



45th Anniversary - 2026

Kiwanis Music Festival of Guelph

Welcome to the 45th annual Kiwanis Music Festival of Guelph.

Many thanks to our participants, adjudicators, visitors, donors and sponsors, organizers, volunteers, Board and Committee members, media guests, and venues. We look forward to another wonderful Festival and hope you enjoy this valuable contribution to the cultural life of Guelph and Wellington County.

Please remember that the performers need absolute silence and you must wait to enter or leave the hall until there is a break in the performance. Please turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices. Photos and videos of performances may be taken if the performer has given their permission, but no flash photography and absolutely no recording of the adjudication is permitted. Please remain in your seat and be discreet while recording.

Please join us for the Highlights of the Festival Concert & Awards Ceremony
on Saturday, May 9 at St. George's Church at 7 pm.

It will feature some of the finest performances heard during the Festival,
as well as the presentation of medals and scholarships.

Tickets: \$20/Adults, \$5/Students & Children – Visit gkmf.ca/events

Bands Adjudicator

Mark Caswell

Mark spent a lifetime teaching music at Markham District High School, a healthy, vibrant program with numerous award-winning concert bands, choirs, jazz ensembles and chamber groups. At the end of his career at MDHS, Mark and his department were presented with the distinguished *YRDSB Teaching Award of Excellence*.

For the past two years, Mark has worked with Yamaha Music Canada as an Artist Educator through which he has facilitated dozens of workshops, clinics and rehearsals for schools across Ontario. He is now very excited to be part of the *True North Master Educator program*, to inspire young musicians across Canada.

Mark is also an active adjudicator at festivals across Ontario and Alberta, including Musicfest Canada Nationals. As recognition for his years of leadership and volunteering, Mark was honoured to be presented with the *Canadian Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers by The Chancellery of Honours, Rideau Hall, Ottawa*.

Mark is the newly appointed Music Director for the Northdale Concert Band, an ensemble with a tradition of musical excellence. Mark is also the current Music Director for the Unionville Theatre Company, conducting their most recent productions of *Into the Woods*, *Joseph*, *Grease* and *Matilda the Musical*.

Mark is a founding member of the Ontario Band Association, serving on several committees as well as a term as President. Mark launched the Ontario Provincial Band Festival in 2001/2002 and continued to serve as the Festival Coordinator for 22 years and is now the Festival Coordinator for the new *Markham Winds Festival for Developing Bands*.



Kiwanis Music Festival of Guelph
Wednesday, April 29, 2026 - Morning/Afternoon
E.L. FOX AUDITORIUM
Adjudicator - Mark Caswell

9:45 AM CLASS B117A

Elementary School Bands
- Grades 8 & Under - A/S

Perform one or two selections at a level appropriate to the students' development.

Time limit of 10 minutes.

1. Rickson Ridge Symphonic Band

Aaron Duncan - Guelph

2. Elora PS Intermediate Band

Scott Keane - Elora

3. The John Galt Concert Band

Peter Schroeder - Guelph

11:15 AM CLASS B119

Rock Bands

- Grades 5 to 8 - A/S

Own choice of two or three contrasting selections, neither of which was performed last year. Lead sheets must be provided for the adjudicator.

Time limit of 15 minutes.

1. Elora PS School of Rock

Scott Keane - Elora

2. The John Galt Rock Band

Peter Schroeder - Guelph

3. Ken Danby Diamonds

Lauren Carruthers - Guelph

1:00 PM CLASS J141

Secondary School Class A Jazz Bands

- Grades 11/12 - A/S

Perform three contrasting selections. The repertoire selected must include a Swing, Ballad, and one own choice (e.g., Latin/Funk/Modern).

Directors are encouraged to choose repertoire that aligns with the level of their concert ensembles, i.e., bands entered in the A Class should be performing repertoire at a similar level with their jazz ensemble.

Total time limit of 20 minutes.

1. spARTanS Stage Band

Eric Froats - Guelph

2. GCVI Gael Force

Dan Austin - Guelph

3. Royal Jazz

Dorothy Vreeswyk-Kidd - Guelph

2:30 PM CLASS J143

Secondary School Jazz Bands

- Grades 9/10 - A/S

Perform two contrasting selections. Repertoire selected should be at a level appropriate to the students' development. Swing, Latin, Ballad, Funk and Modern jazz styles are strongly encouraged.

