



Dundas Valley Orchestra

“Hi” Notes

ISSUE 22

Mar/Apr 2016

President's Message

Hello DVO members:

Our final concert is rapidly approaching. We have been working hard on the repertoire and, yes, we still have a few pieces to work on. The spring concert is shaping up.

We have been hard at work with grant applications too. They have been submitted and we are now waiting to hear the outcome.

The next grant we are looking into is for the Sesquicentennial. As many of you know, Canada will celebrate 150 Years since Confederation in 2017 and we are planning to be part of the celebrations.

Jim Locke has been hard at work with the HAALSA Young Musician Award. We have selected a winner and we are looking forward to working with her.

We have two Nursing home concerts coming up: the first is on April 19 which will be a great rehearsal for our final concert on May 29, and then the second concert on May 31.

Our final event for the year will be the **Strawberry Social on June 12** at St. Paul's in Dundas. This is a great opportunity for us to highlight the orchestra itself and individual members to our supporters. Please ask all your friends, neighbours and relatives to attend. Everyone loves strawberries! We will be needing Silent Auction items and volunteers to perform and to assist with the set-up and take-down. Please add your name to the list. Everyone needs to help in some way.

Margaret

Music Director's Message

Happy almost spring!

It's hard to believe with this much snow on the ground, but our 2015-16 concert season will wrap up next month. I am as unimpressed with the weather as I am impressed with the progress we have been making on the repertoire for May 29. In particularly good shape are the last movements of both the Palmer and Dvorak, and all of Finlandia. I am confident that by the end of the Deerview Crossing performance, Dvorak will be going very well, except for the 2nd movement which has not had a lot of our attention so far. We will focus on it toward the end of April so please keep it in your playlist.

Thanks to **Jim Locke** and **Peter Hill** for the work they have done on our two student initiatives this year - the HAALSA student soloist and the 4th Annual Student Composer Competition. The composition by Yuang Chen - *Porcelet de valse* - is now distributed. It is a wonderful new piece with a few tricky passages that will take much of our time in late April and early May. Mr. Chen is delighted that we will be playing his piece and will be coming to the concert. Please have a look at it and if there are any sections on which you'd like to spend extra time, let me know.

The sight reading of the HAALSA soloist piece, *Orienteale*, went well last week and will come together quickly. Lindsey Rynders will join us for a couple of rehearsals in early May. Thanks to all for your work at sectionals, practice parties and Tuesday evening rehearsals. Tell your friends - May 29 is going to be a lovely concert.

See you Tuesday, **Laura**

Visit our website: www.dundasvalleyorchestra.ca for more information about the orchestra.

DVO - Rehearsal and Special Dates

2015-2016 Season

NOTE: All dates are subject to change as arrangements are modified. Be sure to check the most recent calendar.

2016

April

- 5 Rehearsal
- 12 Rehearsal
- 19 Nursing Home Concert - Deerview Crossing

May

- 3 Rehearsal
- 10 Board Mtg and Rehearsal
- 17 Rehearsal
- 24 Rehearsal
- 29 **CONCERT**
- 31 Nursing Home Concert - Villa Italia

June

- 12 **Strawberry Social Fundraiser**
at St. Paul's United Church, Dundas

NOTE TO PLAYERS:

These dates are subject to change due to a variety of reasons so stay tuned for up-dates.

If you are planning holidays or substantial periods of being absent, please contact the Concertmaster (Olga) as soon as your plans are made. This helps greatly in our making arrangements for rehearsal repertoires.

Winner of our Young Composer Award for 2016



Yuang Chen (age 19) of Ottawa is an award winning emerging Canadian composer for orchestral works. Founder and chief composer of music production/soundtracking company "Seycara Music And Arts" (www.seycara.com), Yuang

focuses on not only continuing the tradition of accessible, orchestral art music in concert settings, but bringing this tradition back into soundtracks for film and video games as well.

In 2014, his submission "Ouverture Diabolique" was deemed the best overall contest piece in the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra nation wide

Happy birthday to one of our Founding Members



It's not often that we celebrate a birthday but we cannot let **Oliver Wesley James'** birthday go unrecognized!

