



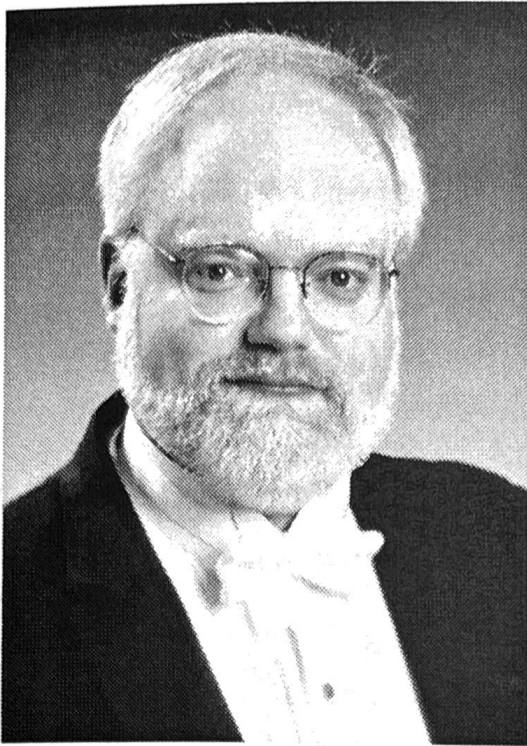
# Uptown & Uptempo

Anchorage Youth Symphony  
Anchorage Junior Youth Symphony  
Elementary Honor Orchestra

7PM, Tuesday, March 14, 2006

Discovery Theatre  
Alaska Center for the Performing Arts

*Supported in part by grants from the  
Alaska State Council on the Arts  
Municipality of Anchorage  
Alaska Arts and Culture Foundation*



**LINN WEEDA**  
Music Director and Conductor

## LINN WEEDA

Born and raised in Alaska, Linn Weeda received his Master's degree at Boston University, where he studied trumpet with Armando Ghitalla and Roger Voisin, won the concerto competition and was student of the year.

Further studies after his Master's were with Julio Tancredi in trumpet, Larry Scripp in solfege, Charles Bruck in conducting at the Pierre Monteux School for Advanced Conductors, and with Gunther Schuller in conducting at the Schweitzer Institute. He has also studied with the principal trumpeters of the Atlanta, London, Los Angeles, and Rotterdam orchestras.

Weeda's professional career has been quite varied. As a freelancer in Boston, he was a member of a variety of orchestras on the East Coast and has been heard nationally on National Public Radio performing on baroque trumpet with the Smithsonian Chamber Players. In addition, he has given recitals and performed concertos in a variety of venues in New England, Mississippi, and Alaska. He has performed as a soloist with the Arctic Chamber Orchestra on tour in Alaska and China, and with the Anchorage Festival of Music. Weeda has performed the Haydn Concerto with the Anchorage Symphony Orchestra, and has appeared with the Suwon Philharmonic in Korea, the University of Alaska Anchorage Wind Ensemble, and in New York recitals.

As a conductor Weeda led touring orchestras in a variety of locations in the United States, Australia, New Zealand and Germany. He has been music director of the Fairbanks Youth Symphony and founded the Tupelo Mississippi Community Orchestra. In New England, he conducted a variety of ensembles and was staff conductor of the Greater Boston Youth Symphony. He has guest conducted a variety of orchestras, including the Fairbanks and Anchorage Symphonies. He has worked with the Anchorage Festival of Music, most recently as conductor of a concert of baroque music.

His work as conductor in the theater includes performances of the Lloyd-Webber musicals "Jesus Christ Superstar" and "Evita." He has regularly conducted the Anchorage Symphony Orchestra in the annual Halloween concert and in Young People's Concerts.

Currently Weeda is Assistant Music Director and Principal Trumpet of the Anchorage Symphony, Principal Trumpet of the Anchorage Opera and the Anchorage Festival of Music.

In addition to his many credits as a performer, Weeda has taught a variety of music subjects in various settings ranging from marching band in public schools to university courses. He has taught at King's Lake Music Camp, University of Alaska Fairbanks Summer Fine Arts Camp, and the Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival. Currently he teaches classes in ear training, solfege, music history, music appreciation, and trumpet at the University of Alaska Anchorage.

