



A Legendary Legacy

Inspirational. Transformative. Impactful. These are all words that can be used to describe the incredible influence that Dr. Paul-Elliott Cobbs has had on the students of the Tacoma Youth Symphony Association for the last 27 years. As the conductor of the Tacoma Youth Symphony (and also, formerly the conductor of the Tacoma Junior Youth Symphony), he has challenged students each week to work hard and to reach beyond their current level to new heights. He tells the students that he only makes them work so hard because he likes them so much; sometimes they wish he didn't like them quite so much, but at the same time, they know that they are valued and cared for.

That challenge to work hard to reach full potential extends past the rehearsal hall. In his own words, Dr. Cobbs firmly believes that "the lessons of diligence, determination, self-confidence, and love needed to succeed in music is also necessary in everyday situations." He has met with students struggling in school after rehearsal to encourage them to focus on what is being asked of them. He has taught students discipline and every student that has come through TYSA since 1997 can quote "Early is on time, on time is late, and late is unacceptable!" Students from TYSA have gone on to top music schools across the country but have also pursued careers in medicine, law, engineering, IT, education, and the military. TYSA alumni come back to visit and point to the lessons learned during their time in TYSA as part of the key to their success.

Beyond pursuing strong music education and teaching valuable life lessons, Dr. Cobbs has helped to create a culture of acceptance at TYSA. New students come to TYSA and realize they have found "their people." The students of TYSA genuinely respect, support, and care for each other. This culture is something that Dr. Cobbs feels strongly about and has worked hard to maintain.

We asked colleagues of Dr. Cobbs to say a few words about the time they have known him. Carrie Rehkopf Michel had this to say about Dr. Cobbs:

"For over thirty years at CWU I have been lucky enough to mentor and work with many TYSA students. These outstanding human beings are the results of the leadership and exceptional culture fostered and nurtured by Paul and Loma Cobbs. In addition, the ways the Drs. Cobbs have inspired me as a person and educator are impossible to enumerate. I stand in awe of them and love them deeply. They have enriched my life in so many ways."

Elizabeth Ward said this:

"Impressions of Dr Cobbs: a **consummate musician** and **conductor**; **sharing** his musical journey; a **kind** and **thoughtful** hand when needed; **teaching** TYS students 'the process' of learning to use as a guide for successful outcomes. It has been educational, enlightening and wonderful! Thank you, Dr Cobbs."

Come celebrate this amazing human being and the legendary legacy he leaves behind as he retires from TYSA at the final TYS concert on May 18 at 7:00 in the Pantages Theater! Tickets are available at www.tysamusic.org.

It's been a busy spring for TYSA!
Check out some of the things we've been up to below!



Wind Philharmonic Runout
Tacoma Art Museum
Photo courtesy of TYSA Staff



Masterclass with Xavier Foley
Schneebeck Concert Hall, UPS
Photo courtesy of TYSA Staff



String Symphony Runout
Merrill Gardens, Tacoma
Photo courtesy of Dr. Li-Ling Liao



Cello Choir Runout
Merrill Gardens, Wright Park
Photo courtesy of Karen Hemming



A LEGENDARY LEGACY:
DR. COBBS' FAREWELL TO THE
TACOMA YOUTH SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION
SATURDAY MAY 18, 2024 7:00 P.M.
PANTAGES THEATER

FEATURING THE MUSIC OF WALTON, BRAHMS, AND VERDI

GET YOUR TICKETS
NOW AT
WWW.TYSAMUSIC.ORG!





CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2024!



Zim Abell
Cormac Apple
Anneliese Barta
Caleb Brumfield
Sarah Choi
Jackson Davis
Jorie Dyvig
Ben Early
Emma Espinosa
Kate Filiss
Keira Gan
Sky Gilliard
Vadim Hettena
Taylor Hopps
LeRoy Horton
Samuel Hung
Ryan Kasma
Alexia Kurtzbein

Elizabeth Leitzinger
Connor Mahalick
Bronwyn McKasson
Matthew Moffat
Rylee Morrow
Ben Pelandini
Ella Plautz
Taylor Robinson
Jack Ruffner
Lily Ryerson
Mika Shor
Kennedy Son
Slava Suhatchi
Sofia Topete
Kai Trelstad-Larsen
Alia Uffenorde
Ge-Ho Yang
Rebecka Zerom

To all of our seniors, thank you for the time you have spent with us, thank you for the way you have supported each other and worked together, and thank you for providing leadership to our younger students! We wish you all the best as you leave us and pursue the next chapter of your life! Be sure to stay in touch - you will always have a place here with your TYSA family!



