KATHERINE BERRY is a senior at Gunn High School and has proudly been a trumpet nerd since fifth grade. She plays in Gunn's Wind Ensemble, Big Band Jazz Ensemble, Symphony Orchestra, and Pit Orchestra. She joined Sinfonietta in eighth grade, and is currently driving the bus as a sometimes principal trumpet in Senior Symphony. Katherine is also a volunteer at the San Francisco Zoo, caring for animals and educating the public about conservation. Katherine is beyond excited to study at the second happiest place on earth next year: the University of Southern California, as a business major. She will join the Spirit of Troy Marching Band and fight on (while hopefully taking weekend trips to Disneyland!)

MILES CHAN, 17, will be glad to graduate from Lynbrook High School in a few days. He has had a complete blast playing the violin for 12 years of his life and is incredibly grateful for all the fine teachers he’s had over the years, especially his current one Mr. Voitsekhovski. Miles is proud to have been able to serve as the Co-President of Lynbrook Robotics and Co-Concertmaster of ECYS Senior Symphony, two groups that he has been dedicated to for the past four and six years respectively. Miles plans to continue his late nights of studying, building, and practicing at Georgia Tech, where he will pursue Aerospace/Mechanical Engineering. He would like to thank his family, teachers, mentors, and friends in class, robotics, and orchestra for a crazy and amazing run these past few years. Special thanks to Dr. Kolchinsky for being an incredible inspiration and superb director; you will be missed dearly!

MICHELLE CHANG, a senior at Lynbrook High School, began her flute studies when she was placed in band as her seventh grade elective, thus sparking not only her newly found interest in flute, but also her appreciation for music in general. Michelle has been selected as a participant of the California All-State Honor Band and a winner of the annual ECYS Concerto Competition. Aside from flute, her other interests include photography, journalism, playing volleyball, baking, shopping, and fangirling over One Direction. This fall, Michelle will attend the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, where she will major in flute performance. She would like to accredit flute teacher Isabelle Chapuis for providing her with endless support as she continues to pursue her music endeavors.

Considering the French horn too challenging an instrument to master, JESSE CHOU began his journey at age 11. Though still finding it challenging, Jesse has enjoyed a myriad experiences in horn performance, ranging from serving 4 years as principal hornist in both the ECYS Senior symphony and the Lynbrook High School Wind Ensemble, to placing 2nd chair in the 2013 All-State Honor Orchestra and performing concertos with both ECYS and the Winchester Orchestra. For him, the 2011 France and Spain tour is the largest source of nostalgia. He thanks Dr. Kolchinsky for being a prime motivator in his endeavors into horn performance since seventh grade. He'll be studying neuroscience at Princeton University this fall.

MICHAEL CHUNG has been a part of ECYS for the past five seasons—seasons of love which have changed him for the better. He began playing the cello at the age of 8, which makes this coming fall his ten-year marker! Michael credits ECYS as his “second home,” the place where he developed his sense of self. He simply cannot believe that his time in the orchestra is coming to an end, but is immensely grateful for every single moment spent under the direction of Dr. Kolchinsky. Michael would like to shout out especially to Cathy Spieth, whose wonderful guidance and support has manifested itself in an acceptance to Stanford University, where he will spend the next four years of his education.
BYRON FAN is a senior at Saratoga High School and has been in ECYS since fourth grade. At school, he played in the school orchestra where he was the concertmaster and an orchestra manager. Besides studying violin, Byron was also Treasurer of the Liveright Club, and Bass Singer in Men’s Choir. In the fall, Byron will attend Santa Clara University for the Pre-Health Program.

ERIKA FARMER has been a member of ECYS since 2006, and has been a part of the Senior Symphony since 2007. She has been playing viola since she was 7 and currently studies under Leonid Gesin. When she isn’t playing music, Erika can be found designing sets for the theatre at Crystal Springs Uplands School, painting, reading, and participating in Model United Nations (MUN). She has taught classes in Model United Nations for four years and has won a number of national and international awards. Her interest in International Relations has led Erika to decide to pursue a major in the field at Carleton College next year. Erika would like to thank her family and Mr. Gesin for their support.

MATTHEW FARMER started cello very early in life. No one knows for sure, but legend says that he was born wearing a tailored tux—holding a 1/16th size cello and fully rosined bow. In addition to his love of music, Matthew is an avid Doctor Who fan and Top Gear addict. Matthew started his ECYS career in Galbraith Honor Strings and honestly expected ECYS to be an organization of try-hard-music enthusiasts. And he can tell you from his experience that it is exactly that, and it is beautiful. He has made the greatest of great friends here and is sad to leave them and the bestest of best cello teachers, August Lee, when he goes to the University of Washington to pursue greatness in life.

Violin Virtuoso, PETER FARMER, started playing the violin at the tender age of six. Currently, Peter studies under Vladimir Klibanov and is a senior at Los Altos High School. He has been part of the El Camino Youth Symphony for the past five years, and this year is his second in the Senior Symphony and his first as a first violin. Outside of ECYS, Peter is a fan of Doctor Who, and loves ice cream and the music of Tchaikovsky. Peter would like to give a special shout out to all his friends in the Symphony and will be sad to leave them as he continues to pursue his talents at Purdue University, where he will be majoring in Computer Engineering!

KAELA HAN is currently a senior at Homestead High School. When she is not pursuing Mormon activities such as drinking coffee, she enjoys spending time with friends, family, and eating food, her favorite food being eggs. Kaela joined ECYS as a middle schooler beginning with chamber players and joined Symphony as a freshman. Kaela began playing cello in the third grade and has played with ECYS for about 7 years. She also plays with the Homestead Chamber Orchestra. She is proud to begin attending UC Davis this fall, with an English major.

