

FREDERICTON
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
ESTABLISHED 1976

A Musical Celebration

Richard Hornsby, Conductor

Brahms * Fauré * Haydn

Special Guests

Emily Kennedy, Cello

Fredericton Choral Society

Olivia LaPointe * Jillian Bonner * Shane Scott * Paul Bustin

Fredericton Playhouse
14 April 2026 ~ 7:30pm





A Musical Celebration / Une Célébration Musicale

The Fredericton Symphony Orchestra is comprised of a very special group of around 55 musicians from many walks of life who convene each Saturday afternoon to share their love of performing orchestral music with each other. It has been my honour to lead them over the last fifteen years.

We take joy in presenting the fruits of our labours to you, our friends and supporters in the hope that the pleasure we receive from orchestral music making is also experienced by you when you watch and listen.

Thank you for supporting the Fredericton Symphony Orchestra and we hope you enjoy this, and many more future FSO performances.

L'Orchestre symphonique de Fredericton est composé d'un groupe très particulier d'environ 55 musiciens provenant de divers milieux qui se réunissent chaque samedi après-midi pour partager leur passion pour la musique classique. J'ai eu l'honneur de les diriger au cours des quinze dernières années.

C'est avec joie que nous vous présentons, à vous, nos amis et nos admirateurs, le fruit de notre travail, dans l'espoir que le plaisir que nous procure la pratique de la musique d'orchestre vous touche également lorsque vous nous écoutez.

Merci de votre support à l'Orchestre symphonique de Fredericton ; nous espérons que vous apprécierez ce concert, ainsi que les nombreux concerts à venir de l'OSF

Richard Hornsby
Artistic Director and Conductor / directeur artistique et
chef d'orchestre





Program



Academic Festival Overture, Op. 80

Johannes Brahms
(1833 – 1897)

Élégie, Op. 24

Gabriel Fauré
(1845 – 1924)

Emily Kennedy, cello

Intermission

Missa in tempore belli (“Paukenmesse”)

Joseph Haydn
(1732 – 1809)

Kyrie

Gloria

arr. Richard Hornsby

Credo

Sanctus

Benedictus

Agnus Dei

Fredericton Choral Society

Olivia LaPointe, soprano

Jillian Bonner, mezzo-soprano

Shane Scott, tenor

Paul Bustin, baritone





Program Notes



Born in Hamburg, Germany, **Johannes Brahms** (1833-1897) spent much of his life in Vienna. During his storied career he wrote four symphonies, four concertos, numerous pieces of chamber music, over two hundred songs, and his famed work for two soloists, chorus and orchestra, *A German Requiem*, that was performed by the Fredericton Choral Society and the Fredericton Symphony Orchestra in 2006. The delightful *Academic Festival Overture*, composed during the summer of 1880, was a tribute to the University of Breslau (now the University of Wroclaw in Poland) that awarded him an honorary doctorate in music. Initially intending to write only a letter of thanks for the honour, Brahms was convinced that a musical tribute to the school was expected. In keeping with his ironic sense of humour, Brahms delivered an overture that contained moments of solemnity expected for a convocation, as well as boisterous tunes derived from student patriotism and drinking songs. The overture was a success upon its premiere and has remained a staple of the orchestral repertoire.

French composer **Gabriel Fauré** (1845-1924) stands as one of the most innovative and influential composers of the late 19th century whose break from the melodic and harmonic conventions of Romanticism inspired the Impressionists and Modernists of the early 20th century. His output largely eschews the grand orchestral compositions in fashion at the time, favouring instead the more intimate venues of chamber music. This is evident in *Élégie* (1880), a piece originally written for solo cello with piano accompaniment. Initially intended as a movement in a cello sonata, Fauré decided to let it stand as a work unto itself. The influence of Romanticism is evident in the work's emotional power and expression of pathos, something his later works would avoid.



in favour of more emotional introversion and subtlety. The *Élégie* was a great success when it premiered in 1883, and in 1901 Fauré arranged it for solo cello and orchestra.

