



2023 – 2024

February 4  
3:00 P.M.

St. Paul's United Church

# Romance & Adventure

Callista Foti  
soprano

Nirvaan Grewal  
cello  
winner of the HAALSA competition



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Mission Statement

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The Dundas Valley Orchestra provides amateur musicians with the opportunity and joy of performing orchestral music. Musicians of all ages improve their skills and share their talent by performing community concerts and free concerts at community institutions such as nursing and retirement homes.

Board of Directors 2023 – 2024

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Since its founding in 1978, the DVO has performed over 100 complimentary concerts at local Long-Term Care and Retirement Residences. Small ensembles involving over 30 members of the DVO performed holiday concerts for over 200 residents and staff at four seniors' residences in Dundas last November – December, and were very well-received. A local Scout troop attended a DVO rehearsal to experience close-up the preparations leading up to the fall concert. DVO groups also performed at Arts Dundas Weekend and at the Dundas Cactus Festival.

We thank all of you who support us financially with your donations at our concerts and at our fundraising activities. Among other things, your financial support allows us to be involved with the seniors and youth in our community, and those who are unable to make their own way to our public concerts.



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### Laura Thomas, conductor



Laura Thomas is a conductor, arranger, composer, percussionist and teacher. She is Music Director of the *Dundas Valley Orchestra*, as well as Artistic Director of the Hamilton/Niagara area *WomEnchant Chorus & Drummers* and conductor of Hamilton's *Singin' Women* chorus. Her past positions include over ten years as Music Director

of the *Niagara Youth Orchestra* and six years as Artistic Director of the Niagara based chamber choir, *Choralis Camerata*. She is also the Principal Percussionist of the *Niagara Symphony Orchestra* where she also served as Associate Conductor for thirteen years. Along with acclaimed flutist Douglas Miller, she developed the *Flutes en Route!* programs of orchestral, ensemble and educational concerts.

Her guest conducting appearances include *Symphony on the Bay* (Burlington), the *Huronian Symphony*, *Etobicoke Philharmonic*, the *North York Concert Orchestra*, and the *Bard Chamber Orchestra*. She was for many years, Director of the *Niagara College Jazz Band*. Ms. Thomas holds a masters degree in conducting from New York's prestigious Bard College, where she studied with Harold Farberman. She is also a graduate of Hamilton's Mohawk College and McMaster University, where she studied percussion and composition.

In addition to her percussionist position with the *Niagara Symphony Orchestra*, she has performed with many ensembles throughout Southern Ontario and Western New York, including the *Buffalo Philharmonic*, the *Hamilton Philharmonic*, the *Te Deum Baroque Orchestra*, and the *Aradia Ensemble*. She is a member of Niagara's popular eclectic folk/blues band *BroadBand*, and performs regularly with her *Vintage Jazz* ensembles.

Ms. Thomas has written music for symphony orchestras, choirs, small ensembles, jazz groups, and solos. Her compositions and arrange-



ments can be heard in the orchestra and ensemble repertoire of *Flutes en Route!* featuring Douglas Miller and in the performances and recordings of *BroadBand*. In 2012 she composed and recorded the soundtrack for the play “*Bullying Hurts*” by Monica Dufault and produced by Mainstream Services in St. Catharines and, in March 2013, her *Concerto for Jazz Trio and Orchestra* was premiered by John Sherwood and the *Niagara Youth Orchestra*. Her recording credits include the *Aradia Ensemble* CD for Naxos Records, “*Ballet Music for the Sun King*”, the *Niagara College Jazz Band*’s “*On the Move*”, Rich Blend’s self titled CD, *sisterLune*’s “*Wonder*”, and *BroadBand*’s “*LIVE at the Black Sea Hall*” and “*BroadBand*”.

Ms. Thomas has been actively committed to music education in the Niagara area for over two decades. She served as the Artistic Director of the *Niagara Symphony*’s acclaimed Summer Music Camp for over twenty years, and she is the driving force behind the development of

The Academy, an intensive music study programme for senior students, which runs concurrently with the Summer Music Camp. She teaches conducting and percussion at Mohawk College in Hamilton and maintains a private studio. She designed and presented the popular *Composer in the Classroom* program to thousands of students in the Niagara area and, in 2019 composed the *Kinder Concerto* for students and orchestra which was premiered by the Dundas Valley Orchestra and students from St. Augustine School in Dundas in November 2019.

