

Take Note

national youth
orchestra of canada



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A Message from the Executive Director

Springtime for the NYOC is always abuzz with activity and anticipation: along with the warmer weather and budding flowers come the announcement of our orchestra and the bustle of preparation for the upcoming training session and tour. In that light, I am happy to be presenting the Spring 2011 edition of *Take Note*, which is filled with details about our upcoming 2011 season.

Inside, you will find information about our six winners of the \$4,000 Awards of Excellence, as well as all sorts of updates on recent alumni appointments and accomplishments, scholarships, and other bits of NYOC news. You will also find information about our expanded Chamber Music program, our more comprehensive injury prevention module, and our new faculty members.

We are also delighted to be adding Maestro Jonathan Darlington, who will be arriving fresh from the Duisburg Philharmonic Orchestra and the Dresden Semperoper, to our roster of internationally-renowned conductors. Known for his sensitivity for depth and balance and his infectious dynamism, our students have, without a doubt, a summer of fabulous music-making ahead of them.

As you can see, we're very excited about our 51st season, which is shaping up to be one of our best ever. We have even more in store for the years to come: stay tuned for a big announcement in July!

Barbara Smith
Executive Director

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2011 Training Session

Composer-in-Residence

Thanks to the generous funding of RBC Foundation, we are pleased to welcome our first ever Composer-in-Residence, **Nicholas Gilbert**. The young Canadian composer will reside with the NYOC for a week and work with the faculty and the orchestra. Gilbert will also collaborate with chamber ensembles in various combinations and scale, and will work on the creation of a new orchestral work commissioned by the NYOC to be performed next year.

Born in 1979, Gilbert studied composition and analysis at the Conservatoire de musique de Montréal and at McGill University. His chamber, vocal and orchestral works have been performed in major cities around the world, and he is the recipient of numerous grants and awards including the 2008 “Composer of the Year” Opus Prize awarded by the Quebec Music Council and the Opus Prize for Best Premiere of the Year in both 2007 and 2008.

Gilbert has been resident composer at the Chapelle historique du Bon-Pasteur in Montreal, president of the Codes d'accès concert society, and was in residence at GRAME (Lyon), working on a new piece for cello and electronics. He is currently a member of the artistic board of the Société de Musique Contemporaine du Québec and Chair of the Quebec regional board of the Canadian Music Centre.



Nicholas Gilbert, NYOC Composer-in-Residence

Injury Prevention

We have further expanded our training program to include a full injury prevention module, including movement coaching and workshops on musicians' health. The module will be led by **Dr. Christine Guptill**, a registered occupational therapist and post-doctoral



Dr. Christine Guptill

fellow at McMaster University, who has been presenting injury prevention workshops with NYOC since 2007. These workshops are unique to NYOC, and Dr. Guptill has applied for funding through the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR) to support ongoing evaluation of their effectiveness.

Dr. Guptill holds bachelor degrees in Biology and Music Performance (oboe) and a PhD in Rehabilitation Sciences from UWO, as well as a Masters degree in Occupational Therapy from Western Michigan University. She has published several peer-reviewed articles on the subject of musicians' health, and she has presented her findings at health professional, music educator, and research conferences worldwide. Dr. Guptill is a member of the Performing Arts Medicine Association (PAMA), and she was a presenter at the first regional PAMA meeting in Toronto this year.

We are also welcoming Audiologist and internationally acclaimed expert in musicians' hearing loss prevention, **Dr. Marshall Chasin**. He will be joined by **Dr. John Chong**, another renowned expert in the field of musicians' health. Both Dr. Chasin and Dr. Chong are directors of the Musicians' Clinic of Canada.

New Faculty

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new NYOC faculty members:

Chamber Program:

- True North Brass - *Faculty Chamber Ensemble-in-Residence*
- Leonie Wall – *Flute*
- Chip Hamann - *Oboe*
- James Campbell – *Clarinet*
- Gabriel Radford – *Horn*
- Aiyun Huang – *Percussion*

Orchestral Program:

- Alain Desgagné – *Clarinet*

Movement Coaches:

