
FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE ORCHESTRA



ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023



ALEXANDER SHELLEY
HONORARY PATRON

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT
- 2022-2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
- EMBASSY CONCERTS
- DIPLOMATIC LIAISON
- MUSIC LIAISON
- MEMBERSHIP SERVICES
- FINANCIAL REPORT 2022-2023

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends of the National Arts Centre Orchestra,

On behalf of the FNACO Board I wish to thank you all most sincerely for your continued renewal of your membership and your very generous extra donations. Your love of music, your continued support of our musicians and NAC Orchestra and an understanding of the difficulties that face a music student especially over the last few years, have really assisted us in maintaining our commitments to dedicated students and organizations in the National Capital Region.



My thanks also to all Board Directors for their continued dedicated volunteer work: Madeleine Aubrey, First VP and Membership; Melina Vacca-Pugsley, Second VP and Embassy Concerts; Louise Rowe, Treasurer; Colonel-Maître® Michel Drapeau, Legal Director; Carol Lutes Racine, Diplomatic Liaison; Kathleen McKillop, Secretary; Gisele Lamontagne, Translator; Stephen McCarthy, Rehearsals Coordinator; Jim Burgess and Juan Molina our two IT volunteer specialists.

Our treasurer Louise Rowe is retiring as of our AGM this year and I thank her most sincerely for all the work she has done over the past seven years for FNACO to maintain our books, our investments and our yearly commitments. Thank you, Louise, for all your hard work and the many volunteer hours you spent on behalf of the Friends. Good luck with your new adventures.

Our new treasurer Sally Boucher, a chartered accountant, has been working with Louise for the last few months to ensure we have a perfect seamless handover. Welcome Sally! We look forward to working with you and thank you for volunteering your precious time.

Since our last AGM we have been very fortunate to have the wonderful support of the High Commissioner of New Zealand and the Ambassadors of Austria, Denmark, Chile, Japan and Spain. They welcomed us into their personal homes or Embassies and were extremely supportive of our goals to assist music students. Each event sold out very quickly and was very successful. We also tried a casual Valentine Sunday tea and music with Carleton University music students and this too was successful. We have decided to have another this coming February 2024.

We produced news and views for six Con Brio newsletters since last autumn. Thank you to all who chose to take the time to write an article. As editor it is challenging to persuade people to write a few words and I receive minimal feedback. This is a financial cost to us and I would greatly appreciate members feedback on whether to continue it.

We were offered the chance to attend three free rehearsals of our orchestra this past season. Stephen McCarthy coordinates the Friends list. This is a wonderful experience and I encourage you to sign up when you receive the email information.

I look forward to meeting you all in Southam Hall this coming season for another wonderful year of concerts by our marvellous NAC orchestra and once again thank you for your continued membership and financial support for our serious music students on the cusp of becoming orchestra players themselves.

My sincere thanks,

Christine McLaughlin

President, Friends of the National Arts Centre Orchestra

FNACO MANDATE

Founded at the same time as the NAC Orchestra in 1969, Friends have been connecting music and people ever since. Our goal is to enjoy music while financially supporting young talented musicians and creating opportunities for the younger generation to enjoy orchestral music.

With your membership you also have the opportunity to attend selected free rehearsals and our fund-raising Embassy concerts and dinners at a reduced price.

Please ask your friends to consider joining us today by becoming a member – remember that a FNACO membership is tax deductible.

Potential members interested in joining can email: Membership@FriendsOfNACO.ca.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS / CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION 2022-2023

Executive Committee / Comité exécutif

President / Présidente

Christine McLaughlin

First Vice-President / Première vice-présidente

Madeleine Aubrey

Second Vice-President / Deuxième vice-présidente

Melina Vacca- Pugsley

Treasurer / Trésorière

Louise Rowe

Secretary / Secrétaire

Kathleen McKillop

Directors /Directeurs /Directrices

Music Liaison/ Prix / Liaison musique

Christine McLaughlin

Legal / Juridique

Colonel-Maître® Michel W. Drapeau

Diplomatic Liaison / Liaisons diplomatiques

Carol Lutes Racine

Membership / Adhésions

Madeleine Aubrey

**Embassy Concerts / Concerts
d'Ambassades**

Melina Vacca- Pugsley

Treasurer Elect / Trésorière élu

Sally Boucher

EMBASSY CONCERTS

The FNACO 2022-2023 season was filled with the sound of music! We kicked it off on October 12, 2022 in the residence of the Danish Ambassador, H.E. Hanne Fugl Eskjaer, where guests enjoyed listening to Ottawa's own internationally renowned pianist Frédéric Lacroix.



