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**June 10-25**

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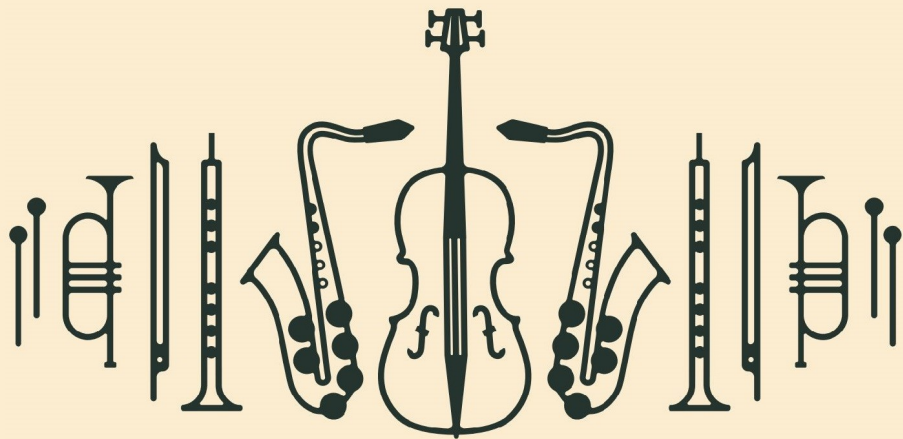



Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey



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# NOTEWORTHY SUPPORT

YOCJ relies upon parent volunteers to make our excellent orchestral training available at a reasonable cost to all qualified students. Board members are parents of current or past student musicians. YOCJ is a 501(c)(3) non profit organization. Donations are gratefully accepted. All financial contributions are tax-deductible, and can easily be made via PayPal on our website:

<http://yocj.org/how-to-donate/>

Donations can also be mailed to:

**YOCJ 19 Ginnie Lane, West Windsor NJ 08550**

## GIVING PLATFORMS

|                             |                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Virtuoso Level \$2500+      | Symphonic Level \$200-499  |
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| Conductor Level \$500-\$999 | Chamber Level \$20-\$49    |

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Chandrashekhar Deshpande

### Symphonic Level

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Ruby Hanna  
Tina Lee  
Michael & Mary Meduski  
Ashok Padmanabhan  
Aruna Sarma

### Orchestra Level

Srihari Cadambi  
Bing Bing Chang  
Vikram Jindal  
Johnson & Johnson  
Radha Mahakali  
Lindsay Martin  
Shilpi Mukherjee  
Harish Nankani & family  
Meghna Patel  
Priti Ravishankar  
Trineice Robinson-Martin  
Chirag Shah

### Chamber Level

Aloka Bagchi  
Judith Maybank, in honor Gerald Corby  
Harry Mintz, in honor of Gerald Corby  
Tanisha Morgan  
Ying Pi Lin  
Ingrid Reed

## Mission Statement

The mission of the Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey is to provide opportunities for talented young musicians in Central New Jersey to participate in musical performances at a level beyond that which is traditionally offered by school bands and orchestras.

## Conductors

**Kenneth Bean** • Symphonic Orchestra  
**Phillip Pugh** • String Preparatory & Pro Arte Orchestra  
**Dr. Jordan Smith** • Saxophone Ensemble & Saxophone Choir  
**Scott Collins** • Wind Symphony & Woodwind Choir  
**Brian Woodward** • Brass Ensemble  
**Sandy Olson** • Flute Choir  
**Chris Colaneri** • Percussion Ensemble  
**Barbara Witmer** • Symphonic Woodwinds  
**Shannon Ferrara** • Brass Choir



## Board of Trustees & Staff

**Aloka Bagchi** • President  
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## YOCJ Conductors

**Phillip Pugh**, YOCJ Artistic Director and Conductor of the Pro Arte and String Preparatory Orchestras, holds a Master's degree in music theory and a Bachelor's degree in music education from Temple University. In addition to extensive study in violin performance, Mr. Pugh is a registered Suzuki teacher and has also studied string instrument repair and set up under the tutelage of leading luthiers. As a violinist and violist, he performs with the Boheme Opera Company and the New Jersey Capital Philharmonic Orchestra. Additionally, he teaches strings at the West Windsor-Plainsboro's Millstone River School, has served on the faculty of the Csehy Summer School of Music, and maintains an active private studio, teaching violin and viola. Mr. Pugh has been with the Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey since 1988.

**Brian Woodward**, Conductor of the Wind Symphony and the Brass Ensemble, earned a Bachelor of Music degree from The College of New Jersey. He has been teaching at West Windsor-Plainsboro's Community Middle School since 1999. Along with teaching, he keeps a busy performing schedule playing the trumpet with many groups around the tri state area. Along with conducting, Mr. Woodward enjoys a busy freelance career as a trumpet player. He has performed with many groups in New Jersey and throughout Pennsylvania such as The Capitol Philharmonic, The Allentown Symphony, The Bohme Opera Orchestra, The Garden State Symphonic Band, Newtown Chamber Orchestra, and the Nassau Brass. Most notably, Mr. Woodward has been the Principal Trumpet for the Eastern Wind Symphony since its inception in 1996. He has performed with this group at Carnegie Hall, and the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC. The group was also invited to perform at the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic as well as The International Trumpet Guild Conference. Mr. Brian Woodward has been with the Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey ever since 2001.

