



Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra

William Whitson founder



Benjamin Simon music director

Kris Yenney director of SuperStrings and Preparatory Orchestras

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PALO ALTO CHAMBER ORCHESTRA OFFERS 'MUSIC IN THE GARDEN'

May 7 Concert to Benefit PACO's Summer Music Workshop Program

DATE/TIME: Sunday, May 7, 2:00 p.m.
PLACE: 340 Lowell Avenue, Palo Alto
TICKETS: \$30/individual, \$50/couple
PROGRAM: String quartets performing selections from chamber music masterpieces
FOR INFO: (650) 856-3848, info@pacomusic.org

PALO ALTO, Calif., March 24, 2006 – The Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra will hold its third annual "Music in the Garden" concert, featuring small ensembles performing selections from chamber music masterpieces, on Sunday, May 7, from 2:00-4:00 p.m.

The concert is a fundraiser for PACO's summer chamber music workshop, in which PACO student musicians participate in an intensive week-long session of music instruction and practice in August in Aptos, Calif.

Held "al fresco" in the garden of a private home in old Palo Alto, the concert will feature "advanced, professionally-coached student string quartets each performing a movement from a masterpiece of the string quartet literature," according to Benjamin Simon, PACO music director. "Also on the program will be a special 'birthday treat' to honor PACO's fortieth anniversary season: four professional musicians, three of them PACO alumni, will perform Peter Heidrich's virtuosic and witty Happy Birthday Variations, which mimic the style of great composers such as Bach, Mozart, Beethoven and Brahms."

Guest soloists for the Happy Birthday Variations include Simon on violin, as well as returning PACO alumni Carol Kutsch (PACO 1968) on violin, Be'eri Moalem (PACO 2002) on viola, and Kris Yenney (PACO 1974) on cello.

Light refreshments and hors d'oeuvres will be served.

About the Soloists

Carol Kutsch, a former PACO concertmaster, has toured the globe as violin soloist and chamber musician. She was concertmaster of the Blomstedt International Conducting Workshop Orchestra, and has taught in the University of California and California State University systems, and at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

Be'eri Moalem, an Israeli native who has lived in the Bay Area for eight years, is currently studying viola at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. He also composes and arranges music and writes program notes for concerts at the Conservatory.

Kris Yenney is director of PACO's Preparatory and Superstrings groups, and director of orchestras at the Woodside Priory School in Portola Valley. She co-founded the Palo Alto Sunrise Quartet and is a past member of the New England String Quartet of Boston. As a free-lance cellist, she has worked with the San Jose Symphony and Midsummer Mozart Orchestras, the West Bay and San Jose opera companies, and has played backup for Rod Stewart, Lyle Lovett and Smokey Robinson in local performances.

About PACO

Founded in 1966, the Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra is composed of the Bay Area's most talented and promising high school musicians chosen by competitive audition. One of the few youth orchestras in the nation devoted exclusively to chamber music, PACO has participated in many international music festivals, has toured worldwide by special invitation, and has made 15 concert recordings. PACO was founded by William Whitson, who served as the orchestra's music director for 36 years, until his death in 2001. For more information call 650-856-3848 or visit <http://www.pacomusic.org>.

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Public Service Announcement

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TO BENEFIT SUMMER MUSIC WORKSHOP**

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