

## UPCOMING CONCERTS & EVENTS

**Saturday, March 12—11:00 am**

Rug Concert for ages 0-5 @ ELMC

*Seating is limited—be sure to purchase tickets in advance*

**Sunday, April 10—5:00 pm**

VYP Spring concert @ ELMC

**Tuesday, April 12—7:00 pm**

Spring Choral Concert @ ELMC

**Sunday, May 1—3:00 pm**

VYO Spring Concert @ the Flynn

**For ticket information, visit [vyo.org](http://vyo.org)**

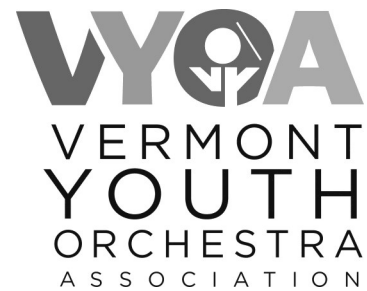
## ONLINE AUCTION

**April 24—May 8, 2016**

This spring, help us raise **\$10,000 for financial aid** and ensure that every student is able to participate in our ensembles, regardless of their financial situation. Each year, we give away an average of \$40,000 in student aid, and this auction will help us continue to do so.

Join our email list and like us on Facebook to get all of the latest news and updates about this fundraiser!

If you or your business or employer is interested in donating an item to the auction, please visit **[vyo.org/auction](http://vyo.org/auction)**



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ALUMNI NEWSLETTER  
WINTER 2016



**FLASHBACK FEATURE: DRAKE MABRY** (oboe, VYO '64-'67) sent in this photo from 1965 and was able to name quite a few alums! Can you name the rest? If so, send an email to [martha@vyo.org](mailto:martha@vyo.org) and let us know!



### WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Send your stories and address updates to Martha Pullen at [martha@vyo.org](mailto:martha@vyo.org). Let us know what's going on in your life and share memories and photos of your time with the VYOA!

# VYOA VERMONT YOUTH ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Winter 2016

## VYO Alum Takes the Helm at VSO



In December, the Vermont Symphony Orchestra named its new Executive Director: VYO alumnus **BEN CADWALLADER! (oboe, VYO '99-'03, SBHS)** Most recently, Ben had been working as education programs manager of the Los Angeles Philharmonic. During his time with the VYOA, Ben was principal oboe for three years and a senior soloist, performing the Strauss D Major oboe concerto. He also served on the staff of Music Day Camp.

In a recent article about him in Vermont's weekly newspaper, *Seven Days*, Ben shared that he is looking forward to bringing new ideas to the organization and "thinking outside the box."

One such idea, tentatively titled VSO:muse would bring smaller groups of musicians to unusual locations around Vermont. He is also hoping to expand the VSO's activities in southern Vermont. Ben told us, "From the beginning, the VYO instilled in me the pure joy of making music with others. In all the years that have followed, that sense of joy and accomplishment serves as a daily motivator for me and a constant reminder of why music is a fundamental part of our shared existence." **Congratulations, Ben!**

## ALUMNI NEWS

**ARITOMO SHINOZAKI (oboe, VYO '80-'81, SBHS)** Upon reading the VYO newsletter from spring 2015, I was touched by a few things. Memory is remarkably elastic. The odd basement rehearsal room, the grassy taste of an oboe reed, faces I haven't recalled in years all come back into focus for a moment. I remember playing oboe as awash in the sound sea of the orchestra around you. The odd memory comes back from my time at VYO - rehearsals mainly, counting in an entrance for the oboe section or something like that. Getting a bit of a grimace from (I think it was) Mr. Anderson our conductor if we woff'd the entrance with an uncooperative reed.

I saw a few names I recognized - Chad Hollister for one. In my mind, he is a young boy in a bus on the way to school. Someone was teasing me about something. Chad, a few years younger than me, whispered something like "don't listen to him, you are a good person..." I immediately went to his website, and ended up buying one of his CD's. Then I saw the memoriam for Linda Welch. The story brought a tear, as memory sees her as the lead clarinet for the fourth of July band concerts we had at Battery Park - very happy and energetic. It was nice to read she was later conductor of the City Band - fitting.

