

Nota Bene

Welcome to NYO Canada's Biannual Newsletter! • Bienvenue au bulletin biannuel de NYO Canada!
Celebrating Canada's finest emerging artists • Met en scène le meilleur de notre relève artistique

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LOOKING TO THE EAST IN 2023 : THE AURORA TOUR

LIVE IN SEVEN CITIES - JULY 14 - AUGUST 2, 2023

After three COVID years and a modest return to performing in 2022, the Orchestra is delighted to be back in full force and visiting seven cities in five provinces with exciting new repertoire in 2023, under the baton of world-renowned conductor Sascha Goetzl.

Dubbed *Aurora*, in honor of a new day, this will be the most extensive summer institute and Chamberfest program in the organization's history, thanks to generous support from the RBC Emerging Artists Program, and many generous corporations, foundations, government and individual supporters.

Following the five-week summer training session at the beautiful Isabel Bader Centre and the DAN School of Drama and Music at Queen's University June 11th to July 14th, NYO's 63rd year continues with a seven city tour to Eastern Canada.

"Our 2023 tour is the first to focus in Eastern Canada and we are so looking forward to re-uniting with audiences there," said Christie Gray, NYO Canada's new CEO, who joined the organization in late 2022. "Beyond our ability to train great musicians, NYO also recognizes the power of music to unite. Orchestral training has a critical role to play in enabling young Canadians to embrace and transcend differences, to understand the diverse fabric of cultures which comprise their nation, and to act as cultural ambassadors building a civil society. We can't wait to share it all with you this summer!"



KINGSTON
MONT LAURIER
QUÉBEC CITY
CHARLOTTETOWN
HALIFAX
SAINT JOHN
TORONTO

FRI. JULY 14 - 7:30 P.M.
SUN. JULY 16 - 2:30 P.M.
TUES. JULY 18 - 7:30 P.M.
SUN. JULY 23 - 7:30 P.M.
WED. JULY 26 - 7:30 P.M.
SAT. JULY 29 - 7:30 P.M.
WED. AUGUST 2 - 7:30 P.M.

FOR MORE DETAILS AND TICKET INFORMATION, TURN TO PAGE 7



WELCOME BACK MAESTRO SASCHA GOETZEL

We are thrilled to welcome back Maestro Sascha Goetzel as our 2023 Music Director - his second year with NYO. Maestro Goetzel is Music-Director Designate of the l'Orchestre National Des Pays Del La Loire and Principal Guest conductor of the Sofia Philharmonic. He is a frequent guest conductor with some of the world's most prestigious orchestras and he previously led the NYO and members of the European Union Youth Orchestra (EUYO) in the collaborative "Frenergy" concert tour of Ontario and Quebec in 2019. Born and raised in Vienna, Goetzel trained as a violinist and began his conducting studies in Austria and with Jorma Panula at the Sibelius Academy. He has worked with some of the world's most prestigious and acclaimed conductors and was a Fellow at the Tanglewood Music Festival.



FEATURED ARTISTS AND REPERTOIRE

Jocelyn Morlock (Canadian Composer) - *My Name is Amanda Todd* - a JUNO Award-winning orchestral work honouring 15-year-old singer and musician Amanda Todd who took her own life in 2012 following years of online bullying and harassment at school (see story p. 3)

Brahms Violin Concerto - 2023 Canada Council for the Arts Michael Measures - 1st prize winner as featured soloist TBA

Kalen Smith - 2023 SOCAN Emerging Composer prized commissioned by NYO Canada, - TBA, World Premiere

Modest Mussorgsky/Arr. Maurice Ravel - *Pictures at an Exhibition*



MEET OUR NEW CEO : CHRISTIE GRAY



Following an extensive international search, Christie Gray has joined NYO as CEO, as Barbara Smith retires after 22 years of exceptional leadership.

Christie joins NYO Canada from Sistema Toronto, a non-profit which uses music education to transform the lives of children in vulnerable communities. Over her 20-year career Christie has worked with the Royal Conservatory of Music in market and brand development and forged deep relationships with funders and philanthropic partners to expand programs and impact. Christie is also a musician who trained in violin performance.

"I'm incredibly excited about the opportunity to lead Canada's top youth training orchestra and look forward to working with the whole NYO community in the years ahead," said Ms. Gray. "I see tremendous potential to carry forward the legacy of excellence at NYO, and to engage more under-represented groups in the performance and enjoyment of classical music. NYO is well positioned to be a leader in inspiring new students and new audiences, and achieving greater diversity and removing barriers as we carry forward the rich tradition of classical pre-professional orchestral training."



2023 SOCAN EMERGING COMPOSER : KALEN SMITH



FOUNDATION
SOCAN
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The SOCAN Foundation/NYO Emerging Composer's Mentorship Program recognizes Canadian composers under 30 years of age and provides the opportunity for them to workshop their orchestral compositions at an NYO rehearsal reading. The orchestra will then perform their works in some of the most prestigious concert halls in the country.

