

Royal Canadian College 🐞 of Organists Ottawa Centre Collège royal canadien des organistes · section d'Ottawa



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President's Message

Alison Kranias

Let The Children Sing...

found some old periodicals from the Choristers Guild in my office. They date from the 1990s and have all sorts of helpful tips and ideas for working with children's choirs. Some of you may have a children's choir like I see in the pages of these magazines, where kids participate week after week. With a choir like that, the director can help them learn singing skills and teach them to sing in parts. But I imagine a lot of you are like me – much as I might want to help develop the next generation of singers, its just not happening at my church.

We do have some children at my church, but not enough to form a choir. I take heart, however, in the fact that many of the children are in fact learning music elsewhere. It's helpful to find out who these young musicians are, and invite them to do a solo or be part of a small group that requires only one or two rehearsals. For the younger children who haven't learned to sing or play an instrument yet, teaching a simple song in Sunday school is a good strategy — this happens in a lot of churches.

I've also found that some parents will bring their children to the adult choir or music group — if you let them know they are welcome to do that. This has been very successful with my tone chime group, as there is often a simple part a child can easily play. Collaborating with other churches, that don't already have a children's choir, is another idea I am trying right now. The logistics of bringing groups from different churches together certainly makes a multi-church choir challenging, but it looks like a promising way forward.

UPEUMEE uches et anches

> With the Easter season coming up, it's a good time to think about how you can get whatever children there are at the church involved in music making. I always like having the children sing on Palm Sunday — it adds to all the fun and excitement. There was one year I was able to get a multi-generational choir going, with a simple part for the children and their parents to sing, and another part with harmony for the adult choir. But this year I think it's going to be a simple song they learn in Sunday School. The important thing is just to sing, and have fun doing it.





Centre Events

Sunday, March 2, 2025 at 1:45 p.m. Our Members Recital will held at Divine Infant Catholic Church, 6658 Bilberry Drive in Orleans. The Pastor, Fr. Waldemar Podlasz is happy to receive us! The recital will also be a celebration of the restoration of their Rodgers 760 Electronic organ featuring 2 manuals and full pedal board. The recital will have the same format as our Members Recital last year. Please choose a favorite piece or two that you would like to share with other players/ attendees. The Pope has designated 2025 as a Jubilee Year with the theme: *Pilgrim* of Hope. Your music could reflect themes in keeping with this (Mercy, Love, Prayer, Mary) or can be a piece of your chosing. You may come early, beginning at 12:15

HEATHER RICE

to choose registration and warm up. The recital will begin at 1:45 and finish by 3:30 - confessions followed by Mass begin at 4:00. Please email me, Heather Rice, at gowans978@gmail.com to reserve a spot and tell me what you are going to play. The Divine Infant Knights of Columbus will be serving a buffet breakfast starting at noon for a nominal cost -- no need for McDonalds or Tim Hortons! Divine Infant Parish a young vibrant parish is looking forward to our recital. We greatly appreciate their hosting us.

(There will be a small donation box for a freewill offering for their Music Ministry)

We are still organizing other events. Stay tuned!



Sunday, March 16, 2025, 7:15 p.m. A service of Choral Evensong will be sung at St. Barnabas Anglican Church, Ottawa (70 James St, at Kent St). The service will begin at 7:15 p.m. Voluntaries by Howells and Bach, and canticles by Godfrey Hewitt. All are most welcome to share in this evening service.

Sunday, June 8, 2025, time TBA

Recital by Robert Jones in honour of David Palmer. The recial will be held at St. Stephen's Anglican Church (930 Watson St.) will also feature Jonathan Bayley (flute) who taught at the U of Windsor and sang in David Palmer's choir at All Saints.



Featuring Organist: Jennifer Loveless | Guest Organist: Maria Gajraj Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre (CDCC), 290 Lisgar Street, Ottawa Order Free Tickets and/or Donate to the Repairs Fund: carleton.ca/cdcc/organconcert







Rev. Christine Piper

The Gift of of Love Within Our Lives

These last few days a card has been adorning my mantlepiece. It is white; and in its centre there is what looks like a tuft of deeply black fur. What a contrast! Yes, this is the card that the local cat hospital gave me a week or so ago after they had, of necessity due to grave illness, euthanized my cat, Minou.

Indeed, beside the card with the black fur marking its centre, there is another, this time elongated white card, entitled *Certificate of Cremation*.

And so, after offering me twenty years, or thereabouts, of companionship - and hopefully I offered the same to her - Minou needed to depart. Fortunately for her, the law does not prevent the euthanasia of animals... So where am I left as her owner, yes, her friend?