Austrian composer **Joseph Haydn** (1732-1809), one of the giants of western music, was one of the most prolific composers of the Classical era. Composing over one hundred symphonies and eighty string quartets, his innovations and mastery of form have led him to be called both the “Father of the Symphony” and the “Father of the String Quartet”. He also wrote many notable vocal and choral works, including several operas, oratorios, and masses. *Mass No. 10 in C major* (1796), often called the *Paukenmesse* for its prominent use of the timpani, was given the subtitle *Missa in tempore belli* (Mass in Time of War) by the composer. The subtitle reflects that the mass was composed during the French Revolutionary Wars (1792-1802) when mobilization was underway to prepare for a potential French invasion. While the mass is not explicitly anti-war, parts of it feature notably unsettled music, unusual for Haydn, which has led many scholars to conclude that he was expressing anti-war sentiments in these passages.





About the Orchestra



The **Fredericton Symphony Orchestra** (FSO), previously named the Fredericton Chamber Orchestra (FCO), has been performing regularly in Fredericton since 1976. Orchestra members are either accomplished amateurs who have studied music and performance or professional musicians.

The FSO performs two to three times per year.



Richard Hornsby became Artistic Director of the Fredericton Symphony Orchestra in 2010 and is an active performer, educator, arts administrator, and arts advocate. Since coming to New Brunswick in 1992 he has also founded and/or been

the Artistic Director for projects such as the UNB Music Camp, UNB Music Conservatory, Atlantic Sinfonia and the New Brunswick Summer Music Festival. As a volunteer and advocate for the arts, Richard has been active on the local, provincial, and national levels, including serving as President of the New Brunswick Youth Orchestra, President of the New Brunswick Arts Board, and President of the New Brunswick Arts Council.

In 2024, Richard was recognized with both the Playhouse Honours and the City of Fredericton's Arts Achievement Award.



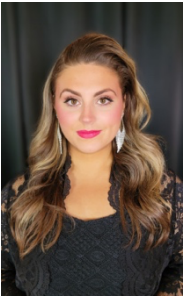


Special Guests



Emily Kennedy is a cellist, composer and chamber musician based in Fredericton, New Brunswick. Adept in a wide variety of genres, in a standard day she can be found traveling between Elm City String Quartet rehearsals, crafting ambient cello tracks, and writing for the chamber-pop band Pallmer.

Her interest in performing and writing new music has brought her to SÍM Residency in Reykjavik Iceland, Banff's Concert in the 21st Century residency, the Britten-Pears: Composition, Alternative Performance and Performance Art program in Aldeburgh, UK, Montreal Contemporary Music Lab, and RE:FLUX Festival in Moncton, NB. Emily has toured Canada as the cellist and vocalist for the band Pallmer, and co-curates the Elm City String Quartet's annual concert season.



Canadian soprano **Olivia LaPointe** has extensive experience spanning opera, musical theatre, jazz, and contemporary styles. Most recently, Olivia was a finalist in Toronto City Opera's 2026 Macina Competition, a 2025 Laureate of the JAL of Théâtre Lyrichorégra, Met Laffont District Winner, Lotte Lenya Competition finalist, and Third Prize winner in the 2024 Canadian Opera Company Centre Stage Competition. Recent roles include: Valencienne (The Merry Widow, Highlands Opera), Donna Anna (Don Giovanni, VIMA Italy), Angelica (Orlando) and Giulietta (Un giorno di regno, Opera McGill), Lily (The Secret Garden, Opera NUOVA), and Antonia (Les contes d'Hoffmann, HSOF), for which Opera Canada praised her as "breathtakingly perfect." In 2023, she made her European debut as a Voice Fellow with Opernfest Prague. Olivia also performs with her family's vocal group, The LaPointes, and is passionate about teaching voice. She holds a Master of Music from McGill University and a Bachelor of Music from the University of Toronto.