Summer Music Camps 2024



**EVERGREEN MUSIC
FESTIVAL SESSION 1**

July 22-26, 2024

Pacific Lutheran University

**TYSA-HAMMOND ASHLEY
BASS WORKSHOP**

July 9-12, 2024

Pacific Lutheran University

**EVERGREEN MUSIC
FESTIVAL SESSION 2**

July 14-20, 2024

Central Washington University



**SUMMER JAZZ
ORCHESTRA**

August 1-4, 2024

Tacoma City Theaters

REGISTER TODAY AT:

www.tysamusic.org



Thank you!

Special thanks to Sue Daulton for her 20+ years of service on the TYSA Board of Directors! Sue has given tirelessly to TYSA and has provided strong leadership. She helped to spearhead the Trivia Night Fundraiser, as well as other fundraising activities, and continues to give her time, even now that she is no longer on the Board. Thank you Sue for everything you have done for TYSA!

Thank you to all of our incredible volunteers! Thank you to all who helped with the TYSA Trivia Night Fundraiser, the Discover Music Concert, and our run-outs to Victorian Country Christmas, the Tacoma Art Museum, Merrill Gardens, and the TSP side by side at Masson Middle School. Thank you to all of our wonderful concert volunteers, who come early and willingly help clean up after concerts. Thank you to the parents who helped our Picture Day run smoothly and to everyone who helped with mailings. Thank you to our wonderful Board of Directors who have worked so hard to make this year a success and to ensure the future of TYSA. Thank you to the parents who support the students and help to make a music education possible for their children. And thank you to our incredible students for providing joyful reminders each week of why we do this! We so appreciate our entire TYSA Family!

Volunteers of the Year

We have such great TYSA volunteers! The job of choosing a volunteer of the year each year is very difficult since there are so many volunteers that fit that profile. Here are this year's choices:

Congratulations to our 2024 Volunteer of Note, Mrs. Cathy Johnson. Mrs. Johnson is a cellist and a retired orchestra teacher. Her grandson is following in her footsteps as a cellist in the Tacoma String Philharmonic. For the last several years, Mrs. Johnson has come each week to volunteer in both TSS and TSP, and has helped however she is needed. Thank you for your amazing work with our youngest string students!

Congratulations to Samuel Richards, our 2024 Student Volunteer of Note! Samuel is a cellist in the Tacoma Youth Symphony. He has helped us out this year in so many ways. He is a mentor in TSP. Last summer, he jumped in to help with auditions when we were short-handed. He is always around to help set up chairs and put chairs away after rehearsal and willing steps in to help carry when he sees someone struggling under a heavy load. Thank you, Samuel, for your quiet, unassuming help!

Cathy Johnson and Samuel Richards were recognized at the concert on May 4 at Mason Methodist. Thank you to all of our volunteers who make the work we do possible!

TYSA Annual Meeting

May 18, 2024
9:00 A.M.
4th Floor
Conference Room



TYSA | TACOMA
YOUTH
SYMPHONY
ASSOCIATION
SAVE THE DATE!



Save the date for the 3rd Annual TYSA and Friends Music Walk!

The walk will be **Wednesday, July 10**, and will start from **Theater on the Square Park at 6:00 PM**. Explore the vibrant musical culture of downtown Tacoma in a walk throughout the Theater District and Opera Alley, led by the Tacoma Youth Symphony Association. Enjoy performances along the walking route that highlight a variety of Tacoma arts organizations and learn more about the history and programs that these groups offer! At the end of the walk, treat yourself to ice cream and popsicles provided by TYSA. This event is free but pre-registration is required. The link to pre-register will be available soon.



TYSA 2024-2025 PLACEMENT AUDITIONS!

August 7-14, 2024

Join in the music AND the
fun! Fill out your application
today at
www.tysamusic.org



Find us on:



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Sue Daulton	<i>Immediate Past President</i>

Season Sponsors:



Program Supporters:



ADMINISTRATION

Anna Jensen, DMA	<i>Executive Director</i>
Paul-Elliott Cobbs, DMA	<i>Music Director/ TYS Conductor</i>
James O. Welsch, DMA	<i>Music Director Designate</i>
Joe Dyvig	<i>TJYS Conductor</i>
Anna Jensen, DMA	<i>TSP Conductor</i>
John M. Wetherington	<i>TWP Conductor</i>
Karen Helseth	<i>TSS Conductor</i>
Elizabeth Ward	<i>TYS Assistant Conductor</i>
Loma Cobbs, Ph.D.	<i>Music Theory</i>
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