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NJIO Notes is published 3 times a year for both members and the general community to keep abreast of NJIO activities and plans. To be added or dropped from the NJIO Notes mailing list please contact us at: info@njio.org.

NJIO relies on financial support from individuals to make our programs possible. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation today! Thanks!

Open House Registration on Sept. 27 & Oct. 4

NJIO will hold its annual Open House Registration events on Thursday, September 27 and Thursday, October 4 in the Chorus Room of Cranford High School, 201 West End Place, Cranford.

NJIO has openings in all its orchestras:

- Nouveau Orchestra—String Players Only—Basic skills required (first position; quarter and eighth notes). Symphony orchestra members may also participate in Nouveau.
- Symphony Orchestra Only—2+ years playing experience. Violas, oboes, bassoons, brass and percussion are particularly needed.

- Symphony & Chamber—For more experienced players looking for more challenging repertoire. Chamber orchestra members are required to also be in Symphony orchestra. Audition required for new Chamber members.

NJIO was formed in 1994 to allow musicians of all ages and ability the opportunity to experience the joy of making music together. NJIO allows developing musicians to interact with and learn from more experienced players in a friendly, non-competitive environment. For more information on registration, visit the NJIO Web site (www.njio.org) or contact

Winter Concerts in Cranford and Summit

NJIO's annual Winter concerts will take place on Sunday, January 13 at 3:00 p.m. at Summit High School and Saturday, January 19 at 7:30 p.m. at Cranford High School. All NJIO concerts are free and open to the public.

The repertoire for Symphony will be *Sleeping Beauty Waltz* and *Waltz of the Flowers* by Tchaikovsky, Brahms'

Symphony No. 1, and *Finlandia* by Sibelius. The Chamber Orchestra will be performing *Bach's Double Violin Concerto* featuring our Concert Mistress Claire Wilson and our Coach Vincent Novellino. Our Nouveau Orchestra, lead by Claire Wilson will be playing *Baroque Dance Suite* by Gordon, *Dona Nobis Pacem* by Mozart and *Fiddle Tunes* by Isaac.

NJIO Stories — Alan Campell

Everyone else in the family was playing an instrument—piano, clarinet, drums, guitar - and at age 40 I couldn't even read a note. I was a little bit jealous but figured the music genes had passed me by. But I was encouraged to hear from a friend that he had recently started playing violin for the first time in a parent-child program in Westfield. I had always loved the sound of the cello, so I decided to give it a shot. I called Shana Gaskill to arrange lessons and tried a 3 month instrument rental. Within weeks I was playing "Twinkle, Twinkle" and was very proud of my new found skill.

The big breakthrough came when I began playing with a small group in Westfield. I learned so much faster by playing with others. Pulling the cello out at home after work became much more frequent - motivated in part by the need to avoid embarrassment in the group rehearsal. We even performed in public so that spurred me to practice even harder.



NJIO treasurer Alan Campell between numbers at a recent concert. (photo by Cheri Rogowsky)

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NJIO
President Len Avdey

From the President — Len Avdey

I hope all of you are enjoying the last days of summer. We have been very busy behind the scenes getting ready for our 14th season. Our major activities have been a successful eight week Summer Program, 3 Outreach Performances each with audiences of around 50 people, searching for additional rehearsal space (we're still looking and would appreciate any suggestions), and writing grants for funding orchestra activities (some success so far). We have also added a new Board Member, Joan Myers, who brings impressive fundraising credentials and talent to the Board.

It's hard for me to believe that we are beginning our 14th season. It all started on September 29, 1994 when about 50 people gathered on the stage of Cranford High School with Lorraine Marks, our founder. Young and old, musicians who had played many years and those new to an instrument or ensemble playing, myself included, came together and the New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra was born. I encourage you to pick up that instrument and join us on Thursday evenings at the Cranford High School. And as for next year, our 15th anniversary year, we are already beginning to plan special events, so stay tuned.

This year one of my goals is to expand our volunteer pool. Susan Peterson, who has been our Orchestra Manager for many years,

has taken on a new job for the Borough of New Providence. While she will still be working with us (thank goodness) her hours will be drastically reduced. She will be focusing on membership and recruitment and assisting with fundraising. We have therefore restructured some of the volunteer positions to take over some of the management duties for the orchestra. And we are asking each of our members to volunteer in some way.

There are opportunities for everyone: be a section captain, set up and take down chairs at rehearsals, make and sell baked goods at our concerts, put up posters for our concerts, stuff envelopes when we have mass mailings and much more. If you like writing you can help by writing and editing our newsletter or concert program. If you like planning events join our Gala Committee and help plan our annual fundraising gala. For those who enjoy selling, we need your help selling ads in our concert program or be our product sales manager. So please take the time to volunteer. I am sure that you will find that it is a rewarding experience to be a part of such a wonderful organization.

