

Bridging The Generations Through Music

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Fall 2008 Registration and Open House

Fall is nearly here! For NJIO members, this means the start of another season packed with practicing, hard work, musical growth, and, of course, fun. As per tradition, the first two rehearsals of the year will be Open House Rehearsals. If you are already a member, bring a friend to play along and experience an orchestral rehearsal with NJIO. If you are not a member, maybe this is the year to join.

The Nouveau String Orchestra is for beginner to intermediate players and the Full Symphony is for intermediate and above players

Sign-in starts 15 minutes before rehearsal begins. If you are planning to attend the String Orchestra rehearsal, this means you should arrive with your instrument and music stand by 5:45 p.m. For those coming to experience Full Symphony, you should arrive with your instrument and music stand by 7:00 p.m. Both Open Houses will be held at the Harvest Training Center in Cranford.

Registration forms are available on our website at www.njio.org. Please remit your payment, Registration Form, and Job Sign-up Sheet to NJIO as soon as possible.

In Review: NJIO Summer Chamber Music Workshop

Mostly Mozart wasn't only at Lincoln Center this summer. Wolfgang Amadeus also came to NJIO!

Thirty-four musicians, mainly newcomers to chamber music, participated in the NJIO summer chamber music workshop. Under the guidance of seven experienced coaches, they played string quartets composed by Mozart when he was a teenager and other works. Advanced participants even played Schubert and Brahms.

With the help of a generous grant from the Amateur Chamber Music Players Association, NJIO was able to expand its

summer program this year and hire the coaches – violist Ruth Brons, violinists Misha Kuchuk, Vincent Novellino, Garry Ianco, Grant Gillman and Kathleen Daly, and cellist and workshop director Marty Steinberg.

Among the participants was NJIO Nouveau cellist Jo Reyes, who said she wanted to experience playing chamber music in a setting free of pressure to perform.

Did the program meet her expectations? "Yes, especially during the last meeting,

(continued on page 3)

NJIO relies on donations from individuals to support its programs.
Mail the enclosed envelope or go to www.njio.org to donate online now.

Welcome, Elizabeth Nowik!



NJIO is pleased to announce the hiring of Elizabeth Nowik as our new administrator. Liz will be taking over the administration of the day to day activities that go with running an orchestra including office work, rehearsal management, newsletter production, maintaining the NJIO database and, believe it or not, playing in the viola section. Liz has a wealth of experience in arts management, having worked for the New Jersey Youth Symphony in the past and currently directing her own music

programs at Corpus Christi Church in Chatham. She is also the oldest in a family of musicians. We are confident that Liz will fit very well into the NJIO family. Liz can be reached in the NJIO office at 908-522-0100 or by e-mail at lnowik@njio.org. Please join me in welcoming her to NJIO.

Susan Peterson

P.S. If you're wondering what I'll be doing – I will continue on the NJIO Board of Trustees and am looking forward to working on grant-writing and strategic planning issues.

NJIO Dates to Remember. Details Inside

Sept 10	Young People's Baroque Concerto Competition 4:00-8:00 PM Central Presbyterian Church 70 Maple St., Summit	Oct 8	Rehearsal and last day to Register 6:00-7:00 PM Nouveau String Orchestra 7:15-9:30 PM Full Symphony Cranford High School 201 West End Pl., Cranford
Sept 18	First Rehearsal & Open House 6:00-7:00 PM Nouveau String Orchestra 7:15-9:30 PM Full Symphony The Harvest Training Center 69 Myrtle Street, Cranford	Oct 16	Members Meeting 7:15 PM Cranford High School 201 West End Pl, Cranford
Sept 25	Rehearsal and Open House 6:00-7:00 PM Nouveau String Orchestra 7:15-9:30 PM Full Symphony The Harvest Training Center 9 Myrtle Street, Cranford	Nov 23	Young People's Concert 3:00 PM Cranford High School 201 West End Pl, Cranford

All NJIO Concerts are free and open to the public. For information on reserving seats for your group, contact Elizabeth Nowik 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.

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 President
Len Avdey

From the President — Len Avdey

I want to welcome all of you to our 15th Anniversary Season. We have many exciting plans for this year including a concerto competition, a children's concert and our special 15th Anniversary Concert.

Our conductor and Musical Director, Joe Gluck, has selected some exciting music for us to play by such composers as Beethoven, Bach, Ravel, Brahms, Bizet, Bartok, Mozart, Mendelssohn, Rameau, and Saint-Saëns. This will definitely be an exciting and challenging season for the Symphony.

Our Nouveau conductor and concertmistress, Claire Wilson, will not be with us this season as she will be working on a Master's Degree in performance at the State University of New York in Purchase, NY. We wish her all the best in her musical pursuits. I am excited to announce that replacing Claire as conductor of the Nouveau String Orchestra is Gavin Davies, a familiar face to the orchestra. You have seen Gavin and his daughter Lia playing in the violin section. This past year Gavin was elected to the NJIO Board of Trustees. I want to welcome Gavin to his new role as conductor of the Nouveau String Orchestra.

Our Symphony concertmistress this season will be Kathleen Derbyshire, Strings Teacher and Orchestra Director, Madison Junior School and All-City Orchestra Director. We are fortunate to have such a fine violinist and educator fill this chair. We welcome her to NJIO.