Deeply sad: noticing how my home no longer holds Minou. She is no longer offering her usual presence on my bed throughout each day. Nor of an evening is she sitting on the rug with its multi coloured and diamond shaped panes in front of our fireside. The litter box is empty and clean even as it still, at this point, remains in that main floor washroom.

I know in my heart that what I need to do is - as I am ready - to take a deep breath, and carry on with my days.

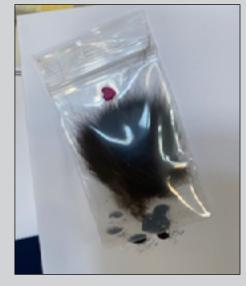
And, even as I shall be sad for this

next while, I am so deeply thankful for her long and affectionate presence within my life.

And, of course, what I am really talking about is the gift of love within our lives: the ability and deep care to love with which we have been so deeply blessed. Indeed, I think of the well-known phrase, attributed to our Maker: *Love one another as I have loved you*.

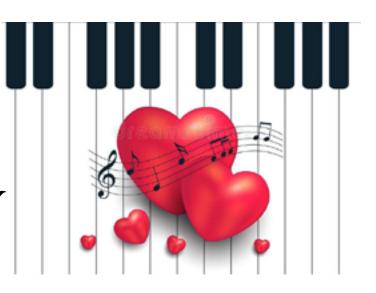
(Adapted from John 13:34)

May you, my fellow readers, be so blessed and guided with this amazing gift through the experiences that, daily, unfold for you...





Musical Valentines Day!



2024-2025							
Ottawa Centre Executive			Convenors of Committees				
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ROYAL CANADIAN COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS COLLÈG OTTAWA CENTRE P.O. Box 2270, Station D OTTAWA, ON K1P 5W4 <u>www.rcco-ottawa.ca</u>

GE ROYAL CANADIEN DES ORGANISTI SECTION D'OTTAWA C.P. 2270, SUCCURSALE D OTTAWA, ON K1P 5W4 NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING: Monday, 10 February / 7:30 p.m. Web Meeting



Sunday Supply Organists:

summer suppry of Summers						
Thomas Annand	613-261-0376	t.annand50@gmail.com Sundays, weddings, funerals, any denomination				
Elizabeth Brown	613-608-1220	lizbrown2007@hotmail.com Sundays, weddings, funerals, any denomination				
Frances Macdonnell	613-726-7984	fbmacdonnell@sympatico.ca				

Wedding and Funeral Organists:

James Calkin	613-236-9149 x	20 james.calkin@ottawacathedral.ca
Simon Pinsonneault	873-660-8252	citationsimon@gmail.com

Please note that this list is provided by the RCCO for informational purposes only and that, while the RCCO does require background screening in the form of a certified Police Records Check, the primary responsibility for safeguarding vulnerable persons lies with the employer. Potential employers are therefore urged to make their own appropriate checks and precautions, such as seeking references.



Thomas Annand, MMus, BMus (Hons), FRCCO. Teaches at all levels, also theory, history. Info: t.annand50@gmail.com or 613-261-0376 Robert Jones, MMus, ARCCO. Info: robertpjones12345@gmail.com or 613-220-3420

Next Deadline





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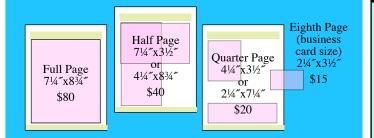
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Advertising Policy

1. Any Ottawa Centre member may announce his/her event on the Around Town section of the newsletter free of charge if he/she is the coordinator, conductor, soloist, or organist/ accompanist of the event.

2. If a member wishes to place a free announcement in Around Town for an event of another organization he/she is a member of (not covered by Policy 1), the member must make a written request to the RCCO Centre Executive for approval of that one specific event. Approval may be granted on the basis that this **extraordinary** event would be of specific interest to our members: e.g., church/choral, and/or organ/bells, and/or the encouragement of young organists and pianists.

3. If a non-member wishes to announce an event of his/her organization in Around Town free of charge, he/she must make a written request to the RCCO Centre Executive for approval of that one specific event. Approval may be granted per Policy 2; in most circumstances, however, we would expect the Organization to pay as per the rates set out by the Centre for advertising.





Join us for our next exciting Pro Organo Recital

featuring

Charles Francis

United Kingdom, Eastman Schoolof Music, USA

Great Organ Works Grandes pages de l'orgue

Works by Bach, deGrigny, Franck, Alain and Duruflé.

Friday, April 4th at 7:30 p.m.

Basilique-Cathédrale Notre-Dame (356 Sussex)

Tickets available through Eventbrite, on our website or at the door.

For further information, visit our website at http://rcco-ottawa.ca/pro_organo.html