

JUNEAU SYMPHONY CLEF NOTES

The Newsletter for Juneau Symphony Musicians

Dear Musicians,

They say the more things change, the more they stay the same. While it may feel that we have all been treading water for a long time, there have been a lot of changes at Juneau Symphony. We will finally present a mainstage concert for the first time in 3 years! We have a new Music Director, new Board members, new PRDC members, and a new Mission and Core Values.

Also in this issue, we introduce two new features: 1) Youth Corner, where we update the JS community on youth musician activities and opportunities, and 2) Musician Spotlight, where we learn a bit more about JS musicians. This issue of Clef Notes celebrates changes and rings in the new. We hope you are celebrating positive changes in your own lives too.



Musicians' Favorites

With Music Director Dr. Christopher Koch

Saturday, April 30
&
Sunday, May 1

Thunder Mountain
High School Auditorium



Tickets now
on sale!

THE JUNEAU SYMPHONY A NIGHT AT THE OSCARS

Saturday, June 11 at 8pm
Sunday, June 12 at 3pm
Juneau-Douglas High School Auditorium

Guest Conductor Troy Quinn
Former Juneau Symphony Music Director



WELCOME



We are eagerly awaiting our first opportunity to work with and engage in person with **our new Music Director Dr. Christopher Koch!** In January, Dr. Koch sent an email to JS musicians in which he stressed, "I CAN'T WAIT to begin this new chapter together, and I very much hope to make my first trip back to Juneau as soon as possible!" He sincerely wants to get to know Juneau, its community members, and JS musicians. "Finally--and I truly mean this--I would love to spend time with each of you individually as time permits when I'm in town. Coffee, lunch, a hike or run(!)--it's all good. I had the opportunity to visit with a small group of people back in 2019, but I'm really looking forward to getting to know everyone." We asked Dr. Koch to tell us a bit more about himself, and here's what he shared:

Most memorable travel experience: I've been very fortunate in my travel adventures, so it's hard to isolate my 'most memorable'. I made a solo backpacking trip to Europe in my early twenties that definitely shaped my worldview, and I took a high school orchestra to Cuba at the turn of the millenium (an experience both wonderful and terrifying). I spent a few years in Australia, and my first day there (landing at the airport, making my way downtown, taking a ferry to Balmain, and generally gawping) remains a high point in my memories. However, the trips I've made with my wife Danielle are the true signposts in my life. Long before we got married, we took a road trip from Rochester, NY to the Maine coast, and I still remember every detail. I helped her move from Minneapolis back to Washington when she finished grad school, and we traveled through incredible places in Montana, South Dakota, and Idaho en route to Bellingham. She visited me in Australia, and we went diving on the Great Barrier Reef. Most recently, she joined me in Juneau for our concert in 2019!

Most formative musical experience: Wow, that's a tough one. Honestly, probably plinking around on the piano when I was 3 or 4, realizing that I could bring sound into being and then shape it. Also...my incredible high school band, playing in orchestra for the first time at Sewanee, my amazing classmates at Eastman. But it really all comes down to the moments of quiet discovery and introspection when I'm alone with sound and the IDEA of sound: thinking about music, practicing, studying a score. Well, that and Miles Davis.

Favorite pastimes: Cooking, rock hunting, hiking, reading, learning new things...best of all: spending time with my family and animals.

My life's motto is: I have no idea!

What is one thing you want people to know about you: Also a tough one--I'm not sure there's any one thing I want people to know about me. If anything, I'd rather know about them.

JUNEAU SYMPHONY MISSION AND CORE VALUES

MISSION

The Juneau Symphony is a community-based organization that fosters and creates high-quality musical experiences for youth and adults, contributing to the cultural diversity and vitality of Alaska's Capital City.

OUR CORE VALUES

INCLUSIVITY. *Music for all.* The Juneau Symphony values inclusivity and equity and provides a variety of music that reflects and honors the diversity of our musicians, our audiences, and our community. We engage with musicians of all backgrounds and abilities through our various programming and produce musical experiences that are accessible and available to all. We strive to be inclusive in our musical membership, board and staff.

