



In Loving Memory of Shirley Getzin, TYSA's First Executive Director

Shirley Getzin passed away on September 10 surrounded by her family, love, and music. Those three things really defined who Mrs. Getzin was. As a parent of a TYSA student in the 1970s, Shirley brought her son to his TYSA rehearsal every week and stayed through his rehearsal. Then-current TYS conductor, C. Irvin Wright, noticed Shirley at rehearsals and when someone was needed to clean up an office space at Remann Hall for TYSA use, he recommended Shirley for the job. Shirley was named Executive Secretary and then soon became Executive Director, the first paid TYSA administrative staff position. She served TYSA in that position from 1976 until her retirement in 1997. She considered the Tacoma Youth Symphony Association her greatest joy.

Shirley credited her success as the first TYSA Executive Director to her love of people and love of music. Along with her love of people, she was good at persuading people to give, and she was an effective fundraiser. During her time at TYSA, she oversaw TYSA's largest expansion. In 1976, there were two orchestras. During the 1980s, TYSA added the Tacoma Young Artists Orchestra, Tacoma String Symphony, the Symphonic Wind Arts Training program, Evergreen Music Festival, and String Orchestra Festival. The Tacoma String Philharmonic and Tacoma Classical Youth Sinfonia were added in the 90s, just before Shirley retired. She was also responsible for TYSA's move to the offices in the Jones Building above the Pantages Theater (TYSA's current home) and she was involved with the remodeling of Studios 2 and 3 (that TYSA currently uses for rehearsals) and the remodeling of the Rialto Theater which opened in 1992 as the home of the Tacoma Youth Symphony.

In 1983, the Tacoma Youth Symphony went on a six-country tour in Europe. The European tour was one of the greatest highlights of Shirley's career with TYSA and a highlight for the students that went on the tour. Shirley's fundraising skills went a long way towards making that tour happen, but her love for the TYSA students was a big part of what made that trip so memorable for her and made her time as Executive Director so special.

Following her retirement from TYSA, Shirley served on the Board of Good Samaritan Hospital in Puyallup and then for the Good Samaritan Hospital Foundation. One of the things she was most proud of was helping to build the Children's Therapy Unit at Good Sam. She also helped to raise money to build the cancer center at Good Sam. Shirley was a devoted community member, and in addition to her volunteer work with Good Samaritan Hospital, she also supported the Junior Women's Club, American Field Service, The Rose Society of Pierce County, P.E.O., Planned Parenthood, and Valley Theater of the Arts.

The Tacoma Youth Symphony will be honoring this remarkable woman at their November 15 concert. Please join us in celebrating her life and legacy. Tickets are available at www.tysamusic.org.



TACOMA
YOUTH
SYMPHONY
ASSOCIATION

***“Gods and Kings, Love and Fate,
and a Typewriter”***

Saturday, November 15, 2025

7:00 P.M. Rialto Theater



**THANK YOU
for your support!**

SILVER

**Best Nonprofit
Best Live Music**

Bronze

Best Tutoring/Educational Services


BEST
of Pierce County

THE NEWS TRIBUNE

The votes are in, and TYSA has been awarded “Best of Pierce County” in THREE categories thanks to the incredible support of our community! We are so grateful to everyone who nominated us, voted for us, and helped spread the word—you made this possible!

Silver for “Best Nonprofit”

Silver for “Best Live Music”

Bronze for “Best Tutoring/
Educational Services”

Thank you for your support!

SUMMER MUSIC WITH TYSA!

Summer 2025 was filled with music at TYSA, from the Music Walk to great summer music camps! Here's some of the highlights:

TYSA's summer kicked off with the TYSA-Hammond Ashley Bass Workshop at PLU.

The Bass Workshop welcomes double bass students of all ages and abilities for an immersive study of the instrument. Forty-six bass students took part in the workshop this summer!



Play ball!

The Tacoma Youth Brass Ensemble was welcomed back to Cheney Stadium on July 3 to play the National Anthem before the Rainiers game against the Salt Lake City Bees. Our brass players did an incredible job and the Rainiers beat the Bees 12-7.



The TYSA and Friends Music Walk was a big success with eight of our partner arts organizations participating, including Tacoma City Ballet (pictured here). At the end of the walk, participants were invited to try out samba drumming and were treated to ice cream.



Throughout the summer, Dr. James Doyle led TYSamba's Summer Late Nights at Boys & Girls Clubs, YMCAs, and middle schools throughout Tacoma. The free program introduced middle and high school students to Brazilian drumming techniques.

SUMMER MUSIC, continued!



Session 1 of the Evergreen Music Festival was at Pacific Lutheran University. This fun day camp for students going into grades 2-8 included daily rehearsals, theory classes, recreational time, enrichment programs, and coaching sessions.

Session 2 of the Evergreen Music Festival was at Central Washington University. Musicians in grades 9 and up participated in chamber music, orchestra rehearsals, masterclasses, coaching sessions by artists-in-residence, music theory classes, and daily concerts consisting of faculty and student recitals. The week also included the EMF Talent Show, and many more fun activities!



