



## YMB Newsletter September 2019

### *Help Needed: Collage Concert*

*Next week's Collage Concert is one of the biggest events of the year! Please help us put on a sweet post-concert reception by donating store-bought cookies and treats. Donations can be sent with your student on the evening of the event.*

[Sign up to help!](#) Thank you!

## **Hello From York Music Boosters**

Fall is an exciting time for all new and returning Performing Arts students. We are looking forward to seeing their inaugural performances at next week's Collage Concert on Wednesday, September 25 at 7:30pm in the Field House. Students need to arrive at 6:45pm in the Music Department. Attire is as follows:

- Dress shirt and tie, dress pants, dress shoes, dress socks
- Dress or skirt/slacks and blouse, dress shoes

\*Students should be able to sit and play with correct posture and position in their chosen clothing.

York Music Boosters hosts a reception after the Collage Concert. We need a few more volunteers to donate cookies/treats and to help serve. The more donations – the bigger the celebration! Please consider donating two dozen STORE BOUGHT treats. You can send them with your student at their call time. [Please sign up online.](#) Thank you for your support! Contact [Michelle Maiers](#) if you have any questions.

If you have already joined YMB as a paying member, THANK YOU! Your financial support is greatly appreciated! Be sure to pick up your membership swag -- magnets and window clings -- at the YMB table on the night of the Collage Concert.

If you haven't joined YMB yet, you can do so at the Collage Concert or [online anytime](#).

Fall is a very busy time for the York Music Boosters organization. Not only are we hosting the Collage Concert reception, we're also managing two sales events to help students earn money for music department trips, outfitting hundreds of band and orchestra students in formalwear, and providing ushers for upcoming concerts. Our executive board is mighty, but we can't do it alone. Please volunteer for one or more of our upcoming activities. Again, our thanks to YOU!

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## **Marching Band**

Come out and see our marching band perform tonight (9/20) for the varsity homecoming football game at 7:30pm vs. Lyons Township at the stadium. Theme is Green Out! Go Dukes!

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## **Concerto Audition**

Congratulations to all student musicians who auditioned on your musicianship, dedication, leadership, preparation and performance!

### ***The Winners:***

Caitlin Forbes, cello

*Edward Elgar – Cello Concerto in E Minor, Mvt. I*

Lauren Makinney, bass

*Koussevitsky, Serge – Concerto in E Minor, Mvt. I*

### ***Honorable Mention:***

Liz Yu, violin

*Max Bruch – Concerto No. 1 in G Minor, Mvt. I*

Caitlin and Lauren will perform accompanied by the York Symphony Orchestra during this school year.

Next auditions will be in September 2020. Again, congratulations to all!

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## Music Students Earn Money For School Trips

YMB's Greens Sale and Mattress Sale are coming soon! Both events offer an opportunity for students to earn money in their escrow accounts that they can use for future music department trips/travel. More details below.

### GREENS SALE

Order Dates: 9/23 (Mon) – 10/9 (Wed)

It's never too early to start thinking about the holidays!

Ever see those gorgeous wreaths and garlands decorating your neighborhood? Chances are, they came from the York Greens Sale!

All band/orchestra/choir students have the opportunity to earn money toward future music department travel expenses while "sprucing up" the neighborhood by selling wreaths, garlands, door swags, and other indoor decorations.

Students and families will be able to locate the brochure and order form on the [YMB Website](#) starting 9/23.

Please contact [Nancy Flanagan](#) if you have any questions.

### MATTRESS SALE

10/5 (Sat)

10am – 5pm

This annual sale is held in the Commons Area inside of York High School and is open to the public.

Browse an assortment of major brand mattresses and take the opportunity to sample them before making your purchase. Mattresses are delivered to your home at a date/time of your choosing and you can even arrange for your old mattress to be taken away when the new one is delivered.

Mention a York music student's name and that student will receive a portion of the sale in an escrow account to use for future music department trips/travel.

Contact [Jenn Toffler](#) if you would like to display a sign in your front yard or if you have any questions.

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## Uniform Pickup

Mark your calendar! Band and orchestra students need to pick up their formal uniforms on the following days:

SKIRTS - 10/15 (Tue), 2:30 - 5:30pm

TUXEDOS - 10/16 (Wed), 2:30 - 6pm

Students pick up uniforms in the Uniforms Storage Room which is located halfway up the stairs across from the music department entrance. Uniforms are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. Students may need to wait in line and should bring homework or something to do to pass the time.

Tips for making the pickup process faster:

- Students trying on skirts should wear leggings.
- Students trying on tuxedos should remove sweatshirts, jackets or bulky sweaters.
- The busiest time, when lines are the longest, is right after school. Students should consider coming a little later to avoid the lines.

