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U.S. POSTAGE
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PASADENA, CA
PERMIT #699

FALL 2010

CONSERVATORY

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PASADENA CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC



PHOTOGRAPHY BY RICK MEYER DESIGN BY LESLIE BAKER GRAPHIC DESIGN EDITOR BEVERLY LAFONTAINE



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*The Pasadena Conservatory of Music is a nationally accredited music school providing a comprehensive curriculum of music study. Music instruction is offered for everyone — the novice has a place in our musical community as does the emerging artist, the infant and the senior citizen. We believe in **Music for Life**. Our lessons and classes are for those who want to learn to make music, expand their knowledge of music and enhance their enjoyment of music.*



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Mission Statement of the Pasadena Conservatory of Music

It is the mission of the Conservatory to
educate, advocate, inspire and share:

- * *to educate through a comprehensive music curriculum taught by an exceptional faculty;*
- * *to advocate for the value of music study;*
- * *to inspire through our performances of the old, new, traditional and avant-garde; and*
- * *to share our expertise insofar as possible without regard to socio-economic background.*

Our mission speaks of our roles as
educators, advocates, musicians and community members.

The Pasadena Conservatory of Music is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) and the Accrediting Commission for Community and Precollegiate Arts Schools (ACCPAS).

Message from the Executive Director

With this publication it is our privilege to thank all those whose generosity ensures that the work of the Conservatory will flourish. This report also highlights individuals from our community of learning — students, alumni, faculty, volunteers, board members and donors. And it is that confluence of generous support and engagement with learning that makes PCM a special place.

Our purpose is singular — to provide opportunities to study, perform and enjoy music. Our reach is broad — programs for infants and the very young, lessons for amateurs and pre-professionals, classes for life-long learners, a comprehensive music curriculum for our adopted school, Jefferson Elementary, a new preparatory program for college bound teenagers, visiting artists, performances on campus, in homes, in a museum, for retirement communities.

It is our ongoing work to refine and strengthen current programs, to explore the development of new programs, and to prepare for the development and expansion of our campus. Balancing aspirations with prudence, these efforts are undertaken to build on previous accomplishments and to deepen and broaden the experience of music study at the Pasadena Conservatory of Music. It is again our privilege to thank all those whose generosity ensures that our work will continue to flourish.

Sincerely,



Stephen McCurry
Executive Director



Board of Directors 2009-10



Front row, left to right: Penny Lusche, Linda Blinkenberg, Gretl Mulder, Carol Bramhall and Linda Dickason. Back row, left to right: Karen Stracka, Rita Roberts, Olin Barrett, Peggy Spear, Henry Eversole, Marilyn Brumder, Executive Director Stephen McCurry. Not pictured: Juan Ceva, Jane Kaczmarek, Roger Mullendore and Robert Wyman.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2009-2010

Roger Mullendore <i>Chairman</i>	Marilyn Brumder	Penny Lusche
Linda Blinkenberg <i>Treasurer</i>	Juan Ceva	Rita Roberts
Gretl Mulder <i>Secretary</i>	Linda Dickason	Peggy Spear
Olin Barrett	Henry Eversole	Karen Stracka
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Message from the Chairman of the Board of Directors

Dear Friends of PCM,

On behalf of the Board of Directors I am pleased to share the Conservatory's achievements of the past year. Of course, much is measured by the successes of our students, who, as you will see later in this report, have won awards for performance and been invited to participate in competitions reserved for the most accomplished instrumentalists nationally and internationally.

Many people have contributed to our students' successes—parents, faculty, indeed, the whole PCM community that is so dedicated to the positive and uplifting effect music has on our individual lives and our community. The students we are educating today are our finest gift to the future.

We extend a special thanks to retiring board members Marilyn Brumder, Peggy Spear and Robert Wyman for many years of service during a period when the Conservatory has broadened its reach into the community and deepened the level of instruction offered students.

As we enter the new school year we are happy to welcome Dr. Stephen Kanter and Peter Knell to our board. Dr. Kanter has been a steadfast supporter of the Conservatory for many years, and his dedication to the Pasadena community (particularly music organizations) is well known. Peter Knell brings with him many years of dedication to the art of music. An award-winning composer, his music has been performed by professional ensembles in Europe, Canada and the United States.

To all of you who have supported us, your gifts have made all that we do possible. Thank you. We look forward to deserving your support in the year ahead.

With warmest regards,

Roger Mullendore



An Evening Celebrating RETIRING BOARD MEMBERS



Three long-time board members retired at the end of 2009-2010 and were honored in August at a farewell party hosted by Roger and Gloria Mullendore. We are grateful for their service and the added value they've brought to the PCM community.



ABOVE: Board Chairman Roger Mullendore and his wife Gloria graciously celebrated the contributions of "retiring" board members with a party in their hillside home.

LEFT: Marilyn Brunder's nine-year service on the board includes two years as chairman. She has been an ambassador extraordinaire for PCM—wearing her PCM t-shirt to jazzercise, attending countless PCM events and hosting guest performers. Hers is a familiar face to many in Pasadena, a city she has served for many years in a variety of capacities, including on the board of directors of the Pasadena Symphony, the Executive Board of the Pasadena Junior League and the LA Arboretum Foundation, among others.

MIDDLE: During her six years on the board Peggy Spear brought her considerable experience in fund development to bear. As the former Major Gifts and Grants Director at the Huntington Library, Art Collection and Botanical Gardens, she has been an invaluable source of know-how and wisdom. Her tenure as chair of PCM's Development Committee was a period of building and growth.

RIGHT: Robert Wyman is lead counsel for Clean Air Act matters with the law firm of Latham & Watkins and a long-serving member of the US EPA Clean Air Act Advisory Committee. In the nine years he served on the PCM board, his was a practical and incisive voice encouraging innovative solutions for evolving challenges. He is also one of the founders of the Yes, Virginia Fund.

Why I Give...



CAROL BRAMHALL

Carol Bramhall is well-known as a Pasadena Conservatory "ambassador at large," introducing hundreds to PCM programs, concerts and classes over the years. With her effervescent personality and enthusiasm, she has helped fill the room at luncheon tours, Mansions & Music concerts, master classes and other events. She joined the Conservatory's Advisory Board in 1996 and its Board

of Directors in 2002. Throughout her service she has worked tirelessly on the Development Committee by writing notes on hundreds of Annual Fund and Patron Appeal letters each year, helping to secure venues for Mansions & Music and participating in the first Capital Campaign to purchase our building. Carol is a stellar example of multi-faceted participation at the Conservatory as a generous donor, volunteer, student and good-will ambassador.

"I am enthusiastic about PCM! The very first Mansions & Music concert I attended was just the start of many rewarding times ahead. Music and art have always been a big part of my life—classical at Carnegie Hall, dancing to the big band music of Tommy Dorsey and Benny Goodman, plus salsa and rumba to the Cuban beat!"