## Dr. Sarah Baker Psychologist

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Dundas Valley Orchestra  
an exciting concert and a  
successful season!

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### **Callista Foti, soprano**



Callista Foti is currently in her first year Bachelor of Music studying voice at Western University. She is a proud crossover artist, passionate in both classical music and musical theatre and has been extremely active in the Ontario vocal community, participating in many voice festivals as a finalist and winner in her categories. She has qualified for the OMFA Provincials for both classical and musical theatre for 8 years and has also taken part in the NATS (National Association of Teachers of Singing) Ontario Chapter Vocal Showcase for numerous years, receiving several accolades in both classical and musical theatre. Most recently, Callista placed 1<sup>st</sup> overall in the OMFA Open Musical Theatre category and 3<sup>rd</sup> overall in the OMFA Grade 10 Classical Voice category. She has also recently received the Outstanding Musical Theatre Performance award and various scholarships at the Newmarket Festival and has completed her Grade 10 RCM Voice certification. Aside from her performance experience, Callista loves to share her passion for the arts with young aspiring performers as a Specialized Arts Instructor and Music Director for the arts programming with the City of Richmond Hill. She is grateful to be surrounded by passionate musicians and for the opportunity to sing alongside the Dundas Valley Orchestra.

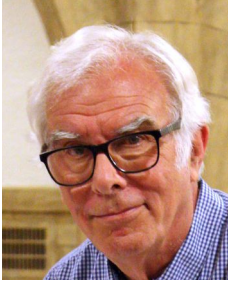
### **Nirvaan Grewal, cello**



Nirvaan Grewal, a high school student with an immense passion for the cello, is an incredible musical talent. He has completed his Grade 10 RCM certification and placed first in both Grade 7 and 8 Lower Strings Ontario Music Festivals Association (OMFA) Provincials. A long-time member of the Hamilton Philharmonic Youth Orchestra (HPYO), the youngest member of Sinfonia Ancaster, and an artist in the community, Nirvaan's musicianship is versatile and varied. He plays with an exceptionally mature sound, expressing mood and evoking emotion through his deep connection with the music.



## Larry Allen, Associate Conductor



Associate conductor Larry Allen (B. Mus., B. Ed.) has been a member of the Dundas Valley Orchestra brass section under Dr. Glenn Mallory and Ms. Laura Thomas, and is pleased to assist Ms. Thomas in conducting the orchestra.

A graduate of the University of Western Ontario, Mr. Allen taught music for the Peel Board of Education, where he conducted concert bands, jazz bands and choirs. During his career, a love of musical theatre inspired him to compose and direct the music for several original student productions.

After retiring from teaching, Mr. Allen played trumpet, keyboard and blues guitar in amateur bands, and has continued to pursue a life-long interest in songwriting. With his wife Sharon, he has written and performed sacred pieces for their church.

He considers it a great honour to be given the opportunity to help conduct this fine group of musicians.

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Sunday, June 2, 3 P.M.

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**Bob and Cathie Simpson** are proud and generous supporters of many Dundas philanthropic institutions and live, work, and play in Dundas.

We are delighted to welcome our newest patrons, **Jennifer and Andy Tafler**. Although they are new to Dundas, they have become regular DVO concert attendees and have admired the remarkable contributions that the DVO has made to the community.

With the generous assistance of our Patrons, the DVO will continue to expand its programmes and community outreach. *Thank you!*

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Special Gift

The DVO is grateful to **The Hamilton Suzuki School of Music** for its generous donation of orchestral scores of several well-known works. The DVO will enjoy adding these works to its repertoire. Once again, the DVO music library is expanding, and enabling the DVO to bring new musical experiences to the community!

