



Dundas Valley Orchestra

“Hi” Notes

August 2013

Our 35th Anniversary Year!

President's Message

Greetings to all and a warm welcome to our new members!

I hope you have had a wonderful, relaxing summer and you are looking forward to our first rehearsal on September 10 at 7:30 p.m. Doors will open for 7:00 p.m. so you can have time to chat before the music-making begins.

We are lucky to have such capable committed, creative Board members with such diverse backgrounds. They have been working hard during the summer organizing for the new concert season. This year we are piloting the new organization and management system developed under the leadership of our Past-president, Peter Hill. Our committee structure, piloted last year, has proven to be successful and will be continued. The Board approved the purchase of a chart stand for us to use so that we will be able to do inservice and disseminate information to members more efficiently. We will continue to post information on our bulletin board to keep you informed of happenings.

This season the Board will be developing a Vision Statement. This has been missing in our Constitution. We will also be revisiting our Mission Statement and we have also started working on a Three Year Strategic Plan. We welcome your input. Our thoughts will be posted on our Bulletin Board for all to see and there will be a place for you to add your ideas and comments.

If you are a new member, you might not be aware that the DVO is a charitable organization and, as a result, is able to provide Income Tax receipts for donations. It has been

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Music Director's Message

Hello DVO musicians!

I hope you've been having a great summer. Mine was very busy with Summer Music Camp and summer concerts. I'm trying to take some down time before September to relax, play in the garden and listen to the fall repertoire.

Our first concert is going to be an exciting one. In the last few days of summer, we're going to start to learn music all about winter – the sleigh ride movements from pieces by Mozart (Schlittenfahrt) and Prokofiev (Troika), Vivaldi's "Winter" from the Four Seasons and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 1, nicknamed "Winter Dreams." I've worked on an annotated Listening List of YouTube links and will also have audio files available for those who like to listen to the music we're learning.

I'm delighted to be working with the dedicated DVO Executive and Board to work on plans to move the DVO into the future, building membership and audiences, and making wonderful music. We received very good news this summer about our successful application to the Ontario Arts Council for a project grant that will allow us to provide more support to DVO musicians. More on that later!

Enjoy the rest of August and I look forward to getting back to rehearsals with you in September.

Over n' out,

Laura Thomas

Music Director

DVO - Special Dates - 2013-2014 Season

All dates are rehearsal dates with special events noted in addition.

September

3 Board Mtg
10
17 Membership Mtg
24

October

1
8 Board Mtg
15
22
29

November

5
12 Board Mtg
19
26 Nursing Home concert

December

3 Nursing Home concert
10 Board Mtg
17

January

7
14 Board Mtg
19 Public Concert
21
28

February

4
11 Board Mtg
18
25

March

4
11 Board Mtg
18 (Winter Break)
25

April

1
8 Board Mtg
15
22
29 Nursing Home concert

May

6
13 Board Mtg
20
25 Public Concert
27 Nursing Home concert + AGM

June

3
10 Board Mtg
17
24 Board Mtg

NOTE: the Mohawk Concerto concerts will be held on April 3/4 or April 10/11. We shall learn for sure when Mohawk resumes in September.

Just for the Record

At our concert on May 12, 2013 we conferred on **Caroleen Molenaar**, flute, our Glenn Mallory Award for her contributions to the orchestra during the 2013-2014 season. Caroleen who is going into her final year of Music studies at McMaster University in September has been responsible for the graphic design of our Concert Programs.

We also highlighted two young musicians who gave performances at the Concert: **Graylen Howard** who

plays his horn with the orchestra and **Jordin Willms**, a young soprano who is a student at Mohawk College.

Our first Student Composer Competition was won by **Christopher Barletta**, a Hamiltonian and a percussionist, who is studying music at Brock University. We played his winning submission, "Relative Flutes."

Congratulations to all four!

2013 - 2014 Season repertoire details

Winter Concert Sunday, January 19th 2014

The theme of our first concert of the 2013-2014 season is "Winter Dreams." Laura has selected a number of works with a Winter theme.

Note that this list is subject to change.

W. A. Mozart
Three German Dances K.605 (*Includes "Sleigh Ride" mvt.*)
J. W. Palmer
Variations on a Winter Theme (*Canadian Composer*)
L. M. Thomas
Snowflakes (*Canadian Composer*)
S. Prokofiev
Troika (*from Lte. Kiji Suite*)
A. Vivaldi
Winter (*from the Four Seasons*)
P. I. Tchaikovsky
Symphony No. 1 in G minor (*nicknamed "Winter Dreams"*)

Spring Concert Sunday, May 25th 2014

For the Spring 2014 Concert, Laura has chosen a program based on "Song and Dance" - Music of Opera and Ballet.

Note that this list is also subject to change.