The in-depth history classes taught by Priscilla Pawlicki are a learning treat, as were those taught by Carlos Rafael Rivera. In addition, the Conservatory's A Tour Through Time recitals at the Norton Simon Museum present an extraordinary and unique combination of art and music through the ages.

I find that the master classes and student recitals are special opportunities for me to witness students' growth in confidence and performance abilities. I feel a great sense of pride and affection for those young musicians, especially for those I have followed over the years. I love watching the littlest ones with their eyes focused on their teacher while tapping on a xylophone or a drum.

What captivates me about this exceptional place is the children—their dedication and hard work. Their reward is knowing that they have the gift of music forever!"



PATSY KETCHUM

Among her many contributions to PCM, Patricia Ketchum holds a special place at the Conservatory as muse and sponsor of A Tour Through Time, a series of concerts produced in collaboration with the Norton Simon Museum. Each of the four programs

made possible by her generosity have tied thematically to collections displayed in the museum's galleries. Concerts featuring the evolution of a single instrument, including the piano, violin and guitar have been presented as well as a survey of classical Indian music and its influence on the west. Each Tour has enabled the Conservatory to broaden its reach artistically, while strengthening bonds with core audiences of its generous donors. We could not have made this journey without Patsy. We are grateful for her longtime and generous participation as donor, audience member and student.

"I've been involved with the Conservatory almost from its beginning, attending classes in the two little white bungalows in north Pasadena. I'm inspired by PCM's growth and outreach into the community, under and by the devotion and creativity of Stephen McCurry. The Conservatory realizes there's a need for music education that's not being met in the schools."

I have attended and enjoyed many of Priscilla Pawlicki's music history classes for adults. I find the Conservatory's multi-faceted approach to music education for all ages very inspiring."

alumni NEWS

PCM alumni have taken many roads—some musical, some not. Read and be inspired.



NORI CRYSTAL

Music has meant everything to me. Both of my parents work professionally in the arts, and I was very influenced by them. I was diagnosed with a learning disability at a young age and music, being the one thing that came naturally to me, gave me huge confidence. When I play the violin I experience another world. Whenever I perform I hope the

audience enjoys listening as much as I enjoy playing.

I truly love my work as a music teacher at the Inner City Education Foundation and a performer in a variety of professional orchestras, including the Disney Candlelight Orchestra. I have a true passion for what I do and that is a privilege.

The Conservatory introduced me to chamber music. I had soloed and played in orchestras, but playing in chamber ensembles is very difficult because each member has to shoulder so much responsibility, and that is scary. My coach, Rosemarie Krovoza, helped me to realize my potential, and consequently, I greatly improved as a performer.

Nori Crystal received a bachelor of music from the University of Redlands, where she was the recipient of a music merit scholarship for four years. She currently works full time for the Inner City Education Foundation, a twelve-school charter system located in South Central Los Angeles, and performs in a variety of studio orchestras.



CHRISTOPHER GOODPASTURE

When I was six years old, I enrolled at the Pasadena Conservatory of Music, where my formal training began. The Conservatory provided me with frequent opportunities to perform and share my love for music. I spent my last six years at the Conservatory studying chamber music

in addition to my solo endeavors and I think this experience in chamber music opened my eyes to a new side of music. Chamber music has remained a steady passion of mine and a huge part of my repertoire ever since. These are the aspects of my training at the Conservatory for which I am the most grateful.

I am now entering my senior year as a Town and Gown scholar at the USC Thornton School of Music. During my time at USC, I have been extremely active as a solo and ensemble performer within the school and around California and the United States. Locally, I have given performances in the concert series at the “Sunday’s Live” series at Los Angeles County Museum of Art and at the Palos Verdes Library. Recently, I gave debut performances at the Kennedy Center in Washington D. C. and Carnegie’s Weill Recital Hall in New York City, culminating in acclaimed reviews in both the San Mateo Journal and the Washington Post. Additionally, my performances have been broadcast live on the radio at 88.5 KCSN.

This last semester, I was awarded the USC Keyboard Ensemble Award for the second straight year, was featured as a soloist with the USC Concert Orchestra, and received 3rd prize in the USC Concerto Competition. I continue to remain active as a chamber musician every year, performing regularly on and off campus and working with members of the Aviv String Quartet and the Takacs String Quartet.

If there is something I hope to get from my busy schedule as a pianist and student, it’s the opportunity to keep it all up. Following my time at USC, I hope to continue my studies in graduate school and broaden my pursuit of a concert career to the greatest possible extent.



EDDIE TRAGER

Taking lessons at the Conservatory enabled me to go to UC Santa Barbara as a percussion major, where the small percussion department allowed me the opportunity to play many styles of music and on many instruments. I participated in orchestra, percussion ensemble, wind ensemble, the ensemble for contemporary music as well as jazz combos,

and tabla and sitar.

Right now I’ve got several musical projects in the works, including a Folk/Melodic/Goblin Death Metal band called Nekrogoblikon. Our second album is currently being mixed and mastered for release. I also play in a shred-jazz band that will soon record its first album. Other projects include an indie band—Awkward Starfish—that is currently recording its first album and a progressive metal project called The Sirens of Titan. Meanwhile, I continue to play solo acoustic folk music, and I will record soon.

In the near future I’ll basically be recording, touring, practicing and composing. I plan on dipping my fingers into the electronic music and pop scenes soon. I will also be working with composers who will be writing percussion pieces with me in mind, which I’ve done before — an excellent experience; that’s mainly where I’ll be playing my classical music. Eventually, I’d like to get involved with video games and movie scoring, and perhaps play in an orchestra but that’s far ahead.



JACQUE ROBINSON

My first introduction to music was in the fourth grade at Cleveland Elementary school. I decided to play the cello and oftentimes it was bigger than I!

I decided to pursue music study when my teachers began telling me I had great potential. My teachers introduced me to

the Pasadena Youth Symphony Orchestra and that was one of the greatest experiences of my life. I met so many other students from different parts of Pasadena and the surrounding community and it offered me my first opportunity to travel on a plane outside California and play in Carnegie Hall!

I feel the Pasadena Conservatory prepared me for my career. I ended up studying music through the 12th grade with many wonderful teachers like Roberta Wilcox and Cameron Stone encouraging and teaching me along the way. I remember all the times I didn’t want to practice as well as the times I was scared to play in front of the public. Reflecting back on that, I know it was preparing me for life now: being reliable, being focused, being comfortable speaking in front of the public. Being a musician at a young age offered me the chance to learn those transferable skills that are so important now as a Pasadena City Councilmember.

