

May 2011
Issue 5



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Dear T.O. Phil Family,

Recently, we completed an extremely successful set of concerts, our OPUS 30 performances. There was a lot of excitement at both concerts and our organization experienced a great deal of community-based pride. There really is nothing like seeing young concert artists solo with a professional symphony, and rise to unexpected and astonishing levels. I'm proud to say that we are in our 11th year of sponsoring these concerts and soon will reach the 200 mark in young artists featured!

We embarked on a very ambitious fund-raising campaign at the end of 2010, asking each Friend of the Phil, to donate \$250 each, hoping that we would get 500 such donations that collectively would fund our season. I asked the audience at the OPUS 30 concerts to first consider what they are getting for the cost of their ticket and their extra donations. I focused on three main things: The young artists getting the most transformational education experience of their lives; the brilliance of a professional symphony orchestra performance; and performances of music written by the greatest composers of Western Civilization. If that isn't worth \$250...please tell me what is. I'd like to thank those of you who have used the envelopes, and to those who have used our website: www.tophil.org which has a new donation shopping cart for credit card donations. Now, how can I inspire all of you who haven't yet donated...to donate? Perhaps one of my students can do this better than me!

The young student is Edward Gisin. Edward is in kindergarten, and recently starting to study piano with me. He is also a violin student of our concert master Dianne Rammon. Edward's parents are Russian, and during the Winter Break, went to St. Petersburg to visit family, and while there, took Edward to the ballet, the symphony and a couple of solo recitals. I wasn't surprised, because they attend many of our local recitals and of course, concerts given by the T.O. Phil. During the recent Spring Break, they went to New York City to visit a place they had never been to. They came home two days early so that they could all attend the OPUS 30 concert at the T.O. Civic Arts Plaza! Now there's a great example of supporting the T.O. Phil!!!

Edward listened carefully to not only the performances, but also to what I had to say in my appeal for donations, because at his first lesson after the OPUS 30 concert, he walked to the piano with a big grin on his face, and handed me a donation envelope filled with coins. "What is this?" I asked. Well, Edward had emptied his piggy-bank and had placed all the coins he had collected in one of our envelopes, and beautifully printed his name on the cover. His donation came to a grand total of \$3.08, but it felt like a million bucks! Thank you, Edward! It is greatly appreciated, and I hope that he inspires others to give as generously, too.

How about it folks? Can you follow Edward's lead, and provide us with a generous donation? Would it be possible to expand on his \$3.08? We could really use it, as we are approx. \$8,000 under our balance from last year, and we have one more concert to go in the season. As a reminder, we don't do any concert that we don't have money for, and we never borrow or seek credit. There are 7 young soloists waiting for their opportunity in August, so please do what you can to help us make this concert happen, and if your company matches employee donations to non-profit groups, please remember to do that, too. Send your tax-deductible contributions at the first opportunity. We really appreciate your help. Place August 5 & 7 on your calendars for Opus 31, the next set of Thousand Oaks Philharmonic concerts. Visit www.tophil.org for more details, and to donate by credit card. You can also send your contribution by check to us at: Thousand Oaks Philharmonic, PO Box 4195, Thousand Oaks CA 91359

Harmoniously yours,

Edward A. Francis, Jr.
Founder & Chairman

Schedule of Upcoming Events:

The Chopin Project: Liszt the Virtuoso

A multi-media performance event that benefits the Thousand Oaks Philharmonic

Friday Evening, June 10, 7:30 pm Forum Theatre, Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza

Tickets \$25 available from the performers, the Box Office, or here:

<http://www.toaks.org/cap/tickets/events/event.asp?eventID=1671>

The Pleasure of Your Company: The 5th Annual BarBeQconcert

A dinner & music event that equally benefits the Thousand Oaks Philharmonic and the New West Symphony

Sunday Afternoon, July 24, 3-6 pm. Home of T.O. Phil Chairman, Edward Francis

\$100 per person

Reservations limited to the first 50 people: tophilharmonic@gmail.com

FINAL THOUSAND OAKS PHILHARMONIC CONCERTS OF THE SEASON! OPUS 31

Two identical concerts.

Concert #1: Friday August 5th Evening, 7:30 pm

Camarillo United Methodist Church

291 Anacapa Drive, Camarillo

Suggested donation: \$20, \$10, \$6 General/Senior/Student

Admission passes available at www.tophil.org and at the door beginning one hour prior to the performance

Concert #2: Sunday August 7th Afternoon, 2:30 pm,

Scherr Forum Theatre, Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza

Tickets: \$25, \$20, \$6 General/Senior/Student

Tickets available at T.O. CAP Box Office and on-line at <http://www.toaks.org/cap/tickets/default.asp>

Check www.tophil.org for up-to-date ticket and program info.

Burgers, Bubbles & Beethoven

The Three B's: Beef, Turkey, Vegetarian!

Delicious choice of gourmet burgers, champagne (and sparkling juice) and a concert.

Sunday, August 28, 3-6 pm. Home of T.O. Phil Chairman, Edward Francis

\$75 General/Senior \$25 Student

Directions and information given upon reservations: tophilharmonic@gmail.com , 805.376.2485

Limited to the first 60 reservations.

