MYSO is delighted to announce that **Aaron Apaza** has joined the MYSO administrative staff as Executive Assistant. Aaron will be coordinating and training MYSO's many volunteers as well as assisting the administrative staff and the committees of MYSO's Board of Directors. Some of you may know Aaron already as he has been an instructor, coach and judge for MYSO.

Before joining the staff of MYSO, Aaron served as Acting Assistant Principal bassoon with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra for the 2011-12 season. He developed a love of music early in life, spending two years at the Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan studying with Barrick Stees, Assistant Principal bassoon of the Cleveland Orchestra. In 2001, Aaron was named a Presidential Scholar in the Arts, and as part of that honor, played a movement of the Gordon Jacob bassoon concerto at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. After Interlochen, Aaron moved to Philadelphia to attend the Curtis Institute of Music under the tutelage of Bernard Garfield, retired Principal bassoon of the Philadelphia Orchestra. He then continued his studies at Yale University's School of Music where he received instruction from Frank Morelli, bassoon soloist, chamber musician, and teacher. Upon the completion of his studies at Yale, Aaron was invited to join the New World Symphony in Miami, where he played under music director Michael Tilson Thomas. In 2010, he joined the Colorado Symphony as Acting Assistant Principal bassoon for the 2010-2011 season. In addition, Aaron has played with the Philadelphia Orchestra, The Delaware Symphony, and the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, among others.

Aaron has an interesting set of experiences which make him uniquely qualified to join us in this new role. He has administrative experience at both the Curtis Institute of Music and Yale

University, where he supported the Deputy Dean, human resources and benefits coordinator and development department. He also has served as a binding technician for the Curtis Institute and has experience in billing and bookkeeping.

When he's not working at MYSO or playing the bassoon, Aaron enjoys cooking, discovering local restaurants, and watching British period costume dramas.

We are thrilled that he has decided to join our team at MYSO and look forward to the skills and experience he will bring to our organization.