



# Dundas Valley Orchestra

## “Hi” Notes      December 2013

*Our 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season!*

### President’s Message

We had two great nursing home concerts this fall. One at St. Joseph’s Villa with 66 residents in attendance and at St. Peter’s Residence at Chedoke with an audience of 79. Thanks to our Social Committee: Coordinator, **Claire Lechner** and her members, **Jenny Kyle** and **Suzanne Lindsay** for organizing the after concert party. How thoughtful of the St. Peter’s Activity Coordinator to provide us with a trolley of beverages and a place for us so socialize and celebrate. Thank you to **Peter Hill** our hard-working Past President who selected and arranged our concert venues. At St. Peter’s, we had a chance to meet and introduce ourselves to Mohawk student, **Jessica Dywer**, who will be working with our Program Committee as our Concert Program designer as part of her College assignment. Jessica was there with her mother-in-law, Allison. She even brought goodies to share at our party! We have to thank Jim Jones, our Secretary, who initiated and set this Mohawk Student assignment in motion.

I think I can speak for all of us and say how much fun we had entertaining the seniors and we look forward to performing two more special nursing home concerts in the spring. Thank you everyone, for sharing your time and talents to provide some quality in the lives of others.

I wish you all happy times during this festive season.

**Olga Hencher**

President

### Music Director’s Message

Congratulations to everyone on two fine performances at the November retirement home concerts. I was very happy with both performances and with the feedback from the audiences. Much of our “lighter” repertoire for January is in good shape having now been performed twice.

We are back to work on Symphony No. 1 and I look forward to spending some concentrated time on it in the last few weeks of this year. One of those nights will be a sectional night - this time including brass and winds. Thanks to **Ron Sealey** for arranging for us to use rooms at St. Paul’s United Church for the brass and wind sectionals. I hope that these will prove to be musically interesting events and will give all a chance to work on sections that may be challenging to specific groups within the orchestra.

I know from personal experience that rehearsals can go slowly when your section is idle for longer periods of time. These individual rehearsals will give everyone more playing time on the symphony and speed up our progress in full rehearsals. Please bring your requests for passages to look at with the coaches. I will welcome your feedback after the sectionals to see if you think they helped the overall learning process.

Thanks also to the Social Committee for putting together the gathering after the St. Peter’s Residence concert. It was an excellent occasion to celebrate the performance and the holiday season. I wish you and your families all the best for the holidays and a great 2014.

Cheers and Happy Holidays DVO musicians,,

**Laura Thomas**

Music Director

## DVO - Special Dates - 2013-2014 Season

NOTE: All dates are rehearsal dates with special events noted in addition.

### December

10 Board Mtg

17

### January

7

14 Board Mtg  
19 Public Concert

21

28

### February

4

11 Board Mtg

18

25

### March

4

11 Board Mtg  
(Note: This is Winter Break week)

18

25

NOTE: the Mohawk Concerto concerts will be held on April 3/4 or April 10/11. We shall learn for sure when Mohawk determines their dates.

### April

1

8 Board Mtg

15

22

29

### May

6

13 Board Mtg

20

25 Public Concert  
27 Nursing Home concert + AGM

### June

3

Nursing Home concert at Aberdeen Gardens Residence

10 Board Mtg

17

24 Board Mtg

## DVO Student Composer Competition news

The second year for our Student Composer Competition is making progress. As mentioned in the last issue of **Hi Notes**, we have received financial support from the Rotary Club of Hamilton AM Club.

On Wednesday morning November 27, at 7 a.m., our Music Director, **Laura Thomas**, and Past-President, **Peter Hill**, were invited guests to their Rotary meeting at Williams Fresh Café at Bayfront Park in Hamilton to be presented with the cheque.

In her remarks after receiving the donation, Laura stated that the gift was most welcome and that all the Rotary Club members were invited to attend our Spring Concert on May 25, 2014 to hear the winning composition being performed.

