Vol. 36, No. 10 June/Juin 2019 ROYAL CANADIAN COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS OTTAWA CENTRE Collège royal canadien des organistes section d'Ottawa

*Upelinee* uches et anches



### President's Message

SUE SPARKS

# **Reflect and Recharge**

President's Message

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This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres. This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas, His hand the wonders wrought.

Maltbie Babcock

memorized all of the verses to the hymn "This is My Father's World" as a young girl. It has stayed with me all these years later, and I still find myself frequently humming the tune. As we close out the busy season the Ottawa Centre, I wish all of you a summer of rest and rejuvenation. May you have the time and space to listen to the music of the nature around us, wherever that may take you this summer.

I would like to say a special thank you to all of the Executive members who have worked hard and very successfully brought a varied and interesting programme to the Centre this year. Between four wonderful Pro Organo concerts, the tribute to Healey Willan concert, the Great Bach Marathon 3, the Student Rectial, and the OrgelKids workshop, we managed to include and inspire a wide range of age groups. Looking forward, we need to continue to look for ways to inspire, encourage and support organists of all ages to continue and share their passion for the organ. We are off to a great start!

The last event of the season is our Annual General Meeting, which takes place on Monday, June 3 at 7 p.m. for refreshments and 7:30 for the meeting. We will have the opportunity to honour our Member of the Year, David LaFranchise. I invite you to join us as we look at the year that was and hear about some of the very exciting events that we have lined up for our fall season.





## **RCCO Ottawa Centre Executive Slate 2019-2020**

The following is the proposed slate of candidates for the RCCO Ottawa Centre Executive for 2019-2020 to be presented to the membership for approval at the RCCO Ottawa Centre's Annual General Meeting on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church:

President:	Heather Rice	<b>Convenors of Committees</b>	5:
Vice-President:	Robert Jones	Archives	Larry Kempffer
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National Councillors Members at Large:	: Heather Rice Sue Sparks Donald Marjerrison Sondra Goldsmith Proctor Catherine Helferty David Lafranchise	Pro Organo Professional Support Program Convenor Publicity Student Concerns Social Convenor Webmaster	Karen Holmes/Blake Hargreaves Rev. Dr. Dan Hansen - vacant - Joshua Zentner-Barrett - vacant - Suzanne Marjerrison Ross Jewell
	Frances Macdonnell		



### Join us at our Annual General Meeting on Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church (971 Woodroffe Ave.)

#### Refreshments at 7:00 pm with meeting to follow at 7:30 pm.

This is your Centre. Our executive values your feedback. Come out and voice your opinions and ideas on what you'd like to have your Centre do. The Annual General Meeting of the Ottawa Centre is our opportunity to conduct the necessary business of the College, but also to celebrate the year past and look forward to the coming year.

We are pleased to announce that David Lafranchise, Past President and Member at Large on the Centre Executive, will be recognized as the Member of the Year. David was the RCCO Ottawa Centre President from 2015 to 2017. He is very organized and has helped to spread the word about the RCCO to the musical community. As Past President of the Executive he is always willing to take minutes when the Secretary is absent and organizing events. The RCCO Ottawa Centre Executive appreciate David's knowledge and willingness to help in many ways. He brings a quiet expertise to our meetings which is most helpful.

All members are encouraged to attend and participate in decision-making of your Centre and to hear reports of the various convenors and National Council representatives. There is plenty of parking and the room is air-conditioned.



### Member of the Year - David Lafranchise

are pleased to announce David Lafranchise as our Member of the Year for 2019-20 to recognize lifelong commitment to the work of the RCCO. David writes:

It was an exciting day when my grandparents' piano arrived in our house. Making music has always been an important stream in my life, encouraged by many enthusiastic leaders and colleagues along the way. Even on the most remote air force station there was always someone to play the Hammond Spinet in chapel, gather a children's choir, or teach campfire songs.

Back in Ottawa to attend university, the choir at Rothwell United Church was an encouraging home and a door into the wider choral community. Choirs, small and large, have provided an opportunity to learn from many gifted and dedicated musicians, to travel abroad and to forge new friendships.



I was unable to sing for several years, and began filling in on the organ instead. I



#### Sunday, June 9, 2019, 7:00 p.m.

The Cranmer Singers, directed by Frances Macdonnell, will sing Choral Evensong in St. Barnabas Anglican Church, 70 James St, at Kent, Ottawa. Canticles: *Ley in A minor*; Anthems: *The Spirit of the Lord* - Frances Macdonnell, and *O sacrum convivium* - Tallis.

**Sunday, June 9, 2019, 7:30 p.m.** Susan *Courts & Celts*: In the final recital of our 2018-19 series, we feature Kevin James (violin) and Susan Toman (Celtic harp) in a continuation of *Baroque Meets Folk*, a program they gave last season, presenting baroque and folk pieces from the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. St. Luke's Church: 760 Somerset Street West. Admission by donation. Info: www.stlukesottawa.ca .



joined the RCCO to take advantage of the Tools and Techniques program of classes and lessons, and began playing more regularly, most recently at Église-Unie St-Marc.

David was the RCCO Ottawa Centre President from 2015 to 2017. He is very organized and has helped to spread the word about the RCCO to the musical community. He has taken on duties as Past President of the Executive including taking minutes when the Secretary is absent and organizing events.

The RCCO Ottawa Centre Executive appreciates David's knowledge and willingness to help in many ways. He brings a quiet expertise to our meetings which is most helpful.

David will be recognized for his contribution and dedication to the RCCO Ottawa Centre at our June 3rd AGM.

### Members' News

#### Sincerest Condolances

We are saddened to report the passing of two long-time RCCO members.