Strangely enough, my favorite memories of the Pasadena Conservatory are the recitals. I was always very nervous about having to play, but I was always proud of myself after completing my performance. My advice to aspiring musicians is always do your best and the rest will follow. The lessons learned as a musician will help you in all facets of your life later on down the road.

Pasadena City Councilwoman Jacque Robinson became one of the youngest elected officials in the history of the City of Pasadena at age 28. Born and raised in Pasadena, Jacque is an alumna of John Muir High School (1996) and earned her B.A. from the University of California, Berkeley (2000). She expects her M.A. in Public Administration from California State University, Northridge in December 2010.

GRADUATES OF 2010

Siobhan Aamoth studied in the studios of Mariné Ter-Kazaryan and Andrew Norman before studying with Hsin-Tai Liu. She will enter UC Davis to study animal science.

“Studying music has rounded out my education and given me great enjoyment in life. I loved my entire musical experience at the Conservatory.” —**Marilyn Bradford** studied flute and chamber music with Barbara Mullens Geier for six years. She is attending UC Berkeley to pursue a degree in American Studies, but intends to continue studying music and being involved in the Cal Marching Band.

Arielle Ford studied cello with Julie Newton and, as a member of the cello orchestra, was coached by Rick Mooney. She is attending George Washington University this Fall. *“I have grown to new heights as a musician as a result of studying at PCM. Involvement in groups such as the cello orchestra has taught me how to play with others. In addition, I played many types of music I wouldn’t have played otherwise.”*

“Music has been a creative outlet for me that has been impossible to fill by any other means. I learned to appreciate the beauty of music through the Pasadena Conservatory of Music.” — **Samantha Chew** studied piano 11 years in the studio of Mariné Ter-Kazaryan. She is attending USC to study television broadcasting and meteorology. She is the recipient of the California Association of Student Leaders Outstanding Leader Public Speaking award and a JPL Science Olympiad award in forensics.

“My experience at PCM has been unforgettable and uplifting!” — **Tyler Devito** studied trombone with Toby Holmes. He was the drum major of the Pasadena High School marching band, performed with the Colburn School of Music’s wind ensemble and with the Pasadena City College Honor Band. Although he is pursuing pre-medicine at Pennsylvania State University, he will continue to perform with the Pennsylvania State Blue Band and hopes to minor in music.

Daniel Gostelow, who studied with Dr. Susan Svrček, received a music scholarship to attend Oberlin Conservatory as a music composition major. He was named the most outstanding music student at the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts for two years running.

“I would like to thank PCM for providing me with six years of fine study and chamber music. The instructors were knowledgeable and nurturing. I have grown as a person and musician. Thank you all. I will miss you.” —**Alexis Nowak** studied Bassoon with of Melissa Frey. She is a recipient of a scholarship from the Pasadena Arts Council, as well as a PTA State Scholarship. She is attending Pasadena City College and plans to study science and music. She is currently performing with the Pasadena City College Orchestra.

James Ossiff, who studied violin with Erika Walczak, has entered Michigan State to study animal science or biology. He plans to become a veterinarian.

“The Pasadena Conservatory has been an excellent place for music study. I have loved the many opportunities available, from master classes to recitals. I have also been blessed with many amazing teachers from Cynthia Fogg to Dr. Susan Svrcek. Dr. Svrček has been an inspiration to me and I would like to thank her for her wonderful work as a teacher and musician.” —**Brandon Schwartz** is entering UCLA as a pre-med student and he hopes to have time to play in a chamber group and continue to study the piano. He is an Academic Decathlon Honors Top Scorer, the recipient of a William Grant Still Spirit Award for piano performance and a second place winner at SYMF (Chopin Nocturne).

“I really enjoyed studying music and learning piano. Ms. Sawitzke was great and she taught me so much.” A student in the studio of Elizabeth Sawitzke, **Jill Shields** is attending Northeastern University to study nursing.



FROM LEFT: Marta Stevanovic, Arielle Ford, Vashti Yanes, Samantha Chew, Regina Zmuidzinas, Erin Ventura and Alyssa Villearreal.

“I became very involved in public performance while at PCM, something I had not previously done. My time at PCM was great and very helpful. Dr. Svrček is a great teacher” —**JiSu Shin**, a recipient of the Sophia Guzik Foundation scholarship for music, is studying piano performance at UCLA.

“Music has played an important part in my life. It has helped me express myself and has helped shape who I am. I know I will miss PCM when I go to college.” —**Marta Stevanovic** studied voice and piano with Mariné Ter-Kazaryan. She has been recognized as a National Merit Scholar and has ranked at the local and national level in various French language exams. Marta is attending Harvard University where she will participate in the Holden Choirs while pursuing her education.

Bass player **Erin Ventura** studied with Tim Eckert. She will continue her studies with him at Azusa Pacific University, where she is majoring in music performance. In her own words, *“Studying music was one of the best decisions I ever made! PCM was great. I enjoyed it very much.”* She is the recipient of the APU President’s Scholarship and a music scholarship from APU.

Alyssa Villearreal studied tuba with Toby Holmes. She is attending Pasadena Community College and plans to perform with the PCC Band. *“I really liked it when I became a better tuba player. I want to thank my teacher for helping me in everything.”*

“I’m forever grateful for attending PCM because I’ve had the opportunity to witness and participate in many wonderful things. This has been one of the greatest experiences that I’ve had in my youth and I’ll never forget the people I met, the rewarding times and the many challenges that I faced there. It will forever be implanted in my memory and heart.” —**Guitarist Vashti Yanes** received a scholarship to attend Azusa Pacific University. She will study Biology and plans to continue playing the guitar after she graduates. She counts Connie Sheu, Adam Brown, Felix Bullock, and Carlos Rivera among her instructors and coaches.

“It has been really great to study piano and see my hard work pay off over the years. I love being able to set aside an hour every day to do something I enjoy. One of the hardest things is to perform in front of an audience and PCM has facilitated ways to do this in a safe and comfortable environment.” —pianist **Regina Zmuidzinas** studied piano with Dr. Susan Svrček. She is the recipient of Le Grand Concours Certificat d’Honneur, the 2009 Engineering Innovations Summer Program Award for Best Project Proposal, and is an AP Scholar with honors. She is attending Columbia University to pursue further studies in engineering.

Master Classes

Through its master class series PCM offered select students an opportunity to be coached by a roster of acclaimed artists: the Harlem String Quartet; the Apple Hill Chamber Players; pianists Markus Pawlik, Howard Shelley and Stephen Cook; guitarists Scott Tennant and Carlos Perez; violinist Mitchell Newman; clarinetist William Wellwood; horn player Danielle Ondarza, vocalist Kathleen Roland and chamber music coach John Walz.



