



PAYING IT FORWARD:

10th Annual City Carol Sing Draws a Record Crowd and Donation

Since Leon Frazer opened its doors almost 80 years ago, being a part of our community has always been important to us. That's why when we were approached in 2015 by one of our long-term clients to help sponsor the annual City Carol Sing, in collaboration with CityTV and the W. Garfield Weston Foundation, we were happy to be involved. Now in its 10th year, the City Carol Sing features some of Toronto's top singers in a Christmas concert to raise funds for the Churches on-the-Hill, a local food bank which supports individuals and families whose income is often insufficient to make ends meet.

THE LUNCHTIME CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES

The City Carol Sing is one in a series of musical events that is hosted by the Nine Sparrows Arts Foundation and its musical director, Eric Robertson. The Nine Sparrows Arts Foundation is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to bringing the best of inspirational arts programming to Toronto audiences. Lunchtime concerts are run every Tuesday from September to June, at the Yorkminster Park Baptist Church. Performers are advanced students from the Royal Conservatory Glenn Gould School and from the University of Toronto Faculty of Music where Robertson teaches. These Lunchtime Chamber Music community concerts are free, despite the exceptional talent. For those who can afford it, cash donations in support of local food banks are welcomed.

HIGHLIGHT OF THE CONCERT SERIES

The highlight of the concert series is the annual City Carol Sing. This variety show of Christmas music and readings features choirs, organ, brass, and special guests. Previous guests of honour have included the former Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, The Honourable David C. Onley, Colm Wilkinson, Richard Margison, Isabel Bayrakdarian, Russell Braun, Fiona Reid, Cynthia Dale, Deborah Hay, R.H. Thompson, Alexis Gordon and Ted Dykstra, as well as various CityTV personalities. The concert is recorded for a one hour special that airs on CityTV throughout the holiday season. This year drew an audience of approximately 1,800 people, the largest to date, and provided the Churches on-the-Hill food bank with its largest single donation of the year.

WANT TO HELP?

You don't have to wait until the next holiday season to check out the talent of the Lunchtime Chamber Music performers. Visit the Yorkminster Park Baptist Church for a Tuesday lunchtime session. You can also make a donation directly to the Churches on-the-Hill food bank at www.cothfoodbank.ca.

Staying Connected

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