NJIO Music Director
Joe Gluck

Conductor's Notes—Joe Gluck

I hope the last New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra performance on Saturday, May 3 was as rewarding for all those who participated as it was for me. In the new season, we can look forward to the first Young Person's Baroque Competition, the first Young People's Concert and the 15th Anniversary Concert. I am hoping these events will be educational, inspirational and entertaining for all of us and for our audience.

The Young People's Concert will have as its theme "Music That Tells a Story". A movement of Bizet's "L'Arlesienne Suite", "The March to the Scaffold" by Berlioz, the Strauss "Radetzky March", Mario Lombardo's "Winter Frolic" and the baroque concerto of one of our competition winners will

be on the program.

For the regular concerts, we will be learning and performing a combination of accessible and challenging music - Bizet, Beethoven, Bartok, etc. - and once again I encourage everyone to enjoy the challenge of aiming high and of course, having fun.

It would be helpful if we all serve as recruiters for unfilled orchestra spots (e.g. double bass, second bassoon, etc.) If you know anyone who would enjoy our orchestra, bring them on board.

See you soon.

Joe Gluck

We are planning a 15th Anniversary Concert that incorporates both an intergenerational theme and the number "15". Works on the program will be those written by classical composers either in the first 15 years of their lives or in their golden years. The works will include at least one concerto to be performed by an intergenerational pair. This concert is being supported in part by a grant from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, who cited the project as exhibiting the highest standards of excellence in its artistry, public benefit and fulfillment of areas of Council priority.

This year will be an especially challenging year for NJIO with regard to funding. As economic downturns reduce household incomes and lower investors' and consumers' confidence in the economy, nonprofits face especially troubling times. We have expanded our concert season from two major concerts to three major concerts and added a concerto competition, creating additional expenses to our budget. We need your support more than ever. Any donation, no matter how large or small, is greatly appreciated. Donations can be easily made by visiting our website at www.njio.org and clicking "Donate Now". You can also use the envelope enclosed with this newsletter.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at our first rehearsal on September 18 and hopefully all of you at our concerts.

NJIO Stories — Ellen Leavitt

I have been playing the flute since I was 9 years old. I first took lessons in grammar school, and had my first private lesson when I was 11 years old. I belonged to the local band and orchestra in Grammar School and at Jonathan Dayton High School, where I graduated in 1973. I then went to Glassboro State College-now Rowan University, but dropped out in 1975. I didn't get back into music till 1980, where I enrolled at Kean University. I graduated with my BA in music in 1982, and a music certification to teach music in 1985.

But it was very hard to find a job in the music field, so I went back to doing bookkeeping jobs. In 1993, I joined the Union Municipal Band which is an amateur group of mostly adult players. Then I joined the New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra in 1996, when flutes were allowed to play the string parts. About four years ago we became a full symphony and now have many woodwinds and brass instruments in the orchestra. It really is interesting how much the group has grown.

I also play with Joe Gluck and Mary Barbiarz's Chamber Music String Workshop.

Even though I play the flute, I can always play the first violin part if I can't find a piece with flute. I have been with that group since 2005.

I just lost my husband William Leavitt, who passed away this summer. We were married 29 years. He was 59 years old. I am so glad to have my music groups to look forward to in the fall. All three groups give me much comfort and solace.

The NJIO is a very rewarding group to play with. It is very interesting to play with senior citizens, children and every generation in between while we make beautiful music together. This is a very unique experience, musically and personally.

Joe Gluck is a wonderful director. We are very lucky to have someone of his caliber as our conductor. I hope he is with us for many years to come.

I think playing my flute or any instrument, for that matter, is a wonderful hobby. I hope everyone has such a rewarding place as NJIO to play their instrument. I am looking forward to the fall 2008.



Ellen Leavitt

Watch for
announcements
of our 15th
Anniversary
Concert .

In Review: NJIO Summer Chamber Music Workshop (cont'd)

where we moved into the other movements and actually sight-read the presto movement and did quite well!" she said. "I think we surprised both the coach and ourselves. What I learned from the coaches applies also to playing in the orchestra and when learning a piece assigned by my teacher."

"The coaches were enthusiastic and seemed as eager to help us as we were eager to learn," she said. "It was easy to see that they loved what they were doing and loved the music as well. They always found something to praise and paid equal attention to all players."

The two four-week sessions also attracted non-NJIO members, like cellist Ed Davis. Ed played in the advanced group, which was assigned the first movement of the Brahms G Major Sextet.

"My goals were to play some chamber music that was nice music and somewhat challenging," he said. "I would definitely recommend the program to others and would return."

Elenita Silverstein attended the first five weeks as an

observer, watching her 9-year-old daughter, Samantha, conquer the first violin parts of the Brahms.

"I think Samantha, in particular, has grown musically, as a result of this workshop," Elenita said. "Her sight reading has improved immensely, keeping tempo, etc. She has gained a lot of confidence, even beyond what she already had, in playing music that she has never seen before and carrying the first violin part on her own."

Elenita, who started playing violin with her daughter five years ago but had set it aside, became so inspired, she decided to pick up the instrument and participate. Now, she plans to join NJIO's regular season program and play in the orchestra with Samantha.

"The chamber workshop made me decide to join NJIO," Elenita said. "I wasn't planning on that until I had a mini-epiphany that I was wasting an opportunity by just sitting and watching. I was nervous about my playing ability, but training in the workshop is giving me some confidence to join the orchestra."