



WISCONSIN YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS  
455 N. PARK ST.  
RM. 1625 HUMANITIES BLDG.  
MADISON, WI 53706

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WISCONSIN YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS

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WISCONSIN YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAS // NEWSLETTER // SEPTEMBER 2018

# LOOKING AHEAD WITH A NOD TO OUR PAST

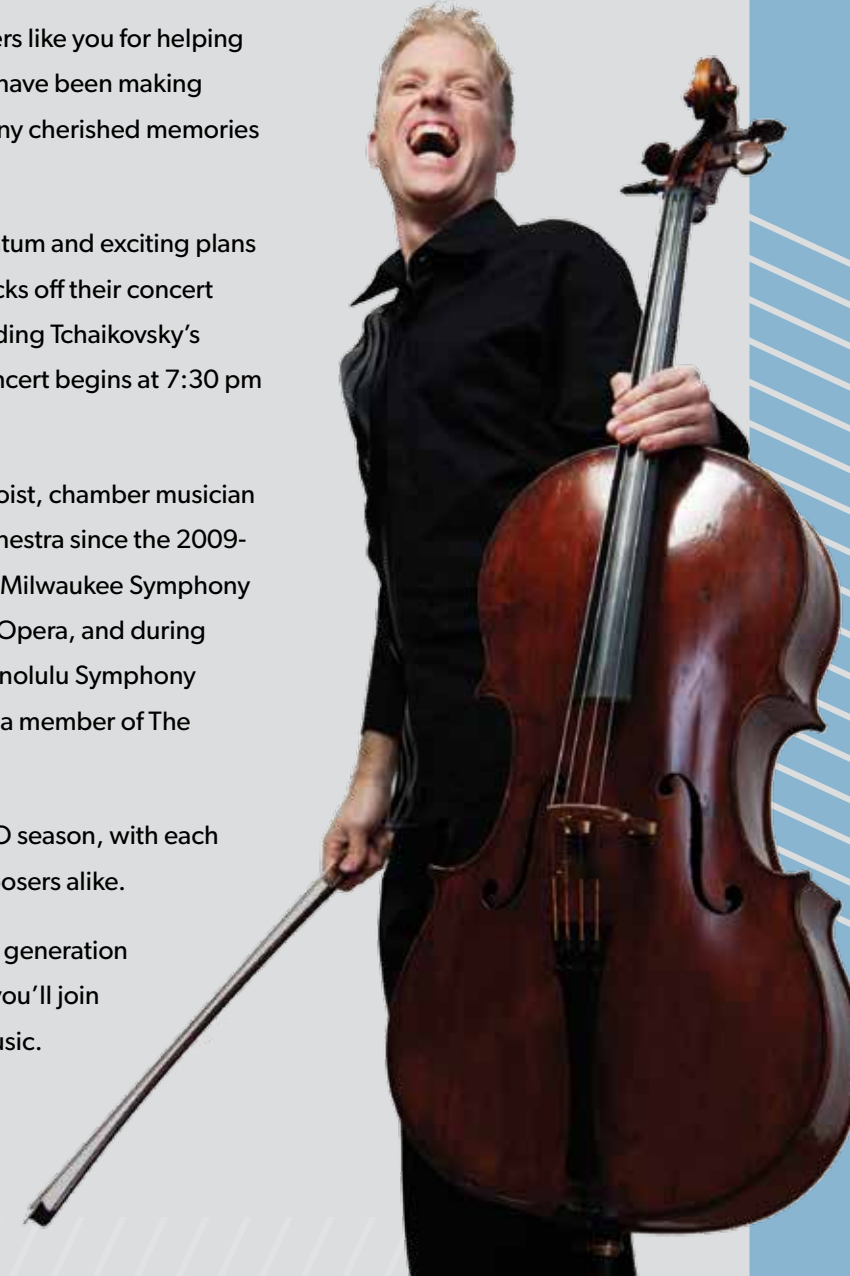
As WYSO enters its 53rd season, we want to thank supporters like you for helping this organization succeed over the years. WYSO orchestras have been making music for over half a century, and in that amount of time, many cherished memories have been formed.

