



BERKELEY YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Dear [Name of Family Member or Friend (ie. Papa)],

My orchestra, Berkeley Youth Orchestra (BYO), is in its 57th season and we are working hard to prepare for our upcoming concert.

Each year, BYO holds one fundraiser - the Raise-A-Thon. I am writing to ask that you support me and my orchestra by sponsoring me in the Raise-A-Thon.

There are many great reasons to support BYO. Here are just a few:

- Music helps develop the brain in a way nothing else can, boosts academic success, and provides people something they can look to for the rest of their lives
- **Playing in an orchestra teaches collaboration, cooperation and community**
- This orchestra has musicians from all over the bay area, some driving almost an hour to come to rehearsal
- **Preparing for concerts teaches young people the value of practice, responsibility, and working toward a shared goal**
- BYO welcomes every musician and makes sure nothing stands in their way to develop personally and musically
- **Supporting young musicians helps nurture the next generation of artists, leaders, and engaged community members**
- Tuition only covers 70% of the orchestra's budget. **Your donation is what bridges the gap in our budget and allows us to provide scholarships so that our musicians can follow their passion and their dreams.**
- BYO is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and your donation is tax deductible. BYO's tax ID is 94-2270463 and the address is 1442A Walnut St. #449, Berkeley, CA 94709-1405.

Our goal is to raise a total of \$15,000 and, with your help, I can meet my \$300 personal goal.

To donate, please go to <https://www.byoweb.org/raise-a-thon>, click the '**Sponsor a BYO Musician!**' button, and select my name when making your gift. Alternatively, you can make a check out to BYO and include my name on the memo line. You can send it to me to take to rehearsal or send it directly to BYO at: 1442A Walnut Street, #449, Berkeley, CA 94709-1405.

Thank you in advance for your very generous support and I hope that you can come to at least one of my concerts this year! If you can't make it in person, it will be livestreamed on YouTube.