

VOLUME 13

APRIL 2026

# HIGHLIGHTS CONCERT



## KINGSTON KIWANIS MUSIC FESTIVAL

Celebrating the end of the 2026 Festival  
with an evening of performances and presentation of awards.

[www.KKMF.ca](http://www.KKMF.ca)

# NOTES AND MEASURES



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The Kingston Kiwanis Music Festival concludes its 53<sup>rd</sup> year of operation with the Highlights Concert at the Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts on the evening of April 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. Admission is by donation and everyone is invited.

## PARTICIPATION ON THE RISE

This year we had 523 registrations for the Festival and over 1,000 participants: this is a 4% increase in registrations over 2025 and a 19% increase in participants. The surge in participants reflected an encouraging 30% increase in band, ensemble, and voice registrations. Sadly, choir registrations were down – a trend we are hoping to reverse in 2027 working with our community partners.

## THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

The Festival would not happen without the generous support of community organizations and local businesses, the time and dedication of the volunteers who operate the festival, and the expertise of the music teachers and accompanists in our community. We are grateful to the Ballytobin Foundation which, since 2016, has funded the Highlights Concert at the Isabel, the Anna and Edward Churchill Foundation, and the Kiwanis Club of Kingston for generous annual operating grants; we also appreciate the financial and moral support of the Ontario Registered Music Teachers' Association and the Kingston Symphony Volunteers as well as the many individuals who donate operating funds. And we thank those families and individuals whose donations for awards since the Festival's inception have built a significant awards fund which allows us to provide over \$10,000 in awards annually.

## NEW AWARDS

This year we welcome the creation of five new awards: The Cook Family Intradisciplinary Vocal Award – for a performer with gold or platinum standings in Classical, Musical Theatre, and Pop Voice; the Pedlar Debut Choir Award – for a first time school or community choir entry; the Pedlar Family Award for an Elementary School Band; an additional award from ORMTA created in memory of Bev Porter; and an award for the best piano performer under age 12 financed by an anonymous donor.

# KINGSTON KIWANIS MUSIC FESTIVAL SOUVENIR TOTE BAGS

Participants at this year's festival had the opportunity to purchase our new KKMf tote bags. The bags are made of a durable, washable blend of cotton and polyester and are specially sized to hold music and other accessories.

The tote bags will be on sale in the lobby of the Isabel before and after the Highlights Concert. The bag is a practical and good looking souvenir of the festival to show around town. The price is \$15/bag (cash or e-transfer) and revenue from sales support the Festival.



## NEW FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGNS

This year, to keep registration fees from rising, we initiated two new major fundraising campaigns to offset increasing venue, insurance, and adjudicator costs: a Sponsorship program to replace our previous advertising campaign; and a Friend of the Festival program to encourage individual donors. Attendees at this year's Festival have noticed that, at many sessions, there was a large sign announcing a sponsor for that session. Businesses or organizations paid a \$300 or \$400 fee or provided free services to the Festival to become a sponsor. The list of this year's 16 sponsors on pages 8-9 demonstrates the breadth of support from our local businesses and institutions. We thank St. Lawrence Place Retirement Living for being the pioneer in this campaign. Of special note this year are the sponsorships from the Limestone District School Board and from the Music Office, Tourism Kingston. Like ourselves, these organizations are dedicated to developing the musical infrastructure in our community and we look forward to working with them. We have also encouraged individuals to support the festival by donating \$100 to become a Friend of the Festival. Those donations provide critical support for our operations. The list of our current friends is listed below. For information on how to become a Friend of the Festival please visit our [www.kkmf.ca/donate](http://www.kkmf.ca/donate)

## FRIENDS OF THE FESTIVAL

Fran Bonier  
Robert Cavanagh  
Susan Evans  
Meg Freer  
David Good  
Lisa Kerr  
Philippe Lamarche

Jing Ling Li  
Juliet Milsome  
Alexander Nediak  
Brian Raby  
Melody Rooks  
Rowland Tinline  
Sharon Van Nest

Paul Van Nest  
Cherrilyn Yalin  
Debra Readman  
Sandra Swan  
Brenda Moyer

# MANY THANKS TO OUR ADJUDICATORS



**JOSEPH FERRETTI**

SENIOR PIANO



**WENDY POTTER**

JUNIOR PIANO



**SARAH FRASER RAFF**

STRINGS



**LARA DEUTSCH**

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CHOIRS

## THANKS ALSO TO OUR 2026 VENUES

The Spire

Cooke's Portsmouth United Church

Edith Rankin Memorial United Church

Regiopolis-Notre Dame Secondary School

Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts

Rideau Heights Salvation Army



**CHRIS MURPHY**

GUITAR

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# 2026 HIGHLIGHTS CONCERT

TUESDAY APRIL 28<sup>TH</sup> AT 7:00 PM  
THE ISABEL BADER CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS  
ADMISSION BY DONATION

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MASTER  
OF  
CEREMONIES

DAVID  
ORSER



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David Orser was the Instrumental Music Director at Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School in Kingston, Ontario, Canada for the past 31 years. In addition to many Kiwanis Music Festival Honours, the Holy Cross Bands received many distinguished National and International Awards under his leadership.

David is currently an Adjunct Curriculum Instructor and Faculty Liaison at Queen's University and is an active adjudicator for Bands of America and Drum Corps International. David's background and contributions to musical education in our community make him an ideal MC for our Highlights Concert.

David is looking forward to a great evening where we recognize our incredible local musical talents.





