

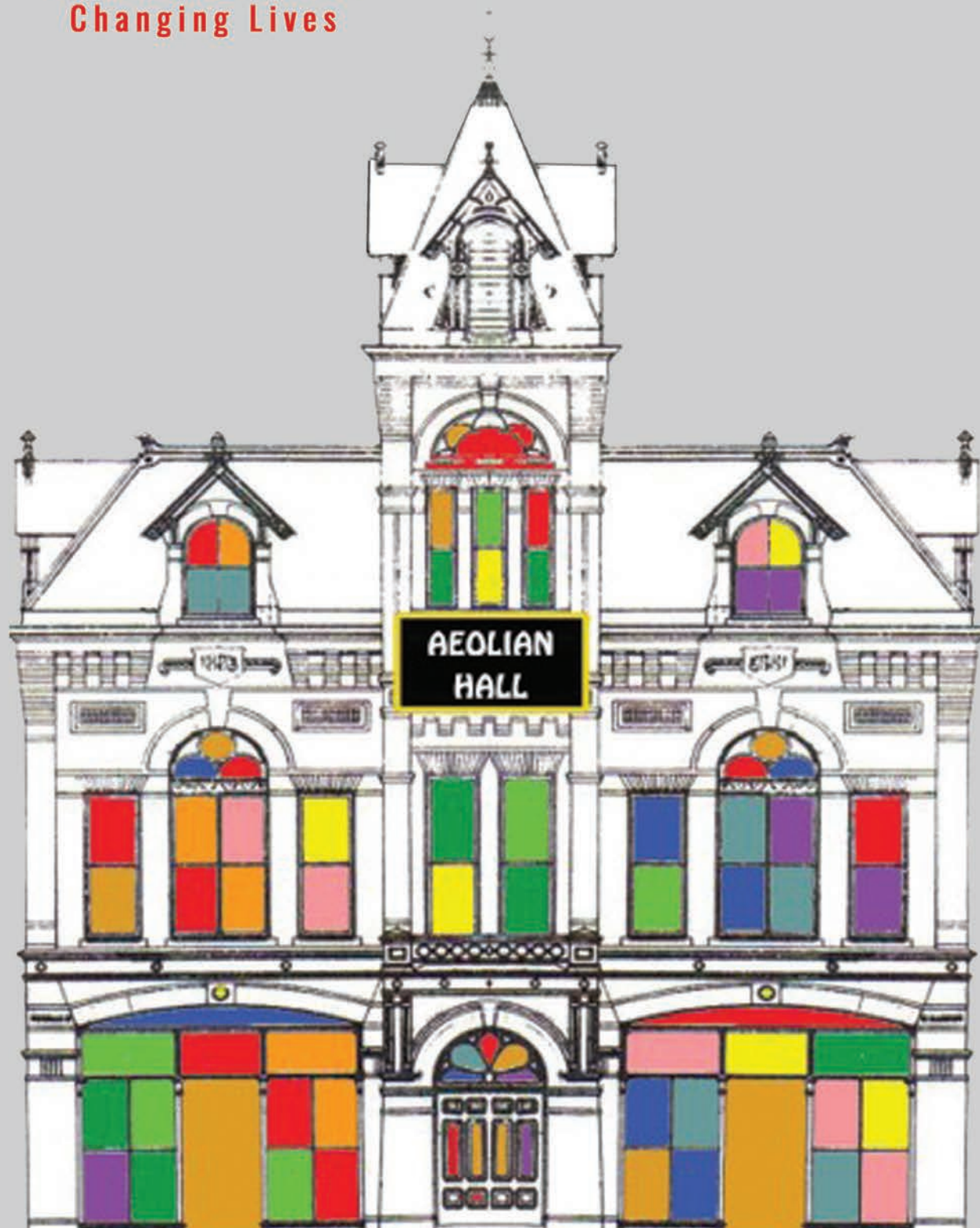
# THE AEOLIAN

Performing Arts Center

Spreading Music,  
Changing Lives

# 2016

Annual Report



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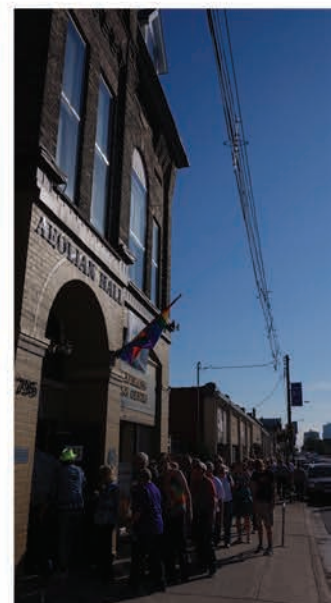
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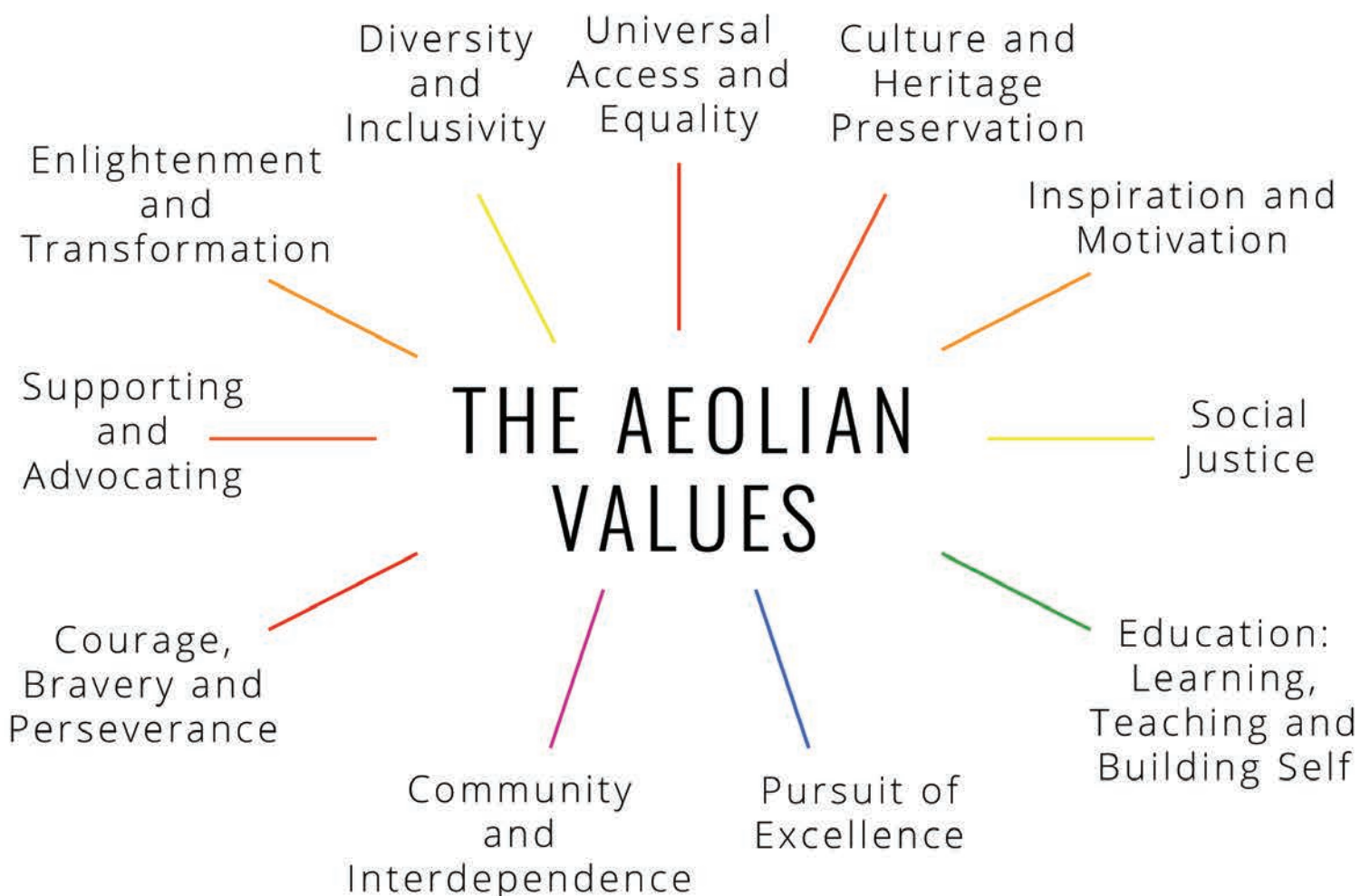


## We are **Rebel**hearts

REBELheart:(noun)

definition: one who possesses the desire to provide, promote and produce universal access to music, art, culture and education: a risk taker: a leader: a joyful soul.

ORIGIN: AEOLIAN HALL





# MISSION AND VISION

## MISSION STATEMENT

**“SPREADING MUSIC, CHANGING LIVES”**

We believe that the Arts can enlighten, inspire and transform. We believe in universal access to Music, Art, Culture, Education and Community. We believe that volunteerism is the highest form of giving back to community.

We present excellence in performance and create revolutionary arts programs to build better communities. To do this, we are brave, rebellious, justice-seeking and innovative.

## VISION STATEMENT

**“MUSIC EVERYWHERE,  
EVERYONE”**

In our future world everyone has the highest value for Music, Art, Culture, Education and Community. The Aeolian becomes a leader inspiring people to connect to their creative abilities.



# ***CORE VALUES***

## **TRANSFORMATION**

We believe that participation in music, art, culture, education and community leads to transformation by:

- Inspiring
- Motivating
- Enlightening

## **SELF-ACTUALIZATION**

We believe that we can all become better people through:

- Learning and Teaching
- Courage, Bravery and Perseverance
- Building Self

## **HERITAGE**

We believe in preserving, reflecting and celebrating our past through:

- Historical Preservation
- Cultural Preservation
- Teaching and Presenting

## **DIVERSITY**

We believe that creativity can bring us together, fostering:

- Interdependence
- Inclusivity
- Community

## **SOCIAL JUSTICE**

We believe that our world must foster:

- Equality
- Universal Access
- Supporting and Advocating
- Volunteerism



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



2016 saw tremendous expansion of The Aeolian's Mission and economic engine. Our revenue stream grew and we launched a number of new programs. One of the most exciting developments was the long-term lease of a new facility, Bishop Cronyn Memorial Place, 442 William St. in London, Ontario. This former church (built in 1873) is a Designated Heritage Site and has offered our organization a chance to grow both its education programs and its production capacities. The former Church has a lovely Sanctuary with wonderful acoustics. It seats approximately 300 people and has a magnificent Casavant Organ, a Portative Baroque Organ, and a fairly new Yamaha Grand Piano. On the north side of the Nave, there is a hidden Chapel which

seats approximately 40 people. Its adjacent complex includes three floors of larger and smaller meeting rooms and three kitchens. It also includes a wing of rooms underneath, attached to a seniors' complex called Warner Place. The primary reason for securing this facility was the pending closure of Lorne Avenue Public School where our El Sistema program operated, and our need to find a new facility for our El Sistema Aeolian Program.

