



Newsletter November 2009

Hello, FYS families!

What a beautiful Fall Concert the Symphony performed! Thank you, Students, Conductors and Coaches for the hard work you dedicated to make it such a success. Our Music Director, Mrs. Peterson, arranged to have it professionally recorded, and soon you can purchase the Fall Concert DVD. Not only will this be a keepsake of your student's time in Symphony; it can also serve as a thoughtful gift to family members who were unable to attend the concert. I myself will buy several copies for Christmas gifts.

Congratulations to our new student string **Section Principals and Leaders**. Section Principals for Youth are **David Holzemer, 1st Violin; Dana Hallahan, 2nd Violin; Spencer DeChenne, Viola; and Hank Smith, Cello**. Section Principals for Junior Symphony are **Michael Giles, 1st Violin; Manda Kay Goff, 2nd Violin; Abby Hendrix, Viola; and Detrik Vanderlinden, Cello**. Youth Section Leaders are **Sadie Lanier, 1st Violin; Dana Hallahan, 2nd Violin; Tessa Hobson, Viola; and Lydia Southard, Cello**. I encourage all students to read *Duties of a Section Leader/ Principal/ Concertmaster* on the Policies page of our website www.fysmusic.org. There you will learn what to expect from your leaders and how you can help them to do their job.

FYS T-shirts and sweatshirts are on sale now. The **order deadline is December 3**. Delivery will be at the Holiday Concert December 18. Parents must pick up the packages, to ensure secrecy for those wishing to make them into gifts. Download an order form to print from the website www.fysmusic.org. Mail your order to FYS, P.O. Box 692, Mount Vernon WA 98273 or bring it to rehearsal Dec. 3. Hoodies do have drawstrings. If you need size 1X, 2X or 3X, contact me.

Preparations for our **Holiday Concert** are under way. **Concert Posters** are ready for distribution in your community; please take some and hang them in a prominent location. **Concert Postcards** are a cheerful way to help your family and friends remember the date; address a few and mail them out today. We had a terrific audience turnout for the last concert—let's try to pack the church in December! Please consult your 2009/2010 Member Handbook or www.fysmusic.org for a detailed description of appropriate **concert attire**. We have four shopping weeks left to hunt down a long-sleeved shirt or a pair of black stockings.

The **Holiday Concert** is set for 7:00 pm Friday, December 18 at the Presbyterian Church of Mount Vernon. This concert will feature holiday tunes in an intimate atmosphere. Look for our Silent Auction and Raffle there. A few local businesses have donated services for us to auction as a fundraiser for the Symphony.

Please remember that **Symphony is a team effort**, and the musicians all count on each other's presence to achieve the optimal practice experience each week. The more students who attend each rehearsal, the stronger our concert performance will be. Of course, we urge you to keep sick members at home, both to speed their recovery and to protect the health of other students. If your student must miss a rehearsal, you can easily record their absence by clicking the **Member Absence link** on the homepage of our website www.fysmusic.org.

Carpool Rosters are still available, but may need to be updated. Contact me at president@fysmusic.org to be added to the roster and to get a copy.

We wish to have **Emergency Contact numbers** on hand for each student during rehearsals. If the number where we can reach you during rehearsals is different from the phone number on your registration form, please email me at president@fysmusic.org.

All FYS students are offered a **10% off** all purchases, both in store and on line, at **ClickMusic.biz**. Just mention that you participate in FYS to get the discount

We now have an **FYS News Board** in the entry hallway. Look there for the list of snack volunteers, the latest newsletter, notices of community musical opportunities, concert information, and more. Members and parents are welcome to post anything music-related that you'd like to share with others in FYS.

Thank you to Sara Fisher for lending FYS her portable **wardrobe stand**. We encourage students to donate concert clothing that no longer fits, or suitable items that parents run across in

secondhand stores. Feel free to trade up, leaving your small shirt, skirt, or jacket, and picking up a larger one. We are looking for a business that might donate a box of black bow ties for use by our gentlemen. If you have any leads, please let me know.

If you ever have a **question or comment** about how things are going in Fidalgo Youth Symphony, please feel free to talk with me during any Thursday rehearsal, email me, or phone me. I would like to hear what you think.

There is no rehearsal November 26. Have a very **Happy Thanksgiving!**

Kim Hallahan, President, Board of Directors
president@fysmusic.org or 360-679-6778



HOLIDAY CONCERT

7:00 pm, Friday, December 18

Presbyterian Church of Mount Vernon
1511 E. Broadway, Mount Vernon

Arrive early for Dress Rehearsal (details next month).

Come dressed in Concert Attire.

Greetings from your Directors!

We very much appreciate the musical advancements we are observing in all three of our groups.

Thank you for the extra practice you are accomplishing, and the great attitude toward learning which is becoming progressively more obvious as the weeks go by!

Let's all keep focusing on our group dynamics, and while we are having a fun time together, remember that the concerts are our opportunity to shine as a team (and as many small teams/sections within a larger team).

That is why we prefer a unified appearance for the concerts--to draw attention to your instruments and your faces, as an ensemble.

For the Holiday Concert, remember we add touches of red, green, or white in the accessories, to make this event a bit more seasonal. (Santa hats and Reindeer ears are welcomed-but not both on the same player!) Please learn your music-especially the chamber groups-over the weekend, and call me at 360-421-2527 if any of the string groups want to set up extra coaching time with me. (Mrs. P)

Thanks again for all of your talent and efforts -- it is a real privilege to work with you!

Fondly,

Sharyn Peterson, Music Director and Youth Symphony Conductor