



September 23, 2015

Dear Lehigh Valley Music Teacher,

The Young People's Philharmonic of the Lehigh Valley is a youth organization that provides students from grade 5 through 12 opportunities to perform and exercise their musical ability in a group of talented peer musicians. Our mission is to provide the youth of the greater Lehigh Valley with their own musical organization where they may study and perform symphony orchestra literature, increasing the awareness and appreciation of classical music throughout the area. Students are required to audition for a seat in the orchestra and attend weekly rehearsals on Tuesdays at 6:15. Each semester concludes with an orchestral performance.

Our program consists of two orchestras and three chamber music groups. The Young People's Philharmonic (YPP), grades 9-12, is a full symphony orchestra directed by Jerry Bidlack, and the Junior String Philharmonic (JSP), our string orchestra serving grades 5-9, is directed by Kenneth Bean. Within the past few years, we have been able to organize a number of students into brass, woodwind, and string chamber music groups, providing them with training and performance opportunities. The organization is always looking for students who wish to expand and challenge themselves in playing and performing.

One wonderful and unique feature of our program is an annual tour to area schools to perform for student audiences. This is a great way for our students to share their talents with their peers, and for the youth of the Lehigh Valley to see a live orchestral performance in their own back yard. Please be in touch if you are interested in learning more about our school tours.

We recognize the important role you have as a musical professional and we would like to build a cooperative relationship with you. We know music students in the Lehigh Valley participate in a variety of ensembles, school performances, and sometimes even study multiple instruments. We know it is important for them to participate in these activities, to serve as leaders, and encourage enthusiasm for music among their peers. We thank you for all that you do to expand their experience, and nurture their love of music. Our youth orchestra supplements school music programs, drawing from public, private and homeschooled communities in the greater Lehigh Valley. Our goal is to work together to enhance their musical experience.

Below are some important performance dates for our program:

Fall 2015:

This year the JSP will perform at Barnes and Noble in Center Valley on Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 from 6:00-8:30 pm.

The JSP school tour will be on Friday, Nov. 13th during the school day.

The YPP & JSP Holiday Concert will take place at Miller Symphony Hall in Allentown on Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 4:00 pm.

Spring 2016:

YPP Spring Concert- Sunday, May 1st, 2016, 4pm at Foy Hall

JSP Spring Concert- Saturday, May 14th, 2016, 4pm at Foy Hall

Your work and programs are critical in keeping the love of music alive in our community! It is the continued focus and dedication of our students that drives the quality of our program. We appreciate your time and consideration in helping us grow and expand music appreciation in the Lehigh Valley. We look forward to a fruitful relationship in the future.

Sincerely,

Young People's Philharmonic  
Board of Directors