



# Oakland Youth Orchestra

Michael Morgan, Artistic Director

Bryan Nies, Principal Conductor

*The Forty-Fifth Season*

**Oakland Youth Orchestra is recognized as an outstanding musical organization in Oakland and the San Francisco Bay area. Today OYO consists of eighty-two talented music students aged 12 to 22 from throughout the region. OYO maintains a commitment to cultural exchange, and has toured extensively in Europe, Asia, the Middle East, the Caribbean Islands, Costa Rica, Mexico and Cuba, Italy, Australia and New Zealand and Greece.**



**B**ryan Nies is the Assistant Conductor of the Oakland East Bay Symphony since 2002 and also serves as the Principal Conductor of Oakland Youth Orchestra, which he led on a tour of Australia and New Zealand during the orchestra's 40th season. With "superb musical direction," Bryan conducted sold-out performances of Bizet's "Carmen" with Festival Opera in 2007 to rave reviews that stated, "Nies

is undeniably a talent to watch." In addition, he has been a cover conductor for the St. Louis Symphony, conducted performances with Opera Idaho ("Barber of Seville") the Oakland Chamber Ensemble, and is an assistant conductor with Opera San Jose. Pursuing an avid interest in all musical genres, Mr. Nies conducted performances for the grand re-opening of the Castro Valley Arts Center, was an associate musical director with American Musical Theater of San Jose, Theatreworks, in Palo Alto, and teaches the musical theater workshop at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

During the summer of 2002, Mr. Nies was honored with a Leonard Bernstein Fellowship to participate as a conductor at the Tanglewood Music Center. There he conducted performances to rave reviews in the Boston Globe. In addition, he received personal instruction with many leading professional conductors, including, Michael Morgan, Roberto Abbado, Jeffery Tate, Hans Vonk, Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos, and Grant Llewellyn.

As one of the conducting class' youngest graduates, Mr. Nies received a M.M. in Orchestral Conducting from the Peabody Conservatory where he studied under the tutelage of Gustav Meier and Markand Thakar. He received a full assistantship in opera coaching and was the assistant conductor of the Peabody Camerata, a contemporary ensemble. A native of Chicago, IL, Mr. Nies also holds a B.M. in Piano Performance and a B.A. in Psychology from Northwestern University in Evanston, IL, where he has performed with William Warfield for the Lyric Opera of Chicago and was a vocal coach for the NU musical theater department.



**M**ichael Morgan was born in Washington DC where he attended public schools and began conducting at the age of 12. While a student at the Oberlin College Conservatory of Music, he spent a summer at the Berkshire Music Center at Tanglewood. There he was a student of Gunther Schuller and Seiji Ozawa, and it was during that summer that he worked with Leonard Bernstein.

In 1980 he was the 1st prize winner in the Hans Swarowsky International Conductors Competition in Vienna, Austria and became the Assistant Conductor of the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra, under Leonard Slatkin. His operatic debut was in 1982 at the Vienna State Opera in Mozart's *The Abduction from the Seraglio*.

In 1986 Sir Georg Solti chose him to become the Assistant Conductor of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, a position he held for seven years. His Chicago Symphony debut came in 1987 when he replaced the ailing Solti in a program that included Strauss' *Ein Heldenleben* and Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring*. He stepped into this performance without rehearsal and to critical acclaim. During his tenure in Chicago he was also conductor of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago and the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra.

Other guest appearances have included the Berlin State Opera, Saint Louis Opera Theater, Washington Opera, and New York City Opera. He has conducted the National, Baltimore, Houston, Seattle, Vancouver, Detroit, and Oregon Symphony Orchestra's as well as the Los Angeles and Warsaw Philharmonics and the Philadelphia Orchestra. He is presently Music Director of the Oakland East Bay Symphony, the Festival Opera in Walnut Creek, and the Sacramento Philharmonic.

