



June 15, 2011

Dear VYS parents,

Congratulations on your child's placement in the Vermont Youth Strings for the 2011-2012 concert season! To mark our first full season led by Music Director Jeff Domoto, we are developing exciting additions to our music education programs, plus new training and performance opportunities for the VYOA's 500 young musicians.

Enclosed you will find your 2011-2012 registration packet, as well as tuition and participation contracts. **Please return your completed registration paperwork and VYS tuition and participation contracts by July 6, 2011, along with the tuition due according to the payment option you have selected on the tuition contract, or application for financial aid.**

Please read and complete all pages carefully as several important changes have been made, specifically regarding the tuition payment process. This season, the VYOA is offering two payment schedule options. Each option is described in the enclosed tuition contract.

As shown since his arrival in February, Jeff has tremendous enthusiasm for both nurturing and challenging young musicians, as well as building community throughout the entire VYOA. Your child will experience many exciting enhancements to their ensemble program during the 2011-2012 concert season. These enhancements include:

- The return of school tours. The emphasis will be on reaching out to non-VYOA students and encouraging their participation in music making
- Increased sectional coaching time for all orchestras
- Weekly musicianship training sessions led by members of the VYOA staff and special guests
- A new string master class series
- A series of "instrument days" (e.g. "Oboe Day") with workshops, master classes and instrument choirs open to the entire musical community
- Social and family events at the Elley-Long Music Center at Saint Michael's College

Please understand that tuition is budgeted to cover just 50% of the VYOA's annual operating expenses. We rely on grants, corporate sponsorships, ticket and merchandise sales, building rentals and individual contributions to cover our remaining expenses. Please encourage anyone with an interest in youth music activities to become a VYOA supporter!

Being a VYS member is a full family commitment. Behind each of our students is a network of parents, teachers, and friends making their experience possible. As we look forward to a wonderful concert season, please know that my door is always open. Feel free to stop in and discuss your questions, suggestions, and concerns. The staff and Board of the VYOA are committed to working with you to ensure the long-term sustainability of the VYOA.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Randy Rowland', written over a white background.

Randy Rowland
Interim Executive Director