**Dr. Jordan Smith**, Conductor of the Saxophone Choir and Saxophone Ensemble, holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Rutgers University, a Master of Music in saxophone performance from the Manhattan School of Music and a Bachelor of Music in music education degree from The College of New Jersey. He has concertized throughout the U.S., Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, and Greece as a soloist, conductor, chamber and orchestral musician, and has recently performed with the New World Symphony, Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, and the Sifodec Orchestra in such venues as Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and more. As a Chamber musician in NYC and a strong advocate for new music, he has premiered over 30 works for saxophone. His article on Jules Massenet appeared in a 2015 edition of The Saxophone Symposium and a recent article on Prokofiev's *Lieutenant Kijé Suite* was published in a 2011 issue of Saxophone Journal. In addition to YOCJ, Dr. Smith teaches music history at Saint Peter's University in Jersey City. He maintains a large private studio in Princeton, NJ. Dr. Smith joined YOCJ in 2010. [Jordanpsmith.com](http://Jordanpsmith.com)

**Scott Collins**, Conductor of the Wind Symphony and Woodwind Choir, holds a Master's Degree in Clarinet Performance, a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education, both from Temple University, as well as an Associate's Degree in Liberal Arts from Valley Forge Military College. Mr. Collins has been teaching in the West Windsor-Plainsboro Regional School District since 2004, where he has directed a variety of ensembles including concert band, jazz band, marching band, and string orchestra. Currently, he teaches concert band at the Community Middle School. In July 2011, he was named a "Conducting Fellow" for the Conducting Workshop for Music Educators at the Juilliard School. Mr. Collins has performed as a clarinetist with the Haddonfield Symphony, the Opera Festival of New Jersey, the Princeton Festival, the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, and the Arts at St. John's, with whom he performed Mozart's Clarinet Concerto in A Major back in 2014. Mr. Scott Collins joined the Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey in 2015.

**Sandy Olson**, Conductor of the Flute Choir holds a Master of Music in flute performance from Western Illinois University, a Bachelors degree in music education from Arkansas State University, and completed her DMA coursework in flute performance at the University of Illinois. Ms. Olson has been a flute teacher and director of the summer flute camp at Westminster Conservatory as well as a middle school music teacher in South Brunswick, New Jersey for the past twenty years. For the National Flute Association, Ms. Olson is the past chairman of both the High School Soloist Competition and the High School Flute Choir Competition. Her love of nurturing young students started with her Suzuki Flute Teacher Training with Tatsumi Shiojima. Ms. Olson has also performed at both the National Flute Association as well as the British Flute Association flute conventions. Ms. Sandy Olson is happy to have joined the YOCJ staff in 2016.

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The Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey is part of the **McCaffrey's Receipt Program** that supports local nonprofit organizations by generously donating 1% of every receipt collected. Being part of this fundraiser is easy! Here's how:

- 1. Shop at McCaffrey's Food Markets.**
- 2. Save your receipts!**
- 3. Send them in with your child to any YOCJ rehearsal in an envelope marked "McCaffrey's Receipts"**
- 4. YOCJ earns 1% of the total of each receipt (minus sales tax, cigarettes, alcohol, milk and sushi items).**

Please share with your neighbors, friends, family and coworkers – anyone can submit their receipts to the Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey. This is an ongoing fundraiser, so there are no deadlines. However, we request that receipts are submitted **monthly** to rehearsals, since receipts expire.

Please contact  
**Joon Chung** at  
**chungers@gmail.com**  
if you have any questions.



**Thank you for your support!**

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## *Congratulations 2021-2022 Region & All State members!*

**Aaron Li**, Cello, Region Intermediate Orchestra, All State Intermediate Orchestra  
**Aditya Kapoor**, Cello, Region High School Orchestra  
**Alex Yuan**, Saxophone, Region Intermediate Band, All State High School Band  
**Andrew Yang**, Saxophone, Region Intermediate Band  
**Andrew Yuan**, Bassoon, Region Intermediate Band  
**Ariane Adcroft**, Percussion, Region High School Band, Region High School Percussion Ensemble  
**Arnav Maheshwari**, Violin, Region Intermediate Orchestra  
**Aryaman Tomar**, Double Bass, All State High School Orchestra  
**Aryan Avadhanam**, Saxophone, Region High School Band, All State High School Band  
**Ava Fong**, Flute, Region High School Band, All State High School Band  
**Brian Sun**, Violin, Region High School Orchestra  
**Ceilidh Manigrasso**, Cello, Region Intermediate Orchestra  
**Darby Ko**, Violin, Region Intermediate Orchestra, All State Intermediate Orchestra  
**Eesha Gadde**, Flute, Region Intermediate Band  
**Elayne Jia**, Viola, Region High School Orchestra, All State High School Orchestra, All Eastern Orchestra  
**Elizabeth Ferrara**, French Horn, Region High School & Orchestra, All State High School Band & Orchestra  
**Ethan Xu**, Cello, Region High School Orchestra, All State High School Orchestra  
**Eunice Tseng**, Clarinet, Region Intermediate Band  
**Harry Fan**, Percussion, Region Intermediate Band  
**Helen Chen**, Clarinet, Region Intermediate Band  
**Jane Lee**, Violin, Region Intermediate Orchestra, All State Intermediate Orchestra  
**Jayden Shah**, Saxophone, Region Intermediate Band  
**Juntang Jonathan Lin**, Saxophone, Region Intermediate Band  
**Justin Morgan**, Saxophone, Region High School Band, All State High School Band  
**Laura-Simone Martin**, Double Bass, NAFME Jazz Ensemble  
**Mad Epstein**, Double Bass, All State High School Orchestra  
**Malachi Wang**, Trumpet, Region Intermediate Band  
**Maxine Chen**, Violin, Region High School Orchestra  
**Natalie Cheng**, Violin, Region Intermediate Orchestra, All State Intermediate Orchestra  
**Parker Woo**, Cello, Region Intermediate Orchestra, All State Intermediate Orchestra  
**Prisha Bagchi**, Violin, Region Intermediate Orchestra, All State Intermediate Orchestra  
**Rhea Cadambi**, Cello, Region Intermediate Orchestra  
**Richard Aerath**, Violin, Region High School Orchestra  
**Rithikay Iyengar**, Clarinet, Region High School Band, All State High School Orchestra  
**Sanjay Kaushik**, Violin, Region Intermediate Orchestra, Region High School Orchestra, All State Orchestra  
**Sasmit Munagala**, Viola, Region High School Orchestra, All State High School Orchestra  
**Selena Wu**, Violin, Region High School Orchestra  
**Siddharth Belahal**, Cello, Region High School Orchestra  
**Sounish Ghosh**, Percussion, Region Intermediate Band, Region High School Band  
**Svara Venkatesan**, Clarinet, Region Intermediate Band  
**Timothy Chen**, Saxophone, Region High School Band, All State High School Band