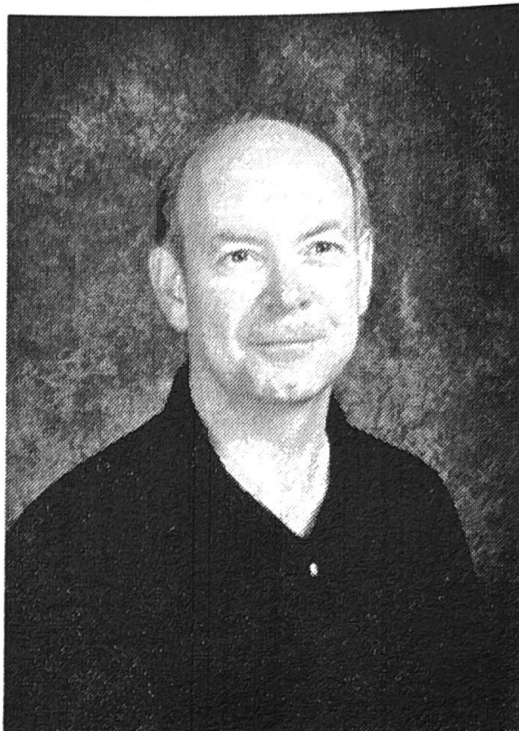
He makes his home in Anchorage with his wife, Mary, who is a violinist and educator.

## GUEST CONDUCTORS

## DAVID &amp; MARYALICE DONALDSON

David and MaryAlice Donaldson have devoted their careers to teaching music in the Anchorage School District and performing in the Anchorage music community for over two decades.

David is a 1973 graduate of the University of Michigan with a Bachelor of Music in Music Education. His principal horn teacher was Louis Stout. He spent four summers at Interlochen during high school and college. David has studied conducting with Elizabeth Green and Robert Reynolds. David has taught instrumental music for the ASD since 1978. David and Mary Alice worked with the Anchorage Junior Youth Symphony from 1982 to 1985. David has been a middle school band teacher since 1988, and is presently teaching band at Goldenview Middle School. He was honored as a BP Teacher of Excellence in 2004. He is a member of the Anchorage Symphony Orchestra, The Anchorage Horn Club and performs regularly with other community ensembles. David has taught brass methods and horn as UAA. He is an avid woodworker with projects ranging from creating miniature violins to building his home. David also enjoys fishing, biking, and hiking. Summers find him conducting the Concert Band and teaching horn and theory at the New England Music Camp in Sidney, Maine.



DAVID DONALDSON

MaryAlice graduated from Oberlin Conservatory of Music in 1975 with a Bachelor of Music degree in cello performance where she studied with Richard Kapuscinsky. A winter term orchestra project at a mission school in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, sparked her passion in teaching. She received a Masters degree in Music Education from Miami University in 1977. MaryAlice taught strings in Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania prior to her marriage with David and their move to Alaska in 1981. MaryAlice taught elementary strings in the Anchorage School District from 1981-88, and from 1992-2004 was the classroom music teacher at Sand Lake School. She taught cello and coached chamber music at the New England Music Camp from 1992-95. MaryAlice is the orchestra teacher at Goldenview Middle School and O'Malley Elementary School. She was chosen as a Fulbright Memorial Fund Fellow, participating in a study tour to Japan in 1998. Her commitment to teaching has been recognized through the 1999 BP Teacher of Excellence and Alaska Music Teacher of the Year awards. She loves to quilt, folkdance, and work with special needs students.



MARYALICE DONALDSON

The Donaldson's are the proud parents of Loy, and Annie, both students at UAA.

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first time he  
knew what key  
he was in!

Wow!



