

# The ACCOB Newsletter

April 2021

Issue 2



ARTS & CULTURE  
COUNCIL OF  
BURLINGTON

Incorporated in 2016

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## The Arts & Culture Council of Burlington [ACCOB]

is a not-for-profit arts and cultural organization dedicated to creating a vibrant, diverse artistic and cultural community

## EVENTS & HIGHLIGHTS

Events which we hope help you as members:

- **Newsletter** - ACCOB started a quarterly newsletter in 2019. If members in good standing have anything to contribute please send the information to [info@artscultureburlington.ca](mailto:info@artscultureburlington.ca) by June 15, 2021. Please send in **Word format**, no more than 1 page in length, all photos must be in **jpg or png** format and attached to your email.
- If you have some interest in being a volunteer or in being on our Board, please contact us. As a Board we meet once a month at the AGB and we also work on various things throughout the year. Please contact us at [info@artscultureburlington.ca](mailto:info@artscultureburlington.ca).

## CALENDAR

April...  
ACCOB Board meeting

Please stay tuned for  
future events



Burlington is currently under a provincial declaration of emergency and in the Red (Control) Zone of the [Provincial Framework](#). Visit [Covid-19.Ontario.ca](https://www.ontario.ca/covid-19) for a full list of restrictions.

The Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB) gives income support to employed and self-employed individuals who are directly affected by COVID-19 and are not entitled to Employment Insurance (EI) benefits. Please visit <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/benefits/recovery-benefit.html> for more information.

- **Annual General Meeting** – ACCOB's AGM was held virtually on February 22, 2021 with guest speaker Myles Rusak, Executive Director, Sound of Music Festival.
- **Summary of the President's Message** - To say this has been a trying year is an understatement. While we had planned to continue to work on our strategic plan things changed in March as they did for everyone. The cancellation of many events for 2020 included Culture Days and any fundraising events that we could possibly plan.

The Burlington Arts and Culture Fund (BACF), including the jury and awarding of grants, was put on hold due to the City's hold on funds. We decided to keep things positive and look for information regarding other granting programs or any other ways Arts and Culture groups or artists could get funding and we tried to keep it as positive as we could.

In May we welcomed Evy Beraldo into our group and she would become our new Treasurer officially in July. It was decided that we would really work on the newsletter and we asked our members for some input and to be honest with you the input was fantastic. We thank you all for all of the input that you have done all the posts and all that and all the articles have been very positive.

In late summer 2020 the new Community Support Fund became available from the City and we encouraged our members and the local community to apply for grants and put together events for Culture Days which ran for a whole month between September and October, so there were participants. We would like to remind you that the Community Support Fund initiative is still ongoing and still available so if you have any ideas for events and you need some assistance please let us know or contact the City directly.

Throughout the rest of the year we continued to offer as much information we could for our community through our Facebook page, website and other social media outlets.

We have also created an [Arts and Culture Council of Burlington Youtube channel](#). If you have some content that you may want us to upload to the channel please contact us at [info@artscultureburlington.ca](mailto:info@artscultureburlington.ca). Please note, the content uploaded is at the discretion of ACCOB and is guided by its appropriateness and relevance ACCOB's mission.

It was decided in December that due to a tough financial year for our sector we would renew everybody's membership at no charge for 2021 to anybody who was a member in 2020. We are grateful for those who decided to offer us donations this year to help support our ongoing financial needs. Thank-you very much.

There has also been an uptick in a fair amount of people joining our Facebook group especially in this past month and it looks like people are interested to see what is happening so again if you have any suggestions or thoughts or anything you would like from us please feel free to send it to us at [info@artscultureburlington.ca](mailto:info@artscultureburlington.ca).

This year along with improving and supporting our quarterly newsletters we are hoping to plan three virtual workshops for you later this year. We are also looking at applying for charitable status and we will keep you updated as things progress.

- **Charles Cozens – Vice President, ACCOB**

### **THE COLLABORATIVE EXPERIENCE**

**A series of 3 workshops presented by the Arts and Culture Council of Burlington**

**Producer and Pianist Charles Cozens**

**Hosts Angela Paparizo and Charles Cozens**

The Collaborative Experience is a series of 3 one hour workshop programs which will be pre-recorded for streaming distribution in late spring and into the fall of 2021.

Each workshop is designed to integrate music with other another art form resulting in a collaborative presentation and experience.

