

President's Message

DAVID LAFRANCHISE

Look Beyond and Reach Out

Even if the weather suggests otherwise, Christmas looms and the season of Christmas music – concerts, carol-sings and muzak – is already underway. For many in the Centre, this is a peak time of year for community music making, whether leading and encouraging participation, or simply enjoying the excitement of singing with a massed group and organ or instrumental ensemble.

Participating in music-making does not seem to fit with our modern marketing-driven culture. Yes, many events continue but fewer people come and participate. The idea of participation itself seems to be falling out of public discourse. One might note the Citizen's decision to axe its remaining arts coverage, or the recent survey by Carleton University of alumni's use of leisure time, which offered only "listening to music" and similar passive options as possible answers.

Through our association with the church, the organ community, as leaders, teachers and

participants, has long been a centre for leading and encouraging participation in music. If we are to continue this role in an increasingly secular society perhaps it is time for us to look beyond our traditional fields of work. Are there new places where we can put our skills and resources to work to engage others?

Perhaps as well, it is time for us as individuals and as a Centre to consider how to reach out to the wider musical community in tackling a common problem. There are other groups who also want to foster participation, ranging from professional groups who visit schools, to CAMMAC, to the parents' group at Woodroffe High School who recently managed to snag some of the old seats from the National Arts Centre to keep their school auditorium functioning.

The alternative may be the community caroling becoming just another part of marketing-driven holiday-season nostalgia.

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Call for Proposals



Do you have skills or resources that you would be interested in sharing with others?

Do you have ideas for events or activities?

Are you planning events that could benefit from support from our Centre?

Do you have ideas for events or activities to support longer-term goals for our Centre?

Your Executive is planning events and activities for the 2017-2018 season.

Your ideas and expertise will ensure a programme that's relevant to our members and gives all of us the opportunity to share our expertise with the wider musical community.

Please e-mail your ideas to executive@rcco.ca or president@rcco-ottawa.ca

or send a letter at RCCO - Ottawa Centre,
PO Box 2270, Station D, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5W4

Monday, January 16th at 6 pm

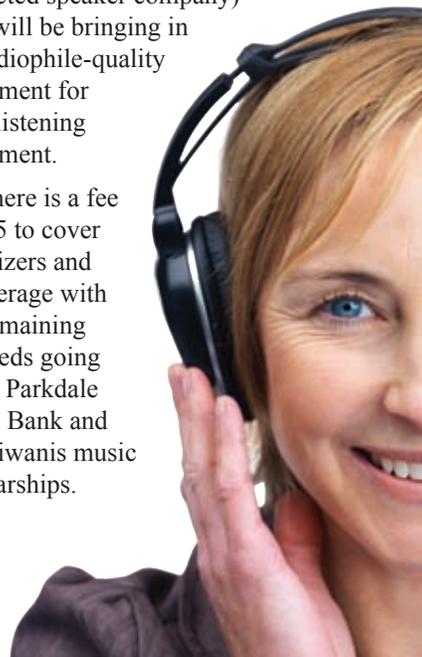


Wellington Gastropub
1325 Wellington Ave.

Join us on Monday January 16th at the Wellington Gastropub in Hintonberg for a listening party of significant organ performances on vinyl.

This event is being co-presented by Tetra Speakers (a locally based but internationally respected speaker company) who will be bringing in its audiophile-quality equipment for your listening enjoyment.

There is a fee of \$25 to cover appetizers and a beverage with the remaining proceeds going to the Parkdale Food Bank and the Kiwanis music scholarships.





Around Town

Wednesdays, December 7, 14, 21, 2016, 12:15-12:45 p.m.

Noon-day recitals at the Christian Science Church (Metcalf at Gilmour)

- Dec. 7th - Mervyn Games (organ)
Joanne Thomas (soprano)
- Dec. 14th - Teresa van den Boogaard (organ)
- Dec. 21st - Wesley Warren (organ)

Sunday, December 18, 2016, 7:00 p.m.