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PROGRAM

# Uptown & Uptempo

## ELEMENTARY HONOR ORCHESTRA

Gabrielle Willis, Conductor

Fanfare for Strings ..... Doris Gazda

Celebration ..... Art Sheinberg

Nightrider ..... Richard Meyer

Smoke Signals ..... Merle J. Isaac

Sailor Song ..... arr Robert Tornfelt and Mary Hopson

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INTERMISSION

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## ANCHORAGE JUNIOR YOUTH SYMPHONY

David Donaldson, conductor

Sleigh Ride ..... W. A. Mozart, arr Dackow

Symphony No. 2 Finale,  
*The Little Russian* ..... Peter I. Tchaikovsky, arr Isaac

Hatikva – The Hope ..... arr Elliot Del Borgo

What's Up at the Symphony? ..... arr Jerry Brubaker

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INTERMISSION

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## ANCHORAGE YOUTH SYMPHONY

Linn Weeda, conductor

Overture from *Candide* ..... Leonard Bernstein

Symphony No. 2, Finale ..... Alexander Borodin  
*Allegro*

Prelude No. 7 from *the*  
*Well Tempered Clavier* ..... J. S. Bach, arr L. Weeda

Harry Potter Symphonic Suite ..... John Williams

## VIOLIN I

Elizabeth Dickenson,  
*Co-Concertmaster*

Whitney Yang,  
*Co-Concertmaster*

Jae Kim,  
*Co-Ass't Concertmaster*

Christopher Scherer,  
*Co-Ass't Concertmaster*

Matt Crimp

Matt Smith

Emily Yen

Emily Cao

James Crimp

Alice Wong

Nate Berry

Kalia Yeagle

Isaac Park

Chris Chong

Gena Beam

Annie Livingston

Daniel Smith

Stephanie Jayich

## VIOLIN II

Amy Bradford

Daniel Lee

Hyunseung Kang

Caitlin Patterson

Ryan Jarvis

Anastasia Ward

Elizabeth Conway

Jessica Wetherell

Hyunkyung Kang

J. C. McKim

Minho Hyun

Anna Lovering

Tim Voves

Dylan Baker

Robert Suenram

Teddie Yune

Jamie Waldock

## VIOLA

Brita Johnson,  
*Principal*

Matthew Park

Chungsol Lee

Koree Guzman

Anson Moxness

Molly Larsen

Alexander Matson

Lauren Bachman

Jesse Chang

Chia-yu Chiang

Sarah Day

Robert Taylor

## ANCHORAGE YOUTH SYMPHONY

## CELLO

Elizabeth Knapp,  
*Principal*

Joy Kil

Jamnah Morton

Krystal Pickering

Luke Park

Jari Piper

Jonathan Genziano

Kamueku Kakizaki

Jasmine Saxby

Justin Birchell

Aristotle Baskous

## STRING BASS

Janie Cowan,  
*Principal*

Paul Senner

Heidi Herbert-Lovern

Haley Ford

Sam Guzauskas

Dylan Kutzer

Marty Kenney

## FLUTE

Sarah Gollub,  
*Principal*

Grant Hiekel

Jasmine Brown,

*also piccolo*

Sarah Gerd,

*also piccolo*

## OBOE

Margo Archey,  
*Principal,*  
*also English horn*

Meredith Woodard

Elsa Dieckgraeff

Eli Schoenberg

## CLARINET

Karl Beheim,  
*Principal,*  
*also Eb clarinet*

Chi-Hyun Kim

Alicia Budahl

Elyse Shellenbaum

Erin McDuffie

## BASSOON

Laura Brudzinski,  
*Principal*

Catherine Johnston,  
*also contrabassoon*

Kevin Shriver

Quinn Langdon

John Patras

## HORN

Katie Munter,  
*Principal*

Christina Knapp

Ben Martinson

Melissa Lee

Meghan Bill