G. Rossini
The Barbar of Seville (*opera overture*)
J. Offenbach
Intermezzo and Barcarolle (*from "Tales of Hoffman" - opera*)
A. Copeland
Hoe Down (*from "Rodeo" - ballet Suite*)
A. Ponchielli
Dance of the Hours (*from "La Gioconda"*)
G. Verdi
Nabucco Overture (*opera overture*)
I. Stravinsky
Berceuse and Finale (*from the "Firebird Suite" - 1919*)
Student Composer TBA

DVO awarded OAC Project Grant!

The Dundas Valley Orchestra applied to the Ontario Arts Council for a project grant for the 2013-2014 Season. OAC project grants can be used for the artistic costs of a specifically defined project. The focus of the project for which we applied was twofold: firstly; to give more opportunities to DVO members to further develop their musicianship; and, secondly, to help us bring interesting performances, repertoire, and soloists to our audiences.

To achieve these two goals, we applied for \$6,000 to cover the costs of hiring coaches to help individual sections learn our season repertoire in sectional settings and to build overall performance skills. We also applied for soloist fees for one of the coaches (violinist) to serve as the soloist for the January performance of Vivaldi's *Winter*. We were awarded \$4,500 (75%) of the requested amount – an excellent show of confidence in the DVO's ability to achieve the goals set out in the project description.

It is an honour to be awarded this grant and it will make it possible for us to present a memorable concert in January and to improve as an ensemble for future concerts.

More details will follow as our planning proceeds and is implemented.

DVO Concert, May 12, 2013



President's Message (Cont'd)

our practice for members to donate to the orchestra to help with its management costs. To ensure that the orchestra maintains its financial stability, we need an average donation of \$100 from members. Students, or some members with less disposable income, might pay less, while others who have the means, might pay more to support the mission of the orchestra. Thanks to the generosity of our membership, this practice has been working successfully and we have always managed to meet our financial obligations. Though the orchestra does not have a mandatory membership fee, it does have a mandatory requirement for all to fill out the DVO Registration Form. Your information is needed so the Board can communicate and plan more effectively.

Our Section leaders know that the Board has been revisiting the makeup of our orchestra. Over the summer, Laura has been conversing with our various section heads to identify where

Photo captions:

- Top left: The orchestra in action.
Top right: **Jordin Willms** (soprano) and **Graylen Howard** (French horn)
Lower left: The after-concert reception.
Lower right: **Caroleen Molenaar** (flute) being presented with the 2013 Glenn Mallory Award by DVO President **Peter Hill**
Photography by **Len Bolder**

we need to complement our numbers. My thanks to them for sharing ideas and providing advice. To put everyone at ease, no positions will be eliminated or changed. No one is going to lose their spot or chair. However, the Board must ensure that there will be a player trained to take over when the unexpected happens - illness strikes or a member, for various reasons, has to miss a concert performance. It is not fair for the rest of the orchestra not to have a fully-

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rehearsed musician to play the music and fill the vacancy. This means that in some Sections the leader will have a shadow player learning and playing along at rehearsals. Maybe even the second player in a section will be training someone to play their part too. Due to the nature of our amateur structure and non-compulsory fees, everyone will understand that the orchestra cannot afford to hire professionals for last minute vacancies. Even then, sometimes no professional is available. Some of you might not be aware that this practice was in place last year in the trumpet section and was very successful, thanks, to our seasoned trumpet players. Elsewhere you will read in this issue of *Hi Notes* the fantastic news that we received a grant from

the Ontario Arts Council. Laura will be giving you details about what this means for us and the things that this grant will allow us to do in this coming year. The City of Hamilton has also continued to issue its usual funding to us and we are grateful for this support too.

We are in for an exciting year!

Olga Hencher
President

Event Calendar

Tuesday, November 26, 2013

Nursing Home Concert (Location TBA)

Tuesday, December 3, 2013

Nursing Home Concert (Location TBA)

Sunday, January 19, 2014

Winter Concert at St. Paul's United Church,
Dundas

Tuesday, April 29, 2014

Nursing Home Concert (Location TBA)

Sunday, May 25, 2014

Spring Concert at St. Paul's United Church, Dundas

Tuesday, May 27, 2014

Nursing Home Concert (Location TBA)

Annual General Meeting of members 7:00 p.m.
will be immediately after Nursing Home Concert

DVO Board of Directors 2013-2014

President: Olga Hencher

Past-President: Peter Hill

Vice-President: Claire Lechner

Secretary: Alicia Hutchings

Treasurer: Jim Jones

Librarian: Homer Seywerd

Members-at-large: Margaret Jamieson
Glenn Welbourn, Rudin Knights

Music Director: Laura Thomas

Composer in Residence: Mark Thomas

Archivist: Peter Hill

Dundas Valley Orchestra

Mailing address:

Suite 2, 1603 Main St. West,
Hamilton, ON, Canada L8S 1E6

Website: www.dundasvalleyorchestra.ca

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