Joy to the World, an evening of Christmas music and carol singing at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 971 Woodroffe Avenue. Featuring St. Paul's Choir and the Manotick Brass Ensemble with percussion. Free admission; donations accepted for the Food Bank. Parking is available behind the church. Wheelchair accessible. Information: Church office 613-729-3384

Sunday, December 11, 2016, 3:00 p.m.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Christmas Concert at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 1758 Alta Vista Drive. Come and enjoy this wonderful prelude to the Christmas season; it's a joyous way to help those in need in our community. Three choirs, the Ottawa Catholic School Board Chamber Choir, the Kanata Choral Society, and the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Choir, are accompanied by the popular Ottawa Wind Ensemble, a 35-member orchestral group. They will be joined by tenor soloist Dr. Fraser Rubens, for special tributes to the musical season. Interspersed with this will be carol singing for all to join in. This 25th Immaculate Heart of Mary Concert is held in support of the Heron Emergency Food Centre (HEFC). Admission to the concert is FREE and there is ample parking. There will be collection baskets for voluntary monetary donations (cheques or cash) to assist the HEFC in the purchase of fresh food and make this a special Christmas for all in our community. Tax receipts will be issued by HEFC for donations over \$25. Those interested in an advance donation or in purchasing advertising in the concert program or for any questions should contact the concert organizing committee at 613-791-9115.

Dimanche, 11 décembre 2016 à 15 h

Venez apprécier la musique de Noël à l'Église Immaculate Heart of Mary, 1758, promenade Alta Vista! Trois chorales, le Ottawa Catholic School Board Chamber Choir, le Kanata Choral Society, et l'Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Choir, seront accompagnées par le populaire Ensemble à vents d'Ottawa, formation composée de 35 musiciens. Avec à leurs côtés le ténor soliste Dr. Fraser Rubens, ils rendront hommage à la saison musicale. Le tout sera parsemé de chants de Noël qui uniront les voix des chorales et celles du public. Ce 25^e Concert de Noël Immaculate Heart of Mary est offert en appui au Heron Emergency Food Centre (HEFC). L'entrée est GRATUITE et le stationnement est vaste et facile d'accès. Des paniers de collecte seront disponibles à la sortie pour ceux qui voudront faire un don au HEFC (chèques ou comptant). Ainsi, le HEFC pourra se procurer de la nourriture fraîche et rendre ce Noël spécial pour les gens dans le besoin de notre communauté. Des reçus pour fins d'impôt seront émis par HEFC pour tout don de plus de 25 \$. Si vous désirez faire un don à l'avance du concert ou acheter de la publicité dans le programme du concert, ou pour toute question, veuillez joindre le Comité d'organisation du concert au 613-791-9115. Venez profiter de ce magnifique prélude à la période des Fêtes de Noël. Quelle occasion joyeuse d'aider les moins fortunés de notre communauté!

Sunday, January 8, 2017, 3 p.m.

Kanata United Church is pleased to present Joshua Zentner-Barrett in recital. Joshua is soon to complete a Master of Sacred Music degree in organ performance at the Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University. A student of Stefan Engels, he is the 2016 winner of the Barrie Cabena Scholarship. Joshua's program will include J.S. Bach, *Pièce d'orgue and Two Settings of Jesus Christus unser Heiland*; J. Cook, *Paeon on Divinum Mysterium*; G. Litaize, *Lamento*; B. Cabena, *Three Psalm Miniatures*; M. Reger, *Weihnachten*; R. Daveluy, *Deuxième sonate pour orgue*.

Joshua is a member of the Ottawa Centre and known to many of you. A native of Stittsville, Joshua used the Kanata organ for practice while studying with Pamela Hoswitchska and Karen Holmes. He has maintained a close connection with this congregation as well as serving as an organ scholar at St. John's Anglican Church with Gordon Johnston. Please come and enjoy the recital, which will be followed by a reception in the church hall. Kanata United Church is located at 33 Leacock Drive. You will find directions on our website, www.kuc.ca

Saturday, February 4, 2017, 7:30 p.m.

A recital and hymn-sing celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Casavant organ (Opus 2875) at First Baptist Church, Ottawa. Performers will include current and former organists of First Baptist Church. Admission is by donation, with proceeds going towards the Music Fund. All are most welcome to join in the celebration of 50 years of this marvellous instrument! First Baptist Church, 140 Laurier Ave West www.firstbaptistottawa.ca



Members' News

Change of Address

Mervin Saunders, 601 – 1203
Maritime Way, Kanata ON K2K 0H5
613-599-2586 (H)

Welcome to New Member

Baillie, Mrs. Emily, BA Music,
Organist at Eglise Unie Saint Marc,
815-3360 Paul Anka Drive, Ottawa
ON K1V 9S2 emily.allison18@gmail.com

With our enormous snowfall a couple of weeks ago week, I instantly remembered, when looking out the window, why I actually like winter. I was pleasantly surprised with that warm feeling, because I had been quietly ignoring the reality that snow would be coming. And I had been wishing I could avoid it all by going to Florida.

