



Bay Youth Orchestras of Virginia

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Upcoming Events

August 31
Audition Deadline #2
Accept'd Audition Submissions

September 14
BYOV Variety Show (Zoom)

November 9
Concerto Competition Applications Due

December 5
2020 Concerto Competition

For more information, visit
<https://bayyouth.org/members/auditions/>

Visit our Website

Get to know us at bayyouth.org

Our Staff

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Executive Director
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Conductor, Concert Orchestra

Christina Morton

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Brad Shedd

Assistant Conductor, String Orchestra, Junior Strings

Michael Oare

Conductor, Concert Band

Brian Diller

Conductor, Wind Symphony

Laura Johnson

Assistant, Wind Symphony

Paula Bonds

Librarian

Patricia Hitchcock

Orchestra Manager

Yurie Hart

August 24, 2020

The BYO-GRAPH

Dear BYOV Families, Members and Supporters,



In an effort to stay more connected with our friends and families during a time when we are unable to gather as a collective, we will be staying in touch with bi-weekly installments of the BYO-Graph, our email newsletter! This is our place to share what our musicians have been up to, highlight accomplishments of our members, and provide a platform for presenting helpful tips and motivation for further developing your skills as a musician. We hope you enjoy!

In addition to keeping you posted about the upcoming season, we would like to use this platform to connect our members while showcasing their talents and accomplishments. We also want to hear from our alumni to see what you've been up to... musically or otherwise! Check out the features below to see some of the ways we are working to stay engaged, including a BYOV Variety Show and Musician Spotlights.

Thank you all for your continued support, past and present. I am looking forward to seeing and hearing you all soon. We are feeling more hopeful that we will be making music together again soon!

Sincerely,
Dr. Elizabeth Richards
Executive Director
Photo by Gloria Duarte

2020-2021 SEASON UPDATE

WE MISS YOU! At BYOV, we are eager to return to rehearsals and concerts as we know them. Of course, we want to do this in the safest way possible at the most appropriate time.

Planning to participate in BYOV but still have not yet registered? [Register now](#) with no deposit to hold your place in your ensemble and be added to our roster to receive important updates about rehearsals and our season plans.

Here is what we are hoping and planning for:

- A slow return to rehearsals in the form of sectionals for string instruments (BYJST, BYST, BYCO & BYSO). Socially distanced, masked sectional rehearsals in venues that are available to us. We have options ready! The timeline is unclear but our best guess is that this could be happening anytime between late-October and early December.
- Online offerings for wind, brass, and percussion members of BYCB & BYWS. With increased risk of aerosols for these instruments, in person rehearsals are not safe at this time. We are working to put together a curriculum of three online sessions led by our community's coaches and educators to enrich your practice time.
- We are watching the schools carefully. As schools begin to open up for in-person learning, BYOV will expand its offerings, phasing into rehearsals with more members and eventually full participation of all our ensembles.

[Read our most recent FAQs regarding the 2020-2021 Season](#) (released July 17, 2020)

Stephanie Fisher
Concert Band Manager

Our Board of Directors

Eric Casey
President
Patrice Sawyer
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Amanda Switzer (retired)
Treasurer
Domenica Estes
Anna Feliberti
Grace Jordan (retired)
Andrea Kinnear (retired)
Gregg Koumbis
Janet Kriner, lifetime member

VARIETY SHOW

We know that BYOV musicians are multi-talented! Outside of music, our members participate in athletics, academics, extracurriculars, hobbies, and so many other activities. We want to see your talents and share them with our families and friends!

On **Monday, September 14 at 7pm**, we will host the BYOV Variety Show over Zoom. Sign up form and Zoom link to be provided later.

We would love for you to send us a video of you doing your thing to be broadcast over Zoom to a live audience. Participants will have the opportunity to say a few words about their video. Submit your videos by email to richards.byov@gmail.com by Monday, September 7.

Videos can be up to 5 minutes long! We will select 8 videos to feature on the Variety Show over Zoom. All other submissions will be posted on BYOV's Facebook Page. Any one who submits a video will be entered in a drawing for some cool BYOV merchandise (water bottle & t-shirt!)

[Follow us on Facebook](#) and
subscribe to our [YouTube Channel!](#)



2020 CONCERTO COMPETITION

We are super excited to announce this season's Concerto Competition, to be held on **Saturday, December 5**. The competition is open to members of Bay Youth Concert Orchestra, Symphony Orchestra, and Wind Symphony. We planning to hold this event live and socially distanced (location TBA - performers and immediate family members only). The online application is now OPEN!

