



October 2014

Welcome Orchestra Families!

We are delighted to have you as part of the Garfield Orchestra community as well as Friends of Garfield Orchestra (FOGO). As a member of the orchestra (or parent), you are automatically part of FOGO.

This flyer should answer many of your questions about the orchestras and the schedule. We are continuing to improve the Garfield Orchestra website (www.GarfieldOrchestra.org) to make it easy for you to become involved and to get all the information you need as the year goes on. We encourage you to go to the website and look around.

Please feel free to contact either of us if you have any questions about FOGO. We're looking forward to another great year of music!

Sincerely,

Tom Deering
FOGO President 2014-15
president@garfieldorchestra.org

Elaine Tsai
FOGO Vice President 2014-15
gigs@garfieldorchestra.org

Activities coming soon (or already started)

- **New Parent Meeting** – Oct. 6 at 6:45 PM – evening of first B/C night rehearsal
- **Foyer Concert I:** Tuesday Oct. 23 at 7:00 PM at Quincy Jones Auditorium at GHS – Orchestras A, B, & C. This will be a special Side-by-side concert with the Seattle Symphony Orchestra - **Don't miss it!**

What you can do NOW:

- **Sell Chinook Books** - your orchestra student should have received a sample Chinook book and a sales record envelope
- **Poinsettia Sales** – Plan how many you want and who else in your circle of friends and family might enjoy these excellent poinsettias for the holidays. Orders are due Monday, October 27th, and plants will be delivered Monday, December 8nd (Garfield Commons).
- **Add GarfieldOrchestra.org** to your computer's Favorites/Bookmarks
- **Like Garfield Orchestra on Facebook**
- **Add** Orchestra events to your family calendar (see back page of this flyer)

FRIENDS OF GARFIELD ORCHESTRA
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Garfield Orchestras Frequently Asked Questions

What is FOGO?	FOGO is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization consisting of a volunteer group of parents that support the Garfield Orchestras through fundraising activities. FOGO provides the volunteer help needed to put on concerts, travel to festivals, and other activities. FOGO also provides scholarships to students in need. FOGO also pays for student coaching, director overtime hours, orchestral scores, and instrument purchases and repairs.
Where does the money to support FOGO come from?	The simple answer is that the funds FOGO uses to support the orchestras comes from YOU! Parents not only provide all the volunteer help, but about 80% of the donations come from current and former parents (nearly half of the parent donations are from former parents!). The rest of the direct donations are from friends of the orchestras.
Are there orchestra Dues or Class Fees?	In the past we have asked students to pay class fees or dues to help defray the costs of travel, sheet music, and coaches for sectionals. Since the fees must be voluntary and participation has been significantly less than 100%, this method of fundraising has been discontinued. Instead we rely on donations and proceeds from fundraising activities. We ask that all parents consider making a donation to FOGO every year.
What are the various orchestra groups?	There are three orchestras: A and B Orchestras are full orchestras; C Orchestra is all string players in 9 th grade, regardless of playing level. During concerts, A performs as the "Symphony Orchestra." B and C perform together as the "Concert Orchestra."
Do the orchestras have evening rehearsals?	On average, there is one evening rehearsal per month, except April and May – usually Mondays 6:30-8:30pm. The rehearsal schedule is included in the attached orchestra calendar. Reminder emails will be sent out the week before each evening rehearsal.
How often do the orchestras perform?	The attached calendar shows all the performances scheduled for this year. More events may be added, or times might change, so check the upcoming events highlighted on the website: GarfieldOrchestra.org .
What should my son/daughter wear at concerts?	Boys in B/C Orchestra wear an all-black dress shirt, black slacks (no jeans), and black dress shoes. Orchestra A boys wear a black suit or tux with white shirt, a black bowtie, and black dress shoes - no cummerbund or vest. Girls in all orchestras wear a mid-calf or longer black skirt (or black slacks), a black top with sleeves, and black shoes. <i>Please, no bare shoulders and no short skirts.</i>
What's a "Foyer Concert?"	Foyer Concerts are the orchestra performances at GHS that are free to the public (although donations are gladly accepted). They are called "Foyer Concerts" because – as hard as it is to believe now – the orchestra was so small when Mr Tsutakawa started at GHS, the entire group could fit in Garfield's foyer for concerts. The name stuck, even though the venue is now the Quincy Jones Auditorium or the Commons. The orchestras perform four foyer concerts year.
What are the other orchestra performances?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Messiah Sing-Along - December 12 (A Orchestra), fundraiser (tickets are sold) • Winter Waltz - January 24 (All orchestras): this is a fundraiser, a fairly dressy affair • Pops Concert - April 9 (All orchestras): this is a very popular fundraiser featuring music from movies and video games • Spring Waltz - May 2 (All orchestras): this is a fundraiser in conjunction with NW Dance Network and is less formal than the Winter Waltz.
Are there any individual competitions?	The regional Solo and Ensemble Contest is held in February (see the calendar). Any student may sign-up for this. In addition, Mr. Tsutakawa schedules a recital night a few days before, which will take place in the Music Room at GHS.
Do the orchestras travel?	Every October, the A Orchestra performs at PLU (Tacoma) as part of its orchestra festival. For 2014-15, Orchestra A is planning a trip to Los Angeles for shared concerts and Los Angeles cultural experiences. In the spring, the B and C Orchestras are planning a day trip to Central Washington University in Ellensburg for their annual Orchestra Festival.
How can my child raise money towards a trip?	FOGO organizes several fundraising projects throughout the year in which we expect students to participate: Spring and Fall Car Washes, and Chinook Book and Poinsettia sales. Please encourage your student to do at least some of the selling. <i>Note: Non-profit organizations like FOGO are not allowed raise money directed to benefit specific individuals. We have therefore been required to discontinue the Student Accounts program used in previous years (remaining balances will be honored).</i>

