



Atlantic Voices

The Newfoundland and
Labrador Choir of Ottawa

www.atlanticvoices.ca



We Rise Again

Soulful Songs From Down East

25 January 2026
Centretown United Church

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
Ann Erdman
Joan Fisher
Elizabeth Fortin
Sharon Fotheringham
Jodie Francis
Sarah Gauld
Barbara Johns
Marie Kusters
Julie MacDonald
Margaret Lavictoire
Nicole Lefebvre
Nancy MacGregor
Anne Makhoul
Michelyn Maloney
Maureen Palmer
Margaret-Anne Park
Margaret Peddle
Catherine Semple
Kelda Sinclair
Kate Stanley
Lindsay Thomson-
Marmen

Altos

Denise Arsenault
Catherine Beaudoin
Rosemary Bernath
Donna Boudreau
Grace Carpenter
Josée Chabot
Janice Cross
Elisabeth Dempsey
Lesley Doering
Mary Fawcett-Pearce
Joan Foster-Jones
Sandra Fraser
Leila Gillis
Sue Huddleston
Hailey Johnston
Julie Leger
Lynn McDonald
Arlene McIntosh
Liz McKeen
Beth McRae
Joan Milne
Eileen Overend
Sharon Philpott
Diane Rayner
Maureen Sheppard
Nancy Walking

Tenors

Shelly Donaldson
Julie Dustin
Marla Fletcher
Greg Gnaedinger
Dave Huddleston
Helen Lücker
Mike Lücker
Ian MacKay
George Park

Basses

Winston Babin
Victor Laurin
Don MacDonald
Doug Murphy
Jim Rourke
Patrick Shaughnessy
Doug Sinclair
Ron Stoltz
Ted Welch

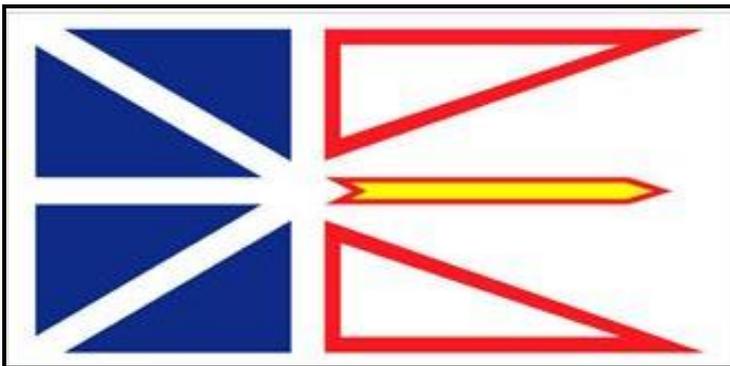
Ode to Newfoundland

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.



***UN Ch Bluemoon's Margaree
CD, DDX, TDDX, WRD, RN, TKI, CGN***



Not Just a Pretty Face

Atlantic Voices' Mascot is a Newfoundland Dog named Bluemoon's Margaree. She is Atlantic Voices' fourth Newfoundland Dog mascot, following in the footsteps of Bonavista, Atlantiika, and Splash.

Margaree has been awarded the titles Champion (CH) by the Canadian Kennel Club (CKC) and Ultimate Newfoundland Dog (UN) by the Newfoundland Dog Club of Canada because she has earned Canadian and American titles in Obedience (CD - Companion Dog), Draft Work (DDX - Draft Dog Excellent, TDDX - Team Draft Dog Excellent), Water Rescue (WRD - Water Rescue Dog), Rally Obedience (RN - Rally Novice), Tricks (TKI - Trick Dog Intermediate), and is a Canine Good Neighbour (CGN).

Margaree was born 24 April 2016. She has represented "Sable Chief", the Mascot of the Royal Newfoundland

Regiment in WW1 at the Beaumont Hamel Commemorative Services at the Canadian National War Memorial every July 1st since 2006. In August 2025 Margaree represented Dickin Medalist "Gander" at two presentations about "Gander" at the Hong Kong Veterans Association Conference. In 2024 Margaree was featured on a Canadian Broadcasting Corporation news special demonstrating all 6 exercises of the Newfoundland Club of America WRDX test. It was shown across Canada. Margaree appears on the cover of the NDCC 2019 publication "The Newfoundland Dog Owner's Handbook".

As is common of her breed, Margaree loves people, especially children, and is very gentle. Margaree is renowned on Facebook for her stick carrying prowess and is well known in her neighbourhood for giving cart rides to all the children. Margaree has passed every NCA WRDX exercise, but never all on the same day! She marches to her own drum and you never know what she will decide she is willing to do today! Margaree has always been gentle, sweet, and kind, and is truly loved by all who know her.

Like many 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 water dogs 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!



Image credit: Jennaeya McTavish

Nautica's Unsinkable Cassie Brown Mascot in Training

Cassie is Atlantic Voices' mascot in training, learning how to be a good advocate for her Newfoundland Dog breed, and how to impress the public at Atlantic Voices events. She was born 5 December 2024, so she is still very young and learning the ropes.

Cassie is named after the Newfoundland author, Cassie Brown, called "unsinkable" in an Atlantic Insight article in 1980 because of her indomitable spirit! Our young mascot in training is already showing to be of a similar spirit. By 8 months of age Cassie was able to do all five of the Junior Water Rescue Dog exercises in training sessions. Hopefully Cassie will be earning titles like her mentor, Margaree, by next summer!



