

# Young People's Philharmonic of the Lehigh Valley

Annual Report

2008-2009

[www.ypp-jsp.org](http://www.ypp-jsp.org)

## Young People's Philharmonic Board Members 2009-2010

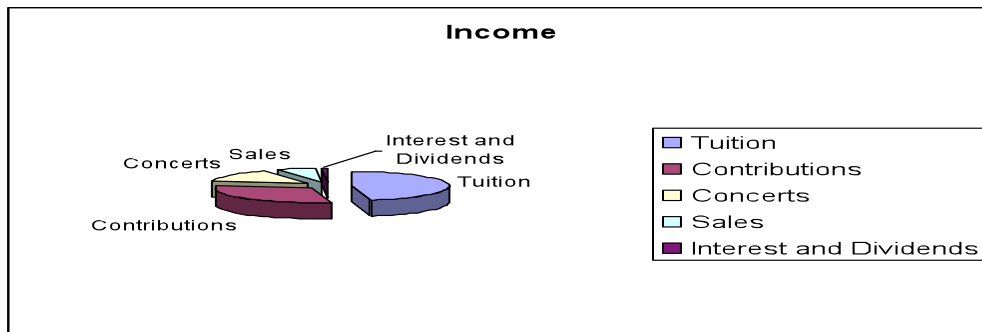
as of 7/7/09

<b>Connie Arnold</b> , 08-10 <a href="mailto:arnolcon@eastpennsd.org">arnolcon@eastpennsd.org</a> 2944 Fornance Road Bethlehem, PA 18020	610-814-4809	<b>Bob Stevens</b> , 08-10 <a href="mailto:bobsemail18@juno.com">bobsemail18@juno.com</a> 204 East Market Street Bethlehem, PA 18018	c 484-553-8796
<b>Donna Crowley</b> , 08-10 <a href="mailto:mousaw372@hotmail.com">mousaw372@hotmail.com</a> 4466 Castle Court Allentown, PA 18103	610-391-9778	<b>Kellie Sutliff-Brady</b> , 06-08, 08-10 <a href="mailto:kbrady@bethsd.org">kbrady@bethsd.org</a> 4376 Hilltop Circle Bethlehem, PA 18020	610-317-8135 <i>Secretary</i>
<b>Heather Depew</b> , 08-10 <a href="mailto:heatherdepew@yahoo.com">heatherdepew@yahoo.com</a> 3410 S. 5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue #131 Whitehall, PA 18052	610-597-6123	<b>Wendy Thompson</b> , 09-11 <a href="mailto:wgdcthompson@hotmail.com">wgdcthompson@hotmail.com</a> 1607 Saucon Valley Road Bethlehem, PA 18015	610-867-3021
<b>Jennifer Hawk</b> , 08-10 <a href="mailto:jrowehawk@mac.com">jrowehawk@mac.com</a> 2075 Glen View Drive Bethlehem, PA 18015	610-807-3190 <i>Treasurer</i>	<b>Staff:</b>	
<b>Denise Lawrence</b> , 08-10 <a href="mailto:d_h_lawrence@msn.com">d_h_lawrence@msn.com</a> 3147 Nijaro Road Bethlehem, PA 18020	610-868-8287 <i>Vice-President</i>	<b>Louise Arnold</b> <a href="mailto:liasew@hotmail.com">liasew@hotmail.com</a> 782 Spruce Street Emmaus, PA 18049	<i>Business Manager</i> 610-967-3670
<b>James Minneman</b> , 03-05, 06-08, 08-10 <a href="mailto:jminneman@pplweb.com">jminneman@pplweb.com</a> 1110 Greenleaf Circle Allentown, PA 18103	610-366-8376 <i>President</i>	<b>Caroline Dawson</b> <a href="mailto:dwsn9@aol.com">dwsn9@aol.com</a> 499 Rosewood Drive Northampton PA 18067	<i>Administrative Assistant</i> Office # 610-868-9888 610-767-7851
<b>Maggie Minneman</b> , 08-10 <a href="mailto:jmmmzm@rcn.com">jmmmzm@rcn.com</a> 1110 Greenleaf Circle Allentown, PA 18103	610-366-8376	<b>Permanent Board Members:</b>	
<b>Ram Narasimhan</b> , 09-11 <a href="mailto:sneharagha@yahoo.com">sneharagha@yahoo.com</a> 4651 Berwyn Lane Macungie, PA 18062	610-530-7915	<b>Jerry Bidlack</b> <a href="mailto:JTBidlack@aol.com">JTBidlack@aol.com</a>	<i>YPP Conductor</i> 610-868-9200
<b>Coleen Sawyer</b> , 09-11 <a href="mailto:Sawyer812@verizon.net">Sawyer812@verizon.net</a> 472 Sugar Maple Court Bethlehem, PA 18017	610-451-4815	<b>Nancy Bidlack</b> <a href="mailto:NSBidlack@aol.com">NSBidlack@aol.com</a> 1704 Sycamore Street Bethlehem PA 18017	<i>JSP Conductor</i> 610-868-9200
		<b>Nanci Funfgeld</b> <a href="mailto:nancif@rcn.com">nancif@rcn.com</a> 3127 Nijaro Road Bethlehem PA 18017	<i>YPP Manager</i> 610-866-3574
		<b>Student Representatives</b> <i>(to be elected at October 2009 rehearsal)</i>	