Michael Morgan is a noted advocate for music education in Oakland and around the world. He is widely regarded as an expert on the importance of arts education and minority access to the arts and is on the Board of the American Symphony Orchestra League.

**"You have to experience it in person. There is an excitement that simply cannot be duplicated."**

**—Michael Morgan**

PROGRAM: OYO offers members musical education and performance opportunities at a high, pre-professional level, sectional coaching by performing musicians, an annual concerto competition with cash prizes, the opportunity for solo performances at OYO concerts, and the chance to play with other talented youth.

2008-2009 is not a tour year.

MEMBERSHIP in OYO is open to highly qualified players of orchestral instruments from Bay Area schools. Generally, students are between the ages of 14 and 22 years, but exceptional younger students may also be admitted. Members are selected on the basis of an audition. *Students are required to participate in school music programs when available and must also be receiving private instrument instruction.*

Learning professional responsibility is an important part of OYO's program for musical excellence. Members are required to prepare, to arrive promptly, and to **attend all rehearsals. Seating is generally rotational.**

PARENTS' OBLIGATIONS include helping students fulfill their musical responsibilities to the Orchestra by encouraging at-home practice, **100% attendance**, and promptness and courtesy at all times. Each OYO family will be asked to provide a rehearsal snack and to sign up for volunteer activities, donating 20 hours each year in OYO's parent committees. Finally, parents are expected to participate in OYO fund-raising activities.

#### ANNUAL COST

Tuition in full (or completed financial aid application) is due upon acceptance and tuition is not refundable, and includes our mandatory retreat. Note that tuition covers only about 1/3 of our budget. The 2007-2008 tuition was \$1100. We have not yet set tuition for 2008-09.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE: No qualified musician will be excluded because of financial need. Financial assistance is available and can be in the form of outright scholarship grants, deferred payment plans, or fund-raising opportunities. If you are a returning musician who has received assistance in the past, **you must reapply.**

LANEY COLLEGE: OYO membership carries 2 credits per semester at Laney College.

*The OYO program is discussed in greater detail in our Parent-Student Handbook.*

### The 2008-2009 SCHEDULE

Rehearsals take place on Sunday afternoons, 2-6 PM at Laney College

#### 2008

Sept. 7	Required Parents & Members Meeting
Sept. 12-14	Retreat at Redwood Glen in Loma Mar
Sept. 21	Rehearsal
Sept. 28	Rehearsal
Oct. 5	Rehearsal
Oct. 12	Rehearsal
Oct. 19	Rehearsal
Oct. 26	Rehearsal
Nov. 2	Rehearsal
Nov 8. (Sat)	DRESS REHEARSAL
Nov. 9	CONCERT
Nov.15	Rehearsal
Nov 2	Rehearsal
Dec. 7	Rehearsal
Dec. 13 (Sat)	CONCERTO COMPETITION
Dec. 14	Rehearsal

#### 2009

Jan. 4	Rehearsal
Jan. 11	Rehearsal
Jan. 18	Rehearsal
Jan. 25	Possible Bay Area Youth Orch Concert
Jan 30 (Fri)	DRESS REHEARSAL
Jan 31 (Sat)	CONCERT with Oakland Symphony Chorus
Feb. 1	Rehearsal
Feb. 8	Rehearsal
Feb. 24	Rehearsal
Feb. 26 (Thurs)	DRESS REHEARSAL
Feb. 27 (Fri)	CONCERT Side-by-Side with OEBS
Mar. 1	Rehearsal
Mar. 7 or 8	GALA CONCERT
March 15	Rehearsal
March 22	Rehearsal
March 29	Rehearsal
April 5	Rehearsal
April 19	Rehearsal
April 26	Rehearsal
May 3	Rehearsal (Mothers Day)
May 10	Rehearsal
May 16 (Sat)	DRESS REHEARSAL
May 17	CONCERT

If circumstances beyond our control impact this schedule we will notify members at our earliest opportunity.