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# Romance & Adventure

Callista Foti, soprano

Nirvaan Grewal, cello (HAALSA Student Soloist)

My Fair Lady: Selections for Orchestra    Fredrick Loewe & Alan Lerner  
arr. Robert Russell Bennett

Beauty and the Beast    Alan Menken, arr. Calvin Custer

It Had To Be You    Isham Jones & Gus Kahn, arr. Laura Thomas  
*Callista Foti, soprano*

Mission: Impossible Theme    Lalo Schiffrin, arr. Calvin Custer

Concerto in C Major, 1 mvt.    Franz Joseph Haydn  
*Nirvaan Grewal, cello*

Great Themes from Great Western Movies    Elmer Bernstein,  
Dimitri Tiomkin, Alfred Newman

*Intermission*

Fanfare: Star Trek – First Contact  
*DVO Brass Ensemble*

Jerry Goldsmith,  
arr. Steven Hewis

Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (Concert Suite)      Patrick Doyle  
& John Williams, arr. Jerry Brubaker

You've Got a Friend in Me  
*DVO Trombone Ensemble*

Randy Newman, arr. Christopher Bill

West Side Story – Selections for Orchestra      Leonard Bernstein,  
Stephen Sondheim, arr. Jack Mason

Don't Rain on My Parade  
*Callista Foti, soprano*

Jule Styne & Bob Merrill, arr. R. R. Bennett

Pirates of the Caribbean

Klaus Badelt, arr. Ted Ricketts

### **Violin I**

Naomi Dore Brown, Concert Master

Erika Bellhouse

Mary Anne Peters

Ron Sealey

Deborah Kanfer

Margaret Jamieson

Nicole Morino

Brenda Hurlburt

Robert Brooks

*Andrea Bandow*

*Bruce Lawson*

*Charlotte Price*

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Priscilla Harding

Clement Ng

Jim Jones

*Barry Seligman*

### **Cello**

Baya Vertes\*

Gideon Bell

Saskia van Arragon

Mary Ann Bastien

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Lyndsay Cartwright

*Flora Seul-Jacklein*

*Oliver Wesley-James, Founding member*

### **Double bass**

Brian Liberty

David Little

*Suzanne Bell*

### **Flute**

Tina Brook

Mika Takahashi

Sharon Millar

*Seiichi Ariga\**

### **Oboe**

Homer Seywerd\*

Azriel Ashmore

Debi Sproule

### **English horn**

Azriel Ashmore

### **Clarinet**

Gary Fleming\*

Stan Alama

Michael Westwood

### **Bassoon**

Nicholas Mulchan



**Horn**

Ian Kivell  
Dave Linfoot  
Winston Munro  
Steven Hewis  
Linda Thomas

**Trumpet**

Jeff Reynolds\*  
Robyn Pitts  
Dylan Wright

**Trombone**

Dan Grieve  
John Stockton  
Nim Poland  
*Steve Burditt*

**Tuba**

Emmanuel Valbuena

**Percussion**

Simon Woodside\*  
James Locke  
Patricia Ward

**Harp**

Diana Hill

**Piano**

Kate Lynn Robles

**Composer in residence**

Mark Thomas

\*Principal  
*Absent for this concert*

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**“All that Jazz”**

An acrylic collage representing some of the instruments used in this music genre.

### **My Fair Lady**

George Bernard Shaw wrote the comedy *Pygmalion* in 1913, the story of a London Cockney street flower seller Eliza Doolittle and Professor Henry Higgins, a linguist who wagers that he can teach her to speak proper English and pass for a proper lady in society. 1938 saw a film version of *Pygmalion*, with Shaw providing some new scenes, including the “Rain in Spain is Mainly in the Plain”, which were not in the original theatrical version. Director Gabriel Pascal wanted to commission a musical version of the play, but Shaw refused and it was only after his death in 1950 that Pascal approached Lerner and Loewe to produce a musical based on the 1938 film. At first, they found the play difficult to adapt, as it isn’t a love story, has no role for a chorus, and no subplot. But in 1955 they made a second attempt, and *My Fair Lady* opened to wide acclaim on Broadway in 1956, with Julie Andrews as Eliza and Rex Harrison as Higgins. The musical swept the 1957 Tony Awards, winning seven (including Best Musical), and the 1964 film version (with Audrey Hepburn replacing Andrews) won 8 Academy Awards. It presents an almost embarrassingly rich collection of unforgettable songs, including “Wouldn’t It Be Lovely?”, “On the Street Where You Live”, “I Could Have Danced All Night”, “Show Me”, “With a Little Bit of Luck”, “Get Me to the Church on Time”, and “I’ve Grown Accustomed to her Face”, which are featured in this arrangement.

