

PROGRESS 2008

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The Oskaloosa Chamber also is involved in on-going projects to improve the downtown business district.

Streetscape

Work on the Oskaloosa downtown streetscape project will wrap up in 2008 once warm weather returns. TK Concrete Inc., of Pella, did the work that encompassed sidewalk renovation, decorative brick inlays and street work. Also, new decorative Musco-designed LED lighting will illuminate the city square area.

Iowa Building

Work will continue to renovate the Iowa Building in downtown Oskaloosa. Plans call for the building's exterior to be renovated to that of the building's historic past. The building's interior will be renovated for either apartment or business space.

Make Over Marathon

Oskaloosa Main Street officials are teaming up with Main Street Iowa and 24 Iowa State University students for a Make Over Marathon for four downtown businesses that will be complete by May 15. The make-over is based on the "Home and Garden" television shows.

Downtown Housing

The city of Oskaloosa has received a \$1 million HOPE 6 grant to develop downtown housing at 114, 116 and 124 High Ave. W.

Oskaloosa Area Chamber and Development Group Director Jon Sullivan gives credit to the numerous volunteers who give their time to help make the chamber's community events a success year after year.

The Oskaloosa Symphony: Music to your ears

Founded in October 1998 in anticipation of the orchestra's debut, performing John Rutter's "Magnificat" with the Oskaloosa Community Choir in the George Daily Auditorium, Bob Auld, community choir director, asked Tony Chang to assemble and conduct a symphony orchestra for this performance. Maestro Chang suggested the orchestra should be called The Oskaloosa Symphony Orchestra, and thus, this fine ensemble began. The first performance was so successful that plans were immediately laid to provide regular performances by the orchestra in its new home — The Daily Auditorium.

Tony Chang is a marvelously gifted conductor. But, Maestro Chang also possesses great skill in gathering professional and semi-professional musicians, music instructors and talented students from all over the state of Iowa and the Midwest to be members of this ensemble. Oskaloosa is fortunate to have some very talented music

instructors in our community that are an important core of the orchestra, along with local students of exceptional talent. They are joined by professional musicians from The Des Moines Symphony, The Cedar Rapids Symphony, The Ottumwa Symphony, The Central Iowa Symphony, as well as symphony orchestras from the Quad Cities, Waterloo and Dubuque. Some of the most talented musicians that perform with the Oskaloosa Symphony are faculty members and students from UNI, ISU, U of I, as well as both Truman and Drake universities.

The result of this constantly changing, talented mix of musicians is a symphony orchestra that produces a very high level of performance rivaling that of more established symphony orchestras from larger cities around the United States. Many of the guest artists, soloists and composers, who have performed with or had their works performed by The Oskaloosa Symphony, have

expressed great respect for what Tony Chang has accomplished with this ensemble and how favorably it compares with more famous regional orchestras around the country.


The Oskaloosa Symphony Orchestra is in its 10th season and Tony Chang will conduct the orchestra's 27th performance on Sunday, April 6, with a Young Performers Concert. This concert will feature four

very talented Oskaloosa student musicians as guest soloists with the Oskaloosa Symphony. These students were selected by audition for the opportunity to perform with the orchestra. These young performers include eighth-grade cellist Ginny Lane; soprano soloist Sara Yoder, a high school junior; baritone soloist Tim Foster, a high school senior; and Ben Davis, viola soloist, also a high school senior.

Conductor Tony Chang's

many talents include a wonderful knowledge of symphonic literature and the ability to select orchestra pieces that showcase the talents of his musicians and are musically satisfying to experienced concert-goers and also enjoyable to audience members who are less experienced symphonic listeners. Tony Chang wants the orchestra concerts to provide a memorable musical experience to everyone, young and old.

Go to Oskaloosa.com and link on Legacy.com to view full obits and express condolences and share remembrance of loved ones.




*Where There's Always
Something Happening*

Upcoming Events in Center Court	
April 5th	Pine Wood Derby, 8AM registration, 9:30 races
April 12th-13th	Ottumwa RC Flyers
April 26th	Adult Activity Center Health Fair, 104
May 1	National Day of Prayer, 7-8 p.m.
	June 7 Oskaloosa Coin, Stamp & Ball Card Show, 9-5
June 21	Pencil Collectors Mini Show, 9-5


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