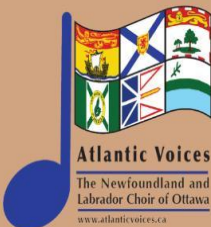
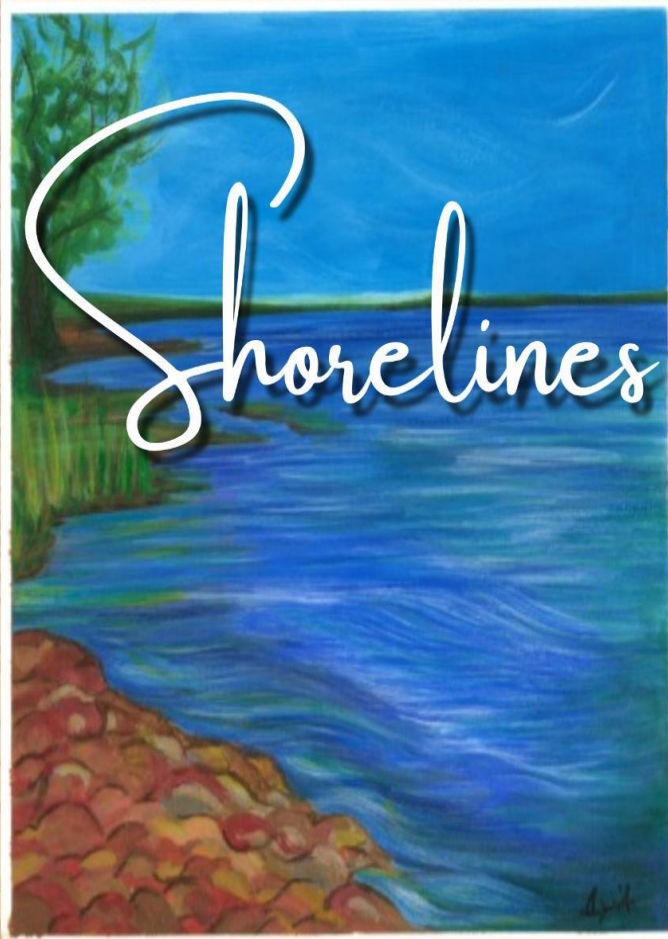


Atlantic Voices Presents



Centretown United
Church
25 May 2025

Atlantic Voices: The Newfoundland and Labrador Choir of Ottawa

Scott Richardson, Director of Music
Abigail Sanchez Rojas, Collaborative Pianist

Sopranos

Marian Barton
Lora Bruneau
Renée Carosielli
Michelle Clippingdale
Jennifer Cunningham
Elizabeth Fortin
Sharon Fotheringham
Jodie Francis
Sarah Gauld
Barbara Johns
Jane Johnston
Marie Kusters
Margaret Lavictoire
Nicole Lefebvre
Sara Lim
Nancy MacGregor
Anne Makhoul
Margaret-Anne Park
Margaret Peddle
Jacqueline Riddle
Catherine Semple
Kelda Sinclair
Lindsay Thomson-
Marmen

Altos

Denise Arsenault
Jeannine Bailliu
Rosemary Bernath
Donna Boudreau
Grace Carpenter
José Chabot
Deborah Chaplin
Janice Cross
Elisabeth Dempsey
Lesley Doering
Mary Fawcett-Pearce
Joan Foster-Jones
Sandra Fraser
Leila Gillis
Sue Huddleston
Julie Leger
Lynn McDonald
Liz McKeen
Beth McRae
Joan Milne
Eileen Overend
Sharon Philpott
Diane Rayner
Maureen Sheppard

Tenors

Shelly Donaldson
Julie Dustin
Marla Fletcher
Greg Gnaedinger
Dave Huddleston
Ian Mackay
George Park

Basses

Winston Babin
Michael Deeks
Colin Hutchings
Victor Laurin
Don MacDonald
Doug Murphy
Jim Rourke
Patrick Shaughnessy
Doug Sinclair
Ted Welch



