CELEBRATING 100:

ovember 25, 1911.

young people's concerts and YPSCA

n November 24, 1911, Emil
Oberhoffer led the thenMinneapolis Symphony in a
Young People's (YP) Concert, launching
one of the nation's earliest symphonic
concert series for youth. This month we
reach into old clippings as well as newer
materials to review a century of bringing
great music and music education to
millions of eager children, not only via
YP concerts, but also through the Young
People's Symphony Concert Association
(YPSCA), whose members founded and
continue to support this innovative series.

SOME IN CARRIAGES, BUT MOST CHILDREN WALK TO CONCERT

Bundled-up schoolchildren head to the Minneapolis Auditorium for the first Young People's Concert, A where two instrument families—strings and woodwinds—

are the focus (1911). Along with Orchestra staff, YPSCA members have always helped prepare students for YP concerts with study materials



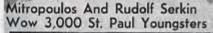
and listening sessions (1942). Across

L Saw four kettle

drums I was so surprised that there
were samany kettle
drums I had fun
going to the Concert.
I enjoyelit Verymuch
Mary Ellen Lynch

each decade of YP concerts, students

have responded to the experience with drawings and handwritten thank-you notes—warming the hearts of Orchestra conductors, players and staff (1943).





A fifth- and a seventh-grader are

front and center as the Orchestra's

▶ (1946). Arriving as music director in 1949, Antal Dorati promptly

dressed in their best fill the hall

establishes an annual art program to inspire

children to
create their
own responses
to music. A kindergartener
finger-paints her
reaction to Leroy
Anderson's
The Waltzing





Cat and a fourth-grader interprets Debussy's Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun (1957).













Saint-Saëns' Carnival of the Animals is programmed for YP concerts, occasioning a visit from Como Park Zoo animals-a lion cub, a turtle and a swan (1972). Among the novel approaches of Resident Conductor Henry Charles Smith,

who led hundreds of YPs throughout the 1970s and '80s: showing how to make a musical instrument of a mouthpiece, funnel and shower hose (1978).

 Narrating Copland's Lincoln Portrait is Vikings great Carl Eller, one of many well-known figures to take the stage for YP concerts (1978). Twelve-year-old violinists Gretchen Carlson and Gary Levinson share top honors at the School Music Auditions, an annual competition YPSCA launched in 1955-and each wins a chance to solo with the Orchestra at a YP concert (1979).

YPs often feature performing arts groups such as James Sewell Ballet, here in Amahl and the Night Visitors (2004). Honored at a Musical Mentor reception-for YPSCA members whose

gifts bring entire classrooms to YP concerts- is Jamie

 Bernstein, who clearly shares her famous composer-

conductor father's commitment to education: she participates in YPs and is a loyal Musical Mentor as well (2005, with Musical Mentor Chair Cynthia Tambornino). Young musicians share the stage with the Orchestra as students in area string programs perform an all-strings version of Beethoven's Ode to Joy (2007).

YPSCA usher Audray Rees guides students to their seats (2009). Associate Conductor Courtney Lewis now conducts the Minnesota Orchestra's YPs, including this performance by School Music Auditions winner Bo Peng (2011).











Concert Association

Help YPSCA celebrate the centennial!

To join, call (763) 546-2071; for information on becoming a Musical Mentor, call (612) 929-0415.