1 Cameron Cheung, Kimberly Liu, Erica Lee, Alex Mansour, Jackson McHenry, Andrew Mecum, Cara Pogossian, Marion Sato, and Katelyn Vahala participated in the chamber music master class coached by the Apple Hill Chamber Players.

2 & 5 Jeffrey Huang, Kimberly Liu, Jackson McHenry and Sasha Meyer all performed in the Mitchell Newman violin master class.

3 Sebastian Bruno, Aliya Crochetiere, Isaak Momsen, Rohan Prashant and Jason Wang performed in the William Wellwood clarinet master class.

4 & 7 Students who performed for the Harlem String Quartet master class included Rebekah Lopez, Alex Mansour, Veronica Mansour, Cameron Mittleman, Cara Pogossian, David Rodgers, Melissa Spangler, Katelyn Vahala and Kathleen Wong.

6 JiSu Shin and David Rodgers with Howard Shelley, for whom they performed.



student NEWS

STUDENTS SEEKING A MORE RIGOROUS COURSE

of study may enroll in the Conservatory's Performance Track. These students are required to perform at least three times during the school year and are subject to a more rigorous year-end jury, including sight-playing and self-taught repertoire. Congratulations to the following students who completed the requirements of their respective levels:

Piano Level III: Jacob Liss

Guitar Level III: Deanna Romo

Piano Level IV: Rhiannon Hughes-Boatman, Erica Lee, Jonathan Vahala, Jonathan Wong

Piano Level V: Evan Kim, Melissa Spangler

Guitar Level VI: Alex Mansour

Piano Level VI: Raina Choi, Daniel Gostelow, Nathan Kirchhoff, Eric Lifland, Haaris Tahir-Kheli

Piano Level VII: Katelyn Vahala, David Rodgers

Piano Level VIII: JiSu Shin

Guitar Level X: Noah Kim

The following students have completed the second year (Diatonic Harmony & Musicianship I) of the three-year theory program for students in 7th to 12th grades: **Jesse Jimenez**, **Connor Bezark** and **Nisha Janyaprayot**.

Arthur Diep and **Noah Kim** have completed Diatonic Harmony & Musicianship II and are eligible to sit for the AP exam in theory.

Eric Lifland and **Victoria Corbisiero** both passed the Music Teachers Association of California's Certificate of Merit Evaluations with high scores, were selected to perform in the Certificate of Merit Honor Recital, and were also invited to play in the MTAC State Convention. In addition, Eric and Victoria were also accepted into the 2010 St. Olaf Summer Piano Academy. Pianist **Jacob Liss** passed the level 4 exam for the Certificate of Merit and **Haaris Tahir-Kheli** passed at level 7. All study with pianist Annie Chen.

Sharon Harman's students **Calvin Lin**, **Purnima Stanek**, **Cameron Mittleman** and **Melissa Wong** have all auditioned into PYSO. **Jeff Huang**, has been accepted into the Pasadena Young Musicians Orchestra for a second year.

In this year's MTAC Pasadena Theme Festival Competition, pianist **Rhiannon Hughes-Boatman** received Honorable Mention in the 12-year old age group, pianist **Evan Kim** received 2nd place in the 11-year old age group, and pianists **Andrew Ruys de Perez** and **Misao McGregor** received Honorable Mention in the Duet Category in the High School age group.

Violinist **Anya Kwan**, student of Cynthia Fogg, was a recipient of a LA Opera 90012 scholarship this past year and received a mini-subscription to the opera as well as the opportunity to attend behind-the-scenes events and recitals. Her brother, **Anson**, attended a performance with her that so impressed him that he wrote the following to Stacy Brightman, LA Opera Director of Education and Community Programs, "My favorite part about the opera [*Götterdämmerung*] was the music. It was exciting and gave you hints [of] what was going to happen next. It told the whole story and all the characters' emotions.... During the opera, time flew by. After seeing this opera I want to see the other operas in the Ring series..." Ten-year-old Anson studies viola with Dr. Patrick Rosalez.

Violist **Kimberly Liu** attended Bellis Music Camp this past summer. **Miguel Vidal** attended Arrowbear Music Camp. They are students of Cynthia Fogg.

Sebastian Bruno performed with his teacher, clarinetist Jim Sullivan, last fall on John Schneider's Global Village program on KPFFK, 90.7 FM. Accompanying them were percussionists Wael Kakish and T.J. Troy.

Two chamber music ensembles that are coached by Mary Kelly performed a recital for the residents of Regency Park Oak Knoll Assisted Living Home. Performing were the *Anonymous 3* (**Andrew Mecum**, cello; **Cameron Cheung**, violin; and Erica Lee, piano). **Silvana Gutierrez**, violin; **Marion Wood**, cello and **Evan Kim**, piano, also performed.

Alexis Nowak is the 2010 recipient of the Pasadena Arts Council's Young Artist Award in Music. The award carries a cash scholarship. She was nominated by the Pasadena Conservatory. A six-year student at the Conservatory, she studies bassoon with Melissa Frey and served as first bassoon in the Pasadena Young Musicians Orchestra.



Alex Mansour and **Veronica Mansour** formed the Young Artists Alliance, which held a benefit concert at PCM, with the proceeds going to help the children of Haiti. The concert raised over \$3000. **Katelyn Vahala** (piano), **Cara Pogossian** (violin), **Cameron Mittleman** (violin), **Eddie Pogossian** (cello) and **Melissa Spangler** (piano), joined them in performance.

JiSu Shin was selected to perform for internationally acclaimed pianist Menahem Pressler at his guest master class at Biola University. **David Rodgers** was chosen to perform in the Young Musicians Foundation Chamber Music Festival for two concerts, one at the Broad Stage in Santa Monica and the other for Sundays Live at the Museum (LACMA). Both study in the studio of Dr. Susan Svrček.

COMPETITIONS

David Rodgers, who studies piano with Dr. Susan Svrček and Chamber Music with Sharon Harman, received first place in the CAPMT 2010 Sonata Competition. **Katelyn Vahala**, also a Svrček student, received Honorable Mention in the CAPMT 2010 Sonata Competition.

Noah Kim, student of Felix Bullock, won first place in the ASTA Competition for guitar, junior division.

Violinist **Cameron Mittleman**, student of Sharon Harman, received first place in his age category at the 2010 MTAC String Festival Competition, and for the best performance of the festival, he was awarded the Edward Pfeiffer Award for Most Promising Talent. He and his chamber music colleagues, **Veronica Mansour** (cello) and **Melissa Spangler** (piano) won first place in the Chamber Music Category. Their chamber music ensemble, *Corazon*, is coached by Dr. Susan Svrček. Cameron also won first prize in his age category for the "Violin Open" contest at the Satori Strings Competition, and then won the overall Grand Prize for all string instruments in his age category. At the same competition, a trio comprised of **Cameron**

Mittleman on violin, **Veronica Mansour** on cello and **Alex Mansour** on piano won first prize in the Chamber Music category for their age, and then won the overall Grand Prize for chamber music.