For more information about competition rules and to apply, visit <https://bayyouth.org/members/2020-concerto-competition/>. The deadline to apply is November 9. We hope to have the concert in late Spring.



Last season's Concert Orchestra Concerto Competition Winner Noah Crumbly performing the St. Saens Cello Concerto in March.
Photo by Anthony Mascolo.

MUSICIAN FEATURE

We are proud of all of our members, past and present, and want to feature you here in the BYO-Graph.

TELL US WHAT YOU HAVE BEEN UP TO MUSICALLY! Send photos, videos, and narrative to be featured in future BYO-Graphs and our [Facebook Page](#).

A HUGE THANK YOU!

When registration opened for the upcoming season, we called on the generosity of our families to help us raise money for scholarships. Thank you to the generous families below who helped us to raise almost \$1,000 in support of BYOV Scholarships! To make a donation or learn more about how you can support us, visit <https://bayyouth.org/support/sponsor/>. All donations are tax deductible!

Chellew Family
Cox Family
Hou Family
Hayes Family
Jain Family
Antonio Family
Hong Family
Alper Family
Parsons Family
Leibig - Moore Family



WHAT I DID THIS SUMMER

By Helen Martell, Music Director & BYSO Conductor

Pacific Northwest Conducting Institute -

A virtual conducting workshop? With a conductor who actually wrote a book about conducting? Why not! Diane Wittry, author of "Baton Basics, Communicating Music through Gestures" and Saratoga Symphony conductor Anna Edwards collaborated on a very successful conducting workshop that I virtually attended (with Amanda Gates) in August. We would normally have been conducting an orchestra at this kind of event, but we had to sing through the music and gesture in the air. People from all over the world were able to attend without leaving their homes! There was a lot of opportunity to try new gestures and to see how other conductors expressed the music through conducting gestures. They also had multiple guests give talks about the conducting business. Totally worth it!



Violin lessons with Amanda Gates - Let me just say that I have a lot more respect for the amazing string players that I work with in Bay Youth Symphony. Playing a stringed instrument well is HARD and take LOTS of work. Thanks to my enthusiastic, patient, and talented private teacher, Amanda Gates, I am making progress! A few of you have heard me play violin either in school, modeling a scale or a passage in a piece, or on the Zoom recital a few months ago given by Ms. Gates. My goal is to be able to express music through the violin fluidly and consistently - like someone learning a new language and being able to dream or tell jokes in that language. Some days, I make breakthroughs in my playing. Some days, I just maintain ability. Some days are very frustrating (see picture). However, I am enjoying the journey and I look forward to the daily practice with my instrument. Perhaps I will have the technique to try out for BYSO some day :)





BYOV Conductors Helen Martell & Christina Morton met up recently to play violin duos together.

THIS WEEK'S MUSIC LESSON

Each BYO-Graph, we will feature a video or music link shared by one of BYOV's staff members. This video comes to you from Elizabeth Richards, BYOV's Executive Director.

Ever wonder about harmony in music and how certain chords can evoke emotion and meaning? Jacob explains harmony to 5 people of different ages and musical understanding and it is FASCINATING! It certainly helped me to get a deeper grasp of harmony and motivates me to be a musician who analyzes more, especially as I have been spending the summer digging deeply into a complicated arpeggio sequence on my cello. :)

[Check out this INCREDIBLE video by the talented, quirky, and brilliant Jacob Collier!](#) If you don't know his music yet, you should totally check him out!



JOIN OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BYOV has retired a number of its Board Members this season. Interested in sharing your passion and energy with us while serving the young musicians of BYOV. Contact our Executive Director at richards.byov@gmail.com to inquire about joining the

Board of Directors as a volunteer. We are seeking all interested family members and would love to have some representation of our band members with BYOV Band parents.

BECOME A SPONSOR OR HELP US GET CONNECTED

Would you like to further support us? Does your employer offer initiatives for making donations? Is your company looking to sponsor our organization?

As a 501(c)3 non-for-profit organization, we are always seeking donations or contributions. If you or someone you know is interested in supporting the finest young musicians in Hampton Roads, please share this newsletter with them so they can see what we are all about.

To make a donation or learn more about how to become a sponsor, visit <https://bayyouth.org/support/sponsor/>. All donations are tax deductible.

Grant Support



SUPPORT BYOV WITH THESE GREAT FUNDRAISERS!



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Step 3: Earn Money for Bay Youth Orchestras of Virginia

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About Us

Bay Youth Orchestras of Virginia

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