Since securing this facility, the Aeolian has launched two new programs: Rebelheart Collective and Pride Men's Chorus London. The Aeolian also continues to operate Ignite London, Art Shows, a Volunteer Mentorship Program, and an Adult Orchestra, as well as preserve two designated Heritage Sites.

In October of 2015, the Aeolian conducted a fundraiser in order to purchase a new Concert Grand Piano for its stage. Thanks to the generosity of D&S Pianos, the Aeolian was able to purchase a Yamaha CFIII grand piano. This instrument has been extremely well received by artists in our 2016 production year. World-renowned concert pianist Janina Fialkoska remarked that this instrument was the best-sounding piano she played during her national tour.

The Aeolian continues its focus on community building through the arts. We are grateful to all of our volunteers who help us accomplish our Mission. Without our volunteers, the Aeolian would not exist.

- *CLARK BRYAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR*



There is only one word to describe what happens on a daily basis at the Aeolian, and that word is “remarkable”. It is truly remarkable how much work gets done every day – how many performances take place or are planned; how many young people experience the joy of performing music at a high level; how many people marvel at the quality of the work that takes place every day at the Aeolian. And all of this happens with a staff that can only be described as skeletal. Of course, we should not be surprised that all of this takes place smoothly and daily. It happens because our staff and volunteers believe in what we do, and are dedicated to doing it better each day.

*“WHEN PASSION IS THE ORGANIZING PRINCIPLE, GREAT THINGS CAN AND DO HAPPEN. SO EACH YEAR WE DO A BIT MORE, AND WE DO IT A BIT BETTER.”*

But we cannot expect this to continue day after day, year after year. A time comes when dedication and passion succumb to fatigue and burnout. So we have no choice but to seek new ways of carrying out our work. We need to find new sources of funds to expand our staff and our facilities. To this end, we have embarked on the development of a “strategic plan,” in hopes of finding new and creative ways of supporting and expanding our programs and facilities. This will require creative thinking on the part of our staff, volunteers, and Board. We have managed to do great things over recent years. It is time for us to move to the next stage of our development.

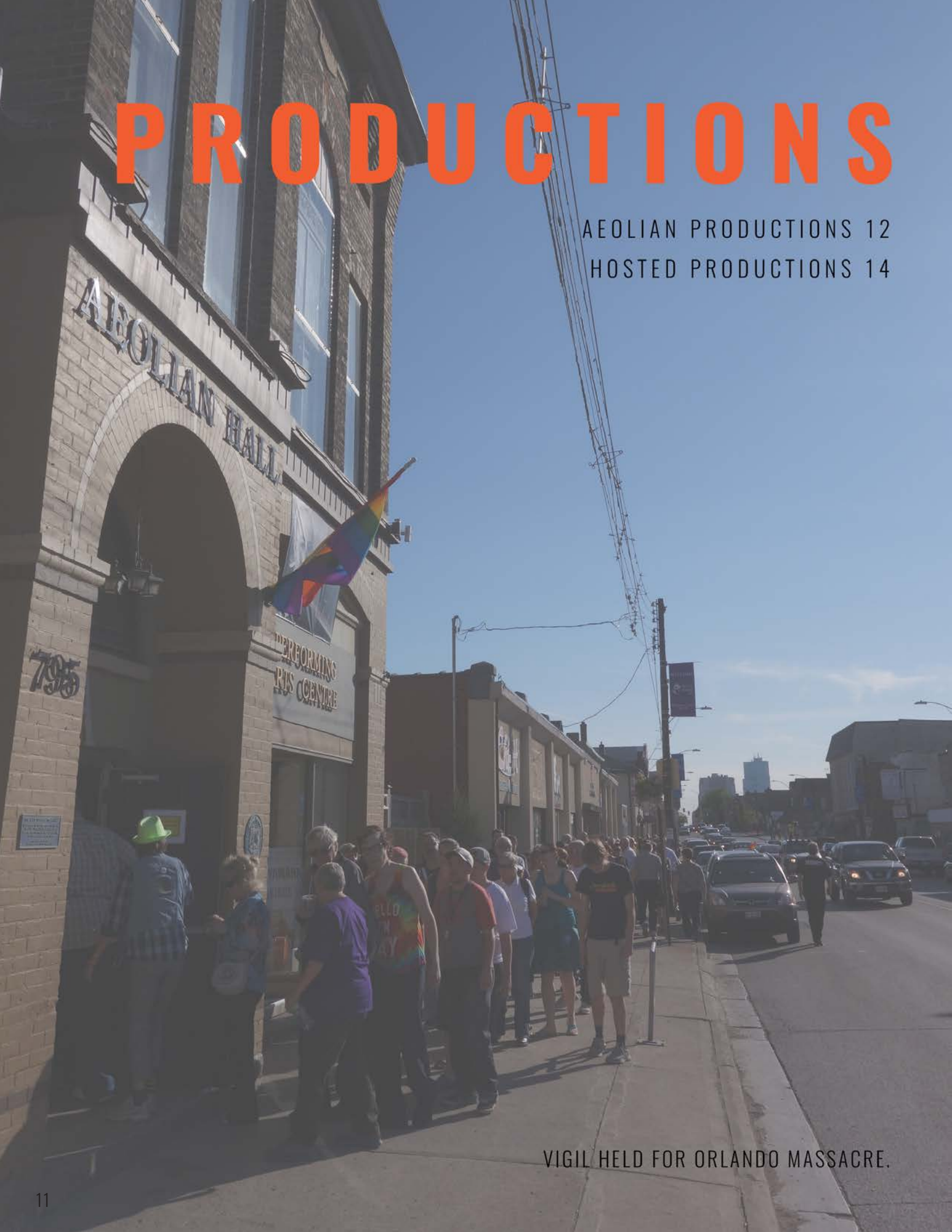
*- TOM SIESS, BOARD CHAIR*



# PRODUCTIONS

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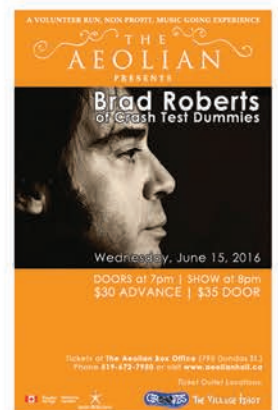
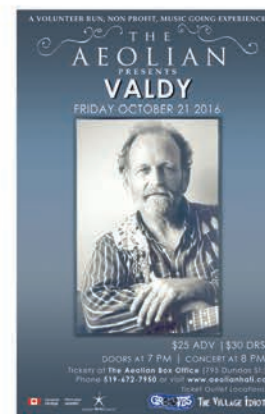
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VIGIL HELD FOR ORLANDO MASSACRE.



# AEOLIAN PRODUCTIONS



THE AEOLIAN PRESENTS MANY CONCERTS, ARTS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS. IT HAS A SPECIAL MANDATE TO PROMOTE DIVERSITY. THIS IS REFLECTED IN THE VARIETY OF GENRES OF MUSIC PRESENTED.



# 2016 PRODUCTIONS

## Classical:

Marion Miller and Sharon Kahan  
Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra  
Epoque String Quartet with David Braid  
Alan Demir, Piano  
Rebelheart Collective Orchestra  
Janina Fialkowska  
El Sistema Aeolian (15 concerts)

## Jazz:

Prime Time Big Band  
Rene Marie  
Hot Jazz for a Cold Winter's Night  
Fred Hersch  
John Tank Band  
June Garber  
Broadway

## Aboriginal:

Susan Aglukark

## Country:

The Ennis Sisters

## Drama:

A Christmas Carol (John Huston)

## Singer/Songwriter

Jane Siberry  
Jacob Moon  
Hayden  
Gordie  
MacKeeman & His  
Rhythm Boys  
Destroyer  
Emm Gryner

Elliot Brood  
Francee Ender (Skydiggers)  
Maria Muldar  
Tom Wilson (LeE HARVeY  
OsMOND)  
Justin Rutledge  
Kroy  
Andy McKee

Joel Plaskett  
Matt and Jill Barber  
Local Folk Series  
Matt Alber  
Lauren Mann  
Alysha Brilla  
Sarah Smith

## Film:

Cinema Politica

## Community:

Vigil for Orlando Massacre  
Doors Open

## World Music:

Pavlo  
Sultans of String

## Choral:

Pride Men's Chorus London

## Celtic:

Ashley MacIsaac

## Children's Programming:

Sharon and Bram

## Speaker Series:

Ignite London

## Comedy:

Cathy Jones  
Bruce McColluch

## Folk:

Valdy  
The Good Lovelies

“WHAT A NIGHT! A TRULY MEMORABLE SHOW, SO HAPPY TO BE BACK.”  
- THE GOOD LOVELIES



# HOSTED PRODUCTIONS

THE AEOLIAN SUPPORTS THE LONDON COMMUNITY BY HOSTING ARTISTIC PRODUCTIONS, COMMUNITY AND PRIVATE EVENTS. OUR NON-PROFIT RATES ALLOW EVERYONE TO HAVE AFFORDABLE ACCESS TO OUR LEGENDARY FACILITY MAKING IT ACCESSIBLE TO NON-PROFITS AND CHARITIES.

