

ALASKA YOUTH ORCHESTRAS



2021-2022

WINTER CELEBRATION

**Featuring the Anchorage Youth Symphony with
alumna soloist Dr. Christine Harada Li, violin**

Maestro Bruce Wood, Ph.D., Music Director

Monday 🎵 Feb. 28, 2022 🎵 6:30 pm
Discovery Theater

ALASKA CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

THANK YOU!



For generously supporting
Alaska Youth Orchestras
with a Tier 1 Grant,
funding the final step in settling in our new
rehearsal home, The Nave.

This funding will supply the necessary
percussion instruments, music stands,
and other equipment, allowing AYO to
provide the best possible
music education and performance
services to Alaska's youth musicians - our
Great State's next generation of leaders!

ALASKA YOUTH ORCHESTRAS

Building a community where music education and performance are valued and shared.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Alaska Youth Orchestras

907-538-6406

1505 W 32nd Ave, Anchorage, AK 99503

STAFF

Music Director ~ Bruce Wood, Ph.D.

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ATWOOD
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ALASKA YOUTH ORCHESTRAS

COACHES

Nina Bingham, 1st violin

Elise Gelbart, 2nd violin

Nancy Darigo, viola

Linda Ottum, cello

Avalon Lee, double bass

Laura Koenig, flute

Brad Hamilton, clarinet

Emily Weaver, oboe

Kyle Noonan, bassoon

Evan Hagen, horn

Hannah Johnston, trumpet

Bill Klemm, low brass

Kade Bissell, percussion

Joanna Mayer, harp

CONCERT PRODUCTION

Sheila Miller, stage manager/technical director

Joshua Maxwell, videographer

Color Art Printing, printed materials

Bagoy's Flowers, soloist bouquet

SPECIAL THANKS

Alaska Center for the Performing Arts ~ Anchorage Symphony Orchestra

Anchorage Arts Group ~ Nina Bingham's Violin & Viola Studio

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A NOTE FROM OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR...

The Youth Symphony
continues to grow!

Between the Fall
Celebration Concert and
now, we have added an
additional six musicians.
This concert cycle, our
largest work has been the
Bruch Violin Concerto. It
has been such a rewarding
process, both preparing a
professional work and having the pleasure of working
with Christine Harada Li, Assistant Professor of Violin at
Ohio University and an alumnus of AYO. She is a top-
notch player and a warm and engaging person.

One of the things we have to watch out for, when doing
this concerto with her, is that she is so good that
students can be tempted to become enthralled in
listening to her and subsequently miss and entrance! I
hope we can keep our focus and also enjoy this
camaraderie of shared music!

Thank you to all who have supported us.

Bruce Wood



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FUNDRAISING COCKTAIL PARTY

*Anchorage Petroleum Women's Association
Presents*

Classics *Cocktails*

A Fundraising Cocktail Party benefiting Alaska Youth Orchestras

Friday, April 29, 2022

Alaska Center for the Performing Arts

Doors Open at 6:00pm

Food | Drinks | Live Auction | Private Concert by AYO

Limited to 100 attendees.

For table or event information please contact APWA at
sponsorship@ancpwa.org

[CLICK HERE TO ATTEND CLASSICS & COCKTAILS](#)

A NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR...

Welcome to the 21-22 Winter Celebration Concert! We are thrilled to welcome you, yet again, into our performance home, the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts.

Tonight's concert is full of celebration. This includes the accomplishments of our musicians, the return of one of our favorite alumni as tonight's soloist, the addition of a new program; Symphony School, to prepare youth musicians from grade four through high school for participation in the Youth Symphony, and the generous contributions of our donors, sponsors, and foundation partners. Particularly, I want to thank the Rasmuson Foundation for trusting AYO with a Tier One grant. This funding is the final step in establishing our partnership with The Nave as our official rehearsal home. We are now fully self-sufficient with percussion instruments, music stands, and other equipment that is necessary to run our programs.

Thank you, also, to each of you. You have chosen to invest your time and resources in this organization, not to mention trusting us with the music education of many of Southcentral Alaska's youth.

