

THIS IS YOUR SYMPHONY



PHOTO: BEN LARWIERS

2019|20
SEASON



KITCHENER-WATERLOO
SYMPHONY

STEP UP AND TAKE A BOW!

Your support ensures that we continue to push boundaries, explore new ways to engage with our community, and welcome and cultivate world-class talent right here in the Region of Waterloo.



PHOTO: BEN LARIVIERE



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A NOTE FROM ANDREI FEHER

It is quite a unique experience for a conductor to stand in front of such an incredible orchestra at my age. It is also a unique situation to share so many memorable and wonderful experiences right from the beginning of my adventure with the KWS. The month of February was particularly special for me when I conducted Rossini's Stabat Mater and the KUNÉ pops concert. This past season was impressive both musically and technically for our musicians and throughout each and every performance, I felt such joy and pleasure that I was able to share it with our dear donors and patrons.

YOUR INVESTMENT IN ACTION

Every performance is delivered with the signature beauty and excellence that is synonymous with the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony.



Thank you for channeling your passion for music into meaningful support.

The accomplishments of the KWS are made possible because of the inspired dedication, artistry and skill of our music director and musicians, our volunteers, the KWS team, and you, our loyal donors.

With your investment we have:



67 performances every season*



96,000 attendees*



12,000 children attending Family and Educational Concert Series*



118,450 virtual performance views**

*These numbers reflect a typical year in review. **Virtual performance views from April to July, 2020.

CELEBRATING OUR SYMPHONY CHAMPIONS

Thank you for standing alongside us as we embark on a journey of music-making excellence that continually surpasses expectations in performances and positively affects the cultural landscape of our communities.



PHOTO: AUSTIN GIBSON

The KWS is grateful to all our donors who contribute generously so that your Symphony can enrich, inspire and transform lives through music!

Bob and Judy Astley

Our community is a better place because of the K-W Symphony, and we're so pleased to support it. The musicians and staff have provided us with incredible joy and beauty over many years. We can't imagine Waterloo Region without the Symphony.

Jenn Coxe and Jeff Albion

A decade ago, we purchased tickets to Music of Star Trek, and from that moment on, we were hooked. Growing up in Toronto, we always aspired to attend the symphony, but it wasn't accessible for us. Our first experience with the KWS was completely different! Friendly, welcoming and engaging. As new parents, we are looking forward to taking our daughter to her first KWS Kinderconcert next season.



YOUR SUPPORT CREATES AN IMPACT

The KWS is grateful for the continued and dedicated support of our community champions. They advocate for us and enable the Symphony to maintain an unparalleled level of artistic excellence.

Your gift ensures that the KWS's music-making remains unsurpassed with the highest level of excellence, vibrant programming, and a focus on education and community engagement.

**Willy Heffner, KWS Supporter
Heffner Lexus Toyota — KWS Pops Series Sponsor**

Supporting the KWS is extremely important to us both personally and as sponsors through Heffner Lexus Toyota. The symphony brings so much to the cultural fabric of our community, with the highest level of musicians and performances. We remain committed donors and are proud to continue to advocate for this outstanding organization.



**Savvas and Christine Chamberlain, KWS Supporters
EXEL Research Inc. — KWS Programming Sponsor**

The cultural health of our community is important and high quality live music makes a huge difference in many people's lives. The KWS brings so much enjoyment to us and to many in our community that we are proud to support it personally and as corporate donors. The musicians have the highest level of expertise and their performances have something to satisfy everyone's taste.



LEAVE YOUR LEGACY WITH THE KWS



The Glenn Kruspe Society recognizes the generosity and vision of donors who have provided for the future of the KWS through a bequest or another form of a planned gift. The Society is named after Dr. Glenn Kruspe, who formed the KWS in 1945 and was the symphony's conductor for 15 years. You too can play an important role in the future of the symphony while establishing your personal legacy. Talk to your financial advisor today on the many ways you can leave your legacy with the KWS.