For news at the home front, still happily married with two boys Cianan (14) and Kaishuu (12). Neither have been much into music, although Cianan just did his first musical, and Kaishuu just surprised us and asked for guitar lessons, which he just started. Who knows? My wife Theresa teaches at Santa Clara University, and I am a consulting partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers out here in Silicon Valley. I haven't played oboe in years - although ironically, I have a current client who is a former professional oboist. It is wonderful to see how VYO continues to grow and flourish, and I know, regardless of our paths, all who experience VYO carry memories which may stretch with time, but never break. Can you imagine my few memories multiplied by 1000s of others, and the impact those have on people who passed through or were influenced by the VYO?

## ALUMNI NEWS

**MARC SEMPREBON (horn, VYO '70-'72, Montpelier)** I remarried in 1998 to a lovely woman named Roslyn. Combining our respective families (my 3 sons and her 2 sons and 2 daughters), we also have 5 grandchildren. We are both Jehovah's Witnesses in the Stanstead, Quebec Congregation. Over the past 4 months we have been given the privilege and opportunity to learn how to speak Swahili.

My wife also shares my love of the horn as she herself is an accomplished horn player. While living in the Hanover NH - White River Junction VT area, we were members of both the Upper Valley Music Center Orchestra and the Upper Valley Community Band. In addition we performed in many local musicals during our time together there until we moved north to our current home Beebe Plain, VT. We both perform for the Northeast Kingdom Community Orchestra (at Lyndon State College) and the Newport (VT) Area Community Orchestra. I have also had the privilege to announce program notes for all 3 orchestras' performances, having done so for close to 25 years. Our desire is to one day to qualify to perform with an excellent international orchestra located in Patterson, NY.

I received my Doctorate of Pharmacy (PharmD) in 2003 and I still work as a hospital pharmacist; Roslyn works as a registered nurse.

**TRAVIS CARPENTER (viola, VYO '00-'03, SBHS)** took his viola to Potsdam, NY where he majored in Music Education. After finishing college and teaching orchestra in the Utica, NY area for five years, he returned to his native South Burlington for a year to work with various schools and community music organizations. He also served as the Resident Life Director for the Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival for two summers. In 2013, he moved to Ithaca, NY, where he now serves as the assistant conductor of the Ithaca Community Orchestra and teaches private string lessons. He also took up the banjo when he moved to Ithaca, and participates in the local folk scene. The Ithaca Community Orchestra recently premiered a marimba concerto which included an orchestral 5-string banjo part, which he was proud to play.

**MALKA COHEN (formerly Madeleine Kingston, Flute, VYO '66-'67, Montpelier)** wrote to Carolyn Long last fall: I'm happy to share with you that I got married this June to Moshe Cohen, and moved to Neve Yaakov, a suburb of Jerusalem. (My late husband, Daniel Grunauer, passed away in 2012.) Moshe has a number of grandchildren, as well as great grandchildren (!), so I have a busy family life now.

I have reopened my piano studio in my new home, and continue to play for the women's choir, Hashmini, which means, "Let me hear your voice," from the Song of Songs. I also play in the chamber music ensemble, The Salt and Pepper Players. I compose music for the choir from time to time. I always enjoy receiving the VYO Newsletter.

**DAVID PORTER (Trumpet, VYO '02-'04, Randolph)** and his wife Caroline are expecting the birth of their son in June! They live in Somerville, MA, their home of 5 years. David has recently moved on from working with the Nissan World Endurance Championship LMP1 racing team and has started at Open Water Power designing underwater fuel cells. The racing travel schedule has precluded playing trumpet often, but he hopes that he'll find time now that he is working and living in the same state.

