



Dundas Valley Orchestra

“Hi” Notes

ISSUE 15 November/December 2014

President's Message

Greetings DVO Members:

So many things have happened since our last newsletter. Our Library is hardly recognizable with all its changes. The new filing cabinets look very sleek and have made a difference in the space available for working. We are awaiting a trolley that will house our new small drums. We are also working on obtaining a new photocopier. Thank you to **Alicia and Michael Hutchings, Peter and Diana Hill, Marg Jamieson, Ron Sealey, Dorothy Haartman, Rudin Knights, Arthur Hencher, Claire Lechner** who helped with the Library transformation.

For the first time in some years, the DVO was involved with the Arts Dundas Weekend (ADW), held from November 6th-9th. We represented the Performing Arts section of the celebration. We had some glitches but have learned how to overcome the problems and anticipate a smoother outcome if we participate next year. Many of our musicians played in small groups entertaining in various places in Dundas. We say thank you to our members for sharing their time and talents to enrich the lives of the people who live in the Dundas community. Thank you to **Lynne Calnek**, our Volunteer Coordinator, for all her work on helping to coordinate this event with Barbara Patterson from the Carnegie Gallery.

The highlight to end our participation was our DVO concert at St. Paul's United Church on the Sunday, November 9th, at 2:00-3:00 pm where we showcased our new percussion instruments that were purchased with our grant from the Trillium Foundation. Our concert opened with MPP Ted McMeekin offering congratulations and Art Samson, from the Trillium Foundation, presenting us with a plaque that we can display at future concerts to show the Foundation's support of our activities.

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Music Director's Message

Kudos to the musicians of the DVO!

Firstly, let me congratulate everyone on an excellent first performance of the season, and our first full orchestra concert for Arts Dundas Weekend. As a part of the cultural fabric of the Dundas area, it's important that we were part of this annual celebration of all the arts, and I'm delighted at what a good concert it was. Well done on learning a lot of new music quickly! We will use some of that repertoire in our nursing home concerts in early December. I know a lot of DVO musicians had other appearances in various chamber groups. It was a busy and successful week for all of you.

We are getting a lot of response on our calls for singers and I'm really looking forward to January's concert. We still have a lot of work to do on the Rutter but the first few rehearsals on it have gone well. Remember - don't work on the easy bits. They may be more fun, but practising the difficult passages will get us there faster!

I can't stress enough how much I believe in the power of listening to the repertoire to help the learning process. When we all have busy lives, you've got to find many ways to get the sounds in your ears. Listening on your car stereo, on your home stereo while you're cooking dinner, on your iPod when you're on your morning or evening walks - it's all valuable learning time. This is particularly true for repertoire that is not as familiar as standard orchestral pieces. Listen, listen, listen - it's fun and productive!

See you on Tuesday,

Laura

President's Message continued

Art Samson expressed how much he enjoyed our concert and offered his congratulations. He said he was going to give us an A+ when he reported back to his colleagues at Trillium.

We, too, were pleased. We were happy with our audience numbers and noticed that some people attended from places that our members had given performances. It paid to hand out our brochures and talk about our events where we had performed. Some in our audience were first time attendees. One person expressed an interest in joining the mass choir for our January concert. Our participation in the ADW has been a successful undertaking as we have become better known in our community. Even our small groups have been invited back to entertain next year. We must say "thank you", to St. Paul's United Church who sponsored our concert by providing us with a place to perform.

I have more great news. **Nancy Tuk** has agreed to join our Board of Directors and will fill the "Member at Large," vacancy. We welcome **Nancy** to the Board and thank her for her willingness to serve. We have one more position left to fill.

Your President,
Olga Hencher

Music Library gets new filing cabinets

If you haven't been into the library yet, take a peek at the next rehearsal. As mentioned in Olga's message, the new filing cabinets are in and the library has been organized. Next step: a new copier.

WELCOME! to new members

Every year we have new musicians join us and we'd like to welcome you all. We are a happy bunch as you will find out. We do hope that you enjoy your time with us and that you will become a long-standing member as the years go by!

DVO Student Composer Competition 2015

The posters are printed and the emails have gone out across the country! The Young Composer competition is underway for 2015!

The winning entry will be performed at our May 24, 2015 concert and also at the two Nursing and Retirement home concerts in April and June.

Our concert will, as you know, have a Beethoven flavour and entrants have been requested to compose a work with some form of inspiration derived from Beethoven's work. There should be some interesting entries.

It's getting a little late now but **if you know of any young musician or composer** who might be interested in participating, please encourage them to do so. Winning this competition will look very good on a resume or application to an educational institution.

The **deadline is January 10, 2015** and the piece needs to be 5 to 10 minutes long.

