

## PRESS RELEASE

### OYStrs to Perform Bach-n-roll Concert

On Thursday, May 24 the OYStrs Youth Ensemble under the direction of Dr. Alan Rawson will present a chamber orchestra concert at Quimper Unitarian Universalist Fellowship at 2333 San Juan Ave, Port Townsend beginning at 7:30 pm.

Their "Bach 'n Roll" program will be made up entirely of selections by the Baroque master, Johann Sebastian Bach, considered one of the greatest classical composers of all time.

Pieces, arranged especially for the OYStrs Youth Ensemble by Dr. Rawson, will include the concerto in D minor for 2 violins, "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" from Cantata No. 147, Fugue No. 1 from Art of the Fugue, and the famous "Air" from Orchestral Suite No. 3. Elizabeth McKinnon of Port Townsend will be a featured soloist performing on piano the Adagio movement from the Harpsichord Concerto, BWV 1047.

In the spirit of Bach's resourceful plagiarizing and recycling of his own works, OYStrs students Kim and Christina Walters will join Dr. Rawson and PT string teacher Kristin Smith in performance of the virtuoso, "Preludio" movement from the E Major Partita No. 3 for unaccompanied violin, combined with a transcription of the orchestral accompaniment to what Bach had also set as an organ solo in the "Sinfonia" movement of his Cantata No. 29.

Movements of the joyous and uplifting Brandenburg Concerto No. 6 will begin and end the concert, sandwiching this great music in a Bach lover's "Branden-burger" feast.

OYStrs violinists include Port Townsend students Julianna Henze, Madeline Levy, and Levi Yearian along with Evie Person from Marrowstone Island, Sydney Sharpe and Sam Hobart from Port Ludlow, and Christina and Kim Walters from Chimacum.

Rawson, a violinist and former music professor at Minnesota State University in Moorhead, moved to Chimacum three years ago along with his wife and duo pianist Sandy Rawson. Both have become active performers in the community, having already given numerous chamber and solo performances. In February, Sandy appeared as piano soloist in Beethoven's Choral Fantasy with the Port Townsend Community Orchestra, and last spring Alan was the featured soloist performing the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto. They have organized and given several community oriented presentations to date with the OYStrs Youth Ensemble and more advanced Olympic Chamber Orchestra through their recently established non-profit organization, Olympic Youth Strings.

The concert is free and open to the public. A suggested \$5 donation would be greatly appreciated.