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**Thank you for attending our performance!**

To learn more about YOCJ, please check us out:

**[www.yocj.org](http://www.yocj.org)**

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**Chris Colaneri**, Conductor of the Percussion Prep and Percussion Ensemble, holds a Master's in music education from New Jersey City University and a Bachelor's degree in classical performance from Rowan University. Mr. Colaneri has been teaching in the New York and New Jersey Public schools since 1996. He current position is with the Berkeley Heights Public School System. He recently co-founded and is currently the President of the Percussion Educator's Association. Mr. Colaneri's orchestral endeavors have taken him to Spain, France, Israel and Jordan, where he has given many radio and television appearances. Locally, he has performed with the Plainfield Symphony, South Orange Symphony, Haddonfield Symphony, and Metropolitan Orchestra. He has also performed with the touring Symphonic Gerry Garcia featuring Warren Haynes at the Central Park Summer Stage and the PNC Arts Center. As a vibist, marimba and Latin percussion performer, Mr. Colaneri has led his own jazz quartet CCQ for the past seventeen years. This ensemble has given featured performances at NJPAC, various jazz clubs, private corporate and political functions and jazz festivals throughout NJ. He also runs a banquet and wedding orchestra, Legacy Productions. In an endeavor to promote total percussion to the public schools systems, Mr. Colaneri has written articles for the music educator's magazine Tempo and has given lectures at Rowan University and Mason Gross School of the Arts, the New Jersey Music Educator's State Convention and All Eastern. As an author for Oxford University Press, his recent method book The Total Percussionists, can be found in classrooms throughout New Jersey and even abroad. Mr. Chris Colaneri joined the YOCJ in 2017.

**Barbara Witmer**, Coach of the Woodwind Chamber Players, as well as the Symphonic Orchestra woodwind section, holds a Master's Degree in Music Education from Ithaca College and a Bachelor's from Lebanon Valley College, also in Music Education. Ms. Witmer is a member of the faculty at Millstone River School in the West Windsor-Plainsboro Regional School District where she teaches elementary band. Barbara Witmer plays oboe in the New Jersey Capital Philharmonic Orchestra and performs as a free lance musician in the area. In addition, she maintains a studio of private oboe students. She served on the Alumni Committee of the Board of Trustees for two years. Ms. Witmer joined the staff of the Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey in 2018.

**Shannon Ferrara**, the new conductor of the Brass Choir and Symphonic Orchestra Brass Coach, holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from The College of New Jersey. Mrs. Ferrara has been teaching band in the West Windsor-Plainsboro Regional School District for 21 years, first at Millstone River School (formerly Upper Elementary School), then moving to Village School for many years, and then finally "graduating" to middle school where she is now in her 8th year. In addition to public school teaching, she also maintains a private horn studio and continues to perform with such groups as The Eastern Wind Symphony, Garden State Symphonic Band, Plainfield Symphony, Nassau Brass, Quintessential Brass, and other orchestras, bands, and pit orchestras around New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Mrs. Ferrara has also been involved in community theater for twenty years, mostly with musical direction, but has performed other roles both on and off the stage. At home, she spends her free time with her three cats, her two kids, and her husband. Mrs. Ferrara joined the staff of The Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey in 2021.

**Kenneth Bean** is the new conductor of the Symphonic Orchestra. He is an instructor and conductor in the Philadelphia area, as well as an active freelance trumpeter. He earned a Bachelor of Music from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and a Master of Music Education from Jackson State University. He has taught at many festivals and schools, including The School District of Philadelphia, Settlement Music School, The Premier Orchestral Institute of the Mississippi Symphony, and Play On Philly. Although he enjoys teaching and performing, Kenneth's passion is on the podium. He has appeared as a guest conductor for the Marywood String Festival, Berks County Orchestra Festival and the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. His past Music Director/Conductor appointments include the Junior String Philharmonic of the Lehigh Valley, the Young People's Philharmonic of the Lehigh Valley and Luzerne Music Center. Kenneth currently serves as Assistant Conductor of Symphony in C, Conductor of the Symphony in C Youth Orchestra in Collingswood, NJ, and Director/Conductor of the Young Musicians Debut Orchestra, the newest full orchestra within the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra Music Institute. In the summers, Maestro Bean serves as Co-Director of the Symphony in C Summer Camp and Conductor at Kinhaven Music School Junior Session in Weston, VT. Most recently, Maestro Bean has been appointed to serve as Assistant Conductor of the Princeton Symphony Orchestra in Princeton, NJ as well as the Symphonic Orchestra Conductor for the affiliated Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey since 2021.

## 2022 Upcoming Events

### Tuesday June 7, Prince of Peace Church

New Student Auditions • Register at [yocj.org/auditions](https://yocj.org/auditions)

### YOCJ Summer Band Camp, Prince of Peace Church

Monday-Friday, June 27—July 1 • 9am—Noon

Tuesday-Thursday, July 5—July 7 • 9am—Noon

Friday, July 8 • 9am—3pm, includes culminating Recital

Register at: <https://yocj.org/yocj-summer-camps/>

### YOCJ Summer Chamber Music Camp, Prince of Peace Church

Week 1: Monday-Friday, July 11—July 15 • 9am—Noon

Week 1 Recital: Friday, July 15, 11am

Week 2: Monday-Friday, July 18—July 22 • 9am—Noon

Week 2 Recital: Friday, July 22, 11am

Register at: <https://yocj.org/yocj-summer-camps/>

### YOUTH ORCHESTRA OF CENTRAL JERSEY



#### SUMMER BAND CAMP | 2 WEEK CAMP

Monday June 27 - Friday July 1, 9am-Noon

Tuesday July 5 - Thursday July 7, 9am-Noon

Friday, July 8, Double Session includes Final Concert

#### CHAMBER MUSIC CAMP | 1 OR BOTH WEEKS

Monday July 11 - Friday July 15, 9am-Noon

Monday July 18 - Friday July 22, 9am-Noon

Both weeks include Friday 11am Final Recitals

*Save the dates & stay tuned for more info!*



YOCJ [yocj.org](https://yocj.org) • [contactyocj@gmail.com](mailto:contactyocj@gmail.com)  