2008-09 repertoire will probably include: the Shostakovich *Symphony No. 5*, Beethoven *Symphony No. 5*, Brahms' *Hungarian Dances*, and the Tchaikovsky *1812 Overture*.

AUDITIONS: will be held May 21 - 23 at the Malonga Casquelourd Arts Center. From time to time repertoire may require additional instrumentation and auditions are held on an *ad hoc* basis.

#### INFORMATION:

Barbara Stack, Executive Director  
510.832.7710 manager@oyo.org

# OAKLAND YOUTH ORCHESTRA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/AUDITION

Auditions at the Malonga Arts Center  
Room 202 M

2008-2009 45<sup>th</sup> Season

please indicate availability "x"

3-6 PM 6-8 PM 8-10 PM

Please mail application ASAP  
we will mail you orch excerpts  
we will call you for appt. time

Wed. May 21  
Thursday, May 22  
Friday, May 23

	3-6 PM	6-8 PM	8-10 PM
Wed. May 21			
Thursday, May 22			
Friday, May 23			

PLEASE  
**MAIL A COPY**  
**KEEP ORIGINAL**  
FOR REFERENCE.

Seating auditions will take place in the fall.

YMP  MUSE

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Instrument \_\_\_\_\_ Years studied \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Parent(s) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ Grade 08-09 \_\_\_\_\_

School Music Instructor \_\_\_\_\_ OYO Audition piece \_\_\_\_\_

Other Instruments \_\_\_\_\_ Private teacher (OYO Instru. important) \_\_\_\_\_

Private teacher Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Current/Previous Ensemble Experience \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about OYO? \_\_\_\_\_

You are asked to prepare three things for your AUDITION:

1) Scales: **violin & viola**: 3 octave C major with arpeggios; **cello**: 3 octave F major with arpeggios (violins, violas, celli, play scales quarter note=60, with three notes per beat); **bass**: 3 octave E major with arpeggios; **brass**: Bb and Ab Major concert; **winds**: A and Ab Major concert; **harp**: C major scale, hands together, at a comfortable tempo **Percussion**: concert snare drum roll (please bring snare) soft-loud-soft, 3 of the basic snare drum rudiments (flam, ruffs, paradiddles, etc), and a C Major scale on the glockenspiel (instrument provided by OYO).

2) One solo piece that represents your capabilities. OYO candidates should bear in mind that OYO performs standard (difficult) orchestral repertoire and that your selection of solo material should reflect your level of readiness to perform at OYO's level. While memorization is not required, it is **STRONGLY** advised particularly for those who wish to be considered for leadership positions in the sections. The judges will consider memorization when scoring an audition. Do not bring an accompanist.

3) The orchestral excerpts mailed by OYO. Please take time to learn the orchestral excerpts as they are a very important part of the audition. Listen to a recording of the piece, and get the music early so that you have time to prepare (this means turning in your application early!).

Your audition will be judged on the following criteria: Intonation, Tone Quality, Rhythm, Technique/Scales, Sight Reading, Musicality, Style, Potential, Overall performance and preparation.

Judges notes:

Pass Me On To a Friend!  
Copy Me!

Oakland Youth Orchestra  
Malonga Casquelourd Arts Center  
1428 Alice Street, Room 202M  
Oakland, CA 94612



[www.oyo.org](http://www.oyo.org)

Directions to Malonga Arts Center

**South of Oakland**

Take 880 North  
Exit Oak Street  
Right onto Oak Street  
Left onto 14<sup>th</sup> Street  
Right onto Alice

**North of Oakland**

From 24 or 80, take 980 to 880  
Exit Jackson Street  
Left onto Jackson  
Left onto 14<sup>th</sup> Street  
Right onto Alice

# Oakland Youth Orchestra

Michael Morgan, Artistic Director

Bryan Nies, Principal Conductor

Barbara Stack, Executive Director

Joanna Hansen, Operations Manager

Robert Alfaro, Librarian

Diana Moore, Development Manager

*Forty-fifth Season*

## The 2008-2009 Application