

OYStrs to Perform Chamber Music at Seaport Landing

Friday, June 20, 3:30 pm 2008



(pictured from left to right, rehearsing at the Rawson home in Chimacum are Kim Walters, Elizabeth McKinnon, Sydney Sharpe, Christina Walters, and Madeline Levy with OYStrs mascot, Ben enjoying surround sound)

On Friday, June 20th at 3:30 pm the OYStrs Ensemble under the direction of Dr. Alan Rawson will present a chamber music concert of classical music from the Baroque through Romantic periods at Seaport Landing in Port Townsend.

Part of Olympic Youth Strings, known as OYStrs, this concert concludes the spring session of their ensemble class which has been rehearsing weekly at the Rawson home this year. Included on the program will be a trio sonata by Arcangelo Corelli along with Mozart's Church Sonata in D Major, K. 144, Concerto for 2 violins in A minor by Antonio Vivaldi and Concerto in D minor for 2 violins by Bach. A glimpse into their "modus operandi" is planned with a specially arranged medley from their warm-up routines, *Looney Tunes: Study in the Fast Lane*. Their feature piece will be Antonin Dvorak's *Bagatelles*, Op. 47, an exquisite and charming piece by the nationalist Czech composer.

"This year our students have made wonderful strides in playing ability and sensitivity as chamber musicians. The Dvorak piece ending the program will demonstrate a new level of richness and maturity. Listeners will be pleased with their achievement and commitment to artistic performance." Rawson explains, "unlike previous programs, there will be no conductor, and they will have to rely on their growing musical intuition and solid musicianship. It's an exciting step forward." OYStrs students include violinists Madeline Levy from Port Townsend, Sydney Sharpe of Port Ludlow, Kim and Christina Walters from Chimacum, along with PT keyboardist Elizabeth McKinnon.

Rawson, a violinist and former music professor at Minnesota State University in Moorhead, moved to Chimacum four 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. They have organized and given several community oriented presentations to date of the OYStrs Youth Ensemble and the more advanced Olympic Chamber Orchestra through their recently established non-profit organization, Olympic Youth Strings.

The concert is free and open to the public. Donations will be accepted at the door, suggested \$5. Seaport Landing is located at 1201 Hancock in Port Townsend. For more information, call Alan Rawson 379-3449 or visit the OYStrs web site at www.mnstate.edu/rawson/oysters

A Washington State Non-Profit Corporation qualified under Sec. 501 (c) (3) of the IRC

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