Thank you!



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ORCHESTRAS
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CHRISTINE HARADA LI

Violinist Christine Harada Li is a versatile artist who has performed across the U.S.A., Canada, Japan, Germany, Italy, Austria, Spain, and Israel. She has frequently performed with the award-winning Koinonia Trio, which has been playing together since 2015. As an orchestral musician, Christine has performed with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, the CityMusic Cleveland Chamber Orchestra, and Ann Arbor Symphony. She has performed (both violin and viola) as a guest artist at the Maui Classical Music Festival, Center Stage Strings, Oberlin Acoustics Workshop and Ann Arbor Chamber Fest.



In addition to performing, Christine takes leadership in various art organizations and serves as Artistic Director of the Anchorage Chamber Music Festival and President of the Anchorage Fine Arts Society, a non-profit organization in Anchorage, Alaska. She was Co-Education Director at the Innsbrook Institute Summer Music Academy from 2016–2019.

Christine completed her Doctorate in Musical Arts (D.M.A.) in 2019, studying with David Halen at the University of Michigan School of Music, Theater and Dance. Christine graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Michigan and completed her Master of Music degree at the Hochschule für Musik, Theater und Medien in Hannover, Germany. Her principal teachers here were Yehonatan Berick, Elisabeth Kufferath, Anne Röhrig (baroque), and Arthur Greene (piano). Currently she serves as Assistant Violin Professor at the Ohio University School of Music in Athens, Ohio.

ANCHORAGE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PRESENTS

Season Finale

*A Fantastique Closing
to Our 76th Season*

Saturday, April 9th - 7:30pm

PROGRAM

BOULANGER D'un matin de printemps

RAVEL Piano Concerto in G Major

BERLIOZ Symphonie Fantastique

featuring Michael Brown, piano

More
Information at
AnchorageSymphony.org



The Anchorage Symphony Orchestra is funded, in part, by the Atwood Foundation, Richard L. and Diane M. Block Foundation, Rasmuson Foundation, The Carr Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, Alaska State Council on the Arts, Municipality of Anchorage, and through the generosity of many individuals and corporate community leaders.



BRUCE WOOD, PH.D., BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Bruce Wood was appointed Music Director of the 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 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 Teachers' 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.



ANCHORAGE YOUTH SYMPHONY

VIOLIN 1

Luis Muñoz, *concertmaster*
E Chythlook, *concertmaster*
Matthew Nagel
Hannah Kim
Dylan Beals
Elias Soule
Jake Morris*
Penelope Hobbie
John Armstrong

VIOLIN 2

Kestrel Wigglesworth, *prin.*
Rania White
Sarah Kim
Andy Zhang
Ingrid Berryhill
Maia Brown
Bradley Beals
Gabriel Clingsmith
Anna Elstad
Audrey Schirard

VIOLA

Emilie Bieshelt, *prin.*
Alana Lim
Tatiana Watkins-Snow
Keola Tabisola*
Amira Ball
Rowan Brune
Christian Johnson**

CELLO

Bentley Altman, *prin.*
Josiah Verbrugge
Grant Chythlook
Benjamin Liu
Hannah Goldman
Ruben Rhodes
Sebastien Miller
Mateo Jaime*
Faith Felton
Daniel Cabrera**
Samuel Spanos

DOUBLE BASS

Cassandra LeBlanc, *prin.*
Lily Gallipeco
Anna Lea Hyer
Violet Bowie
Natalie Custer

FLUTE

Lara Millette*, *prin.*
Hanna Gerboth

OBOE

Mark Boedefeld, *prin.*
Charlotte Fontana
Morgan Wilhelm**

CLARINET

Ali Strand, *prin.*
Amelia Muhlbauer
Maximilian Erickson

BASSOON

Xavier Libbrecht, *prin.*
Joshua Saylor
Kaitlyn Paculba

HORN

John Wellman, *prin.*
Evan Hagen**

TRUMPET

Owen Branch, *prin.*
Jackson Altman
Iain Cook

TROMBONE

Ruben Lopez, *prin.*
Terrence McKnight*
Bill Klemm**

TUBA

Liberty Wargi-Morris*

PERCUSSION

Ethan Zawodny, *prin.*
Corliss Kimmell**

HARP

Jade Gardner**

ON LEAVE

Sahid Talome Dawees, violin
Miles Brooks, cello
Irae Jung, violin
Isaac Ward, cello