The first workshop is “The Painter and Pianist” which will explore the compositional relationship between spontaneous visual art and spontaneous music composition or improvisation. Created in real time, the visual art will unfold simultaneously with an improvised score creating a unique relationship between these two art forms.

The second workshop is “Radio Play” which will show how a collaborative theatrical script is created and how musical underscore can help to enhance the script. The initial setting is a round table with 3 Writer/Actors seated, improvising and creatively writing a short 2 minute script about a pre-determined topical subject. Once the script is created, the 3 Writers will act it out in radio play style and will include the performance of an improvised musical score based on the story plot and characters. The radio play will show the relationship between inspiration, improvisation (spontaneity) and literary and musical composition.

The third workshop is “Choreo Graph” which will explore the relationship between a small dance group, choreographer and pianist and how to build a short choreographed dance piece. The choreography will unfold as the dancers learn the steps in real time.

This workshop will offer insight to a general viewing audience who would like to see how dance is created behind the scenes.

Admission to these 3 programmed workshops will be free and suitable for viewers of all ages.

The Board of Directors of ACCOB believes that this workshop series will help to foster the continued interest and development of the arts in Burlington.

Please stay tuned for more information about these exciting concerts and workshops.

- **Burlington Community Support Fund** - As part of the City of Burlington's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City relaunched its existing community support programs into a streamlined program called the Community Support Fund. This program joined existing programs to provide financial support to residents and community groups who want to enrich and connect the Burlington community through sport, recreation, art and cultural experiences. Read more about it at <https://www.burlington.ca/en/live-and-play/community-support-fund.asp> .
- **Music Performance Trust Fund** - The Music Performance Trust Fund (MPTF) is funding 100% of both live and streaming performances during the pandemic. It costs the "employer" nothing but a little paperwork. For live performances during COVID, you must upload a letter from the employer and/or venue stating that (1) the performer(s) have the venue's permission to stage a performance, and (2) safety protocols will be followed. Specific questions should be addressed to Brent Malseed at the Hamilton Musicians Guild Local 293. Telephone: 905 525 4040 or Email: [local293hmg@bellnet.ca](mailto:local293hmg@bellnet.ca).
- **ACCOB Fundraiser** – ACCOB is a self reliant arts and culture council, receiving funds through membership and fundraising. For this reason, it is important that you renew your membership annually (2021 was renewed compliments of ACCOB) and tell others about membership. It is also important to attend fundraisers as the funds help us help you. ACCOB hopes to plan some fundraisers and workshops in the future. We would love to hear your ideas and would love for you to be involved either as a participant or as a volunteer! Please contact us at [info@artscultureburlington.ca](mailto:info@artscultureburlington.ca).

## MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS

- **Koogle Theatre Company – Leslie and Christopher Gray, Co-Artistic Directors**

KooGle Theatre Company's musical theatre students continue to safely rehearse virtually for our upcoming production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella, to be presented online May 28 at 7pm and May 29 at 2pm and 7pm. Tickets will be available soon.

KooGle's vocal students are participating virtually in the upcoming Hamilton Music Festival and have submitted their entries by video for adjudication in April.

We are looking forward to this summer, hoping to offer week long Musical Theatre Summer Camps (with all Covid protocols in place) throughout July and August for ages 4-6, 7-9, 10-12, 13-15 and a performing arts post secondary prep week for ages 16-18. Stay tuned for more information!

[www.koogletheatre.com](http://www.koogletheatre.com)

• Hayley Verrall

Hey, everyone! Well, the fun continues! I've been doing quite a few radio and podcast interviews in 2021. So far I have been interviewed by Cherokee Nation Radio in Virginia, FRH Radio in the UK, 502 Fallen Angel Radio in Kentucky, Mixing it with Nicki Kris on Sisters in Music Radio in Nashville and Galaxy 107 FM in New Zealand. I was pleasantly surprised to learn that Dance Around was first played on Galaxy 107 FM at the end of January, 2021 and in only 5 weeks the station had 3,275 requests for it!

Dance Around It reached #1 on the Canadian Indie Country Chart at the end of January, hit #1 on the Canadian Online Radio Chart in February, continues to appear on the Country Thunder Network Chart in the top 20 and has appeared on a couple charts in Ireland as well. So I think 2021 is off to a good start!

I have continued to do virtual shows and am starting to get out and do some live outdoor shows. My song continues to spin daily on CBC Country 171 on SiriusXM. So all in all life is good in spite of everything going on out there.