Total time limit 10 minutes.

1. Ross Royals Junior Jazz

Dorothy Vreeswyk-Kidd - Guelph

2:55 PM CLASS J144

Secondary School Jazz Combo

- Grades 11/12 - A/S

Perform two selections. Performances must include improvisation.

Total time of limit 15 minutes.

1. Royal Jazz Combo

Dorothy Vreeswyk-Kidd & Michael Buswell - Guelph

3:20 PM CLASS J131

Jazz/Stage Bands - A/S

10-20 players of any combination of instrumentation or voicing. Own choice of two or three contrasting pieces, at least one in a "swing" style.

Time limit of 20 minutes.

1. Guelph Youth Jazz Ensemble - Early Band

Tyler Wagler - Guelph

2. Guelph Youth Jazz Ensemble - Late Band

Tyler Wagler - Guelph

Kiwanis Music Festival of Guelph
Thursday, April 30, 2026 - Morning/Afternoon
E.L. FOX AUDITORIUM
Adjudicator - Mark Caswell

9:45 AM CLASS B117B

Elementary School Bands

- Grades 8 & Under - A/S

Perform one or two selections at a level appropriate to the students' development.

Time limit of 10 minutes.

1. Kortright Hills Cobras

Matty Cooper - Guelph

2. King George Grade 7 Band

Emily Petrenko - Guelph

3. Rockwood Centennial Band

Morgan Rafalowski - Rockwood

4. Sacred Heart of Jesus Junior Concert Band

Michelle Bender - Burlington

BREAK: 11:30-12:00

12:00 PM CLASS B112

Secondary School Class B Bands - A/S

Perform two own-choice selections, neither of which was performed last year. The first selection must be equivalent to B300 (or higher). Use either the

Ontario Band Association or MusicFest Nationals

Syllabus. The second selection should be of a lyrical nature (or contain a significant portion of lyrical

music). The lyrical selection may be one level lower than the first selection. Time limit of 15 minutes.

1. GCVI Sr. Symphonic Band

Dan Austin - Guelph

12:30 PM CLASS B111

Secondary School Class A Bands - A/S

Perform two own-choice selections, neither of which was performed last year. The first selection must be equivalent to B400 (or higher). Use either the

Ontario Band Association or MusicFest Nationals

Syllabus. The second selection should be of a lyrical nature (or contain a significant portion of lyrical

music). The lyrical selection may be one level lower than the first selection. Time limit of 20 minutes.

1. spARTanS Symphonic Ensemble

Eric Froats - Guelph

2. John F. Ross Symphonic Band

Dorothy Vreeswyk-Kidd – Guelph

PERCUSSION CLASSES CONTINUE ON THE NEXT PAGE...

Percussion Adjudicator

Richard Burrows

Richard Burrows is a distinguished Canadian percussionist celebrated for his dynamic performances and innovative approach to contemporary classical music. With a career spanning more than two decades, he has established himself as a leading figure in the percussion community, recognized for his versatility, technical precision, and dedication to advancing the art form.

Burrows began his musical journey at a young age and went on to earn two master's degrees from the University of Toronto in percussion performance and music education. He is now the Director of Percussion for the Don Wright Faculty of Music at Western University.

He is a founding member of TorQ Percussion Quartet, an internationally acclaimed ensemble known for its innovative programming, engaging performances, and strong commitment to education and outreach. Since forming in 2004, TorQ has toured widely across North America and Europe, performing at major festivals and venues. The ensemble has collaborated with leading orchestras including the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and the Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal, and has released several recordings, including projects with the legendary percussion ensemble Nexus and the Elora Singers.

In addition to his ensemble work, Burrows is an active soloist who has premiered numerous works by leading composers, expanding the percussion repertoire. He is also the Artistic Director of the Open Ears Festival, where he helps present adventurous sound and innovative music. A dedicated educator and advocate for music education, Burrows regularly leads workshops, masterclasses, and community programs that inspire the next generation of musicians.



Kiwanis Music Festival of Guelph

Thursday, April 30, 2026 - Afternoon

E.L. FOX AUDITORIUM

Adjudicator - Richard Burrows

1:40 PM CLASS B121

Percussion Ensemble - A/S

3 - 6 players. One member may be professional.

