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FOUNDATION



# Mahler!



## SYMPHONY NO. 4

*Gustav Mahler*

with **Jocelyn Fralick, Soprano**

## TROMBONE CONCERTO

*Launy Grøndahl*

Featuring **Dan Grieve, Principal Trombone**

Premiere of **2026 DVO Student Composer**

**Competition winning composition**

*"Smokey Hills" by David Archibald*

**CONCERT PROGRAM**

**Dundas Valley Orchestra**

**MAY 31, 2026**

**Laura Thomas, Music Director**

**Mark Vivian**  
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# Land Acknowledgement

The Dundas Valley Orchestra recognizes that we rehearse, perform, and gather on the traditional territory of the Chonnonton People, also known as the Neutral People. This region later became the shared territory of the Haudenosaunee, Anishinaabe, and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. We recognize that the town of Dundas, Ontario, lies within the bounds of the Between the Lakes Purchase, Treaty 3, signed in 1792, and we express gratitude to the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation as stewards of these lands. This area also lies protected within the "Dish with One Spoon" Wampum, an agreement between the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe to share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. This agreement provides an example of how Indigenous and Settler peoples can peacefully coexist, as we work towards reconciliation for the actions of our past and present. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to live and make music on this land.

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## About the Dundas Valley Orchestra

The Dundas Valley Orchestra offers amateur musicians the opportunity to experience the joy of performing orchestral music. Musicians of all ages develop their skills and share their talents through community concerts and free performances at local institutions, including retirement residences and long-term care homes.

Dundas Valley Orchestra  
at St. Paul's United Church  
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**Laura Thomas**  
Music Director

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Composer-in-Residence

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*The Dundas Valley Orchestra relies on donations to support the purchase of music and instruments, engage soloists and rent rehearsal and performance spaces.*

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*\*On leave*



# Applauding

another successful season of  
**exceptional performances**  
at the Dundas Valley Orchestra.



## **Laura Thomas**, Music Director



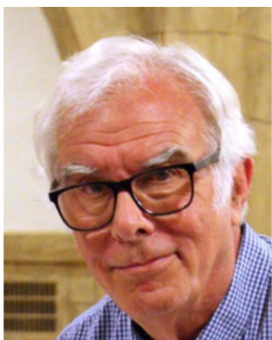
Laura Thomas is a conductor, arranger, composer, percussionist and teacher. In addition to being the Music Director of the *Dundas Valley Orchestra*, she is also the Artistic Director of the Hamilton/Niagara area *WomEnchant Chorus & Drummers* and Conductor of Hamilton's *Hope & Harmony* choir. Her past positions include Music Director of the *Niagara Youth Orchestra*, Artistic Director of the Niagara-based chamber choir, *Choralis Camerata*, and Director of the *Niagara College Jazz Band*. She is the Principal Percussionist of the *Niagara Symphony Orchestra* where she also served as Associate Conductor for thirteen years.

Ms. Thomas holds a master's 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. She has performed with and conducted many orchestras and ensembles around the Golden Horseshoe and Southern Ontario.

A member of Niagara's popular eclectic folk/blues band, BroadBand, she also performs regularly with her Vintage Jazz ensembles. Her compositions and arrangements can be heard in the music of Flutes en Route! featuring Douglas Miller and the recordings and performances of BroadBand, WomEnchant and other ensembles. She has written for stage, orchestra, choral and jazz ensembles including a Concerto for Jazz Trio and Orchestra and A Kinder Concerto for students and 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."

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## **Larry Allen**, Associate Music Director



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.

---

## **Jocelyn Fralick, Soprano**



Canadian soprano, Jocelyn Fralick recently returned from two years in Amsterdam, where she completed her Masters' degree with honors from the Conservatorium van Amsterdam under the guidance of her voice teacher, Don Marrazzo, and her coach Nathalie Doucet. Ms. Fralick also holds degrees from two of North America's most renowned schools, the Glenn Gould School of Music and The University of Toronto.

During her time in Amsterdam, Jocelyn performed the role of Madame Lidoine in Poulenc's *Dialogues des Carmélites* (2021) and Contessa Almaviva in Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro* (2021). Some of her past opera credits include Donna Elvira in Mozart's *Don Giovanni* (2017) under the direction of Stuart Baker (British Youth Opera) and Leslie Dala (Vancouver Opera) at the Center for Opera Studies in Italy (COSI) program in Italy. While at the Glenn Gould School of Music, she performed the role of il Cavaliere Armidoro in Niccolò Piccini's *La Cecchina* (2019) under the stage direction of Marilyn Gronsdal and conductor, Leslie Dala.