Congratulations to Hayley Verrall from Burlington Ontario, who has the Number One Song on the Canadian Indie Country Countdown, with her Song - Dance Around It. Thanks everyone, who takes the time, to vote and listen to these great songs on the CICC. We also have to mention that this is the second song written by Dustin Bird to hit Number One on the CICC. Thanks to all the great stations that air the CICC each week. We have added 3 new stations in 2021, playing this great Music!

**CANADIAN INDIE COUNTRY COUNTDOWN**

CHART IS TO 1	ARTIST	SONG	WKS	WEEK	PE	STATION
1	Hayley Verrall	- Dance Around It	5	12	1	OM
2	Shirley Ann	- Letters Say the Most	12	2	2	AB
3	Cloud Lodge	- My Girl is Made	11	12	4	AB
4	CHIEF COUNTRY	- Jack Donaghy Here (For Just Another Party)	1	12	1	AB
5	Yin Albertson	- Cleaners	14	12	9	OM
6	Carolina Lane	- Ain't Nothin' Goin' On Here	14	12	7	BC
7	Shirley Ann	- My Girl is Made	12	12	9	OM
8	Shirley Ann	- My Girl is Made	12	12	9	OM
9	Shirley Ann	- My Girl is Made	12	12	9	OM
10	Shirley Ann	- My Girl is Made	12	12	9	OM
11	Shirley Ann	- My Girl is Made	12	12	9	OM
12	Shirley Ann	- My Girl is Made	12	12	9	OM
13	Shirley Ann	- My Girl is Made	12	12	9	OM
14	Shirley Ann	- My Girl is Made	12	12	9	OM
15	Shirley Ann	- My Girl is Made	12	12	9	OM
16	Shirley Ann	- My Girl is Made	12	12	9	OM
17	Shirley Ann	- My Girl is Made	12	12	9	OM
18	Shirley Ann	- My Girl is Made	12	12	9	OM
19	Shirley Ann	- My Girl is Made	12	12	9	OM
20	Shirley Ann	- My Girl is Made	12	12	9	OM

