



Vol. 1, Issue 6

## American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras

July 1, 2016



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### 2015-16 Season Recap

*from Executive Director Dr. Graham Elliott*

We have just concluded our 51st season, and by common consent it was outstandingly successful. The standard of performance across all five orchestras was consistently high and I pay the warmest tribute to our gifted team of conductors and coaches. They have set the bar high for the coming 52nd season!

The season has been marked by a number of special events which have raised awareness of AYPO, and offered additional opportunities to our musicians. These include the appearance alongside The Piano Guys at Wolf Trap (with an audience in excess of 7,000); the visit to Padua, Italy of a group of AYP players as part of the new partnership with the conservatoire; the debut of the

### SUPPORT AYPO

AYPO depends on tuition and the generosity of individuals, some government funding, and charitable foundations. Our ambitious plans for development will depend on our ability to raise new income. Please consider making a donation, and pass the word to anyone who might be interested in the work of AYPO.



## Board of Directors

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Board members are volunteers who comprise the governing body of AYPO. The Board of Directors is responsible for approving policy, provides leadership in fundraising activities, and is legally responsible for the organization.

Robert Sollinger, *President*  
Mike Blakeslee, *VP of Education*  
Bill Hong, *Secretary*  
Larry Lu, *Treasurer*  
Patti Reid  
Tim Hoechst  
Neeta Helms  
Brad Spencer  
Peter de Boor  
Lee Grossman  
Jeanie Kartalian  
Lara Cole  
Andrew Creighton  
Bob Cunningham  
Karen Leyva  
John Thomann  
Ben Baldanza  
Francisco Duran



*Musicians with the Piano Guys; at the State Dinner; in Padua, Italy.*

All of these extra events are in addition to the weekly round of rehearsals and the regular public concerts. I pay the fullest tribute to our small and dedicated office staff for the cheerful and efficient way they have taken all of this on top of their regular work. The administrative and artistic staff is given vital support by our team of volunteers, who give hours of time without seeking any reward, and we truly could not manage without them.

One change in the office is a very welcome one. Isabel Carpio is an alumna of AYPO, and during her college years acted as intern at points of pressure during the season. I am delighted that the Board agreed to offer her a full-time position as Assistant General Manager. At the same time we are sad to bid farewell to Julia Robins, who has been a wonderful partner as General Manager. Julia recently became engaged and her fiancé is to take a law degree at the University of Michigan, so Julia will be moving there in July. Julia has made an enormous contribution to AYPO in her time with us, including taking the lead in creating our new website.

In Julia's place we have appointed Jason Spencer. Jason comes to us from his role as Operations and Education Manager at Lexington Philharmonic. Jason joins us in early September and we look forward to welcoming him in time for orientation and the new season.



*Welcome, Jason!*

The AYPO Board under President Robert Sollinger continues to give important 'behind the scenes' support to all that goes on in AYPO. For the coming season we welcome newcomers Ben Baldanza, former CEO of Spirit Airlines, and Dr. Francisco Durán, Chief Academic Officer, Fairfax County Public Schools.

We would also be glad to have the help of each person who reads this newsletter! There are many ways you can support and encourage us. Attend our concerts and bring your friends. Ticket prices will be lower next season: that must be one of the few things in life which cost less! There will be a standard \$10 ticket for all (teachers and veterans are free; parents of AYPO musicians receive two free tickets and siblings are free).

## Celebrating 25 Years

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We celebrate Jeff Bianchi in his 25th year as conductor of AYSO. Jeff, your efforts over the years as a music educator have influenced thousands of young musicians. We look forward to your encore year for the 2016-17 season.



*Jeff Bianchi and his wife Pat.*

## Register for the Summer String Academy!

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You can also make a tax-deductible donation; the website shows you how. You can encourage a friend or family member to make a donation. Fees paid for membership cover less than half our running costs, so we are heavily dependent on grants and donations to maintain the outstanding quality of the program.

You can become one of our wonderful volunteers; just let the office know that you can help and you will be welcomed with open arms.

Enjoy the summer and we will see you in the fall!

## Congrats Seniors!

Congratulations to our seniors! We are so proud of you and we wish you the best of luck in all you do. Come back and visit us anytime!



*AYP Seniors*



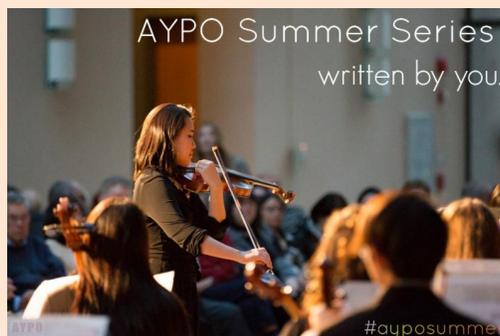
*AYSO Seniors*



Jump-start your AYPO experience this summer with the AYPO Summer String Academy! From 9:00-4:00, August 8-12, rising 3-6 grade musicians are invited to participate in a week dedicated to building a great foundation for orchestral playing. The AYPO Summer String Academy will prepare our newest musicians for the upcoming season in the Debut Orchestra with a specific focus on music literacy, sight-reading and ensemble skills.

For more information and registration visit <http://www.aypo.org/summer/>.

## AYPO Summer Series



We want this summer to be about you.

If you are embarking on a musical adventure, whether it be at a summer music program somewhere around the world, or staying local teaching lessons in your neighborhood, we want to hear about it!

The AYPO Summer Series will feature you. If you are interested in being an AYPO Ambassador or want to learn more, contact Isabel Carpio, at [icarpio@aypo.org](mailto:icarpio@aypo.org).

## Visit our Social Media Pages

**AYPO IS NOW ON INSTAGRAM! Search [ayporchestras](#) or follow this link:**

<https://www.instagram.com/ayporchestras>

Like AYPO on Facebook! Follow ayporchestras on Twitter!



## CONTACT US

American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras

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Annandale, VA 22003

Walk-ins welcome Mon-Fri 10 a.m.-3 p.m. (call-ahead encouraged)

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**AYPO MISSION: Our goal is to enhance the musical education of our students, and support them as they develop as people and musicians by providing them with the highest quality musical experience.**

AYPO is supported in part by the following:



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