Violinist **Jeffrey Huang**, student of Sharon Harmon, also competed at the MTAC String Festival Competition 2010. He received 1st place in his age category and the "Jack Clinger Award" for Superior Overall Performance, which was given for the second best performance of this year's festival. He also won two second prizes in his age category in two separate "Violin Open" contests, competing with two different pieces. He also was invited to compete for the Grand Prize for all string instruments in his age category.

Violin student **Marion Sato**, won first prize in her age category at the Satori String contest. In addition, she received superior ratings in the Junior Music Festival and the Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association solo festival. She studies in the studio of Cynthia Fogg.

ADULT STUDENTS

Anson Lam received his Grade 10 Certificate from the Royal Conservatory of Music this past year. The examination process includes testing on the performance of repertoire, studies and technique, ear training, music theory and history, and sight reading. He studies with Mary Kelly.

Congratulations to the students who completed the one-year adult music theory program (Fundamentals of Music, Harmony and Musicianship I and II) with instructor Priscilla Pawlicki. They are **Peggy Adams**, **Brownie Allen**, **Anna Bresnahan**, **John Scheid**, **Janet Sporleder** and **Elizabeth White**.

LEFT: Satori Competition winners Alex Mansour, Jeffrey Huang, Cameron Mittleman and Veronica Mansour with instructor Sharon Harman and accompanist Renee Gilormini.

MIDDLE: At Regency Park Oak Knoll assisted living Home: Anonymous 3 (Andrew Mecum, cello; Cameron Cheung, violin; and Erica Lee, piano).

RIGHT: Silvana Gutierrez, violin; Marion Wood, cello and Evan Kim, piano.

Departmental Recitals



OUTREACH: *Jefferson*



An Exceptional Faculty: Instructor Kim Berry and her colleagues, Erin Buschiazzo and Sharon Weed provided 32 weeks of music instruction to all 740 pre-k through fifth grade students at Jefferson Elementary in Pasadena. Members of the Conservatory's Young Musicians faculty, each is a specialist in early childhood music education.

“Music has intrinsic value for the learner, and a knowledge of music is essential to an educated human being. Music, we believe, is worth knowing: the ability to understand, perform and create it is a desirable goal for every member of society. Music education, which is the only way for everyone to acquire a knowledge of music that is more than a superficial “I know what I like,” not only contributes to self-knowledge, it is also an irreplaceable element in communicating the great ideas of all culture and peoples.”

—National Commission on Music Education

At the Pasadena Conservatory of Music we know that music study is a direct link between a child and the world, the child and his or her community. In addition, learning to create music opens a child to experiencing and acknowledging his or her innate creativity. In other words, the benefits conveyed upon our children by music education are many.

The child who is taught how to create music is learning self-discipline and self-worth.

Believing that every child deserves the opportunity to discover his or her capacity for music-making, the Conservatory devotes ten percent of its annual operating budget to its outreach programs. Every year PCM provides ongoing tuition-free instruction for children in public schools and financial aid and scholarships for deserving young musicians to study at the Conservatory. This past year the Conservatory's outreach program served 3,000 students in the Pasadena Unified School district and other San Gabriel Valley school districts.

“When my children were learning music in school, they had to learn other things: to sit still, to listen, to pay attention, to concentrate. With music you don't learn just music; you learn many things.”
—Jackie Richmond, parent, National Commission on Music Education Chicago Forum.

Young Musicians at Jefferson Elementary

During the 2009-2010 school year all 740 preschool through fifth grade students at Jefferson Elementary received 32 weeks of music education from Conservatory teachers employing the curriculum of the Conservatory's Young Musicians program. Students in YM at Jefferson learn the fundamentals of music, including melody, rhythm, tempo, dynamics and expression.

Guitar for All

Low income students enrolled in San Gabriel Valley schools at the upper elementary and middle school level are selected to receive weekly tuition-free guitar lessons with Conservatory teachers.

Music Mobile

Assemblies conducted by Conservatory teachers introduce third grade students throughout San Gabriel Valley to

the concepts of classical music and to the four families of instruments that comprise an orchestra. This program, which serves more than 2,000 students annually is sponsored by the Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts.

Financial Aid & Scholarships

The Conservatory provides need-based assistance for individual or class instruction at the Conservatory.

Instrument Rental Program

PCM provides instruments for rent at a nominal fee for students in the Pasadena Unified School District.

The Pasadena Conservatory's 2009-2010 Music Education Outreach programs were made possible through the generous contributions of the following organizations and individuals:

2009/2010 OUTREACH DONORS

NAME/ORGANIZATION	#YEARS
Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts	10
Confidence Foundation	7
Los Angeles County Arts Commission	5
Rose Hills Foundation	2
California Arts Council	5
City of Pasadena/Arts and Culture Commission	5
Ann Peppers Foundation	8
Norris Foundation	9
Richard E. Davis	7
Metropolitan Associates	6
Katharine Audrey Webb Foundation	4
Heather and Paul Haaga	2
Jefferson Elementary School PTA	3
Pasadena Arts League	1
Gretchen B. Seager and Gregory L. Gutierrez	1
Garry and Arlene Burdick	4
Pasadena Elks Lodge	1
Ann and Steven Sunshine	2
Nancy and Greg Annick	2
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel D. Hale	1

2009 | 2010 Performance Highlights

Featured Artists Scott Tennant and Jason Yoshida take 100 Conservatory Guests on a sonic voyage at the Norton Simon in *A Tour Through Time IV: The Guitar*

In April, the Conservatory returned to Pasadena's Norton Simon Museum to present a fourth installment of its acclaimed *A Tour Through Time* series- a thematic pairing of music and art within the museum's galleries. Guitarists Scott Tennant and Jason Yoshida presented a survey of the instrument from its early to modern forms in three contemporaneous galleries. An audience of 100 of the Conservatory's Board, Advisory Board and other generous donors moved from gallery to gallery. Art collector Betty Duker and Conservatory instructor Carlos Rafael Rivera narrated the tour, connecting the worlds of art and music. The program concluded in the gallery of the 20th century with a performance of the *Adagio* from Joaquin Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez*, arranged for chamber ensemble featuring Conservatory faculty members Sharon Harman and Erika Walczak, violins; Mary Kelly, viola; Abby Scoville, cello; Tim Eckert, bass; and Paul Sherman, English horn. Scott Tennant was the soloist and Carlos Rafael Rivera conducted. A champagne reception catered by Patina awaited returning guests in the museum lobby at the conclusion of the *Tour*. The Conservatory is grateful for its ongoing partnership with the Norton Simon in presenting the *Tour* programs and to Patricia Ketchum for her generous sponsorship of the series.