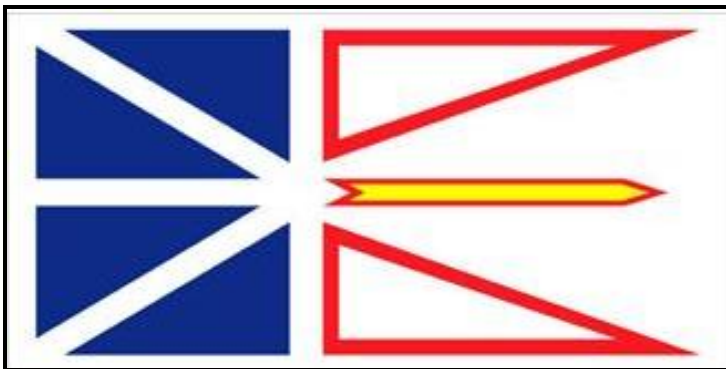
Ode to Newfoundland

When sun-rays crown thy pine-clad hills,
And summer spreads her hand,
When silvern voices tune thy rills,
We love thee, smiling land.
We love thee, we love thee,
We love thee, smiling land.

When spreads thy cloak of shimm'ring white,
At Winter's stern command,
Thro' shortened day and starlit night,
We love thee, frozen land,
We love thee, we love thee,
We love thee, frozen land,

When blinding storm gusts fret thy shore,
And wild waves lash thy strand,
Thro' spindrift swirl and tempest roar,
We love thee, wind-swept land,
We love thee, we love thee,
We love thee, wind-swept land.

As loved our fathers, so we love
Where once they stood we stand;
Their prayer we raise to Heaven above,
God guard thee, Newfoundland.
God guard thee, God guard thee
God guard thee Newfoundland.



Bluemoon's Margaree
(CD, DDX, TDD, WRD, RN, TKI, CGN)



Atlantic Voices' Mascot is a Newfoundland Dog named Bluemoon's Margaree CD, DDX, TDD, WRD, RN, TKI, CGN, (meaning Companion Dog, Draft Dog Excellent, Team Draft Dog, Water Rescue Dog, Rally Novice, Trick Dog Intermediate, Canine Good Neighbour). Margaree was born 24 April 2016. As is common of her breed, Margaree loves people, especially children, and is very gentle. Like many of the Atlantic Voices choir members, Margaree's genes go back to the island of Newfoundland. Her ancestors loved the sea and the people of the island. These strong waterdogs were loyal and loving companions who worked very hard on shore and at sea. They pulled in fishing nets, delivered mail, and hauled logs from the forests. They often served as 'living lifelines', rescuing people from the sea. Margaree is proud to be Atlantic Voices' mascot and hopes that you will love the music as much as she does!

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Margaret Lavictoire (Vice-President, Operations)
Margaret-Anne Park (Vice-President, Media)
Jodie Francis (Secretary)
Jennifer Cunningham (Treasurer)
Winston Babin (Past President)
Winston Babin (Librarian and Membership)

Music Director

Scott Richardson

Collaborative Pianist

Abigail Sanchez Rojas

Master of Ceremonies

Brien Marshall

Concert Coordinator

Margaret Lavictoire

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Abigail Sanchez Rojas & Sarah Gauld

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Webmaster

Sara Francis

Atlantic Voices: The Newfoundland and Labrador Choir of Ottawa

Atlantic Voices: The Newfoundland and Labrador Choir of Ottawa was founded in the spring of 2002. *Atlantic Voices* is an amateur choir, with a repertoire consisting mainly of Newfoundland, Maritime, and Celtic songs and music. Its members are primarily made up of expatriate Newfoundlanders, Labradorians and Maritimers, but singers and musicians from any background are more than welcome to join. We are proud of our years of bringing East Coast music to the Ottawa area, and we look forward to many more years of performing.

Rehearsals are held on Tuesday evenings at Riverside United Church (3191 Riverside Drive) from 7-9:30 p.m. If you would like to join the choir, please contact us by email at: membership@atlanticvoices.ca. Visit our website at www.atlanticvoices.ca for more information about the choir.