Own choice of two or three pieces.

Time limit of 13 minutes.

1. GCVI Percussion Ensemble

Dan Austin - Guelph

2:30 PM CLASS W225

Percussion - 13 & Under

Own choice of two contrasting pieces, one piece on a pitched percussion instrument.

Time limit of 10 minutes.

1. Eason Guan - Oakville

2:05 PM CLASS B122

Large Percussion Ensemble - A/S

20 or more players. One member may be professional. Own choice of two or three pieces.

Time limit of 15 minutes.

1. spARTanS Drumline

Eric Froats - Guelph

Kiwanis Music Festival of Guelph

Friday, May 1, 2026 - Morning/Afternoon

E.L. FOX AUDITORIUM

Adjudicator - Mark Caswell

9:45 AM CLASS B117C

Elementary School Bands

- Grades 8 & Under - A/S

Perform one or two selections at a level appropriate to the students' development.

Time limit of 10 minutes.

1. King George Grade 8 Band

Emily Petrenko - Guelph

2. Stewart Avenue Wildcat Band

Joshua Crouch - Cambridge

3. Sacred Heart of Jesus Senior Concert Band

Michelle Bender - Burlington

11:45 AM CLASS B116

Secondary School Grade 9 Bands - A/S

Perform two selections. One of the two selections must be equivalent to B100 (or higher) syllabus.

Use either the Ontario Band Association or MusicFest Nationals Syllabus. The other must be at an equivalent level. Total time limit of 10 minutes.

1. GCVI Jr. Symphonic Band

Dan Austin - Guelph

12:10 PM CLASS B115

Secondary School Grade 9/10 Bands - A/S

Perform two selections. The first selection must be equivalent to the B200 syllabus. The second selection should be of a lyrical nature (or contain a significant portion of lyrical music). The lyrical selection may be one level lower than the first selection. Conductors are reminded that if they have Grade 11 & 12 students on their primary instruments in their ensemble, they should enter the C (or higher) Class. Time limit of 15 minutes.

1. John F. Ross Grade 9/10 Class

Dorothy Vreeswyk-Kidd - Guelph

12:35 PM CLASS B113

Secondary School Class C Bands - A/S

Perform two own-choice selections, neither of which was performed last year. The first selection must be equivalent to B200 (or higher). Use either the Ontario Band Association or MusicFest Nationals Syllabus.

The second selection should be of a lyrical nature (or contain a significant portion of lyrical music). The lyrical selection may be one level lower than the first selection. Time limit of 15 minutes.

1. St. James Concert Band

Jennifer Dunnett - Guelph

2. spARTanS Concert Ensemble

Melodie Downton - Guelph

3. John F. Ross Concert Band

Jordyn Lundy - Guelph

2:05 PM CLASS B114

Secondary School Bands

- Canadian & March Class - A/S

Perform one or two pieces: One required piece in a formal march structure (British, American, Circus) and the optional second piece is a street march (essentially anything you can march to, but not in a formal march structure) or a Canadian piece. The repertoire entered for this class must be at the B200 level or higher. Open to bands also entered in the A, B, or C classes. Time limit of 15 minutes.

1. spARTanS Symphonic Ensemble

Eric Froats - Guelph

Kiwanis Music Festival of Guelph

Friday, May 1, 2026 - Evening

E.L. FOX AUDITORIUM

Adjudicator - Mark Caswell

6:00 PM CLASS J131

Jazz/Stage Bands - A/S

*10-20 players of any combination of instrumentation or voicing. Own choice of two or three contrasting pieces, at least one in a "swing" style.
Time limit of 20 minutes.*

1. Cambridge Jazz Band

Dorothy Vreeswyk-Kidd - Cambridge

6:30 PM CLASS B101

Community Bands - Open - A/S

Open to any Community Concert Band. Own choice of two contrasting pieces. Open Level; Band Level 5 - 6 or equivalent or higher. Time limit of 30 minutes (including set up and warm up).

1. Cambridge Concert Band

Dorothy Vreeswyk-Kidd - Cambridge

2. Guelph Concert Band

Lauren Helmer - Guelph

3. Kitchener Musical Society Band

Joshua Crouch - Kitchener

4. King Street Brass

Allan Hicks - Breslau