

Dear Colleagues,

This last season, the Glendale Youth Orchestra was honored to be in the Los Angeles Philharmonic's Youth Orchestra Partnership Program (YOPP). The GYO was selected as one of the charter orchestras in this program, and for 2 -1/2 years, our musicians have benefited directly from the participation of LA Phil musicians as coaches.

As a participant in the YOPP, we have been graced by members of the LA Phil sitting in with the kids during rehearsal, offering help with their parts right on the spot. It's the combination of coaching/mini-lesson/rehearsal assistant that makes their presence so very valuable. This last season the following LA Phil members sat in with us in rehearsal: Elizabeth Baker, violin; Judy Mass, violin; Rochelle Abramson, violin; Danny Rothmuller, cello; Ann Gabrielle, oboe; Mark Chernyavsky, violin.

While this great privilege reflects the hard work and talent of our young Musicians it is also the result of teachers such as you. Your hard work training these students with commitment and passion has directly contributed to the successful longevity and quality of the orchestra. Thank you for guiding your students towards the GYO. We appreciate that you understand the importance of their learning to play in an ensemble and assisting them in careful preparation for our auditions, regular rehearsals and concerts. Your work is essential to maintaining the high orchestral quality and energetic sound of the Glendale Youth Orchestra.

As we continue to expand, and especially as we transition to our new Sunday schedule of rehearsals and concerts instead of Tuesday, every student you send to audition for us is greatly appreciated. Without teachers like you we could not continue our tradition of excellence. Thank you again for your continued support.

As we approach our 21st season, once again I'd like to invite your students to audition for the GYO. The orchestra continues to amaze me with its transformation over the last few years! Now it is a top-notch ensemble, giving truly stunning performances this last season, including a Beethoven Eighth Symphony, the Mozart Jupiter Symphony, among others.

This last season, we had three winners of the concerto competition (from within the orchestra) and we featured them at our season finale at the historic Alex Theater. In addition, 2 other orchestra members were chosen as soloists earlier in the year (flute and French Horn). Seven more students were selected by audition to perform at our annual Showcase Recital in May. For the first time our program notes for the June concert were beautifully written by a very enthusiastic student instead of by me or a board member.

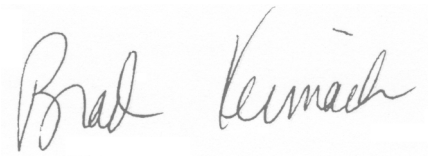
There are so many opportunities for solo performances and leadership here. It is a particular pleasure to see the students inspire each other. The positive spirit of this group is ideal for a serious student's growth and development, both musically and personally.

The GYO is proud of its thirteen-year tradition as a presenting partner and resident company of the Alex Theatre. It is an elegant and acoustically marvelous venue that really honors the students and their amazing efforts.

As always, if you ever have any questions, please feel free to call me directly at 310-826-6958.

Best wishes for an inspired and inspiring new school year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brad Kumach". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.