I'm a  
**Featured Guest**  
on  
Mixing It With Nicki Kris®



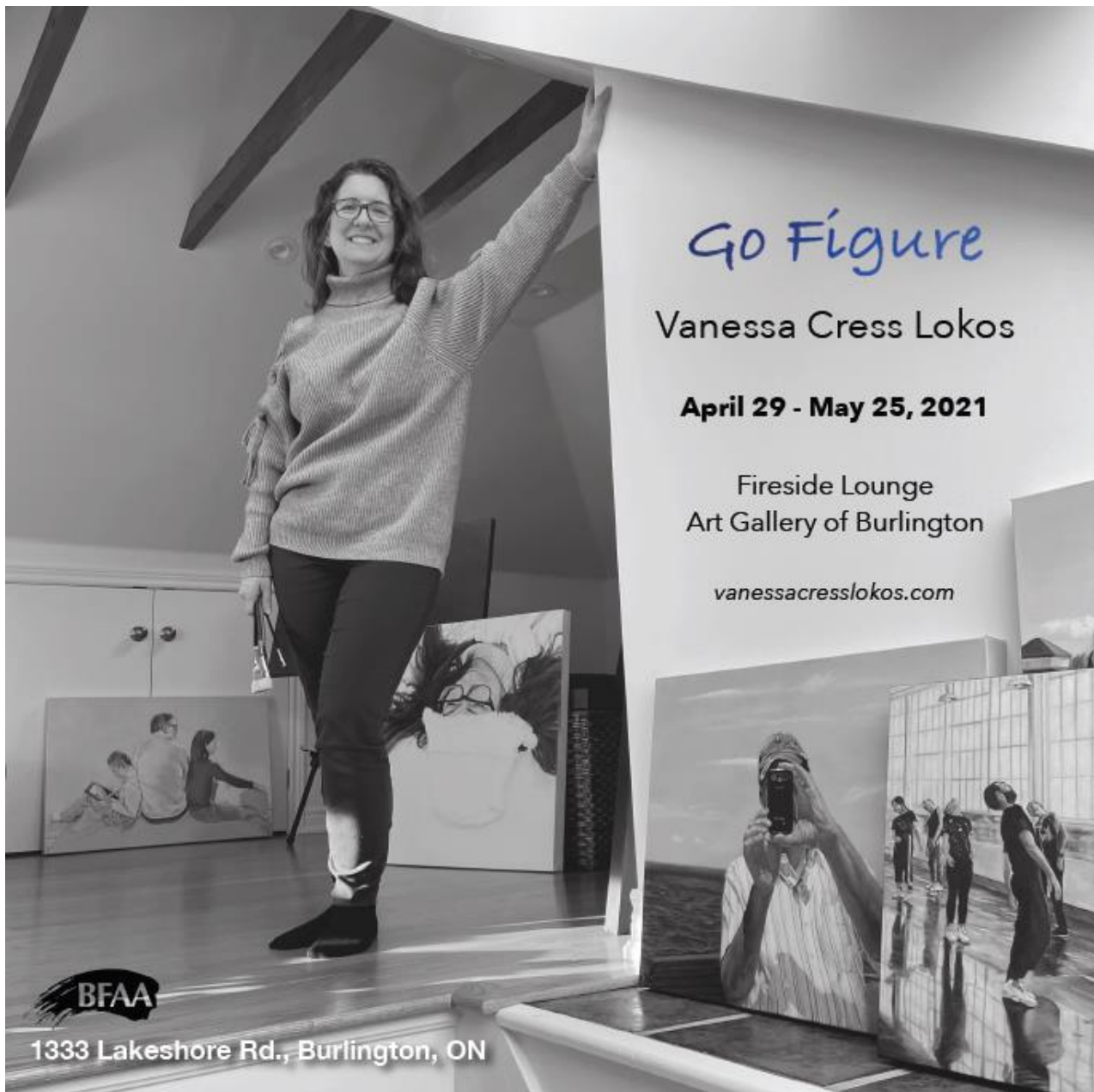



If you have SiriusXM in your car or at home I hope you will listen for my song! I hope you will all go look me up on Spotify or Apple Music and follow me at

- <https://www.facebook.com/hayleyverrallmusic/>
- <https://www.instagram.com/hayleyverrallmusic/>
- <https://www.twitter.com/hayleyvmusic/>
- [www.hayleyverrallmusic.com](http://www.hayleyverrallmusic.com)

- **Vanessa Cress Lokos**

A solo exhibition of contemporary figurative paintings that have evolved from observations of strangers, to people I know and love and then ultimately back to myself. As I seek to make sense of our relationship to one another. I invite the viewer to contemplate their own stories within the artwork.



- **Andy and Helen Griffiths**

Howdy fellow musicians and artists.

Well ... this year has turned everything upside down for all of us! We hope everyone is keeping safe and staying positive. Things will slowly get back to 'normal'!

For Helen and I ... the things that have most kept us grounded are .... our kids and our one year old grandson, Griffin. Living close by and being able to see Griffin fairly often ... even if from a car ... or for long walks, etc. has been a real blessing. Watching him grow and become a little person has been so awesome! He is a treasure in these trying times and helps keep us focused on what is most important ... family and friends.

Social media has also been a real help with keeping in touch with friends and colleagues ... and of course ... an outlet for our artistic endeavours.

As a musician ... I had lost so many fantastic live shows that I had set up for my band during the summer last year. It was rather depressing. But ... still ... we carry on. I decided to learn about video editing and live streaming. I did a multitude of live video recordings, playing covers of popular folk rock songs on the porch with just my guitar and voice. I had fun ... and shared the videos with friends who seemed to enjoy them as well. As we travelled further on into the covid lock down ... several of the festivals we were booked to play, decided to produce a semi live streamed show instead. So I learned how to stream, record and edit live video and sound for those shows. My band and I did get together ... outside ... at a safe distance ... to recorded segments for these shows. It was magic being able to play music with my friends again. I decided that I needed more of that ... so I arranged to play a few live ... socially distanced .... shows from my own driveway. Those turned out to be super fun. Friends and neighbours gathered around for an hour of fun musical distraction ... played by some pretty great musicians! J We even had a birthday celebration for myself and a few friends last September. We played a super fun set of music, ate some yummy cake and drank a variety of scotches. A fantastic birthday all considered. Which reminds me ... this year will be a big birthday for me ... and will require a big celebration. Hmmmm ... what to do????

I was also lucky enough to be invited to play several other streamed events as well, including one orchestrated by our own Kim Verrall ... Rock Out Take Out. Helping promote Burlington musicians as well as restaurants ( take out ) at the same time. Fun event ... and yummy food!

