

AYO Newsletter

“Dance, Song and Drama”



AYO CHAMBER
MUSIC PROGRAM

TED STEVENS
AIRPORT

AYO ALUMNI

BLOCK GRANT

DEWEY EHLING



“DANCING AROUND THE WORLD”

November 29, 2016

Discovery Theatre

7pm



“THE ORCHESTRA SINGS”

February 28, 2017

Discovery Theatre

7pm



“MUSIC AND DRAMA”

May 6, 2017

Atwood Hall

7pm

AYO CHAMBER MUSIC PROGRAM

AYO Chamber Music Chair: Katerina Soloviev

Alaska Youth Orchestra's Chamber Music Program is an excellent opportunity for players to enhance their musical abilities, improve their performance confidence, and develop interpersonal skills within small group settings. The Woodwind quintet group consisting of Isabelle Libbrecht (flute), Jenna Morris (bassoon), Emma Thomas (horn), Hriana Bowie (oboe) and Nicole Rieser (clarinet) performed festive holiday music at the **Cirque Musica Holiday Spectacular** & at a private holiday party in the month of December.

AYO Chamber groups are practicing for the **Spring Chamber Music Event** scheduled for late April.



TED STEVENS AIRPORT

December 12, 2016

Holiday Travelers and AYO "groupies" enjoyed a full performance from both the Anchorage Youth Philharmonic & Anchorage Youth Symphony at the Ted Stevens International Airport.

Channel 2 KTUU News story > search>All Time Chronological>Alaska Youth Orchestras surprise performance



AYO ALUMNI

AYO Alumni Chairperson: Kristi Brown

Calling all AYS and AYO alumni--we want to hear from you! We're celebrating over 50 years this year and need your help to reach out to other alumni and invite them to the AYO Alumni Reception, Atwood Hall, May 6. Connect with us on Facebook. Send us your info and then dig into your old photo albums for some good pics of past events (tours, fun times, anything).

<https://www.facebook.com/AnchorageYouthSymphony/>



BLOCK FOUNDATION GRANT

This holiday season the Richard and Diane Block Foundation generously offered Alaska Youth Orchestras **\$1,600** in scholarship funds if we found additional donors to match their grant. In 12 days time our donors not only matched the \$1,600, they exceeded it! These funds allow AYO to continue our commitment to helping families with financial need pay for tuition.

DEWEY EHLING—AN APPRECIATION

Former Anchorage Youth Symphony Music Director Dewey Ehling passed away on August 7, 2017. He was AYS's conductor from 1978 to 1986 while also Music Director of the Anchorage Concert Chorus as well as Director of Music for the Anchorage School District.

Having served in the Korean conflict in the Marine Corps, he received his music education degree from Bethany College in his home state of Kansas. After a brief time in San Francisco, he moved to Anchorage in 1968. His tenure with AYS was marked by an expansion of the orchestra's repertoire as well as AYS's first international tour to England, and then later a thirty-day tour to Australia and New Zealand.

After retiring from the School District, he moved with his wife Lauretta to Port Townsend, WA, swearing that he was done with music directing: within a short time the community discovered his immense talent and warm, humane personality, and he became music director of a local chorus and orchestra. He was the recipient of several awards, including Teacher of the Year for the State of Alaska, as well as awards for his philanthropic work. The city declared "Dewey Ehling Day" on the day he retired.

My connection with Dewey came after we met him when my wife and I were looking to move back to Alaska in 1984. He immediately hired Mary to work in the school system, and had me take over some of the duties of conducting AYS as Assistant Conductor. He became a great friend to both of us: he was always encouraging, warm and gracious. I learned many lessons from him, and I enjoyed every minute that we worked together. We are dedicating this season to this important figure in our history, and to a great friend of the orchestra.

Linn Weeda

