

Sustaining Notes

The Newsletter for Symphonie Jeunesse Youth Orchestra for Strings

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SJO News

Happy New Year! Those of us in this orchestra and our families have a lot to be thankful for this month. Though the sadness of so much loss due to illness has befallen so many, there is still hope that the pandemic will end in a relatively short time.

Our plan for SJO is to wait until it is completely safe to reassemble and begin a new season. Hopefully this spring or summer will bring us good news!!

We show no birthdays for this month, but if we have missed your January birthday, please let us know! Again, we wish all of you a very happy New Year!

Vivo Vocabulary

overture ~ orchestral composition forming a prelude to an opera or ballet.

opus ~ musical composition numbered as one of a composer's works (usually in order of publication.)

modulation ~ a change of key within a piece.

scherzando ~ a direction in music meaning playfully

chromaticism ~ a scale using all 12 pitches as opposed to major/minor scales which use 7 pitches.

cadenza ~ improvised or written out passage in a piece of music, (often a concerto) meant to showcase the player's virtuosic ability.

Mrs. T.'s Listening List

'Kreutzer' Sonata
(Violin sonata #9 op.47)
by Beethoven
(Dec. 1770 ~ Mar. 1827)

While wandering the halls of the Music/Drama building as a sophomore at Cajon High School in 1969 (first year it was open) I heard some of the most beautiful strains of music I had ever heard up to that time coming from the piano in the band/orchestra room. It was the piano part to what I later learned was the Beethoven 'Kreutzer' Sonata (Violin sonata #9 op.47). My love of Beethoven's music continues to this day. I was familiar with many of Beethoven's piano works by that time, but this was my first exposure to one of his sonatas for a stringed instrument with piano.

I urge all of you to go to 'youtube' or to find a CD of the 'Kreutzer' Sonata (not to be confused with the novella by Tolstoy of the same name). Some of Beethoven's greatest music is to be found in his nine sonatas for violin and piano and five sonatas for cello and piano. I was so enamored of this work that I married a string player! Perhaps you know her...

~ Michael Tacchia

~ Coda ~

Music is a moral law. It gives soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and charm and gaiety to life and to everything. ~ Plato

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Accent On

Mrs. Onie Cabilao
SJO Board Member

Hello SJO! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and a happy new year. As a kid, I have always wanted to play music, but was never able to. However, I was able to give the love of music to my kids through music lessons for violin and piano. I have two children, both violinists with SJO; Nicole, who graduated in 2016, and Jayden, who is a current member.

Currently, I am a second grade teacher. I graduated college with a Bachelor's in Science in Math, and also achieved my Master's degree in Special Education. In 1997, I got married to my husband, and a year later, my daughter Nicole came into the world. I spent ten years teaching different areas and grades in the Philippines. I taught public and private school, as well as Special Education. I eventually moved to the United States with my family to teach and have been teaching for 29 years this year! Over the years, I have mentored 4 different student teachers, and was awarded Embracing our Diversity Award in 2013, and Technology Teacher of the Year in 2019. It has been an extreme joy to be able to teach students in the Inland Empire.

I want to be able to continue supporting music as a board member for SJO, since I have been a supporter of SJO since 2013. It's such a delight to see how much this organization has grown over the years. I'm looking forward to hearing everyone play beautiful music again, hopefully during the upcoming year.