# HIGHLIGHTS CONCERT

## ORDER OF PERFORMERS



### Cantabile Youth Singers

Director: Geoff Sirett  
Collaborative Pianist: Mark Sirett

#### **You Will Be Found**

B. Pasek and J. Paul  
Arranged by Mac Huff

### Raphael Litrico and Olivia Skrtic

#### **Straw Hat Strut**

Martha Mier

### Massimiliano Rullo

Collaborative Pianist: Katie Birt

#### **Long Long Ago**

T.H. Bayly

### Ellie Choquette

Collaborative Pianist: Tristan Cook

#### **Dandelions**

E. Choquette

### Gabriel Klar

#### **Left Alone**

Joyce Grill

### Canta Arya Giocoso

Collaborative Pianist: Katie Birt

#### **Minuet 1**

J.S. Bach

#### **Rumpty Rhumba**

Helen Butterworth

### Emily Booth and Mya Chard

Collaborative Pianist: Katie Birt

#### **If Momma Was Married**

From Gypsy  
Julie Styne

### Bowen Chen and Aisen Chen

#### **Capture and Escape**

Irene Voros

### Maeve Burry

#### **Hit the Brakes**

M. Burry

### Odessa Glee Club

Director: Molly Luhta

#### **Revolution**

Pinkzebra



## INTERLUDE



### Regiopolis-Notre Dame Concert Choir

Director: Justine Lord

#### **Edge of Seventeen**

Stevie Nicks  
Arr. Paul

### Aidan Tran

#### **Incognito (Jazz Nocturne)**

Jason Sifford

### Sarah Bacon

### Massimo Amodio

### Leah Kim

#### **Trio in G minor, Opus 6**

Carl Maria von Weber

### Alyssa Smith

Collaborative Pianist: Katie Birt

#### **Homeward Bound**

Marta Keen

### Catherine Moellman

#### **Violin Partita No. 3 In E Major**

#### **Gavotte en Rondeau**

J.S. Bach

### Alexandria Xu

#### **Hungarian Opus 39, no. 12**

Edward MacDowell



## PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES CLOSING REMARKS





An exciting Project!

In 2023 Orchestra Kingston approached the Festival with a fantastic idea - to join forces and sponsor a Concerto Competition open to amateur woodwind, string, and piano performers. Since then, the competition has become a vibrant part of the Festival, judged by our adjudicators and generously supported by Orchestra Kingston. Prizes are offered by the orchestra, and, at the orchestra's discretion, winners may receive an invitation to perform their concerto with Orchestra Kingston.

Each year, we've seen more talented young musicians participate in both the Junior and Senior divisions, making the competition a truly wonderful afternoon of music. This year's winners are Grace Yeseo Jeo and Zhiyi Song, and if you attend Orchestra Kingston's fall and December concerts, you'll have the pleasure of seeing these outstanding musicians perform.

We're grateful for the opportunity to work alongside Orchestra Kingston in supporting and encouraging Kingston's young musicians and helping to nurture the next generation of musicians in Kingston.

Since being introduced in the 2024 Festival Season, the following performers were recipients of the Orchestra Kingston Concerto Awards and were able to perform their pieces with the Orchestra.

**Alice Li**

**2025 Senior Recipient**

*1st Movement of Piano Concerto No 2  
by Rachmaninoff  
In the December Concert*

**Alessia Dudley**

**2025 Junior Recipient**

*1st movement of Violin Concerto in G Minor  
by Bruch  
In the November Concert*

**Violetta Kurkurina**

**2024 Senior Recipient**

*Piano Concerto #1  
by Ludwig Van Beethoven  
in the December Concert*

**Ronan Hendry**

**2024 Junior Recipient**

*Cello Concerto No 1 in C Major  
by F. J. Haydn  
in the December Concert*

Congratulations to this year's recipients **Zhiyi Song** (Senior) and **Grace Yeseo Jeon** (Junior).

We hope that you have a fantastic experience with Orchestra Kingston!

# THANK YOU TO OUR SESSION SPONSORS



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We would love to hear from you.  
If you have any comments or questions or would like to have  
your name added or removed from our mailing list  
please contact [info@kkmf.ca](mailto:info@kkmf.ca)

## 2026 Festival Planning Committee

**Chair:** Elaine Pedlar

**Vice-Chair:** Roly Tinline

**Secretary:** Cherrilyn Yalin

**Treasurer:** Brian Raby

**Awards Chair:** Sharon Van Nest

**Venues Chair:** Dianne Melanson-Howe

**Registrar:** Kristie Taylor-Muise

**ORMTA Representative:** Kristin Rae

**Members at Large:** Christine Harvey,  
Chris Scott, Bill Bishop, Lynda Stoness



## Communications & Outreach Committee

Cherrilyn Yalin, Roly Tinline  
Dianne Melanson-Howe, Tristan Cook

## Highlights Concert Committee

Elaine Pedlar, Roly Tinline

## Syllabus Committee

Elaine Pedlar, Christine Harvey,  
Chris Scott, Kristin Rae

## Volunteer Coordinator

Paul Van Nest

## Website

Tristan Cook

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Tuesday April 28th**

HIGHLIGHTS CONCERT  
AT THE ISABEL BADER CENTRE

**Saturday May 2nd**

KINGSTON DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR  
OMFA PROVINCIAL FESTIVAL

**Saturday May 30**

OUTREACH PERFORMANCE  
ST LAWRENCE PLACE RETIREMENT RESIDENCE

**June 8th - 13th**

ONTARIO MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION  
PROVINCIAL FINALS