



NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE  
CENTRE NATIONAL DES ARTS

Canada is our stage. Le Canada en scène.

# Music Education Programs and Activities

supported by the

*Friends* OF THE  
NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE  
ORCHESTR 

## 2017/18

season

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## How the Friends support the NAC Orchestra

One of the NAC Orchestra's passions is music education. This is a passion which the Friends of the NAC Orchestra fully share. Each year, the Friends support the NAC Orchestra's Music Education initiatives, both financially and through volunteering.

Many of the Friends of the NAC Orchestra's social activities also double as fundraisers that allow them to raise money to help support the NAC's music education activities and to support young musicians.

Enclosed is a detailed report on the programs and activities that have benefitted from the support of the Friends of the NAC Orchestra during the 2017-2018 season.



Photo: Dwayne Brown



Photo: Dwayne Brown

Presented in collaboration with the Friends of the National Arts Centre Orchestra, the NAC main lobby, mezzanine and amphitheatre levels are transformed into TUNETOWN, a fair of pre-concert activities relating to the theme of the concert. 45 minutes before each *TD Family Adventures with the NAC Orchestra* concert, families are encouraged to journey through TUNETOWN and participate in the many different activities taking place. Each TUNETOWN is unique; schools, cultural organizations, artists and musicians provide fun and interactive activities for all ages to participate and enjoy.

During the 2017-2018 season, the Friends of the NAC Orchestra TUNETOWN Committee (comprised of Wesley Adams, Gisèle Lamontagne, Christine McLaughlin, Wendy Old, Janis Perkin, Claire Vial and Sophie Reussner-Pazur) successfully organized and presented numerous impressive pre-concert activities as well as partnered with several community organizations prior to each of the *TD Family Adventures with the NAC Orchestra* concerts.

## **The Firebird | Saturday, January 13, 2018**

**Concert/TUNETOWN Theme: Stravinsky's The Firebird, exotic birds**

- ★ Ukrainian dance performances with the **Svitanok Ukrainian Dance Society**
- ★ Interactive shadow puppet creation and animation by **Once Upon A Kingdom Theatre**
- ★ String instrument fair by **Ottawa Suzuki Strings** students
- ★ Interactive musical activities by **Music for Young Children**
- ★ Interactive hand bells activity and display by **Kiwanis Music Festival, National Capital Region**
- ★ Book display about The Firebird, birds, and Russian folktales by **Ottawa Public Library**
- ★ Craft: collective feathering of a papier mâché Firebird by Janis Perkin (TUNETOWN committee member)
- ★ Exploration and discussion on five bird paintings by Christine McLaughlin (TUNETOWN committee member)
- ★ String-themed card matching game with volunteers of the Friends of the NAC Orchestra
- ★ NAC archival display of a model of the NAC Orchestra made of toothpicks by Mr. Go Sato

## **Symphony Hack Lab | Saturday, February 3, 2018**

**Concert/TUNETOWN Theme: MAKER FAIRE, audacious new explorations of sound through science and technology**

- ★ **MAKER FAIRE hands-on demo of:**
  - 3 D printing of musical instruments with the **Ottawa Symphony Orchestra**
  - Interactive musical sculpture and sound stations, as well as a Johann Sebastian Box
  - LittleBits music modules and a Makey-Makey platform, including the "Banana-piano"
  - Harp laser and Chladni plates by the **Canada Museum of Science and Technology**
- ★ Percussion instrument fair by **University of Ottawa School of Music** students
- ★ A sound and technology-themed book display, a makey-makey piano, and an Arduino theremin by the **Ottawa Public Library**
- ★ Interactive musical activities by **Music for Young Children**
- ★ Interactive hand bells activity and display by **Kiwanis Music Festival, National Capital Region**
- ★ Craft: tin can shaker with Janis Perkin (TUNETOWN committee members) and MAKER FAIRE
- ★ NAC archival display of a model of the Parliament of Canada's Centrebloc made of NAC Orchestra tickets by local artist Mr. Go Sato.