My boys would strongly disagree about the snow. They can hardly wait to get to the ski hill and put on their new skis!

But there is something wonderful about being inside and looking out of the window; leaving the car in the garage; not going out for groceries or errands; shovelling later on, or the next day.

Especially beautiful is the snow on the trees and hedges. It looks like the middle of winter—a winter wonderland.



Simple observations. But do we really take them in and value them? Do we take time to really look, to behold the beauty around us and to enjoy it?

If we are driving on the roads all of the time, and they are snow-covered and icy in spots, as they often are in the Ottawa Valley, we are looking at life from a different perspective.

These days, driving in the winter is not the same as it was years ago. The temperature is not as consistent, so you really do not know what the roads will be like. The consistency regarding clearing them also seems to be different, too. Further, you do not know when the weather conditions will change.

Before all of the snow came, I was in Toronto for a weekend doing some continuing education. I stayed with a long-time friend and colleague. On a free evening, she took me out to a choral concert. This was a choir—the Toronto Orpheus Choir—I had accompanied for rehearsals and concerts for several years some twenty-five plus years ago.

To say the least, it was an impressive evening. Grace Church-on-the-Hill (Anglican) was packed, and I mean jammed pack. Extra chairs were set up at the ends of the pews, and at the sides. The tickets were not cheap. I think they were around thirty-five dollars.

The program of contemporary classical choral music was very interesting, and required great vocal, accompanying, and conducting skill. I am sure you can check out the specifics on their website.

At certain points in the concert, the entire nave was utilized. Choristers moved up and down the aisles. The young choristers singing from the back of the church provided a full-bodied sound like I have never heard before. At one point, a male soloist from the Orpheus Choir began his part from sitting in the pew as part of the audience. You would not have known that he was there!

The choir had obviously reached a new professional caliber. And they also employed the services of superb accompanying musicians and a wonderful children's choir to match.

It was amazing to see how the organization had grown over the years. They have instituted an extensive choral scholars' program of young, upcoming singers who are paid to support the choir and provide the lead solo work. The list of financial benefactors was also impressive.

Everything seemed to be well-rehearsed and well-thought through, including the comments at the beginning by the chair of the board, the past chair, and the conductor, Robert Cooper. Spoken introductions to the first few pieces, given by a few choir members, both old and new, added to the personal connections.

As the program moved into the second half, however, those connections became very deep experiential ones. No longer were any spoken words required. One was immersed in the mystery and beauty of the music.

You could tell that the audience enjoyed being drawn in to the powerful musical presence of the moment. It was like being transported to another realm. The music transformed this traditional Anglican worship space and all gathered in it.

In my day, back in the 1980s, Mr. Cooper was the conductor of the Opera in Concert Chorus, as well as the Toronto Mendelssohn Youth Choir. He did a fine job then. These days, as recently evidenced, he has brought the Toronto Orpheus Choir to an incomparable new height.

That evening was a testament to what can happen positively over time, and how a music organization can change and move into the future. I am not certain what took place over the years, but the Toronto Orpheus Choir is a model that we all need to take notice of and learn from. I am sure that hundreds of volunteer hours have gone into revitalizing the organization, and that commitment seems to continue to this day.

From what I saw and heard during the Saturday evening performance, that choral organization seems to be thriving. There was a lot of positive energy in the room.

Speaking of hard work and commitment, we have just moved into the season of Advent. By hard work, I mean that Advent has a strong confessional nature. It is an opportunity to do some reflective work regarding your spiritual life and relationship with God.

Advent is an opportunity to remember and to celebrate a full view of what the Christian faith is about: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.

We move into Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany—the first cycle of the Christian

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calendar—through the eyes of an Easter faith. We know what God has done, is doing, and will bring to pass.

Remember the importance of renewal at this time of year, personally and communally, and how it is a new beginning not only of the Christian calendar, but also of our calling as disciples, followers of Jesus Christ and communities of faith.

How we work together, along with our religious and community leaders, making a deeper commitment to our faith institutions, community activities, especially the musical ones, and our own personal faith development, will help us all to come to a new place in the journey of life.

In life, sometimes, when certain events take place, no matter how challenging they are, you can move to a new place. From the tension of opposites, something new always emerges. Jungians would call this the “transcendent function.”