Scott Richardson, Musical Director

Originally from Dartmouth N.S., Scott is active in the Ottawa music scene as a pianist and choir conductor. He directs both Atlantic Voices and Musica Viva Singers, and is the longtime Music Director at Orleans United Church. Scott is the rehearsal accompanist for the Ottawa Choral Society, as well as a pianist with the Ottawa Children's Choir organization. He has previously accompanied Army Voices, the Carleton University Choir, and the Canadian Centennial Choir. Since 2016, Scott has performed regularly at the Gladstone Theatre, appearing in productions as a singer and multi-instrumentalist. He co-produced and performed in Phantom Crew (2023) as well as No-Show: Songs From Lost Gigs (2021), and was a co-creator of Bear & Company's tributes to Leonard Cohen, Joni Mitchell, and Gordon Lightfoot, as well as being the music director/pianist for Jacques Brel is Alive and Well....

Abigail Sanchez Rojas, Collaborative Pianist

Abigail Sanchez is an active piano teacher and collaborative pianist based in Ottawa. She holds a BMus in Piano Performance from The National Autonomous University of Mexico and a MMus in Piano Performance from the University of Ottawa, where she studied with Leopoldo Erice and Andrew Tunis. She has performed at the Chamber Music Ensembles Showcase at the National Arts Centre, at Quartetfest at the Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo and has participated in masterclasses with the St. Lawrence string quartet. As a student, she was the pianist for Vocal Repertoire Class and the Wind Ensemble of the University of Ottawa.

Abigail has been working as a Collaborative pianist for the Emmanuel United Church Senior Choir and more recently for Atlantic Voices Choir. She runs her piano studio in Sandy Hill where she shares the passion for music with students of all ages and musical backgrounds. As a performer, Abigail collaborates with instrumentalists and singers as well as performing solo repertoire. Besides music, Abigail holds a BFA and enjoys painting and printmaking in her free time.

Fumblin' Fingers

Since its formation in 2005, the Fumblin' Fingers Band has given nearly 300 public performances at fundraisers, seniors' residences, birthday parties, kitchen parties and at twice-yearly Atlantic Voices Choir concerts. Look for their CDs following the concert.

Band members include Celeste Bradbury-Marshall (MC, vocals, guitar, percussion), Lynn Petros (fiddle, vocals), Wayne Mercer (guitar, mandolin, bass), Dave Huddlestone (bass, guitar, vocals, spoons) and Tom Murray (fiddle, guitar, vocals).

Website: www.fumblinfingers.ca

Music Programme

Part I

Pre-Show Entertainment provided by Fumblin' Fingers

Ode to Newfoundland

Sir Cavendish Boyle

arr. Hannie Fitzgerald & Norman E. Brown

Fogarty's Cove

Stan Rogers

arr. Ron Smail

Make and Break Harbour

Stan Rogers

arr. Ron Smail

The Maid on the Shore

Traditional Irish

arr. Laura Hawley

Back to the River St. John

Janet Kidd

Marco Polo

Jim Stewart

arr. John C. O'Donnell

Flow Gently, Sweet Afton

Traditional Scottish

arr. Lydia Adams

The Cliffs of Dooneen

Traditional Irish

arr. Mark Sirett

Gullwind

Robbie Smith

arr. Larry Nickel

Frobisher Bay

James Gordon

arr. Loomer and Nickel



PART II

Song of the River

Flute: Kelly Moorcroft

Deantha Edmunds

arr. Leslee Heys

The Brass Band of the Cove

Kurt Walther

A Great Big Sea Hove in Long Beach

Flute: Kelly Moorcroft

Traditional Newfoundland

arr. Patrick M. O'Shea

Saltwater Joys

Wayne Chaulk

arr. P. Jackson

Trinity Bay

Reg Pretty

arr. Leslee Heys

Let Me Fish off Cape St. Mary's

Otto Kelland

arr. Willi Zwozdesky

Connect with Us

Please visit our website www.atlanticvoices.ca and subscribe to our mailing list (click on 'Stay Connected'). Follow Atlantic Voices on Facebook and Instagram for the latest information about the choir.

Fumblin' Fingers can be found at: www.fumblinfingers.ca

CDs

Want to hear more? We have recorded several CDs that include repertoire from previous concerts. CDs are available for sale in the reception area after the concert, as well as through our website.