Jillian Bonner, mezzo soprano, is a graduate of the University of Manitoba (M.Mus), Dalhousie University (B.Mus) and the Calgary Opera Emerging Young Artist Program. Jillian was a Rebanks Family Fellowship Recipient at the Glenn Gould School, as well as part of Barbara Hannigan's Equilibrium Young Artist Initiative (EQ). Through EQ, Jillian made her debut with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, performing Mozart's Requiem under the baton of Sir Andrew Davis.

Jillian enjoyed competing for many years, most notably the Opera de Montreal's Atelier Lyrique competition (finalist), the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions (Regional finalist), and the Eckhardt-Gramatté National Music Competition (finalist).

Returning to live and work in Saint John, Jillian runs a voice studio and is passionate about creating a nurturing environment for singers to experience artistic and personal growth. She has most recently performed Handel's Messiah (Symphony New Brunswick), Vivaldi's Gloria, and Michna's Missa pro Defunctis (Cathedral Choral Society).



Shane M. Scott is an associate lawyer with the Mike Murphy Law Group, practicing personal injury law, insurance law, and wills and estates. Shane was born and raised in Saint John, New Brunswick. Prior to his legal studies, he completed a Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance at Dalhousie University

under the tutelage of Dr. Betty Alison and Dr. Christina Haldane. Shane's musical credits include: Messiah by G.F. Handel (Tenor Soloist), *Messe de minuit pour Noël* by Charpentier (Cantor, Tenor, and Alto soloist), *Requiem in D minor, K. 626* by W.A. Mozart (Tenor Soloist), *L'étoile* by Emmanuel Chabrier (Hérisson), *Aeneas and Dido* by James Rolfe (Mercury), and *Die Fliedermaus* by Johann Strauss II (Alfred).



Paul Bustin is an alumnus of Mt. Allison University and the Opera performance program at Indiana University in Bloomington. He has been featured in broadcasts on CBC Radio, Radio Canada as well as National Public Radio (NPR). Mr. Bustin has been a featured soloist with The Knoxville Symphony and Indianapolis Opera and created the role of “Enrico Fermi” in *The Woman at Otowi Crossing* with Opera Theater of Saint Louis. Symphonic performances include *Requiem*, W.A. Mozart; *Requiem*, G. Faure; *The Seasons*, Haydn; *The Messiah*, G.F. Handel; *Requiem*, Liszt; *The Ninth Symphony*, L.V. Beethoven and the *German Requiem*, Brahms. Operatic roles include: “Golaud” in Debussy’s *Pelleas et Melisande*; “Zuniga” in Bizet’s *Carmen*; “Leandre” in Prokofiev’s *L’amour des Trois Oranges*; “Baron” in Verdi’s *La Traviata* as well as both “Angelotti” and the “Sacristan” in Puccini’s *Tosca*. “Mr. Bustin possesses an impressive, resonant baritone voice of wide range and outstanding flexibility. He is a convincing operatic interpreter and artist”. Giorgio Tozzi

Fredericton
CHORAL SOCIETY

The **Fredericton Choral Society** is a large, mixed-voice community choir based in Fredericton, New Brunswick. We are a non-auditioning and non-denominational choir, drawing a diverse group of singers from the greater Fredericton area and beyond. We are dedicated to preparing and performing great works of choral music and are very pleased to be singing with the Fredericton Symphony Orchestra for this concert. We thank the King Edward Choir in Barrie and Choirs Ontario for the loan of the music scores. Please join us in a few weeks on May 9 for our second annual "Spring Song and Sweets" concert, 7 p.m. at Christ Church (Parish Church) in Fredericton. The Fredericton Choral Society is a member of the New Brunswick Choral Federation; a charitable organisation committed to promoting and supporting choral singing in New Brunswick.