- Julia Aplin
- Brodie Stevenson

Summer Preview

2011 National Tour

London, ON
Alumni Hall
July 21
7:30 pm

Stratford, ON
Location TBC
July 24
7:30 pm

Stratford, ON
*A Serenade for
Maureen Forrester*
Avon Theatre
July 25
3:00 pm

Ottawa, ON
St. Brigid's Centre
for the Arts
July 27
8:00 pm

Mt. Tremblant, QC
St. Jovite Church
July 28
7:30 pm

New London, NH (USA)
Sawyer Fine Arts Center
July 30
7:30 pm

Wolfville, NS
Festival Theatre
August 2
7:30 pm

Montreal, QC
Notre Dame Basilica
August 5
7:30 pm

Brockville, ON
Brockville Arts Centre
August 7
7:00 pm

Kingston, ON
Grand Theatre
August 8
7:30 pm

Toronto, ON
Koerner Hall
August 9
8:00 pm



William LaChance

Please visit www.nyoc.org/2011tour for ticket information. Details will be posted as they become available.



CBC Still Photo Collection/Dale Barnes

A Serenade for Maureen Forrester

On July 25, the NYOC will have the honour to perform in a tribute concert commemorating the life and career of late contralto Maureen Forrester, presented by the Stratford Summer Music Festival.

The tribute will include live performances by a number of Canadian singers and musicians as well as seldom seen video excerpts of Ms. Forrester's many memorable moments on stage, radio and television. Among the acclaimed Canadian soloists will be mezzo-sopranos Kimberly Barber, Catherine Robbin, Krisztina Szabó, and Jean Stillwell, as well as soprano Mary Lou Fallis. The event will also include tributes from significant Canadian icons who knew and worked with Ms. Forrester: William Littler, music critic emeritus; Brian MacDonald, director and choreographer; Karen Kain, former Chair, Canada Council for the Arts and Artistic Director, National Ballet of Canada; and composer R. Murray Schafer.

Awards of Excellence

We are proud to introduce you to the six winners of the \$4,000 Awards of Excellence:

Sarah Gans

Sarah Gans, age 19, began playing the cello at the age of 8 in Toronto, ON. Since then, she has toured throughout Canada and Europe as a cellist for the National Youth Orchestra of Canada, the Toronto District Youth Orchestra and the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra. Aside from music, Sarah enjoys playing hockey, soccer, downhill skiing and biking. Sarah is currently studying with Matt Haimovitz while working towards obtaining her Bachelor of Music in Cello Performance at the McGill Schulich School of Music.

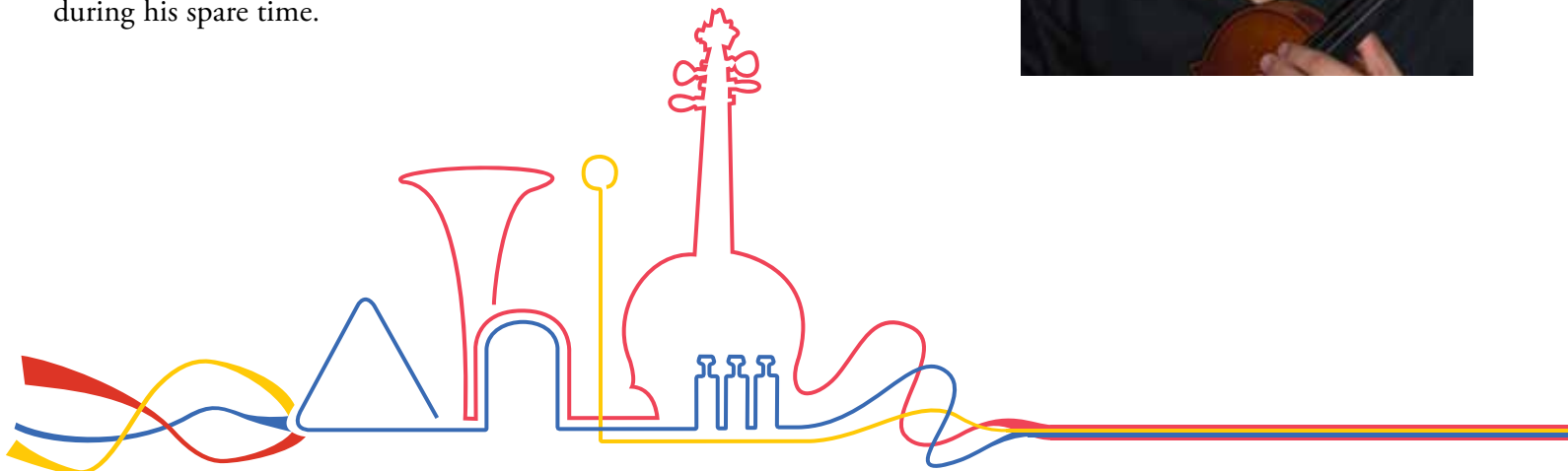


Darren Hicks

Darren Hicks is a third year student pursuing a BMus in bassoon performance at the University of Ottawa with Christopher Millard, principal bassoonist of NACO. Born in Winnipeg, but raised in small-town Nova Scotia, Darren is a latecomer to classical music, starting private lessons on bassoon at the age of 17. He hopes to one day hold a principal position in an orchestra and have a teaching studio at a university or conservatory. His interests outside of music include literature, physics, architecture, volleyball, and travelling the globe.

