



Berkner Area Orchestra Club

A Message from the President...



Dear Orchestra Parents and Students:

Wow! That is all I can say! I have had the opportunity to attend several Pre-UIL and UIL concerts and performances over the past month and it has been amazing to see and hear the talent we have in this organization. Yes, the pre-UIL concerts had some squeaky moments but the finished product was squeaky clean. Congratulations to all of the orchestras from Liberty, Apollo and Berkner on a job well done!

I want to take a moment to thank our 2008-2009 Board of Directors. They are a committed group of parents who put in many hours behind the scenes supporting the Berkner Area Orchestra Club this year. I am happy to announce that they are ALL returning to serve another term. Thank you, Amanda Aiuvalasit, Carl Lorey, Cheryl Holiwell, Ellen Parsonault, Frank Baek, Lupita Villarreal, Pat Fox, Stacy Pitney, and Valerie Siverling.

As always, thank you to our wonderful directors, Craig Needham, David Cook, Janet Lattanzi, Jody Cies, Lynne Thornton, and Mark Davenport. We appreciate your commitment to excellence in music and in our students.

As you sit back and enjoy this Spring Showcase, let the music wash over you. Relax and take pride in your students' accomplishments.

Lynn Hoffman

President

BAOC, 2008-2009

"A painter paints pictures on canvas. But musicians paint their pictures on silence." ~Leopold Stokowski!

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BAOC Information

BAOC 2008-2009 Board of Directors

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| President | Lynn Hoffman |
| 2nd VP Newsletter | Amanda Aiuvalasit |
| Secretary | Carl Lorey |
| Treasurer | Stacy Pitney |
| Asst. Treasurer | Ellen Parsonneault |
| Publicity | Pat Fox |
| Historian | Cheryl Holiwell |
| Hospitality | Lupita Villarreal & Valerie Siverling |
| Member-at-large | Frank Baek |

Orchestra Directors

| | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Berkner HS Director | Craig Needham |
| BHS Assoc. Director | Mark Davenport |
| BHS Assoc. Director | Janet Lattanzi |
| Apollo JHS Director | Lynne Thornton |
| AJHS Assoc. Director | Jody Cies |
| Liberty JHS Director | David Cook |

Volunteer Hours

Board Members and Volunteers, you work too hard to benefit BAOB, not to have your volunteer hours counted. Please remember to tabulate your volunteer hours each month and send them in to our President, Lynn Hoffman.

Concert changes: This year the April 7th Spring Showcase Concert will be the concert where all of the Berkner, Liberty and Apollo orchestras perform their recent competition music. We will also vote on the 2009-2010 BAOB board members. Then, in May, Berkner, Liberty and Apollo will each present an end-of-the-year spring concert at their individual schools (see the school reports in this newsletter for the spring concert dates).

YARD SIGNS and WINDOW DECALS...

The BAOB Fall 2008 campaign to order orchestra yard signs and window decals has ended, but will start up again in Fall 2009.

Until then, you may order these items directly from the "sign lady" Cindy Villela.

Go to: www.berknerorchestra.org and print off your orchestra's order form and mail it along with a check payable to Cindy Villela to:

Cindy Villela, 306 Ponderosa Drive, Richardson, TX 75081-3951. 214-697-9584, inbigd@hotmail.com

The deadline for orders is April 17th.
Signs are \$32.50 and Decals are \$9.50.

A message from the editor, Amanda Aiuvalasit

It is with love that I dedicate this issue of the BAOB newsletter to my husband, John Aiuvalasit, who passed away on December 21, 2008. He served as co-president of the BAOB with me for two years, 2006-2007 and 2007-2008. Music was a great joy in his life— he was able to truly feel and be inspired by all kinds of music.....from Beethoven to the Blues to the Beatles to his favorite group, Pink Floyd. And because he did not play an instrument himself, he very much admired the musical abilities of others, especially his four children. He will be missed.



