

Oakland Youth Orchestra 1964-2004

- History -

Oakland Youth Orchestra, founded in 1964 as the educational arm of the Oakland Symphony, is recognized as an important musical organization in Oakland and the San Francisco Bay area. An independent non-profit organization since 1986, the orchestra has a history of commissioning, premiering and recording the works of American composers. Consequently, the orchestra has been recipient of numerous awards from the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers for service to contemporary music.

Today, in our 40th season, the Oakland Youth Orchestra consists of eighty-three talented young music students aged 12-21 years. These young people represent forty-six different schools, and over 30 cities in the San Francisco Bay Area. We rehearse a wide range of serious and challenging works and present several classical, pops and youth outreach concerts each season. The orchestra is coached by professional orchestral musicians and is open by audition to all qualified young people. No young musician is excluded for reasons of financial need. OYO is supported by tuition, corporate, foundation and government grants, and individual contributions.

OYO maintains a commitment to cultural exchange, and has toured extensively in England, Europe, Asia, the Middle East, the Caribbean Islands, Costa Rica, Mexico, and Cuba. We host visiting youth orchestras as well.

- Awards -

1976, 1980, 1982, 1995, 1996 ASCAP - for Adventurous Programming of Contemporary Music

- Tours -

The Orchestra has toured widely, performing across the United States and:

Germany, 1972	Von Karajan Festival, 4 th place
Germany, 1974	Von Karajan Festival, 2 nd place
Scotland, 1976	International Festival, 1 st place
Germany, 1978	Tour with Mainz Youth Orchestra
Italy & Switzerland, 1980	Tour of European Festivals
Caribbean Cruise, 1982	Toured 8 Islands
Scotland/England, 1984	International Festival, 1st place
Amman, Jordan, 1988	Jerash Festival of Culture and Art
Austria/Germany, 1990	Vienna Youth & Music Festival
Europe, 1993	Czech Republic, Poland, Germany, Austria
Asia, 1995	China, Hong Kong, Taiwan
Latin America, 1998	Costa Rica, Mexico, Cuba
Italy, 2001	Montepulciano, Montecatini, Pistoia, Carpi, Crema

- Conductors -

Robert Hughes 1964–1970 & 1980: Composer, teacher and lecturer
Denis de Coteau 1971–1979: Music Director of the San Francisco Ballet
Kent Nagano 1981–1985: Music Director of the Berkeley Symphony; Conductor, Opera de Lyon
Stewart Robertson 1985–1986: Music Director of the Long Beach Symphony
Samuel Cristler 1986–1991: Assistant Conductor at the Metropolitan Opera
Wes Kenney 1991–1996: Associate Conductor of the Virginia Symphony
Michael Morgan 1996–Present: Conductor of Oakland East Bay Symphony

-Commissions-

- 1966 Ned Rorem, *Water Music*
1967 Charles Boone, *Etude for Alicia Kristina*
1968 Robert Moran, *Jewel-Encrusted Butterfly Wing Explosion*
1969 Henry Brant, *Kingdom Come*
1970 William Fisher, *A Quiet Movement*
1975 Lou Harrison, *Elegiac Symphony*
1976 Robert Hughes, *Cadences*
1979 Bill Bell, *East Meets West*
1980 Laurie Anderson, *Born, Never Asked*
1980 Olly Wilson, *Reflections*
1982 Daniel Kobialka, *Echoes of Secret Silence*
1982 Charles Shere, *Nightmusic*
1994 Chen Yi, *The Linear*

-Premieres-

- 1964 U.S. Darius Milhaud, *Le Quatre Elements*
1968 World Gerhard Samuel, *No More Singing*
1969 World Tim Imlay, *Triptych*
1970 World Terrence Glenny, *Pyre*
1970 World William Fisher, *Circle Suite*
1973 Local Jack Fortner, *June Dawns, July Noons, August Evenings*
1975 West Coast Hector Berlioz, *Chant des Chemins de Fer*
1975 Local Darius Milhaud, *Les Choéphores*
1978 Local Harold Farberman, *Elegy, Fanfare & March*
1983 World Larry London, *Suite for Orchestra*
1983 World Robert Hughes, *Not Suitable for Framing*
1990 World Max Duykers, *Chronos*
1994 World Tyzen Hsiao, *1947 Overture*
1994 U.S. Zhou Long, *Pipa Concerto*
1994 U.S. Tan Dun, *Orchestral Theater I: Xun*

