school and high school string students. In January, 2005, Mr. Gref led two performances as guest conductor of the Inland Valley Symphony. Mr. Gref was also the conductor of Southern California Youth Symphony for three years as part of California Institute of Music, located in Sorrento Valley.

As an orchestral musician, Mr. Gref has performed under such internationally acclaimed conductors and composers as Leonard Bernstein, Aaron Copland, Esa-Pekka Salonen, John Williams, Zubin Mehta, James Levine, Simon Rattle, Pierre Boulez, Jeffrey Tate, and Antal Dorati. Mr. Gref has twice toured Japan with the Sierra Brass Quintet, and has toured Europe, Mexico, and the Eastern United States with the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Mr. Gref is an associate faculty member at the UCSD where he teaches horn and performs with SONOR, the resident contemporary chamber ensemble, and has served on the faculty at Chapman University in Orange, CA, and at Palomar College. Mr. Gref was also on the staff as a Brass Clinician at Mt. Carmel High School, Vista High School, and Rancho Buena Vista High School, Vista Murrieta High School and Murrieta Valley High School. He lives in Murrieta with his wife, Ann and his 2 sons.