## Community:

Share The Land – a Fanshawe College Student Production	
Ontario Registered Music Teachers Association	
Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation	
Splash 'n'Boots (Treehouse Television)	
The Society for Learning and Retirement	
Eco Fest	Camp Wendake Fundraiser
CCH Has Talent	London Potters Guild
Old East Village AGM	The London Lesbian Film Festival
PFLAG	London Embroiderers Guild
Sanskriti	Old East Village Soiree
Community Living	Fanshawe Yacht Club

## Music:

Andrea Simone (Sunfest)	The Jorge Miguel Flamenco Ensemble (Sunfest)
The Music of Buddy Holly	Jane Bunnnett and Maqueque (Sunfest)
The London Concert Band	Musical Theatre Productions
The Outside Track (Sunfest)	Matt Dusk (Sunfest)
Barbara Lica (Sunfest)	Yuri Pool and the McCartney Years
Johnny Clegg (Sunfest)	Barbara Lica (Sunfest)
Light of East Ensemble (Sunfest)	Operation Walk Fundraiser
Brad Roberts	Dr. Lorne Parnes (celebration)
The Marrieds	Seeds of Change
The Music of Roy Orbison	Calan (Sunfest)
The Music of the Eagles	Igor Saika Showcase
Breabach (Sunfest)	Smales Pace Folk Reunion
London Pro Musica	Country Music Television: Gord Bamford
Canadian Celtic Choir	
Nagata Shachu (Sunfest)	
Beatlemaniam	





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RENOWNED CELLIST, TOM WIEBE, WORKS WITH EL SISTEMA CELLIST GARRETT.



# *THE GIFT OF MUSIC, THE GIFT OF COMMUNITY.*



El Sistema Aeolian is a program run by The Aeolian based on a program founded in Venezuela in 1975. This initiative has grown to include programs in 87 countries and has won TED, UNESCO and Glenn Gould Awards.

It is a free, intensive after-school music program. Aeolian's El Sistema Program was founded in 2011. The program is built on a set of values and parameters and NOT a homogenized curriculum. Each El Sistema program is free to adapt its delivery in a way that is unique to its community, resources and participants.

On April 28th, 2015, the Mayor of the City of London gave El Sistema Aeolian a Pillar Award in recognition for outstanding community impact.

**“I AND MY SON, SEBASTIAN, WANT TO THANK YOU FOR THE AMAZING OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN EL SISTEMA AEOLIAN. I SAW HOW MY SON GREW SOCIALLY, EMOTIONALLY, AND SPIRITUALLY THROUGH THE MUSIC.”**

**- PARENT TESTIMONIAL**



# EL SISTEMA AEOLIAN

## MISSION

### ***GIVING MUSIC TO EVERYONE.***

The arts enlighten, inspire and transform individuals, helping us build strong, healthy and vibrant communities. El Sistema Aeolian provides an opportunity for children, youth and their communities to experience a free, intensive, innovative and accessible afterschool music program. We provide expert instruction in a nurturing, safe and inclusive environment, allowing participants to develop their full social and musical potential.



## VISION

### ***A WORLD FILLED WITH MUSIC.***

We see a world in which all children and youth experience the joy and inspiration of music. The skills they will learn are transferable and include social engagement, inclusiveness, leadership, pursuit of excellence and creative learning styles. These skills and pathways will open new horizons for these young people. They will assist them to achieve their full potential and enrich our communities.



# *BASIC PRINCIPLES AND VALUES.*

- 1 SOCIAL CHANGE:** The primary focus of the program is social transformation through committed pursuit of the goals of excellence in both music-making and citizenship.
- 2 ENSEMBLE:** The social learning environment is built around the ensemble and is usually an orchestral and/or choral experience.
- 3 FREQUENCY:** Ensembles meet multiple times every week for multiple hours over extended periods.
- 4 ACCESSIBILITY:** Programs are free, with no financial barrier to enter, are not selective in admission and have an intentional goal of supporting special needs.
- 5 CONNECTIVITY:** Organizations are linked at the community, regional and national levels, forming a cohesive network of services, resource sharing, collaborative opportunities and advocacy in support of each other.
- 6 SOCIAL INCLUSION:** Every effort is made to promote social inclusion including the removal of barriers from religion, race, ethnicity, economic or social class, and sexual orientation.



# COMMON LEARNING AND PERFORMANCE GUIDELINES.

**1 DESIRE AND COMMITMENT:** An El Sistema-inspired program assumes as a basic understanding with students and parents that desire and commitment are necessary for motivation and development. If there is commitment, there is a place for students of all abilities.

**2 FREQUENCY AND INTENSITY:** Frequent practice and playing not only leads to more rapid growth and development of the individual and ensemble but also deepens the relationships within the immersive social learning environment and the performing group. Students meet multiple times every week for multiple hours at a time over extended periods.

**3 SPONTANEITY AND FLEXIBILITY:** The program imposes a less formal, traditional master/student dynamic and allows the program to design itself according to the needs and abilities of each particular group of students.

**4 THE FUNDAMENTAL ROLE OF AN ENSEMBLE:** As a social program, challenges are confronted as a team and solved as a team. The importance of group interaction and mutual support is stressed—students are expected to help and mentor each other. The social aspects of learning, working, mentoring, and performing together are of paramount importance.

**5 OWNERSHIP:** Community, parents and students are encouraged to organize and become actively involved in and connected through the program. Each program is defined by and reflects the particular community it serves.

**6 PEER MENTORSHIP AND LEADERSHIP:** The program creates and maintains a “mentor” culture. All participants—teacher, parents, volunteers and the board nurture and support others inside and outside of the program. Leadership abilities are fundamentally tied to a belief in the value of providing service to others through the offering of talents and efforts.

**7 PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND DELIVERY:** El Sistema-inspired teaching and learning environments aim to assemble, adapt and test best learned approaches both from the El Sistema global context and other similar global innovative social programs. El Sistema-inspired teachers are constantly fed inspiring learning theories/practices in an incubator-like environment where the teacher's social development lens for participants is always stronger than their music education lens. Every possible effort is made to nurture both the group and the individual thus fostering social inclusion. El Sistema-inspired initiatives collaborate, share information and work towards common regional, provincial, national and international goals.

**8 CONNECTEDNESS AND CONTINUITY:** The culture of excellence in performance, in behavioural conduct, in scholastic achievement, in social relationships and in professionalism are continually and positively reinforced as connected to each other.

**9 JOY:** The joy of creating beautiful music together is reflected as a celebration of life, family and community.

“EL SISTEMA OVER THE PAST YEAR HAS HELPED ME TO LEARN TO READ MUSIC, TO PLAY MUSIC AND TO PLAY MANY DIFFERENT INSTRUMENTS. NOW WHEN I LISTEN TO MUSIC I LISTEN TO LOTS OF DIFFERENT KINDS OF MUSIC AND LOTS OF CLASSICAL MUSIC TOO. I LIKE TO PERFORM AT THE CONCERTS IN FRONT OF PEOPLE AND WITH MY FRIENDS THAT I HAVE MADE AT EL SISTEMA. - MAX”



## EL SISTEMA AEOLIAN

# *MUSICAL AND SOCIAL GOALS: HOLDING THE TENSION.*

The Aeolian's El Sistema Program holds the tension between musical and social goals, trying to achieve a 50/50 balance. On the musical side, the Aeolian offers one of the best music programs available. Its immersive orchestral and choral experiences are foundational pillars. Participants may also apply for a free piano and get free piano lessons. Many workshops and performance opportunities are included in the program.

On the musical side, the curriculum includes:

Orchestra

Private instrument lessons

Choir

Private voice coaching

Piano lessons

Theory and musicianship

Music history

Workshops

Performance opportunities

(10-15 per year)

Field trips and performances  
at various venues

Mentorship and pedagogical  
training

Collaborative performances





# SOCIAL CURRICULUM

- 1 PEER MENTORING:** a step-by-step program designed to train youth how to teach and lead ensembles.
- 2 PROFESSIONAL MENTORSHIP:** Along with the many workshops presented to benefit El Sistema Aeolian participants, the Aeolian has a new initiative called Rebelheart Collective. Four of Canada's greatest musicians teach senior El Sistema Aeolian Participants on a regular basis throughout the year and collaborate with them in performances.
- 3 INTERGENERATIONAL INTEGRATION:** The Aeolian has an adult orchestra with participants who have either studied music or are beginners. Participants in the El Sistema Aeolian Youth program help teach the participants in the adult orchestra. This intergenerational interaction helps the youth develop many social skills. The Aeolian's Senior Choir and Orchestra also collaborates with Pride Men's Chorus London—a choir made up of men from diverse ages and backgrounds.
- 4 SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL CONNECTION:** Overt presentations are given, helping participants develop Social-Emotional Intelligence.
- 5 MINDFULNESS TRAINING:** The participants are trained to practice mindfulness, helping them prepare for classes and performance.
- 6 SOCIAL FREQUENCY:** Participants participate in workshops and performances that help them gain valuable experience in navigating many social settings.
- 7 EL SISTEMA AEOLIAN YOUTH CLUB:** Senior participants in the program meet regularly to discuss various issues and subjects affecting their daily lives. Conversations are moderated by an experienced youth leader.
- 8 MEAL TIME:** Participants are fed a meal every day and eat together seated at tables with volunteers and teachers. This social time helps build bonds and relationships amongst the participants and the support team.

## EL SISTEMA AEOLIAN

### BY THE NUMBERS

67 children and youth  
between the  
ages of 6-17 years

---

42

returning  
students

25

new  
students

53

new  
applications

English   Mandarin   French  
Farsi   Oneida   Korean

are only a few of the  
represented languages that  
are spoken at home

\$3500

Average scholarship per  
participant per year in  
the program

---

5 Teaching Staff   2 Western University Interns

1 Program Coordinator   1 Assistant Program Coordinator

46 volunteers

7 run the nutrition component

37 Music Coaches, Classroom  
Monitors, and Office Workers

2 Choral Teachers

Volunteer to Staff Ratio

7:1



## *PROGRAM*

- 3 Orchestras (Beginner, Intermediate, Senior)
- 2 Choirs (Junior, Senior)
- Each participant attends a minimum of three days per week and as much as five days per week
- Instruments are provided to participants to use while they are in the program
- Teaching staff are highly trained professionals with University Degrees in music
- Class time: two hours daily for a minimum of three days and up to five days
- Daily meals provided
- 15 Public Performances to date (Fall 2016 - March 2017)
- 400+ Hours of volunteer and training opportunities for youth ages 12 to 26 years of age
- This season, senior participants collaborated with Juno Winner Ashley MacIsaac, Grammy Winner Matt Alber, London Pro Musica Choir
- Workshops: Brassroots, Tafelmusik, Rebelheart Collective, A Few Good Men Choir
- Executive Director attended El Sistema Conference in Baltimore and Positive Education Conference in Dallas TX
- Instruments purchased and plans in place to expand to full orchestra with adding winds and brass instruments in 2017
- New Facility: Long-Term Lease of Bishop Cronyn Memorial Place; 12,000 sq. ft



EL SISTEMA AEOLIAN

# HONORARY PATRON: MATT ALBER

TWO TIME GRAMMY AWARD WINNER



Portland-based singer/songwriter Matt Alber is currently touring his 4th self-produced studio album entitled, *Wind Sand Stars*. The album features original pop/folk art songs rooted in melody with vocals reminiscent of Rufus Wainwright, Iron & Wine, and John Grant.