## YOCJ MEMBERSHIP RECOGNITION

YOCJ would like to recognize the students who have been members for 4 or more years. With a multitude of activities clamoring for the attention of all of our talented students, longevity speaks volumes about the loyalty, dedication, and sense of commitment of the following members. Students are listed in the order that they joined YOCJ within each year.

### Since 2015

Mad Espstein  
Chern Yang  
Nicholas Epps  
Jacob Ferrer  
Sullivan Lee

### Since 2016

Laura-Simone Martin  
Praachi Chakroborty  
Aryan Avadhanam  
Ariane Adcroft  
Elayne Jia  
Elizabeth Ferrara  
Edward Ye  
Timothy Chen  
Alexander Yuan

### Since 2017

Angela Li  
Aaron Cruz  
Henry Tsai  
Kyson Zhou  
Katherine Monroe  
Timothy Fong  
Kabir Nankani  
Leel Dias  
Allen Lee  
Aryaman Tomar  
Ava Fong  
Rithika Iyengar  
Darby Ko  
Sidharth Rao  
Kunal Deshpande  
Sanjay Kaushik  
Aarushi Thejaswi  
Sara Srinivasan  
Nithyasree Vinodh Sangeetha  
Sahil Patel  
Emma La Duke

### Since 2018

Aditya Kapoor  
Vrshaank Mahesh  
Aarav Patel  
Nethaka Haldo  
Tapsi Suryawanshi  
Justin Morgan  
John Santucci  
Sasmit Munagala  
Ethan Xu  
Richard Aerath  
Vyshakh Thejaswi  
Sanskriti Ramji  
Jayden Shah  
Akahs Nayak  
Jack Van Dusen  
Joanne Bennet  
Julie Cai  
Meghana Ivaturi  
Joyce Wu  
Prisha Bagchi  
Angad Singh  
Nandini Mirayala  
Savir Singh  
Miles Birnbaum



# Congratulations Class of 2022



Today's performance is being videotaped by  
**Brian Dixon Videography, LLC**  
<https://www.bcdixon.com/>

Footage will be available to YOCJ families for viewing as well as for free download soon. Watch for an email with instructions and links.

Please consider making a donation to YOCJ to help us continue to give our musicians exceptional learning experiences. Visit us at...

[www.yocj.org/how-to-donate](http://www.yocj.org/how-to-donate)

More information can be found at the end of the program page of this concert program booklet.

Please turn off all phones and electronic devices, and be mindful of those seated around you. Flash photography is not permitted during the performance. Thank you for your cooperation!



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# 3pm Concert

## Wind Symphony *Scott Collins, Conductor*

### Themes from An Original Suite for Military Band

No. 1. March

No. 2. Intermezzo

No. 3. Finale

### Escapada

#### Flute

Agriya Bansal  
Gordon Fan  
Anya Patel  
Sanskriti Ramji  
Shreyansh Sen  
Tapsi Suryawanshi  
Nithayasree  
Vinodh-Sangeetha

#### Clarinet

Rithwik Aggarwal  
Helen Chen  
Anika Khedekar  
Maddox Kraft  
Wei-En Liao  
Ankit Sarukkai  
Sanskriti Singh  
Eunice Tseng  
Svara Venkatesan  
Kris Vikram  
Gloria Wang  
Lucas Wang

#### Bass Clarinet

Leland Quaynor  
Florisel Velez

#### Oboe

Elizabeth Kim  
Sahana Manikandan  
Mihika Srivastava

#### Bassoon

Andrew Yuan

#### Saxophone

Aaryan Ajith  
Will Kovalick  
Aidan Ni  
Christopher Velez  
Giselle Velez

#### Trumpet

Prarthana Harikrishnan  
Malachi Wang  
Brayden Woodward  
Brian Woodward &

#### French Horn

Zachary Phelan

### Gordon Jacob

(1895-1984)

arr. James Curnow

### David Moore (b. 1968)

#### Euphonium

Akshath Sarukkai

#### Trombone

Claire Tang

#### Tuba

Noah Chen

#### Percussion

Ariane Adcroft  
Harry Fan  
Sounish Ghosh  
Arnav Lasher  
Somya Mittal  
Kanishk Neerumalla  
John Santucci

#### Timpani

Arnav Lasher  
Kanishk Neerumalla

& = YOCJ Staff

**Jack Van Dusen** attends Monroe Township High School and will attend West Virginia University after graduating, where he plans on joining their marching band. He started his music career in 2012 when he began to learn the piano, picking up the saxophone a year later. He joined the YOCJ Saxophone Choir his freshman year of high school in 2018. Throughout high school he also joined the high school marching band and jazz band, took their music theory courses, and learned to play the mellophone.

**Eddy Ye** attends West Windsor Plainsboro High School North and has been playing the French Horn since 5th grade. He joined YOCJ in 2016 and is currently working with Mrs. Ferrara. Eddy also plays in his school's Wind Ensemble and Pit Orchestra. Outside of music, Eddy enjoys playing golf, listening to calming music, and eating delicious food with his friends and family. Eddy has played on the WWP North Boys varsity golf team since freshman year and has earned numerous awards at tournaments hosted by the Mercer County Golf Academy. He is also a semi finalist in the Wharton Global High School Investment Competition. In the fall, Eddy will study at Northeastern University as a Finance major. He would like to thank his family, friends, Mrs. Ferrara, Mr. Collins, and Mr. Woodward for encouraging and supporting him in his musical endeavors.

