Grand River Rainbow Historical Project

www.grandriver-rainbowhistory.ca/

celebrating the lives and times of rainbow folk in Grand River country

Rainbow Chorus Events (1995-)

Publishing History: Documents issued at irregular intervals by the **Rainbow Chorus** for its concerts, fundraisers, and other events.

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Canadian Pride

Date: April 26, 2003

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Harcourt United Church 87 Dean Ave., Guelph What is Canada to me? I'm proud that Canadians have more of nature than practically any people in the world. We have lots of space: thousands of kilometres of unspoiled wilderness, and thousands more where people live close to the land.

My brother and his wife lived in Calgary for several years in the late 1970s. His work for an oil company took him to the Yukon in winter, when heavy equipment could safely move on the frozen muskeg, where night was endless and the aurora borealis was the brightest light in the sky. I was lucky enough to travel out West with them the summer I was 16. Together we saw the beauty of the Rockies. Few colours have ever seemed vivid as the blues and greens of glacial lakes. As for the alpine meadows, no manicured garden could rival their profusion and abundance. My brother and sister-in-law loved the West, but eventually they got homesick for Ontario's lakes..

I don't blame them. To me there's nothing as wonderful as sitting on the dock at my cottage, watching evening fall over Lake Fletcher. The surface turns smooth as a mirror and water striders begin to dance. Somewhere a loon calls. My heart is never so peaceful.

There are too many other beauties to count. Flying into Vancouver, with its harbour and surrounding mountains, it seems like the most beautiful city on Earth, until you remember Victoria and its gardens. I've built red sand castles on a Prince Edward Island beach. Riding a ferry on blue, blue Georgian Bay, I watched my daughters turn their faces in delight to catch spray off the bow. I've see the full moon pave a silver highway across Lake Erie's warm waves on a sultry August night. I've seen delicate orchids blooming in Northern bogs.

In each of these places I wondered if anything could possibly be more beautiful, but there's so much more I've never seen: the endless seas of Prairie grain, Manitoba's wetlands and its millions of waterfowl, Newfoundland's rocky landscape or the Old World charm of Quebec City.

Beyond the land and wildlife, each place has its people, from the deeply rooted Natives to the newest refugee arriving in a port, from the urban ghettoes to the vast farms. Each face has a name I do not know. Whether it's a Bay Street executive or a weary farm wife, everyone loves someone, gay or straight, a lover, spouse, parent, child, friend or co-worker. In each and every heart there is a song, whether glad or mournful, tender or triumphant, humble or majestic.

In Canada it's hard to get far from the land. So the land is in our music, whether its wind in the treetops or sun cracking grain on a hot summer day. The nature of Canada is whatever you have experienced mostly, deeply and tenderly. Wherever you ran and played as a child will draw you back. Home is where the heart is, and to each heart its own home.

Van Waffle Bass - Rainbow Chorus

Robert G. Miller - Artistic Director

"The journey of one's musical experience can be joyful, exciting, tearful, frustrating and fulfilling. After 20 years as a professional musician, I still continue to learn.

Performing, teaching and directing music has given me an insight into the motivations and needs of people coming together for a unified and rewarding purpose.

To encourage children, youth and adults in their musical education, one needs to learn patience, motivation, adaptability and needs to endorse a positive attitude towards music. I continually strive to achieve these goals in my own musical development and in the musical development of others." *Robert Miller*

Robert Miller was once the Music Director at Harcourt Memorial United Church, prior to leaving for six years of study and conducting in Copenhagen Denmark. He has been the Artistic Director of the Rainbow Chorus since the fall of 2000.

Alison MacNeill - Accompanist

After graduate studies at the University of Western Ontario, where she studied with Ronald Turini, Alison MacNeill returned to Guelph where she keeps a thriving music studio.

Since 1988 she has held the position of Music Director at Harcourt Memorial United Church.
Alison has accompanied the Guelph Chamber Choir almost since its inception, and appears on its CD, Songs of the New World.

She spent several years as an accompanist to the University of Guelph Choir, the Guelph Youth Singers (appearing on its CD), the Elora Festival Choir, as well as numerous freelance engagements.

Proudly Supporting The Community

We would like to take this opportunity to extend a big thank you to Paul Curzon for his continuing Sponsorship.



We also want to thank our Advertisers for their support of this Concert.

The Rainbow Chorus appreciates the assistance of Mantum Corporation with the visual presentation.