TYSA's Summer Jazz Orchestra returned to downtown Tacoma for a four day celebration of America's greatest art form, jazz! Students learned about the unique history of jazz through hands-on musical experiences and guest performances. The program finished up with a packed performance at the Spanish Ballroom at McMenamins Elks Temple.

Giving Tuesday is December 2, 2025 - Will You Join Us?



Giving Tuesday was created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. Since its start, the idea has grown to a worldwide generosity movement. Not many of us are able to give thousands of dollars to support our favorite causes, but when we work together, we can make a big difference in our community and our world. At TYSA, our orchestras are about so much more than music. They are safe places where kids find friends who cheer them on, mentors who believe in them, and experiences that give them the courage to dream bigger than they ever thought possible. This year our goal is to raise \$5,000 to support our programs. You can help by giving anytime between now and December 2. You can also help by spreading the word about the important work TYSA is doing throughout the community. Together, we can make a difference! Give today by going to <https://event.auctria.com/ba13bd19-e359-4ad3-a902-b067ee407969/edit> or by scanning the QR code at the right.



All Hands on Deck for TYSA's Trivia Night Fundraiser & Auction! The Tacoma Youth Symphony Association invites you to set sail for a night of fun at our TYSA Trivia Night Fundraiser and Auction on Saturday, March 21, 2026!

This unforgettable evening will feature three "high-seas" rounds of trivia, a treasure chest of fun games, a dessert dash fit for a captain, silent and live auctions where you can raise your paddle and your sails, student performances that will make waves, and delectable bites and grog to keep your crew fueled. We're charting a course to celebrate TYSA's 63rd season, and we need all hands on deck to keep our programs afloat! Get your tickets now at www.tysamusic.org/trivianight/

Unable to attend but still want to support TYSA? Please consider donating an item for our auction - more info at www.tysamusic.org/trivianight.

Costume Concert 2025!



We had an amazing Costume Concert on October 25! Here are some of the fun costumes our TYSA students wore. Thank you to everyone for supporting this concert and our TYSA Scholarship Fund! Stay tuned for next year's date!



TACOMA
YOUTH
SYMPHONY
ASSOCIATION



GAMERS RHAPSODY

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2026
7:00 PM PANTAGES THEATER

FEATURING ALL OF THE ORCHESTRAS OF THE
TACOMA YOUTH SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION



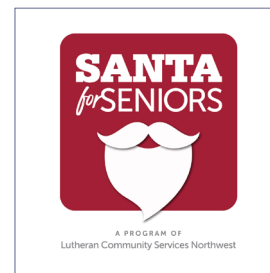
GET YOUR TICKETS NOW
WWW.TYSAMUSIC.ORG



Join Us for These Upcoming Concerts

November 15, 2025, 7:00 PM

Tacoma Youth Symphony
Gods and Kings, Love and Fate, and . . . a Typewriter
Rialto Theater
Sponsored by Santa for Seniors



December 13, 2025, 1:00 PM

Prelude Strings
Tacoma String Symphony
Tacoma String Philharmonic
Tacoma Wind Philharmonic
Schneebeck Concert Hall, UPS

Find us on:



December 13, 2025, 6:30 PM

Tacoma Academy String Orchestra
Tacoma Junior Youth Symphony
Tacoma Youth Brass Ensemble
Schneebeck Concert Hall, UPS

January 24, 2026, 7:00 PM

Chamber Ensemble Concert
Raynor Chapel, Annie Wright School

March 7, 2026, 7:00 PM

Tacoma Youth Symphony
Going Home
Rialto Theater

March 28, 2026, 7:00 PM

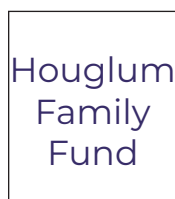
Gamers Rhapsody
Featuring all of TYSA's Orchestras
Pantages Theater

For more information or to purchase tickets go to
www.tysamusic.org

Season Sponsors:



Program Supporters:



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jennifer Weddermann	President
Rachel Brown	First Vice President
Eleni Willis	Second Vice President
Julie Gonsalves	Secretary
Benjamin Kamithi	Treasurer
Cathy Early	Immediate Past President
Jessica Gasper	
Mark Green	
Deborah Li	
Li-Ling Liao, DMA	
Joseph Scott, DMA	
Melinda Wharton	

ADMINISTRATION

Anna Jensen, DMA	Executive Director
James O. Welsch, DMA	Music Director/ TYS Conductor
Joe Dyvig	TJYS Conductor
Anna Jensen, DMA	TSP Conductor
Gianna Debolt	TWP Co-Conductor
John M. Wetherington	TWP Co-Conductor
Karen Helseth	TASO Conductor
Rebecca Pelandini	TSS Conductor
Katherine Sartori	Prelude Strings Director
Sarah Viens	Brass Ensemble Conductor
Jeff Chang	Jazz Studies
Loma Cobbs, Ph.D.	Music Theory
Megan Berkinshaw	Operations Manager
Tommy Hawthorne	Education/EMF Manager
Kristina Thomas	Marketing Manager
James Doyle, DMA	Engagement Manager
Laura Stone	Advancement Officer
Rebecca Reinmuth	Finance Manager
Heidi Davidson	Librarian