Programme Notes

Ode to Newfoundland

Governor Sir Cavendish Boyle composed the words to this beloved anthem in 1902, as a four-verse poem entitled "Newfoundland". British composer Sir Hubert Parry, a personal friend of Boyle, set the poem to music. On May 20, 1904 it was chosen as Newfoundland's official anthem. This distinction was dropped when Newfoundland joined the Canadian Confederation in 1949. Three decades later, in 1980, the province re-adopted the song as its official provincial anthem, the first province in Canada to declare a provincial anthem.

MARITIME SHORES

Fogarty's Cove

Recorded over just two days in September 1976, Stan Rogers' first album. *Fogarty's Cove*, is rooted in the people and places of Nova Scotia. It ensured that Stan was forever thought of by the Canadian public as an East Coast singer, despite his having been raised in Ontario. The title track of *Fogarty's Cove* was the first of the series of Nova Scotia songs that he composed. At the request of Stan's Aunt June, he set out to celebrate the Eastern Shore, the place of his family roots. According to Stan, the shoreline he affectionately thought of as Fogarty's Cove actually appears on maps as Indian Cove. However, if you follow a map of Chedabucto Bay from Guysborough north-east toward Canso, you will find other places mentioned in the song, such as Half Way Cove, Queensport and Half Island Cove.

Make and Break Harbour

"Make and Break Harbour" is another of Stan Rogers' series of songs about Nova Scotia. The lyrics lament the decline of the inshore fishery, placing the blame squarely on industrial overfishing and the ecologically destructive practices of the big trawlers. The term 'make and break' refers to the single-

cylinder inboard motor that at one time powered fishing boats through the Maritimes and Newfoundland. The 'make and break engine' was also referred to as a 'putt-putt engine' or a 'one-lunger', a term which also turns up in the song.

The Maid on the Shore

The origins of this song are uncertain; though versions have been recorded in Ireland and England, it seems to have been sung more widely in North America than in the British Isles. A young woman escapes from a threatening situation aboard ship by outwitting the crew and singing them to sleep. She robs them of all of their silver and gold for good measure, escaping using the captain's sword as a paddle. The strange power of her song to lull the crew suggests that the ballad may originally have been a supernatural tale, with the sailors bringing a siren aboard. However, modern versions of the ballad depict her simply as a resourceful maid, not a mermaid.

Ottawa native Laura Hawley arranged the song for the Cantiamo Girls Choir. She has given the maid her own wordless song. The maid's melody is sung by the choir in unison in the introduction and reappears throughout the arrangement, first as a lullaby, then surrounding and even drowning out the captain's voice, and finally as an echo as she finds herself once more alone on the shore.

Back to the River St. John

Ottawa native Janet Kidd imagines the protagonist of her song leaving New Brunswick to seek his fortune, only to find himself longing for home and the beauties of the St. John River Valley. Though Kidd convincingly evokes that feeling of yearning, she herself lives near Saint John and directs multiple choirs in the area.

Marco Polo

This song is part of a larger suite written by composer Jim Stewart in honour of the *Marco Polo*, one of the most famous ships in Canadian history. She was launched in

Saint John, New Brunswick in 1851 – in the words of the song: ‘Where the Marsh Creek waters meet Courtenay Bay’. The *Marco Polo* was the first ship to circumnavigate the globe in less than six months, earning her the title of ‘fastest ship in the world’. She ran aground in a violent storm off Cavendish, P.E.I. in 1883. Our arrangement is by the late John C. (Jack) O’Donnell, longtime conductor of the Cape Breton miners’ choir Men of the Deeps.

Our soloists today are: Winston Babin, Shelly Donaldson, Greg Gnaedinger, Dave Huddleston, Doug Sinclair.

FAR SHORES

Flow Gently, Sweet Afton

Robert Burns composed the poem “Sweet Afton” in 1791 in praise of the beautiful River Afton (or Afton Water) in Ayrshire, Scotland. A melody was added when the text was published by Jonathan Spillman in 1838, under the title “Flow Gently, Sweet Afton” – this tune became the one most associated with Burns’ words. Our arrangement uses an alternate early melody; this lovely tune is credited to the *Scots Musical Museum*, 1792, No. 386. Our setting was commissioned in 2014 by soprano Lorna MacDonald, Lois Marshall Chair in Voice at the University of Toronto, in memory of her brother, organist David MacDonald of Halifax.