COLLABORATION. *Community focused.* As a community-based organization, the Juneau Symphony brings people and organizations together to create musical experiences that enrich the quality of life in Southeast Alaska. We collaborate with a diversity of partners—from music educators to business and civic organizations to artistic groups—to foster an enduring appreciation of symphonic music for all audiences.

EDUCATION. *Growing and supporting musicians.* The Juneau Symphony values a lifelong love of music by prioritizing education and development of its musicians, investing in musicians, and producing enriching musical experiences in the community. We support a diversity of programs for musicians of varying abilities and ages, including summer camps, workshops and classes, school enrichment programs, as well as mainstage, chamber and small ensemble symphonic opportunities.

RESPECT. *Artistic and cultural.* We value, welcome, and respect all cultures and artistic expressions and seek to bring diverse musical genres alive through our programming. We are honored to perform on Lingit Aani, the homelands of the Aak'w Kwaan and the T'aaku Kwaan.

EXCELLENCE. *High quality music experiences.* The Juneau Symphony strives to be the premier symphonic outlet for musicians and audiences in Alaska's Capital City. We inspire, educate, and challenge musicians and audiences through innovative programming and music performed at a high artistic level.

*Adopted February 9, 2022
Juneau Symphony Board of Directors*

The new JS Mission and Core Values statements were adopted after a lengthy review and feedback process. At the Board Chat in January, language was clarified, including a discussion of the term "community-based". Additional info was sent by email to all musicians in early February. Thanks to all who contributed to this process!



MUSICIAN SPOTLIGHT

Jetta Whittaker

How long have you played with the Juneau Symphony?

I have played continuously as an oboist since I moved to Juneau in 1987, but played in the violin section when I was a legislative page in 1978, and played with Ketchikan's Shoestring Symphony when it joined the JS on stage in the early 1970s.

How long have you been playing your instrument, and why did you pick that one?

I played the cello as a kid and had to lug it back and forth to school (back when elementary schools had orchestras), but [I] slipped on some ice and broke the scroll clean off. I switched to the oboe, a much more portable instrument, soon after that. It suits my bossy personality.

What was your most formative musical experience?

A tie between playing the Bach Concerto for Oboe and Violin with Steve Tada and joining my oboe buddies from across the state for the Rite of Spring with the Anchorage Symphony under the late Randy Fleischer.

When you aren't playing your instrument, how do you spend your time?

work, work, work.....and dreaming of retirement.

What is the one thing you want people to know about you?

I have entered the phase of life that involves hearing aids, so we shall see how they work in rehearsals!

*Thank you for your
years of dedication!*

David Seid

How long have you played with the Juneau Symphony?

I started as an alternate as needed when I lived in Ketchikan from 1994-99. I have been a regular since 2001.

How long have you been playing your instrument, and why did you pick that one?

I started playing cello in 5th grade, then stopped playing as a senior in high school. I started playing again 12 years later in Ketchikan when my girlfriend insisted; she gave excellent advice (she's now my wife).

What was your most formative musical experience?

Seeing my son solo twice with the Juneau Symphony. Love seeing my kids having far more talent than me.

When you aren't playing your instrument, how do you spend your time?

I have been an attorney in Southeast Alaska for 30 years, raised two kids with my wife. Now, I enjoy being married, living with [my] wife and our terrier.

What is the one thing you want people to know about you?

My mother is proud of me.



YOUTH CORNER

THE JUNEAU SYMPHONY



PRELUDE ORCHESTRA
MUSIC DIRECTOR FRANZ FELKL

The **Prelude Orchestra** is now rehearsing weekly, in preparation for a May 21 concert. Needs-based scholarships are available!

