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**Subject:** YMB Newsletter - April 2020  
**Date:** April 10, 2020 at 12:17 AM  
**To:** tofflerj@mac.com



## YMB Newsletter April 2020

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### A NOTE TO YORK MUSIC FAMILIES

The contrast between our last newsletter and this one is staggering. In early March, we were promoting Fine Arts Week, Band and Orchestra Solo Nights, and ticket sales for the Spring Musical. Today, well... what a difference a month makes.

And yet, creativity and ingenuity flourish in the void.

York music is alive and kicking. It's just moved home for awhile. These days, you might hear a bassist in your basement, a choir kid in your kitchen, or a percussionist in your pantry. Students are continuing to practice. They're discovering new music and learning new concepts through media and online assignments from their teachers. Some are recording pieces virtually with friends. Others are writing songs and composing music.

York music faculty members are immersed in finding ways to help everyone succeed with eLearning. They're using new technologies and new apps to connect with students. They're experimenting with virtual performances, including one that happened on Thursday afternoon via Instagram (details below). They continue to inspire, even from afar. The music teachers - who shine so brightly on "normal" school days - have our deepest gratitude for their hard work during this incredibly challenging time.

We are all looking forward to the day when we can again enjoy performances together in person. No one is sure when that might be. In the meantime, treasure the talented musician living in your home. Maybe even make a song request or two. And, savor the music happening around you.

York Music Boosters wishes you safety, health, and the comfort of the arts.

Sincerely,

Jenn Toffler - YMB President



### SUMMER MUSIC CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS



The deadline for Summer Music Camp Scholarship applications is April 20. If there's any chance your student still might be attending a summer music camp, apply now. They may receive a scholarship from York Music Boosters to use toward the cost of Summer Camp tuition. You can find a list of Summer Camps and download an application on the [York Music Boosters website](#). Contact [Leah Gleason](#) if you have any questions.

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## YMB EXTENDS GRANT PROGRAM TO E-LEARNING

Now that music classes are being conducted online (no pun intended), you can get help with the cost of extraordinary e-learning music activities like online master classes or music apps and software. Apply now to the York Music Boosters Grant Program and put our money to work for you. YMB typically offers funds for music-related expenses such as master classes, CD start-up fees, or private lessons to learn a second instrument. Submit your application, and YMB may cover 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](#), YMB Scholarship Committee Chair, with questions.

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## YORK AT HOME CONCERT ON INSTAGRAM

This is sure to warm your heart: York students broadcasted a live concert from their homes on April 9. Performances included acoustic and electric guitars, classical piano, a junior playing drums on his front lawn, a charming host, and more. Follow [@yorkalbumproject](#) on Instagram to view the concert and to be notified of future events. Way to go students!



# 2020

## CLASS OF 2020 SENIOR PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS IN BAND OR ORCHESTRA

One of our YMB board members is creating a special program for seniors in Band or Orchestra. The program is a way for the seniors to take great pride in their accomplishments and share this with all their band/orchestra friends which is a highlight of their senior year. Out of the 70 senior band/orchestra students, she has heard from 44, so just 26 students to go. **If you or your student haven't responded yet, please submit the following to [classof2020bandorchestra@gmail.com](mailto:classof2020bandorchestra@gmail.com) by Friday, April 17.**

- senior student's name
- band or orchestra
- instrument(s)/years played
- music experience (groups, events, etc.)
- clubs/athletics (years participated, leadership positions, etc.)
- honors and awards (music, academic, athletic, other)
- favorite band/orchestra memory
- post-graduation plans if known (i.e. major/school)
- include a jpeg photo of the student

Email the above address for more information, examples, and updates. The senior program will be distributed in May. We're so very proud of our seniors!





## MORE GOOD NEWS TO SHARE...

- The York Cello Ensemble played at the District 205 Foundation Gala on February 8 (photo above).
- Cellist Matt Turner visited the York and middle school orchestras in February (photo below). Thank you to the District 205 Foundation for their generous grant which made his visit possible. Mr. Turner worked with orchestra students on improvisation and extended techniques during his week-long residency. He also performed at the February 13 orchestra concert and was impressive! The concert concluded with the easily recognizable theme of “Dance in the Hall of the Mountain King” composed by Edvard Grieg as incidental music for the play Peer Gynt which is always a crowd-pleaser. Visit the [York Music Boosters home page](#) to see more photos from the D205 Foundation Gala and from Matt Turner's visit.
- Thank you to York Music Teacher Chris Gemkow and the entire Performing Arts Department for another memorable, entertaining, and educational Fine Arts Week in March. YMB was proud to sponsor two of the guest speakers during FAW: Michael Salvatori (composer for the Halo and Destiny video games) and Whitaker Trebella (video game developer and composer). Check out the online student newspaper - [This Is York](#) - for feature stories about the special week.





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### SEND US YOUR PHOTOS

We are in search of new York music photos for our website. If you have photos to share, please send an email to [krishanley3@gmail.com](mailto:krishanley3@gmail.com).



### LINKS TO LIFT YOUR SPIRITS

Order a Mystery Composer Composition Kit from [Luscombe Music](#) in Elmhurst - now providing no-contact curbside pickup and free delivery within Elmhurst.

Enjoy the [Chicago Symphony Orchestra](#) at home.

Visit the [Kennedy Center's Digital Stage](#).

Explore an opera in your PJs: [Lyric Opera](#) (Chicago) or [The Metropolitan Opera](#) (New York).

Livestream a rock concert from the [Billboard website](#).

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### STAY CONNECTED

[Performing Arts Calendar](#) - View the full performance schedule for the year. *Please note: The performance calendar is currently in flux due to the governor's stay-at-home order.*

[York Music Boosters](#) - Find tons of information on things like grants/scholarships, uniforms, student escrow accounts, 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](#) - Get inspired with the York Performing Arts Department.

[Amateur Musicians Club on Facebook](#) - This club welcomes all students at all different musical skill levels.

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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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