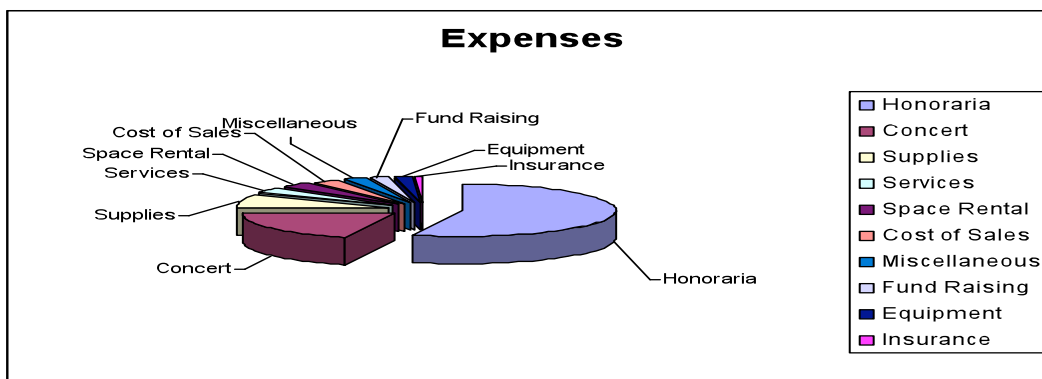
<b>Norman Lawrence</b> (YPP) <a href="mailto:normantlawrence@gmail.com">normantlawrence@gmail.com</a> 3147 Nijaro Road Bethlehem, PA 18020	610-868-8287
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## Financial Highlights for Fiscal Year 2008-2009

<b>Income</b>	<b>2008 -09</b>	<b>2007-08</b>
Tuition	\$28,025	\$23,627
Contributions	18,175	22,584
Concerts	8,972	8,024
Sales	3,926	3,870
Interest & Dividends	583	1,074
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$59,681</b>	<b>\$59,179</b>



<b>Expenses</b>	<b>2008-09</b>	<b>2007-08</b>
Honoraria	\$33,100	\$33,434
Concert	11,908	8,977
Supplies	4,634	5,594
Cost of Sales	3,926	3,773
Space Rental	2,100	1,953
Fund Raising	1,208	2,157
Services	2,225	2,900
Miscellaneous	1,462	1,028
Insurance	541	619
Equipment	1,156	950
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$59,996</b>	<b>\$61,685</b>



**Gain (Loss)** **(\$ 315)** **(\$2,506)**

## Young People's Philharmonic 2008-2009 Highlights

The Young People's Philharmonic has been performing for classical music lovers for over 30 years and it's improving with age! We continue with our traditional holiday and spring concerts, our school tours, and our other community performances, but this year our musicians were able to showcase their talent in some new and exiting ways.

For the first time, the YPP was invited to participate in the Cathedral Concert Series at the Cathedral Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. This concert series features organ recitals, local choirs, and starting in 2009, our full orchestra concert. It promises to be the start of a great relationship!

The YPP completed 3 school concerts in the Bethlehem Area Schools, and the JSP completed 3 school concerts in the East Penn and Southern Lehigh School Districts bringing live classical music to enthusiastic audiences. Peers bringing music to peers is our difference!

The JSP performed at Luthercrest Retirement Village in December bringing live classical music to at least 100 Senior citizens. Also for the first time, the Junior String Philharmonic is planning to take their school tours to inner city schools in Philadelphia that are without the types of music programs our children are accustomed to. Our students will get the unique opportunity to showcase their talent to their peers, many who have never heard classical music performed. It promises to be a valuable experience for both our performers and their audience. It brings equal access to classical music and demonstrates to these children what they themselves can aspire to. Contacts have been made with teachers in the Philadelphia schools and we look forward to visiting them next year.

The Spring Concert for the Senior Orchestra was a huge success. We had two Concerto Competition winners this year. Michael Avitabile played Movement 1: Allegro maestoso from the flute concerto No.1, K.313 by W.A.Mozart and Brian Coopersmith played Movement III Rondo (Allegro) from the Clarinet Concerto, K.622 by W.A. Mozart.