Greg Geldart was born in Moncton, New Brunswick and at the age of eight began a life of choral singing. Recently retired from over thirty years of pastoral ministry, church choral music has always been a key responsibility. One of his joys is working with non-professional singers to explore and perform choral music in a wide range of styles. He is a graduate of Atlantic Baptist College (now Crandall University) with a Bachelor of Arts in Music, having focused on choral conducting. During his Master's work in Louisville, Kentucky, he had the privilege of singing under the direction of the chair of the choral department at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. In addition to choral music, he has also worked with children and youth specifically in handbell performance and musical theatre production. In the fall of 2024, he began his very satisfying journey with the Fredericton Choral Society as its Music Director.



Catherine Macdonald is originally from Berkeley, California. She moved to Canada in 1989 when her husband Paul's work took him to Stephenville, Newfoundland. Several moves later they landed in Keswick Ridge in 1994. She has been the accompanist of the Fredericton Choral Society since 1998 and accompanies music students for the Fredericton Music Festival. She has been singing with the Christ Church Cathedral choir since 2007, and been a member of the Cathedral's worship band, along with her husband Paul, since 2006. She has played with the Fredericton Symphony Orchestra for many years, swelling the ranks of the percussion players and using her trusty keyboard to take the place of various instruments such as harp, celeste and marimba. She plans to keep playing as long as her fingers allow.



With Warm Congratulations



Greg Geldart (Fredericton Choral Society, Music Director)

What a privilege to be invited to join in the celebration of the Fredericton Symphony Orchestra's 50th anniversary. Over the decades, such collaborations have been a highlight for the Fredericton Choral Society and, we hope, the larger Fredericton community. It is exciting to think about the possibilities for this and other arts collaborations that will be possible in the new Ron and Erma Hawkes Centre for the Arts. Happy Anniversary FSO! And best wishes for the next 50 years!

Chelsea Ahn (14-year-old piano soloist, December 2015)

Being part of the Fredericton Symphony Orchestra many years ago when I was around 12 years old as a violinist, was the first time I was met with the immense joy of playing with other musicians. Through the warmth of everyone there and discovering my passion for music, I have grown to pursue music professionally and currently have a Graduate Student Instructor position as a Master of Music Piano Performance and Chamber Music Major at the University of Michigan, School of Music. I feel immense gratitude to the whole community and want to congratulate the orchestra for their 50th anniversary, every moment was special and wholesome.

Elliott Braganza (Grade 11 cello soloist, November 2000)

I was fortunate to play with the ensemble in the early 2000s, when it was still known as the Fredericton Chamber Players, and I remember that time with great fondness. It was a wonderful musical community and an important part of my development as a musician. Some of my highlights included performing Handel's Messiah on several occasions and playing Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf, experiences that remain especially memorable.





I suppose I can share this now. In those days we did not always have a double bassist regularly at rehearsals, so I would sometimes play the cello part in Beethoven symphonies an octave lower to cover the double bass line. Sorry, Sonja!

Although I will not be able to attend the anniversary performance in April, I wish the orchestra, the Fredericton Choral Society, and everyone involved a fantastic celebration and many more years of music-making ahead.

With best wishes and congratulations.

Mahmoud Hussein (viola soloist, October 2006)

Some of my happiest memories growing up in Fredericton were listening to and playing in the Fredericton Chamber Players, as I believe we were called in those days--about 25 years ago!

Hearing and playing Handel's Messiah every year at Wilmot Church on King Street was exhilarating and playing works such as Haydn's "Clock" Symphony and Mendelssohn's "Fingal's Cave" alongside my very first teachers, Sylbie Roy and Ron MacDonald was so reassuring. We all looked forward to conversation at break time over a cup of hot coffee and Swedish ginger thins and sometimes even sugar-covered donuts!!

Every musical encounter I had in New Brunswick was connected to the orchestra in one way or another and I feel incredibly happy to know that it's bigger and stronger than ever. May this orchestra continue to inspire and foster musical community. Here's to another 50 years and beyond!!!