Byungchan (Chan) Lee

Byungchan (Chan) Lee, aged 16, started playing the violin at age 6. He currently studies with Prof. Taras Gabora. Chan has led the Vancouver Youth Symphony Orchestra for two seasons (including the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics Closing Ceremonies) and the 2010 NYOC. Solo performances include the Khachaturian and Vieuxtemps 5th violin concerti. Laureate winner of the 1st International Yuri Yankelevich Violin Competition in 2009, he has also participated in the Casalmaggiore International Summer Music Festival in Italy. He currently attends Port Moody Secondary as an IB Diploma student. Chan enjoys playing sports during his spare time.



Christopher Lee

Aged 24, Christopher Lee began his study of the clarinet with his father, Ken Lee, when he was 9 years old. He has won many major competitions throughout Korea and Canada, such as the Korean Clarinet Association, Burnaby Clef, Vancouver Academy of Music and the Korean Young Artist Competition. Christopher has played in many orchestras as a principal clarinetist, including the Vancouver Youth Symphony Orchestra, the Vancouver Academy of Music Orchestra, and the Urek Symphony Orchestra. He has performed with the Korean Clarinet Orchestra, the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, and the Pilgrim Orchestra. Christopher is also a talented and successful teacher, with students in Canada and the USA, some of whom have been accepted, with scholarships, to the Juilliard Pre-college, Mannes School of Music, and the Peabody School of Music. He is currently a director of “First Steps Benefit Concert,” which has raised about \$30,000 since 2009. He is working on his bachelor degree on scholarship at the Juilliard School, and he studies with Charles Neidich and Ayako Oshima.



Ian Roberts

A native of Halifax, Ian Roberts began playing bass at the age of 13, studying with Symphony Nova Scotia bassist Lena Turofsky. In 2003 Ian first worked with world renowned bassist Joel Quarrington at the Centre d'Arts Orford and went on to complete a Bachelor of Music with Mr. Quarrington at McGill University. Ian has played with many major Canadian orchestras, including the National Arts Centre Orchestra, Symphony Nova Scotia, l'Orchestre Symphonique de Gatineau, and the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, bringing him across Canada, China and Europe. Ian is currently living in Montreal, pursuing independent studies and is a strong advocate of the double bass tuned in fifths.

Julie Rochus

Hailing from Aylmer, ON, Julie Rochus, French horn, has performed across Canada and in the United States as a chamber and orchestral musician. Julie has performed with the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony, the Toronto Philharmonia, the National Academy Orchestra, the Royal Conservatory Orchestra, the Sneak Peek Orchestra, and is an alumnus of the National Youth Orchestra of Canada, 2008 and 2009. Julie graduated with an Artist Diploma from the Glenn Gould School and an Honours Bachelor of Music from Wilfrid Laurier University under teachers Christopher Gongos and Nina Brickman. Julie teaches, freelances, and reads in Toronto.



Scholarships

New Scholarship

The Women's Musical Club of Toronto (WMCT), through its Centennial Foundation, has committed to fund a new \$2,500 scholarship for the 2011 National Youth Orchestra of Canada that will be "awarded to an outstanding student at the NYOC in the summer of 2011."

The WMCT has established commitments to the University of Toronto Faculty of Music as well as the Glenn Gould School at the RCM, and the NYOC is thrilled to be a new partner with them for 2011. For over 113 years the WMCT and its Foundation have supported young musicians including Teresa Stratas, Robert Aiken, James Ehnes, and Russell Braun.

The NYOC would like to extend its sincerest gratitude to the Women's Musical Club of Toronto for its generous donation, and we hope to continue the relationship into the future. The scholarship will be awarded at the final concert of our 2011 tour, in Toronto on August 9.

