The ACCOB Newsletter

January 2024 Issue 1



Incorporated in 2016

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CALENDAR

February ACCOB AGM

Please stay tuned for future events

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:

- Robert Bateman Highschool adaptive re-use project (EICS-20-22) —
 Earlier this year the City of Burlington announced they will be putting out a Request of Interest for possible uses of space in Phase 2 of the indoor areas at the Bateman school site.
 - The Arts and Culture Council of Burlington is active in and keeping a watchful eye on this matter on behalf of the Arts and Culture sector in our City.
- 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 by March 15, 2024 and the next newsletter will be released in April, 2024. 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.
- We need you! If you have some interest in being a volunteer or in being on our Board, please contact us. We are particularly in need of someone with an accounting background to act as Treasurer. As a Board we meet once a month via Zoom and we also work on various things throughout the year. Please contact us at info@artscultureburlington.ca.



Arts Grants

Ontario Trillium Foundation – www.otf.ca

Ontario Arts Council - https://www.arts.on.ca/home?lang=en-ca

The Catherine and Maxwell Meighan Foundation - https://thecatherineandmaxwellmeighenfoundation.ca/

The Metcalf Foundation - https://metcalffoundation.com/

JP Bickell Foundation - https://www.scotiawealthmanagement.com/ca/en/home/scotiatrust/jp-bickell-foundation.html

• **ACCOB Memberships** – If you have not yet renewed your membership for 2024 please do so! The annual cost of a membership is \$25.00 for individuals and \$50.00 for groups. Please pay by e-transfer to info@artscultureburlington.ca if you are able. If you need to send a cheque, please note we have a **new** address which is associated with our Treasurer:

ACCOB c/o 25 Ann Moore Crescent Guelph, ON N1L 0J1

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 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.

• ACCOB Youtube Channel – ACCOB now has its own YouTube channel which can be found at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrRNgNwTcvhkFqumLo2LbiA/videos. We hope you will visit the channel and view our 2023 workshops as well as the past ones if you have not already done so!

If you are a paid ACCOB member and would like one of your videos placed on our YouTube channel, please contact us at info@artscultureburlington.ca. We will consider all content provided to us, however, reserve the right to only upload content which we view as relevant and appropriate.

MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS

• Carlene Ling - BLing Events International Entertainment BACCAU

F.A.M.E. is a free experiential learning program for youth age 14-19 interested in earning volunteer hours, getting support to access work experience placements, volunteer job and also exploring post-secondary education pathways to careers in Film Arts Music (Multimedia) & Entertainment.

The program will be held on Saturdays starting March 2024-November 2024. Program participants and or Workshop facilitators will receive free food and snacks & will earn volunteer hours (that they can use towards OSSD graduation) as well as a financial honorarium for attending the program and completing all requirements.

Interested Participants or Professional working in the arts interested in presenting a workshop can see flyer for more details and apply using the QR codes or contacting the Program Creator, Carlene Ling aka Vanda Li at (647) 572-4076, Founder / Director @blingeventsinternational.





Penny Alexander - Burlington Welsh Ladies Chorus



The Burlington Welsh Ladies Chorus (BWLC) was founded in 2017 with nine members, and we are currently boasting 40+. We have the wonderful Janice Beninger as our Director supported by our superb accompanist Chris Hunt. Since its founding, the main goal of the Chorus has been to provide engaging entertainment for the City of Burlington, Ontario and beyond.

The Chorus has performed at various respected venues throughout the area, including the Atrium at the Royal Botanical Gardens, Oakville Performing Arts Center, Benares Historic House in Mississauga, St. Augustine's in Dundas, St. Matthew on-the-Plains, Culture Days in Burlington, various Retirement Homes, and the list continues to grow.

The Fall of 2023 held many concert opportunities for us, and our membership grew once again! On October 22nd, we joined the Hamilton Concert Band at Melrose United Church in Hamilton. It was a wonderful evening show! Six days later, we performed at Wellington Square United Church in Burlington with guest artists, 4SKÖR - a fantastic jazz ensemble.

On Sunday, November 26th, we held our annual Christmas concert at St. Matthew on-the-Plains in Burlington. We were honoured to have Baritone, Andrew Tees, join us as our special guest once again.

On Sunday, December 3rd, we sang at Delta United Church in Hamilton with the Hamilton Children's Choir. This was the second annual fundraising concert for Hôpital Albert Schweitzer in Haiti, with proceeds in support of Maternal/Child Health Care programs.

We rounded out 2023 by singing on Saturday, December 16 th at the Burlington Seniors Centre at the Breakfast Bistro. Those seniors sure know how to have fun!

The BWLC currently has several performances already booked for 2024. In January, we will be singing at LaSalle Park Retirement Community on Sunday, January 21st, 2024, and at Park Avenue Manor Retirement Community on Sunday, January 27th, 2024. Additionally, we are looking forward to singing as guests of Burlington Welsh Male Chorus at this year's St. David's Day concert on Sunday, March 3rd, 2024 at Knox Presbyterian Church in Milton. We will also perform at Benares Historic House in Mississauga on June 21st, 2024. This performance is just before we venture to St. John's, Newfoundland & Labrador, to participate in the HarbourVOICES! International Festival of Collective Singing. We are so excited to participate in this incredible event!