**Swetha Yogeswaran** is a senior at South Brunswick High School. She began playing the flute in 4th grade, joined YOCJ in 7th grade, and played in the CJMEA region band in 7th and 8th grade. Swetha would like to thank her private teacher, Mrs. Sandy Olson, for constantly challenging and supporting her. She would also like to thank the YOCJ conductors and her middle school band directors, Mrs. Sandy Olson and Mr. George Heffentrager, for creating exciting musical experiences, fostering beloved musical communities, and inspiring her love for music. Apart from playing the flute, Swetha enjoys playing Carnatic violin, spending time outside, eating spicy food, and watching Breaking Bad. In the fall, Swetha will be attending Stanford University, majoring in computer science.

**Alexander Yuan** is a senior at West Windsor Plainsboro High School South. He started playing the saxophone in 5th grade at Millstone River and has studied under Dr. Jordan Smith for around 7 years. He joined YOCJ when he was in 6th grade. In his senior year, Alex made it into the NJMEA All State band as the 1st chair Alto Saxophonist. Outside of playing the saxophone, Alex also likes playing volleyball and listening to music. He would like to thank Dr. Jordan Smith for the years of mentorship and his parents for supporting his endeavors.



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yocjnewjersey](https://www.instagram.com/yocjnewjersey)



**Edward Lu** currently attends Robbinsville High School. He plans to major in music composition at Syracuse University and is interested in pursuing a minor in communications and music industry. Edward began his musical pursuit in 2nd grade, playing the guzheng and hulusi in the Music from China Youth Orchestra. He started playing the alto saxophone in 3rd grade but has only been taking private lessons for two years now. His current teacher is John Flynn. He joined the YOCJ Saxophone Choir in his senior year of high school. Some of Edward's accomplishments are winning a film-scoring contest for young composers, scoring a 5 on the AP music theory exam, and being the woodwind captain of the Raven Regiment marching band for two years. During his freshman year, his marching band won the New Jersey state championship and placed 2nd at nationals. Some of Edward's hobbies include watching anime with friends, eating desserts, caring for plants, and listening to music. Edward would like to thank his high school music teachers Mr. Williams and Mr. Wilson, and his composition teacher Leo Discenza for inspiring him in his musical pursuits.

**Vrshaank Mahesh** is a senior attending West Windsor Plainsboro High School South. He currently plans to pursue a bachelor's degree in Microbiology at UC Davis. He started the cello at age 8, under the initial tutelage of Mr. John Enz and later under the direction of Mr. David Szepessy. He has been in YOCJ since 2017, and has spent most of his time in the Symphonic Ensemble. Other than playing the cello, Vrshaank enjoys cooking, playing games, and hanging out with friends in his free time. Vrshaank would like to thank Mr. Enz and Mr. Szepessy, for providing the guidance towards progress that he is more than proud of during his high school career.

**Sahil Patel** is a member of the Saxophone Choir and attends West Windsor Plainsboro High School North and will be attending Rochester Institute of Technology in the Fall for Game Design and Development. Sahil started playing the saxophone in 5th grade and has had two private teachers, Ms. Glitz and Dr. Smith. Sahil joined YOCJ in 7th grade and has played both alto and baritone. Sahil has played in his school's Marching Band, Wind Ensemble, Steel Band, Jazz Band, and Pit Orchestra. Sahil enjoys math, likes to play and create video games, and cook. Sahil would like to thank his parents for helping him pursue and further fund his interest in saxophone and his private teacher Dr. Smith for encouraging his pursuit of being a saxophonist.

**John Santucci** is a senior at Watchung Hills Regional High School in Warren, NJ. He has been playing percussion since he was in fourth grade. John has studied with his private teacher, Chris Colaneri, from the very beginning—eight years and counting. At Chris's encouragement, John joined YOCJ in the winter of 2018. He has performed with various other groups apart from YOCJ and his school's instrumental ensembles, recently including the Plainfield Symphony Orchestra and the Choral Art Society of New Jersey. In 2021, he was a participant in the Percussion on the Sound Festival and the Juilliard Summer Percussion Seminar. John would like to thank Chris Colaneri for being an amazing teacher and his parents for their endless support. John will be majoring in Percussion Performance at the Ithaca College School of Music, studying under Dr. Mike Truesdell.

# String Preparatory Orchestra

*Phillip Pugh, Conductor*

**Sinfonia No.2 in D Major**

*I. Allegro*

**Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)**

arr. Moss

**Quartet No.14 in G Major, K.387**

*IV. Molto Allegro*

**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**

**(1756-1791)**

**Celebration!**

**Tracey R. Rush (b. 1955)**

**Violin I**

Grace Chang

Kyle Grzymala

Roshan Nankani

Akhil Pavuluri \*

Anna Qu

Julia Qu

**Violin II**

Naina Enock

Hana Fang

Advait Ghantasala

Soumyanil Jana

Arnav Maheshwari

Sloka Vendra \*

**Cello**

Hruthvik Banigandlapati

Sai Nithil Reddy Chintagunta

Akshaj Jindal

Abigail Knowles

Morgan Li \*

Ceilidh Manigrasso

Abhirami Rajesh

Mahika Thakur

\* = Principal Player

+ = Educator

**Viola**

Amithi Munagala

Eshan Yalla \*

**Double Bass**

Sohan Kondru \*

Robert Peterson +



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# Pro Arte Orchestra

## Phillip Pugh, Conductor

### Serenade Op. 10

Allegro  
Andante con Moto  
Allegro Vivace

### Ernst von Dohnányi (1877-1960)

arr. Drew

#### Violin I

Richard Aerath  
Advait Bragadeesh  
Julie Cai  
Julia Huang  
Meghana Ivaturi  
Darby Ko \*  
Saanvi Kunisetty  
Pei-In Liao  
Henry Tsai  
Franklin Wang  
Joyce Wu  
Kyson Zhou