-Recordings-

- Ned Rorem, *Water Music (1968)*
Lou Harrison, *Pacifica Rondo and Elegiac Symphony (1969)*
re-issued on CD by Phoenix USA No. 118
Black Composers in America (1970)
Henry Brant, *Kingdom Come (with Oakland Symphony) (1970)*
re-issued on CD by Phoenix USA No. 118
Robert Hughes, *Cadences*
Charles Shere, *Nightmusic* and Daniel Kobialka, *Echoes of Secret Silence (1982)*

-Managers-

James Eeds 1964-1965
Rod Sharretts and Gary Smith 1965-1966
Ron Sharretts 1966-1967
Ethel London 1967-1984
Peter Lane 1985
Parker Monroe 1986
Ann VanderEnde 1986
Primula Kennedy 1986
Katherine Burghart 1987-1988
Alwine Fenton 1988-1990
Owen Miller 1991
Susan Persson 1991-1996
Benjamin Korn 1996-1998
Barbara Stack 1998-present

-Librarians-

Debbie Dare 1971-
Ted Yuan

-Board Presidents-

Richard Adams 1964-1966
Lawrence E. Anderson 1966-1968
Mrs. Donald Pearce 1968-1970
Tatiana Sundquist 1987-1988
Mary Cooke 1988-1989
Susan Jordan 1989-1991
Jean Bogiages 1991-1992
David Wilson 1992-1993
Jean Bogiages 1993-1994
Laura Malik 1994-1995
Joel Ficks 1995-1996
Jean Bogiages 1996-1997
Harold Lawrence 1997-2001
Perika Sampson 2001-2003
Jay Levine 2003-

-Concert Masters-

Thomas Halpin 1964-1967
William Bouton 1967-1969
Gelon Lau 1969-1970
Benjamin Simon 1970-1972
Peter Jaffe 1972-1973
Claudia Bloom 1973-1974
Page Woodworth 1974-1975
James Greening 1975-1976
Anita Grunwald 1976-1977
Mary Larionoff 1977-1978
Robin Hansen 1978-1980
Ruth Powell 1980-1981
I-Mei Hsiu 1981-1982
Darcy Van Valkenburgh 1982-1983
Mariko Close 1983-1984
Anthony Gamboa 1984
Gwynneth Riemer 1985
Sharon Lam and Sara Mechanic 1985-1986
Sara Mechanic 1986-1987
Patrick Horn 1987-1988
René Paik 1988-1989
René Paik and Alisha Calhoun 1989
Alisha Calhoun and Jenny Boyden 1990
Jane Herr 1990-1991
Jory Fankuchen 1991-1992
Brady Fergusom and Toby Marton 1992-1993
Sarah Citrin 1993-1995
Kouslaá Kessler-Mata 1995
Sarah Baldi and Irene Wu 1995-1996
Sarah Baldi 1996
Emily Senturia 1997
Sarah Baldi 1997
Quen Cheng 1997
Anjanine Bonet 1998
Quen Cheng 1998
Jia Yao 1998
Margot Schwartz 1998-1999
Jia Yao 1999
Margot Schwartz 1999-2000
Jackie Kamrath 2000-2001
Samuel Chen 2001
Meenah Paik 2001-2003