Apart from these shows, I did manage to record several songs in my studio complete with video. A few talented musician friends recorded their parts ... drums, bass, lead guitar and backing vocals, with video, in their own respective studios from various locations in Ontario. They transferred the sound and video files to me through a dropbox. I then mixed them together in my recording studio. It was a lot of work ... but also a ton of fun! And I learned a new skill ... music video editing ... at least on a small scale. We released 3 songs ... 'What's So Funny About Peace, Love and Understanding?' a Nick Lowe cover, 'I Want

A Hippopotamus for Christmas' at Christmas and a new folk rock song that I recently wrote called 'Up In The North Country'. The musicians that came on board to record those songs, are some of the finest I know. Check the videos out at [www.andygriffiths.ca](http://www.andygriffiths.ca) and [www.andygandfriends.com](http://www.andygandfriends.com)

I am presently upgrading my studio and equipment in preparation to record a bunch of new songs over the next few months.

Helen has also been keeping very busy during these times of isolation ... painting. Again ... all of the art shows that she was planning to exhibit and sell at ... were cancelled. Some were turned into virtual shows, a new format for so many creative individuals and groups. She now also had some time to put together a great new web site that had been on the drawing board for several years. There could not be a better time to develop a stronger presence on line. Feel free to visit it at [www.helengriffithsart.com](http://www.helengriffithsart.com) .

One very exciting opportunity that presented itself to Helen, was an invitation to be a featured artist in the Arabella online magazine. She was thrilled, as this is one of her favourite Canadian Art magazines. You can see her feature at the Arabella magazine web site ... February 2021 issue. [www.arabelladesign.com](http://www.arabelladesign.com) or direct link ... <http://mydigitalpublication.com/publication/?m=61763&i=693938&p=50>

Because all of the live art shows were cancelled ... this also gave Helen a chance to apply for several on line events that she would normally not have time for. One such event was the Society of Canadian Artists International Online Art Exhibition. Having submitted 3 paintings ... 2 were accepted for the show. That was cool in itself, considering how many submissions they received! But even better, was that one of the paintings 'The Chicken Or The Egg' won second place in the show overall. What a thrill ... and there was even a nice cash prize! Bonus. <https://societyofcanadianartists.com> or direct link ... [https://societyofcanadianartists.com/2021-open-international-juried-online-exhibition/?fbclid=IwAR1Nh7D8GSscTCZcorIdQnR8hDOFZV0YxLYD6OMvxGIXM\\_o2j-E4cuODdW4](https://societyofcanadianartists.com/2021-open-international-juried-online-exhibition/?fbclid=IwAR1Nh7D8GSscTCZcorIdQnR8hDOFZV0YxLYD6OMvxGIXM_o2j-E4cuODdW4)

The Dundas Valley School of Art has an annual art auction to raise funds to help keep the school operating. Helen submitted 5 paintings for consideration and all 5 were accepted into the show. Keep an eye open for this online art extravaganza. There are many fine artists participating from all over southern Ontario, including a few from Burlington. As we understand it ... this show will be both online and live. In other words, you can visit the school to see the show in person. Safety guidelines in place. <https://dvsa.ca/>

I am not a great journalist style writer and this article may sound like a bunch of bragging. But it is not meant to be ... we just keep plugging away at the things we love regardless ... and we have begun to see some wonderful results of our perseverance.

Although life during these strange days can be very trying and tough to cope with at times, there are shining moments to be found. Reach out to friends on tough days ... as we are all in this together and need to help support each other.

Stay strong, stay safe and keep your eye on the prize. We will get through this!



- **Burlington New Millennium Orchestra**

**ON THE VILLAGE GREEN**

**Burlington New Millennium Orchestra (BNMO)**  
**Charles Cozens, Conductor**

**APRIL 3, 2021**

**Pre-concert chat at 7:15 pm**

**Performance at 7:30 – 8:30 pm**

**Live Stream broadcast from the Burlington Performing Arts Centre (BPAC)**

On The Village Green is a live stream concert presentation which celebrates many of the wonders in our physical world: the earth, sky, water, humanity, wildlife and more.

Music is an international language and On The Village Green helps to break down borders and barriers calling for world peace and demonstrating the fragility of our environment.

The repertoire is wide ranging from Mozart to Jenkins to Cozens offering poignant and scintillating performances from the Burlington New Millennium Orchestra under the direction of Maestro Charles Cozens.

This concert presentation is one hour in duration and in addition there will be a pre concert commentary about why the music it was written and what it stands for in our ever-changing world.