SUNNY HE has been playing the oboe with ECYS for four years, starting in Wind Orchestra and moving to Sinfonietta before joining the Senior Symphony. Beyond the oboe, Sunny also exercises his transposition skills and arm muscles by playing the English Horn. Outside of ECYS, he leads the Cupertino High School robotics team and volunteers for the Cupertino Amateur Radio Emergency Service. After graduation, Sunny will study electrical engineering at Princeton University. He thanks his oboe teacher and family for all the support and motivation that helped him reach this point.
When JAE WOO KIM entered Homestead High School, he found interest in music and engineering. He is currently principal oboist in Homestead's wind ensemble and symphony orchestra, and treasurer of the Homestead robotics team. Jae Woo started music on the piano at age 6 and played competitively at US Open competitions through his middle school years. Before middle school, he cycled through cello and French horn before settling on the oboe as a second instrument. He joined ECYS in 8th grade in the Camerata Orchestra, quickly moving up to Sinfonietta, then Symphony in his junior year. Jae Woo would like to thank John Burn, Eric Wiengartner, Dr. Camilla Kolchinsky, and Debra Gardner for their continued support through his musical journey. Jae Woo plans to study Aerospace Engineering at UC San Diego in fall 2014.

JAY KIM is a senior at Leland High School. She has played the cello for twelve difficult years, nine of which she has also been a member of ECYS. Throughout the years, she has grown in every aspect (yes, even physically) and will never forget everything she has learned from being a part of ECYS. Jay has soloed four times with ECYS and KAMSA and has participated in the past two tours. In addition to playing the cello, you can find her eating, watching movies, being ambivalent about everything, and eating some more. Jay is excited to attend Princeton University for the next four years where she hopes to study art history and/or French.

ELLEN KULLA is currently finishing her eighth year of ECYS, and her third year as a second violinist in Senior Symphony!! Outside of ECYS, Ellen also performs violin with the Monta Vista High School Chamber Orchestra, and works with the Yosal Youth Orchestra in Salinas. When she is not at ECYS rehearsal, Ellen enjoys hiking, traveling, snapchatting, watching Bob's Burgers, and drinking water. She is also Vice President of Monta Vista Technology Student Association, and a teacher at a Bilingual Montessori. Ellen looks forward to studying business and economics at the University of California, Irvine next year! She would like to thank everyone who has helped make her ECYS and tour experiences so fulfilling.

ANDREW LAU is a senior at Palo Alto High School and has been playing violin with ECYS since he was 11 years old. Outside of music, Andrew is a Lincoln-Douglas Debater, Judge, and Publicity Manager for his school's Debate Team. He is also a competitive powerlifter, briefly holding a state record bench press in the 165.2 pound weight class. After spending time studying Protein-Polymer Conjugates and their uses as artificial heart and muscle tissue under his mentor Dr. Kasi at UCONN last summer, Andrew has become very interested in Biochemistry and plans on majoring in the subject at USC in its Freshman Science Honors Program. Andrew would like to thank his family, his violin teacher, and everyone from ECYS for their support.

AARON LEE has been a member of ECYS for three years, beginning in Camerata, then playing in Sinfonietta and the Senior Orchestra, which he joined this year. He has also played with the CYS, CPYO, and KAMSA organizations. At school, he plays in the Harker School Orchestra. Apart from oboe, Aaron has also been the Vice President of the National Chinese Honor Society and Science For Youth club at Harker. In his free time, Aaron enjoys volunteering, playing pickup basketball, or listening to music. Aaron plans to continue to play his oboe hopefully in the Cornell Symphony while majoring in chemistry and chemical biology. He thanks his oboe teacher, Adrienne Malley, for putting up with him for two whole years.

JEFFREY MI is a graduating senior from Henry M. Gunn High School and has played in Sinfonietta for two years and senior symphony for two years. He is also a member of the Wind Ensemble at school and played in various honor bands. Jeffrey has studied clarinet with Sue Macy for seven years, and before that he played the piano for four years. He was also part of the Palo Alto Soccer Club for eleven years. Besides playing music, Jeffrey also enjoys cycling and cooking. After graduation, Jeffrey plans on majoring in Biological Sciences at USC.
SUNNY SHAN has been playing percussion for ECYS for 3 years, beginning in wind orchestra for one year and senior symphony for two. Although she enjoys playing the wonderful repertoire that the senior symphony plays, she still wishes she were more well versed in music (and until she is, will refrain from writing her own). Besides spending her time orchestrating and quenching her thirst for music, Sunny runs cross country and track. Sunny will be a student athlete in college, as running is her forte. Sunny will be attending Mount Holyoke College and plans on majoring in Neuroscience and Cognition; she strives to be in tune with the human mind and its strings of thought.

EMILY SU is a senior at Lynbrook High School and has been in ECYS program for 3 years. She has played percussion for 7 years and would like to thank her teacher Kumiko Ito for her guidance. Besides her love for music, Emily also is the drum major of her school’s marching band, editor-in-chief for the literary magazine, and class officer. In her free time, she loves to make cakes and cookies, showering her love for baking by feeding her friends and family. Next fall, she will be attending Carnegie Mellon University, hoping to continue music while studying information systems.

CHRISTOPHER YOON, violin, has been a member of ECYS since 2011. He attended the international tour with ECYS in 2013 to Central Europe. (Chris is unable to be with us today. We wish him a speedy recovery!).

Irene Zong
Vice President - Financial Consultant
Cupertino Branch
NMLS # 731266
CA Insurance License # 0B27845
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.
Charles Schwab Bank*
19620 Stevens Creek Blvd. Ste 100
Cupertino, CA 95014
Tel (408) 446-7971 Tel (800) 435-4000
Fax (408) 446-7966
irene.zong@schwab.com

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