January Concert to be something very special!

We are grateful for a grant from the Dougher Community Foundation which is managed by the Hamilton Community Foundation to assist in covering the extra costs associated with this special performance.

And this just in!

There were 51 choristers at the first choral rehearsal! Laura had been hoping for 50 and was delighted at the turnout. She reported that the balance in voices was just what she wanted and that the rehearsal went well.

This will be a wonderful concert and it is the first time we have attempted to mount such an event.

Tell your friends to arrive early for the church will be packed!!

DVO performs at the Arts Dundas Weekend



NOTE:

We were unable to be at all the venues where DVO members performed during the Arts Dundas Weekend so if you have any photos taken at other locations, please send them to **Peter Hill** and they can be put into future issues of ***Hi Notes***.



Trillium Grant received for new timpani

Ted McMeekin and Art Sampson join President **Olga Hencher**, Patrons **Doug** and **June Barbour** and members of the DVO in looking over the new timpani purchased through a Trillium Grant.

The orchestra performed a new fanfare composed especially for the event, titled, "The Trillium Fanfare" which featured the instruments.

The performance on Sunday, November 9 was part of the Arts Dundas Weekend.

Look at Simon's SMILE!!!



DVO - Special Dates

2014-2015 Season

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

2014

December

- 2 Nursing Home concert Macassa Lodge
DVO Social after the concert
- 9 Nursing Home concert Idlewyld + Board Mtg
- 16

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

2015

January

- 6
- 13 Board Mtg
- 18 Choir and orchestra sound check, St. Paul's Church from 2 - 4:30 p.m.
- 20
- 25 Public Concert
- 27

February

- 3
- 10 Board Mtg
- 17
- 24

March

- 10
- 17 Board Mtg
- 24

April

- 7
- 14 Board Mtg
- 21
- 28 Nursing Home Concert - Deerview Crossing

May

- 5
- 12 Board Mtg.
- 19
- 24 Public Concert
- 26 Nursing Home Concert



Call for Submissions

The Dundas Valley Orchestra
announces its

**2015
Student Composer Competition**

The Dundas Valley Orchestra is accepting compositions (suggested length: 5 to 10 minutes) by students currently enrolled in a Canadian educational institution (secondary or post-secondary, full or part time).

Instrumentation available:

2 flutes, 2 oboes, 2 clarinets, 2 bassoons
4 horns, 2 trumpets, 3 trombones, tuba
Timpani, percussion, harp (troubadour - lever)
Strings

**The winning composition will be performed by the DVO
in April and May 2015 (3 separate performances) and earn a cash prize
of \$250.00.**

Deadline for submission: January 10, 2015

The work of Beethoven is the theme of the DVO concert on May 31, 2015 and it is suggested that, if possible, compositions inspired by Beethoven be submitted.

Address for submission:

Dundas Valley Orchestra
c/o Centre for String Playing
1603 Main St. W., Unit #2
Hamilton, ON L8S 1E6

Contact for questions:

Laura Thomas, Music Director
lthomas557@yahoo.com
(Please use "DVO Student Composer
Competition" in the header)

* Please submit a brief bio and contact information along with your composition.

For more information about the Dundas Valley Orchestra, go to:
www.dundasvalleyorchestra.ca

Decisions of the Student Composer Competition Committee will be final.

Student Composer Competition Poster

The poster for the 2015 competition is to the left. If you know a student who has an interest in composing, please copy and paste this image into an email and pass it along. The more entries we have, the better!

Nursing/Retirement home concerts



Macassa Lodge
701 Upper Sherman Ave.
Dec 2 2014
Tel: 905-546-2800
Starts at 6:45 pm
Social afterwards



Idlewyld Manor
449 Sanatorium Rd.
Dec 9 2014
Tel: 905-574-2000
Starts at 7:00 pm

Event Calendar 2014-2015

Tuesday, December 2, 2014

Nursing Home Concert at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Macassa Lodge

NOTE: A short Christmas Social will be held after the performance.

Tuesday, December 9, 2014

Nursing Home Concert at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Idlewyld

Sunday, January 25, 2015

Public Concert - a celebration of Black History!

Sunday, April 28, 2015

Nursing Home Concert at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Deerview Crossing

Sunday, May 24, 2015

Public Concert - a Beethoven themed performance

Tuesday, June 3, 2015

Nursing Home Concert at 7:00 p.m.

Location TBA

DVO Board of Directors 2014-2015

President: Olga Hencher

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Librarian: Homer Seywerd

Members-at-large: Margaret Jamieson

Glenn Welbourn, Rudin Knights, Nancy Tuk

Music Director: Laura Thomas

Composer in Residence: Mark Thomas

Archivist & Hi Notes Editor: Peter Hill

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