#### Violin II

Judy Akel  
Ci-Ning Ang  
Brendan Appert  
Prisha Bagchi  
Natalie Cheng  
William Jin  
Jane Lee \*  
Konnor Lee  
Vinay Nair  
Jessica Poprik  
Angad Singh  
Kevin Tang

#### Viola

Tanav Gowda \*  
Emily Koenigsberg  
Sahaj Jasani  
Arsh Mehan  
Janhavi Palkar  
Emma Phelan  
Vyshakh Thejaswi

#### Cello

Siddharth Belahal  
Anirudh Brahmarouthu  
Sagar Deshpande  
Naveen Enock  
Riya Gupta  
Lucas Horowitz  
Aaron Li  
Richa Palle  
Chloe Wang  
Parker Woo \*  
Lina Yang

#### Double Bass

Praachi Chakraborty \*  
Robert Peterson +

\* = Principal Player

+ = Educator

**Rithika Iyengar** is a senior at West Windsor Plainsboro High School North. She started playing the clarinet when she was in 5th grade, and started studying under her teacher Sherry Hartman-Apgar when she was in 7th grade. Soon after starting private lessons, Rithika auditioned for YOCJ. Throughout high school, Rithika's been a part of many school and community ensembles, competed in music competitions, and performed in venues like Carnegie Hall. Outside of music, Rithika loves to listen to music, read, debate, and bike. She plans to study economics and applied mathematics at Rice University, while pursuing music opportunities as a nonmajor. Rithika would like to thank her parents, all the YOCJ faculty, and her teacher Mrs. Apgar for supporting her in her music journey.

**Elayne Jia** is currently a senior at High School South and will be attending Johns Hopkins University in the fall with an intended major of East Asian Studies. She started viola in 4th grade with Mrs. Mariana Vasiliu and is currently studying with Mr. William Law. She joined YOCJ in seventh grade and has performed with New Jersey's Regional and All-State Orchestras yearly since 2017 with the exception of those canceled by the pandemic. She also performed with the 2021 All Eastern Orchestra. At South, Elayne is a principal player of the Symphonic Orchestra, Pirate's Nonet and Chinese Club's String Quintet. Outside of viola, she co-captains High School North and South's combined Ultimate Frisbee team, currently ranked in the top 25 nationally, along with Angela Li and enjoys photography and drawing. She would like to thank her parents and grandparents for encouraging her to pursue music, her friends and brother for sharing a passion for music, Mr. Law, Mr. Pugh and Mr. Enz for their continued support and guidance and finally Mrs. Vasiliu, for whom she is especially grateful to for instilling her love for music and beginning her musical journey.

**Sullivan Lee** attends Robbinsville High School located in Robbinsville NJ. He intends to major in computer science at Rutgers University, and has interests in other technological fields but wants to mainly focus on computer science. Sullivan started playing the violin when he was about the age of 5. His one and only private teacher he has ever had is Larisa Epps and he joined YOCJ in 2015. Some special accomplishments include achieving Violin Level 10 in the ASTA Certificate Advance Program, getting into Nationals in gymnastics, and winning a video game tournament. Some of Sullivan's hobbies include playing video games and exercising. He would like to thank and acknowledge his parents for starting him off with musical ideas and his private teacher for helping him hone his skills.

**Angela Li** is a senior at WWPHS-North. She is planning on double majoring in Psychology and Communication Sciences at CWRU. Angela started playing violin with her sister when she was 4 years old. Her very first private teacher was Maggie Speier. She then moved to Plainsboro in 2nd grade and learned from Barbara Greenberg for 5 years. Angela's current private teacher is Nancy Wilson. Angela joined YOCJ during the spring semester of her 7th grade as a 2nd violin in the Pro Arte Orchestra. Just recently, Angela performed Max Bruch's Violin Concerto No.1 Mvt.1 with her school orchestra accompanying her. Angela is also the captain of the WWP Girls Ultimate Frisbee team along with her co-captain Elayne Jia. She absolutely loves ultimate frisbee and wishes to continue it in college as well. Angela would like to thank her parents for driving her to every violin lesson and always sitting in to listen to her practice.

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**Elizabeth (EJ) Ferrara** is a senior at West Windsor Plainsboro High School South. She intends to pursue a double degree in Music Education and French Horn Performance at Ithaca College this fall. EJ started playing the French Horn in fourth grade, with practicing really starting up in fifth grade. She was lucky to start lessons with her mother, Shannon Ferrara, as her private teacher. She then joined the studio of Jon Clark her Freshman year of high school. EJ joined YOJ in the sixth grade because she was looking to start playing with a bigger orchestra. She fell in love with music her Freshman year, when her musical world started to expand. She has since played with many orchestras and bands, including Regional Band and Orchestra, Allstate Band and Orchestra, Q-Band, her Schools Marching Band, Eastern Winds Youth Band, and orchestral pits for musicals at The Kelsey Theater. Alongside of music, EJ owns her own small business (Earrings N' Things) with upcycled smaller materials into jewelry, acrylic pour paintings, clay charms, and such. She spends a lot of time with her cats - Octavia, Indra, and Beaker, as well as any other furry friend that comes along her way. She would like to thank her mother and Grandmother, Shannon Ferrara and Lori Ludlum, for creating and keeping such a vibrant musical area around her for her whole life. Love goes out to those supporting her and attending her concerts, listening and giving musical advice to always help her grow into the person she is today. She cannot wait for what awaits her in the future.

**Jacob Ferrer** is graduating from West Windsor-Plainsboro High School North and is attending the University of Pittsburgh to study Electrical Engineering. He began playing cello in 4th grade and joined YOJ in 6th grade. He particularly enjoyed touring with YOJ in Germany, and remembers fondly the final concert with the choir, performing *Berlinerluft!* His future plans with cello are undecided but he will continue to develop his interest in music as a music professional or synthesizer designer. He would like to thank Mr. Pugh, Ms. Palombit, Mr. Szepessy and Mr. Oettle for inspiring him beyond the cello and pushing him to explore music as an art. Additional thanks to his mother for putting up with his "musical experimentation."