Proud of her roots in the Niagara Region, she has performed with some of the most prominent choirs in Niagara, including Chorus Niagara and Choralis Camerata. Ms. Fralick made her debut performance with the Niagara Symphony at the new First Ontario Performing Arts Centre in 2019. Ms. Fralick has performed in masterclasses with world class artists such as Linda Watson, Matthew Polenzani, Dr. Bretton Brown, Judith Forst, and Adrienne Pieczonka.

Having just been named one of the International Resource Centre for Performing Artists (IRCPA) singing stars, we can see Ms. Fralick performing the role of Vitellia in November of 2021, the national virtual release of the Centre for Opera Studies & Appreciation (COSA)'s production of *La Clemenza di Tito*.

## **Dr. Sarah Baker, Psychologist**

Wishing the Dundas Valley Orchestra an exciting concert and successful season!

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## Dan Grieve, Trombone



Dan's love of music grew out of a childhood of piano lessons with his grandmother, and church choirs with his mother. After discovering the trombone in grade school, a fire was set that led to a Bachelor of Music from McMaster University and a Master's in Trombone Performance and Pedagogy from the University of Western Ontario. Dan has been a featured soloist and frequent pit orchestra member in local groups for decades. Currently Dan is a Brass Instructor at Long & McQuade Burlington, Co-Director of "A Brass Act" brass ensemble, runs his family's business, Grieve Home

Maintenance and is a proud father to three energetic young boys. As a member of the Dundas Valley Orchestra since 2012, it is his privilege to step out of the back of the orchestra and share this concerto with everyone!

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## David Archibald

*2026 DVO Student Composer Competition Winner*

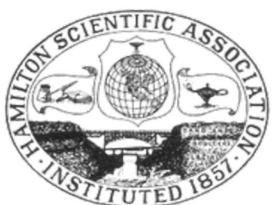


David Archibald is a pianist and composer with a firm belief in the expressive power that music holds. He is currently studying piano performance with Tina Yanchus at the Don Wright Faculty of Music at the University of Western Ontario, while simultaneously studying music theory and composition. David is an eager performer who has publicly performed his own works and participated in festivals such as the BC Performing Arts Festival and the Philadelphia International Music Festival. David is

committed to perpetuating the musical tradition so that it can be enjoyed not just by us, but by many future generations to come.

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## HAALSA



The Hamilton Association is one of Canada's oldest independent, not-for-profit, cultural organizations. It has its origins in the Hamilton Scientific Association, founded in 1857, and counts among its founding members Dr. John Rae, Arctic explorer and physician, who served as the Association's first Vice-President and second President.

Many prominent Hamilton and area educational and cultural organizations had their beginnings in, or received early support and encouragement from, the Hamilton Association, including the Hamilton Public Library, the Art Gallery of Hamilton, the Royal Botanical Gardens, and McMaster University.

## **Musicians of the Dundas Valley Orchestra**

### **VIOLIN I**

Naomi Dore Brown  
CONCERT MASTER  
Erika Bellhouse  
Mary Anne Peters  
Margaret Jamieson  
Nicole Morino  
Brenda Hurlburt  
Robert Brooks  
Dorota Borovsky  
Simon Hauber<sup>a</sup>  
Malcolm Hauber<sup>d</sup>  
Andrea Bandow\*  
Deborah Kanfer\*

### **VIOLIN II**

Andrea Armstrong  
PRINCIPAL  
Rory Fitz  
Jessica Ortlieb  
Claire Morris  
Suzanne McNeill  
Ron Sealey  
Claire Lechner  
Martin Levman  
Darwin Allen  
Margaret Sherman-Bell\*  
Rudin Knights\*  
Joelle Laroche\*

### **VIOLA**

Glenn Welbourn  
PRINCIPAL  
Jim Jones  
Clement Ng  
Priscilla Harding  
Irene Walker  
Amrita Akhand

### **CELLO**

Baya Vertes  
PRINCIPAL  
Saskia van Arragon  
Mary Ann Bastien  
Kate Lynn Robles  
Lianne Tan  
Gideon Bell  
Lyndsay Cartwright