Our concert dates have been set. You can find them on the last page of our newsletter. Mark your calendars! I hope to see you then and bring a friend. And of course, all of our concerts are free.

**Help shape NJIO's
Future.**

Volunteer.

**Contact Susan
Peterson or Len
Avdey for details.**

NJIO Recommended for Grant from Cultural Trust

NJIO was among 21 cultural institutions across the state to be recommended for a Financial and Institutional Stabilization Grant from the New Jersey Cultural Trust.

This grant from the Cultural Trust will enable the orchestra to conduct a strategic plan to manage the orchestra's growth as it moves forward into our fifteenth season and beyond. The project will commence in early 2008.

The mission of The New Jersey Cultural Trust is to ensure a stable and healthy cultural industry in New Jersey that is sustainable under fluctuating economic conditions through the establishment of permanent, interest-generating funds to be an additional source of revenue to nonprofit arts, history, and humanities organizations.

NJIO Receives Target Grant

NJIO is pleased to announce a partnership with Target in recognition of its mission to *Bridge the Generations Through Music*.

According to Len Avdey, NJIO President, "The Target grant will help fund NJIO's three free concerts this year in Cranford and Summit. NJIO greatly appreciates Target's support. NJIO is actively looking for other sponsors to round out the funding for the season concert series."

This grant is part of ongoing efforts by Target to strengthen families and communities throughout the country. Since opening its doors, Target has given 5% of its income to organizations that support education, the arts and safe families and communities. Today that translates to \$3 million every week.

"At Target, we are making a real

difference every day through our grant-making program," said Laysha Ward, vice president, community relations, Target. "We're proud to partner with NJIO as part of our ongoing commitment to give back to the communities where our guests and team members live and work."

Minneapolis-based Target serves guests at 1,502 stores in 47 states nationwide by delivering today's best retail trends at affordable prices. Target is committed to providing guests with great design through innovative products, in-store experiences and community partnerships. Target (NYSE:TGT) gives more than \$3 million a week to its local communities through grants and special programs. Since opening its first store in 1962, Target has partnered with nonprofit organizations, guests and team members to help meet community needs.

"We're proud to partner with NJIO as part of our ongoing commitment to give back to the communities where our guests and team members live and work"

Laysha Ward
Vice President,
Community
Relations
Target



NJIO Stories (continued from page 1)

During our lessons, Shana told me about a new orchestra that was forming for musicians of all ages and suggested that I give it a try. I was very nervous at the thought of playing in an orchestra but I found out that if I worked at it I could play most of the music. So I joined NJIO and became a regular in the cello section, making some good friends in the process.

When NJIO's founder moved to Florida after 10 years at the helm, a few of us got together and decided that NJIO was too important to us and the community to let it wither away. We worked hard to figure out how to keep it running. Somehow the guy that couldn't read a note a few years ago ended up as president of an orchestra. Who would have believed it!

Seeing NJIO grow into what it is today has been a source of great satisfaction for me—even though it has cut into my time for much

needed cello practice. When I think about NJIO's future I know it will never have a problem finding members because it is an organization that fills a need across the spectrum of ages and musical abilities. But I do worry about finding the resources required to run an increasingly complex organization. But with a core of people dedicated to helping NJIO because they love what it does, NJIO will continue to grow and do even more in the community. Please let us know if you want to help shape NJIO's future.

I encourage anyone with an interest in starting an instrument from scratch or picking up where they left off years ago to get moving right now. It's never too late to start. You will open up a whole new world for yourself—new challenges, new friends, and a lot of satisfaction.



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Bridging The Generations Through Music

Mailing Label Here

Funding for NJIO has been made possible in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, Department of State, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, through a grant administered by the Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs.

NJIO Dates to Remember	
Details Inside	
Sept. 27 & Oct. 4	Open House Registration 5:45-Nouveau; 6:45 Symphony Cranford High School Chorus Room 201 West End Place, Cranford
Oct. 11	Member/Parent Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Cranford High School Senior Cafeteria 201 West End Place, Cranford
Jan 13	Winter Concert, 3:00 p.m. Summit High School 125 Kent Place Boulevard, Summit
Jan. 19	Winter Concert, 7:30 p.m. Cranford High School 201 West End Place, Cranford
May 3	Spring Concert, 7:30 p.m. Cranford High School 201 West End Place, Cranford
All Concerts are free and open to the public. For information on reserving seats for your group, contact Susan Peterson at 908-522-0100	



Please Tell Us What You Think

We welcome your feedback about the newsletter or any aspect of NJIO. Please e-mail us at info@njio.org or drop us a note at PO Box 432, Cranford, NJ, 07016.