**Timothy Fong** is a senior attending Princeton Day School (PDS), and he has a strong interest in math, science, and music. He plans on pursuing computer science at Brown University class of 2026, and wants to minor in music as well. He has competed in Princeton Day School's Science Olympiad team for 4 years, and is an avid member of the school's orchestra and chamber groups. Timothy began playing the violin in 5th grade, and currently studies under Mr. James Keene at the Princeton String Academy. He joined YOJ in 7th grade. Outside of music, Timothy has experience working as a Junior camp counselor at the PREM school in Thailand, and enjoys helping and working with younger kids. In his free time he likes to yo-yo, as well as take care of his basil farm. Timothy would like to thank Mr. Blickenstaff, Dr. Charles Louw, Mr. James Keene, and Santi Saengthong for inspiring him in his musical pursuits.

**Henry Furey** is a senior at WPHS-North and a double bassist in YOJ. They will be attending Stevens Institute of Technology starting in the fall as an industrial and systems engineering major. There they will continue to play music in local groups and school ensembles. Henry started playing bass, studying with Arthur Stephano, the summer before their sophomore year, and only joined YOJ for the spring 2022 season. They have also participated in NJMEA All States and play with several extra-curricular string groups at school.

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## Pro Arte Orchestra & Wind Symphony *Scott Collins & Phillip Pugh, Conductors*

**The Hebrides Overture  
(Fingal's Cave)**

**Felix Mendelssohn  
(1809-1847)**

**Finale from Overture to  
Orpheus in the Underworld**

**Jacques Offenbach  
(1819-1880)**

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# Candygram Sale

Once again by popular demand, we will be selling candies and snack packs at minimal cost. Be sure to stop by the Candygram table and write a note of appreciation for your child or any other YOJ student to celebrate their hard work! Please encourage your child to show appreciation to their fellow YOJ musicians as well! Petty cash please!





The Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey is thrilled to be a recipient of a grant from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts since 2016.

This program is made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.



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Since starting the violin at the age of 9, **Amelia Cunningham** knew that she wanted to continue music for the rest of her life. She will attend Rutgers Mason Gross to study both Music Education and Music Performance on violin. With the skills she acquires in college, she will create her own violin/composition studio, run a non-profit orchestra for new music, and work in a school as an orchestra director. She is currently studying violin with Mr. Rutao Mao and composition/theory from Mr. Tim Keyes. Amelia recently joined YOCJ for the spring semester but auditioned in the summer of 2020. She has been in the National Honors Society for 2 years, was honored by Montgomery High School with 5 academic awards, has written many original compositions that are currently entered in competitions, and completed 9 college auditions. Knitting, paper craft, calligraphy and jewelry making are some of her hobbies. Amelia would like to thank her Mom, Dad, Grandmother, and siblings Elizabeth, Eleanor, and Edward for making so many sacrifices to allow for her music education as well as Mrs. Louise McClure, Mr. Tim Keyes, and Dr. Elena Chernova-Davis for guiding her on her musical journey.

**Thea Dietze** attends Timothy Christian School. For her future college, she has decided to attend Eastern University in Pennsylvania and is joining their honors program. Although she is undecided in her major, she plans to explore her passions and keep her horizons open when it comes to a career path, though she is very interested in the arts. Thea first began to play her clarinet in 7th grade and has been taught under her band teacher Mr. David Carroll for the first year before studying under Mr. Gregory Marsh up to the present. She first joined YOCJ's Symphonic Orchestra in 2019 and has enjoyed playing with them through COVID-19 to 2022. In 2020, Thea was inducted into the National Honors Society by her school and has remained a proud member ever since. Aside from academics, she enjoys drawing, performing and listening to music, doing any sort of crafts, and playing sports, specifically ice hockey and track and field. For supporting and encouraging her through her music career, Thea would like to thank her parents, Christina and Gary, and send them all the love in the world. She would also like to acknowledge and thank her clarinet teacher Gregory Marsh, for instructing and guiding her to gain more skill, which got her to where she is today.

**Nicholas Epps** is a senior at Steinert High School. He plans to major in Computer Science at Messiah University, with a concentration in web development. Nicholas has been playing the violin ever since he was a wee lad. His one and only violin teacher is Larisa Epps. Nicholas joined YOCJ in the beginning of his 6th grade year. Some favorite YOCJ memories include the 2017 tour to Germany and a short lived attempt to go busking in Berlin! Recent accomplishments include obtaining a Violin Level 10 certificate in the ASTA Certificate Advancement Program and achieving Eagle rank for the Scouts of America. Nicholas Epps would like to thank all the YOCJ conductors as well as his mother, Larisa Epps, for never giving up on him during violin lessons!

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# SENIOR BIOGRAPHIES

**Ariane Adcroff** is a senior at West Windsor-Plainsboro High School South, and has been playing percussion in school for eight years. Since joining YOCJ in 2016, she has been studying with Peter Saleh, and has also been involved with the region orchestra and percussion ensemble, high school marching band, and the school percussion ensemble outside of YOCJ. Ariane plans to study Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering at university, where she will also stay involved with the orchestra and marching band. She would like to thank her parents for driving her to every audition, rehearsal, and concert and supporting her in her musical endeavors, her teacher Pete for guiding her and pushing her for so many years, and all the members of YOCJ who have made rehearsals so enjoyable.

**Claudia Charles** is a homeschooled flute player who plans to major in Music Performance. She plans on studying at the John J Cali School of Music at Montclair State University. Claudia started playing the flute when she was 9 while in the 4th grade, and even performed at Carnegie hall when she was 15. But it wasn't until she met her current teacher, Sandy Olson, that she realized she wanted to perform for a living. She told her about YOCJ at the beginning of the year, and since she joined, she's had so much fun making music with other fellow musicians. She loved to collaborate with others, and started posting videos of different collaborations on her Instagram starting in 2020. She would love to thank Sandy Olson, as well as all of her friends in YOCJ for welcoming her into the wonderful community.