## **Vivaldi and The Four Seasons** | **Saturday, April 21, 2018**

**Concert/TUNETOWN Theme: Seasons coming to life in music, climate-inspired music**

- ★ Dance performances on the four seasons by the **National Capital Dance Educators**
- ★ Woodwind instrument fair by students from **École secondaire publique De La Salle**
- ★ Learning activities on Petrie Island's habitat by **Carleton University's Environmental Science Students Association**
- ★ Book display on nature and climate change by the **Ottawa Public Library**
- ★ Information table and colouring activity by **Ottawa Children's Choir**
- ★ Interactive musical activities by **Music for Young Children**
- ★ Craft: decoration of a tree's four seasons on four canvasses by Janis Perkin (TUNETOWN committee member)
- ★ Smell of the four seasons and discovery of objects of the four seasons inside a bottle by Janis Perkin (TUNETOWN committee member)
- ★ Bilingual discussion with children on the reproduction of four seasons' pictures ("Where are the four seasons? / Où sont les quatre saisons?") by Christine McLaughlin (TUNETOWN committee member)
- ★ Woodwind-themed card matching game with volunteers of the Friends of the NAC Orchestra
- ★ NAC archival display of a NAC Orchestra concert poster of *The Four Seasons*
- ★ Display of children's artwork on the four seasons

## **Superheroes** | **Saturday, May 26, 2018**

**Concert/TUNETOWN Theme: Portrayal of superheroes in music and cartoons**

- ★ String performances by the Intermediate String **Ottawa Youth Orchestra Academy** ensemble
- ★ Brass instrument fair by students from the **Ottawa Youth Orchestra Academy**
- ★ Harp and drum performances by the **Ottawa Youth Orchestra Academy** and the **Baobab Tree Community**
- ★ Book display on superheroes by the **Ottawa Public Library**
- ★ Interactive musical activities by **Music for Young Children**
- ★ Interactive hand bell activity and display by **Kiwanis Music Festival, National Capital Region**
- ★ Craft: mask-making by Janis Perkin (TUNETOWN committee member)
- ★ Book display on superheroes by the **Ottawa Public Library**
- ★ Brass-themed card matching game with volunteers of the Friends of the NAC Orchestra
- ★ Photo opportunity with superhero costumes and a warrior helmet by the Friends of the NAC Orchestra and NAC Archives



**Over 12,500 children and their families**  
took part in the TUNETOWN pre-concert activities  
at the NAC during the 2017-2018 season!

Thanks to the generous support of the Friends of the NAC Orchestra, a total of **43 Musical Adventures in My School performances** took place over the 2017-2018 season, reaching over **7,700 schoolchildren and their teachers**



NAC Orchestra's Silfay String Quartet  
Photo: Kelly Racicot

One of the major objectives of the National Arts Centre is to develop and expand programs for young audiences. Youth and Education continues to be a core activity of the NAC. And as such, we are committed to raising awareness and understanding of music in classrooms in order to enrich the lives of young Canadians. In a time of major funding cuts to arts education in Ontario school boards, the need for such in-school resources is greater than ever.

The *Musical Adventures in My School* program (formerly Musicians in the Schools) brings various ensembles of musicians at an affordable rate into schools (Kindergarten to grade 12). For those schools that cannot afford the transportation costs of bringing students to the NAC, this may be their only opportunity to benefit from a live performance.

Schools may choose from nine different ensembles (primarily NAC Orchestra players) whose one-hour performances feature musical styles that range from Baroque to jazz.



NAC Orchestra's Bangers & Smash Percussion Duo  
Photo: Kelly Racicot

# Music Monday



On Monday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, thousands of students, musicians, parents and community members across Canada sang together creating the world's largest single event dedicated to raising awareness for music education. At this time each year, as a testament to the unifying power of music, our country comes together from coast to coast to coast to simultaneously sing the current Music Monday anthem, ***Sing It Together***, written by multiple award-winning songwriters Marc Jordan and Ian Thomas.

