

PYSO Parents' Association  
Officers Meeting  
September 24, 2011

**Meeting attendees:** Craig Johnson, Eve Goodman, Jerry Gindele, Cynthia Brown, Rhonda Miller, Jeanne Boehmer, and Janet Kotcher

**Topics of discussion:**

- PYSO Parents' Association hosts the **luncheons** that are provided between rehearsal and the Heinz Hall concerts.
- Craig noted that fundraisers, like the donations at concerts, are the means for the Parents' Association to make money since currently there are no member dues for the Parents.
- The group wants to maintain **Facebook** and will discuss what should be posted to the site at a later date.
- **Fundraisers**
  - Using **collection buckets** before the concert and during intermission was extremely successful and we will use them again this year.
  - Craig wants the **Painted Violin** fundraiser to be reserved for four years, and he does not want to make an appeal for money before every concert.
  - Craig suggested sending an **email after the concert** to all who ordered tickets thanking them for coming and in that mailing provide ways that they can donate to the organization.
  - The group discussed whether to sell PYSO **apparel** and decided that it might be worthwhile to sell a few items, but not have everything in the catalog available. Jeanne volunteered to look at the catalog and select a few items.
  - The group decided to charge the students for the yearbook at the time the **yearbook photos** are being taken. It is a minimal charge but this would facilitate collecting it. Eve volunteered to make a disc of each member's picture, the group picture, and perhaps some additional candid.
    - Although it is difficult to fit photos in on a concert day, it has the advantage that all the students are there and already in concert attire.
    - It would be good to make templates for the photos, which would facilitate production of subsequent yearbooks.
    - All seemed to agree that the photos could be taken as late as the 2<sup>nd</sup> concert on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.
    - It was suggested that the yearbook include photos from the Italy tour.

- It was suggested that the photographer take a more creative shot of the students with their instrument as well as the traditional one that is included in the yearbook. This option might require that the photos be taken on a different day due to time limitations on concert days.
  - Most of the **yearbook ads** are purchased by the parents.
  - Craig suggested shopping around for a **print shop** for the yearbook.
    - Find one with high quality and a good price.
    - Last year the organization used MinuteMan and the quality was fuzzy.
  - Craig did not expect the parents' organization to make a direct donation for the **instrument fund**, but he suggested that we help the office host a fundraiser that will be used for this purpose.
    - Mikhail Istomin has offered to have his trio perform a benefit concert for this cause.
    - The event will most likely be held at Trombino's as a winter concert.
    - The parents' association would host a reception (appetizers, desserts, chocolate, cheese and wine -not red- were suggestions).
    - Craig suggested that Trader Joe's is good for catering, and perhaps would be willing to donate some items for the evening. Cynthia volunteered to organize a planning committee.
    - Craig will discuss possible dates for the event and will find out the seating capacity of the gallery.
    - Misha will most likely help to promote the event.
    - Perhaps chamber group(s) could perform before the event or during intermission.
- The group discussed hosting a **social event** for the students.
  - The students would be given some choices and the opportunity to help the parents prepare for it.
  - We need to consider the large age range of the students (from a few 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> graders to college-age).
  - A Halloween-themed event was suggested for October 29<sup>th</sup>. We all agreed that the event will be better attended if it is after rehearsal.
  - Perhaps there could be a play-off between sections or a scavenger hunt.
- Craig mentioned the possibility of a **tour reunion**. This was not discussed in great detail at this meeting, but we plan to continue the discussion at a later time.
- The officers' meeting was adjourned.

Janet Kotcher  
Secretary