*University of Alaska Anchorage Sinfonia Students

**AYO Musician Mentor, Volunteer, or Coach

PROGRAM

1ST HALF

Bizet

L'arlesienne Suite: Pastorale

Conducted by: Evan Hagen, conducting intern

Bruch

Violin Concerto No. 1 in G minor for Violin, Opus 26

Soloist: Christine Harada Li

INTERMISSION - 15 MINUTES

2ND HALF

Elgar

Enigma Variations No. XI (Nimrod)

Sibelius

Finlandia



ALASKA YOUTH ORCHESTRAS

with major funding by

The Richard L and Diane M Block Foundation

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ANCHORAGE YOUTH SYMPHONY

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E Chythlook - Charles and Marjorie Brown

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John Wellman - Kathleen Wellmann

Trombone Chair - Bill and Elizabeth Klemm

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Tatiana Watkins-Snow - Cyclopedia Gumennik

Bentley Altman - Sandwich Deck

Jake Altman - Sandwich Deck

Ingrid Berryhill - Helle and Bruce Berryhill

Third Chair Viola - Willard Lacy

Clarinet Chair - James L and Jan Y Cawvey

Percussion - Jacquie Braden and Eiden Pospisil

OFF-BEAT PERCUSSION FUND

Established in 2021 by AYS Percussion Alums Jacquie Braden ('09) and Eiden Pospisil ('12), the fund will support our percussionists through tuition scholarships, equipment purchases, and private lesson assistance.



DONATE TO THE FUND HERE

Anchorage Festival of Music Announces the **TED STEVENS YOUNG ALASKAN ARTIST AWARD**

This prestigious award recognizes young Alaskan classical musicians entering the professional field. The competition is open to any Alaskan who is at least a college freshman pursuing a degree or program in music at an accredited institution. Recent graduates are also eligible. The winner is presented in a recital in Anchorage and receives a cash award.

The annual competition opens in January and closes in late May. Application, qualifications, and more information available at:
www.anchoragefestivalofmusic.org

ANCHORAGE
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L'arlesienne Suite: Pastorale

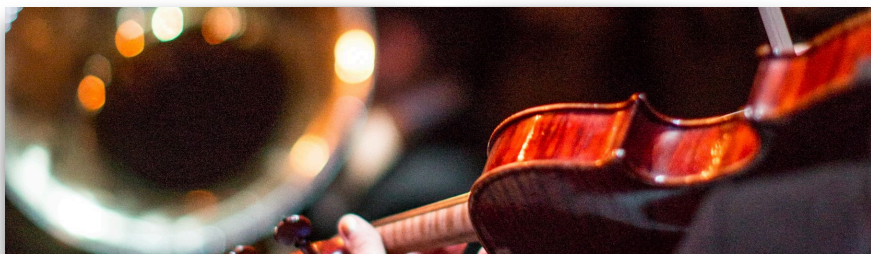
Georges Bizet. (1838-1875)

Georges Bizet wrote this luscious work (1872) as incidental music for Alphonse Daudet's play *The Woman from Arles*. Bizet extracted a suite of music from the play and arranged it for orchestra. Sadly, at the world premiere of the play (and music), the audience was loud and rude, and the incidental music went largely unheard. Only after Bizet's early death at the age of thirty-six, did this work gain recognition. The *Pastorale* movement (opening of the suite) features unison strings, and playful woodwinds.

Violin Concerto No. 1 in G minor for Violin, Opus 26

Max Bruch (1838-1920)

The great nineteenth century violinist Joseph Joachim said that Bruch's violin concerto was "the most rich and seductive" in the repertoire. Composed over nine years (1857-1866) and then reworked, it is a piece of great romanticism and virtuosity. AYO performs this in its entirety today with our alumnus Christine Harada Li. The orchestra accompanies the soloist, to be sure, but this work is challenging, full, rich and symphonic for our young musicians.