Our parents have been busy adding to the success of this year's programs. Our board and committee members have been very active; it has been great to see all the effort and enthusiasm! Sadly, we will be losing some of our board members at the end of the year and we are looking for people interested in joining. Being a board member typically involves between three to ten hours of work a month. The satisfaction of helping this great organization is well worth this small investment of time. Anyone who is interested in may contact any board member for more information.

We established goals for the group at the start of the year, and we are well on our way to successfully completing them. The goals include running successful performances, school tours and the College Night Program, improving the publicity of JSP and YPP events, increasing the number of active board members, and

maintaining a balanced budget. Thanks to all of you who have helped out. We couldn't have done this without all the committee members and parent volunteers. The Annual Meeting of Members was held on May 11 at 7pm. All members are encouraged to attend the annual meeting. The agenda includes a review of the state of the orchestras, budget approval, election of board members, and getting to know other YPP members.

## General Information

### ***Organizational History of the Young People's Philharmonic***

The Young People's Philharmonic of the Lehigh Valley was founded in 1976 by Jerry T. and Nancy Bidlack, and is composed of two orchestras. One, a full symphonic orchestra made up of 85 talented high school students and the other, a string orchestra made up of 45 middle school students. These young musicians come from all over the Lehigh Valley and Western New Jersey to audition for a seat in the orchestra. Auditions are held in May for the following school year. They rehearse for two and one-half hours weekly at the Charter School for the Performing Arts in Bethlehem.

### ***Mission Statement***

The Young People's Philharmonic of the Lehigh Valley is organized for the purposes of providing the youth of the greater Lehigh Valley with their own musical organization whereby they may study and perform original symphony orchestra literature, as it was written by the composers, increasing the awareness and appreciation of symphonic music throughout the area, serving the Middle and Senior high school youth of the community, and cooperating with the schools in nourishing and developing high quality musicianship. Members of the Philharmonic will be encouraged to participate in their own school programs.

### ***Organization***

The Young People's Philharmonic of the Lehigh Valley is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes provided under section 501 c3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 and does not contemplate pecuniary gain or profit incidental or otherwise. The YPP is an approved Educational Improvement Organization in Pennsylvania. A working Board of Directors composed of the orchestras' conductors, staff, parents, and local music teachers are responsible for the organization's governance.

Board meetings are held the first Monday of each month September through June. Executive committee meetings are held as needed. The annual meeting is held in May and all meetings are open to interested parties.

### ***Public Service and Outreach***

In addition to developing and educating its members, the orchestras reach out into the community to educate and inspire an interest in music.

The orchestras perform three formal concerts per year. (In 2009 they added a 4<sup>th</sup> concert in conjunction with the Cathedral Church of the Nativity Subscription Concert Series). Combined these concerts draw approximately 1500 attendees. In addition to the formal concerts, the orchestras have a special relationship with area schools as a result of the school concerts they perform each year. School tours to different local districts each year enable the young players to share their music with their young contemporaries. Peers bringing music to peers is our critical difference!

The orchestras also perform concerts at an area nursing home each year. In all, the YPP and JSP provide an in-depth exposure of symphonic music for about 150 young musicians and an enjoyable and educational experience for over 6,000 people in the community each year.

### ***Musical Education***

The Young People's Philharmonic Senior Orchestra performs entirely from original symphonic scores and is under the direction of Jerry T. Bidlack, who has been a professor in the Music Department at Lehigh University since 1973 and Professor Emeritus since 1995. Students must master their own parts and, by playing and listening in rehearsal, learn how their parts contribute to the composition as a whole. This provides a deeper understanding of the underlying structure of the music and the background material required for college or conservatory music study. The Young People's Philharmonic also sponsors a College Night for orchestra members and others students from the community. Typically representatives from over twenty colleges are available to answer questions about their music programs and more general inquiries. Every year several graduating seniors go on to professional music study, and nearly all remain actively involved in music performance.

The Junior String Philharmonic also plays original compositions. It provides intensive training in string performance under the guidance of Nancy Bidlack and Connie Trach and is a preparatory experience for advancement into the senior orchestra.

### ***Senior Concerto Competition***

From the very beginning of the orchestra over 30 years ago, we thought including concertos in our repertoire would be a valuable addition to the program. The problem is always, who will play them? We decided to open a competition to students in our orchestra that are high school seniors to eliminate the problem of having the same person winning the competition more than once. Auditions are in January. Paid professional musicians judge the competition to ensure it is fair and that the quality of the program is superior. The students play one movement of their concerto from memory. The winner is selected from the auditions. The attraction of a concerto has been a very successful addition to our Spring Concert program.

## Annual Fund Campaign Contributors

*Our sincere thanks to all those who have contributed to the YPP and JPP's  
Annual Fund Raising Campaign*

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*(Through March 31, 2009)*

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Annual Fund Raising Campaign*

*The YPP is grateful for support received during the past year from:*

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