### **Beauty and the Beast**

Written for the 1991 animated film of the same name, the theme song was written by Alan Menken with lyrics by Howard Ashman. The vocal was recorded by actress Angela Lansbury, who plays an enchanted teapot named Mrs. Potts in the film. Although Lansbury first gained fame in dramatic roles in *Gaslight*, *National Velvet*, and *The Manchurian Candidate*, she also played the lead in the musicals *Mame* and *Sweeney Todd* on Broadway, and a West End production of *Gypsy*.

### **It Had to Be You**

Isham Jones was a popular band leader in the 1920s and early 1930s, with many hit recordings of jazz standards. Among the musicians who played with Isham Jones’ Rainbo Orchestra were Benny Goodman,

Woody Herman, Roy Barge, and a young singer named Bing Crosby. Jones composed the song “It Had to Be You” in 1924 as an instrumental, and Gus Kahn added lyrics shortly afterwards. The song has been heard in many films over the years: by Dooley Wilson in *Casablanca*, by Danny Thomas in *Mr. Skeffington*, by Ginger Rogers in *It Had to Be You*, by Diane Keaton in *Annie Hall*, and as the main theme of *When Harry Met Sally*.

### **Mission: Impossible Theme**

This unforgettable riff was written by Argentine composer Lalo Schifrin for the television series *Mission: Impossible*, which aired from 1966 to 1973. With its unsettling 5/4 time signature and bold rhythmic palette, it mimics the Morse code for the letters M and I, two dashes followed by two dots. Schifrin’s original title was “Burning Fuse”, and he joked that it was dance music for people with five legs. It won two Grammy awards in 1968, for Best Instrumental and Best Original Score.

### **Cello Concerto #1 in C major**

Haydn composed his first cello concerto sometime around 1761-65, while serving as court musician at the Eszterháza Castle in what is now Hungary. Although the principal theme of the first movement appears among his draft compositions from 1765, the full work went missing until it was rediscovered at the Prague National Museum in 1961. It is an early composition, written at around the same time as his 6<sup>th</sup> symphony (of 106 produced during a long and productive lifetime), and the structure is very much like the Baroque concerto grosso, with only a small orchestra by the standards of the Classical era which he was to introduce with his later work. Haydn wrote the concerto for his friend Joseph Franz Weigl, who was first cellist with the Eszterházy orchestra. The solo part demands a great deal of virtuosity on the instrument, with full chords requiring playing all four strings at once, rapid changes, and many high notes. It has become a favorite among modern cellists, including Yo Yo Ma, Mstislav Rostropovich, Jacqueline du Pré, and Mischa Maisky.

### **Great Themes from Great Western Movies**

Some of the most memorable movie themes were written for Westerns. For *The Magnificent Seven*, John Sturges' star-studded remake of Kurasawa's *The Seven Samurai*, Elmer Bernstein provided a bold anthem which evokes horsemen riding across vast western plains. Bernstein was one of the great film composers, and wrote for *The Great Escape*, *Hud*, *Ghostbusters*, and *Cape Fear* among others. *High Noon*, with Gary Cooper and Grace Kelly, is a story of duty and moral principle in the face of danger. The theme song, by Dimitri Tiomkin with lyrics by Ned Washington, was a hit for Tex Ritter in 1952, when it also won the Oscar for Best Original Song. *How the West Was Won* was an epic 1962 production with five vignettes featuring many of the greatest names in Hollywood. The score was written by Alfred Newman, and includes three songs (sung by Debbie Reynolds).

### **Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire**

This was the fourth film in the Harry Potter series, based on the novels by J.K. Rowling, and released in 2005. The music for the first three movies had been composed by John Williams, but he was unavailable for the *Goblet of Fire*, and Patrick Doyle was chosen to compose the score. "Hedwig's Theme", which runs as a leitmotif throughout the series, is the only Williams melody retained in this sequel which introduces new themes for arch-villain Voldemort, the Triwizard Tournament, and Harry's new love interest Cho Chang. The "Potter Waltz", played during the Yule Ball, is adapted from a symphony by 18<sup>th</sup> century composer Samuel Wesley.

