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At The Greens
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Dec. 12
West Hollow
- ◆ Spring Concerts
March 5 & 6, 2011
- ◆ Alice Tully Hall
May 21, 2011

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our Gemini families, musicians and parents, conductors, board and executive director as we begin our forty-second season. This is a year of many changes for Gemini.

At our final concert last spring, we celebrated the many years of dedicated service of our past president and executive director, Richard and Karen Reiben. I am happy to report that the Reibens are getting comfortably settled in their new upstate home.

Along with a new president, vice-president and executive director, this year brings a few other changes to Gemini, including the debut edition of our newsletter, *The Score*, our parent's association, and a new and exciting concert venue: The Adelphi Performing Arts Center. Check out Adelphi PAC on their website. Our website is also in store for some changes this year.

In past years, the primary method of communications between Gemini and our musicians and families had been through e-mail. Problems were frequent as e-mail addresses changed, messages were delayed,

dropped, and sometimes even tagged as spam! This year we will use our website as our primary means of communication. I encourage each of you to visit the website regularly, and most frequently prior to rehearsals and concerts for news, cancellations due to snow (a funny thought given the weather this summer), and other announcements and information.

In the coming months I hope you will enjoy the expanded features and make-over planned for the website. Please bookmark www.gyo.org in your browser and visit it often. I do: It's set as my home page! E-mail is still the best way to communicate with our executive director and me.

Our executive director, officers and board look forward to working with all of you to provide an enriching, supportive, and fun experience for each of our students.

I personally look forward to seeing and speaking with you at our weekly rehearsals, at our concerts and events, and throughout our 2010-2011 season.

Thank you for being part of our Gemini Family.

Neil D. Harris
President GYO

“Music is the universal language of mankind.”

Henry Wadsworth
Longfellow



“Some people think music education is a privilege, but I think it’s essential to being human.”

- Jewel - singer, songwriter, and instrumentalist

Gemini Strings

Mozart’s Eine Kleine Nachtmusik is the prototype of classical music with strings, known by most everyone with or without a classical music background. It is in four movements allowing for flexibility in programming. We will strive to play the entire work, but may omit a movement for the sake of quality in performance.

One could consider the technical level to be about a 3 or 4 NYSSMA rating, given the basic key (G Major) combined with some involved passage work throughout. However, as is the GSO motto, “It is not what you play... it is how you play it.” We will be learning style as the driving force behind the technique of the instruments. At the same time, we will work with a ‘system’ of techniques that will serve to guide us through the music-making process.

Andrew Perea, Conductor

Gemini Winds

Our first concert is a celebration of Veterans’ Day and reflects an American spirit of patriotism and respect. After opening with the “Star-Spangled Banner” we will play Aaron Copland’s “Fanfare for the Common Man.” This fanfare is a masterpiece by the quintessential American composer that captures the spirit of man’s struggle to find his place in the world. *Continued on next page*

Gemini Chamber

For the first concert, the Chamber Orchestra will be performing Divertissement by Jean Berger and Symphony for Strings by Giuseppe Verdi. What is interesting about these selections is that both composers are best known for their vocal compositions- Berger for his choral literature and Verdi for his operas and Requiem.

The Symphony for Strings is a transcription for string orchestra of Verdi’s only string quartet. What I like about this piece is that it is chamber music. Playing chamber music helps a young musician understand the independence of each part. No more First Violins having the melody and the rest of the orchestra accompanying; everyone gets a piece of the action! The Divertissement is a contemporary work written in 1970. The harmonies are a bit different than what you might be used to. I want you to “stretch” your ear a bit. My goal is for you to be prepared for Maestro Adelson and the Symphony.

James Uzzi, Conductor

Gemini Symphony

For our first concert we will perform the Second Symphony of Jean Sibelius. The Finnish composer is an absolutely central figure, and his second symphony is both a masterpiece of Romanticism and a look forward to the future. This staple of the repertoire is thrilling to play, and is beloved by musicians and audiences alike.

Michael Adelson, Conductor

Music and Medicine

As a physician, I have always been fascinated by the relationship between music, health and healing. History reveals that the ancient Egyptians used music to treat the ill.

Today the field of music therapy is a highly respected career. As our population ages, longevity is accompanied by higher rates of illnesses such as Alzheimer's disease, strokes and dementia. Patients who are unable to remember loved ones are often able to retain memories of favorite music.

Surgical patients require fewer sedatives when music is available, perhaps explaining why Mozart piano sonatas are on the playlist for many an operating room and intensive care unit. As expected, patient's heart rates and respirations slow and become more regular when classical music is played. At the Cleveland Clinic, neurosurgeons are collaborating with the Cleveland Orchestra to compose classical pieces to play for patients during brain surgery. Cutting edge research has shown music's potential to speed recovery in patients with traumatic brain injury and stimulate brain activity in patients with Alzheimer's, multiple sclerosis and Parkinson's disease.

As a Gemini parent for the last five years, I have found it interesting to see how many of our students have chosen to pursue careers in medicine and the sciences.

Most recently, Cornell School of Medicine has established a Music and Medicine pathway to encourage medical students to pursue their love of music while preparing for careers in the medical field. I look forward to seeing many Gemini alumni in the Doctors Symphony in the future!

Beth N. Feinman, MD
Executive Director

Gemini Winds *continued*

Morton Gould's setting of the traditional tune "Yankee Doodle" is a technically and musically challenging selection that will expose the students to theoretical concepts of theme and variation.

"South Pacific" expands American music into the Broadway theatre genre and has become a classic. The story and the songs emphasize the American spirit and human values and teach lessons of courage, sacrifice and social acceptance.

Michael Canipe, Conductor



Gemini partnered with Long Island Harvest at Heksher Park



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For more information on
Gemini Youth Orchestras,
please email us at:

webmaestro@gyo.org

**Our Website is
easy to find
*GYO.org***

Meghan Brooks, a 5 year Gemini veteran of the Concert Winds and Symphony, was recently accepted into the Mannes Preparatory Program.

“She wouldn't be going,” said Margaret Brooks, Meghan’s mother, “ if it wasn't for the acceptance into and the encouragement of Gemini 5 years ago! “

Richard and Karen Reiben Honored

We honored Richard and Karen Reiben for their many years of service and dedication to GYO. Richard served as Board President and Karen was our Executive Director.

They recently moved upstate to oversee the Smith Center cultural arts venue. Best of luck. We will miss you.



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