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From the President of the Board of Directors, Cary Chin:

Welcome PACO members, families, and staff to our 41st season!

After all of the exciting and memorable events last year to mark our 40th Anniversary season, you'd think this year would be a calm and quiet one to catch our collective breath. But as I've learned in my relatively short 4-year PACO tenure, NOT WITH THIS GROUP. Ben and Kris are planning another amazing year, culminating in the 2007 International Tour, with many delightful musical stops along the way.

A special welcome to our new PACO members and families in all orchestras. As you'll soon find out, PACO is an experience not only for the musicians, but also for the entire (and sometimes extended) family! I'm continuously impressed by the focus of our musical staff on the growth of our members, both musically and otherwise. But it doesn't all happen by itself; we have a strong Board of Directors with unflinching commitment to solid musical development, and a membership second to none in supporting our young musicians. All in all, PACO is about all of us working together to benefit our musicians, our community, ourselves.

So as we wind down our short summer vacation and begin our fifth decade at PACO, I'll quote from my recent vacation to Orlando, "...keep your hands and arms inside the vehicle. Hang on, and ENJOY THE RIDE!!"

~Cary Chin, PACO's President

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From the Music Director, Benjamín Simon:

I write this just before our annual Chamber Music Workshop begins, set in the beautiful redwood groves of Aptos, Ca. This is always a highlight of the year for me, and marks the beginning of the new PACO season. We welcome back to workshop 66 returning members. I am looking forward greeting our graduating 18 Prepsters: Lennie Char, Meg Hine, Dayna Li, Alexis Russell, Mona Matsumoto-Ryan, Jessica Abel, Jennifer Kim, Carolyn Chen, Winston Young, Carolyn Choi, Stephen Lai, Manvi Mittal, Alex Heaney, Hubert Jeng, Franzi Mayer, Haleli Moalem, and Dorsey Bass. Also 4 of our newest PACO members who auditioned into the "top three": Abigail LaPier, Julia Park, Christy Chen, and Jaimy Kim.

On our faculty side, we have 6 returning Chamber Music Fellows: Ariana Kim (a doctoral student of Robert Mann at the Juilliard School), Beeri Moalem (PACO 2000 and a graduate of the SF Conservatory of Music), Emily Mattson (a talented young professional violinist from the Chicago area, and a student of Stefan Hersh), Daniel Kwok (a talented young professional violist from the Chicago area), and cellists Scott Krijnen and Herine Coetzee (both recent graduates of the SF Conservatory of Music). A special welcome to our faculty to recent PACO graduates Evan Jeng (PACO 2006, entering Princeton in the Fall) and Jeff Kuo (PACO 2005, now a sophomore at UC Berkeley). And our newest Fellows: violinists Sarah Stanford, Emily Packard, Tyler Lewis; violists Wendy Clymer, Naomi Hartman, Wendy Jackson; cellists Wendy Jones and Leigh Stuart.

We are so fortunate to have as returning "master" faculty Kris Yenny, Julian Hersh, Stefan Hersh, and Robert Waters. New to PACO this summer is double bassist extraordinaire Michel Taddei – a very well known Bay Area player and teacher, whom I met while working at The Crowden School in Berkeley. Michel will also be leading the Debut Ensemble in one of their three concerts this season. I know he will be an excellent and "simpatico" addition to our workshop staff.

Whew! That's a lot of people, and we will be working on no less than 27 pieces of chamber music during our intense week together. I want to let all of you know about a brand new project, our end-of-workshop "Showcase Concert" at The Attic in Santa Cruz at noon on Sunday, August 13. This will be an informal, one-hour concert featuring selected chamber music ensembles from our 2006 workshop. The Attic is a teashop/art gallery/concert space in downtown Santa Cruz that should offer a perfect venue for this wonderful event. It is located at 931 Pacific Ave, and admission is free. Refreshments will be available for purchase. This is a great opportunity to get a peek at the kind of amazing music-making that goes on at the workshop. And some tired kids!