## TRUMPET

Mitchell Martineau,  
*Principal*

Katie Walther

Kelsey Ulrich

Adam Fredericksen

## TROMBONE

\* Ryan Murphy,  
*Principal*  
Alexander Edwards

## BASS TROMBONE

Aric Kleppin

## TUBA

Constance Golding,  
*Principal*

Elizabeth Krauszer

## PERCUSSION

Marshall Carter,  
*Principal*

Mary Krauszer

## HARP

Aubrey Kraft,  
*Principal*

\* Substitution Jennifer McCoy, Trombone

**ANCHORAGE JUNIOR YOUTH SYMPHONY**

**VIOLIN 1**

Bryce O'Tierney – GV  
 Alec Lindsay – R  
 Geurim Kim – R  
 Katerina Clink – R  
 Audrey Wong – GV  
 Amber Mattfield – NL  
 Krista Lundberg – GR  
 Da Na Oh – GV  
 Mi Yung Oh – NL  
 Genevieve Kershaw – ML  
 Laura Friar – GV  
 James Croft – C  
 Jecoliah Williams – R  
 Alicia Dair – W  
 Nikki Navio – P  
 Kate Backstrum – GV  
 William Parry – GV

**VIOLIN 2**

Erica Conway – GV  
 Dabin Lee – H  
 Carlo Balmes – MR  
 Annie Kil – H  
 Young Kim – H  
 Elizabeth Bird – R  
 Katherine Bajsarowkz-  
 Borg – GV  
 Emma Fisher – R  
 Caitlin Porter – ML  
 Christopher Kim – H  
 Alexander Walsh – W  
 Kelsey Smith – MR  
 Joanne Sakar – W  
 Samantha Keech – GV  
 Andrew Mealor – GV  
 Rosalie Gunawan – MR  
 Tyler Johnson – GV  
 Matthew Markiewicz – R  
 Tiana Rutherford – NL  
 Amy Gordon – W  
 Stacy Tanner – W

**VIOLA**

Nathaniel Knapp – C  
 Rachael Echols – W  
 Jon DermanHarris – R  
 Kivalina Grove – P  
 Gregory Spellman – GR  
 Yae Ji Keum – R  
 Elaine Parmelee – C  
 Anum Qadir – GV  
 Lindsey Dudley – MR  
 Sharifa Charles – GR  
 Andrew French – MR

**CELLO**

Kayla Eicholz – C  
 Anthony Masterson – GV  
 Austin Yi – GV  
 Dave Guzauskas – C  
 Ashley Herbert-Lovern  
 Tanner Smith – C  
 Salome Tomalino – H  
 Madeleine Amodio – R  
 Mack Homberg – GR  
 Jacquie Braden – R  
 Aryanna Peterson – GR  
 Daniel Harder – MR  
 Stacey Hanson – GV  
 Megan Harty – W

**STRING BASS**

Kevin Fitzpatrick – GR  
 Alison Walton – C  
 Allyssa Eagleton – W  
 Lydia Doza – R

**FLUTE**

Sarah Im – H  
 Herin Choi – MR  
 Jennifer Vaughn – GV  
 Min Ji Kwon - H

**OBOE**

Justine Myers – S  
 Elika Roohi – MR  
 Brandon Stewart – H  
 Paul Gabrys - ML

**BASSOON**

Scott Munter – GV

**CLARINET 1**

Yixing Shi – GV  
 Andreas Hermanski – C  
 Brian Gerd – GV

**CLARINET 2**

Steven Exelby – C  
 Hailey Hosken – GV  
 Serin Choi – MR

**TRUMPET 1**

Korey Kinney – MR  
 Chris Wood – ML  
 Matt Rindlisbacher – GV

**TRUMPET 2**

Megan Letts – GV  
 Jonathan Kaplan – GR  
 Mark Jennings – C  
 Axel Knudsen - CL

**HORN**

Christopher Dennis – ML  
 Lily Hunter – GR  
 Erin Laichak – MR  
 Sam Dougherty – GV

**TUBA**

Trenton Schneiders – ML

**PERCUSSION**

Noah Hagen – MR  
 Heather Holland – GV  
 Frazer Tee – H  
 Ethan Valiquette – GV

**SCHOOL KEY:**

C Central  
 CL Clark  
 GR Gruening  
 GV Golden View  
 H Hanshew  
 MR Mears  
 ML Mirror Lake  
 NL Northern Lights ABC  
 P Polaris  
 R Romig  
 S Stellar  
 W Wendler