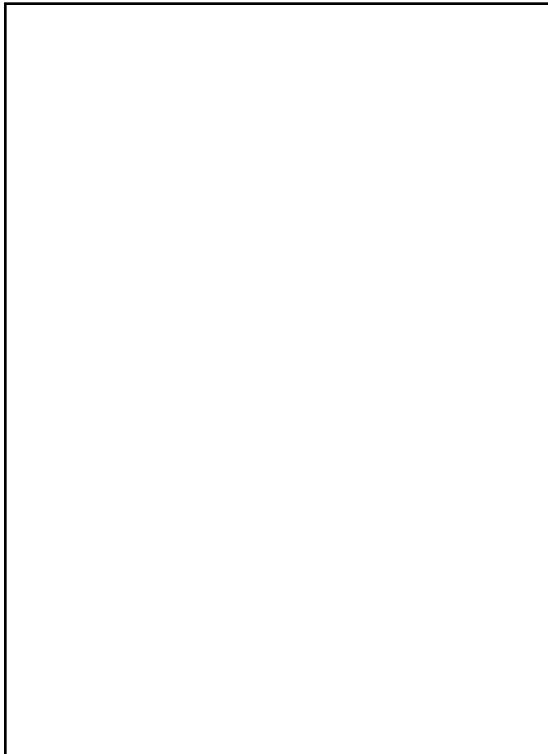


Here, **Laura** is seen being presented with the cheque by the Rotary Club President, John Baxter.

## Nursing Home Concert

### May 27, 2014

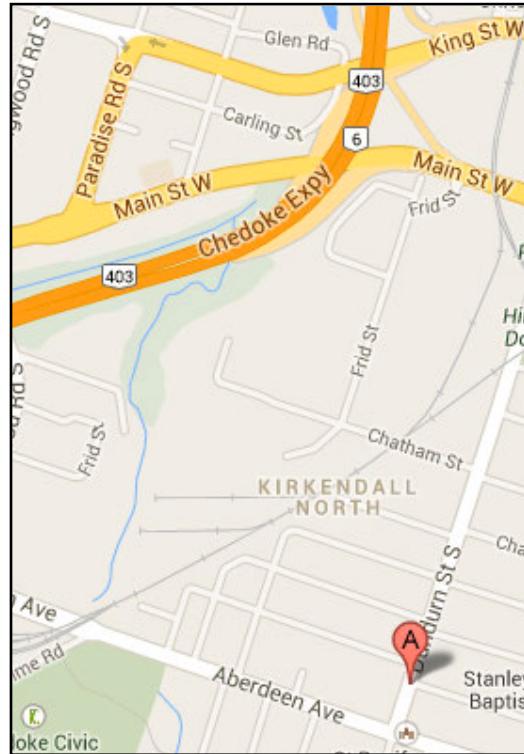
Location: TO BE ANNOUNCED



## Nursing Home Concert

### June 3, 2014

Location: Aberdeen Gardens Retirement Residence  
330 Dundurn St. South, Hamilton  
(905) 529-3163



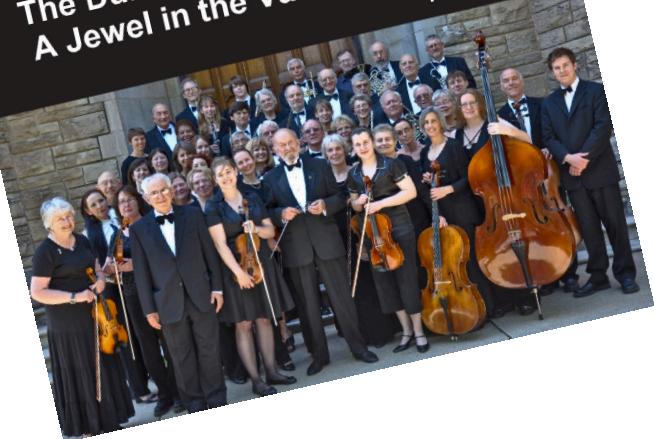
## Looking for a Christmas present?

It's a fundraiser for the orchestra. We only have about five left! No kidding!