A very brief season review:

It was an amazing 40th Anniversary Season for me, particularly the February concert where we featured our 125-piece Brandenburg Concerto. I got to meet alums from the past 40 years and was reminded of how important and wonderful PACO was - and continues to be - for so many of them. Our move to Dinkelspiel Auditorium was a big success, and we will be playing there again next season, thanks in large part to the generosity and support of PACO parents Sharon Long (Dean, Stanford School of Arts and Humanities) and Jonathan Berger (Chairman, Stanford Department of Music).

Our most recent concerts in Dunsmuir and Ashland went extremely well. Only three passing railroad trains interrupted our Dunsmuir concert, which are always taken in stride by the orchestra and the audience. In Ashland, we performed on the stage of the Elizabeth Theater which had been covered with Astroturf for their production of "Two Gentlemen of Verona" - an excellent presentation that we all had the good fortune of viewing the previous evening. We took advantage of the "lawn" to play our program without shoes or socks, which was appreciated by all - especially our young players, considering the heat of the evening. As usual, the concert was followed by a huge party at the home of Gary and Coralie Farnham, longtime friends of PACO (and ex-Board members) who have "retired" to an amazing home overlooking the Rogue Valley and Ashland.

A brief season preview:

Our first PACO concert on October 21, 2006 will feature a brilliant young cellist, Dana Putnam Fonteneau performing the Boccherini Cello Concerto. Also on the program will be music by two noted contemporary Chinese composers: Hillary Tann and Zhou Long. Our second PACO concert on Beethoven's birthday (my favorite holiday of the year), December 16, brings the wonderful Cypress String Quartet to play Louis Spohr's rarely performed Quartet Concertante. Local violinist, teacher, and composer Mark Fish is writing a new work for PACO at this moment (or should be!) which will be premiere on this concert, which will end with a performance of Beethoven's Eighth Symphony by the combined forces of PACO and Sinfonia. Our third PACO concert on March 3 will feature longtime PACO friend and workshop faculty member Aglika Angelova, performing an early Mozart piano concerto, and our own Christine Chon with Vivaldi's ever-popular "Summer" from his "Four Seasons". In preparation for our tour to Europe, we will be learning the incredible Grosse Fuge of Beethoven, considered by many to be one of his most challenging and rewarding scores. Our fourth and final PACO concert on June 3 brings back another old PACO buddy, bassoon virtuoso Rufus Olivier playing the lovely and seldom-heard Jean Francaix "Divertissement". Again, one of our students, cellist George Liu, will share the stage in a performance of CPE Bach's lovely Cello Concerto in A Major. Rounding of the program, and the season, will be Dvorak's masterpiece, Serenade for Strings.

Our PACO 2007 International Tour is in the initial planning stages with our tour agency, ACFEA. This is the same group that did our tour to England in 2004, and is one of the world's leaders in organizing tours of this sort. At this point, our dates are set and we are going to perform in Budapest, Prague, Vienna, Leipzig, Potsdam, and perhaps Berlin.

The only thing I can tell you about Debut and Sinfonia, at this stage, is that Theodore Chao will be opening the Sinfonia season with Mozart's delightful Violin Concerto #4. Stay tuned for details!!!

I hope to see many of you at The Attic on August 13, and after that at 10am on Saturday August 26 when members of PACO and Sinfonia take to the streets of downtown Palo Alto for the Palo Alto Arts Festival. Come and cheer us on! Then it's on to September, registration, and our first rehearsals for the exciting new season. Onward and upward!

An interview with Kris Yenney:

An interview with Kris Yenney, our irrepressible, invaluable, and highly original Director of SuperStrings and Preparatory Orchestras.

PACO: How did music enter your life as a child?

Kris: Both my parents sang in Choirs in my early days, Dad in the Unitarian Church and with Schola Cantorum...

Mom, was in a group known as "the Mother Singers," and had also played cello through college.....So one day she just handed us girls a cello and a violin (I was 8 and my sister

Heidi was 6).. She had heard Irene Sharp play and figured she was the teacher for me, so I got off to a running start with two or three lessons per week...I worked primarily with Mrs. Sharp for most of my PACO years, with some happy periods with Bonnie Hampton - then at Stanford - and Margaret Rowell up in her amazing Grizzly Peak (Berkeley) manse, where she would give me very generous and stimulating two-and-a-half hour lessons...Her tireless energy and enthusiasm, endless curiosity and cosmic creativity has been my model through the ensuing years.