Michael Measures Prize Winner

The first ever winner of the \$15,000 Canada Council Michael Measures Prize will be announced at our concert at the Notre-Dame Basilica in Montreal on Friday, August 5. The award was established thanks to a \$1 million bequest to the Canada Council from the late Michael Measures, a music enthusiast and long-time volunteer in the Ottawa arts community, who wished to assist promising young performers of classical music.

Awards and Scholarships Fund

We are delighted to be in our second year of awarding the \$1,000 Achievement Awards to each member of the NYOC. The Awards & Scholarships Fund is the base which allows us to provide both the \$1,000 scholarships for all students, as well as the six \$4,000 Awards of Excellence. If you would like to contribute to the future of our talented young musicians, please visit www.nyoc.org or contact us directly.



True North Brass

This year's Faculty Chamber Ensemble-in-Residence is the True North Brass made up of Scott Irvine, tuba; Raymond Tizzard, trumpet; Joan Watson, horn; Richard Sandals, trumpet and Alastair Kay, trombone.



True North Brass

Where are they now?

Alumni News

Youtube Symphony

This March, three NYOC alumni were chosen on Youtube to be members of the Youtube Symphony Orchestra 2011. **Allene Chomyn** (violin, 2003-2004), **Christine Carter** (bass clarinet, 2005 & 2007), and **Michelle Hwu** (percussion, 2008-2009), along with 98 other musicians from around the world, travelled to Sydney, Australia to participate in a week-long festival that culminated in a final concert at the Sydney Opera House, under the direction of world-renowned conductor Michael Tilson Thomas. Three other NYOC alumni, **Sunny Chan** (violin, 2010), **Erica Williamson** (violin, 2008), and **Evrin Can Dogan** (trombone, 2010), also made the list of finalists selected by an expert panel of judges from leading international orchestras.

To watch the Grand Finale Concert online, go to www.youtube.com/symphony.

Recent Appointments

Congratulations to the following NYOC alumni for their recent appointments:

Vincent Vohradsky (NYOC 1999, 2002) - 2nd Trumpet, Vancouver Symphony Orchestra

Andrew Dunsmore (NYOC 2003-2005) - Percussion, Orchestre symphonique de Montréal

Rory McLeod (NYOC 2006) - Acting Assistant Principal Viola, Symphony Nova Scotia

Rob Weymouth (NYOC 2008-2010) - 2nd Trumpet, National Ballet of Canada Orchestra



Rory McLeod
Viola, NYOC 2006



Rob Weymouth
Trumpet, NYOC 2008-10



YouTube Symphony Orchestra 2011 - Sydney, Australia



Andrew Dunsmore
Percussion, NYOC 2003-05



Michelle Hwu
Percussion, NYOC 2008-09

Send us your news!

Recent appointments, upcoming performances, other big accomplishments: we want to know all about it! If you have any big news to share, please let us know. Email details to Ginette at ghebert@nyoc.org.

NYOC News

Mad Hatter's Tea Party

On April 3rd, women in Toronto gathered in the Members' Lounge of the Verity Club to attend The Mad Hatter Returns for the Royal Wedding, a high tea social networking event for executive women, benefitting the National Youth Orchestra of Canada. Attendees were treated to signature cocktails and a haute couture lingerie and swimwear fashion show featuring Melmira Bra and Swimwear. They also had the opportunity to bid on an impressive collection of silent auction items.

Through ticket sales, silent auctions, and draws, this fabulous event raised over \$5,000 that will greatly assist us in continuing to provide quality training to Canada's most talented aspiring musicians. We'd like to extend our extreme gratitude to Catherine Mossop, who organized this event, as well as her dedicated committee for all the time and effort they put into making this event such a huge success!



Victoria Wilson
Victoria Wilson Corsets

NYOC On Demand!

The NYOC's final 2010 concert, recorded live from Edmonton's Winspear Centre on August 14th, is now available on CBC Radio 2 - Concerts on Demand.

The concert will be available until mid-2011 at the following link:

<http://www.cbc.ca/radio2/cod/concerts/20100814nyoc>



Fond Farewell

It is with heavy hearts that we bid goodbye to our Development Manager, Natasza Cieplik, after seven years with the NYOC. Natasza brightened every day at the office with her cool head, amiable nature, and open spirit! She is embarking on her next big adventure, as she sets off to travel the world with her family. Happy travels, Natasza! You will be missed.

To help support the NYOC or learn more about our organization please check out

<http://www.nyoc.org>

or call

1.888.532.4470