Berkner Ram Orchestra

Director: Craig Needham / 469-593-7028 / e-mail: craig.needham@risd.org
Associate Director: Mark Davenport / 469-593-7244 / e-mail: mark.davenport@risd.org
Associate Director: Janet Lattanzi / 469-593-8914 / e-mail: janet.lattanzi@risd.org

Berkner Ramblings....



It seemed as if it had been forever since the All-State Orchestra auditions last fall when sophomores Thomas Baek and Hanna Choi left for the TMEA convention held in San Antonio from February 11-14. They both performed in the All-State String Orchestra (Thomas on violin, Hanna on piano) under the baton of Kirt Mosier – who had also written one of their pieces. It's very rare to get to play music by a living composer, much less be conducted by him! (Students in Concert, Philharmonic, and Chamber orchestras may recognize Mr. Mosier's name – he is the composer of "Baltic Dance.") We are honored that Hanna and Thomas represented the BHS Orchestra at the clinic and concert.



UIL season has also come and gone, and all of the BHS orchestras gave wonderful performances after much hard work.....

2009 UIL RESULTS



*The Symphony Orchestra received the UIL Sweepstakes (Superior ratings in both Concert and Sight-Reading) award in BOTH string and full orchestra categories – the only orchestra in the region to perform this feat.

*The Philharmonic Orchestra (the only Non-Varsity Full Orchestra in the region to attend UIL) also received the Sweepstakes award in Full Orchestra.

*The Concert Orchestra (the only "Sub- Non-Varsity" group in the region to attend UIL) received a Superior rating in Concert and an Excellent rating in Sight-Reading.



By the time you read this newsletter, the BHS Orchestras will also have performed in Corpus Christi as part of their annual spring trip. Details will be announced at the concerts. The Symphony also will have played along with the Lake Highlands HS Orchestra at the annual Council of PTAs concert.



We still have many more events coming up. These include:

- ***Richardson Chamber Music Festival** (Solo & Ensemble contest) – Saturday, April 25th at Richardson HS – times to be assigned to individual events.
- ***Orchestra Banquet** – Saturday, May 9th at the Oakridge Country Club, 7-11 p.m
- ***Senior Recognition Night** – Tuesday, May 12th at BHS, 7:00 p.m. **PLEASE NOTICE THE NEW DATE!**
- ***Grand Finale Concert** – Tuesday, May 26th in the BHS Auditorium, 7:00 p.m. This will include the ever-popular Senior Slide Show, so get your tissues ready!

Apollo Junior High Panthers

Director: Lynne Thornton/469-593-8015/e-mail: lynne.thornton@risd.org

Associate Director: Jody Cies/469-593-8016/e-mail: jody.cies@risd.org



Apollo Orchestra Notes

Congratulations to both the Symphony and Concert Orchestras for their outstanding performances at the UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest — they both made straight first division ratings and received Sweepstakes awards. We are very proud of all our students!!!

This spring will be a very busy time for all of the Apollo orchestras. Some of our upcoming events include:

***RISD Chamber Music Fest (Solo & Ensemble) — April 25th at Richardson High School

***Peak Music Fest — May 7th. This year the festival will be held at the Eisemann Center for Performing Arts, right here in Richardson.....with a fun trip to Main Event following the performance.

***Sixth Grade to Sandy Lake Fun Fest — May 12

***Apollo Spring Concert — May 20th in the Apollo Cafeteria, with performances by the Full Orchestra with Symphony students, as well as the Symphony and Concert String Orchestras

(more information to be announced...)

Liberty Junior High Patriots

Director: David Cook /469-593-7836 / e-mail: david.cook@risd.org



Liberty Orchestra News....

Eisemann Festival

The Liberty Advanced Orchestra attended the RISD Pre-UIL "Eisemann Festival" on February 24th. The judges gave us great comments indicating that we were playing between a First and Second Division. That's a good place to be two weeks prior to UIL contest.

UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Contest

The Liberty Advanced Orchestra competed in the UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Contest on March 11th at North Garland High School. The students performed beautifully. The orchestra selections were "Gloria in Excelsis Deo" by Vivaldi / Brubaker featuring soloists: James Lee, violin, David Cheung, violin, Kelly Trinh, viola and Eric Rangel, cello; "Spring Breezes" by Richard Meyer, featuring James Lee, violin, Eric Rangel, cello and Young An, keyboard/harp and finally, "Crusader" by Doug Spata. The judges awarded the orchestra with all "First Division" ratings in both the Concert and Sight-Reading portions of the competition. For their efforts, the Liberty Orchestra came home with a "Sweepstakes" trophy.

Congratulations !!!

Spring Fundraiser

The Liberty students will be selling candy as a fundraiser during the month of April. Please support our efforts to raise money for our program.

Spring Showcase Concert

On April 7th the orchestras of the Berkner Cluster will be performing their contest music on the Berkner HS stage. Parents, please take this opportunity to hear the best concert of the year by the Award winning Liberty, Apollo and Berkner orchestras. All of these orchestras received First Division ratings at the UIL contest.

Sandy Lake Funfest

The 6th Grade Orchestras from Audelia Creek, Forestridge, Jess Harben, O.Henry and Springridge will be going to Sandy Lake Amusement Park on Friday, May 15th to compete in the annual Funfest Competition. The students will be picked up from their Elementary schools starting at 9:00am and will be returned by 2:30pm. Look for more information to be coming home including an announcement about the rehearsals at Liberty that will help us put all these students together in preparation for the contest.

The Liberty Intermediate and Advanced Orchestras will be attending the Sandy Lake Funfest on Tuesday, May 12th. Look for more information to be coming home regarding the times for these performances.

Liberty Orchestra Spring Concert

The 6th Grade, Intermediate and Advanced Orchestras will be performing a Spring Concert at Liberty on Wednesday, May 20th at 7:00pm. Each of the orchestra will be preparing an exciting set of music for this presentation. Please look for more information to be coming home regarding this concert.



Berkner / Apollo / Liberty

Combined Event Calendar 2008–2009 (Spring dates)

www.berknerorchestra.org

| Date | School | Event | Time | Location |
|-----------------|---------------|--|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| March 24, 2009 | BHS | Council of PTA's Concert (Symphony) | 9:00 am | Lake Highlands HS |
| April 2-5, 2009 | BHS | Spring Trip to Corpus Christi | TBA | Corpus Christi, TX |
| April 7, 2009 | All | Berkner Cluster Spring Showcase | 7:00 pm | Berkner HS |
| April 25, 2009 | All | RISD Chamber Music Festival | TBA | Richardson HS |
| May 7, 2009 | Apollo | Peak Music Festival (Symphony) | TBA | Eisemann Center / Richardson |
| May 9, 2009 | BHS | BHS Orchestra Banquet | 7:00—11:00 pm | Oakridge Country Club / Garland |
| May 12, 2009 | BHS | Senior Recognition Night | 7:00 pm | Berkner HS |
| May 12, 2009 | Apollo | 6th Grade Orchestras to Sandy Lake Funfest | TBA | Sandy Lake/ Carrollton |
| May 12, 2009 | Liberty | Intermediate & Advanced Orchestras to Sandy Lake Funfest | TBA | Sandy Lake /Carrollton |
| May 15, 2009 | Liberty | 6th Grade Orchestras to Sandy Lake Funfest | 9:00 am—2:30 pm | Sandy Lake/ Carrollton |
| May 20, 2009 | Apollo | Spring Concert | 7:00 p.m. | Apollo Cafeteria |
| May 20, 2009 | Liberty | Spring Concert | 7:00 p.m. | Liberty Cafeteria |
| May 26, 2009 | BHS | Grand Finale Concert | 7:00 pm | Berkner HS |
| June 8, 2009 | BHS | Graduation | 7:00 p.m. | Garland Special Events Center |
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