PACO: Was the cello your first choice of instrument?

Kris: Mom's idea, and the BEST gift a mother ever gave a daughter.

PACO: What were some of your earliest musical experiences?

Kris: DUETS with Heidi....my first "band,"...the "Beatle Bugs (don't laugh!) in second grade...I bought a guitar with Blue Chip Stamps and we sang "Run for your Life" for my class....Big fun.. Listening to my parents sing....going to concerts with them.... Mom's constant encouragement - and constructive criticism...She always knew how to remind me about technical things and attended every private lesson for the first 7 years, as I recall.

PACO: We know that you are involved in many types of music these days. Did these interests start when you were young?

Kris: YES...I always have had friends who write songs, with whom I would jam, improvise, record.... An early summer gig (I was 12 or 13) found me playing in a string quartet at the Northern California Renaissance Faire every weekend for a month, where I discovered Early music. We played Praetorius and other Renaissance Dance music, which is still some of my Favorite stuff!...Only in the last few years with Broceliande and with gamba lessons at Stanford with John Dornenburg have I begun to really focus more and delve more deeply into that Olde Music, since retiring from the Faire gig at age 13.

PACO: How and when did PACO come into your life?

Kris: I remember mom taking me to play for Mr. Whitson. Bill was very nice and happy to take me into the Junior orchestra (at that time there only were the two top levels)..It must have been 1968...Heidi joined up a bit later, when I had moved (in 9th grade) up to the Senior group....I actually played in both orchestras at one time...the whole operation was a lot smaller then.

PACO: Describe some of your earliest PACO memories.

Kris: ...meeting initially in a Church near California Ave...my first summer camp (Mr. Flexer's amazing fresh baked bread!) and string quartet experiences ... moving our weekly rehearsals to Cubberley ... snips of Whitson-isms and a general warm feeling around those sessions with the great music and good humor from the podium...playing football at Foothill Park... Many amazing soloists, from Ken and Pamela Goldsmith, Marilyn Thompson, David Abel, Paul Hersh, Bonnie Hampton, Bill Armstrong, Bob Hubbard, Adolf Baller, Edith Zitelli....to some of the "elder" Senior PACO musicians to whom I looked for inspiration ... Tim Bach, for example... Playing for elementary school kids...Soloing with the Juniors at Spangenburg, and then a couple of years later with the Senior group....to many friendships - some brief, but a good number of which I still enjoy after all these years... PACO was absolutely Central to my world.

PACO: What were some of your other interests?

Kris: Loved School, gymnastics, Theater... Jamming with songwriter friends, exploring the folksier side of music ...Church was super important to me for a time during High School...I am afraid I have always tended to find EVERYTHING Interesting :*)

PACO: Memories of Bill? His influence on you at the time, and looking back over the years.

Kris: Bill was certainly one of the MOST influential adults of my younger years... To name the ideas and techniques to which Bill introduced me and my peers, is only half of the story...It was his humor and empowering approach that really captured our hearts and minds, gave us a strong sense of ownership and responsibility, which has served to make subsequent musical ventures less daunting, more rewarding. One cool by-product of PACO-ites' common musical upbringing, is the phenomenon that occurs anytime a few alums get together at a gig, or chamber music jam, and play...So many "instincts" and stylistic nuances seem to just click immediately - in a way that rarely occurs with other string players, however fine they are...Kind of a family resemblance, if you will. It happens across PACO generations and is always a coming home sort of feeling.

PACO: A brief romp through your life after PACO.

Kris: "Accidentally" got into the San Jose Symphony the year after graduating High School and PACO. I was 17, and tenured the following year...This happened to be at the beginning of the Midsummer Mozart Festival - under the brilliant baton of George Cleve, who hand-picked his players from the Symphony. Hence I became a happy charter member of that group, so - even when I finally went

off to college. I had a great summer gig for the next 12 years... Inspired by conversations with Robert Levin (Mozart scholar/forte-pianist extraordinaire), I packed my bags and headed to New York (it was August 2nd, 1980)... I auditioned for Yehudi Wyner at SUNY Purchase, who said he'd take me, if Tim Eddy would agree to take me on as a private student. All that worked out, I found housing, etc....and took every conceivable course and graduated three years later with my BFA....After that I ended up in Colin Carr's studio for two years of graduate study at the New England Conservatory....(As a bonus, I was close to my Sister, Heidi, who transferred from B.U. to NEC around that time to study with Dorothy Delay and Paul Kantor).

