

Kids Around the Bay

BY LISA PETRIE SAN FRANCISCO CLASSICAL VOICE 11.4.11

Tristan Arnold Rises From the Ranks



Tristan Arnold is no stranger to the rigors of the Santa Rosa Symphony's Training Young Musicians program. Beginning in middle school, Arnold worked his way through all three full orchestras, switching from violin to double bass in the process. Now, he's all grown up and returns to take the podium as a professional conductor and educator, leading the Preparatory Orchestra in their first concert of the season on Nov. 19 at 2 p.m.

"The night after my High School graduation, I was on a red-eye flight to New York to play with the Santa Rosa Youth Symphony in Carnegie Hall," he remembers fondly. The program had a huge impact on Arnold. "In the absence of having orchestra in public school, I was able to play in a full orchestra with other talented musicians, and receive regular coachings and lessons with Santa Rosa Symphony players," he says. "Getting that kind of team perspective from many different musicians is really a strength of the program."

Since then, Arnold has earned a Bachelor's degree in music education from Northwestern University and is finishing his Master's degree in conducting at San Francisco State. He fell in love with teaching and conducting while still in high school, and taught orchestra and chorus at James B. Davidson Middle School in San Rafael. He's looking forward to the Prep Orchestra's first performance. "As a new conductor, the first performance is where the orchestra becomes an orchestra. It's where we get to become a unit in the eyes of the public and the parents, and all of the musicians. It makes us like a family." Come hear them with the Young People's Chamber Orchestra on **Nov. 19**.

The SRS Discovery Orchestra welcomes new conductor Bobby Rogers as well. Come see the joint concert Nov. 20.