### **DOUBLE BASS**

David Little  
Brian Liberty  
Suzanne Bell\*

### **FLUTE**

Seiichi Ariga  
PRINCIPAL  
Mika Takahashi  
Tina Brook  
Brianna Hou

### **OBOE**

Homer Seywerd  
PRINCIPAL  
Azriel Ashmore

### **ENGLISH HORN**

Scott Duffus

### **CLARINET**

Stan Alama  
Michael Westwood  
Amanda Helli

### **BASS CLARINET**

Amanda Helli

### **BASSOON**

Timothy Fox  
PRINCIPAL  
Jaclyn Yee<sup>a</sup>

### **CONTRABASSOON**

Graham Martin<sup>a</sup>

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Ian Kivell  
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Andrew Lappin  
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Jeff Reynolds  
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Dan Grieve  
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PRINCIPAL

### **PIANO**

Clement Ng  
Larry Allen

### **ASSOCIATE MUSIC DIRECTOR**

Larry Allen

### **COMPOSER-IN-RESIDENCE**

Mark Thomas

<sup>a</sup>Guest musician

\*On leave

# The DVO plays Mahler!

**Laura Thomas**, Music Director, DVO

**Larry Allen**, Associate Music Director, DVO<sup>a</sup>

**David Archibald**, 2026 DVO Student Composer  
Competition Winner\*

**Dan Grieve**, Trombone<sup>β</sup>

**Jocelyn Fralick**, Soprano<sup>γ</sup>

**David Archibald**<sup>α\*</sup>

Smokey Hills

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**Launy Grøndahl**<sup>β</sup>

Trombone Concerto

I. *Moderator assai ma motto maestoso*

II. *Quasi una leggenda. Andante grave*

III. *Finale: Maestoso*

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INTERMISSION

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**Gustav Mahler**<sup>γ</sup>

Symphony No. 4

I. *Bedächtig, nicht eilen*

II. *In gemächlicher Bewegung, ohne Hast*

III. *Ruhevoll, poco adagio*

IV. *Sehr behaglich*

*Program*

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Sunday,  
May 31, 2026  
3 p.m.

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*\*The DVO thanks Dr.  
Peter Banting for his  
sponsorship of the  
Student Composer  
Competition.*

# About the Music

Notes by Stan Alama

David Archibald

## **Smokey Hills**

The composer, David Archibald, describes his creation as follows:

*Smokey Hills* is inspired by the recent summers I have spent in my hometown, Penticton, British Columbia. During these summers, the environment has been noticeably affected by the forest fires - whether it's a red glow over the horizon, the charred remains of forests, or smoke coating the surrounding hills and mountains. The work takes the loose form of a French overture, with a slow introduction followed by a quicker, contrapuntal section. The effects of the fires over the landscape are represented through the prevalence of descending chromatic lines - as if the line itself is "burning down."

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Launy Grøndahl (1886 – 1960)

## **Trombone Concerto**

Grøndahl was a Danish violinist, conductor, and composer, who served for 31 years as music director of both the Danish National Symphony Orchestra and the Danish National Radio Symphony. He composed the Trombone Concerto while on a scholarship to Italy in 1924, before becoming a conductor. The piece was intended for the trombone section of the Orchestra of the Casino Theater, in Copenhagen, where he had been violinist since teen age. The concerto has three movements. The trombone soloist introduces the first movement with a bold fanfare, a theme which alternates with a soft lyrical conversation between trombone and orchestra throughout the movement. In the second movement, "Quasi una leggenda", the trombone emerges from a misty background with a yearning, heroic song. The finale begins dramatically, and recalls the themes from the beginning of the piece, finishing with an uplifting flourish from the soloist.

---

Gustav Mahler (1860 – 1911)

## **Symphony No. 4**

Mahler (1860-1911) was born in Bohemia, the German-speaking region around Prague, then under Austrian rule. Studying at the Vienna Conservatory, Mahler was strongly influenced by Bruckner and Wagner. He quickly established a reputation as an outstanding conductor with opera companies throughout Austria and Germany, in Prague, Leipzig, Budapest, and Hamburg. In 1897 he secured the prestigious position as director of the Vienna Hofoper, and of the Vienna Philharmonic one year later. Mahler's ten years in Vienna were tumultuous, as his appointment was contested by powerful factions in Viennese society (largely due to antisemitism.) In 1908 he moved to New York and directed the Metropolitan Opera before being named music director of the New York Philharmonic in 1909. He died in 1911, from an infection of the heart valves.