*The AJYS expresses its thanks to Jean Lenoir, David Hagen, Mike Martinson, and Cheryl Schwing for their support and assistance. We also greatly appreciate the gifts to our music budget from the Gunnar Knapp family and Linn and Mary Weeda.*

*Special thanks to the ASD middle school band and orchestra teachers for giving us this opportunity to work with their students: Bernadette Boring, Richard Zelinsky, Allison McCarrey, Robert Arms, Ed Singer, Mary Weeda, Robert Tornfelt, Karen Tornfelt, Lisa Pranter, Robby Dennis, Travis Harrington, Brendan Wilson, John Cleveland, Vance Zuelsdorf and Don Cosgrove.*

GUEST CONDUCTOR

GABRIELLE WILLIS

A lifelong Anchorage resident, violinist Gabrielle Willis is an alumna of the Elementary Honor Orchestra, Anchorage Junior Youth Symphony, and Anchorage Youth Symphony. She graduated from the University of Northern Colorado in 2001 with a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education. Currently, Gabrielle serves as Director of Orchestras at Bartlett and West High Schools. Additionally, she conducts the Hiland Mountain Correctional Center Orchestra, a group comprised entirely of female prison inmates. Aside from conducting, Gabrielle enjoys performing violin with her Klezmer band, Ahava Raba.



GABRIELLE WILLIS

**ELEMENTARY HONOR ORCHESTRA**

**VIOLIN**

- Sage An – TR
- Kaleigh Bastien – OR
- Eiko Benefield – IV
- Jamie Brakora – SP
- \*Meghan Caves – CH
- Josiah Dailey – IV
- Becky Farleigh – IV
- Erica Feldmann – ER
- Sarah Frankl – RP
- Karlie Gedig – AU
- Evdokya Hail – RA
- Erika Heaphey – GH
- Sylas Highfield – OV
- Haley Huffstutler – UM
- Amy Lee – NL
- Amanda Lindemuth – CH
- Zachary Momberger – BA
- Leif Monnett – RP
- Katie Neimeyer – GH
- Samantha Reynolds – SU
- Shira Rose-Levy – GH
- Taylor Ross - TA
- Audrey Oswald – SP
- Nicolas Seifert – HU
- Jin Seog – GW
- \*Ellie Simpson – KI
- Amy Smales – BX
- Corey Tindall – OV
- Zachary-Joel Traylor – CG
- Rosemary Vinoya – NO
- Kirsten Williams – RP
- Jamie Winter – RP
- Debora Yoon – AL

**VIOLA**

- Katherine Benesch – BV
- Brandon Bilkey – WP
- \*Jack Conger – RP
- Jacob Fox – OV
- Brittney Stevens  
Lenaham – SH
- Matthew Marinos – RP
- Elise Mitchell – CG
- Autumn Taylor – WP

**CELLO**

- Nicholas Brinkley – NV
- Daquon Brunson – CV
- Drew Green – BV
- Mary Hunt – GH
- \*Brett Lindsay – RP
- Christina Mancini – BA
- Ella Kit Vandergaw Scott – SL
- Maggie Thompson-  
Johnston – RP
- Evan Wiger – CH
- Alexandria Wood – TU
- Chanelle Zamora – TU

**STRING BASS**

- Keenan Brownsberger – SU
- \*Celia Haering – CH
- Kelsey Horner - RP

**SCHOOL KEY:**

- AL Abbott Loop
- AU Aurora
- BA Bayshore
- BV Bear Valley
- BX Baxter
- CG College Gate
- CH Chugach
- CV Chester Valley
- ER Eagle River
- GH Government Hill
- GW Gladys Wood
- HU Huffman
- IV Inlet View
- KI Kincaid
- NL Northern Lights ABC
- NO Northwood
- NV Nunaka Valley
- OR Orion
- OV Oceanview
- RA Ravenwood
- RP Rogers Park
- SH Spring Hill
- SL Sand Lake
- SP Scenic Park
- SU Susitna
- TATaku
- TR Trailside
- TU Tumagain
- UM Ursa Major
- WP Wonder Park
- \* Principal