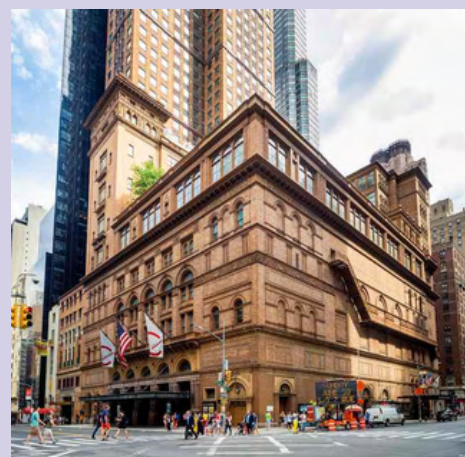
The 2022 **Youth Solo Competition** will be held on March 5th. Six young musicians will perform a solo with piano accompaniment for a panel of judges. While it will not be open to a general audience, it is a great opportunity for these students to prepare for larger state-wide competitions and university auditions. The grand-prize winner may be invited to perform their concerto with the Juneau Symphony on the mainstage!



JAMM is operating in person at three elementary schools and one middle school, serving a total of 510 students. Students at Glacier Valley and Riverbend are participating in Carnegie Hall's "Reflections on Resilience" project this spring, and students at Auke Bay are participating in Sistema USA's Canales Project. JAMM will be offering their 2nd annual Family Ukulele Class, held virtually one evening per week. Family members can participate alongside their JAMM student whether they are near or far.

Juneau String Ensembles is fundraising for their upcoming trip to the New York Sounds of Summer Festival where participants will be able to perform in Carnegie Hall! Five of these musicians are JS member musicians: Jin Yue Trousil, Angela Huffer, Alex Yu, Guohua Xia, and Meg Rosson.

You can donate to this effort here: www.juneaustringensembles.org. JSE's next concert is 7:00pm, Saturday, April 2, at Faith Lutheran Church (in the Valley at 2500 Sunset Drive). The concert is important preparation for New York!



The **JS Youth Task Force** is working on the youth solo competition and preparing for the 2022 summer camp. Registration for camp will open by the end of March. The Task Force is also preparing for their next roundtable with all the community's music educators. During the last roundtable, 20-25 educators joined in. The intent is to hold these round tables twice each year.

Thank you, music educators!

WELCOME



Violinist **Lindsay Clark** is the newest Player Relations and Development Committee rep, following the November election. The PRDC still needs a percussion representative. If you are interested, please reach out to any of the other PRDC representatives and/or send an email to JSPlayerRelations@gmail.com.

The Juneau Symphony Board has several new members, and a **new Board President, Connie Mackenzie!** Photos and bios of all Board members can be found here:
<https://www.juneausymphony.org/about/board-directors/>.



Do you like to plan parties?

Next year is our 60th season!
Contact the JS office if you're interested in serving on the 60th Anniversary Special Committee.

THANKYOU

to all who've stepped forward to serve JS on the Board and committees over the years!

Player Relations and Development Committee Funding Availability

Each year, the Board provides the PRDC with funds to support player development opportunities. Most recently, the PRDC approved support for the Juneau String Ensembles New York trip. To apply for funding, complete the form on the Member Musician's webpage. Scroll down to "Resources from the PRDC" and select the "Funding Request" tab. Send the completed form to JSPlayerRelations@gmail.com.

Get on the Concert Rosters

Contact the JS office by February 25 to confirm your availability for the April and June concerts. You must show proof of vaccination at the first April rehearsal, including a booster if eligible, or a note from a medical professional if you are exempt from the booster requirement.

Requirements may
change with COVID
conditions!

Upcoming Events

February 25 - Concert availability notification

March 2, 5:45 PM - Next PRDC meeting (held monthly; adjusts to members schedules)

March 5 - Youth Solo Competition

March 9, 5:15 PM - Next Board meeting (monthly; usually 2nd Wednesday)

April 14 - Rehearsals begin

April 30 - May 1 - Concert weekend

May 21 - Prelude Orchestra Concert

May 31 - Rehearsals begin

June 11 & 12 - Concert weekend

Sundays at 1 PM - KRNN JS radio broadcasts!

JS Player Relations & Development Committee

Amy Lujan, Chair

Lindsay Clark, Sharon Seim,
Ken Truitt, Wilson Valentine,
Colton Welch

jsplayerrelations@gmail.com

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Facebook and join the JS Musicians
Facebook Group



Juneau Symphony

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