



THE BRASSROOTS INSIDER

VOL. 18, ISSUE 1. SEPTEMBER 2023

Next Concert

BRASS NIGHT AT THE PROMS

Saturday Sept 30 at 7:30 PM

St. James Westminster
115 Askin Street

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MUSIC DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

BY JEFF CHRISTMAS

Here we are at the start of our 2023/24 Season, and everyone at Brassroots is incredibly excited to welcome you back and share music with you.

We kick things off in high spirits with *Brass Night at the Proms*, a concert inspired by the BBC Proms. You will hear a eclectic and rousing repertoire ranging from *Jerusalem* and *I Vow to Thee My Country* all the way to *When I'm Sixty-Four* and my composition *Warburton Arms*.

Our good friends from the Saint James Westminster Choir will be lending their voices to the music, to give us that classic Proms sound.

I have been watching lots of videos of The Last Night of the Proms and I have noticed how audience participation is part of the tradition. From flag waving to playing noise makers (at choice moments). The musicians and conductors expect this at the Proms. We hope you will join us in creating that same energy! The audience is central to this tradition, so what better way to welcome you to our new season, than with Brass Night at the Proms.

Welcome to our 2023/24 Season- Jeff

www.brassroots.ca

Charitable registration #130746993 RR0001

Message from the Chair of Brassroots

By Karl Herman, Chair

I am happy to be back as Brassroots' Chairperson of the board after a couple of decades.

I have always had a passion for this group, since "day one."

I took a rather extended "leave of absence" from Brassroots, but I was so happy that so many of my friends worked so hard over the years to make Brassroots such a strong musical entities. What a great group of selfless folks!

Jeff Christmas is an outstanding musical director, and we are so lucky to have him!! We are all so lucky to be working with him.

I am humbled to take an active role in Brassroots again, and I hope to keep the group alive and well for many years to come.

**Sincerely,
Karl Herman, Chairperson of
Brassroots**

Looking for Board

Members!

Are you looking for a rewarding experience volunteering with a great team? Brassroots is looking for individuals committed to supporting the work of Brassroots to join our board of directors.

This is an active working board, who engages in fundraising, development and building community relationships.

If you are interested you can call Adam Corrigan Holowitz at 519-615-2210 or email info@brassroots.ca

The Loss of the Kitchener Waterloo Symphony

By Susan Follows

The loss of the Kitchener Waterloo Symphony Orchestra this month has shocked everyone who knows and loves music. The details of why this happened are still being revealed. Brassroots is very grateful for the ongoing support of its faithful donors, subscribers and audiences. That is what makes it possible to present our live performances. If you are so moved and able consider donating to the Musicians of the KWSymphony at www.savethekws.ca

Let's Go to the Proms!

By Adam Corrigan Holowitz

In the lead-up to Brassroots *Brass Night at the Proms* a few folks have asked me if this concert has anything to do with high school prom. No, it does not, but it is a fair conclusion to make. The BBC Proms held at the Royal Albert Hall, and a prom dance, share the same etymology “promenade” meaning to walk about. The original vision for the Proms Concerts was that the audience would not be seated, but free to walk about and sing with the music. The original vision was to be a populist experience, with popular songs, and audience participation. The Proms series quickly became a much more buttoned-up affair with more serious music (whatever that means).

But the final concert of the series became a time to keep with the original ideals of the proms. The music was eclectic. People would put on fancy dress, sing along with the music, and be a lot a lot more vocal in general. The Last Night of the Proms was born, and the tradition lives on. A tradition which inspires Brassroot's Brass Night at the Proms. So if you are so moved come in fancy dress, wave a flag, cheer and sing along.

Thank You to David Ennis

By Susan Follows

We extend a big thank you to David Ennis for his leadership and support as board chair since 2017. He was successful in securing funding to purchase much-needed quality percussion equipment. We received grants and donations from The Good Foundation, The Charles H. Ivey Foundation, the Hueston Family Foundation, The Agape Foundation of London, London Lutheran Social Services and private donors. We now own our own set of chimes, have added a large timpani to complete our set and now have a Malletkat.

What is a Malletkat?

This is a midi percussion controller that will produce mallet percussion such as vibraphone, xylophone, Marimba, bells etc. The musician uses mallets to play it. This will allow them to have more room in the percussion section to move around. Our first performance using it will be the Brass at the Proms concert on September 30. Come early so you can have a look and our percussionists, Karen Pincombe or Rob Inch can give you a demo of what it can do.



WHERE TO SEE BRASSROOTS MEMBERS PERFORM COMING UP!



HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR



Kira Omelchenko, Conductor

Grieg *In the Hall of the Mountain King*
Mussorgsky *Night on Bald Mountain*
Saint Saens *Danse Macabre*
Berlioz *March to the Scaffold*
Gounod *March of the Marionette*
Dukas *Sorcerer's Apprentice*
Williams / Brubaker *Harry Potter Suite*

Friday, October 27, 7:00 p.m.
Knox Presbyterian Church
50 Erb St W., Waterloo

Tickets at the door: Pay-what-you-can
519-830-1627 waterloocp@gmail.com
waterlochamberplayers.com

Costumes are welcome for all. Join in the kids' costume parade during the concert.



Baddest Big Band Plays the Greats

Monday October 30th at 7:00 pm

Wolf Performance Hall

Free

The hottest big band around plays the great tunes from greatest bands- Goodwin, Basie, Kenton, McConnell, and so many more!

www.baddestbigband.com

Nov. 25th at 2 & 7:30 pm

Save the date! Mark your Calendars!

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Presents...

Big
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The Crooners: Rick Kish and Connor Boa
with the Big Bandemic Big Band
(Remember the Stork Club?)



Check out our website at: BigBandemic.ca

Produced in association with
LINK theatre & concerts

Nov. 25th at 2 & 7:30 pm

Saint James Chamber Music Series

Music for Erhu & String Quartet

Sunday October 1 at 2 pm

Featuring
Grace Lou, Erhu

Yanet Campbell Secades, Violin
Tyson Moxley, Violin
Hallie Ashman, Viola
Amanda Quick, Cello
and special guests

St. James Westminster Anglican Church
115 Askin Street
Admission by Donation



THE BRASSROOTS

Soirée

*JOIN US FOR DELICIOUS FOOD,
MAGNIFICENT MUSIC,
AND FANTASTIC COMPANY*

SATURDAY OCTOBER 29th

2:30 PM - 5:30 PM

To RSVP

Email info@brassroots.ca

or call 519-615-2210

BRASS NIGHT AT THE PROMS

Saturday September 30 at 7:30 2023



Saint James Westminster, 115 Askin Street
London Ontario

www.brassroots.ca