But you may have had to go through a lot to get there. You have to do the work: deal with the issues. We hope and pray this new place is one that emerges out of the tension of opposites—the challenging situations of life—that when addressed and worked on, bring new hope and renewal.

Like an excellent choir, and its supporting organization, we do not all-of-a-sudden start to thrive. We have to be open to growth, make changes, and do the work required: recommitting ourselves to the institutions, societies, and associations that help to hold together and articulate our lives, and help us to make meaning of life, as a whole.

As recent experience shows, it is easy to stay inside on cold, stormy, wintery days, and even to enjoy seeing the beautiful winter scenes outside our window.

But, for those who approach life from a faith perspective, for example, a Christian one, the heart of the Gospel of Jesus Christ is getting out there in the world and living faithfully.

Our faith is put into practice and made known as we strive to work together, be compassionate, reconciling, loving, and hopeful people, open and responsive to the transforming presence of God.

This can begin in your faith community by volunteering to help out



in some way; going to your minister for spiritual direction, being concerned about your own spiritual welfare; asking your church leaders, including the minister and the musician, if there is something that you can do to help with the ministry; supporting and encouraging your church musician; initiating a relationship with your minister by letting him or her know when people are sick, or there is something going on that he or she needs to be aware of; increasing your financial

givings and commitment to your church and denomination; participating in your weekly church programs, especially the church choirs. Volunteer to help out in whatever way you can. Bring your personal, inner warmth to these upcoming, cold and beautiful, snowy days.

Transformation can also begin by really taking in the beauty all around you, in the people, what they offer; in how we all differ and the various gifts we have; in respecting all of God’s creation.

Let the music and worship of this time of year minister to you, wherever you are and however you are involved. Support the seasonal activities of your local faith institutions and community programs. Experience the many ways God’s presence is being made known and enjoy it. For everything there is a season. And that time is now!

The Rev. Dr. Dan Hansen is convenor of Professional Support, pastor of Zion-Mt. Zion Pastoral Charge (The United Church of Canada), an advanced candidate-in-training with the Ontario Association of Jungian Analysts (OAJA), and lives in Renfrew.



Student Recital

JENNIFER LOVELESS

Mark your calendars now for our annual student recital coming up on March 11th, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. This event will be held at St Luke's Anglican Church, 760 Somerset at Empress. This a great opportunity to show your support of our student organists who have worked hard

throughout the year to hone their skills as musicians and leaders in congregational worship.

Further details on this event will be published right here in the pages of future issues of *Pipelines*.



Organ – Saxophone Combo, a Stunning Beauty

GEORGE NEVILLE

For the 50 some attendees of the 2nd seasonal program of PRO ORGANO OTTAWA held in Centretown United Church on Friday evening, November 4th, it was a rare treat indeed to hear a program given over entirely to organ/saxophone duets, save for two solo organ transitional interludes.

The organist, Lottie Enns-Braun, is the Director of Music and Organist at Young United Church in Winnipeg, university organist for the University of Manitoba, and an active member of the RCCO. The saxophonist is Allen Harrington, Associate Professor at the University of Manitoba's Desautels Faculty of Music, where he teaches saxophone, bassoon, and chamber music. The two began performing together in 2005, and since then, they have given many recitals and have been featured on Winnipeg's Westminster Organ Series and at the 2015 RCCO National Convention.

From the opening Andante (Presto) of J.S. Bach's *Sonata for Flute* (BWV 1023) in four parts, I was immediately struck by the rich soniferous blending and unique complementarity of the alto saxophone with organ (a quite unexpected sensation since I had never heard such a combination in spite of many years attendance at PRO ORGANO concerts). The beauty and diversity of this combination was then continued in the longer remaining first half of the program devoted to works by Canadians built through *Vanishing Point* (Parts I, II, & III) by Leonard Enns (present in the balcony for the event). Ruth Watson Henderson's *Chromatic Partita* was used to segue from the 1st to the 2nd movement of *Vanishing Point*. Rachel Laurin's gentle and introspective *Prelude* was used as a transitional link between the 2nd and 3rd movements of *Vanishing Point*. Organist Lottie cherishes this uncharacteristically brief work by Laurin, Ottawa organist and composer "when she needs to be at peace and simply be".