Gina Lee (16-year-old piano soloist, May 2011)

Looking back on my childhood, the vibrant community of musicians and the many musical events in Fredericton were among the true highlights of my life and played a profound role in shaping who I hoped to become. I made my orchestral debut with the Fredericton Symphony Orchestra (then known as the Fredericton Chamber Orchestra), and I still vividly remember how invigorating and inspiring it was to have the opportunity to perform with an orchestra at such a young age. Since leaving Fredericton, I have continued to pursue music as a pianist, recently earning a doctorate from the Eastman School of Music. My decision to follow music as a profession grew out of the many positive influences in my community, — like my teachers at the time (Jennifer Mok, Professor Martin Kutnowski, and Don Bosse), the Fredericton Summer Music Festival led by Richard Hornsby, Kiwanis Music Festival, and of course the Fredericton Symphony Orchestra.

I send the orchestra my heartfelt congratulations on its 50th anniversary and wish it continued success and inspiration for another fifty years of music-making!

Vivian Ni (17-year-old violin soloist, March 2017)

Congratulations on the Fredericton Symphony Orchestra's 50th anniversary!! That's an incredible milestone!

Growing up in Fredericton, music was always a big part of my life, and it has been so special to have a local orchestra that brings such beautiful repertoire to the community. Their performances have consistently showcased the talent and artistry of composers, musicians, conductors, and soloists in a very meaningful way.

I have great memories of playing with FSO as a soloist many years ago. What stood out to me most was everyone's kindness and joyful spirit - I felt welcomed and completely at ease.





Wishing the FSO many more years of inspiring performances ahead! Orchestras play such an important role in keeping music and the arts vibrant and alive in our communities.

Thomas Nicholson (student composer, October 2011)

“The years teach much which the days never knew” (Emerson). Wishing the Fredericton Symphony Orchestra heartfelt congratulations on 50 years of bringing exceptional orchestral music to the Fredericton area. When it was still the Fredericton Chamber Orchestra, my various roles over the years while I was a student, whether playing viola, performing continuo in Handel’s Messiah, or contributing as a composer, were formative experiences that helped shape my professional path. Even then, I felt a resonance within the group that only emerges through a sustained sense of community; but most crucially, this long-term connection in a group comes across in the music. To celebrate, I would like to offer a gift in the form of a short composition, *Fifty Perfect Fifths*.





David Nielsen (FCO/FSO member, 1976 -)

Although I am one of the original members of this fine orchestra, my orchestral experience extends back to 1954 when I was an original member of the newly formed Fredericton Civic Orchestra. The joy, honour and privilege I have had was beginning and ending my orchestral experience under the baton of two incredible conductors, Janis Kalnins and Richard Hornsby. Maestros!

It is often said that the best way to improve at table tennis is to always play with people who are better at it than you. My joy in playing in amateur orchestras is that I was always playing with musicians better than I.

What do maple syrup, honey and orchestra concerts have in common? Answer: Very seldom does the end user think about the enormous hours and effort given to produce the final sweet product.

Long live amateur orchestras!

Suzanne Bonnell-Burley (former member: 1976-78, 1981, 1984, 1993-96, 1998-2010)

I have had the great fortune to have been a member of the Fredericton Chamber Players and the Fredericton Chamber Orchestra and to have performed as a member of the cello section under five conductors. This ensemble has given me the opportunity to play a varied repertoire (Carmina Burana, Peter and the Wolf, Respighi's Ancient Airs and Dances, The Snowman, Beethoven Symphonies and, of course, Handel's Messiah come to mind) with some wonderful soloists and performers (Measha Brueggergosman-Lee, Robert Kortgaart, the Grant Family puppeteers and David Perritt, to name just a few). There have been many magical and musical moments. Congratulations to the Fredericton Symphony Orchestra, Conductor Richard Hornsby, Concertmaster Ian Burden and all its musicians on this 50th Anniversary.