In 2014, the Lincoln Center in New York invited Matt to perform on their esteemed American Songbook series which garnered a printed review by the New York Times. In 2015, he was

selected by the U.S. State Department as a musical ambassador to Russia, Hungary, Kosovo and to Sudan, Africa, where he taught recording arts & sciences to young artists in Khartoum.

Matt's music has been featured on ABC Family's series "The Fosters" and "Bones" and he appears on two Grammy Award-winning classical albums recorded at George Lucas' Skywalker Ranch with the a cappella men's ensemble Chanticleer.

“WHEN I FIRST MET THE YOUNG MUSICIANS OF EL SISTEMA AEOLIAN AT REHEARSAL, I WAS INSTANTLY MOVED. THEIR BRIGHT SPIRITS SHINE THROUGH THEIR EYES, THEIR FACES AND THEIR INSTRUMENTS IN SUCH A GENUINE WAY. GETTING TO KNOW AND PERFORM ALONGSIDE THESE YOUNG ARTISTS HAS RENEWED MY FAITH IN THE WORLD, AND SEEING THE LOVE AND CARE THEY HAVE FOR ONE ANOTHER SHOWS ME THEY ARE LEARNING MUCH MORE THAN MUSIC - THEY ARE LEARNING WHAT FAMILY IS ALL ABOUT.”

- MATT ALBER





## EL SISTEMA AEOLIAN

### ADULT PROGRAM

The concept for the El Sistema Adult Orchestra began in 2013. Mark Tse, a conductor for the El Sistema Aeolian Youth Program, received feedback from volunteer classroom monitors regarding frustrations they were experiencing. They wanted to help the participants in a more meaningful way. Mark suggested that if they could stay after the program sessions, he would volunteer some time to help them learn the basics of playing string instruments.

In 2014, The Aeolian's Executive Director Clark Bryan decided that offering this opportunity fulfilled not only a practical role in the El Sistema Aeolian Youth Program, but also fulfilled many life-long dreams of these volunteers. Many of the volunteers had always wanted to learn how to play a musical instrument and never had a chance to do so. Some volunteers had studied when in their youth but couldn't find an opportunity to join a group to continue their playing. The El Sistema Aeolian Adult Orchestra was founded!

The El Sistema Aeolian Adult Orchestra participants pay a nominal fee to participate in this initiative. Funds raised from this program help sustain El Sistema Aeolian's Youth program.

An unexpected opportunity was provided by this endeavour. Senior participants in the El Sistema Aeolian Youth Program have been helping teach the adults as volunteers. This experience has been enriching for both the youth and the adults on a few levels. The intergenerational relationships that have formed from this are helping build community. The youth are learning communication and teaching skills that will help them for the rest of their lives!



## *ADULT PROGRAM INFORMATION:*

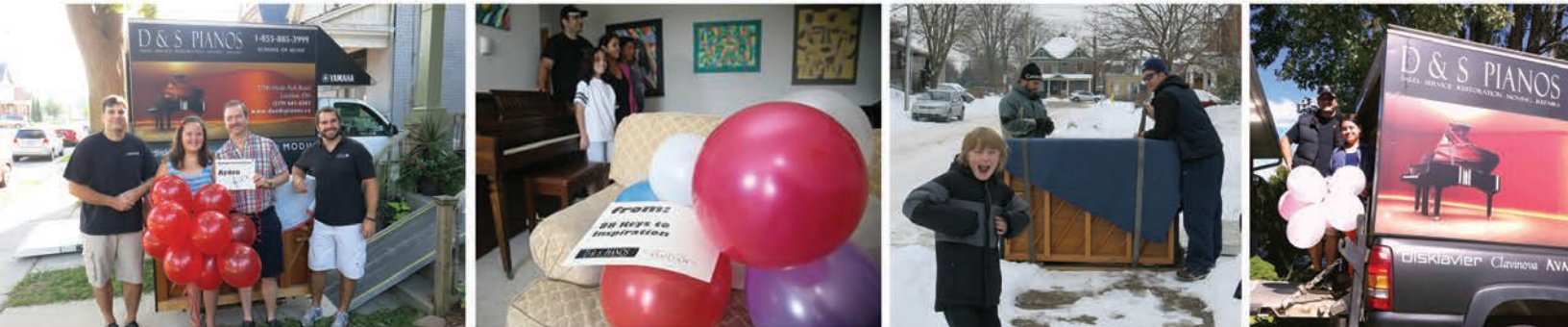
- Instruments offered include Violin, Viola, Cello and Double Bass
- Adult Program participants must supply their own instruments
- Based on the same philosophy as the El Sistema Aeolian Youth Program, namely the achievement of social development through the experience of music-making
- Participants are welcome regardless of background, ability or financial means
- Program subsidies are available in cases of financial hardship
- No previous musical experience is required
- Sessions take place at Bishop Cronyn Memorial Place on Saturday mornings from 10:00 a.m. till noon
- Anyone can apply: ages 17 and up
- Cost: \$10 per two-hour session
- Fees include rehearsal space, instruction and printed materials





# 88 KEYS TO INSPIRATION

## FREE PIANOS FOR OUR COMMUNITY



88 Keys to Inspiration is a collaborative program made possible between D&S Pianos and The Aeolian. Both organizations, and the community members that donate the pianos, believe that every child should have access to a quality education, including a rich arts education. Therefore, The Aeolian and D&S Pianos have joined efforts to form a music community-building program bringing quality donated pianos back to life in new homes with young musicians. 88 Keys to Inspiration is about creating music learning opportunities for individual and community growth through the arts. Pianos are donated through The Aeolian, a registered charity. D&S pianos look after the initial assessment, tuning and delivering of these pianos to the homes of applicant children and their guardians. By providing good quality used pianos to homes of children who cannot afford them, this program fills the gaps between those having access to a quality musical opportunity/education and those who would not otherwise. Recipients benefit by receiving:

- A piano in great condition to serve the student for years of valuable practice. The value of the donated pianos ranges from \$400 to \$5000

D&S Pianos is also donating the following services with each piano donation. The average value of the listed services is between \$500 and \$600:

- Assessment of piano
- Move to Aeolian Hall or D&S Pianos location
- Initial tuning
- Delivery to recipient's home



# 88 KEYS TO INSPIRATION

88 Keys to Inspiration recipients can donate the piano back to the program when it is not being used anymore.

Eligibility criteria:

- Homes of children and youth who do not have the financial means to purchase a piano
- Students committed to the El Sistema Aeolian program will be given priority, but must apply too
- Community spaces which are not commercial businesses and aren't supported in a large way by public funding (Religious organizations of all denominations that are registered charities or incorporated not-for-profits will be considered on a case-by-case basis, provided that they offer a music program that benefits the broader community)
- 88 Keys to Inspiration recipients agree to keep the instrument in as good condition as they received it, and understand that regular tune-up and maintenance will need to be scheduled and budgeted for once per year

How to apply:

- Applications can be submitted at any time
- All applications must be received in writing. Applicants will be contacted within 4 weeks after application is received
- Applicant youth/parent/guardian/community organization must describe the reasons why they think a piano would be of benefit to a specific child/community they serve
- Outline the financial reasons why a piano purchase outside of this program isn't possible. Attach any relevant supporting information





## *A NEW INITIATIVE. CLASSICAL MUSIC. TRADITION, UNTRADITIONALLY.*



### REBELHEART COLLECTIVE

#### MISSION

Aeolian Hall's Rebelheart Collective is a self-conducted music ensemble rooted in democracy through music. With a focus on collaboration, apprenticeship and community engagement, the Rebelheart Collective transforms the traditional concert-going experience by providing complimentary access to live performances in a socially relaxed setting. At its core, the musicians are highly trained professionals who have chosen to give back to the community, helping to train our next generations of musicians including participants of the El Sistema Aeolian program. The Collective's repertoire includes classical music, contemporary works, and compositions and arrangements that speak to the Canadian music tradition: many of which celebrate our collective local and First Nations history.

#### VISION

Respecting musical tradition, the Rebelheart Collective envisions a future with vibrant, innovative and accessible performance at Aeolian Hall and among those unique community spaces where people can be uplifted through song. The Rebelheart Collective will be a catalyst for both artistic and social change. While supporting and enhancing both musical performance and education, the Collective will bravely stand up to tradition to ensure that all will be welcome to the concert hall, wherever the performance shall be. The Rebelheart Collective is for all people and will be a symbol of and a pioneer in providing universal access to high quality music presentation and education. Like the Shakespearean audience, those with the least to give shall have the most to gain.



# REBELHEART COLLECTIVE



SCOTT ST. JOHN



SHARON WEI



ERIKA RAUM



TOM WIEBE

- Core Musicians are four of Canada's greatest string players: Scott St. John, Sharon Wei, Erika Raum and Tom Wiebe
- Conductor-less, promoting more of a team atmosphere
- First Circle is made up of graduate level students from Western University and the Glenn Gould School
- Second Circle is made up of El Sistema Aeolian Participants
- Eight annual concerts including four shorter free programs in community spaces or schools
- Half the tickets for the Aeolian Concerts are free
- Receptions are held at intermission and after the concerts, including socializing with the musicians





*A NEW INITIATIVE.  
SINGING OUT.  
CHANGING HEARTS.*



## *MISSION STATEMENT*

Pride Men's Chorus London creates experiences through choral music that promotes community, diversity, inclusivity and excellence. The chorus is open to all men regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. With the goal of combatting stereotypes and perceptions, we challenge the heteronormative worldview by inspiring our audience, the LGBTQ2 community and our broader community through advocacy and music. We celebrate victories won, we mourn lives lost, we find unconditional acceptance, and we celebrate all life in harmony, through our songs.