**DONALD SWINCHOSKI (trumpet, VYO '72-'74, Lamoille Union)** Currently teaching music at Central Jersey College Prep in Somerset, NJ where I teach strings, band, jazz band, choir, guitar, music tech, and general music classes. I conduct two bands: Colts Neck Community Band and The Band of the Two Rivers and am a free-lance conductor and trumpet player in north and central New Jersey. A shout-out to Mrs. Carolyn Long who was responsible for so much of the VYO organization back in the and still in recent years. I always love hearing updates of other VYO alumni.



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE VYOA

**The last 6 weeks** have been very busy for VYO members and we couldn't be more proud of them. In December at OrchestraChorusPalooza, senior Beth Moore performed Danzi's Concerto No. 2 for Flute and Orchestra, Op. 31. Also on the program was Modest Mussorgsky's Night On Bald Mountain. VYO string players had an opportunity to perform under the baton of VYO Chorus conductor Caleb Pillsbury when the VYO chorus joined them in performing George Frederick Handel's "May no rash intruder" from Solomon. The concert concluded with a combined orchestra and chorus performing Bach's *Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring* from Cantata No. 147 and Leroy Anderson's *Sleigh Ride*.

New this year the VYO performed a New Year's concert at Elley-Long Music Center rather than at the Flynn as a part of First Night Burlington. Senior soloist Elliot Lowe performed Aleksandra Pakhmutova's Concerto for Trumpet to a packed hall at Elley-Long. The concert also included a *Tribute to John Williams*, *An American in Paris Suite* and Johann Strauss' *The Blue Danube Waltz*. After the obligatory audience sing-along of *Auld Lang Syne*, students, families, and alumni enjoyed a post-concert pie social. There were over 30 pies and delicious desserts and cider all supplied by VYO parents.

The VYO's Winter Concert took place on January 31<sup>st</sup> at the Flynn. The VYO really shined performing Leonard Bernstein's *Overture to West Side Story* and Igor Stravinsky's epic work, the *Firebird Suite (1919)*. The program ended with the highly anticipated choral collaboration between the VYO, VYO Chorus and nearly 90 singers from Champlain Valley Union High School, Mount Mansfield Union High School, BFA Fairfax, Harwood Union High School, Mill River Union High School, and Burr & Burton Academy performing Dvořák's *Te Deum*. Soloists were Sarah Cullins (soprano, Concert Chorale conductor) and Erik Kroncke (bass). Also, on the concert was the dedication of a new glockenspiel in Collin Reynolds' memory. Collin passed away in March of 2015 to cystic fibrosis and had been a member of the percussion sections of Sinfonia, Vermont Youth Philharmonia, and the VYO. The VYO performed "Jupiter" from Gustav Holst's *The Planets* which features the glockenspiel, the part Collin had played when the VYO performed it in 2012.

The VYO looks forward to its first VSO side-by-side in eight years. On March 17<sup>th</sup> the VYO and VSO will come together to perform Carnegie Hall's Link Up Concert, *The Orchestra Sings*. This interactive school-day performance is part of the Flynn's school-day matinee program and will have 800 students in grades 3 – 6 ready to perform on recorders from their seats with the orchestra. Orchestras from across the country are performing these concerts annually. The VYOA and VSO are proud to be working with the Flynn Center to present this concert for the first-time.



(Photo: Stina Booth)

### Thank you, Alums!

With your generous support we are more than halfway to our Alumni Giving goal for the 2015-16 season! You have donated \$6,030 so far this season, leaving **just \$1,970 left to go**, and we're hoping to reach our goal by April 1st—or surpass it!

Alumni support is so special to us because you know firsthand how important the VYOA experience can be to a young musician. Thank you for helping us to create new memories and opportunities for the next generation!

Consider joining the **Bravo Club**—with your donation of \$5 or more per month, we'll send you one of our bumper stickers with our new, colorful logo. Just visit [vyo.org/bravo](http://vyo.org/bravo) to sign up today.



### NEW!

Recent archive copies of the Alumni Newsletter are now available on our Alumni Page:

**[vyo.org/alumni](http://vyo.org/alumni)**

*What else would you like to see on our alumni page?*