“Scott Tennant ...proved to be a master among masters in the Norton Simon galleries with his incomparable display of guitar artistry and technique...Hearing [Yoshida's] magnificent program illuminated by the extraordinary art of the greatest Renaissance masters was a truly rare and special treat.” —Theodore Bell, Culture Spot LA, April 14, 2010. The full text of his review can be found online at <http://culturespotla.com/2010/04/music-review-guitarists-scott-tennant-and-jason-yoshida>.



A Dynamic Afternoon of Classical Guitar

The library of a Spanish Colonial Revival solar laboratory built by astronomer George Ellery Hale (the residence of architects and PCM parents Elizabeth Moule and Stefanos Polyzoides) was the setting for the *Guitarra del Sol II* concert on a decidedly unsunny Sunday in February. The program featured acclaimed Chilean guitarist Carlos Perez. Over 100 guests attended the concert and reception, held in the mission-style grounds designed by landscape architect Beatrix Farrand. Proceeds from the event, organized by a committee of PCM parents, including Michele Hardy, Yonnie and Raymond Kim, Louis Gutierrez, Elizabeth Moule and Ann Sunshine, benefited the Conservatory's ongoing financial aid program Guitar for All. Catering was provided by Rivera and The Spot, with beverages donated by Bacardi and Agua Dulce Vineyards.

TOP: Guitarist Carlos Perez.

BOTTOM: Host Stefanos Polyzoides, PCM board chairman Roger Mullendore and his wife, Gloria V. Mullendore.



Mansions & Music 2009-2010

The Conservatory presented a sixteenth season of its highly popular Mansions & Music series in three remarkable residences and venues in La Canada. The three programs presented a diverse range of music, including music from medieval Andalusia (*The Ornament of the World*); Olivier Messiaen's monumental 20th century piano work *Vingt Regards sur L'enfant-Jésus* paired with an exhibition of Secular Icons by artist Edward Beckett (*Illuminations*) to masterworks for chamber trio by Robert Schumann and Felix Mendelssohn (*The Early Romantics*).

The Conservatory gratefully acknowledges BNY Mellon Wealth Management for sponsoring the 2009-2010

series — their fifth year of *Mansions & Music* sponsorship. We also thank the 122 donors whose wonderful generosity through last summer's Patron Drive raised more than \$53,000 in critical funding not only for *Mansions*, but also for the Conservatory's entire roster of thirteen master class artists, free community concerts and workshops and faculty recitals. We express our sincere appreciation to Beverly and Paul Toffel, Flintridge Sacred Heart Academy, and Vicki and Kerry McCluggage for graciously opening their doors to the Conservatory for *Mansions & Music* performances this year. We are profoundly grateful to all the Conservatory's donors and audience members for their longtime and continuing support of this signature series.



- 1 The Toffels' home, a replica of a Spanish Castle designed by H. Harwood Hewitt in 1920, set a mood reminiscent of medieval Andalusia.
- 2 Pianist Mark Robson, who has made a thirty-year study of *Vingt Regards sur L'enfant-Jésus*, Olivier Messiaen's monumental work, performs in front of the 10x14" acrylic canvas artist Edward Beckett created for the *Illuminations* concert.
- 3 Home owners Paul and Beverly Toffel, Conservatory Executive Director Stephen McCurry; Don Bishop and Bill Ott of BNY Mellon Wealth Management flank Don's wife, Karen.
- 4 Executive director Stephen McCurry with Kerry and Vicki McCluggage, hosts of *The Early Romantics* concert.

Corazón and Spring Fire Enchant Conservatory Donors at Mi Sueño



Two talented Conservatory chamber groups, *Corazón* and *Spring Fire*, performed trios by Rodrigo and Beethoven for an enthusiastic audience of the Conservatory's most generous donors in May. The afternoon recital and reception was hosted by Norma and Gary Cowles in the music salon and grounds of their historic 1915 home, Mi Sueño, designed by the renowned architect Bertram Goodhue. The performers were Cameron Mittleman, violin; Veronica Mansour, cello; and Melissa Spangler, piano (*Corazón*); and Cara Pogossian, violin; Alex Mansour, cello; and Katelyn Vahala, piano (*Spring Fire*). Both groups are coached by Dr. Susan Svrček, chamber music and piano department chair.



Hosts Gary and Norma Cowles with Development Director Gina DiMassa and Annaly Bennett.

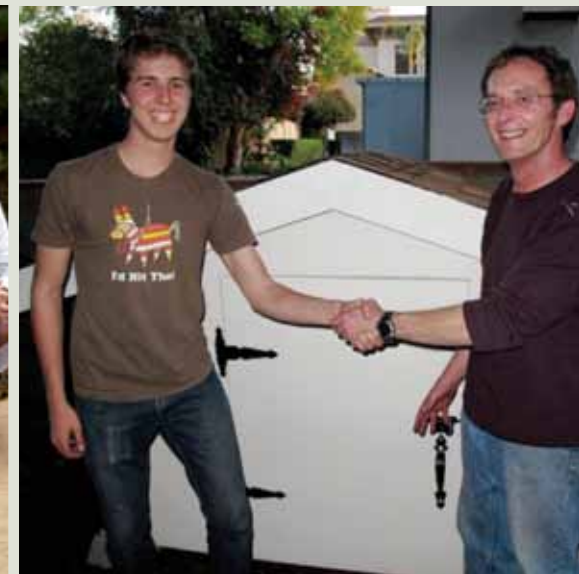
Serving THE PASADENA CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC Community

The people in this story all saw a need and, unsolicited, stepped up and offered a hand, proving that volunteers are among PCM's greatest assets.

Janet Sporleder, Jane Dietrich, Brownie Allen, Robert Allen and Peggy Adams have been long-time and enthusiastic fans of Priscilla Pawlicki's theory and music history classes for adults, which they say inspired them to give back to the Conservatory. They have put their combined years of professional experience to work in organizing and cataloging PCM's music library. Among them is a retired city librarian and a former Huntington Library reader. Under their capable hands a haphazard collection of scores and recordings is being shaped into an accessible library, a living legacy that will serve PCM faculty and students for years to come.

Guitarist **Louis Gutierrez** is the best of mentors. One who has shared his deep love of music with a young boy who was eager for positive experiences. As Louis put it, "The smile on his face the day he was presented with the brand new classical guitar was a mile long! In no time he was sounding out melodies and musical phrases and textures. When we would get together for an outing he would bring along his guitar and we would play together."

Louis became a Conservatory student in 2004, returning to the classical guitar he had studied in college. He became interested in supporting the Conservatory's Guitar for All (GFA) scholarship program and was among the founders of Guitarra del Sol, a classical guitar concert series that raises funds to directly support GFA. In 2006 he introduced Tristan Sawers-Mendoza, an 11-year-old with whom he was matched through Catholic Big Brothers, to



the guitar and PCM. Tristan was accepted into the GFA program to study with Felix Bullock, guitar department chairman.