## *VISION STATEMENT*

We will celebrate those who came before us and whose activism was hard fought. United through song, our voices will be freely heard as we fight for a nation and world where diversity is met with tolerance, equality and respect.

The Pride Men's Chorus will seek to:

- Continuously improve the artistic and vocal talent of its members;
- Challenge the societal norms or perceptions of its members through understanding of its own diversity;
- Challenge perceptions of the LGBTQ2 community;
- Combat fear, eliminate hatred, and encourage compassion through the timeless fundamental human connection to music;
- Change or enrich the hearts of those whom we meet.

The Pride Men's Chorus London envisions a world where the human voice is lifted up through song in celebration of diversity; where music is valued as a powerful gift and seen as a universal tool to achieve and sustain inclusivity; and where united voices are an instrument of change.

# PRIDE MEN'S CHORUS LONDON

Pride Men's Chorus London creates experiences through choral music that promote community, inclusiveness and excellence. We believe that music "levels the playing field" for all of us. It heals, enlightens and fosters community. Our choir is open to all men regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity. We celebrate those who came before us who fought so we can sing out proudly. Without their activism to create a country where all can be treated with equality and respect, this initiative would not be possible. We sing to challenge perceptions of the LGBTQ community. Our goals include combating fear and hatred, encouraging compassion through human connection and inspiring our audiences with the superb quality of our sound. Music helps audiences mourn losses, cheer victories, find unconditional acceptance and celebrate life!

Pride Men's Chorus London is part of a movement of gay choirs in the world. In 1978 San Francisco's Gay Men's Chorus made an unexpected debut after the assassinations of Harvey Milk and George Moscone. The choir sang at City Hall at an impromptu Memorial Service performing Felix Mendelssohn's *Thou, Lord, hast been our refuge*. The movement has grown across the United States, Canada, Europe, England and Australia.

Pride Men's Chorus London was founded in March 2016 by co-founders Clark Bryan and Rod Culham. It made its unexpected debut at The Vigil for The Orlando Massacre hosted at Aeolian Hall on June 14th, 2016. The choir rehearses Sunday evenings 7:30 p.m. at The Aeolian's new Education Campus, Bishop Cronyn Memorial Place. The original choir with approximately 20 members has grown in size. It has given performances at The Arts Project and Aeolian Hall. It has collaborated with Grammy-winning songwriter Matt Alber and The Aeolian's El Sistema Senior Orchestra and Choir.

The choir has male members from the straight, transgendered and gay communities. It sings repertoire from Classical, Broadway, Folk and Pop Genres. The choir ranges in ages from 20's to 70's.

---

“BEING PART OF THE PMCL HAS ENABLED ME TO MAKE MUSIC WITH A WONDERFUL COLLECTION OF GIFTED, CREATIVE, DIVERSE AND FUN GUYS WHO HAVE ... INSPIRED ME, AND REMINDED ME OF THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY ... THANKS TO ALL OF YOU!”

- MURRAY WATSON



# PRIDE MEN'S CHORUS LONDON

“MY LOVE OF MUSIC AND DESIRE FOR GAY COMMUNITY CAME TO A PERFECT FUSION WHEN PRIDE MEN'S CHORUS LONDON WAS FORMED .... WE FILLED A NEED OF OUR COMMUNITY ITSELF TO CELEBRATE PRIDE THROUGH MUSIC. WHAT WE CREATED TOGETHER WAS THE START OF SOMETHING VERY SPECIAL, SOMETHING THAT WOULD CONTINUE TO GROW.”

- ANDREW KASZOWSKI, CHOIR MEMBER

## Quick Facts

- 39 choir members
- Approximately 5 concerts per year
- No audition requirement, just a strong sense of commitment and passion for music
- Collaborations: El Sistema Aeolian Senior Youth Choir and Orchestra, Grammy Winner Matt Alber
- Debut: Vigil for Orlando Massacre at Aeolian Hall
- Rehearsals: Sunday Evenings 7:30pm-9:30 p.m. at Bishop Cronyn Memorial Place
- Open to men of all racial, ethnic and religious backgrounds, abilities, sexual orientations and gender identities
- A Membership Fee of \$100 is charged to cover music purchases and supplies.
- Membership fees are waived or deferred in cases of financial hardship

## 2016 Concerts

- June 14, 2016: Aeolian Hall
- July 14, 2016: Opening of Pride at The Arts Project
- July 21, 2016: Aeolian Hall
- Sept. 30, 2016: Aeolian Hall with Grammy Winner Matt Alber
- November 30, 2016: Aeolian Hall





## ART SHOWS

# *THE AEOLIAN HOSTS A VARIETY OF ART SHOWS FEATURING THE WORK OF LOCAL ARTISTS.*



*Let There Be Light* (Heather Kohl, Acrylic)

- Dozens of London-based artists featured
- The Aeolian brings 70,000 plus clients into the hall annually, giving artists a larger viewing than most galleries
- Sales are approximately 30% of exhibited works
- Aeolian takes a 30% commission on all sales which helps with its mission
- A great way to engage our clients and make a richer experience during their visit
- A wonderful way to support local artists
- Collaboration with other organizations such as University Hospital to jointly raise funds with art





## *INSPIRE US—BUT MAKE IT QUICK!*

Ignite London is a high-energy evening of five-minute talks by people who have an idea—and the guts to get on stage and share it. Run by Aeolian Hall staff and volunteers, Ignite London is a force for raising the collective IQ and building connections in our city.

These five-minute talks are accompanied by 20 slides. Each slide is displayed for 15 seconds, and slides are automatically advanced.

The subject must be something that will inspire the community and can't be shameless self-promotion or a business activity. These talks are designed to inspire our community and are recorded for posting on YouTube. It is both free to give a talk and free to come and listen. The concept is similar to TED Talks but in a smaller format.

We have offered this free event to our community for a number of years and featured specially-themed Ignite Sessions such as Social Work, Alternative Medicine, Cancer, and Education. The thematic Ignite sessions have often been presented in collaboration with various faculties at Western University.





The background of the page features a close-up, low-angle shot of an ornate, multi-tiered chandelier with intricate carvings and lit bulbs, casting a warm glow. In the lower right corner, a portion of a round wall clock with a dark frame is visible, slightly out of focus.

# COMMUNITY

PRESERVING HERITAGE 38  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT 40



## PRESERVING HERITAGE

*A TOUCHSTONE TO OUR PAST,  
AN ASSET FOR OUR PRESENT,  
A LAUNCHPAD TO OUR FUTURE.*



The Aeolian uses two facilities that are designated Heritage Sites:  
**AEOLIAN HALL AND BISHOP CRONYN MEMORIAL PLACE.**

Built in the late nineteenth century, both facilities require work to ensure their futures. The Aeolian Hall Musical Arts Association is proud to be the custodians of these fine pieces of architecture. We keep their stories alive, helping root future generations in our past, teaching them our evolving stories.



# **PRESERVING HERITAGE**

## ***THE AEOLIAN HALL***

- Built as the Town Hall for London East
- Construction took place between September 1883 and June 1884
- It is a combination of High Victorian and Italianate design
- Approximately 12,000 square feet in space with the Opera House Hall on the 2nd and 3rd floors
- On December 23, 1915 the London Public Library opened the East End Branch—the first branch location for the library—on the ground floor
- On October 10, 1927 the first convention of the NAACP in Canada was held at The Town Hall
- In 1968, Gordon Jeffery purchased the former London East Town Hall and refurbished it as a fully equipped musical performance center
- In 2004, Clark Bryan bought the Hall and developed it into a music school and arts presentation facility
- In 2009, Mr. Bryan changed the governance of the Hall to a Registered Canadian Charity
- In 2011, Mr. Bryan changed the ownership of the Hall to a Registered Canadian Charity

## ***BISHOP CRONYN MEMORIAL PLACE***

- Located at 442 William St. London, Ontario
- Built in 1873 and named after the first Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Huron, with Gothic Architecture and beautiful stained glass windows
- The second oldest Church in London Ontario
- The complex includes the historic church, a Chapel, three stories of adjacent rooms and an attached wing of rooms under the adjacent seniors centre
- Approximately 12,000 square feet of space
- Now the location of Aeolian's programs: El Sistema Aeolian, Pride Men's Chorus London and The Rebelheart Collective Chamber Orchestra
- Gives us plenty of space to expand our programming in the next 5-10 years including increasing participants in our existing programs



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

At the Aeolian, we believe in universal access to Music, Art, Culture and Education. We provide many opportunities to engage and support our community. Here are some examples:

**Ticket Donations:** 40 sets of tickets with a value of \$2400 given to organizations to help with their fundraising

**Ticket Draws:** Over 200 sets of tickets given out during Aeolian performances by draw

**Free Tickets for Aeolian Productions to El Sistema Aeolian Families:** at least a dozen events during the season are opened up to El Sistema Aeolian participants and their families

**Rebelheart Collective Free Concert and Free Seating:** 150 tickets are free for concerts held at Aeolian Hall

**Hot Jazz for a Cold Winter's Night:** a collaboration with The Faculty of Music and Advanced Studies in Arts and Humanities Western University, free to the public with free food given

**Citizen Culture:** Free tickets are given to newcomers to London for a period of one year from their arrival. The Aeolian releases a number of tickets for this program at select events

**El Sistema Aeolian Concerts at Bishop Cronyn Memorial Place:** These concerts are 100% free to the public

**El Sistema Aeolian Program:** An absolutely free program available to the community of London

**Doors Open Events:** Free tours and artistic presentations at both of the Aeolian's Facilities

**Art Show Tours:** These are available during regular office hours

**Free Workshops:** Participants in the Aeolian's Programs are invited to attend free workshops given by groups such as Tafelmusik, Brassroots and other guest performers at The Aeolian



# LOGISTICS

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FINANCE 46





The Aeolian uses a broad-based marketing approach to complement the variety of events and programs it offers. One of the challenges of marketing we face is the variety and scope of our presentations and programs. Here is an outline of our standard approach to marketing:

- Electronic Newsletter with over 8500 recipients
- Posters
- Aeolian Website Event Posting
- Social Media: Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, Flickr
- Press Releases/Media Advisories
- Printed materials, including upcoming events
- Print, including newspapers, periodicals, magazines
- Radio ads
- Events: announcements from the stage and Power Point presentations before events
- Listings, including newspapers and other local periodicals
- Videos specially made for specific events featuring performers (promotional) and event videos
- Presentation Portfolios featuring our programs, hall rental, arts presentation, volunteering and various historical perspectives
- Marquee in both of our facilities; interior and exterior
- We utilize our volunteers to help us circulate printed and social media marketing materials
- We use our community partners to assist with marketing through their newsletters and online presence
- The Executive Director appears regularly on Rogers Daytime TV promoting upcoming events

# MARKETING

## AEOLIAN SOCIAL MEDIA

Website: [www.aeolianhall.ca](http://www.aeolianhall.ca)

Email: [info@aeolianhall.ca](mailto:info@aeolianhall.ca)

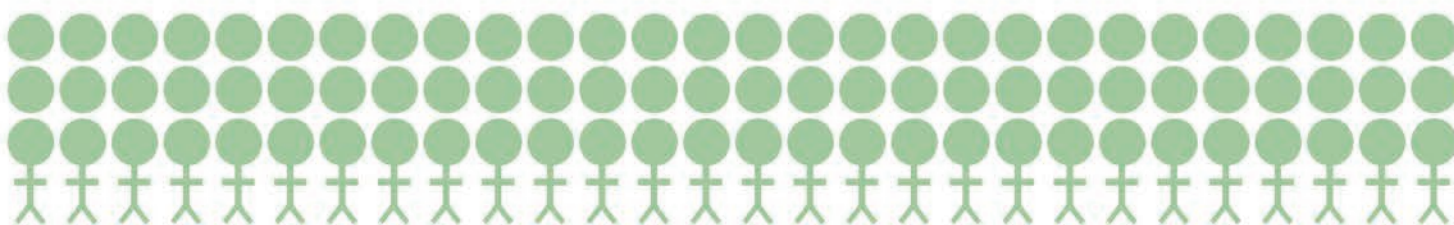
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/theaeolian/](http://www.facebook.com/theaeolian/)

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/aeolianhall/](http://www.twitter.com/aeolianhall/)

Youtube: [www.youtube/user/mia795de](http://www.youtube/user/mia795de)

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/theaeolian](http://www.instagram.com/theaeolian)

Flickr: [www.flickr.com/aeolianphotos](http://www.flickr.com/aeolianphotos)



EXPOSURE TO OVER 7000 AUDIENCE MEMBERS A YEAR



**8500+**  
subscribed to  
our e-newsletter



**3500**  
website clicks

**4000+** page  
likes

**2200+**  
avg reach  
per month



**700+** followers



**43,000+** avg impressions  
per month



**4500+**  
followers



## ***EL SISTEMA AEOLIAN SOCIAL MEDIA***

Website: [www.elsistema.ca](http://www.elsistema.ca)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/elsistemaaeolian/](https://www.facebook.com/elsistemaaeolian/)

Email: [elsistema@aeolianhall.ca](mailto:elsistema@aeolianhall.ca)



**400+ PAGE  
LIKES**

## ***IGNITE LONDON SOCIAL MEDIA***

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/igniteldn/](https://www.facebook.com/igniteldn/)

Youtube: [www.youtube.com/user/igniteldn/featured](https://www.youtube.com/user/igniteldn/featured)

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/igniteldn/](https://www.twitter.com/igniteldn/)



**800+ PAGE  
LIKES**



**3500+  
FOLLOWERS**

## ***PRIDE MEN'S CHORUS LONDON SOCIAL MEDIA***

Website: [www.pridemenschorus.com](http://www.pridemenschorus.com)

YouTube: [www.youtube.com/channel/UCclZHpR43ITzoG8Yx8b6gWg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCclZHpR43ITzoG8Yx8b6gWg)

Twitter: [twitter.com/pridemenschorus](https://twitter.com/pridemenschorus)

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/pridemenschorus/](https://www.instagram.com/pridemenschorus/)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pridemenschorus/](https://www.facebook.com/pridemenschorus/)



**150+  
MEMBERS**



**50+  
FOLLOWERS**



**35+  
FOLLOWERS**





A VOLUNTEER RUN, NON PROFIT, MUSIC GOING EXPERIENCE

# THE AEOLIAN

PRESENTS



**Edvard Grieg's  
Complete Lyric Pieces**  
Performed by Clark Bryan

Part I: Thursday, August 20 and  
Part II: Thursday, August 27, 2015

DOORS AT 6:30 PM | CONCERT AT 7:30 PM  
\$23 ADVANCE | \$15 STUDENTS & SENIORS | \$26 DOOR

Often referred to as the "Chopin of the North", Grieg's music is enchanting, romantic and filled with melodic invention.

Tickets at The Aeolian Box Office (795 Dundas St. E.)  
Phone 519-672-7950 or visit [www.aeolianhall.ca](http://www.aeolianhall.ca)

A VOLUNTEER RUN, NON PROFIT, MUSIC GOING EXPERIENCE

# THE AEOLIAN

PRESENTS



**SCARLETT JANE**

Saturday  
September 19  
2015

Advance \$23 Door \$26 Students/Seniors \$20  
Doors Open 7 PM Event Start 8 PM

Tickets available at the Aeolian Box Office (795 Dundas St. E.)  
Phone 519-672-7950 or visit [www.aeolianhall.ca](http://www.aeolianhall.ca)  
Outlet locations: Grooves Records and The Village Idiot

A VOLUNTEER RUN, NON PROFIT, MUSIC GOING EXPERIENCE

# THE AEOLIAN

PRESENTS



**DON ROSS**  
(Canada) & **JON GOMM**  
(United Kingdom)

Thursday  
September 24  
2015

Advance \$23 Door \$26 Students/Seniors \$20  
Doors Open 7 PM Event Start 8 PM

Tickets available at the Aeolian Box Office (795 Dundas St. E.)  
Phone 519-672-7950 or visit [www.aeolianhall.ca](http://www.aeolianhall.ca)  
Outlet locations: Grooves Records and The Village Idiot

A VOLUNTEER RUN, NON PROFIT, MUSIC GOING EXPERIENCE

# THE AEOLIAN

PRESENTS



**SPENCER BURTON**  
with special guest  
**RUN COYOTE**

Friday  
September 25  
2015

Advance \$23 Door \$26 Students/Seniors \$20  
Doors Open 7 PM Event Start 8 PM

Tickets available at the Aeolian Box Office (795 Dundas St. E.)  
Phone 519-672-7950 or visit [www.aeolianhall.ca](http://www.aeolianhall.ca)  
Outlet locations: Grooves Records and The Village Idiot

A VOLUNTEER RUN, NON PROFIT, MUSIC GOING EXPERIENCE

# THE AEOLIAN

PRESENTS

**The Great Big Piano Party**



Saturday  
September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
Doors 6 PM Event 7 PM

Tickets: \$125  
• Includes hors d'oeuvres and wine  
• Performances by a variety of outstanding musical talent  
• Live auction