On November 9, 2022, FNACO was invited for the first time to a luncheon concert at the residence of the Austrian Ambassador, H.E., Ms. Sylvia Meier-Kajbic, where an up-and-coming young pianist, Joe McDonald entertained guests with selections from Mozart, Beethoven and Liszt.

To welcome in 2023, FNACO members celebrated Valentine Day on February 12 at the Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre with an afternoon coffee and dessert event. A lively afternoon listening to piano, vocal and violin selections from four young aspiring musicians from the Carleton School of Music.

Another first for FNACO was a pre-spring embassy concert hosted by the New Zealand High Commissioner, H.E. Martin Harvey and his wife Sarah on March 15, 2023. Despite the heavy snow outside, guests enjoyed the ambience of the modern residence and listened to the repertoire of cellist Gabriela Ruiz, violist; and violinists, Olivier Philippe Auguste, Adam Nelson, and Oleg Chelpanov as well as delicious New Zealand wines and delicacies.

To fully welcome spring time in Ottawa, the Chilean Ambassador, H.E. .Raoul Fernandez warmly welcomed guests to his residence . FNACO violinist Erica Miller and flautist Stephanie Morin wowed the guests before enjoying the best empanadas and other delicious Chilean food.

We concluded the 2022- 2023 season at the historic residence of the Japanese Ambassador, H.E. Kanji Yamanouchi, with a summer embassy concert of Ravel and Mendelssohn, featuring Yosuke Kawasaki, Jessica Linnebach, Rachel Mercer and Clarissa Klopousha. Guests once again enjoyed sampling a variety of sake and Japanese appetizers.

Melina Vacca-Pugsley
Director, Embassy Concerts.

DIPLOMATIC LIAISON

FNACO's diplomatic liaison program of facilitating embassy events renewed apace during fiscal year 2022-2023, following the lifting of social distancing protocols which prevailed during the COVID period.

Up front on the diplomatic calendar of events, the Ambassador of Denmark H.E. Hanne Eskjaer, hosted the Friends of NACO for an early autumn 2022 concert at the embassy's residence, presented by internationally acclaimed NACO associate, Ottawa pianist, Frederic Lecroix.

The residence of the embassy of Austria was the next diplomatic setting, with a November luncheon hosted by Ambassador of Austria, H.E. Silvia Meier-Kajbic.

Diplomatic outreach and networking initiatives led to other FNACO Embassy fundraising events during the winter and spring of 2023, among them music events hosted by The High Commissioner of New Zealand H.E. Martin Harvey and Mrs. Sarah Harvey, who welcomed FNACO members, as well as diplomatic colleagues to New Zealand's residence; and Chile's Ambassador to Canada, H.E. Raul Fernandez hosted a concert in April 2023 at the Embassy of Chile residence.



The 2022-23 fiscal year 'finale' of musical diplomacy took place on a perfect end of June evening hosted by Japan's Ambassador H.E. Kanji Yamanouchi at Japan's residence.

Carol Lutes Racine
Director, Diplomatic Liaison

MUSIC LIAISON

With your help we were able to support all our commitments this fiscal year through your kind and generous donations.

NAC ORCHESTRA BURSARY COMPETITION This annual event is under the direction of a committee of NACO musicians. Since 1993 Friends have sponsored one of the prizes (\$3,000). In 2019 we added a new award for \$1,500. The finals were held at Freiman Hall, Ottawa U and were well attended and we heard some excellent young strings musicians. This competition is for students between 16 and 26 and have a connection with the National Capital Region. The **winners for 2023** are: Friends of the NAC Orchestra James Morton prize, **Christoph Chung** (\$3,000); and for the Friends of NACO Evelyn Greenberg award **Maria Krstic** (\$1,500). Christoph is now studying at Juilliard and Maria is studying in Vienna.

