



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 5, 2009

Bay Chamber Concerts Announces Odeon Auditions

An Odeon ensemble for all ages and abilities

Bay Chamber Concerts announces the commencement of the Spring session of its Odeon Strings program. Auditions will be held for the Odeon Junior Ensemble, the Odeon Youth Orchestra and the Odeon Chamber Orchestra. Participants are also invited to join the Odeon Community Orchestra, without an audition.

Auditions for the Junior Ensemble, for beginning young string musicians, will take place on Monday, January 12, 2009 from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the Rockport Opera House. Auditions for the Youth Orchestra, for intermediate school-age children, will be held on Tuesday, January 13, 2009 from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. at the Rockport Opera House.

Those seeking to audition for the Odeon Junior or Youth orchestras may arrive without registration, or may pre-register by calling Bay Chamber Concerts. Odeon Junior and Youth Orchestra rehearsals will take place at the Rockport Opera House.

Marshunda Smith is the conductor for the Odeon Junior Ensemble, Youth Orchestra and Community Orchestra. The Odeon Junior Ensemble is a training orchestra that offers young string players a first experience of the joys of playing in an orchestra. This introductory program is designed to help string students learn to listen to each other, follow the conductor, use dynamics and count while reading and playing beginning string orchestra music.

The Odeon Youth Orchestra is for young string musicians at the intermediate level (Suzuki Book 2). As members of this orchestra, members develop skills in shifting, vibrato, understanding of a variety of rhythms and comfort in reading sharps and flats. Prior experience playing in an ensemble setting is recommended.

Auditions for the Odeon Chamber Orchestra will be held by appointment. Please contact Gilda Joffe, music director of education, at the Bay Chamber Concerts office for more information. This ensemble is

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intended for high intermediate to advanced string musicians. Weekly rehearsals will focus on developing musicianship and refining ensemble technique as well as broadening knowledge of the extensive repertoire for chamber orchestra. Intensive outside preparation is necessary to polish the demanding repertoire.

Odeon's newest ensemble, the Community Orchestra, does not require an audition and will welcome any new members on January 26 for their first rehearsal. Weekly rehearsals for the Community Orchestra will begin on Monday, January 26 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and will take place at St. Thomas' Episcopal Church in Camden.

The registration fee for Odeon's spring session is \$100 for the Junior Ensemble and \$200 for the Youth Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra and Community Orchestra. Scholarship assistance is available.

For more information about any of these programs contact Gilda Joffe, music director of education or Allison Lakin, assistant director of education at (207) 236-2823, toll free at (888) 707-2770 or online at www.baychamberconcerts.org. Bay Chamber Concerts is a 501(c)(3) registered non-profit organization.

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