Looking ahead, WYSO has a tremendous amount of momentum and exciting plans for the 2018-2019 season. Youth Orchestra, for example, kicks off their concert season on Nov. 16 performing challenging repertoire, including Tchaikovsky's *Rococo Variations* with guest cellist Joseph Johnson. The concert begins at 7:30 pm at the Middleton Performing Arts Center.

Joseph, right, has been heard throughout the world as a soloist, chamber musician and educator. Principal cellist of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra since the 2009-2010 season, he previously held the same position with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. He also serves as principal cellist of the Santa Fe Opera, and during the 2008-2009 season was acting principal cellist of the Honolulu Symphony Orchestra. Prior to his Milwaukee appointment, Joseph was a member of The Minnesota Orchestra cello section for 11 years.

More guest artist appearances are in the works for the WYSO season, with each orchestra exploring fascinating works by new and old composers alike.

As a friend of WYSO, your continued support helps the next generation of WYSO students create long-lasting memories. We hope you'll join us at some point during our upcoming season. Visit [wysomusic.org](http://wysomusic.org) throughout the year for event schedules, up-to-date announcements and more information.



**2018/2019 SEASON CONCERTS**  
Visit [wysomusic.org/events/concerts-recitals/](http://wysomusic.org/events/concerts-recitals/) for a full schedule.

**Art of Note Gala**  
Saturday, March 30, 2019, Monona Terrace, Madison  
6:00 pm

**Percussion Extraganza**  
Saturday, April 6, 2019, 1:30 pm, Mills Hall  
Orchestra

**Eugenie Mayer Bolz Family Spring Concerts**  
Saturday, May 4, 2019, Mills Hall  
4:00 pm Youth Orchestra

Saturday, May 18, 2019, Mills Hall  
1:00 pm Opus One & Sinfonietta  
4:00 pm Harp Ensemble & Concert Orchestra  
7:00 pm Percussion Ensemble & Philharmonia Orchestra

**Brass Choir Concert**  
Saturday, May 11, 2019, 2:30 pm, Mills Hall

**Side by Side Concert**  
Sunday, May 19, 2019, Overture Hall, Overture Center  
4:30 pm Youth Orchestra with the Wisconsin Chamber  
Orchestra

**WYSO Music Makers Spring Concert**  
Sunday, June 2, 2019, First Unitarian Society  
4:00 pm

**Evelyn Steenbeck Fall Concerts**  
Saturday, November 10, 2018, Mills Hall  
11:30 am Opus One & Sinfonietta  
1:30 pm Harp Ensemble & Concert Orchestra  
4:00 pm Percussion Ensemble & Philharmonia  
Orchestra

Friday, November 16, 2018, Middleton Performing Arts  
Center, Middleton  
7:30 pm Youth Orchestra

**WYSO Music Makers Fall Concert**  
Sunday, November 18, 2018, TBD  
4:00 pm

**Brass Choir Concert**  
Saturday, February 9, 2019, 2:30 pm, Mills Hall

**Diane Ballweg Winterfest Concerts**  
Saturday, February 16, 2019, Mills Hall  
4:00 pm Youth Orchestra

Saturday, March 2, 2019, Mills Hall  
11:30 am Opus One & Sinfonietta  
1:30 pm Concert Orchestra

4:00 pm Philharmonia Orchestra & Harp Ensemble



## YOUTH ORCHESTRA MEMBERS TOUR PERU

An audible gasp was heard from the audience gathered at the historic Cuzco Cathedral as Youth Orchestra played the opening notes of *El Cóndor Pasa*, widely considered the folk anthem of Peru. Youth Orchestra shared the stage with a local flutist the group met at dinner the night before. As the piece concluded, the performance was met with thunderous applause.

This became one of many cherished memories for Peru tour participants who traveled throughout the country July 5 through July 15.

Each venue the orchestra performed in was at capacity, especially in Cuzco where ushers were forced to turn away a long line of concertgoers at the door. And while the performance opportunities were exceptional, tour members also had plenty of time to explore local Peruvian cultures.

Current Youth Orchestra violinist Erik Nuenninghoff gave nothing but positive remarks about his Peru tour experience during a brief presentation at a WYSO Board meeting.

"This trip was an amazing mix of culture, music, and friendship," Erik said.

You can view additional photos and read more about Youth Orchestra's experience in Peru on the official tour blog at [wysoperutour.wordpress.com](http://wysoperutour.wordpress.com). You can also view a video of the *El Cóndor Pasa* performance on the WYSO Facebook page.