<p>What other ways does FOGO raise money to support the orchestras?</p>	<p>FOGO coordinates car washes with student volunteers. Proceeds go to the general fund and support the orchestra program. We also have bake sales and sell merchandise at concerts.</p> <p>You can sign up on eScrip (more information below) and designate "Friends of Garfield Orchestra" as your organization. FOGO receives a percentage of the total purchases from participating merchants and credit cards (Safeway, Bartell, Visa, MasterCard, etc.). FOGO also participates in the Amazon Smile Program (go to <i>Smile.Amazon.com</i>).</p> <p>FOGO also conducts a direct appeal campaign in the spring. All proceeds support the orchestra programs.</p>
<p>Opportunities for parents to get involved?</p>	<p>Parents can help out in so many ways!</p> <p>See information below on Volunteer Opportunities. You can sign up on the website <u>GarfieldOrchestra.org/volunteer</u>, or at the New Parent Meeting on Oct.6.</p>

Volunteering Opportunities

Parent help is needed at every orchestra concert and event. You can get involved in planning activities ahead of time, or help out the day of the event by setting up, selling tickets, ushering, or clean-up after the event. In addition, most events include a Bake Sale.

- You can tell us where you can help by going to the website: **GarfieldOrchestra.org/volunteer**
- Someone will contact you when your help is needed.
- A volunteer sign-up sheet (on paper) will be available at the B/C Parent Meeting on Oct. 6.
- Questions on volunteer opportunities: Contact Bonnie Steele at **volunteers@GarfieldOrchestra.org**

FOGO Fundraising

FOGO sponsors several fund raisers each year, beyond the concerts and events that have paid admissions. These are the fundraising events for this year:

- **Bake Sale** at every orchestra concert: you can help by contributing baked goods, staffing the Bake Sale table, and buying the goodies on sale.
- **Poinsettia Sale:** FOGO will take advance orders for Poinsettias. Order form and more info will be available soon.
- **Chinook Book Sales:** Students can take orders for Chinook Books (coupon book for discounts at local businesses. Orders will be due in early November. Order forms and books will be distributed to students.
- **eScrip:** Sign up online to link your Safeway card, Amazon, and other sales. FOGO gets 4% of your purchases. Use the link from the Garfield Orchestra website or go to **www.escrip.com**. Click on "sign-up." Use Group ID #: 500017083 or Group Name: Friends of Garfield Orchestra FOGO. If you have registered in the past, please go to the website to renew your registration.
- **Amazon Smile:** Do all your Amazon shopping from **Smile.Amazon.com**. Sign up with "Friends of Garfield Orchestra" as your designated charity.