This concert is suitable for viewers of all ages and admission is free.

**OLDIES BUT GOLDIES**

**Burlington New Millennium Orchestra Swing Ensemble**  
**Charles Cozens Music Director**

**May 15, 2021**

**Pre-concert chat at 2:15 pm**

**Performance at 2:30 – 3:30 pm**

Oldies But Goldies is a one hour Live Stream performance of swing era standards performed by the Burlington New Millennium Swing Ensemble under the leadership of Charles Cozens.

This program will be a must see for seniors featuring well known favourites like The Nearness Of You, Skyliner, One O'Clock Jump and many more. Our guest vocalist for this special event is Beverley Gail, well known for her many performances in Ontario and abroad.

This event will prove to be a real treat for seniors as they get to see, listen and who knows...maybe even cut a rug...

This concert will be live streamed from B Town Sound in Burlington Ontario.

Admission is free.

### **A TASTE OF MOZART**

**Charles Cozens Chamber Music Ensemble**

**Charles Cozens Conductor**

**June 6, 2021**

**Pre-concert chat at 2:15 pm**

**Performance at 2:30 pm**

A Taste Of Mozart is a one hour Live Stream concert presentation of some of Mozart's greatest hits. Conducted by Charles Cozens with his chamber music orchestra, the repertoire is highly entertaining for general audiences of all ages and includes such hits as Eine Kleine Nachtmusik, Andante from Symphony No. 8, Marche der Priester and many more.

Did you know that our national anthem O Canada was inspired by the opening notes of Marche der Priester?

This concert is one not to be missed and will be live streamed from B Town Sound in Burlington Ontario

This concert is suitable for viewers of all ages and admission is free.

- **Chris McKhool**

It has been an exciting ride for Sultans of String lately. The JUNO Awards announced a nomination for Engineer of the Year for Sultans engineer and co-producer John Bailey with a track from their new album "Refuge". This was for work with their song "The Grand Bazaar" featuring Chris McKhool, Béla Fleck and Robi Botos. You can listen to it here: <http://smarturl.it/RefugeAlbum> .

Sultans of String is also up for two Canadian Folk Music Awards, in the "Ensemble of the Year", and "Producer of the Year" category for Burlington resident and bandleader McKhool. The CFMAs are being held virtually this year on April 10 and 11, with a nightly Award Ceremony shows plus a variety of showcases, all online, and the band is performing as part of the weekend of events. You can watch it all for free following this link <https://folkawards.ca> .

What the band is most passionate about right now is fighting the planned Highway 413, a redundant and unnecessary toll highway that would pave over farm, forests, wetlands and a portion of the Greenbelt and cost taxpayers billions. The band is holding a fundraiser on April 24 for Environmental Defence, inviting many of their collaborators to join with them including Dr Duke Redbird, flamenco dancer Tamar Ilana, and singer Rebecca Campbell. Tickets are available at <https://act.environmentaldefence.ca/page/78848/petition/1>

This follows McKhool's very successful fundraiser for the Burlington Food Bank in March, where the band raised almost \$3000 and counting for this local cause. Using ground-breaking live-streaming technology, the Zoom concert was opened up by welcoming remarks from Mayor Marianne Meed Ward and Food Bank director Robin Bailey, in an online concert that was originally to take place in person. Supported by the Burlington Arts & Culture Fund, this show was a wonderful example of how many groups can come together for a great cause, with marketing support from One Burlington, Sound of Music Festival, Lowville Festival, Port Nelson United Church, Burlington Public Library, and Burlington Symphony. You can view an excerpt of the concert here [https://youtu.be/0m7r7\\_IChjA](https://youtu.be/0m7r7_IChjA)



## OPPORTUNITIES & COLLABORATIONS

- **Publish your arts and culture events** – Post your upcoming events on the ACCOB website at <https://www.artscultureburlington.ca/events/> or email [info@artscultureburlington.ca](mailto:info@artscultureburlington.ca) to post on FB.
- **Send us information** – If you have content for upcoming newsletters please email it to [info@artscultureburlington.ca](mailto:info@artscultureburlington.ca).
- **Website** - ACCOB has updated and improved its website. Please check [www.artscultureburlington.ca](http://www.artscultureburlington.ca) for information about ACCOB, its board members and member events.

### CALLING FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Please send us interesting and relevant articles! Concerns?  
Questions & Suggestions?  
ACCOB is VOLUNTEER run and needs YOUR help!