



CALOS NEWS

RECENT EVENTS:

A Busy Time for CALOS

Now that our season is in full swing, we quickly turned our attention to two concerts. The reinstatement of Orchestra Fest on Nov. 4 & 5 marks the return of the final of CALOS' pre-Covid activities and we are thrilled to partner with MUN Music to make this happen for not only CALOS but many other local ensembles and this year for the first time,



individuals who could sign up to participate. The intention of this activity is to promote ensemble music and forge friendships amongst musicians.

Orchestra Fest: November 2023

On Saturday, November 4, CALOS Junior and Senior Orchestras, as well as MacDonald Drive Junior High, Strong Harbour Strings, Tenacious String Orchestra, STEP senior violinists and Young Virtuosi, MUN Chamber Orchestra and interested individual musicians, participated in



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an all-day series of workshops, sectionals and a massed rehearsal at MUN School of Music. Thanks to presenters, Christine Carter and Jennifer Johnson and conductors, Dr. Vernon Regehr, Andrei Popkov and Grant Etchegary, musicians learned about musical techniques and repertoire during the weekend.

On Sunday afternoon, the public was treated to a concert including each of the participating groups as well as the Orchestra Fest Symphony, a massed ensemble of 140 people. Probably a first for most in the audience, this performance, set in the amazing Basilica of St. John the Baptist, was both exciting and thrilling.



We look forward to another similar activity in the future as it is a wonderful weekend of sharing and learning.

Premier Performances: CALOS String Quartet

Quietly, in the background, four talented CALOS Senior String players and their coach, Elena Vigna, have been preparing for several performances. The first was a Nov. 26 pre-show in the lobby just prior to the MUN Chamber Orchestra concert. As part of the partnership with MUN Music, our musicians were invited to attend this concert free of charge.





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This talented Chamber ensemble of Gr. 12 players made their stage



debut during our Dec. concert and would spark the interest of several other CALOS musicians. In January, it is hoped that another Chamber String Quartet of younger senior musicians will be created with possible brass or woodwind ensembles following in the future.

Music In Motion: Dec. 3



Preparation for the Dec. 3 concert was well underway before Orchestra Fest as our ensembles and orchestras prepared new material. The theme of the concert inspired music from dance and marching bands and produced a wonderful concert on

Sunday afternoon for a full audience of family and friends.

The event opened with the first on-stage performance of the String Quartet at 3:15 pm,



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followed by selections from the Junior Winds and Junior String Ensembles, as well as Junior and Senior Orchestras.

One of the selections, *Bolero* by Aleksandr Dargomyzhsky, was conducted by Andrei Popkov who would say goodbye to CALOS after this event. Andrei had been working all term with our Senior Orchestra and we have learned much from the experience.



We look forward, next term, to being conducted by Murray Lefebvre, who has been and will continue working as an assistant coach in the woodwind section during the fall.

December 10: MUN Session, Rehearsal and Bowling

Our final rehearsal of the season included a sight reading of next term's music, and some Senior Orchestra mentoring of Junior Orchestra selections. Prior to that, some Senior musicians attended a MUN Music information session facilitated by Acting Dean Dr. Karen Bulmer. Rehearsal ended early so that everyone could reconvene for Bowling and Pizza at Holiday Lanes.

Dates of Note

- December 12: CALOS Annual General Meeting (ZOOM), 7 pm. **All welcome.**
- Feb. 18-25: Kiwanis Music Festival for Junior Ensembles and String Quartet
- April 22: CALOS String Concert, 7 pm