Currently a first vice president of investments at Wells Fargo CG Investment Group, Louis began a music career at 19 years of age. Over 14 years he wrote more than 500 songs, released ten full-length albums, appeared on dozens of television shows, including David Letterman and the Tonight Show with Jay Leno, toured the United States and Europe as an opening act for such groups as R.E.M., Jane's Addiction, and the Red Hot Chili Peppers among others. Through it all he retained a deep appreciation for classical music, specifically the guitar.

Teenager **James Robbins** saw an opportunity to give unique assistance to PCM. As he put it, "I play piano and compose music in my spare time, so I seized the opportunity to help the Conservatory as soon as I heard about

them needing a structure to house their disaster preparedness supplies."

James, a Boy Scout, volunteered to design and build a shed to house PCM's disaster supplies. "The Scout motto is be prepared and the scout slogan is do a good turn daily, and I thought that I could do both by helping others and getting them [the Conservatory] prepared," said James. "This was a great Eagle Scout project. Through this project I have developed skills I did not have before. I learned to be organized and to lead my friends. I learned how to bring an idea to life and how to propose that idea to others. I learned to prepare for myself and be respectful of other people's time. I have completed the biggest project of my life, and I feel accomplished because it is all about helping others. Thank you for your interest in my project."

FAR LEFT: Janet Sporleder and Jane Dietrich in the library they have so thoughtfully organized.

MIDDLE: Tristan Sawers-Mendoza with his mentor, Louis Gutierrez.

FAR RIGHT: Eagle Scout James Robbins with his mentor, Richard Myers.

PCM *at a Glance*

Performances

Student Recitals	60
Faculty Recitals	2
Guest Artist Recitals	2
Mansions Concerts	3
Special Events	
<i>A Tour Through Time: "The Guitar"</i> at the Norton Simon Museum	
Guitarra del Sol I & II	
Pomery & Paderewski	
Master Classes	15

Student Profile

RESIDENCE	
Altadena, Pasadena, South Pasadena, San Marino	51%
Nearby San Gabriel Valley Communities	22%
Crescenta Valley, Glendale	13%
Los Angeles and San Fernando Valley	13%
Other	1%
AGE	
unknown	1%
0-5 years	26%
6-11 years	33%
12-14 years	15%
15-19 years	9%
Adult	16%

Departments

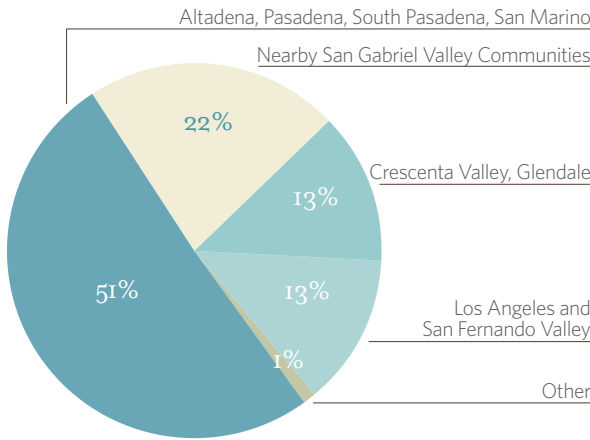
Chamber Music	27 (2%)
Guitar	135 (11%)
Keyboard	275 (23%)
Strings	226 (19%)
Theory, History & Composition	106 (8%)
Voice	31 (3%)
Woodwinds & /Brass	69 (6%)
Young Musicians	343 (28%)
TOTAL	1,212

Annual Operating Report

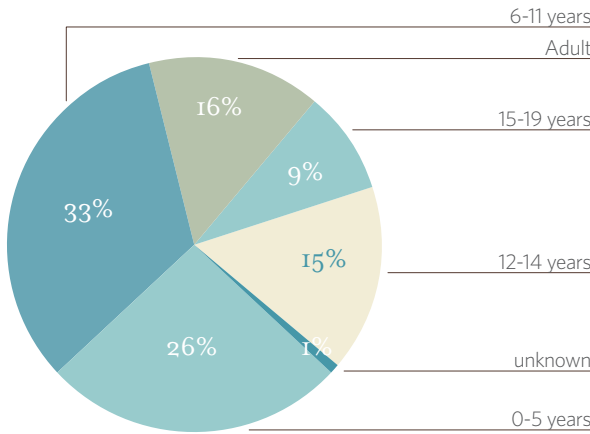
Earned Income	\$ 1,337,660
Contributed Income	\$ 432,667
Other	\$ 69,600
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 1,839,927
Program	\$ 1,278,542
Outreach	\$ 175,000
Management	\$ 386,384
Reserves	\$ 22,140
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 1,839,927