The only nationwide celebration of music that actively engages children and youth in their schools and communities, **Music Monday** was observed in many ways across the country: in school classrooms and assemblies, and concerts of community bands and choirs with special events being planned in cities including Vancouver, Calgary, Winnipeg, Montreal, and Sydney, Nova Scotia.

The National Arts Centre's Music Monday performance was one of six national showcase concerts spearheaded by the Coalition for Music Education and was live-streamed through the NAC Facebook page on May 7<sup>th</sup> from 12 to 1 p.m. EDT.

Hosted by CBC host Lucy van Oldenbarneveld and NAC Director of Communications Annabelle Cloutier, this free public concert in the lobby of the recently rejuvenated National Arts Centre included performances by throat singers **Tamara Takpannie** and **Janice Oolayou**, singer-songwriter **Céleste Lévis**, a brass trio from the **Toronto Symphony Orchestra**, and student ensembles from **École secondaire publique De La Salle**, and **Lisgar Collegiate Institute**. The performers were also joined by Managing Director of the **Coalition for Music Education**, **Patricia Valenteyn**, and Ottawa representatives from **Youth4Music**. **Mayor Jim Watson** also proclaimed May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018, to be Music Monday in Ottawa.

The 14<sup>th</sup> annual **Music Monday** celebration included a **massed children's choir** of over 350 youth under the direction of **Jackie Hawley** who led the sing-along of the Music Monday anthem *Sing It Together*. Participating choirs included: the Cantiamo Girls Choir of Ottawa, École élémentaire et secondaire publique Maurice-Lapointe, St. George Catholic School, All Saints Catholic High School, École élémentaire publique Séraphin-Marion, École élémentaire publique Michaëlle-Jean, Queen Elizabeth Public School, Henry Larsen Elementary School, and École secondaire catholique Franco-Cité.



## Music Monday at the National Arts Centre

Photos Kelly Racicot

Music Monday is an annual event organized by the **Coalition for Music Education in Canada**, a national advocacy organization that for 25 years has represented educators, parents, music lovers, industry – and most of all students – to promote and protect quality music programs in schools. Music Monday is the world's largest single event dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of music education and has inspired similar initiatives in the U.S., Australia, the U.K. and Hungary. For more information, please visit [musicmonday.ca](http://musicmonday.ca).

Music Monday is made possible in part by support from the **Friends of the NAC Orchestra** and the individual and corporate donors of the **National Youth and Education Trust**, the primary resource for youth and education funding at the National Arts Centre. The NAC is proud to partner with the Coalition for Music Education in Canada for this event.

# NAC Orchestra's Community Engagement Week:

## NAC Orchestra REMIX Project

2017/18  
season

From February 12 to 15, 2018, hundreds of students and adult amateurs had the opportunity to perform with Music Director Alexander Shelley and members of NAC Orchestra as part of the NAC Orchestra's Community Engagement Week. The events included:

The third and final **NAC ORCHESTRA REMIX CONCERT** at Woodroffe High School on February 12<sup>th</sup> in which over 100 students from four Ottawa West End schools played alongside the NAC Orchestra's Wind, Brass and Percussion sections conducted by Alexander Shelley. Participating schools included: Woodroffe High School, J.H. Putman Public School, D. Roy Kennedy Public School, Regina Street Alternative.

On February 14<sup>th</sup>, the string orchestras of Canterbury High School and École secondaire publique De La Salle performed side-by-side with members of the NAC Orchestra's string section conducted by Alexander Shelley and marked the second joint collaboration of all three orchestras.

In advance of both abovementioned events, members of the NAC Orchestra, NAC Resident Artist in the Community and Donnie Deacon, led in-school workshops with each participating school ensemble to provide helpful advice to music teachers, and inspire the students to reach their full potential.

From February 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>, members of **CAMMAC**, Ottawa/Gatineau's foremost amateur musicians, workshoped and performed Rimsky Korsakov's *Scheherazade* with Alexander Shelley and the NAC Orchestra over the course of three evenings in the NAC's Peter A. Herndorf Place and O'Born Room with a final concert of 140 musicians performing at All Saint's Events Space on February 15.