The Cliffs of Dooneen

This Irish song was written by Jack McAuliffe from Lixnaw, Kerry, in praise of the natural splendour of the cliffs around Dooneen Point. McAuliffe was boarding with a family in a cottage in the area when he composed the song. The ballad was made famous by the band Planxty and the singing of Christy Moore. Our arrangement is by Mark Sirett, Director of the Cantabile Choirs of Kingston, Ontario.

Gullwind

“Gullwind” was composed by the late Nova Scotia singer Robbie Smith. Robbie and his musical partner Kathleen

Glauser performed as the folk duo Naming the Twins; this tune was part of their repertoire. Robbie died of cancer in 2019. It was his wish to see his music made available in choral arrangements. And following his death, Kathleen worked with the Nova Scotia Choral Federation to make that happen. They reached out to a number of leading Canadian composers to ask if they would be willing to create choral versions of Robbie's songs, and the response was amazing. To date there have been nearly 30 new choral works produced through the *Robbie Songs Project*. "Gullwind" was arranged for SATB choir by Larry Nickel.

The song was initially inspired by a fishing trip that Robbie took with his uncle, but through the compositional process it became a warm tropical vignette, with images of bamboo fishing pole and crying pelicans.

Frobisher Bay

James Gordon is the founder of the folk group, Tamarack. He has become well-known for his original songs about Canada's identity and heritage. "Frobisher Bay" is Gordon's most covered song and has become a contemporary folk classic. Diane Loomer of B.C. arranged it for a choir of male voices; Larry Nickel adapted her arrangement for mixed voices.

NORTHERN SHORES

Song of the River

"Song of the River" was composed by Deantha Edmunds, who is a classical soprano of Labrador Inuk heritage. The songwriter conceives of her people's history as a living river flowing over time. Edmunds recently became the first Indigenous woman to win the Juno award for Classical Composition of the Year, for her multi-movement work *Angmalukisaa*. Leslee Heys of St. John's originally arranged "Song of the River" for unison voices and string quartet; she then rearranged the piece especially for Atlantic Voices, setting it for SATB chorus, piano, and instrumental solo.

Our soloists are: Janice Cross, Elizabeth Fortin, Jodie Francis, Sarah Gauld, Margaret Lavictoire, Lindsay Thomson-Marmen. (Leila Gillis, spoken word)

The Brass Band of the Cove

“The Brass Band of the Cove” was composed by Kurt Walther of Ottawa. The text is by the composer himself, commemorating the brass band tradition of Newfoundland and Labrador. Brass bands were an important feature of musical life in outports around the island, as well as among the Inuit communities of Northern Labrador thanks to the influence of Moravian missionaries. The composition was one of the winners of the 2010 edition of the Atlantic Voices Choral Composition Contest. Kurt Walther was a much-loved figure on the Ottawa music scene, known for his gifts as a songwriter, guitarist, bassist and teacher. His death in February of this year was a sad loss for the community. Atlantic Voices extends its sympathy to his family and dedicates this performance to his memory.

Kurt’s family writes:

Kurt was a man of immense warmth, kindness, and creative spirit. A lifelong artist, he began his journey as a touring musician and later became a gifted visual artist, always guided by a deep curiosity and love for expression. Beyond performance, Kurt was a devoted teacher and mentor, especially to young people navigating physical or mental health challenges. His greatest joys were teaching music at the Boys and Girls club, and teaching kids from the Royal Ottawa, where he developed the Be In The Band program—a program where his students would write their own compositions and play them at Bluesfest. When talking about his students, he would beam with pride. His generosity and capacity for unconditional love touched countless lives.

Kurt lived with rare sincerity and joy, finding beauty in life’s quiet moments and sharing that light with others. His music, like his presence, uplifted and inspired, an enduring reflection of the heart with which he lived.