Enigma Variations No. XI (Nimrod)

Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

Elgar was improvising on the piano in 1898 and his wife, Alice, asked what he was working on. “Nothing”, he replied, “but something might made of it.” Out of that evening and kernel of an idea, came the wonderful work, Enigma Variations. The variation AYS plays for you tonight is Nimrod (named for Elgar’s friend Jaeger), a brief work in time but of great dramatic power. Our process in learning this has been to play “superlegato,” super smooth, carrying the work from its pianissimo beginning to a broad fortissimo and back again in a moment’s notice.

Finlandia

Jean Sibelius (1865-1957)

Composed in 1899 for a political demonstration, Finlandia catapulted Sibelius to national and international fame. Its dark power and lovely middle theme have made it one of symphonic music’s most enduring works. We are pleased to showcase the entire orchestra in this glorious piece.

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- Albert Einstein

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Rosanna Lewis
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Tina DeLapp
Keri Clark
Kathleen Bailey
Jacquie Braden
Margaret Pugh
Willard Lacy
Rebecca See

LINN WEEDA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Linn Weeda Scholarship Fund supports tuition scholarships for Anchorage Youth Symphony musicians. In addition to helping those who have a financial need, the fund also supports our efforts to increase diversity, equity, and inclusion.

The Linn Weeda Scholarship Fund was established in honor of Linn Weeda's 31 years as AYO Music Director.



Donate to the Linn Weeda Scholarship Fund [HERE](#)



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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.

In 1981 the Anchorage Youth Symphony Association began operating separately from the Anchorage School District and was granted 501c(3) non-profit status. Shortly thereafter the organization took 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.

Following an intensive search process which included 26 applicants from the US and two foreign countries, the Alaska Youth Orchestras Board of Directors selected Maestro Bruce Wood, Ph.D., as the new Music Director. Since taking musical leadership Maestro Wood has expanded AYO's educational opportunities to the support our performance program, the Anchorage Youth Symphony ensemble. The new programs include Symphony School and Virtual Symphony; both of which provide private lessons and performance education and mentorship.

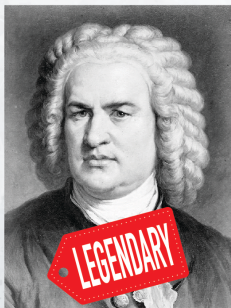
[View AYO's complete history with historic files HERE.](#)



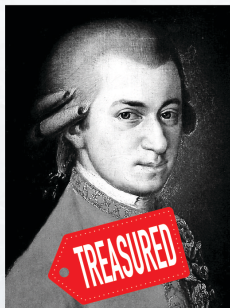


They Don't Make 'em Like This Any More

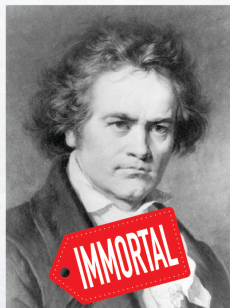
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Bach



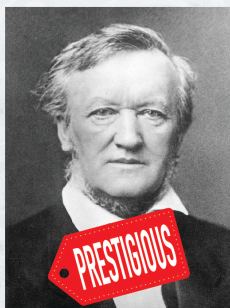
Mozart



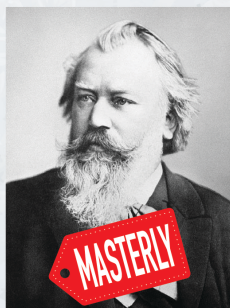
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Vivaldi



Wagner



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EMERGENCY

Fire Exits: There are numerous, convenient and clearly marked fire exits from all areas of the Center. Note the nearest exit as you take your seat. In case of emergency, the ushers will direct an orderly exit.

Emergency Calls: (during performances) 263-2965. Please leave the following information in order to be contacted in the facility: the event, theatre, seat number, and name.

First Aid: Contact the nearest usher.

Children: It is strongly recommended that children under 6 years of age not be brought to the theatre except for family events specifically described as such by the performing organization. In any event, all patrons, including children and babies, must have a ticket for admittance.