*"The NACO Remix project is an opportunity for us to forge a relationship with these students and their teachers, celebrate the talent in Ottawa's West End, and explore how we can create meaningful partnerships."*  
Alexander Shelley, Music Director, National Arts Centre Orchestra



*"Programs like 'NACO Remix' are tailored to the specific needs of the community, giving students the opportunity to develop their creativity. With the support of dedicated classroom teachers and local artists, students can celebrate their community and culture through the power of music."*

Geneviève Cimon, Director, Music Education and Community Engagement

# Education Events in Atelier Belle Shenkman & Desmond Smith and other NAC spaces

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Thanks to the generous support of the Friends of the NAC Orchestra, **over 70 education events** took place in the **Atelier Belle Shenkman & Desmond Smith** and **other NAC public spaces** in the **2017-2018 season**, **reaching over 4,000 students, teachers and members of the general public**

Throughout the 2017-2018 season, NAC Music Education offered over 70 education events led by NAC Orchestra musicians, professional artists, music organizations from the community, and international music students. These events took place in the new Atelier Belle Shenkman and Desmond Smith and other NAC public spaces which opened in October 2017 after the completion of the NAC's major architectural rejuvenation.

## Education events included:

- ★ Chamber coaching sessions for Institute for Orchestral Studies apprentices led by NAC Music Director Alexander Shelley
- ★ Viola performance by Yoav Yatskan, NAC Young Artists Program participant from Israel
- ★ Work-in-progress recitals by Young Artists Program students
- ★ Instrumental clinics for university students led by NAC Orchestra musicians
- ★ Masterclasses with musicians from the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and violinist James Ehnes (in partnership with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra)
- ★ String workshop with NAC Resident Artist in the Community Donnie Deacon for string students visiting Ottawa from the Bahamas
- ★ Band workshop with Sean Rice, NAC Orchestra Second Clarinet, for students from Sherwood High School, Toronto
- ★ Greenlandic Mask-making workshop for Inuit students from Nunavut Sivuniksavut
- ★ Ancillary music activities prior to the NAC Orchestra's *The Man and the Violin* evening concert
- ★ In partnership with the Lotus Centre for Special Music Education:
  - Post-concert activities for developmentally-challenged children attending Family Adventures concerts
  - Music Circle Workshops throughout the year for autistic students
  - Music and movement classes for children with special needs
- ★ Instrument-making workshops for students attending the NAC Orchestra's *Symphony Hack Lab* student matinee concerts
- ★ Dance workshops with NAC choreographer Siðned Watkins for students attending the *Let's Dance!* NAC Orchestra matinee
- ★ Choir workshop with choir conductor Leslie Bricker
- ★ Career Exploration session in Arts Administration with NAC staff for students from Cornwall Collegiate
- ★ Youth4Music Virtual Summit engaging youth about the power and importance of music for youth in schools and communities
- ★ Professional Development day and Round Table discussion for Music teachers from Ottawa-Carleton District School Board

As part of the NAC's public animation, a **new music summer series of nine free events** was offered to the general public in the Glass & Thorsteinson staircase. These drop-in noon hour events included: French-Canadian folklore with Louis Mercier, gypsy music with Django-Libre, Celtic Rathskallions, music from Burkina-Faso with Bonsa, barbershop music with Barbershop Therapy, Indigenous folk music with Twin Flames, a concert with the NAC Ambassador Brass Trio, and two Instant choir workshops with Lee Hayes of Lee Hayes VOX!



Louis Mercier Photo Kelly Racicot



Instant Choir workshop Photo Kelly Racicot

# The Man with the Violin

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Co-commissioned by the National Arts Centre Orchestra and the National Symphony Orchestra (Washington, D.C.), *The Man with the Violin* is based on the award-winning children's book by Canadian author Kathy Stinson.

On February 12, 2017, the orchestral work, composed by the Oscar and Grammy Award-winning composer Anne Dudley, was performed by the National Symphony Orchestra conducted by Michael Stern, the renowned American journalist Michele Norris (former host of *All Things Considered*) as the narrator, and soloist Joshua Bell as himself.