LAURA BRUDZINSKI

Laura Brudzinski is a senior bassoon player attending Chugiak High School. She has been a member of AYS for 4 years where she is section principal, a position she has held for three years. As a freshman she was awarded 1<sup>st</sup> chair in All-State Band. She has been a member of All-State for three years. This year she was appointed first chair in All-State, but had a conflict with a 'Nutcracker' rehearsal and was disqualified in All-State. She performed in 'Nutcracker' instead. She has participated in Solo and Ensemble competition for five years, and twice has gone to state Solo and Ensemble competition where she received a superior rating last year. She has been a member of Chugiak High School's Symphonic Winds and full orchestra for four years. Last October she performed as soloist with the Symphonic Winds in 'Old Sorehead.' She says youth symphony has definitely been her most valuable musical experience. She has received a couple awards for public forum debate. She is an active member of Chugiak's Gay-Straight Alliance. She enjoys sitting around coffee shops sipping raspberry mochas with friends and reading a good book. College plans include the University of Northern Colorado where she plans a double major in German and music performance.

Laura Brudzinski is a senior bassoon player attending Chugiak High School. She has been a member of AYS for 4 years where she is section principal, a position she has held for three years. As a freshman she was awarded 1<sup>st</sup> chair in All-State Band. She has been a member of All-State for three years. This year she was appointed first chair in All-State, but had a conflict with a 'Nutcracker' rehearsal and was disqualified in All-State. She performed in 'Nutcracker' instead. She has participated in Solo and Ensemble competition for five years, and twice has gone to state Solo and Ensemble competition where she received a superior rating last year. She has been a member of Chugiak High School's

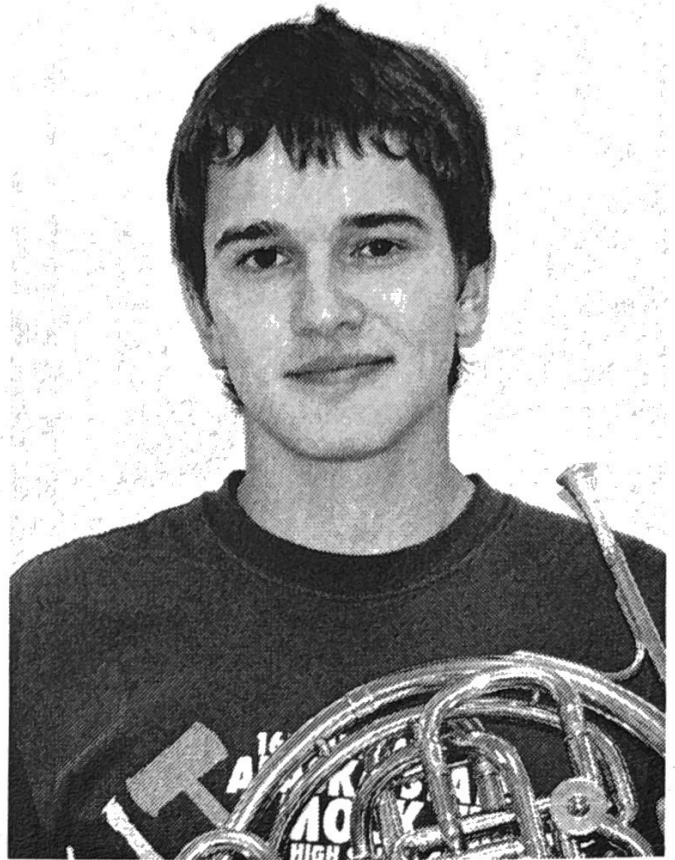


BRITA JOHNSON

Brita Johnson is a senior at Service High School. She is a four year member of AYS's viola section where she is principal. She has been a member of All-Sate Orchestra for four years. She has also participated in state Solo and Ensemble for three years, and also participates in the Anchorage Symphony Orchestra, Anchorage Opera, and teaches lessons. She is a founding member of the Tasteful Cheesecake Quartet, and has received a Service High School Orchestra letter award for four years. She is presently the Service High School Orchestra president. She has made the honor roll a few times. She is a teacher aide at Alaska String Camps and participates in Service High drama. She enjoys acting on whims and wearing scarves and hiking. Future plans include carrying on the important work of Carmen San Diego.

## SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Ben Martinson is a senior at Chugiak High School. For three years he has played horn in the Anchorage Youth Symphony. In 2006 he was winner of the MENC (National Association for Music Education) national composition Youth Talent Search with his work 'Agnus Dei.' He was awarded Command Performance two years in a row at the state Solo and Ensemble competition in voice. He played Horn 1 in the All-Northwest Band in 2005. He is currently salutatorian of his class and webmaster of several websites including [beginband.com](http://beginband.com), [todayscomposers.com](http://todayscomposers.com) and [alaskachambersingers.org](http://alaskachambersingers.org). He sings in the Alaska Chamber Singers, and is a member of Chugiak High School's Mock Trial and cross-country running teams. In the future he would like to study counter-tenor performance and music composition in college.



BEN MARTINSON

Catherine Johnston is a senior at South Anchorage High School and a three-year member of the AYS bassoon section. She was principal bassoon at All-State in 2005, her third year of All-State participation, and performed in the state Solo and Ensemble competition in 2004 and 2005. She received a superior rating in 2004. She has been gymnastics captain for 2 years, and she is a National Merit Commended Scholar, and an AP (Advanced Placement) scholar. She likes gymnastics and running the media at church. She plans in the future to study biochemistry or biomedical engineering.



CATHERINE JOHNSTON

## SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



MARGO ARCHEY

Margo Archey is a senior at East High School and a three-year member of Anchorage Youth Symphony where she is principal oboe. She served on the AYS board her junior year as student representative. She also plays English horn. She has received three letter awards in East High Symphonic Band and has played first chair for three years. She played in All-State Band the last two years where she was in fourth chair as a junior and second chair as a senior. She has performed at the Solo and Ensemble Festival for three years competing at the regional level her sophomore year and at the state level her most recent year where she received a superior rating. She has been a member of the National Honor Society for three years, an Honor Marshall her junior year, on the honor roll for four years, and has received academic letters for a 4.0 GPA for five semesters, and maintaining a 3.5 or higher GPA for three years in high school. In sports she received varsity letters her sophomore and junior years in cross-country skiing and her senior year in cross-country running. Besides cross-country running and skiing she enjoys mountain biking and traveling. She has been to both France and Mexico. College is in her future.

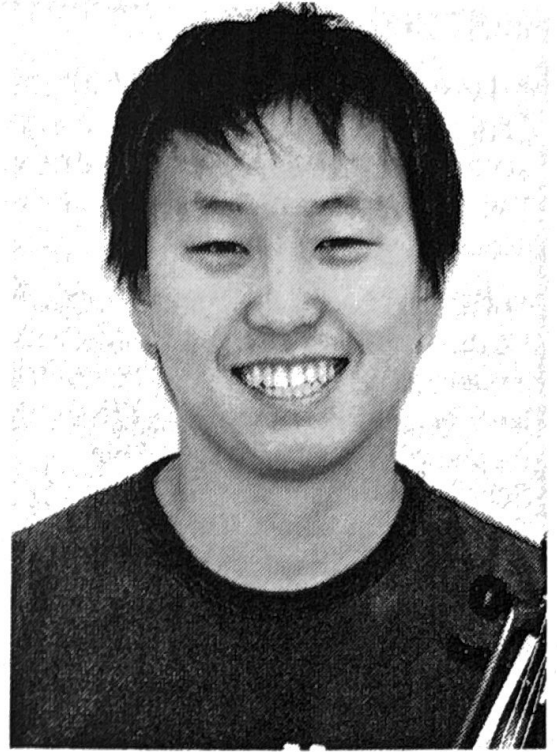


JANIE COWAN

Janie Cowan is a senior at Service High School and a four-year string bass player, now serving as section principal in Anchorage Youth Symphony. She recently returned from a whirlwind tour of the finest music schools in the nation, which cemented her name in the annals of legendary bass players for all posterity. She enjoys salsa dancing and occupies her time developing new flavors of breakfast cereal. The result is that she rarely sleeps. Her future plans include learning to play viola.

## SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Hyunseung Kang is a senior at Dimond High School and a four-year member of the second violin section in Anchorage Youth Symphony. He has been a member of the Dimond swim team for four years, lettering each year. As a senior he was captain of the team. He is a member of Mu Alpha Theta (mathematics honor society), National Honor Society, and DDF (Drama, Debate, and Forensics). He loves to sleep, and sleep, and sleep, and has plans to do lots of that when he goes to college.



HYUNSEUNG KANG

Sarah Gollub is a senior at East High School and a three-year member of Anchorage Youth Symphony where she is principal of the flute section. As a freshman she was a member of the All-Northwest Honor Band and received superior ratings in Solo and Ensemble competition. She is an honor student, and captain of the cross-country team. She enjoys running, kayaking, and camping, and has college plans in her future.



SARAH GOLLUB

Elizabeth Knapp is a senior at East High School and a four-year member of the Anchorage Youth Symphony cello section where she is principal this year. She has been a member of All-State Orchestra for three years and also participated in state Solo and Ensemble competition for three years. She is a member of the East High string quartet, and holds first chair in the East High Orchestra. She is president of the East High Science Club. She likes to hang out with her friends, play ultimate Frisbee, make movies, have water fights and snowball fights and cross-country ski. She has college plans with the ultimate goal of becoming a music teacher.



ELIZABETH KNAPP

## HISTORY

In the early 1960's many individuals recognized the need for an orchestra for the youth of Anchorage. Forerunners of what became known as the Anchorage Youth Symphony were organized and conducted by such prominent local musicians and educators as Kurt Pasch, Jeanne (Ray) Bruhn, Charles Gorsuch and Marlow Thomas. Young musicians of that period were trained in the Anchorage schools and gave many concerts throughout the city.

In 1965 the Anchorage School District hired Frank Pinkerton as its director of music. In that position he formally organized the Anchorage Youth Symphony. As its music director, Mr. Pinkerton oversaw the expansion of opportunities to perform throughout the state, and the youth symphony's reputation grew steadily. The Elementary Honor Orchestra and Band and the Junior High Honor Orchestra were added to the district's program. The elementary and junior high orchestras and bands are still funded by the Anchorage School District, whereas the Anchorage Youth Symphony is now an independent, non profit organization. Mr. Pinkerton retired in 1978.

Dewey Ehling replaced Frank Pinkerton as music director of both the Anchorage School District and the youth symphony. For the next eight years until his retirement in 1986, he expanded the touring schedule, traveling and performing in Canada, Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand. Domestically, the orchestra performed in Washington state, California and Washington D.C.

In 1986 and 1987 Linn Weeda led the orchestra. Weeda was a graduate of the Youth Symphony in its early years. Under his leadership the orchestra toured and performed in New York City at Lincoln Center.

In 1988 John Duff of Fairbanks led the orchestra. During his tenure the orchestra toured Scotland. In 1991 Russell Guyver, a professor of music at University of Alaska Anchorage, succeeded Duff. Guyver instituted a series of retreats, to encourage the social interaction of members, as well as concerts in the Matanuska-Susitna Valley.

Linn Weeda was again engaged as the music director in 1992, and continues in that position. In recent years the orchestra's program has expanded to include coaching by local professional musicians, many of whom were in the youth symphony as young players. Other activities under Weeda have included an annual recording project, a chamber music series, an alumni association, and scholarships.

Members of the orchestra are chosen each year during auditions in the spring, and are drawn from every public and private school in the area as well as from the Matanuska-Susitna valley. In previous years, students flew in from Kodiak and Kenai to rehearse and perform with the youth symphony.

The symphony is sponsored by the Anchorage Youth Symphony Association and governed by the Anchorage Youth Symphony Board of Directors.

Without great music, education is not complete. Music education has long been an educational priority of the Anchorage School District with classes in orchestra, band and chorus offered at the elementary, junior and senior high levels. The youth symphony encourages and supports the music program within the schools in the belief that great music played well instills in young people discipline and the joy of great musical ideas.

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