



The Rice Philharmonics

Alumni Newsletter, Summer 2009

Dear Philharmonics Alumna/Alumnus,

The end of another school year has come and with it a glorious, humid Houston summer! Whoohoo! Okay, maybe not the humidity, but the part about summer is nice.

As I'm sure Allie mentioned in her last newsletter, this year has been huge for us. We competed in ICCA and advanced to the semi-finals, performed at countless holiday parties, and still managed to have an awesome time making music with each other. At the request of our faculty sponsor, Dr. Harter, the chair of the Faculty Senate this past year, we performed at for all of the high-ranking university officials on April 15th at their last meeting. We held the All-Request Contest this year through an online poll, and premiered "The Thong Song" at our All-Request show on April 18th.



With five graduating seniors, we're sad to see them and this year go, but excited at the same time for what the future holds for them. See the "Graduating Seniors" section at the end of this newsletter to find out what the new Philharmonics alumni are doing after they walk the stage.

Even though we're losing some gems of the group, we're very excited to gain new members and to meet the challenges that will come next year. Start getting pumped up - we'll be finishing our recording in the fall to release a new CD next spring! We've already laid down at least two-thirds of the tracks to be included. I'll be sending you updates about the CD as things progress.

Thank you so much for your continued interest in the Phils. We've had a wonderful year, and it wouldn't have been possible without your support. I can't wait to tell you all the great things the Philharmonics will do next year and see how the alumni can get involved! Have a wonderful summer!

Best Wishes,
Erin Walsh
President 2009-2010



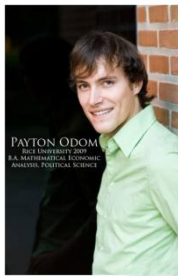
Graduating Seniors

We would like to wish our graduating seniors all the best in the future and hope that they keep sharing their musical talent wherever they go!



Allie Janda will be attending the University of Virginia this summer and next summer to achieve a Masters in Accounting. During the year, she will be doing audit work for Ernst and Young in their Dallas office.

Gillian Kruse will graduate this year with degrees in English and Psychology. She will be working as an editorial assistant at the Texas Heart Institute in the Med Center this summer.



Payton Odom is sleuthing around for jobs, hoping to work in Washington, D.C. and eventually end up in Latin America, seriously considering getting a puppy, secretly considering "perennial American Idol contestant" as a viable career option, and woefully considering what life will be like without rah-hah-hah-hah-ning in the sun three times a week with the Phils.

Whitney Parsons will be spending next year in a to-be-determined country in Sub-Saharan Africa with the Peace Corps. While serving there, she will impress the youngsters with her degree in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and general mad science skills.



Ray Yu will be working in the Integrated Supply and Trading division of BP, in the Graduate Development Program. He majored in Economics, Psychology, and Managerial Studies. He will be married to Miss Gan "Gina" Cao in the Spring of 2010, and will be living in Houston for who knows how long. As all Phils can attest to, once you're in the Rice Philharmonics, you're IN -- for better or for worse. Ray Yu Out.



Events, Notices, and Reminders

Plan ahead for Homecoming weekend, November 13-15, 2009. We will have another reunion dinner and concert planned for that weekend. If you can make it, drop by to say hi to the old Phils and meet the new ones!

Please stay in touch. We love to hear from you!