Chorus Members

Soprano

Kim Bolton Crystal Chilvers Sue Gadbois Beryl Hunter Jane Keller Margaret McGregor Birgit Niggebaum-Purvis Joyce Smuts Heather Thompson

Alto

Michèle Breault Sarah Brown Terrilyn Coward Bonnie DePaul Colleen Daly Deborah Eaton-Kent Margie Johnson Diane Kilby Colleen Lichti Marg Perchaluk Sylvie Plamondon Sarah Sharratt Mary Ann Weber

Tenor

Jan Baker Jennette Crawford Jon Dobbin Gord Dunbar Brenda Eckhardt Jan Johnston Kim Ryan Judy Schaming Dave Vervoort Karen Williams

Bass

Greg Carter Stephane Danis Mark Raymond Leslie Smith Allen Switzer Van Waffle

CANADIAN PRIDE

Program Part One

Mi'kmaq Honour Song

Soloists: Sarah Brown, Terrilyn Coward,

Sue Gadbois, Colleen Lichti

Home I'll Be

Soloist: Crystal Chilvers

The Gowans Are Gay

Song For The Mira

Soloists: Mark Raymond Joyce Smuts

Flautist: Richard Martin

Cent Mille Chansons

O Lovely Nightingale Soloist: Jon Dobbin

They All Call It Canada (But I Call It Home)

In Flanders Field

Lydia Adams

Words and Music by Rita MacNeil Arranged by Stuart Calvert

Scottish Ballad Tune

Arranged by John Beckwith

Words and Music by Allister MacGillivray

Arranged by Stuart Calvert

Traditional Folk Melody

15th Century French Chanson, Arranged by Healey Willan

Words and Music by Freddy Grant, Arranged by Leslie Bell

Text by John McCrae, Music by Eleanor Daley

Intermission

Program Part Two

O Canada

Music by Calixa Lavallée, Lyrics by Sir Adolphe-Basile Routhier . Official Lyrics by Mr. Justice Robert Stanley Weir

Please join us in singing O Canada, Hymn #524.

That's The Way It Is

Music and Lyrics by Max Martin, Kristian Lundin and Andrea Carlsson

Arranged by Teena Chinn

Rise With Pride

Words and Music by Terrilyn Coward Accompanied by Terrilyn Coward

Dedicated to the Rainbow Chorus

Sing All Ye Joyful

Music by Ruth Watson Henderson Text by J.R.R. Tolkien from The Hobbit

Magnetic North Soloist: Kim Bolton Words and Music by Graeme Wearmouth

O SIEM

Words and Music by Susan Aglukark and Chad Irschick, Adapted for SATB

by Willi Zwozdesky

Narration: Michael Rouse WRITTENBY! DIANE KILBY

Please join the Chorus for refreshments in the auditorium after the concert.



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Chorus a welcome and gifted
part of our community.
Thank you for sharing your
talent, spirit and joy through
music.







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A member of the community, working with and for the community!

Rainbow Chorus is a member of Choirs Ontario, a service organization dedicated to the promotion of choral activities and standards of excellence. Choirs Ontario provides services to choirs, conductors, choristers, composers, administrators and educators as well as anyone who enjoys listening to the sound of choral music.

Rainbow Chorus is also a member of GALA Choruses, the international association of the lesbian and gay choral movement. GALA Choruses represents 190 choruses, their 10,000 singers and 750,000 patrons in Australia, Europe, South America and North America.



COME OUT & SING WITH US

Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings, September to June, from 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Harcourt United Church, 87 Dean Avenue, Guelph .

Although there are no auditions, you will be asked to sing for our Artistic Director to determine your vocal placement.

If you don't sing but want to be involved in a friendly community organization, then the Chorus also welcomes non-singing volunteers. There are many opportunities to help at our dances, concerts and other fundraising events.

For more information please contact our Artistic Director, Robert Miller at:

phone: (519) 584-

email: mrrm@rogers.com

website: www.geocities.com/rainbow_chorus

COME OUT & DANCE WITH US

From September through May, we hold monthly fundraising dances for our community on the second Friday of every month at the CAW Hall, 611 Silvercreek Parkway North, Guelph.

For more information please visit our website.

The Rainbow Chorus gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Ontario Trillium Foundation, an agency of the Ministry of Culture which receives annually \$100 Million in government funding generated through Ontario's charity casino initiative.



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