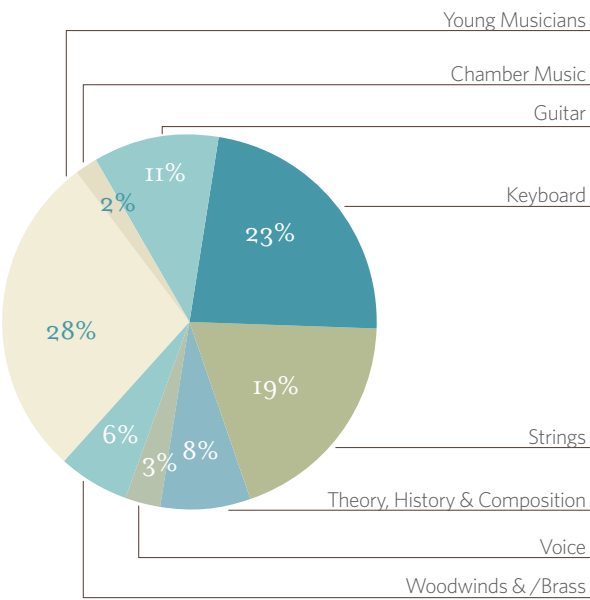
Student Profile: Residence



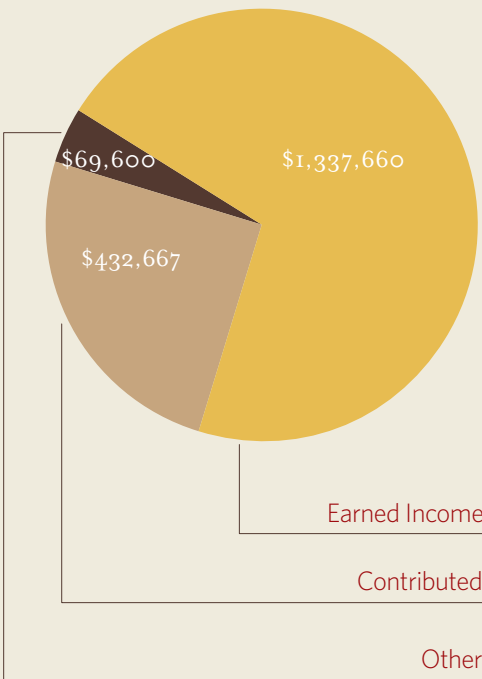
Student Profile: Age



Departments

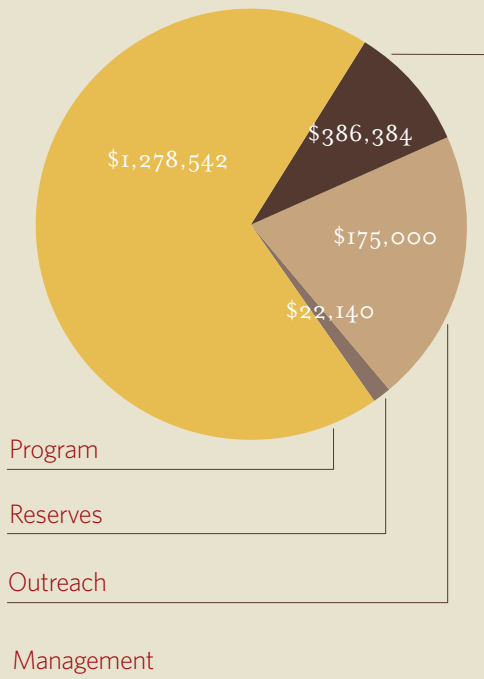


2009-2010 Operating Income



TOTAL INCOME \$1,839,927

2009-2010 Operating Expenses



TOTAL EXPENSES \$1,839,927

faculty NEWS

Bassist **Timothy Eckert** played a session at Capitol Records for Josh Groban's upcoming CD. He also performed in the Los Angeles Opera production of *Götterdammerung* and the Recovered Voices presentation of Franz Srecker's *The Stigmatized*. He performed in three complete Ring Cycles at Los Angeles Opera.

Violist **Cynthia Fogg** can be heard on two recently released recordings. The first, entitled *Orchestra Hall Suite*, on the Naxos label, features the music of James Lentini. On the second, *The Davie Code*, Ms. Fogg performs music by David Sherr on the Bel Air Jazz label. Ms. Fogg, soprano Gwendolyn Lytle, and cellist Tom Flaherty recently performed and then recorded a program of vocal chamber music by Tom Flaherty at Balch Auditorium, Scripps College. The program included "Scenes from Sarajevo," which features a cycle of poems by Beverly Lafontaine.

Steven Gates, member of the Theory, History & Composition Department, premiered his newest work, a concerto for guitar and chamber orchestra, in March at USC, performed by James Smith and the USC Contemporary Music Ensemble. A recording will be released by Doberman Editions.

Renee Gilormini performed the chamber version of *Carmina Burana* with the Pasadena Master Chorale in January and a piano four-hands arrangement of Brahms' *Requiem* in June.

Susan Svrček performed as soloist and in piano ensemble at Walt Disney Concert Hall in November. She returned in February to work with the Los Angeles Philharmonic for the Toyota Concerts for Youth, playing the music of Beethoven. She traveled to Ohio to perform Bartok's *Sonata for Two Pianos and Percussion* and Wilding's *Mayan Rites* at Youngstown State University, Akron University, and Kent State University. She repeated the concerts with Caroline Oltmanns at PCM and Whittier College. Her Piano Spheres recital and performances with ensembleGREEN rounded out the season.

We bid farewell to violinist **Cathlin Reese** and **Carlos Rafael Rivera** (guitar, theory, history, composition). Cathlin is pursuing a doctorate at the University of Oklahoma. Carlos has returned to his home state of Florida, where he will be composer in residence with the Miami Symphony for the 2011 and 2012 seasons. Each leaves behind students who will sorely miss them and colleagues who will forever cherish their unique contributions to the PCM community.

The recent passing of instructor, **Amy Jo Duell-Gonzalez** has left the PCM community with a heavy heart. Jo joined the piano faculty in 1998 and quickly endeared herself to students who will remember her as a dedicated and caring instructor. Jo was also a composer whose compositions were often performed on faculty recitals. You may listen to mp3s of performances of Amy Jo's compositions on her website, <http://sites.google/site/amyjoduell>. Our condolences to her family and, particularly, to her husband, faculty member Enrique Gonzalez-Medina.

Giving *to the Conservatory*

Thanks to outstanding leadership and support, the Pasadena Conservatory is a thriving, nationally accredited community resource for music study and performance. A key element in the Conservatory's success is its commitment to funding the annual operating budget through a ratio of approximately 75% earned and 25% contributed income. This business model has enabled the Conservatory to attract and retain an excellent faculty; to develop a comprehensive curriculum; and to provide an excellent environment for music study while keeping its tuition affordable — and balancing its budget every year since its inception.

The Conservatory raises annual contributed income through grants and especially through two individual fundraising appeals—the Patron Drive in the summer and the Annual Fund in the fall. Contributions such as memorial and honor gifts are also received throughout the year. These gifts from PCM family and community members, combined with the generosity of the Board and Advisory Board, provide important support for the Conservatory's music programs, master classes and community concerts.

Individuals who contribute aggregate gifts of \$250 or more during the year are invited to special events, such as the spring recital and reception hosted by Norma and Gary Cowles. Donors at these levels also receive priority, advance invitations to sell-out events such as **Mansions & Music** and **A Tour Through Time**. The Conservatory is deeply grateful to the generous individuals who support PCM and its efforts to provide the highest quality music instruction and performances for the community.



Thank you for promoting the power of music 2009/2010 Donors

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*In honor of Carlos Rafael Rivera for student
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In memory of Edith Roberts

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*The Pasadena Conservatory is grateful to all the individ-
uals and organizations whose generous support helped to
make the year a success during a continuing recession.*

*The list of Individuals reflects cumulative annual giving
to the Pasadena Conservatory of Music from July 1,
2009-June 30, 2010. It includes donations to the
Patron and Annual Fund drives and miscellaneous
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*The list of organizations reflects cumulative giving to
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annual operations received of designated for use during
the 2009/2010 fiscal year.*

**The Conservatory endeavors to list
donors and gift levels as accurately as
possible. Kindly report any errors or
omissions to the PCM office at (626)
683-3355**

**Please consider supporting the Pasadena
Conservatory of Music's future through
a provision in your Estate Plans and
kindly let us know if you have already
done so by contacting Gina DiMassa,
Director of Development, at
626-683-3355 or at
gdimassa@pasadenaconservatory.org.**

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