

Overtures

The San Domenico Virtuoso Program Newsletter

Spring 2014

Happy 10th Anniversary, HOTA!

by Rob DeNunzio
Director of Music Conservatory and Music Programs

The score for Rob Kapilow's newly commissioned piece for San Domenico—appropriately titled “4SD”—has arrived in our office and we couldn't be more excited. In anticipation of the 10th anniversary of the Carol Franc Buck Hall of the Arts, this composition for string orchestra is the result of interviews that took place between Mr. Kapilow and a number of key San Domenico constituents about the history of the school and its musical legacy. The emerging themes—literally, such as the school's *alma mater*—have been interwoven into the score in creative ways to make the completed work a true tribute to what we've built here, both in a rich history of musical excellence and facilities that reflect our commitment to music education. We can't wait to premiere it for you on Saturday, October 25, 2014 at our annual “Vivaldi at San Domenico” concert!

The upcoming celebration of our hall's anniversary gives us the opportunity to look back over the past decade of the Virtuoso Program, all its various achievements since we've been able to call these amazing facilities our home, and all the people who have passed through this place we all now call “HOTA”. It's even more exciting that we have the chance to honor all our recent successes in light of the upcoming extension of coeducation in our high school, ushering in a brand new era of bringing our award-winning program to its first generation of young men beginning in the fall of 2015.

Enjoy the rest of our newsletter and I hope to see many of you at our May 23 orchestra concert, before our halls become quiet for the summer.

Alums! Send us your news!

Every time we get word of alumni successes out in the music world (and beyond!) it is a thrilling reminder of the importance of the foundational work we are doing with each generation of Virtuoso Program students. Let us know when you have news to share—upcoming concerts, exciting achievements, or even just a great photo you'd like to share. Between *Overtures*, our Facebook pages, School Ties, and the San Domenico School website, we want to celebrate all that you're doing and teach our current students about all the exciting things life has in store for them as well.

Celebrate our seniors at our Season Finale!



Join us on **Friday, May 23 at 7:00 p.m.** for our final orchestra concert of the year, when Our Virtuoso Program Orchestra da Camera will be joined onstage by the Middle School Orchestra in a concert featuring Mendelssohn, Dvořák, and... Journey? You'll just have to hear it to believe it. Elena Kim '14 solos on two different takes on The Four Seasons – “Summer” by Antonio Vivaldi and “Autumn” by Astor Piazzolla in her final San Domenico performance.



Violinist Mirah Ray '15 and alumna parent Lisa Francone pose for a self portrait at the Women in Music post-concert reception.

Women in Music 2014

For the fourth year in a row, our students spent their winter months studying—among other things—mostly contemporary compositions in preparation for our March “Women in Music” concert, an event that has served to both broaden the musical experiences of our students as well as introduce them to a host of role models for their success in the music world. As composer Hilary Tann said in her welcoming remarks, “We’re an extended family of creators who understand each other’s joys and challenges.”

As contemporary music is concerned, it could not have been more “new”, including the U.S. premiere of Natalia Cherniy’s “Archi in A” and the world premiere of “Serenade” by our very own Jo Griffin ’16. Thanks in part to a generous seed grant from New York Women Composers, we were able to present a challenging program that helped expand the horizons of both our young musicians and our audience.

Ann Elliot-Goldschmid, first violinist of the Lafayette String Quartet, had this to say upon listening to the concert recording: “I marveled at the beauty and utter professionalism that the kids showed in their commitment to conveying the music to the audience. It was a huge program, full of enormous technical and musical and extra-musical feats. I wish I’d been there. There is nothing any of us love more than working with receptive young musicians. Pass on our congratulations to the musicians.”

Lafayette String Quartet Visit



In February we were honored to have join us visiting guest ensemble **The Lafayette String Quartet** and composer **David Jaffe** on February 24. They spent a lively afternoon both coaching the students on their upcoming Women in Music repertoire and performing Jaffe’s new work “Fox Hollow”, commissioned by the Lafayette String Quartet. The perfect timing of their visit gave our students the chance to gain a deeper, more nuanced understanding of the works they were preparing—and who better to guide them than than an all-female ensemble that’s been together since 1986?

Congratulations, Elena!



Congratulations to concertmaster Elena Kim ‘14 on being awarded the first place prize at La Sierra University’s 2014 “Promising Young Artist Scholarship Competition” at their Young Artist Festival in Riverside, CA this past March. This prize comes with a \$10,000 scholarship and \$500 stipend.

You can catch Elena’s final solo performance at San Domenico at our May 23 orchestra concert.

The 2013-14 Virtuoso Program Scholarship Fund

Were you aware that all students in our program receive some form of financial assistance in the form of a Virtuoso Program scholarship? As we get close to the end of our fiscal year, gifts from individual donors can make the difference in students’ ability to afford a Virtuoso Program education. Please consider making a gift today using the enclosed envelope, or online at www.sandomenico.org/giving. For more information, please feel free to contact the Conservatory office. Thank you!

San Domenico Virtuoso Program Faculty & Staff

- Ann Krinitsky, Virtuoso Program Director
- Eugene Chukhlov, Violin Teacher and Chamber Music Coach
- Aenea Keyes, Chamber Music Coach
- Sergei Riabtchenko, Cello Teacher and Chamber Music Coach
- Miles Graber, Piano Accompanist
- Rob DeNunzio, Music Conservatory Director
- Teresa Notari, Administrative Assistant



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