Help to purchase a world class instrument

AMATEUR CLUB

A VOLUNTEER RUN, NON PROFIT, MUSIC GOING EXPERIENCE

# THE AEOLIAN

PRESENTS



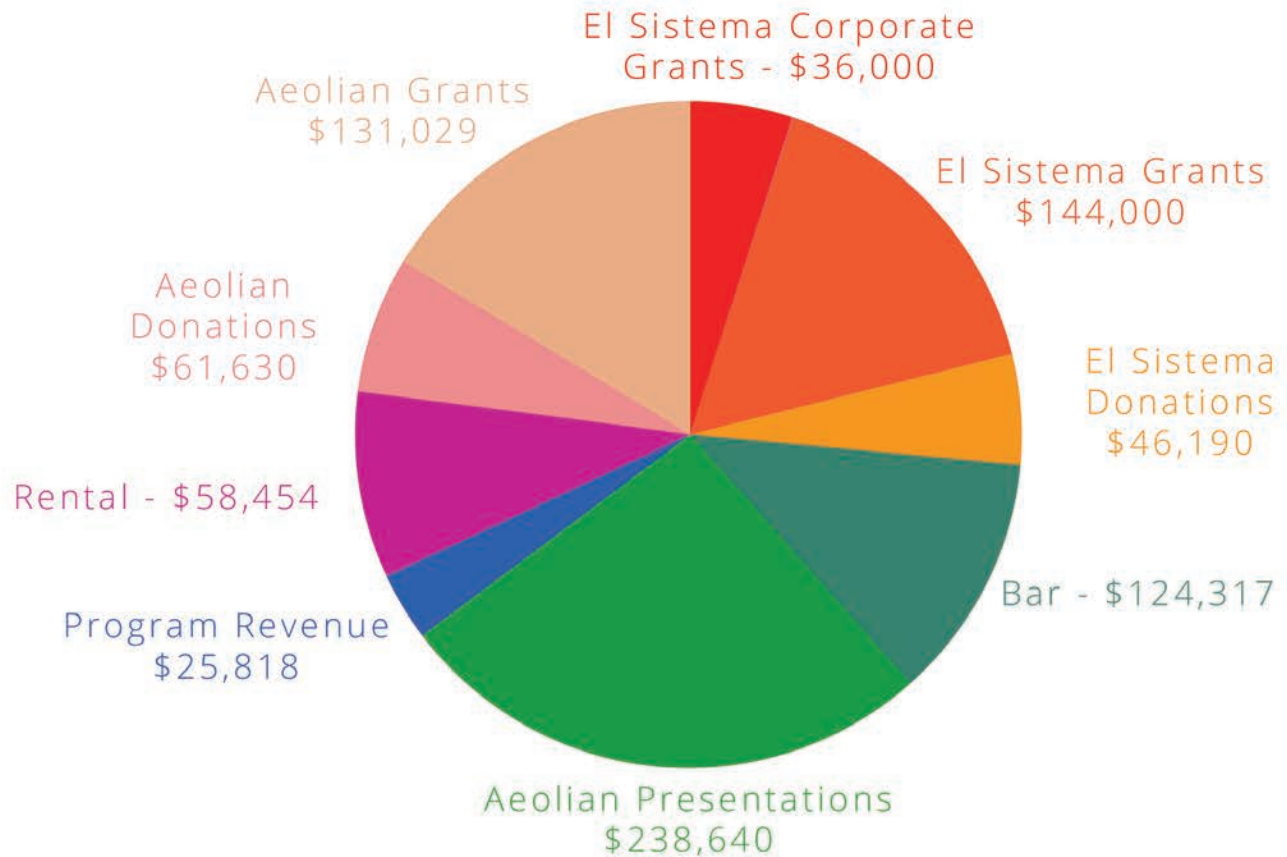
**BEN CAPLAN**  
& CASUAL SMOKERS

Sunday  
October 3  
2015

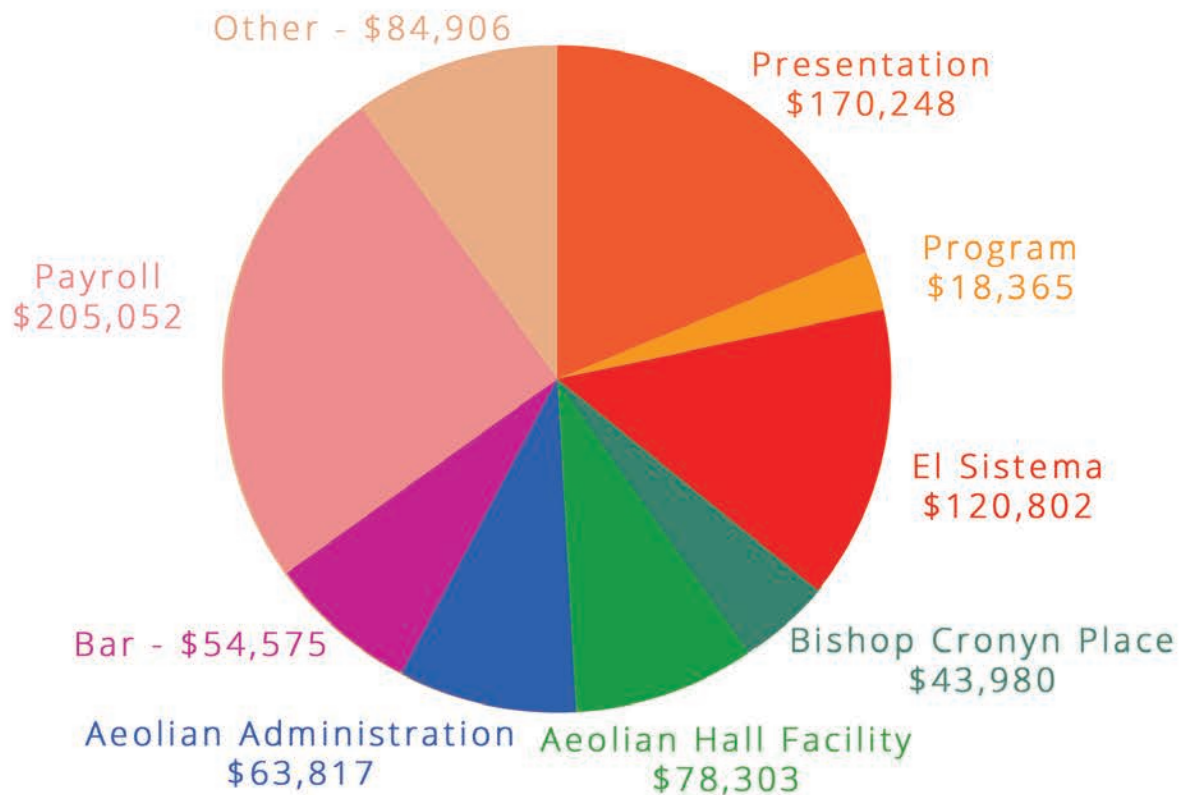
Advance \$23 Door \$26 Students/Seniors \$20  
Doors Open 7 PM Event Start 8 PM

Tickets available at the Aeolian Box Office (795 Dundas St. E.)  
Phone 519-672-7950 or visit [www.aeolianhall.ca](http://www.aeolianhall.ca)  
Outlet locations: Grooves Records and The Village Idiot

## AHMAA REVENUE 2016: \$866,078



## AHMAA EXPENSES 2016: \$840,048





# OUR TEAM

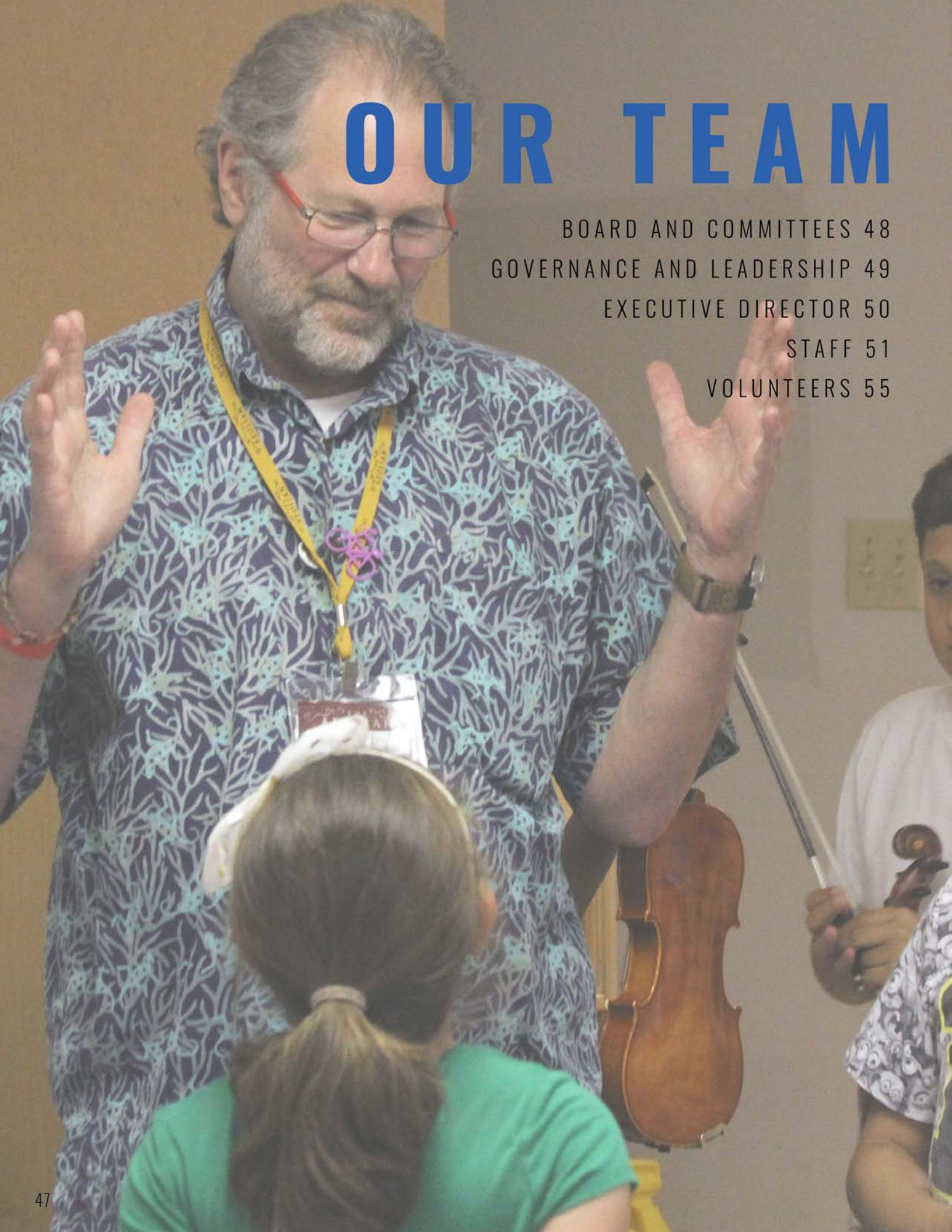
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## BOARD AND COMMITTEES

### Board of Directors:

Tom Siess, Chair  
David Southen, Vice Chair  
Glen Farrow, Treasurer  
Darryl Fabiani, Member  
Jack Malkin, Member  
Sandra Neubauer, Member  
Elana Johnson, Member  
Paul Cooper, Secretary



### Governance Committee:

Clark Bryan  
Tom Siess



### Facilities Committee:

David Southen  
Clark Bryan  
Jack Malkin  
David Gillies



### Fundraising Committee:

David Southen  
Clark Bryan  
Darryl Fabiani  
Elana Johnson  
Glen Farrow  
Sandra Neubauer



“WHAT MAKES AEOLIAN HALL A PLACE WHERE YOU WANT TO WORK AND BE? SHARED VALUES, AUTHENTIC EXPERIENCES, AND A DETERMINATION AND WILL TO CHANGE THE WORLD THROUGH MUSIC, COLLABORATION, EDUCATION AND FRIENDSHIP. EVERY DAY SPENT AT AEOLIAN IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO IGNITE THE HEART, SPIRIT AND SOUL OF ANOTHER PERSON. AEOLIAN HALL AWAKENS THE HUMAN SPIRIT THROUGH ITS CALLING TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF OTHERS. RARE IS IT IN SOCIETY THAT YOU'LL FIND SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T BELIEVE IN THE MISSION OF AEOLIAN HALL, BUT SPECIAL IS THE PERSON THAT BELIEVES SO STRONGLY THAT THEY MAKE IT THEIR VOCATION—EITHER AS STAFF, AN OFFICER OF THE BOARD OR VOLUNTEER. THOSE TOUCHED BY AEOLIAN HALL UNDERSTAND

WHAT IT IS TO BE A REBELHEART.

- MATT WANNAN



# GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP

The Aeolian has built its governance model using many tools such as professional governance advisors, legal advice, existing board experience, governance education workshops and strong policies.

In 2017, the board will embark upon a Strategic Planning Exercise helping fine-tune and develop operations and prepare for the organization's long-term future.

## ***BOARD OF DIRECTORS***

### **Tom Siess, Chair**

Tom Siess brings a wealth of experience having sat on the boards of many organizations, including the Grand Theatre, Fanshawe College and Home County Folk Festival. Tom is a retired psychology professor and was Director of Student Services at Western University. He has served on London's City Council and brings a great deal of wisdom to our organization.