If you have any upcoming events please consider reaching out to the BWLC for the entertainment! Visit our website for more information: www.bwlcladieschorus.ca and be sure to follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/BWLCladieschorus

Hayley Verrall

Happy New Year, Burlington! Boy, did that ever creep up on us fast. It was a bit of an anti-climactic Christmas, what with it being exceedingly green and all. Not that I mind, though, considering my last gig for the year was an outdoors one. I was very pleased once again to be asked to perform at <u>Winterlit</u> for Conservation Halton. It's always a fun time to play music in the great outdoors and enjoy the lights, the campfires, the hot chocolate and, of course, the friendly people of our region.



In 2023 I released 'I Guess That's Love,' which landed at #2 on the Canadian Indie Country Countdown Chart and 'Slow Motion' which, at time of writing, was at #3 on the chart and hopefully heading to #1! I am particularly proud of 'Slow Motion' which was in Yangaroo's top 5 country downloads on August 29, and October 13 (right after Carrie Underwood and Luke Combs respectively) and which was THE top country download on August 30, 2023. 'Slow Motion' was also in Yangaroo's Most Active Indies list for September 1. I thank everyone that has been supporting my music this year and in particular those two songs.

I was honoured to receive the Fair Play Country Music Awards

Rising Star award in 2023 and be a semi-finalist for the Music in Motion Canada Awards.

2023 was very kind to me and I'm grateful to have been able to provide 100 performances, big and small, throughout the GTA, including a couple gigs for ACCOB (Culture Days and fundraiser in October). We were thrilled to be able to play the song I wrote for Burlington, 'Big City, Small Town'. because that song was also chosen to be part of the City of Burlington's Culture Days Public Art Project down on the Beachway Path and the lyrics were displayed for everyone to see.



I hope that if you haven't yet checked out me and my band you will put it on your bucket list for 2024. You can visit my website at www.hayleyverrallmusic.com for show dates/times and more information. As always, please follow me on all social media at @hayleyverrallmusic and if you have Spotify or any other streaming platform, please don't forget to listen to my music there!

Andrea Battista

Andrea Battista is pleased to announce that she was awarded a grant from the Burlington Arts and Culture Fund last April for a concert about women composers. Mark your calendars for Sunday, March 3, 2024 at 3:30 p.m. for Remember the Ladies, a concert focusing on the music of women composers from the classical, musical theatre, pop and television-writing genres. The concert will feature vocalists Jason Hales, Leslie Gray and Christopher Gray as well as instrumentalists Philip Corke, Shiori Kobayashi, Stephanie Numan-Scholman, Catherine Richardson and Andrea herself. Much of the music has been arranged for our unique combination of instruments by Philip Corke. We'll be accompanying the music with little bits of information about each composer so that the community will be able to learn more about many of these artists and the struggles they faced in their careers.

Andrea Battista – The Burlington Symphony Orchestra

The Burlington Symphony Orchestra has just played to a sold-out house at the Burlington Performing Arts Centre. Last season was their best ever in terms of earnings and audience attendance, and they are building on that base in the 2023-2024 season. Subscriptions are up 70% and the Christmas Fantasy show was sold out weeks in advance. The fall concert featured the recent winner of an international Chopin competition, Eric Guo. The rest of the season includes An Afternoon at the Opera on February 11, 2024; Symphonic Pops on March 30, 2024; and Symphonic Fairy Tales on May 12, 2024. The May concert will feature Trevor Copp performing mime with the orchestra and Christopher Gray narrating Peter and the Wolf.

<u>www.burlingtonsymphony.ca</u> gives more information on the concerts, pricing and how you can help the orchestra through volunteering, donations or advertising. We're looking forward to seeing you at the next concert in February.

Rob Stonehewer – Burlington New Millenium Orchestra



Burlington New Millennium Orchestra

THE MOZART EFFECT: LIVE! A Symphony for the Senses.

Last October the Burlington New Millennium Orchestra performed to a near-capacity crowd at the Burlington Performing Arts Centre.

Based on the genius of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and featuring his most famous works, The Mozart Effect: Live! took the presentation of the live symphony orchestra to an entirely new level.



Conducted by Maestro Charles Cozens, the world-class Burlington New Millennium Orchestra (BNMO) was accompanied by high-definition large-format immersive video and visual effects. The Mozart Effect Live! stimulated the senses, engaged and inspired!

Synchronized to the dynamics of the orchestra's performance of Mozart's timeless music, the visual presentation took the audience from the farthest reaches of space, through awe-inspiring flights over mountains and then into the deepest canyons on a journey through human relationships.



These visuals were married with special lighting effects and live video close-ups of the musicians and conductor. The result was a sensory-enhanced symphonic audio and visual experience, with moments of intimate performance nuance and powerful climactic peaks.

For more information, to donate or volunteer please visit <u>www.bnmo.ca</u>.

To see an extract from the live performance please visit our YouTube channel https://shorturl.at/irsA0.

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 to post on FB.
- **Send us information** If you have content for upcoming newsletters please email it to info@artscultureburlington.ca.
- **Website** ACCOB has updated and improved its website. Please check 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!

Please send new contact info or e-mail changes to info@artscultureburlington.ca