During those years, I had the great good fortune to work with Louis Krasner, Leonard Shure, Ben Zander, and a host of amazing peers and mentors. I was awarded a National Prize (the JOHN W. WORK III) for my original composition, "Jabberwocky," (which I had composed the year before my Senior year at Purchase mostly in my car while driving home through the endless flats of Nebraska with a broken radio), which was fleshed out finally as a Senior recital piece for two cellos, double bass, voice and giant storybook.... I was named to "Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities" by NEC a couple of years later... Tried to get home to the Bay Area after Grad School, but was invited to join the NEW ENGLAND String Quartet (With my sister Heidi and Holly Barnes, a PACO colleague, with whom I had played in my earliest ensembles growing up, and the fabulous Ellen Jewett). NESQ were Artists in residence, and visiting lecturers at UMass Boston and the Five Colleges (UMass Amherst, Mt Holyoke, Hampshire, Smith and Amherst colleges)... We represented Young Audiences and took our "show" to schools all over New England... We were joined in Concert by Yo-Yo Ma for an unforgettable Schubert "Cello Quintet" performance for patrons of Young Audiences! We recorded Jazz and Broadway arrangements with the

formidable Jazz pianist, Fred Hersch... UMass sponsored our Carnegie recital hall debut, our competitions (at Fischhoff and Evian, France) and we were residential fellows at Tanglewood, Meadowmount and Yale/Norfolk Summer institutes... en route to the Banff Quartet program, Ellen Jewett decided to go in the direction of solo work, the group disbanded, and I went alone to the Banff Centre for a fun-filled and creative year.

I finally succeeded in returning home to Palo Alto, got the Director of Music position at Sacred Heart Prep in Atherton... Began directing SuperStrings and building up my private studio... After 6 years at Sacred Heart, I moved over to head up the Middle School Music program at Nueva School then to Woodside Priory, where I am responsible for the orchestral program there. Aside from all the teaching and directing, I have enjoyed various playing gigs, freelancing with West Bay Opera, San Jose Opera, San Jose Chamber Orchestra, etc.... Founding member of Palo Alto Sunrise Quartet, and the San Francisco-based New Music group, the Left Coast Ensemble... Playing in the pit for TheatreWorks and branching out into folksier and neo-medieval genres with my acoustic quartet "Broceliande." We have just completed our 6th CD. With that group, I get to explore my Celtish and Scandinavian roots, and to sing, play bodhran (Irish frame drum) and viola da gamba for diverse crowds.... Lots of fun. I have studied Northern Indian classical raga in India with Terry Riley and other teachers, and Scottish and other traditional fiddle styles over the past few years with Alasdair Fraser, Eilike Frissel and Bruce Molsky in California and in Scotland. I look forward to further explorations of the origins of classical and other music, and the application of "organized sound" for fun (occasional profit) and spiritual nourishment.

PACO: Any words of advice to our young musicians?

Kris: Enjoy the process and gifts along the way.... & STAY TUNED :*)

Ben Simon/Kris Yenney (July 28, 2006)

From the Director of Superstrings and Preparatory Orchestras, Kris Yenney:

~ notes on the 40th anniversary season:

Whew! What a year! We ALL learned - thanks to Ben's completely extravagant vision - the 3rd Brandenburg! From the top down to the youngest PACO members, not to mention the many alumni who joined us for the February events, who would have thought we could harmonically converge in such an enormous undertaking?! None of us will soon forget the steep musical challenges, the excitement and energy at the mass rehearsal at Cubberley, the mayhem backstage at the Palace of the Legion of Honor and, ultimately, the magic of our coming together in honor of PACO's long history.



