



September 1, 2009

A belated welcome to the 45th season of the Anchorage Youth Symphony!

Season Highlights

Our season is filled with works both familiar and new, culminating in a performance of Tchaikovsky's masterful Fifth Symphony. Those of you that were in Youth Symphony two years ago remember our memorable performance of this composer's fateful Fourth Symphony. In addition, we will be performing Liszt's exciting *Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2*, Bernstein's jazzy *Candide Overture*, a work by the Mexican composer Arturo Marquez, old favorites such as Bizet's *L'Arlesienne Suite* and Saint-Saens *Danse Macabre* and an unusual work by the American composer Ingolf Dahl – his *Quodlibet* which is based on American folk fiddle tunes. You are encouraged to hear recordings of all of these works: it will go a long way toward your enjoyment and understanding of this great literature. Our hardworking board also has some ideas about possible tours this coming year.

Our Schedule

Our concert series (November 17, March 2 and April 27) will be played at the ACPA. Our December and March concerts will be shared with the Junior High Orchestra, and our third concert in May will showcase the orchestra on its own with a student soloist drawn from the ranks of the Youth Symphony (see below and on our websites).

Rehearsal and Performance Times and Places

Rehearsals are on Monday afternoons, beginning promptly at 4:15: plan to arrive at least 10 minutes early to settle in, warm up and tune your instruments. Rehearsals are usually held at East High Band room, and finish at 7:00PM. All of our performances are on the Discovery Stage at the ACPA and start at 7PM. Dress rehearsals are held at ACPA on the Monday before our Tuesday performances. Our schedule is included in the packet and is published on our website. You should note any exceptions to the schedule outline above.

Concerto Soloist on Last Concert

One high school soloist will perform a movement of a concerto for our May concert. The soloist will be chosen by competition: details, schedules and competition rules are on our website.

The Schedule and Attendance Policy

Enclosed you will find the schedule for our upcoming season. *The most important thing for you to do is to attend every rehearsal from beginning to end!* With so little time to learn this extremely challenging music, I need everyone at every rehearsal - for all of the rehearsal. There is an attendance policy enclosed in the packet sent to you earlier: it is also located on our website (www.anchorageyouthsymphony.org) which will be strictly enforced: please read it carefully.

Seating/Leadership Positions

Seating in the orchestra will be initially based on your audition last spring. Within a couple of weeks of the season we will have a seating which will be run by the coaches. We will have co-concertmasters and co-assistant concertmasters: look on our website for the concertmaster audition music and requirements.

I am looking forward to great music making with you!

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linn Weeda".

Linn Weeda
Music Director, Anchorage Youth Symphony