**The story:** In 2007, the internationally acclaimed violinist (Joshua Bell) famously performed outside a Washington Metro stop as an anonymous busker as part of an experiment by the *Washington Post*. The idea was to see if anyone would stop and listen to a world-famous violinist if he performed in that setting, dressed as a street musician. More than 1,000 people rushed by and barely any turned to look.

The story also inspired the award-winning Canadian children's author Kathy Stinson to write *The Man with the Violin* (©2013, published by Annick Press Ltd.), with artwork by the acclaimed illustrator Dušan Petričić. It tells the story of a fictional boy named Dylan, who wants to stop and listen to the violinist, but is rushed along by his mother. The book won many awards and honours, including the TD Canadian Children's Literature Award, the richest prize in children's literature in Canada.

For the orchestral version, Petričić's illustrations, which beautifully show Dylan enraptured by the music as he goes throughout his day, are brought to life with animation by Montreal production Normal Studio.

This is the **first collaboration between Canada's National Arts Centre Orchestra and the National Symphony Orchestra (Kennedy Center)**. *The Man with the Violin: Suite for Violin and Orchestra* received its **Canadian premiere on December 20, 2017 at the National Arts Centre**, performed by Joshua Bell and the National Arts Centre Orchestra, conducted by Music Director Alexander Shelley. The Christ Church Cathedral Choirs illuminated the magic of the season.

The generous **funds from the Friends of the NAC Orchestra** supported part of the **creation of the new work**, and namely the visual multi-media design which was based on Kathy Stinson's book, *The Man with the Violin*.



The NAC Orchestra Bursary provides financial support to help further the development of young Canadian orchestral musicians. Created in 1979 by the members of the National Arts Centre Orchestra, the NAC Orchestra Bursary Competition awards bursaries and other prizes to music students ages 16 to 24 who are Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada. The bursaries are intended for young musicians whose family residence is in the National Capital Region (NCR), or who have been following a recognized course of music study in the NCR in preparation for careers as professional orchestral musicians. Each year, a committee identifies deserving recipients through audition and selection.

The 28<sup>th</sup> annual NAC Orchestra Bursary Competition was held at the NAC on **May 19-20** for the preliminary round and the finals on **May 21**. This year's competition focused on **strings and harp** and featured 25 students from the NCR. The students played short orchestral excerpts and movements from a concerto or sonata for their instrument.

Guest jurors Michelle Gott, part-time professor of harp at the University of Ottawa, and Vadim Serebryany, assistant professor of piano at the School of Music of Ithaca College, joined the NAC Orchestra jury chaired by Roderick Bell to award 6 prizes and honourable mentions worth more than \$20,000.

The following young musicians from the National Capital Region took home the awards below:

- ★ 2018 NAC Orchestra Bursary (\$7,000) – Alisa Klebanov, viola
- ★ Crabtree Foundation Award (\$5,000) – Maria Krstic, violin
- ★ **Friends of the NAC Orchestra Award (\$3,000) – Jacob van der Sloot, viola**
- ★ The NAC Orchestra Vic Pomer Award (\$2,000) – Talia Hatcher, double bass
- ★ The Sturdevant Orchestral Excerpts Prize (\$1,500) – Alisa Klebanov, viola
- ★ The Piccolo Prix (\$1,000) – Ethan Balakrishnan, violin
- ★ Honourable mentions (\$250 each) – Austin Wu, violin, Blythe Allers, violin, Liam MacIntosh, cello



Photo: Fred Cattroll

## The Friends of the NAC Orchestra Award (\$3,000)

This Friends of NAC Orchestra Award was established in 1993 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the NAC Orchestra.

Created by the then NAC Orchestra Association (now known as the Friends of the NAC Orchestra), it is intended to further the training of a gifted young musician and to illustrate the Friends continuing and deeply felt commitment to the NAC Orchestra. The award is supported through the Friends' many fund raising activities, their generous donations and the James Morton Bequest.