NEWFOUNDLAND SHORES

A Great Big Sea Hove in Long Beach

This song was collected by Gerald S. Doyle and published in the 1940 edition of his songbook. Although the lyrics are playful and are set to a lively dance tune, “A Great Big Sea” was, in fact, inspired by a harrowing 1920 weather event, when a large storm in Bonavista Bay struck Canaille and Long Beach, pushing the beach across the road and around the home of the Keough family. Our version is from a set of three arrangements of well-known Newfoundland folksongs commissioned by Atlantic Voices from Patrick M. O’Shea, Professor of Music and Director of Choirs at Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota. Originally from Massachusetts, Mr. O’Shea is proud to claim a family connection with Newfoundland: one of his grandmothers was a native of Harbour Grace. Atlantic Voices premiered the complete set in 2018.

Saltwater Joys

“Saltwater Joys” was written by Wayne Chaulk, a member of the Newfoundland band Buddy Wasisname and the Other Fellers, and released on their 1990 album *Flatout*. It is written from the point of view of a man who refuses to leave the quiet pleasures of his home in order to pursue all of the ‘modern-day toys’ in a far-off city. Our arrangement is by Peter Jackson of St. John’s.

Trinity Bay

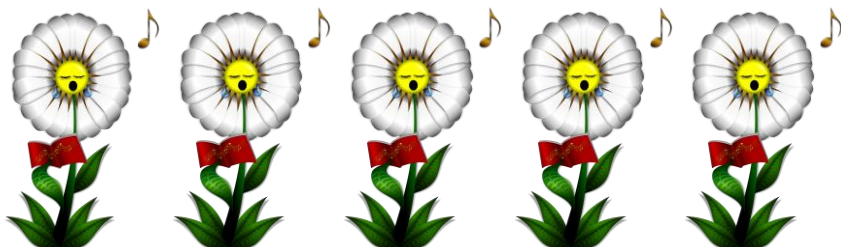
Reg Pretty (1950-2012) was a much-loved musician and teacher from Clarenville, Newfoundland. His beautiful song “Trinity Bay” was arranged for treble voices by Leslee Heys, who is the accompanist for the Newfoundland youth choir Shallaway. The SATB version of the piece was created especially for Atlantic Voices by Ms. Heys. The song is written from the perspective of someone living away who longs to get back to his birthplace and find peace and solace.

Let Me Fish off Cape St. Mary's

This gentle, nostalgic song about the rugged southern tip of the Avalon Peninsula has become such a part of Newfoundland culture that many assume it is an old ballad. In fact, "Let Me Fish Off Cape St. Mary's" was written in the mid-forties by Otto Kelland, the Superintendent of Her Majesty's Penitentiary in St. John's. He was also a skilled writer and maker of model boats. The publication of "Let Me Fish Off Cape St. Mary's" in the 1955 *Gerald S. Doyle Songbook* made it one of the most widely-known Newfoundland songs. We present it in a stirring arrangement by Canadian composer Willi Zwozdesky.



As you can see, we love to sing!



Did you know?

- Deantha Edmunds, Juno-winning composer of “Song of the River” was honoured with a Doctor of Music honorary degree this year by Acadia University:
<https://convocation.acadiau.ca/previous-classes/class-of-2025/deantha-edmunds-doctor-music.html>
- Otto Kelland’s “Let Me Fish Off Cape St. Mary’s” was inducted into the Canadian Songwriters Hall of Fame this year:
<https://www.socanmagazine.ca/news/otto-kellands-let-me-fish-off-cape-st-marys-to-be-inducted-into-cshf/>



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Atlantic Voices is most thankful and grateful that our audience comes out to listen to us and support us. The auctions we hold as fundraisers play an important part in allowing us to bring you music and fun. Without this support, we couldn't continue to do what we do. So, check out our online auction and see what we have to bid on. There are some great items to be had, and maybe even something for a special occasion – or 'just because'!

Thank you so much for supporting us in past auctions, this auction and the ones in the future!

**Please visit our website or scan this QR code to visit
our online Silent Auction page. The Silent Auction runs
from May 25th to May 31st.**



Silent Auction

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Thank you!

Atlantic Voices also acknowledges the contributions and support of the following people:

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- Centretown United Church
- Fumblin' Fingers
- Hulse, Playfair & McGarry
- Members of Atlantic Voices
- Our family members – we couldn't do it without you!

And you, our welcoming and loyal audience!



SAVE THE DATE!
Our next Winter concert is on
26 January 2026



SAVE THE DATE!
Our next Spring concert is on
24 May 2026