This year's recipient is award-winning Canadian composer, sound designer and harpist Kalen Smith, a current Bachelor of Music student at the Schulich School of Music (McGill University) who will soon pursue a Master's Degree in Music Composition at McGill. Smith is the previous winner of two 2022 SOCAN Foundation Awards (under 21) (for Large Ensemble Category and Solo and Duets Category).

Smith's compositions combine a wide array of influences, including his experience as a performer on harp, tonal music structures, contemporary techniques from his studies at McGill, and effects from electronic music. The result is a musical style which places recognizable tonal/modal melodies into unusual contexts to create musical meaning and development. His compositional output consists of solo to large ensemble concert works, including *Corrosion*, for solo vibraphone and *Of Light and Darkness*, for symphonic orchestra. He has worked in media composition for games and short films.



INNOVATING AT THE FRONTIERS OF MUSICIAN MENTAL HEALTH

In 2023, as we embark on our most extensive tour since COVID, we are taking the next step in our now world-leading program in musician mental health, building an exciting new component which will span musicianship, youth mental health, and a cultural legacy. *My Name is Amanda Todd* is a JUNO Award-winning orchestral work composed by Jocelyn Morlock, who sadly passed away earlier this year. We are deeply honored to be playing her piece and paying tribute to her immense talent and contributions to music. Amanda Todd was a vibrant 15-year-old from Port Coquitlam, British Columbia who loved singing and expressing herself through music. Amanda tragically took her life on October 10, 2012, following years of cyber abuse, harassment and bullying at school.

Amanda posted a poignant video on YouTube, using a series of flash cards, speaking out against bullying and sharing her story. Her message is being used by educators and parents to support anti-bullying measures, and Amanda's mother, Carol Todd, continues to spread Amanda's message through a non-profit called The Amanda Todd Legacy.

In addition to performing the work itself, our 2023 orchestra will spend time exploring and amplifying it through a new educational workshop stream in our musician mental health and wellness program. The idea is for students to integrate their emerging emotional and psychological awareness of this important issue, gleaned through musicianship, with a hands-on practical opportunity to develop resilience in this critical domain within youth mental health.

Five years ago, with the help of the J & W Murphy Foundation, NYO Canada set out to innovate to address a problem which is persistent in youth education globally, but of special concern for high-performing musicians: Musician mental health. With an extensive program of online pre-session and tour workshops, training in areas such as performance anxiety, mindfulness, self-regulation, and mental health first aid, we were the first orchestra to partner with Musicians Clinics of Canada to have a professional therapist on tour, and to offer each and every student the chance to book 1:1 mental wellness sessions confidentially with social workers, therapists, and coaches in both English and French.

J & W Murphy

F O U N D A T I O N



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT : NEW FACULTY IN 2023



Catherine Dallaire – Violin

Catherine Dallaire graduated from the Conservatoire de Musique de Québec, where she earned two first prizes with great distinction in violin and chamber music while studying with Jean Angers and Jean-Louis Rousseau. She also honed her skills at the prestigious Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia with Aaron Rosand and at the Banff Centre School of Fine Arts with Lorand Fenyves.



Ali Yazdanfar – Double Bass

Ali Kian Yazdanfar studied double bass at Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore) with Paul Johnson, and later with Paul Ellison and François Rabbath. His fondest musical memory occurred 2018 when he performed the world premiere of Behzad Ranjbaran's Concerto for Double Bass. He is an active chamber musician, a member of the OSM Chamber Soloists, and renowned pedagogue. He gives numerous master classes throughout North America and teaches at McGill.



Demarre McGill – Flute

Now principal flute of the Seattle Symphony, Demarre McGill previously served as principal flute of the Dallas Symphony, San Diego Symphony, Florida Orchestra, and Santa Fe Opera Orchestra. He recently served as acting principal flute of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra and earlier with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. As an educator, Demarre has performed, coached and presented master classes in South Africa, Korea, Japan, Quebec and throughout the United States.



Suzanne Lemieux – Oboe

Suzanne Lemieux is the Principal Oboe of Symphony Nova Scotia and a member of Halifax's woodwind quintet, Fifth Wind. She has performed as guest soloist with Symphony Nova Scotia in more than twenty different programs and delighted audiences with repertoire from all eras of classical music, from baroque to contemporary. An active chamber musician, Suzanne has been a frequent guest artist at many festivals, performed with the Penderecki String Quartet and the Quatuor Arthur Leblanc, and has played recitals at the National Arts Centre's Fourth Stage and Salon.



Marlène Ngalissamy – Bassoon

Born in Moscow, Marlène moved to Canada at age 10 and began learning the bassoon three years later. She studied at the Montreal Conservatory of Music in the class of Mathieu Harel, as well as with international masters and conductors the world over. Winner of the first prize in the 2012 Canadian Music Competition, she has performed as a soloist with the Metropolitan Orchestra of Montreal, the Montreal Youth Symphony Orchestra and the orchestra of the Conservatory of Montreal, and with orchestras including The Metropolitan Orchestra of Montreal, les Violons du Roy and The Montreal Symphony Orchestra.