If you are new to the orchestra, this would make an interesting purchase and if you are a longer-standing member, there may be that friend or relative who still hasn't had the chance to read it yet and to fully understand how much you blow, bow or hammer!

To purchase a copy for only \$20.00, speak to Treasurer **Alicia Hutchings** (violin).

The Dundas Valley Orchestra  
A Jewel in the Valley: 1978-2011  
Peter L. Hill



## November Nursing Home concerts

Our November concerts in Nursing and Retirement homes were both well received. As we all know, we even had two ladies in the audience at St. Joseph's Villa get up and dance (or at least, sway) to the music! Everyone enjoyed that one!

The following week at St. Peter's Residence at Chedoke, we had a full house and, again, an appreciative audience. It should be known that St. Peter's put on a full supply of cookies, coffee, juice and hot water for us afterwards for our Social to supplement our offerings.

Thanks must go to those players who took goodies for us all to share. And a big "Thank You" should go to **Jenny Kyle** (bassoon) for co-ordinating the event.

[See photos on the Gallery pages.](#)

## Welcome to our new volunteer Program Designer!

We offer a warm welcome to **Jessica Dwyer** who has volunteered to design our January Concert program!

As we all know, **Caroleen Molinaar** (flute) designed our programs for the last two years but her studies in her last year at McMaster were such that she has had to leave the orchestra to focus on her studies.

However, through the efforts of Secretary **Jim Jones** (viola), recently retired from Mohawk College, we have found a very talented replacement in Jessica.

**Jessica** is a graduate of Sheridan College and is now enrolled in Graphic Arts at Mohawk College and has impeccable credentials for helping us with this task.

## Event Calendar

### Sunday, January 19, 2014

Winter Concert at St. Paul's United Church, Dundas 3:00 p.m.

### Sunday, May 25, 2014

Spring Concert at St. Paul's United Church, Dundas 3:00 p.m.

### Tuesday, May 27, 2014

Nursing Home Concert (Location TBA) 7:00 p.m.

### Tuesday, June 3, 2014

Nursing Home Concert at Aberdeen Gardens Retirement Residence 7:00 p.m.

**Annual General Meeting** of members will be held immediately after this Nursing Home Concert

## DVO Board of Directors 2013-2014

**President:** Olga Hencher

**Past-President:** Peter Hill

**Vice-President:** (position open)

**Secretary:** Jim Jones

**Treasurer:** Alicia Hutchings

**Librarian:** Homer Seywerd

**Members-at-large:** Margaret Jamieson

Glenn Welbourn, Rudin Knights

**Music Director:** Laura Thomas

**Composer in Residence:** Mark Thomas

**Archivist & Hi Notes Editor:** Peter Hill

## Gallery Page 1 - November, 2013 Concert at St. Joseph's Villa



## Gallery Page 2 - November, 2013 Concert at St. Peter's Residence

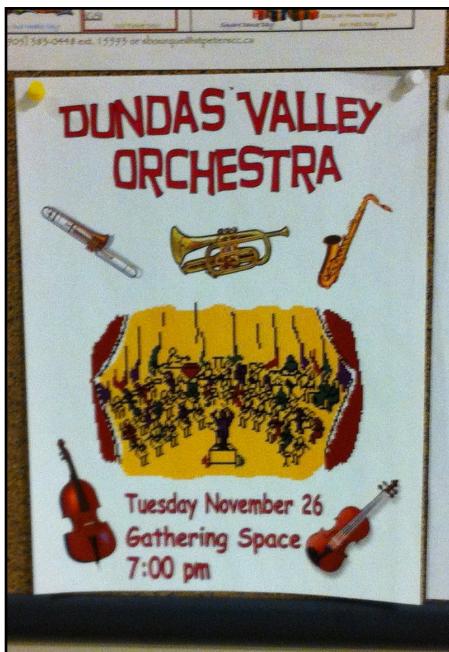


Photo credits:

**Peter Hill**

**Dundas Valley Orchestra**

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