**Did you go on an international trip with WYSO? Send your photos to [wyso@wysomusic.org](mailto:wyso@wysomusic.org) for inclusion in our next newsletter!**



ABOVE, Members of Youth Orchestra and their chaperones pose for a group photo during their tour of Machu Picchu in July.

BELOW, a Youth Orchestra ensemble performs at the Church of San Juan Bautista of Huaró. You can view additional photos and read more about the tour on the official tour blog at [wysoperutour.wordpress.com](http://wysoperutour.wordpress.com).



## MENNENGA WINS NATIONAL TRUMPET COMPETITION

Noah Mennenga ('13-'15, Trumpet) had what he called a "successful spring." In March, Noah won the National Trumpet Competition at the University of North Texas as the top soloist in the undergraduate division. In May, Noah won the Solo Performance Competition at the 43rd annual International Trumpet Guild Conference in San Antonio, where he was the only American among the three finalists. Noah is currently a trumpet performance major at Oklahoma State University.



## WOODS RECOGNIZED INTERNATIONALLY

In a recent Times Educational Supplement article titled "All students must enjoy the social and cultural benefits of learning outside the classroom," Kenneth Woods ('80-'86, Cello) and the English Symphony Orchestra are applauded for their educational outreach with youth in their community.

"The English Symphony Orchestra, under the dynamic leadership of their American conductor, Kenneth Woods, are now one of the most critically acclaimed in the country, with an international reputation for their innovative recordings of neglected or contemporary music. Not only are students encouraged to attend rehearsals and concerts but also two or three of the most gifted are given an opportunity to sit side by side in a professional performance and play with some of the country's leading musicians. The encouragement and inspiration this gives to aspiring players is incalculable."



## VALLEY NAMED WYSO LIFE TRUSTEE

The WYSO Board of Directors named Andrée Valley a Life Trustee at their August meeting. Andrée has dedicated her time and talent to numerous WYSO initiatives, including the 50th Anniversary celebration and WYSO's annual Art of Note fundraising gala.

Both of Andrée's sons, David Valley and Matt Valley, are WYSO alumni.

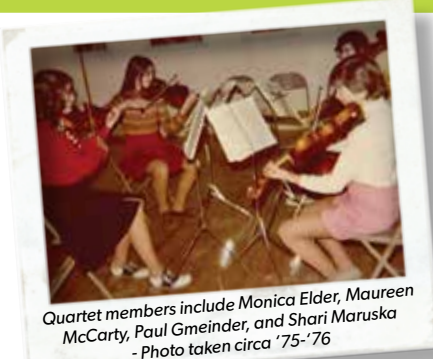
"I was incredibly impressed how much time and love my mom gave to WYSO after my brother and I moved away to college," said Matt Valley ('92-'99, Violin). "But I knew that she saw what we gained from this organization, and wanted to strengthen and add to it in whatever way she could."



Pictured left to right, WYSO Executive Director Bridget Fraser, Andrée Valley, and WYSO Board President Mike George a few moments after Andrée was named a Life Trustee.

## THE BONNIE GREENE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

New in 2018, the Bonnie Greene Scholarship Award is awarded annually to a WYSO Music Makers student who successfully auditions into a WYSO orchestra. The student chosen is awarded a full-tuition scholarship for the WYSO orchestra into which he or she auditions. This scholarship fund was established by an anonymous friend of Bonnie Greene, WYSO, and WYSO Music Makers. Scholarships are awarded based on musical merit, a desire to learn and advance, and several other criteria. Bonnie founded the Madison Music Makers program in 2007, and is still active with WYSO Music Makers today. Learn more about the WYSO Music Makers program by visiting [wysomusicmakers.org](http://wysomusicmakers.org).



Quartet members include Monica Elder, Maureen McCarty, Paul Gmeinder, and Shari Maruska - Photo taken circa '75-'76

"I've been scanning old photos for a project, and came across this one, and various others, of my own WYSO quartet back in the day. The program has been going for quite a while! It was a very worthwhile experience for me. I'm glad the program is still going strong, and that I can be a part of it still. Thanks for all you do to support these kids making music!"

**Maureen McCarty, '73-'79, Violin**