**Dr. Derek Holman** holds the degree of Doctor of Music from the University of London and is a Fellow of the RCCO and of the Royal Academy of Music. He was made a member of the Order of Canada in 2003.

Patrick Wedd was best known as director of Montreal's Tudor Singers and Director of Music at Christ Church Cathedral in downtown Montreal, a position he held from 1996 to 2018.

Have a great summer! See you in September.



SONDRA GOLDSMITH PROCTOR







ere you there? Did you hear the twenty-one RCCO members perform in The Great Bach Marathon 3 at Woodroffe United Church? Did you say thank you to the eight piano and organ teachers who presented students? Did you feel the excitement of the twenty children as they presented their pieces to their adoring public? Wasn't it fabulous to hear the seven high school and university students share their works? Thirteen of our members worked backstage to make certain that everything ran smoothly. Our hostess Katarina Jovic worked tirelessly to make certain that we had the time we needed for rehearsals and that the set up was wonderful with a welltuned piano and organ. The church once again provided goodies with donations to benefit the local outreach of the church.

The Great Bach Marathon allows our members to perform in a way that most of our membership does not throughout the year. Do any of us perform on the same instrument with the same registration week after week without exploring all of the possibilities our instrument offers? Learning to hear in a different acoustic is a skill that we as a Centre need to encourage. Encouraging people to learn a different repertoire keeps the brain supple, the fingers and feet moving in different ways, and introduces our congregations and audiences to new repertoire.

Another reason we perform The Great Bach Marathon is to raise money for the future of our profession. The instrument that we love and the organists we need to encourage wait for us to support them in their learning. To provide funds for Beginning Organists Scholarships is to provide for the organists in waiting. Sometimes, pianists need only the opportunity to hear an organ and to play an organ to be 'hooked.' Young students love to experiment with the multiple possibilities of the organ. Older, adult students enjoy the sense of accomplishment that they gain from learning repertoire they've heard for years.

Thank you to all of you who donated to the Beginning Organists Scholarship Fund. Thank you to all who performed. Thank you to all who worked 'behind the scenes' to provide support for the many questions from the performers and audience. Thank you to all who welcomed the audience to share in the celebration of Johann Sebastian Bach's 334th birthday. With the many Preludes and Fugues, the lovely chorale preludes, the beautiful cello Suite, the children's serious attention to their repertoire, each of us left with more of an understanding of the scope of the repertoire of Johann Sebastian Bach.

Thanks to all of you we are making a difference through the Ottawa Centre by introducing all of this year's repertoire to our audience.

Sondra Goldsmith Proctor Coordinator, The Great Bach Marathon 3





### 2019 Godfrey Hewitt Scholarship Winner

The Godfrey Hewitt Scholarship for 2019, amounting to \$5,000, has been awarded by the Godfrey Hewitt Memorial Fund to

#### Stefani Bedin

Stefani Bedin is a solo and collaborative performer, liturgical musician and teacher, based in her hometown of Toronto. In September 2019, Stefani will begin the Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the University of Toronto, where she recently completed the Master of Music degree in Organ Performance and the Bachelor of Music degree in Music History and Theory (Honours). She studies organ under the tutelage of Dr. Kevin Komisaruk. Stefani also holds an A.R.C.T. in Piano Performance from the Royal Conservatory of Music. She has a keen interest in sacred music and is currently the Assistant Organist of St. Basil's Catholic Parish at the University of St. Michael's College. Committed to sharing the pipe organ's music with diverse audiences, Stefani has given several solo recitals and is also an active executive board member of the RCCO Toronto Centre.

Godfrey Hewitt, C.D., D.Mus. (Cantuar), FRCO, Hon. ARSCM, died in 2002 at the age of ninety-three. For over seventy years a prominent figure in sacred music in Canada, Dr. Hewitt left a very significant legacy to Canadian



music. Born in England in 1909, he came to Canada in 1931 after serving as Organist for the Archbishop of Canterbury at Lambeth Palace, London, in 1930. He became Organist and Master of the Choristers at Christ Church Cathedral, Ottawa, in 1931, and remained there for half a century, until his retirement in 1980. In 1973, Dr. Hewitt was awarded the Lambeth Doctorate of Music by the Archbishop of Canterbury; he was made a Member of the Order of Canada in 1976. He was famed as performer, teacher, composer, and organ designer. This scholarship was established after his death both to honour his memory and to increase the number of highly-trained professional Canadian organists, not only to serve as organists in universities, concert halls, and churches, but also to teach future generations of performers and church musicians.

Previous winners of this scholarship were Craig Humber (2005), Isabelle Demers (2006), Michael Unger (2007), Ryan Jackson (2008), Matthieu Latreille (2009), Shawn Potter (2010), Wendy Nieuwenhuis (2011), Stephen Boda (2012), Sarah Svendsen (2013), Julie Pinsonneault (2014), Rachel Mahon (2015), Shane Murphy (2016), David Simon and Nicholas Walters (both in 2018).

The next annual competition for the Godfrey Hewitt Memorial Scholarship in organ will close on April 30, 2020 Details may be found on the web site of the Royal Canadian College of Organists, Ottawa Centre at **www.rcco-ottawa.ca** 

There is also a Godfrey Hewitt Prize of \$5,000, awarded as the Grand Prize bi-annually at the National Organ-Playing Competition at the RCCO National Organ Festival; the next Prize will be awarded in July 2019 in Halifax.

Further details may be obtained from:

Frances Macdonnell 613-726-7984; fbmacdonnell@sympatico.ca



### Pro Organo season tickets

are now available online at

#### www.rcco-ottawa.ca

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Wesley R. Warren	613 726-6341	Weddings and Funerals Next Deadline	
		Next Deadline	

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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.

www.rcco-ottawa.ca

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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