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.

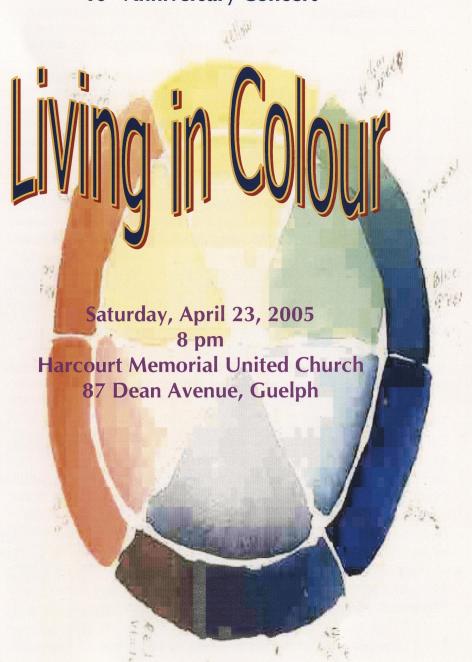
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Waterloo / Wellington Rainbow Chorus'
10th Anniversary Concert



Thank you for joining us as we celebrate the colours of our community.

Red for life
Orange for healing
Yellow for sun
Green for nature
Indigo for harmony
Violet for spirit

According to the Rainbow Icon Archive:

"Use of the rainbow flag by the gay community began in 1978 when it first appeared in the San Francisco Gay and Lesbian Freedom Day Parade. Borrowing symbolism from the hippie movement and black civil rights groups, San Francisco artist Gilbert Baker designed the rainbow flag in response to a need for a symbol that could be used year after year. Baker and thirty volunteers hand-stitched and hand-dyed two huge prototype flags for the parade. The flags had eight stripes, each color representing a component of the community: hot pink for sex, red for life, orange for healing, yellow for sun, green for nature, turquoise for art, indigo for harmony, and violet for spirit.

The next year Baker approached San Francisco Paramount Flag Company to mass-produce rainbow flags for the 1979 parade. Due to production constraints -- such as the fact that hot pink was not a commercially-available color -- pink and turquoise were removed from the design, and royal blue replaced indigo. This six-color version spread from San Francisco to other cities, and soon became the widely-known symbol of gay pride and diversity it is today. It is even officially recognized by the International Congress of Flag Makers. In 1994, a huge 30-foot-wide by one-mile-long rainbow flag was carried by 10,000 people in New York's Stonewall 25 Parade."

A Brief History of the Rainbow Chorus

Founded in 1994 by four friends looking to recognize the diversity of our community and build bridges through song: Robert Bojeczko, Kevin Fallowfield, Murray Jose and Glen Pelshea.

Rehearsals started in January 1995 and our first self-produced concert was on Saturday, December 9, 1995. We have produced 20 concerts in 10 years.

Community performances have included: SpringFest, weddings, funerals, AIDS Services, Pride Services, Affirmation Services, Hate Crime Vigils, and community events such as the opening of the YMCA in Guelph, the AGM of the Kitchener Waterloo Sexual Assault Centre, Tsunami Relief and the seasonal celebrations at the River Run Centre with the Guelph Chamber Choir and a number of church and community choirs.

We have practised and sung at a number of churches in Guelph but our most enduring relationships have been with the Guelph Unitarian Fellowship and Harcourt Memorial United Church.

Our Artistic Directors: Rob Gascho, John Tute, Rob Phillips, Gordon Burnett and Robert G. Miller. Our Accompanists: Douglas Brownlee, Charmaine Martin, Amy Elder, Ann Marie MacDairmid, Catherine Robertson, Carol Missio-King, Alison MacNeill, Betty Maher.

We have ranged in size from 17 to 53 choristers and are currently 48 in number. 157 people have sung with the chorus over the past 10 years. Three of tonight's singers (Jan Robertson, Leslie Smith and Dave Vervoort) sang in our very first concert and Birgit Niggebaum-Purvis has sung in 19 or our 20 concerts!

We have sung in German, Latin, Romanian, Catalonian, Zulu, Italian, Spanish, Polish, French...and English.

We have performed in Guelph, Kitchener, Hamilton, London, Toronto and Montreal. We sang at a national choral festival in Toronto in 2002 and at an international choral festival in Montreal in 2004.

On February 19, 2006 we are singing as members of a massed choir at Carnegie Hall in New York City!

Thank you for joining us as we celebrate our 10th anniversary!

Robert G. Miller - Artistic Director

Robert Miller was 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.

Betty Maher – Pianist

Betty Maher has been teaching piano and accompanying in Guelph since 1987. She has accompanied various choral groups, including the University of Waterloo Choir, and has traveled throughout Canada, the United Kingdom, and Kenya. She frequently accompanies at the Guelph Kiwanis Festival and is in constant demand as resident accompanist at the University of Guelph School of Fine Art & Music.

Marc Pizer - Drummer

Marc Pizer is 29 years old, and has been drumming for 17 years. He has toured with different bands throughout North America and Europe. He currently resides in Toronto where he can be seen playing in a wide variety of musical settings.