REMEMBERING BETH ORSON

All of us at NYO were heartbroken to announce the passing of Beth Orson, an NYO faculty member since 2005. Beth was revered by a generation of Canadian musicians for her dedication, creativity, and insight as a coach and teacher, and her beautiful chamber music playing at our summer sessions. Beth gave great joy to her colleagues and provided a shining example of extraordinary musicianship to our students.





2023 AWARD OF EXCELLENCE WINNERS

Every year, NYO Canada presents 10 of the most promising orchestral musicians with \$5,000 Awards of Excellence in recognition of their exceptional talent and leadership capabilities.



Samuel Kerr
Percussion



Eric Li
Bassoon



Abigail Macy
Violin



Mario Rodriguez McMillan
Cello



Declan Scott
Trumpet



Daria Schibitcaia
Violin



Rachel Tormann
Flute



Shin Yu Wang
Horn



Tai Yokomori
Oboe

AWARD SPONSORS



**The S.M. Blair
Family Foundation**

**Lloyd Carr-Harris
Foundation**



**William Egnatoff
Woodwind Award of Excellence**



AURORA

2023 TOUR

AT A GLANCE

REPERTOIRE

<i>Pictures at an Exhibition</i>	Modest Mussorgsky / arr. Maurice Ravel
<i>My Name is Amanda Todd</i>	Jocelyn Morlock
NYO Canada Commission	Kalen Smith (SOCAN Emerging Composer)
Violin Concerto	Johannes Brahms
	<i>featuring the 2023 Michael Measures Prize Winner - TBA</i>

** all repertoire is subject to change*

CONCERT DATES

<i>City</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Date</i>
Kingston, ON	Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts	Fri. July 14 - 7:30 p.m.
Mont Laurier, QC	Espace Théâtre	Sun. July 16 - 2:30 p.m.
Québec City, QC	Palais Montcalm - Maison de la musique	Tues. July 18 - 7:30 p.m.
Charlottetown, PEI	Confederation Centre of the Arts	Sun. July 23 - 7:30 p.m.
Halifax, NS	Rebecca Cohn Auditorium	Wed. July 26 - 7:30 p.m.
Saint John, NB	Imperial Theatre	Sat. July 29 - 7:30 p.m.
Toronto, ON	Koerner Hall	Wed. August 2 - 7:30 p.m.

** Dates as of April 2023*

TICKETS

nyoc.org/tickets

MORE INFORMATION

info@nyoc.org

1-800-532-4470

Violin | Violon

Siyeon (Sally) Ahn
Juliana Cao
Junia Friesen
Jay Hansen
Marija Ivicevic
Diane Kim
June-Kyo Kim
Rose Lavoie-Darling
David Lee
Allen Lee
Emma Li
Ivan Li
Abigail Macy
Donna Mahboubi
Sierra Olsthoorn
Rachel (Bryony) Quan
Aurélie Quimper-Bouchard
Kai Rousseau
Isabel Ryznar
Daria Schibitcaia
Bennett Van Barr
Carrie Wang
Kasumi Yajima
Ian Ye
Tiffany Yeung

Viola | Alto

Robyn Lianne Cheng
Miriam Elsayi
Yitian Fan
Julian Huang
Rachel Miner
Mobin Nacini
Maria Rubiano Pulido
Savannah Seibel
Tasman Tantasawat
Mengguang Wang

Cello | Violoncelle

Matthew Buczkowski
Amos Friesen
Jonah Hansen
Ethan Jeon
Yuna Lee
Serina Lee
Julian Lee De Vita
Emmanuel Madsen
Mario Rodriguez McMillan
Joshua Samuels

Double Bass | Contrebasse

Sébastien Bachand
Étienne Beaulieu-Gaul
Cameron Breiter
Dean Chen
Ludovic Grell
Benjamin Pastrana Mankovitz
Sonja Swettenham

Flute | Flûte

Esther Su Young Hwang
Rachel Tormann
Yelin Youn

Oboe | Hautbois

Luca Ortolani
Tai Yokomori
Yang Yu

Clarinet | Clarinette

Eugene Jung
Andrew Neagoe
Yanqing Zhang

Bassoon | Basson

Eric Li
Thomas Roy-Rochette
Robert (Bobby) Thompson

Horn | Cor

Katrina Dunkle
Noah Hawryluck
Jihao Li
Michael Nunes
Shin Yu Wang

Trumpet | Trompette

William Laurin
Graham Lumsden
Declan Scott

Trombone

Micah Krocker
Kristofer Leslie

Bass Trombone | Trombone basse

Luke Roussy

Tuba

Benjamin Vargas

Percussion | Percussions

Andrew Busch
Samuel Kerr
Fraser Krips
Cassandra Wolff

Harp | Harpe

Madison Dartana
Honoka Shoji



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