KIWANIS MUSIC FESTIVAL Friends have contributed to the prizes at this Ottawa festival since 1988. This year the winner of the Senior Scholarship was **Bennett van Barr** violin \$1,000. John Gazsi Memorial prize, **Mary Jane Xia** \$250 and performance award **Darius Andrews** \$250.

UNIVERSITY AWARDS Awards go to a fourth-year outstanding student graduating from the BA in Music and who has demonstrated an active interest in community engagement. Spring 2023 awards - Carleton \$2,500 **Joel Oppong-Boateng** - timpani; Ottawa U. \$5,000 **Emily Lou** – piano.

Our donations to Ottawa music organizations are:

ORKIDSTRA - (\$1,000) This organization gives children in under-served parts of the city an opportunity to learn and perform instrumental and choral music as part of a social development initiative. The programme is very successful and enjoys the support of leading figures in the musical community.

YOUNG STRING PERFORMERS FOUNDATION – (\$1,000) This organization helps develop the potential of young musicians in the National Capital Region. Friends has had a long association with Y.S.P.F. and is often a source of talented musicians for our fundraising events.

OTTAWA YOUTH ORCHESTRA ACADEMY – (\$1,000) The academy provides training in orchestral and ensemble playing for hundreds of young musicians. It was founded by John Gomez and continues to benefit from the current and former NACO musicians.

NAC COMMUNITY OUTREACH -(\$15,000) Friends continue to provide financial support to the educational side of the NAC Music Department including the Mentorship programme. We also support a concert indicated by the Music department where extra musicians are required for the programme. Entitled the **Kilpatrick Concert** our contribution was \$5,000.

On behalf of you, our members, we hope to continue these awards and donations in 2023/24.

Christine McLaughlin
Director, Music Liaison

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

AUGUST 1, 2022 - JULY 31, 2023

The past year saw a **9% increase** in our membership. Our total membership at the end of the 2022-2023 fiscal year is 223 voting members consisting of:

- 35 individual members
- 186 senior members
- 2 students

We also have non-voting members:

- 17 Honorary members (3 of which are still active voting members) and our honorary patron Alexander Shelley
- all orchestra musicians and officials of the Music department are considered non-paying members.

During this fiscal year, 18 members did not renew their memberships. However, 24 new members joined our organization this year and many have done so using our website online membership application function.

Membership dues collected for the year were \$5,620. We thank our members who renewed their memberships and we welcome our new members.

Members often send a donation along with their renewal fees. Thank you for your extra generous donations that totaled: \$725.

Your generous contributions and support are greatly appreciated. They have helped our association meet our mission and commitment to our NAC orchestra and its musicians, as well as to all young aspiring musicians, through our awards and scholarships.

Comments from members on ways of improving your membership experience are always welcomed. Member input is key in continuing to make FNACO stronger and vibrant. Members interested in providing feedback can email: membership@friendsofnaco.ca.

Madeleine Aubrey
Director, Membership Services

Friends of the National Arts Centre Orchestra
ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT TO MEMBERS
Year ending July 31, 2023

This is my first report as the new Treasurer of Friends of the National Arts Centre Orchestra. I'm thrilled to be part of this wonderful organization that through the generous contributions of its membership, is able to support the NAC Orchestra and further the education of young musicians.

Our Financial Report demonstrates another successful fundraising year, post-COVID. Friends has contributed all the financial support it committed to for the fiscal year including the Music Leadership Awards at the University of Ottawa and Carleton University.

Investments, including the James W. Morton Fund, the William B. Kilpatrick Fund and the Friends' Anniversary Fund, continue to be invested conservatively in index-linked callable coupon notes that provide a steady source of income from interest earned.

Thank you to all our members for your support, commitment and for making Friends' support of community programs for youth and music education possible.

Sally Boucher, FCPA, FCGA
Treasurer

FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE ORCHESTRA

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Unaudited - Prepared by Management)**

JULY 31, 2023

Board Responsibility Letter

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared by the board, who is responsible for their integrity and objectivity. They were not compiled, reviewed or audited by independent external accountants.

To the best of the board's knowledge and belief the financial statements and related information was prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and are based on recorded transactions and management's best estimates and judgements.

August 21, 2023 Ottawa, Ont.

Original signed by _____

Christine McLaughlin
President

Original signed by _____

Sally Boucher, FCPA, FCGA
Treasurer