Scott Kemp - Bassist

A Graduate of the Humber College Jazz Studies Degree Program, Scott Kemp is a busy bassist within the Toronto music scene, both live and in the studio. He is currently involved in several different jazz groups playing regularly throughout the GTA in nightclubs and at a variety of society functions. Scott has played in Jazz festivals in Canada and the USA, and was a featured performer at the I.A.J.E conference in Toronto in 2003 with the Trish Colter vocal choir. Scott also teaches privately, and is an active composer.

CHORUS MEMBERS

SOPRANOS

Natalie Basaraba
Maureen Carney
Judith Eden
Linda Johnson
Jane Keller
Birgit Niggebaum-Purvis
Heather Thompson
Karen Wendling

TENORS

Jan Baker Jon Dobbin Jan Johnston Kim Ryan Dave Vervoort

BARITONE / BASS

Greg Carter
Jaye Crawford
Brad Lawrence
Guy Poirier
Michael Rouse
Leslie Smith
Peter van Ryn
Van Waffle

ALTOS

Michele Breault
Jaylene Butchart
Bonnie DePaul
Maureen Evans
Diane Kilby
Laura Kinzel
Anna Kovacs
Paloma Ledesma
Jennifer Lockhart
Marg Perchaluk
Sylvie Plamondon
Sarah Sharratt
Ruth Lea Taylor
Michelle Tomko
Paula Waddick

ALPRANOS

Alicia Allen
Sarah Brown
Terrilyn Coward
Sarah Dermer
Deborah Eaton-Kent
Julia Jamieson-Hanes
Margie Johnson
Kristi Kemp
Colleen Lichti
Nancy Oldford
Jan Robertson
Mary Ann Weber

Narrator: Christine Lafazanos

Narration written by: Peter van Ryn Keyboard accompanist: Leslie Smith

Rehearsal accompanist: Julia Jamieson-Hanes

The Rainbow Chorus would like to thank the many volunteers who helped with tonight's concert. Thank you as well to all the businesses and individuals who support us by advertising in the program and by donating items to the silent auction.

Please continue to support the businesses that support us! We would like to extend a special thank you to the following businesses for donating their services to the chorus.



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Living in Colour

RED

Dancing In The Street Words and Music by W. Stevenson, Marvin Gaye & Ivy Hunter Arranged by Teena Chinn

Fire, Fire My heart!
From "The First Set of Ballets," published in 1595
by Thomas Morley

ORANGE

And So It Goes
Words and Music by Billy Joel
Arranged by Bob Chilcott
Soloists: Michael Rouse and Heather Thompson

The Rainbow Connection
Words and Music by Paul Williams and Kenny Ascher
Arranged by Gary D. Fry

Arise, My Love
Words and Music by Joan Szymko

YELLOW (conducted by Terrilyn Coward)
Let There Be Love
Words and Music by Amy Sky and Steven MacKinnon
Arranged by Dan Lauterbach

A New Dawn Words and Music by Marylou Dunn and Ann Reid Arranged by David Lantz III

Intermission
The silent auction will begin during intermission in the hall downstairs.

GREEN

Mi'kmaq Honour Song Words and Music by Lydia Adams

Money, Money Words and Music by Anderson and Ulvaeus Arranged by S Nellemose

Colours Of The Wind Music by Alan Menken, Words by Stephen Schwartz Arranged by Mac Huff

BLUE

Blue Suede Shoes Words and Music by Carl Lee Perkins Arranged by Jeff Funk

Room For Everyone Words and Music by Paul & Ralph Colwell, Herbert Allen, Pat Murphy, Ken Ashby and Tom Sullivan Arranged by Pete Schmutte

PURPLE

The Great Peace March
Words and Music by Holly Near
Arranged by Dennis Coleman

Sing Me to Heaven
Words and Music by Daniel E. Gawthrop

How Different Can We Be?
Words and Music by Ruth Elaine Schram

We Rise Again
Words and Music by Leon Dubinsky
Arranged by Lydia Adams

Please join us downstairs in the hall for refreshments and the conclusion of the silent auction.



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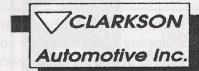
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Silent Auction

There are numerous amazing items available at the silent auction in the hall downstairs.

Bidding will take place during intermission and for 20 minutes following the concert.

Payments can be made by cash or cheque.

Alternate arrangements can be made if you're unable to pay this evening.

There is something for everyone!! Items include:

- Tickets to Hillside 2005
- Gift Certificates to Restaurants
- Private Yoga Session
- Decorative Items
- Router
- Guelph Spring Festival Tickets
- Guelph Jazz Festival Tickets
- Jewelry
- Bed & Breakfast

... and much, much more!!!



Thank you for joining us this evening. Here are other ways in which you can support the chorus.

Community Cultural Connections
A day of inspirational cultural workshops
Saturday, May 14, 2005, 9:30 – 3:30
Harcourt Memorial United Church, Guelph, Ontario
\$20 for full day or \$14 for half day

Workshop topics include: Hand Drumming,
Emergency First Aid for Pets, Voice Training, Basic
Bird Watching, Creative Writing, Basic Car
Maintenance, Sacred Circle Dancing, Massage,
Time-Management, Hand Drumming and more!
Registration forms are available this evening or for
more information contact Margie Johnson at
767 – or margiejjohnson@yahoo.ca

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

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) 780-

Email: rgmad@rogers.com

Come Out and Dance With Us

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

For more information please visit our website: www.rainbowchorusww.com