### ***About the music***

With his conducting duties taking most of his time and energy, Mahler's composing career started slowly. He began by composing song cycles, and his first symphony was heavily based on these. His second symphony, premiered in 1895, was a popular and critical success. The fourth symphony debuted in Munich in 1901, before he unveiled his expansive third symphony. Mahler had originally intended to write six movements, three instrumental and three with vocals, but the final version includes only four movements, the finale based on a song, "The Heavenly Life" which he wrote in 1892. The performance was met with disappointment from the public and critics, who compared it unfavorably with his second symphony. Most of Mahler's symphonies were unsuccessful in his lifetime; he was known mostly as a star conductor. Thanks to the efforts of conductors in the post-war period, including Bruno Walter, Leopold Stokowski, and Leonard Bernstein, a later generation of audiences came to appreciate Mahler's symphonies, and the fourth has been the most frequently played and admired.

Each of Mahler's symphonies is themed, and the fourth celebrates childhood, inspired by a poetry collection "Des Knaben Wunderhorn" which Mahler particularly admired. The first movement, which begins with sleigh bells, is a pot-pourri of simple melodies played in turn by various instruments. The second movement features a violin tuned to sound like a country fiddle. The placid third movement begins with the cellos, who introduce the theme heard throughout this section. The last movement is based on the "The Heavenly Life", in which a lone soprano gives a child's idea of paradise, complete with play time, dances, and lots of good food.



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**Andrea Bandow**

Community Engagement

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- Your business will headline our concert poster and programme, receive recognition from our music director during the concert, and be given the opportunity for a short live ad to be presented at intermission. Your business will also be advertised in all our concert programmes for the season (full page ad space).

Contact [sponsorship@dundasvalleyorchestra.ca](mailto:sponsorship@dundasvalleyorchestra.ca) to partner with the DVO!

# Friends of the DVO

*Through generous support, these donors provide a critically important base of funding.*

The Dundas Valley Orchestra is a group of over 75 talented amateur musicians that brings extraordinary musical experiences to the community through free live and virtual concerts. As a registered charity, the DVO is supported by our patrons, grant funders, donors, sponsors, and through voluntary donations from our audience and musicians of the orchestra.

The DVO launched the Friends of the DVO campaign to raise funds in support of specific needs identified by the orchestra.

On behalf of everyone at the Dundas Valley Orchestra, we extend our sincere gratitude for your generous financial support throughout the season.

Without the continued support and commitment of you, our supporters, regardless of the amount contributed, the Dundas Valley Orchestra would not be able to continue to grow and enrich the lives of those within our community and beyond.

Interested in becoming a Friend of the DVO? All Friends and ongoing donors are recognized in the associated season's final concert program.

Memorial and anonymous donations are also appreciated. Charitable receipts are issued for donations over \$10.

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Contact [DVOcontact@gmail.com](mailto:DVOcontact@gmail.com) for more information.

## **WE LOOK FORWARD TO SHARING OUR NEXT PROGRAM WITH YOU**

### **On the Bruce Trail**

November 8, 2026 | St. Paul's United Church, Dundas

Join the DVO in the opening concert of our 2026-27 season! We will be partnering with the Bruce Trail Conservancy for a concert celebrating nature. The concert will include music by Smetana, Vivaldi, Delius and Leroy Anderson. DVO Concertmaster Naomi Dore Brown will be a featured soloist.

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### **Kilts to Wigs - The Nancy Cassels Chamber Music Concert**

November 22, 2026 | St. Paul's United Church, Dundas

The DVO presents our Nancy Cassels Chamber Music Concert with an eclectic mix of music from the Celtic highlands, Parisian salons and the palaces of Vienna. Music by Mendelssohn, Mozart and others performed by DVO musicians, our Salon Orchestra and Celtic Cadence.

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### **Celebrating Black History**

February 28, 2027 | St. Augustine's Catholic Church, Dundas

The DVO and the Grand River Chorus combine forces to present a concert of music celebrating Black history and culture. The featured work will be John Rutter's *Feel the Spirit*, a cycle of seven spirituals for choir and orchestra. The program will also include music by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor and Nathaniel Dett.

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### **Beethoven's Lasting Legacy**

June 6, 2027 | St. Paul's United Church, Dundas

In honour of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Beethoven's death, the DVO will present a concert celebrating the legacy of one of the most influential and pivotal composers in the history of Western music. The program will feature music inspired by Beethoven by Canadian composer Larysa Kuzmenko, the DVO trombone quartet performing music by Beethoven and the great "Eroica" Symphony No. 3.

Thank you for joining us!

**DUNDASVALLEYORCHESTRA.CA**