The latest information, order forms, deadlines, everything you need to know will be on the FOGO website:

GarfieldOrchestra.org/fundraising

Chamber music groups available

Private party? Corporate event? Family Reunion? Don't you need some live music at your event?

Duos, Trios, Quartets, larger groups are available – including string quartets, ensembles with woodwinds, brass, or various combinations.

Costs depend on the size of the ensemble and the duration of the event.

Contact: gigs@GarfieldOrchestra.org

Garfield Orchestra Calendar 2014-15

Date, Day		Event	Location	Orch(s)	Time
9/28	Sun	Car Wash	Montlake Blvd and 520	A B C	9:00am - 3:00pm
9/29	Mon	Rehearsal - Chinook Books	GHS	A	6:30 - 8:30pm
10/6	Mon	Rehearsal - Parent Meeting	GHS	B C	6:30 - 8:30pm
10/18	Sat	PLU Orchestra Fest	PLU	A	4:00pm
10/23	Thu	SSO Side-by-side Concert	Quincy Jones Auditorium	A B C	7:30 - 9:00pm
11/10	Mon	Rehearsal	GHS	A	6:30 - 8:30pm
10/31	Fri	Concert at HIMS	Lincoln Auditorium	A	10:45am
11/17	Mon	Rehearsal	GHS	B C	6:30 - 8:30pm
11/25	Tue	Foyer Concert II	Quincy Jones Auditorium	A B C	7:00pm
12/8	Mon	Rehearsal & Poinsettias	GHS	A	6:30 - 8:30pm
12/12	Fri	Messiah Sing Along	First Baptist Church	A	7:30pm
12/15	Mon	Rehearsal	GHS	B C	6:30 - 8:30pm
12/18	Thu	Mid-Winter Concert	Quincy Jones Auditorium	A B C	7:00pm
1/12	Mon	Rehearsal	GHS	A B C	6:30 - 8:30pm
1/20	Tue	Rehearsal	GHS	A B C	6:30 - 8:30pm
1/24	Sat	Winter Waltz	Benaroya Hall	A B C	7:30 - 10:30pm
2/2	Mon	Rehearsal	GHS	A	6:30 - 8:30pm
2/5	Thu	UW Symphony Invitational	Meany Theater	A	TBD
2/5	Thu	Recital Night	GHS		7:00 - 9:00pm
2/7	Sat	Solo / Ensemble Contest	SPU		All Day
2/9	Mon	Rehearsal	GHS	B C	6:30 - 8:30pm
2/25	Tue	Foyer Concert III	Quincy Jones Auditorium	A B C	7:00 - 9:00pm
3/5-8	Th-Su	Spring Trip	Los Angeles	A	
3/12	Thu	CWU Orchestra Festival	Ellensburg	B C	All Day
3/30	Mon	Rehearsal	GHS	A	6:30 - 8:30pm
3/31	Tue	Mira Mesa HS Orch. Concert	Quincy Jones Auditorium		7:00 - 9:00pm
4/6	Mon	Rehearsal	GHS	B C	6:30 - 8:30pm
4/9	Thu	Pops Concert	Quincy Jones Auditorium	A B C	7:00 - 9:00pm
4/24-5	Fri-Sat	State Solo/Ens Contest	Central Washington University	A B C	All Day
5/2	Sat	Spring Waltz	Asian Resource Center	A B C	8:00 - 11:00pm
5/14	Thu	Foyer Concert IV	First Free Methodist Church	A B C	7:00 - 9:00pm
5/26	Tue	Rehearsal	GHS	A	6:30 - 8:30pm
6/1	Mon	Rehearsal	GHS	B C	6:30 - 8:30pm
6/9	Tue	Graduation Concert	Quincy Jones Auditorium	A B C	4:00pm

Check for additional events and updates on the website: www.GarfieldOrchestra.org