### **Dave Southen, Vice-Chair**

Dave Southen is a businessman with an MBA and a passion for fundraising. He is also an amateur musician with a particular affinity for songs and songwriters.

### **Glen Farrow, Treasurer**

Glen is a CPA, CA and has an MBA from the Ivey Business School, Western University and has CFO experience. He brings a strong financial background to our organization.

### **Darryl Fabiani, Member**

Darryl is the owner of D&S Pianos in London Ontario. Darryl studied music at Western University. His company is our partner in our 88 Keys to Inspiration Program. This program places free pianos in the homes of families who cannot afford them.

### **Elana Johnson, Member**

Elana is passionately involved in London's music scene and has background serving as Chair of the Board member for Ontario Association of Midwives and coordinator of The Canadian Federation of Midwives.

# GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP

## **Jack Malkin, Member**

Jack is a consultant in real-estate development and has been a leader in the London Multicultural Community Association.

## **Dr. Paul Cooper, Secretary**

Paul is Chair of the Department of Clinical Neurological Sciences at The Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry at Western University. Paul has a strong music background and brings to the Aeolian a tremendous administrative and fund development background.

## **Sandra Neubauer, Member**

Sandra is a Professor at Fanshawe College where her focus is software training, organizational behaviour, and presentations. She was recently appointed Coordinator of Online Teaching & Research. Sandra's education includes a B.A. from Western University and a Master's in Adult Education from St. Francis Xavier University—a school that is well known for its focus on community development. Sandra has been involved in community development in east London in a variety of organizations including past President of the East London Community Centre Board of Directors, Member of the Hilton Avenue Renaissance Project (HARP), and Member of the City of London's Child and Youth Network. Sandra is a singer, former fitness instructor, and a hockey Mom

## **Clark Bryan, Executive/Artistic Director**

As an award-winning concert pianist, Clark Bryan has performed internationally, recorded 14 CD's and has been featured on radio and television. As a teacher, he has taught thousands of students, adjudicated 65 festivals coast to coast in Canada, given dozens of workshops and written a book "Gateways to Learning and Memory".

As the founder of The Aeolian Performing Arts Centre, Clark believes that everyone should have universal access to music, art and culture. Because of this belief, he launched El Sistema Aeolian in 2011. This free, intensive music program has offered more than 200 children and youth an opportunity to experience the joy of a rich musical experience. Recent programs Mr. Bryan co-founded and launched under the Aeolian umbrella include Pride Men's Chorus London and Rebelheart Collective. Mr. Bryan is engaged in community activism and speaks regularly at events, on radio and television and has given a TED talk about the power and joy of music study.



## STAFF

### General Manager Matt Wannan

Matt has been in senior management in education and healthcare for nearly 20 years. Joining the Aeolian in 2017 as General Manager, Matt brings his experience in human resource management, change management and program evaluation to the team.

### Assistant Manager (Volunteer Position) Bryan Gloyd

Bryan Gloyd brings a vast array of skills to the Aeolian. His musical career has many facets including working as a church musician, recording artist and jazz pianist. Bryan has accompanied many local musicians and organized jazz programming at The Aeolian. He has also accompanied two-time Grammy Winner Matt Alber, the legendary songwriter Marc Jordan and the Canadian National Jazz Award winner Denzal Sinclair. Bryan has a strong business background having worked for a world-wide animal nutrition company. He uses these skills to help maintain and grow systems at The Aeolian.

**El Sistema Aeolian Program Coordinator****Minerva Figueroa**

Minerva was first involved with an El Sistema program in her native Mexico City, guiding children in their path to play their first orchestral pieces. She then moved to work with professional orchestras including Mexico's National Symphony Orchestra. While being part of a team organizing concert seasons, tours, and recordings was a phenomenal experience, Minerva has a passion for education, children, good music, good food, and dreaming big: Everything that El Sistema Aeolian offers!

**Production Coordinator****Michael Del Vecchio**

An active member of the London music community, Michael Del Vecchio has been playing, booking and promoting music in London for over 5 years. Michael is a member of the Board of Directors for LondonFUSE, a local arts not-for-profit, and also sits on the Steering Committee for the Jack Richardson London Music Awards. Beside his passion for music, Michael is also an advocate for social justice, community and diversity. These qualities led him to his current role at the Aeolian.

**Lighting and Sound****Christoph Hodgins-Babin**

Christoph has taught Live Audio and served as a technical maintenance technician at the Ontario Institute of Recording Technology (OIART). For over three decades he worked as a freelance live audio engineer for local production companies and touring bands. His work has taken him into venues ranging in size from clubs and houses of worship to theatres and arenas. Each upcoming show is a new delight for Christoph. He loves cultivating the trust of artists to help them perform at their best. Christoph is a foundational pillar in the success of the Aeolian's reputation as one of the best venues in Canada.

**Marketing Assistant****Monica Ha**

Monica Ha is the Marketing Assistant and is currently a third year student at Western University in the Media, Information, and Technoculture program. By being at the Aeolian she is able to live the best of both worlds, working in marketing and working in an environment full of amazing music and those working towards social justice. In her free time you can either find her researching new recipes to cook or relaxing while watching movies.



## STAFF

### El Sistema Aeolian Assistant Administrative Coordinator

#### John Wiebe

John is thrilled to be part of the musical fabric in London, remaining in the city after undertaking graduate work at Western University. He performs frequently around Southwestern Ontario, maintains a private teaching studio, and has also enjoyed working with many of London's young string players from various organizations. Drawing on his experiences, he seeks to inspire the next generation of musicians at El Sistema Aeolian.

### Custodial, Maintenance, Event Logistics

#### Mike Wittich

Mike has been hanging around music venues for as long as he can remember—performing, directing, learning and teaching—doing what he loves. Along the way, he has owned eight of the homes he's lived in, so he's learned a few things about property maintenance—a man's home is his project! Working at the Aeolian Hall and Bishop Cronyn heritage buildings, he has found a perfect lifestyle fusion—plenty of good music and an endless supply of maintenance projects.

### Bookkeeping

#### Anita Farrow

Anita holds an HBA from the Ivey Business School at Western University. Since graduating from there, she has worked as a Business Systems Analyst for Royal Bank, a tutor for University students in Business, a consultant for small businesses, and an accountant for several small businesses in London. She was also an active volunteer in her children's school and activities, holding positions of Council Chair and Treasurer in many organizations. Anita brings a vast array of financial knowledge, accounting skills and budgeting experience to her job at The Aeolian. She is keen to support the Aeolian's mission and social justice programs and help the organization grow in its capacity to help the community through the arts.

## *EL SISTEMA TEACHERS*

### El Sistema Aeolian Teachers and Conductors:

Clark Bryan (Senior Choir, program and curriculum development)

Minerva Figueroa (Beginning Orchestra, program and curriculum development)

John Wiebe (Senior Orchestra)

### Rod Culham (Senior Choir)

Rod has spent much of his life devoted to teaching young people drama and music. Although currently a retired high school teacher, he hasn't given up his passion for bringing music to students of all ages. He continues to conduct a variety of choirs in London and area. Rod believes that El Sistema Aeolian has breathed new life into his desire to use music and the voices of youth to bring change to the world.

### Queena Liu (Youth Teacher)

Queena has just completed her first year of High School at Beale Secondary and teaches piano in the program. A former participant in the El Sistema Aeolian program, Queena loves music and visual art. She has completed her grade 10 piano with the highest honours and is preparing for her Associate Examination. Queena's artwork has been featured in many exhibitions and she created a new logo for the Pearson School for the Arts. Queena also is a songwriter and performs in a band called "Populusque Romanus".

### Behn Strole (Strings)

Behn is a passionate musician who has pursued this noble art for most of his life. His early involvement as a volunteer in El Sistema Aeolian was an opportunity for him to begin his musical career taking ownership of a method of education he believes to be a just pathway. Behn believes that participants in El Sistema Aeolian build pride by pursuing excellence in their musical goals. He loves being part of a community of enthusiastic artists and musicians and feels rewarded by this environment. The knowledge that he is helping build an inclusive community is personally of great personal satisfaction to him.



### Jeff Komar (Strings)

Jeffrey Komar has taught with El Sistema Aeolian since January 2016, and he is also a graduate student in Viola Performance at Western University. He conducts the entry-level orchestra and junior choir, teaching music rudiments, foundational string instrument technique, and choral technique. Through his work he also cultivates community-building skills in his students, such as confidence, thoughtfulness, and curiosity so that they do not simply play music, but rather they thrive through it.



# VOLUNTEERS



The Aeolian and its programs could not operate without the assistance of many volunteers. They help run events, programs, facilities and assist with office work.

Our volunteer to full-time staff ratio is 27:1.

This year, volunteers donated at least 40,000 hours of their combined time to help make the Aeolian and its programs successful. This is the monetary equivalent of \$600,000 at \$15 per hour.

## ***THANK YOU TO OUR 2016 VOLUNTEERS:***

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“I LOVE VOLUNTEERING AT THE HALL FOR A NUMBER OF REASONS. THERE IS AN OBVIOUS GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY BUT THERE IS ALSO THE AEOLIAN COMMUNITY ITSELF. THE STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS ARE A GREAT GROUP OF PEOPLE FROM DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS. WE ALL START HERE FOR THE LOVE OF MUSIC AND STAY FOR THE COMMUNITY WE ARE BUILDING.”

- CINDY T.



# VOLUNTEERS

## THANK YOU TO OUR 2016 EL SISTEMA VOLUNTEERS:

Lisa Snow  
Rod Culham  
Amy Kwon  
Ashley Crow  
Maxime Crawford-Holland  
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Mario Faveri



“EVERY TIME I SEE THE EL SISTEMA PARTICIPANTS PERFORM AND SEE THE GROWTH IN THEIR MUSIC AND CONFIDENCE IN THEMSELVES IT ALWAYS GIVES ME A SPECIAL THRILL HAVING BEEN INVOLVED WITH GETTING TO KNOW SOME OF THE PARTICIPANTS OVER THE YEARS.”  
- JANICE MARK



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ENHANCE OUR ABILITY TO SERVE THE LONDON  
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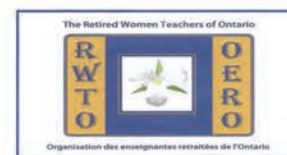
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