



Distinguished Educators and Community Leaders Endorse the 2017 Summer Choral and Instrumental Academy at Rochester High School...

"Programs such as this are a wonderful supplement to our curriculum. Not only do they provide an alternative way of learning but without the Beaver Valley Choral Society's efforts, many of our students would not have access to this high caliber instruction in the arts. We truly value these programs!"

Dr. Jane W. Bovalino, Superintendent of Schools, Rochester Area School District, Rochester, PA

"This is a wonderful and exciting opportunity for our students."

Michael Damon, Principal, K-12, Rochester Area School District, Rochester, PA

"The program sounds like an amazing opportunity for our young people across the county. I am confident that the summer academy will be a breath of fresh air for our students."

Michael Lewis, Director of Curriculum, Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit 27, Monaca, PA

"So few people in this world get to do what they love as their life's work, but I have! I first discovered I loved to sing when I was 5 years of age. That love of singing has never dissipated in 58 years. With over 40 years of experience in helping high school and college age young people become better singers, I now enjoy working closely with the young boys and adult women on a regular basis. The 2017 Summer High School Student Choral and Instrumental Academy at Rochester High School will allow young people to develop high-level musical skills, and learn to use vocal music as a means of artistic expression and aesthetic communication."

The products of music ensembles are collective ones. The quality of each person's contribution to the group's final product is of primary focus. This dynamic reinforces concepts like "A chain is no stronger than its weakest link" and "We cannot move forward unless everyone moves forward." These principles become obvious realities that are verbally reinforced and demonstrated during each rehearsal and in performances. I look forward to exploring the joys of singing through choral literature of many different genres, cultures, languages, and countries with the choir members of the 2017 Summer Choral and instrumental Academy."

Craig G. Cannon, Adjunct Professor, Music Education, Mary Pappert School of Music, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA; 2017 Summer Academy Director of Chorus

"What a fantastic opportunity to showcase the talent of our valley's young people! Sign your young musician up right away!"

Sharon R. Burchill, Co-Executive Director, Summer Academy, BVCS Director of Youth Choruses, Ensembles, Education and Programming

"Our mission is to provide a creative and supportive environment for young adults to grow as musicians and people. Our high school program is unique in that it offers a residential pre-college experience with a rich offering of music courses, as well as non-music courses, taught by top music educators from across the country."

**Maestro Bruce Lauffer, Academy Instrumental Director, General Director and Conductor of the Royal
Sylvan Philharmonic**

"As a pianist, accompanist, teacher, and overall musician, I am absolutely thrilled to be part of this glorious project. I am looking forward to being a part of the student participants growing not only musically, but gaining life skills that they will use FOR life! Music theory skills sharpen the brain and performance etiquette and stage presence skills can be used in MANY life situations both musical, and non-musical. These students will receive a WELL ROUNDED musical education this coming summer.... It's not JUST about a choral and singing experience! It's so much more!"

**Gabe D'Abruzzo , Summer Academy Guest Instructor, Adjunct Professor of Piano, Saint Vincent
College, Latrobe, PA, Staff Accompanist, Mary Pappert School of Music, Duquesne University,
Pittsburgh, PA**

"The Beaver Valley Choral Society is grateful that renowned educators and conductors have committed to the academy and we are fortunate to be partnering with the Rochester Area School District to make the academy possible."

Lee Pfeifer, Co-Executive Director, Summer Academy – President, Beaver Valley Choral Society

"Our identity, and our character are found in our shared vision and mission to create and implement the finest summer music academy and to share the joy of learning and making music with all of the participating students and educational resources of our area."

Raymond Rotuna, Executive Director, Summer Academy

"Great project! Congratulations!"

Sally Coveleskie, Director of Institutional Affairs, Steinway & Sons, Long Island City, New York