The second half of the program was organ/saxophone duets throughout: Ton Verhiel's *Partita Breve*, Guy de

Lioncourt's *Clémens Rector*, and Michael McGlynn's *Visions* before the concluding work by Denis Bédard, *Sonata I for Saxophone and Organ*, in 3 parts: *Invention*, *Barcarolle*, and *Humoresque*. Before commencing this signature piece

(it was the catalyst composition for the formation of the Lottie/Allen duo more than 10 years ago), Allen took time to replace his reed with a harder one and try it out in order to be able to embrace the higher notes of the score. It was a robust

classical delight "with hints of Baroque music, accessibility and jazz", as noted in the program notes by Lottie Enns-Braun.

The soloists responded to enthusiastic applause by playing a Norwegian hymn characteristic of older Nordic tradition ending with a sustained fortissimo note bar.

Upon reflection, the saxophone really merits use to complement the organ, since, as a brass-reed instrument, the saxophone extends the brass and reed (woodwind) stops of the organ.

- George Neville
(non-musicologist organ lover).



Kanata United 50th Anniversary

Kanata United is marking its 50th year as a congregation, as well as the 30th anniversary of the dedication of its building. Of special note is that Sunday, January 15th marks the 22nd anniversary of the dedication of the pipe organ, previously a Milligan organ before its purchase and installation by Guilbault-Therien. Many of you were present at the dedication recital by Patricia Wright. Included in the needed organ repair is the replacement of the original valves from the 1950's Legge organ. Over half the needed funds have been raised. Besides the recital by Joshua Zentner-Barrett on

January 8th, you are invited to join us at the following events:

- A variety/talent show on April 30 to raise money for the organ repair
- The official anniversary service on May 7 at 10 a.m.
- A Saturday with musician and Church of Scotland minister John Bell, member of the Iona community, making a return visit to present workshops on Saturday, June 24 and preach for our final anniversary service on June 25.

We look forward to seeing you there.

OTTAWA CENTRE EXECUTIVE 2016-2017

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**NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING:
SUNDAY, JANUARY 22ND, 1:30 PM,
ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Supply List

Amy Andonian	613 224-8117	Sundays, weddings, funerals. Organ and piano. All denominations.
Nadia Behmann	613-723-8601	nadia@behmann.ca Weddings and Funerals.
James Brough	613-733-2972	Piano & organ, all styles of music. Any denomination. Sundays, weddings, funerals.
Elizabeth Brown	613-608-1210	lizbrown2007@hotmail.com Sundays, weddings funerals.
Frances Macdonnell	613-726-7984	fbmacdonnell@sympatico.ca
Daniel Morel	613-228-8331	moreldan15@gmail.com Sundays, weddings, funerals.
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Gavan Quinn	613-695-0533	gavanquinn@gmail.com
Donald Russell	613-738-9223	russell.kimberwick@me.com
Alan Thomas	613-829-2017	alan.thomas@sympatico.ca
Wesley R. Warren	613-726-6341	Weddings and Funerals

*Please note: Supply list can also be found on the RCCO Ottawa web site at <http://www.rcco-ottawa.ca>
Anyone interested in adding their names to the Supply List, please contact Suzanne St-Germain
at 613-841-0246 or via email at newsletter@rcco-ottawa.ca*

Organ Teachers List

D. Mervyn Games, B.Mus., FRCO, ARCM. Students in piano, organ, and theory at all levels. Info: mervyn.games@gmail.com or 613-729-2515.

Robert P. Jones, M.Mus., ARCCO (ChM). All levels of students (teenager or adult). Lessons at St. Luke's Church (760 Somerset Street W.) Info: pentland1212@eastlink.ca

Heather Rice, ARCT, BMus, ARCCO (ChM). Welcomes students in piano, organ, voice and theory, Beginner - Intermediate, Children - Adult. Call 613-563-1409

Wesley R. Warren, M.Mus., FRCO, (ChM), ARCT. Beginning to advanced organ students, piano and theory. St. Barnabas Anglican Church, (Kent St. at James), Ottawa. Info: 613-726-6341

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SOLOIST POSITION

at First Church of Christ, Scientist, Ottawa

The First Church of Christ, Scientist Ottawa advertises a vacancy for a soloist who would sing a solo at each Sunday morning service. The church has no choir, but the soloist works with an organist to supply church music. Any voice type would be appropriate and auditions will be held during the period January 5th to 18th, 2017.

Please send a short letter of interest by e-mail that summarizes experience and qualifications, by December 30th 2016 to:

Dr Ola Smith
Chair, Music committee
olabsmith@aim.com