"The KWS, through its music, has given us happiness and satisfaction for many years. A legacy donation helps to ensure that our grandchildren, and their generation, will be able to find that same happiness and satisfaction through the wonderful music of the KWS just like we have."

— Ron and Laurette Pond

For more information about leaving your legacy with the KWS, please visit <https://kwsymphony.ca/support-us/ways-to-give/>

CELEBRATING OUR MUSICIANS

It is the dedication and talent of your KWS musicians that has solidified and established a reputation for performing music at the highest calibre. We couldn't do it without you. THANK YOU!



Bénédicte Lauzière, Concertmaster

One of my best memories with the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony is when I played the Korngold violin concerto. It's my favourite piece written for the violin and it was a thrill and a pleasure to share the stage with all my colleagues of the KWS! There is something both reassuring and challenging about playing a solo with the orchestra you play with on a regular basis. We all know each other so well, so I think you have the freedom to take more risks, and at the same time, you want to do so well so there is added pressure. I love playing with the KWS because I get to share my love of classical music with the audience every week, and brighten people's lives. I also love playing in Centre In The Square, it is such an amazing hall, it makes every concert a special occasion!



Larry Larson, Principal Trumpet

It has been my honour to lead the brass section of the KWS for 27 seasons now. This orchestra is probably the most versatile ensemble in Canada, with our ability to completely switch gears from week to week with the wide variety of repertoire that we cover each season. We may be performing an epic symphony by Brahms one week, a light concert of Baroque masterpieces the next, then following up with a huge Pops programme of movie soundtracks or big band swing charts! With each of these changes of our "musical hats," the KWS rises to the challenge by immediately adapting to this incredible variety of style. Over my tenure in the orchestra, I have had more highlights than I could possibly begin to list, as each season brings renewed excitement and new challenges. I am constantly awed and inspired by the colleagues with whom I share the stage every week, and by the incredible community that recognizes that talent with their steadfast support of the KWS!

PHOTOS: BEN LARIVIERE

CONNECTING WITH OUR COMMUNITY

As the flagship arts organization in the region, the KWS sets standards for serving everyone, from the most committed patrons to those experiencing the power of orchestral music for the first time.

Andrew Bennett, Executive Director

I am proud to work with a multi-faceted organization like KWS, serving our community in so many different ways. It can be hard for us to describe succinctly that huge range of work. Yes, we are a top-level orchestra which gives brilliant performances at a great Canadian concert hall. But we are also active in areas as diverse as youth music, hearing loss prevention, musical education, community building and physical and mental health initiatives. Sometimes patrons and donors, even staff and musicians, are surprised to discover yet another area of our work which is not so much in the public eye. Projects which focus on social action can be harder to publicize, because some partners understandably are reticent about KWS drawing attention to the challenges that they face. But we are still immensely proud of all those activities.

KWS has corrected another stereotypical view of symphony orchestras in the spring and summer of 2020. Far from the image of a 'dinosaur' institution, KWS has responded quickly and creatively to the challenges of a global pandemic. Moving our principal activities online has meant learning new skills and engaging with our audiences in new ways. Nothing can replace the visceral impact of live orchestra music, but we have connected with our community through novel and effective means. In fact the number of people who have watched and listened to KWS online since March has exceeded the expected audiences for our live concerts, and we have received praise for our work from across the globe.

Led by Music Director Andrei Feher, KWS will continue to deliver joy and respite to our community, no matter what shape our music-making takes. We will offer entertainment, inspiration and occasionally consolation. We know how much our donors care about this vital role, with its many strands. In turn our musicians, staff, audience members and the wider community appreciate the difference that our donors make.

We can't say it enough: Thank You!



VISION To inspire and unite our community through music.

MISSION As a vital, cultural asset for Waterloo Region, the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony inspires audiences of all ages and cultural backgrounds through its artistic excellence, innovative programming, and education and outreach programs. Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony: Where artistry and innovation shape the expression and experience of our community's vitality through live orchestral music.



KITCHENER-WATERLOO
SYMPHONY

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