Fredericton Choral Society

Greg Geldart, Music Director

Catherine Macdonald, Accompanist



Soprano

Anne Marie Atkinson
Carolyn Brown
Sabine Campbell
Bronwyn Davies
Myfanwy Davies
Jayne Denton
Heather Donnelly
Jocelyn Donnelly
Jean Embleton
Alexis Ervin
Patricia Evans
Kimberly Keech
Gillian Keyser
Gladys Lacey-House
Marilyn Lewell
Gail Oliver
Heather Perritt
Anne Rutter
Wandlyn Snelgrove
Christina Starke
Annette Stehouwer
Deborah West
Dianne Wilkins

Alto

Lynn Addleman
Jane Blakely
Jeannie Chiasson
Barb Clogg-Wright
Wendy Craig
Karon Croll
Lisa Crone
Lise Gallant
Sabina Horton
Elise Kassis
Corinne Lebon
Louise Lockhart

Fernanda Lozano
Catherine Macdonald
Marion Macfarlane
Martha McClure
Lynn Moore
Ruth Nieboer
Carolyn Nielsen
Felicity Paterson
Carol Ray
Margaret Savidge
Beth Snow
Kari Van Middlesworth

Tenor

Abimbola Akerele
Greg Geldart
Leo Macneil
Carol Maurey
Saeid Metvaei
Jennifer Myers
Gerry Pot
Don Richardson
Eleanor Scott
Jack Walsworth
Vince Zelazny
Alireza Zohourian

Bass

Darrell Brewer
Jim Burns
Chris Colwell
Dan Coulombe
Pat Daley
Lorne House
Joe Horton
Ron Murphy
David Perritt
Albert Snelgrove
Guy Tremblay





Fredericton Symphony Orchestra Members

Richard Hornsby, Conductor

Violin I

Ian Burdon, Concertmaster
Miriam Lobinsky
Thomas O'Connor
Emma Fortunato
Ali Johnson
Grace Jackson
Kynan Hughson
Katheryn Hughson
Christopher Murray
Glorietta Benigno
Xinwei Lu

Violin II

Julie Probert, Principal
Wladyslaw Cichocki
Kelsey Fraser
Daniel Robb
Samantha Johnstone
Anna Thériault
Jasmine LeFave
Sylbie Roy
Libby Cassidy

Viola

Alison Ready, Principal
Theodore Campbell
Sidney Murgatroyd
Carol Maurey
Christine Chase

Cello

Conor Britt, Acting Principal
Chad Cromwell
Sarah Jarvis
Laura Hatfield
Gary Chase
David Nielsen

Bass

Byrann Gowan, Principal
Daniel DaFonseca



**Flute**

Julie Grant
Yunjia Dai

Piccolo

Yunjia Dai

Oboe

Karen Arnold
Jessica Arenas

Clarinet

Vasana Abeysekera
Ed Maurey

Bass Clarinet

Michelle Hughson

Bassoon

Sam Arnold
Yvonne Kershaw

Horn

Charles MacKinnon
Kathleen Michael
Mya Salawu
Cameron Bowie

Trumpet

David Garson
Don Lévesque
Morgan Mollins
Norman Neil

Trombone

Heather Fyffe
David Bent

Tuba

Matthew Daley

Timpani

Siobhan Hanratty

Percussion

Catherine Macdonald
Morgan Mollins
Jennifer Myers



Special Thanks

Karine Basque

Paul Pulford
David Adams

Lap-hok Kwan
Sam Arnold

Karen Arnold
David Bent
Matthew Daley
Yunjia Dai
Siobhan Hanratty

Photos and Videography
Luowei Xu
Charles Pan
Salvador Alejandri

UNB Centre for Musical Arts

City of Fredericton





We'll See You Next Season!

Thank you for joining us this evening. We hope you enjoyed the performance.

We look forward to welcoming you back next year for another exciting season of music and artistry. Full programming details will be announced in the coming months and will be available on our website.

To stay informed and receive updates as they are released, we invite you to sign up for our newsletter. We look forward to staying connected with you.

<https://tinyurl.com/FSO-events>

For more information about the orchestra, please visit:

www.FrederictonSymphonyOrchestra.ca