Oakland Youth Orchestra Alumni with Distinguished Music Careers

Artist's Name	OYO Years	Professional Company	Position	Conservatory/University
Greg Barber	1964-1967	SF Symphony, Opera and Ballet Orchs Oakland East Bay Symphony recordings include: John Williams Conducts The Star Wars Trilogy/The Skywalker Symphony Mills College Faculty	Bassoonist and Conductor	Eastman
Jeff Beal	1979-1981	film composer Skywalker Ranch Orchestra	Trumpeter	
Donald Benham	1973-1974	Oakland East Bay Symphony	Trombonist	
Robin Bonnell	1977-1979	New Century Chamber Orchestra	Cellist	New England Conserv
Jeremy Cohen	1974-1975	Turtle Island String Quartet	Jazz Violinist	
Joel Cohen	1969-1971	Boston Symphony Orchestra	Cellist	
Jennifer Culp	1973-1976	Kronos Quartet Skywalker Ranch Orchestra	Cellist	
Shinji Eshima	1973-1974	SF Opera and Ballet Orchestras Skywalker Ranch Orchestra	Bass	Stanford
Jon Faddis	1969-1970	Music Director Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra		Trumpeter
Alex Foster	1967-1970	Saturday Night Live Band	Saxophone (clarinet in OYO)	
Dawn Foster-Dodson	1975-1977	San Jose Symphony SF Ballet and Opera Orchestras California Symphony St. Mary's College	Cellist Cellist Cellist Music Teacher	SF Conservatory
Doris Fukawa	1972-1974	Oakland East Bay Symphony Skywalker Ranch Orchestra	Violinist, Chamber Music Teacher and Administrator	Manhattan School Music
Tyra Gilb	1970-1973	Traverse Symphony Orchestra	Principal flute	Juilliard
Lawrence Granger	1966-1969	San Francisco Symphony	cellist	
Lisa Grodin	1976-1978	San Jose Symphony	Violin	Oberlin Conservatory
Ellen Gronningen	1979-1981	Santa Rosa Symphony, OEBS, Earplay,	Violin	Juilliard ManhattanSchMu
Jon Gustely	1973-1978	Mexico City Philharmonic	French Horn	
Lori Hamilton	1976-1977	Metropolitan Opera Orchestra	Violinist	Manhattan School Music

Robin Hansen	1977-1980	SF Opera Orchestra Midsummer Mozart concertmaster	Violinist	
Joseph Hébert	1975-1976	Oakland East Bay Symphony Skywalker Ranch Orchestra	Cellist	
Lorraine Hunt Lieberson	1969-1972		Opera Singer (OYO:violinist)	
Peter Jaffe	1969-1973	Stockton Symphony	Conductor (OYO violinist)	
Noriko Kishi	1980-82	San Jose Symphony	Cello	Eastman
Lawrence Kohl	1970-1971	Pacific Chamber Symphony	founding Music Director	
Karla Lemon	1970-1972	Stanford University Orchestra. SF Womens Philharmonic San Francisco Ballet Orchestra Utah Symphony Spokane Symphony Oakland Symphony The New Music Institute in Freiburg	Conductor (OYO: bassist) Conductor Guest Conductor Guest Conductor Guest Conductor Guest Conductor Guest Conductor	
Betsy London	1968-1972	Oakland East Bay Symphony	Violist	
Larry London	1964-1967	Film & television composer Current OYO wind coach	Clarinet	Harvard
Tyler Mack	1975-1979	SF Opera Orchestra	Percussionist	
Patrick McCarthy	1965-1966	Oakland East Bay Symphony	Bassist	
Brian McCarty	1969-1974	SF Opera and Ballet Orchestras	French Horn	
Bill McElheney	1970-1972	Vienna Philharmonic	Trombone	
Julie Meirstin Athayde	1966-1967	Distinguished violin teacher	Violinist	
Emil Miland	1974-1977	SF Opera Orchestra frequent orchestra soloist	Cellist	New England Conserv
Carla Picchi	1972-1973	Oakland East Bay Symphony Skywalker Ranch Orchestra	Violinist, violist	
Larry Ragent	1971-1972	San Francisco Opera Orchestra	French Horn	New England Conserv
Marc Schachman	1964-1966	Philharmonia Baroque, etc.	Principal Oboe	Stanford, Juilliard
Benjamin Simon	1970-1972	New World String Quartet Los Angeles Philharmonic Crowden School San Francisco Chamber Orchestra	Violinist Violinist Director Music Director	Yale
Debbie Steiner Spangler	1970-71	Oakland East Bay Symphony	Violinist	

Elizabeth Struble	1977-1979	Oakland East Bay Symphony	Cellist	
Mark Veregge	1974-1976	SF Opera, Ballet, Symphony Principal Percussionist, CA Symphony, Opera San Jose	Percussionist	
Peter Wahrhaftig	1975-1976	SF Opera Orchestra Oakland East Bay Symphony	Tuba Tuba	
Carla Wilson	71-73, 84-85	Oakland East Bay Symphony	Bassoonist	SF Conservatory
Steve Witsler	1975-1978	Cleveland Orchestra	Principal Trombone	Eastman