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From it's founding in the mid-sixties in his living room on Waverley Street, Bill Whitson and now Ben Simon has been bringing the Masterpieces of the ages to life! I marvel at the continuity and at the confluence of musical lives that come together in the formative stages (from SuperStrings and Prep and on up...), then burst out in the world to spread the wealth and good vibrations in all directions. It was so heartening to see old faces back in the mega-ensemble, and to see the young ones catch the waves, as the phrases crashed over them! Exciting! Here's to the next big event...maybe in five years, as Ben promised, so we can recover from this years' tsunami of PACO Spirit!

I must say that it was a banner year all around for the Prep and SuperStrings groups. Both worked tirelessly and with loads of enthusiasm from September to June, and we all learned so much from one another. I never cease to be amazed by young players' readiness to jump in and conquer all manner of hairy musical beasts. Every year I see and hear the musical growth and maturation from September to June. It simply astounds one!

SuperStrings had the unusual good fortune to premiere Cary Chin's arrangement of the "Double Dragon Dance," for two Gu Cheng (Chinese zithers), drum and orchestra, and we revived it for a "command performance" as special guests in the Senior orchestra's final program on the Dinkelspiel Stage - another first! The Prepsters were joined again this year by the Woodside Priory Chamber Symphony for a rousing rendition of Gershwin's Jazzy "American in Paris Suite." In May Franz Mayer's twin, Allegra, played her trumpet masterfully for another Gershwin gem, "Embraceable You." To top off our season, four concerto winners, Jennifer Kim and Ashvin Swaminathan in Prep., Kevin Chen and Erica Buonnano in SuperStrings, gave us thrilling performances to inspire one and all.

Cary Chin (SS) and Ram Swaminathan (Prep) were invaluable to me all year, as they kept everyone (including the "Maestra") informed and generally provided much-appreciated support. Without their handiwork, and loads of help from all corners - from driving kids all over creation, to providing nourishment to helping move chairs, harpsichords, stands, etc...to setting the "stage" at Covenant Presbyterian, to arranging flowers, video-taping, well, you name it - none of our achievements would have been possible.

I count myself very blessed to have had such a generous support system all throughout the year. I suspect that many families - especially new ones in SuperStrings - don't come in the door in September with a full realization that THEY are all part of the story. Sometime in their first PACO year, folks do seem to catch the idea that "it takes a village" to make the music happen. I know that without my own parents' support, I would never have played the cello (see Ben's interview), joined PACO in the first place, or maintained the discipline and commitment to keep it all going. Not a week goes by that I do not witness the on-going outpouring of support and encouragement from parents, teachers and whoever will listen to these budding artists' very earnest efforts and wholehearted performances.

The best way I can think of to say THANK YOU to you all, to the players, to my own parents and teachers and to honor Bill Whitson's memory, is to endeavor to bring out the best in each member of each orchestra, as was done for me in my formative years.

I must add that it has compounded the joy and fun and artistic value of the whole PACO experience for me to have had the pleasure, the example and the sporting challenge of working in tandem with Ben. His insight, experience, sense of adventure and his boundless energy and love for the music and the kids have enlivened the whole organization. It is a very healthy, multi-tiered, super rich environment he has shepherded for these past few seasons now. We owe much to him for the high level of music-making and the glowing reputation that the Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra enjoys. Linh Tran and the PACO Board, whose work behind the scenes keep the organization strong, deserve a standing ovation and ever-flowing chocolate fountains of appreciation, too. The artistic staff is free to do the fun stuff, while they iron out the brass tacks of the business end of our programs.

SO, back to the kids' corner: It's always tough for me at season's end to say goodbye to any particular ensemble, none tougher than this year's beautifully bonded and balanced groups. The good news is that we never really have to say goodbye to those moving up - I think we're all realizing that once you're in PACO ...you're ALWAYS part of the family... so we look to the future with eyes, ears and hearts wide open....

With gratitude,
Kris



2005-2006 PACO Fundraising Campaign

Dear PACO Parents, Alumni, Friends,

We made it! We have reached our goal of the 2005-2006 PACO Fundraising Campaign. We have raised about \$80,000 including the matching gifts from corporations and car donations. Thank you for your support and your patience in answering numerous phone calls and e-mails from us during this drive. Again, we want to assert that **fundraising simply cannot be done without your support.**

The 2005-2006 PACO Fundraising Campaign is officially over, but donations are still welcome. We are grateful from the bottom of our hearts for your help and support, especially the Coordinators and Team Leaders. It has been our pleasure to help this Fundraising Committee, and we have enjoyed the chances to talk with all the PACO parents. We hope that you will all help us reach our goal of pushing for 100% family participation, on top of reaching 100% of the fundraising goal from all five orchestras next year. If you have any question, please contact Enid at 650-322-6688 or enidslee@pacbell.net and Stanley at 408-253-0183 or wongpaco@gmail.com.

