

## THANK YOU FOR BEING A PART OF OUR FAMILY

March 15, 2020

Dear Tacoma Youth Symphony Families and Supporters,

Music, especially classical music, has always lifted the human spirit to face the unknown during difficult times. Musicians have a unique ability to shut out the chaos around them and focus on the intricacies and beauty found in the notes they play. It's a gift they share with listeners each time they practice and perform. In times like this such gifts are a blessing for spiritual health and recovery.

We encourage our students to stay engaged with their musical gifts through practice, listening, and using technology to work together while we postpone some rehearsals and concerts. To comply with Governor Inslee's directives our staff is changing rehearsal and performance dates as well as securing the venues to see our 2020 season through to final performances later this spring. Using technology we are even considering assembling a virtual orchestra where students' recordings are assigned to tracks, balanced, and mixed to create a virtual performance - more to come.

We encourage our families to help their students to focus on developing their musical gifts. Some of our families will be greatly affected by the actions being taken to slow the spread of COVID-19. As a non-profit organization we need your support by keeping your student engaged with their orchestra and practicing. There are a number of options available for virtual engagement such as the FREE Zoom Pro.

To comply with Governor Inslee's directives our 1st annual fundraising gala at the Pantages has been postponed, but it will herald in our 58th season on September 25th. We have a collection of remarkable sponsors, Northwest celebrities, fantastic auction items, and community support for this event. Please consider attending this exciting evening.

Most importantly, we encourage all of you to follow guidelines updated daily from our county and state health departments as well as government leadership. And for those that are sick we wish a speedy recovery and healthy days ahead. Be well.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and Staff of The Tacoma Youth Symphony Association.

Sincerely yours,  
**William Sibbers,**  
Board of Trustees, President