Latecomers will not be seated until an appropriate break in the performance, as determined by the presenting organization.

Cameras and Recording Equipment: The taking of photographs or the use of any audio or video recording device is strictly prohibited in the theatres unless permission is granted by the promoter.

Pagers, Alarm Watches, and Cellular Phones: Please silence your pagers, digital watch alarm and cellular telephones before the performance begins.

Smoking is permitted outside the building only. Smoking including use of an electronic smoking device is prohibited within 20 feet of each entrance per (AO 2006-86(S) and Alaska Statute 18.35.300 prohibits smoking in public indoor places.

Bottled water, purchased from the concessionaire or vending machines, is permitted in the theatres. Generally, **food and beverages are not allowed in the theatres unless otherwise advertised.**

Restrooms are located on the Street and Orchestra Levels in the Carr/Gottstein Lobby; in the Harrison Lobby, they are located on all levels. **Baby changing tables** are located in restrooms on Street level of the Lorene Harrison Lobby & Orchestra level of the Carr-Gottstein Lobby.

Coat Check is available on the street level of both the Lorene Harrison and Carr/Gottstein lobbies from October 1-May 1.

Accessible Services Program. The Alaska Center for the Performing Arts has an Accessible Services Program to better serve patrons who experience disabilities. It is our goal to provide a fully enjoyable experience to all patrons. Through these services, patrons with disabilities should have no hesitation in attending an event at the Alaska Center. Please call Accessible Services for best available accessible seating. For more information, contact Cindy Hamilton, Vice President, at 263-2902 (voice) or 263-2903 (TTY). A brochure about the program is available at the Center ticket office, the Center administrative office as well as from ushers.

Wheelchair Availability: Patrons may borrow a wheelchair, courtesy of the Carolyn Ramey Memorial Fund, for access to and within the theatres. Call Julie at 263-2902 or 263-2920.

Wheelchair Access is available in all theatres. Provisions are made for wheelchairs at the rear of each theatre and the front of the Atwood Concert Hall. Your advance notice to the Ticket Office is requested.

Assistance for hearing impaired. Head phones are available at the House Manager Station on Orchestra Level of the Lorene Harrison or Carr-Gottstein lobbies.

Parking is available in the Municipal Garage on 7th and G hourly parking is also available at 6th and H; the Penney's Garage on 6th and E Streets; the Fifth Avenue Mall Garage at 5th and C; State Garage on E Street & 7th, and on the street.

Personal Apparel: The Management is not responsible for personal apparel or other property of patrons. Patrons are advised to take wraps with them whenever they leave their seats. Lost and found items may be claimed at the Center office, 8am to 5pm.

TICKETING: CenterTix.com; CenterTix is Located in the Carr-Gottstein (South) Lobby of The Alaska Center for the Performing Arts (located across the street from Humpy's). Phone: (907) 263-ARTS (263-2787); 263-2717 (teletypewriter).

Ticketing Hours:

CenterTix at the Center:

Mon – Fri from 9am to 5pm

Saturday from 12pm to 5pm

Sunday – Closed

Call Center:

Mon-Fri from 9am to 5pm

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Sunday – Closed

Events: Box office is open 90 minutes prior to curtain time for ticketed events in the Center and remains open through the first intermission (or 30 minutes after curtain time if there is no intermission). **Unable to use your ticket? Call 263-ARTS (2787)**

Productions at the Center employ members of I.A.T.S.E. Local 918.



ALASKA CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS MANAGEMENT

The Alaska Center for the Performing Arts Inc., a nonprofit organization, manages the facility under contract to the Municipality of Anchorage. Administrative offices are located in the Center at 621 West 6th Avenue. Inquiries about booking the theatres should be directed to Cindy Hamilton, Vice President and Event Operations Director, 263-2919.

USHERING IN THE ARTS

"Ushering in the Arts," a project of the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts, is also supported by ConocoPhillips, First National Bank Alaska, and the ushers themselves. For more information, call Melissa Weckhorst at 263-2920.

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