Sincerely yours,

Enid Lee & Stanley Wong, Fundraising Co-Chairpersons

Announcements

Attic Concert

You are cordially invited to attend our end-of-workshop showcase concert
An informal one-hour concert featuring selected chamber music ensembles from our 2006 workshop

Sunday August 13, noon - 1 pm

"The Attic"

931 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz

Admission Free

You are welcome to bring friends and family to this event.

Refreshments will be available for purchase at the attic.



Violin and Viola Camp Opportunity in Palo Alto (Aug 14-18)

This summer, Eleanor Angel and Tony Doheney (Founder of PACO Superstrings) are conducting a workshop for Violin and Viola. It should help prepare string students for the new year and is not limited only to PACO students. The Camp will be conducted on Aug 14th-18th, 2006 in the mornings. (They are trying to secure the Unitarian Church in Palo Alto). Tony Doheney will teach Master Classes and play the piano, too.

Students interested should contact Eleanor Angel at elfviola@sbcglobal.net or 650-917-9019. As you know Eleanor and Tony have a way of making a string camp fun and at the same time really help bring out wonderful sound and enthusiasm from aspiring young artists.



Meet "PACEM!"

In the spirit of the original Twilight Concert Series of the 70's and 80's, Kris Yenney and about a dozen PACO alums have come together several times this summer to jam on some of the Old Favorites (Corelli, Vivaldi, et al) and explore some newer chamber music (Britten, Rachmaninoff...and even some Jazz and Calypso offerings by Darrel Anger and "Barrage" composer, Dean Marshall.....). We have met twice monthly in the fabulous living room of Shirley Nanevicz, PACO Parent and past Board member...*Intrigued??*

Come out and join us on Sunday, August 27th at around 6 p.m. for our inaugural / Debut Concert-in-the-Park.... GREEN MEADOW Park is just off of ALMA at the South End of Palo Alto...Between Charleston and San Antonio...Turn from Alma onto Green Meadow (second left coming South from Alma/Charleston intersection)...and there you are...Bring the family, friends...a chair or blanket and picnic...

We'll serenade you with Corelli (but of course!), Rachmaninoff's charming movements for expanded String Quartet, and Britten's Simple Symphony.

It's FREE and Open to the Public!

PACEM - Season 1:	Caroline Hu Flexer ~ violins	Michel Flexer
Melanie Vittetoe	Nicola Nanevicz Willits	Stephen D'Andrea ~ cellos
Deborah Simon - Lurie	Daniel Schwartz	Cristy Crews ~ bass
Vera Shinsky Boudtchenko	Vivien D'Andrea ~ violas	
Tania Nanevicz	Kris Yenney	

...representatives of PACO in the 70's, 80's and 90's, happy to be regrouping after all these years...for more info, email Kris at krisyenney@pacomusic.org.

Season Calendar

The 2006-2007 Season Concert Schedule is available online at www.pacomusic.org.

Please join us for the *Pre-season Concert on Saturday, August 26 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. in downtown Palo Alto*. Musicians from the top three orchestras will perform at the Palo Alto Art Festival. If you have time, come cheer us on!

Orchestra rehearsal begins the week of September 4th.

Congratulations...

Congratulations to the following winners of the PACO raffle drawing at the Debut Ensemble Concert on Sunday, June 4::

- Greer Ellison, grand prize - \$300 gift certificate to Bryington Winery*
- Gaelyn Ong, second prize - \$100 gift certificate to Strait Cafe*
- Nicky Hwang, third prize - \$50 gift certificate to Fish Market*
- Brian Kim, fourth prize - one pound gift certificate to See's Candies*
- Evan Jeng, fifth prize - \$25 gift certificate to Costco*

Thank you to all who participated in the drawing.

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