Uniforms are on loan to students through the school year and must be turned in immediately after the last concert in May. Students who fail to return a uniform will be charged replacement costs.

While York provides tuxedo jackets, tuxedo pants, and skirts, music students are responsible for acquiring other uniform pieces like shirts, socks, and dress shoes. For full details on formal skirt standards and formal tuxedo standards, visit the [Uniforms web page](#).

**Outfitting more than 300 band and orchestra musicians in their formal concert attire is no small feat. We need many volunteers on pickup days! Please [sign up online](#) or contact [Denise Steinbrecher](#) to help. Your time and commitment is appreciated!**

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## Enrichment Grants

Interested in a master class in instrumental music but don't have the funds? Want to record

an album but need start-up fees? Have to wait to learn a second instrument because you don't have the money? These are just a few examples of the types of enrichment opportunities that York Music Boosters can help you with as part of its Grant Program. YMB offers grants that can cover either a partial or full reimbursement of the cost of eligible expenses. Check out the details and access the application on the [YMB website](#). Contact [Leah Gleason](#) if you have any questions or need more info.

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## **Concert Ushers Needed**

We're all excited to hear and see our York musicians! Be a part of the concert fun by volunteering to usher. This easy gig involves arriving about 45 minutes before a performance, standing in the venue entrance, and handing out programs. Volunteers may sit and watch the performance once it starts. [Sign up online today!](#) Contact [Joanna Gusich](#) if you have any questions.

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## **New Staff**

We're pleased to welcome the new District Fine and Performing Arts Coordinator for all grade levels, Mr. Patrick Baker. Part of his role is to shape the district-level side of Fine and Performing Arts and provide leadership to all music and art teachers and programs across the district. He has a BA in Music Education, an MM in Choral Conducting from Michigan State and an EdM in Educational Leadership from UIUC. He has taught choir, general music, piano lab and solo singing and worked with various after-school and summer music and theater programs in the high school setting.

Mr. Will Ernst is the new Assistant Director of Bands which includes leading the awesome marching band that we see at our home varsity football games. Mr. Ernst comes to us from UIUC and student taught at York during the last school year. Before that he was a student teacher at a local junior high school.

Let's all welcome both of these new additions to the York music staff!

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## **Fall Musical**

Many of our Performing Arts students are involved in the upcoming production of *Twelfth*

*Night*. Be sure to check out the show which will run 10/24 - 10/27. [Visit this page](#) for more information.

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## **Award Winning Carthage Choir Includes York Alumni**

York High School alum Morgan Taylor is a member of the Carthage Choir that won two first prizes at the renowned annual Internationaler Chorwettbewerb Spittal an der Drau, an international competition hosted in Spittal Austria. Representing the United States and beating out steep competition from nine other countries, the Carthage Choir won two nights of the contest, an achievement matched by only four choirs from the U.S. in the 56 year history of the competition. *(from the Elmhurst Independent, Thursday, August 8, 2019 edition)*

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## **Concert CDs**

[RJ Sound Recording](#) records our concerts. Representatives are available to accept orders at every concert. If you would like to order a CD by mail, please send \$18 (per CD) to RJ Sound Recording (PO Box 302, Geneva, IL 60134) or call 630-232-1932. Specify the concert(s) and the applicable date. Visa, MasterCard, personal check or CD voucher (received as YMB membership benefit) are accepted forms of payment. List your student's name and ensemble with your request. CDs will be delivered directly to the York Performing Arts Department and then to the students with about a one month lead time.

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## **What Does York Music Boosters Do?**

Our mission is to support Performing Arts music students at York High School. We host post concert receptions, maintain student escrow accounts, manage formal uniforms for band/orchestra students, and provide ushers for concerts throughout the school year, among other activities. Over the years, we have contributed to Fine Arts Week, helped bring in guest musicians, purchased shared instruments, and more. Last year, we awarded nearly \$4,000 in enrichment grants and summer camp scholarships.

[Please consider becoming an official member of YMB!](#) Your membership dollars help us boost the music program at York.

Contact [Mary Young](#) for more information about membership. Thank you for your support!

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## Stay Connected

[Performing Arts Calendar](#) - View the full performance schedule for the year.

[York Music Boosters](#) - Find tons of information on things like grants/scholarships, uniforms, summer camp ideas, and more. You can also find us on the Parent and Student Resources tab on York's webpage.

[York Music Boosters on Facebook](#) - Stay up-to-date on the latest music news.

[York Community High School Performing Arts on Facebook](#) - This page recently posted a video of the marching band kicking off Homecoming Week in style. Check it out!

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## Go Dukes!

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This newsletter was sent to all band/orchestra/choir families.

Contents compiled by Victoria Ludkowski, YMB Newsletter Chair

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