**Jacob van der Sloot** (viola) winner of the 2018 Friends of the NAC Orchestra Award and Wesley Adams, Awards and Bequests, Friends of the NAC Orchestra

MusicFest Canada is an annual national event that brings together more than 8,000 of Canada's finest young musicians who perform for recognition as the country's foremost musical ensembles. Participants range in age from 12-25 years and are drawn from the elementary, high school, college and university levels. The festival is held each year in May, near the holiday weekend.

Today, MusicFest Canada annually engages the participation of over 400,000 young musicians, parents and volunteers in 104 affiliated festivals nationwide for an opportunity to perform at the national festival. It is the first-ever event of its kind to provide an artistic venue for so many young people and is North America's largest annual event dedicated to developing young musical talent.

Staged in a major Canadian city each year, MusicFest Canada is the ultimate experience in combining music and education and is a moving force in the cultural life of Canada's youth. These young musicians perform in over 300 ensembles and attend headline concerts, clinics, educoncerts and workshops for an intense, non-stop week.

From **May 14-19, 2018**, the **46th Annual MusicFest Canada Nationals** were held in **Toronto**. Approximately **8,000 students and teachers** from across Canada took part in the week-long event full of music, learning and fun.

## NAC Award presented to MusicFest Canada Nationals

On May 19, three NAC awards totalling \$3,000 were presented at the 2018 MusicFest Annual Awards presentation. The winners were:

- ★ **National Arts Centre Outstanding String Player Award (\$1,000):** Maya Grittani (cello, age 14, from Oakville, Ontario)
- ★ **National Arts Centre Outstanding Brass Player Award (\$1,000):** Josh Lesperance (tuba, from Tara, Ontario)
- ★ **Friends of the National Arts Centre Orchestra Outstanding Woodwind Player Award (\$1,000):** Lucas March (clarinet, age 16, from New Glasgow, Nova Scotia)



Tuba player Josh Lesperance and Dr. Tony Leong,  
Chair of the Orchestra Division of MusicFest Canada  
(Submitted photo)

## The National Arts Centre Young Artists Program

This season, the Friends of the NAC Orchestra very generously supported the Young Artists Program and were specifically recognized for their generosity. The Friends sponsored two students to participate in the 2018 NAC Young Artists Program with a grant of \$10,000: **Ethan Balakrishnan**, violin, of the senior level, and **Evan Clement**, viola, of the precollege level.

## Kiwanis Music Festival: National Capital Region

The Friends donate two awards, of \$250 each, to successful participants in the Kiwanis Music Festival: National Capital Region.

## The Friends of the NAC Orchestra Volunteers Music Education Bursary Award

Established in 2013 to recognize the dedicated service of Moira Dexter, the Friends' Chair of Volunteer activities (2000-2013) and all of the Friends' volunteers, this award is presented to an organization that promotes orchestral music, the interests of the NAC Orchestra and the development of future audiences through young people's music programs and projects and that relies heavily on volunteers. The successful recipient organisation must have a mandate that harmonises with that of the Friends of the NAC Orchestra and serves the National Capital Region.

## Volunteering at various NAC Orchestra events

Friends of the NAC Orchestra volunteers also assisted with various events throughout the 2017-2018 season, including:

- ★ Work at the CD desk to sell CDs before, during, and after each concert, including the Great Performers series, ballet presentations, and special concerts;
- ★ Assist at Music Monday, organizing the entrance and exit of students and teachers — up to 800 attendees;
- ★ Help with auditions for the NAC Orchestra Bursary Competition by leading students to the proper audition room, registering their arrival and wishing them all the best of luck;
- ★ Assist with Silent Auctions;
- ★ Meet and greet people at Launch events;
- ★ Sell memberships during the season-opening Festival Concert Series each year;
- ★ Act as seat fillers for concerts when required;
- ★ Telephone French and English members who do not have email to remind them of upcoming events;
- ★ Bake and sell baked goods at the annual Christmas FanFair.