### **You've Got a Friend in Me**

Randy Newman is a Californian singer and songwriter, known for his whimsical or satirical lyrics. He has also written several film scores, including *Cold Turkey* (1971), *the Natural* (1984), and *Awakenings* (1990). "You've Got a Friend in Me" was written for the 1995 animated feature *Toy Story*. Newman also recorded a single as a duet with Lyle Lovitt the following year. Since that time Newman has written scores for nine Disney-Pixar animations, including *James and the Giant Peach* and *Monsters, Inc.*

## **West Side Story**

This adaptation of *Romeo and Juliet*, set in the gritty streets on Manhattan's upper west side where the Puerto Rican Sharks gang fights with the white Jets, was conceived and directed by choreographer Jerome Robbins with music by Leonard Bernstein and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. The original Broadway production opened to critical acclaim in 1957, and starred Larry Kert, Carol Lawrence, and Chita Rivera. It was a dazzling spectacle, groundbreaking in the sophistication of the music, the choreography, and the acting talent demanded of its principals. The 1961 movie version, with Natalie Wood, Rita Moreno (who won the Oscar for Best Supporting Actress), and Richard Beymer, was the most popular movie of the year and won the Oscar for Best Picture. The songbook is outstanding, with tunes which have become standards: "Maria", "I Feel Pretty", "Tonight", "Something's Coming", "One Hand, One Heart", "Cool", and "America", which you will hear today.

## **Don't Rain on My Parade**

Merrill and Styne composed the 1964 musical *Funny Girl*, the story of Zeigfeld Follies showgirl Fanny Brice in the years around the First World War. The role of Brice was first offered to Anne Bancroft, then to Eydie Gormé and Carol Burnett before it was finally given to the young and little-known Barbra Streisand, who made the role her own. The movie version was Streisand's first appearance on the big screen, and it was the top-selling film of 1968, magnificently launching her acting career. Streisand shared the Oscar for Best Actress with Katherine Hepburn. "Don't Rain on My Parade" showcases Streisand's extraordinary range and the dynamic power of her voice.

## Pirates of the Caribbean

*The Curse of the Black Pearl* was the first Pirates story in a series of five films. It features Johnny Depp as Captain Jack Sparrow, who rescues Elizabeth Swann (Keira Knightly) from the clutches of rival buccanier Barbarossa (Geoffrey Rush). The series is based on a popular ride at Disneyland, and the debut episode introduces a subplot involving a cursed Aztec treasure. Klaus Badelt is a German composer of music for blockbuster films. His *Pirates of the Caribbean* is appropriately brassy and swashbuckling, with a rocking rhythm of the boat on the sea and a martial flair. His score for the film was nominated for four awards in 2003.



The DVO Student Composer Competition is open to students currently enrolled in a Canadian educational institution (secondary or postsecondary, full or part-time). If you know any talented young composers, please let them know of this opportunity. For submission information for this season's competition, visit **[dundasvalleyorchestra.ca](https://dundasvalleyorchestra.ca)**

### Hamilton Association for the Advancement of Literature, Science, and Art

We continue to thank HAALSA for sponsoring the DVO-HAALSA Young Musician Award under the auspices of the DVO. This award is given out annually to a young individual who shows excellence and promise as a musician. Students apply under the advice and support of their teachers, both private and those involved in the boards of education around the Hamilton-Burlington area. The winner of the award plays with the orchestra at a concert usually held in February of the following year. The DVO wishes to thank all of the teachers who encourage their students to apply for this award and for their cooperation with the DVO in fostering young musicians who might wish to pursue music as part of their lives.

Congratulations to our 2022 DVO-HAALSA Young Musician Award Winner, Nirvaan Grewal, who is our guest artist in today's concert, playing the first movement of the Haydn Cello Concerto in C Major!



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## **Symphonic Spotlight**

**Sunday, May 26, 3 P.M.**

Enjoy a concert that will spotlight many of the DVO's wonderful musicians including clarinetist Michael Westwood on Spohr's Clarinet Concerto No. 1. We will also present our Student Composer Competition winning piece and Schumann's Symphony No. 4.

## **Sight, Sound, Symphony!**

**Sunday, November 3, 3 P.M.**

In partnership with the Dundas Valley School of Art (DVSA).

Featuring Live Art by Sandee Ewasiuk & a pre-concert art experience for families with Artist Keira McArthur, DVSA

This one-hour concert is designed for families and children. Repertoire will include music by Copland, Villa-Lobos, Beethoven and Mussorgsky. Evocative projected images will accompany the repertoire. With the support of the pre-concert art experience, children in the audience will be encouraged make their own piece of art during one of the musical selections.