**Timothy Chen** attends Montgomery High School and will begin his education in pharmacy at Rutgers University. Tim started playing saxophone in 4th grade and has studied under Dr. Jordan Smith since 6th grade. One year later, Tim joined the YOCJ saxophone ensemble. Since then, Tim has achieved several musical accomplishments such as placing first in the first annual Winter Saxophone Competition hosted by Dr. Paul Cohen of Rutgers University, placing first chair soprano saxophone and 4th chair alto saxophone in the New Jersey All State band in 2019 and 2022 respectively, and receiving a high honors rating from the NJMTA Spring Senior Recital Auditions in 2021. In his free time, Tim likes to watch Tik Toks and play tennis. Finally, Tim would like to thank Dr. Smith, his parents, and his fellow musicians for inspiring him to make music.

**Aaron Cruz** attends West Windsor-Plainsboro High School South. After high school, Aaron plans to pursue a major in Computer Science at Rutgers University. Aaron started playing the trumpet in October 2014, when he was in 5th grade. Aaron has been taking private lessons with Mr. Kaufmann since. Aaron joined YOCJ in January 2017. Outside of music, Aaron enjoys speedcubing, running, biking, spending time with family, and going on cruises. For inspiring him in his musical pursuits, Aaron would like to thank and acknowledge his private teacher of 7+ years, Mr. Kaufmann, his past school band directors, Mrs. Witmer, Mr. Fultz, Mrs. Ferrara, Mr. Argenziano, his family, and the many Youtube videos that have awed him.



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# 7pm Concert

## Saxophone Choir

*Dr. Jordan Smith, Conductor*

### **Araneum**

I. Adagio  
II. Allegretto con energia

**Daniel Muck (b. 1990)**

### **Lord of the Rings Suite**

I. The Fellowship Theme  
II. The Prophecy  
III. Concerning Hobbits  
IV. The Riders of Rohan  
V. Isengard Unleashed  
VI. Minas Tirith  
VII. The Return of the King  
VIII. The Gray Havens

**Howard Shore (b. 1946)**  
arr. Patrick Kline

Arr. and conducted by student composer, Patrick Kline

### **Souvenir de Puerto Rico**

**Louis Moreau Gottschalk (1829-1869)**  
arr. D. Marolf

#### **Soprano Saxophone**

Timothy Chen  
Sidharth Rao

#### **Alto Saxophone**

Vikram Balaguru  
Ishan Chikka  
Matthew Kartavov  
Edward Lu  
Nandini Miryala  
Evan Reese Pagtalunan  
Jayden Shah  
Savir Singh  
William Sun  
Eric Xing

#### **Tenor Saxophone**

Dylan Adamo  
Aaryan Ajith  
Aryan Avadhanam  
Miles Birnbaum  
Florenca Curchitser  
Akash Nayak  
Jack Van Dusen  
Reya Varun

#### **Baritone Saxophone**

Sahil Patel  
Alexander Yuan

#### **Bass Saxophone**

Justin Morgan

# Symphonic Orchestra

*Kenneth Bean, Conductor*

**Ballade in A Minor, Op. 33**

**Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912)**

**Concerto for Clarinet and Strings**

**Gerald Finzi (1901-1956)**

I. Allegro vigoroso

*Rithika Iyengar, Clarinet*

**Concerto for Alto Saxophone and Orchestra**

**Paul Creston (1906-1985)**

I. Energetic

*Timothy Chen, Alto Saxophone*

**Symphony No. 9, Op. 95**

**Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904)**

**From The New World**

I. Adagio, Allegro molto  
IV. Allegro con fuoco

#### **Violin I**

Evan Chen  
Maxine Chen  
Amelia Cunningham  
Nicholas Epps  
Sullivan Lee  
Angela Li  
Katherine Monroe \*\*

#### **Violin II**

Timothy Fong  
Jaimie Liao  
Kabir Nankani  
Brian Sun  
Aarushi Thejaswi  
Selena Wu  
Chern Yang \*

#### **Viola**

Joanne Bennet  
Jonathan Huang  
Elayne Jia \*  
Naima Kamikura  
Sasmit Munagala  
Ayush Saran

\*\* = Concertmaster

\* = Principal

& = YOCJ Staff

# = PSO Musician

+ = Educator

#### **Cello**

Rhea Cadambi  
Nikhil Das  
Leel Dias  
Jacob Ferrer  
Nethaka Haldo  
Isabelle Ho  
Aditya Kapoor  
Allen Lee  
Vrshaank Mahesh \*  
Aarav Patel  
Vikram Rajput  
Ronak Shah  
Ethan Xu

#### **Double Bass**

Mad Epstein  
Henry Furey \*  
Laura-Simone Martin  
Aryaman Tomar

#### **Flute**

Claudia Charles \*  
Dhriti Dinesh  
Ava Fong  
Stephen Kim  
Emma LaDuke  
Sara Srinivasan  
Swetha Yogeswaran

#### **Oboe**

Vedaswini Kabra  
Noah Kay #

#### **Clarinet**

Thea Dietze  
Rithika Iyengar \*  
Alison Sharpe

#### **Bassoon**

Sol Chung \*  
Jonathan LiVolsi +

#### **French Horn**

Elizabeth Ferrara \*  
Edward Ye  
Shannon Ferrara &  
Jonathan Clark #

#### **Trumpet**

Aaron Cruz \*  
Anton Misirpashayev  
Jerry Bryant #  
Valdemar Castillo #

#### **Trombone**

Jason Stein #  
Lars Wendt #

#### **Tuba**

Brandon Mooney #

#### **Percussion**

Ariane Adcroft  
John Santucci