His age is his to tell, but it's a very significant number, a number we all

may aspire to reach.

How many notes has he played in 38 years of being a member?

Congratulations, Oliver and may there be many more to come!

Our Strawberry Fundraiser!

As noted in the President's message, our **Strawberry Social Fundraiser** is to be held on Sunday, June 12 at St. Paul's United Church from 2 to 5 p.m.

This needs the active involvement of all players.

Here are the things you need to do:

1. Save the date and plan to attend with friends and family.
2. Sign up to perform either as a soloist or with other players.
3. Ask your employer, a shop where you are a regular customer, your friendly garage mechanic, a friend who owns a business, or anyone else you think might support the efforts of the orchestra.
4. **MOST IMPORTANTLY:** volunteer to help out! You can help with the set-up; you can serve the food and drinks; you can run the Silent Auction; you can help with the take-down. Take your pick ...

but please do something to support our orchestra's financial needs.

Thank you.

On our Facebook page!

So you haven't visited our Facebook page yet! **Stan Alama** who looks after our Facebook page has imported a lot of interesting performances, quizzes, and other materials for our enjoyment. Tell him how much you enjoy his posts.

When you visit, be sure to "like" the page too.

Anecdotes of Great Musicians

34 **Beethoven's Kiss**

When Liszt was but twelve years of age (in 1823) he was advertised to give a concert; and upon the solicitation of Schindler, Beethoven went to hear and encourage this youthful prodigy. When the little Liszt came out on the platform, he saw Beethoven sitting in the front row. Instead of being unnerved by the great man's presence, it was an inspiration to him and he played with great fire and abandon. In the storm of applause which followed, the great master was seen to step up on the platform and catch up the little fellow in his arms and kiss him on both cheeks. Liszt never forgot this incident and used to repeat it with great pride, for he felt that the master had set the seal of greatness upon him in that kiss.

65 **Mozart's acknowledgment**

True genius is not averse to taking a hint from whatever quarter it may come. An ordinary person may occasionally give a very gifted one a valuable point.

In Mozart's "Nozze Di Figaro" one of the characters is a stuttering judge. Mozart desired Kelly, who was singing that part, to stutter all through the Opera save in one number, a sextet, a favorite number with the composer. In that he feared to spoil the music. But Kelly protested that he should stutter in that piece also and thus preserve the unity of the character throughout. He apologized for presuming to set his judgment against Mozart's, but he declared he would sing it that way or not at all. Finally, Mozart gave in. Kelly sang it as he promised, and the result was a tumult of applause, the Emperor himself crying "Bravo, Bravo!" Mozart rushed on the stage, and taking Kelly by the hand, said: "Young man, I feel obliged to you, and acknowledge you were right and I wrong."

This *amende honorable* was worthy of the true gentleman Mozart always showed himself to be.

Excerpted from: *Anecdotes of Great Musicians* by W. Francis Gates, Theodore Presser, Philadelphia, 1897 309 pp.

Nursing/Retirement Home Concerts



Location: Deerview Crossing
Date: April 19, 2016
 Address: 460 Rymal Rd West (at Garth)
 Hamilton
 Tel: 289 309 7436

Location: Villa Italia
Date: May 31, 2016
 Address: 530 Upper Paradise Road,
 Hamilton
 Tel: 905 388 4552

Event Calendar 2015-2016

Tuesday, April 19, 2016
 Nursing Home Concert
 Location: Deerview Crossing

Sunday, May 29, 2016
 Public Concert: Antonín Dvořák PLUS!

Tuesday, May 31, 2016
 Nursing Home Concert
 Location: Villa Italia

Sunday, June 12, 2016
 Strawberry Social Fundraiser
 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.
 St. Paul's United Church, Dundas

DVO Board of Directors 2015-2016

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Composer in Residence: Mark Thomas
Archivist & Hi Notes Editor: Peter Hill

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NOTE: Back issues of *Hi Notes* are available on the website.

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