Image credit: Jennaeya McTavish

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

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Scott Richardson

Collaborative Pianist

Abigail Sanchez Rojas

Master of Ceremonies

Brien Marshall

Concert Coordinator

Anne Makhoul

Kitchen Coordinator

Lynn McDonald

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Margaret-Anne Park

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Doug Murphy, Margaret-Anne Park

Technical Advisor

Jodie 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 Huddleston (bass, guitar, vocals, spoons), Tom Murray (fiddle, guitar, vocals) and Melanie Harnum (button accordions)

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

Let's Have Some Music

Robbie Smith

arr. Laura Hawley

Song for Peace

Allister MacGillivray

arr. Diane Loomer

Live in Friendship

Gary Ewer

Text: Bliss Carman

The New Moon

Nicholas Ryan Kelly

Text: Bliss Carman

Arm of Gold

Flute: Kelly Moorcroft

Solo: Sarah Gauld

Allister MacGillivray

arr. Peter Gillis

O For the Spirit of the Dove

Matthew Emery

Text: Henry Alline

They Shall Be Mine

Traditional Nova Scotia spirituals

Nothing But Peace in That Land

arr. Scott Richardson

Put Your Hand in the Hand

Gene MacLellan

arr. Kirby Shaw



PART II

Rest

Quartet: D. Arsenault, J. Cunningham, H. Lücker,
M-A. Park

Ave, Maris Stella

Quartet: M. Clippingdale, E. Fortin, M. Kusters,
L. Thomson-Marmen

The Welcome Table

Mary Ellen Carter

We Rise Again

Kathleen Allan

Traditional
arr. Diane Loomer

Traditional Nova Scotia
arr. Alec Tilley

Stan Rogers
arr. Scott Macmillan

Leon Dubinsky
arr. Lydia Adams

Connect with Us

Please visit our website www.atlanticvoices.ca and subscribe to our mailing list. 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.



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.

Let's Have Some Music

Atlantic Voices has been pleased to present a number of works from the Robbie Songs Project over the past few seasons: The Nova Scotia singer Robbie Smith and his musical partner Kathleen Glauser performed as the folk duo Naming the Twins; this tune was part of their repertoire. It was Robbie's wish to see his music made available in choral arrangements. And following his death from cancer in 2019, 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. The exuberant 'Let's Have Some Music' was arranged for SATB chorus by Ottawa native Laura Hawley. The lyrics speak of the power of song, and in particular singing together, to 'give us hope to help us cope with the burdens of this life'

Song for Peace

A plea to move beyond the things that divide us and sail on together into a better future. The song by Allister McGillivray was included in the *Cape Breton Summertime Revue*, and

has been recorded by the Barra MacNeils among many others. Diane Loomer's popular choral arrangement has been sung by choirs across Canada.

This song was composed while I was working as a paid helper on a lobster boat out of southeastern Cape Breton. I was composing when I should have been working, and the captain of the cape islander let me know it! The last two lines of the Chorus are among my favourites of the couplets I've written. The child in Verse 3 is our first-born, Conor. We lost him at the age of eight, but he lives forever in this "Song For Peace", which he inspired. —Allister

Live in Friendship

The text comes from the final stanzas of the poem "Revelation" by New Brunswick-born poet Bliss Carman. It first appeared in his 1925 collection *Far Horizons*. The poem contrasts the enigmatic vision of John of Patmos against the 'radiant revelation' accessible to all of us when we contemplate the natural world. This musical setting of Carman's text was commissioned by the Nova Scotia Choral Federation from Halifax composer Gary Ewer, to mark the organization's twenty-fifth anniversary in 2001.

The New Moon

British Columbia composer Nicholas Ryan Kelly has created an ethereal and harmonically adventurous setting of the poem "In Excelsis" by New Brunswick-born poet Bliss Carman, originally published in his 1925 collection *Far Horizons*. It was written in December 1924, and the title refers to the song of the angels to the shepherds announcing the birth of Christ: 'Glory to God in the highest!', so one might expect a poem about the Christmas story. It does open with an image of the new moon that 'hangs in the wint'ry tree'. But Carman then offers a series of images of the passing seasons, before concluding that 'love is more and more' and 'love is all in all'. It is not the God of the Bible, but Love itself that stands 'in the highest' above the cycles of the natural world.

Arm of Gold

This song by the great Cape Breton songwriter Allister MacGillivray is a prodigal son tale. After wandering the world, the singer returns to find his final rest in ‘the hand of God and the Arm of Gold’. The lyrics are not specific to the East Coast, but tell an archetypal story. The phrase ‘Arm of Gold’ suggests the Bras d’Or Lakes, Cape Breton’s beautiful inland sea. The arranger, Peter Gillis, is a native of Cape Breton who has performed and recorded as The Cape Breton Tenor; he recorded a solo version of “Arm of Gold” on his album ‘*Cape Breton Tenor*’.

Here is what the composer has to say about the song:

My daughter Fiona was in French immersion, and one day reminded me that the Cape Breton place names Main-à-Dieu and Bras d’Or translated to: "The Hand Of God" and "The Arm Of Gold". I found that observation intriguing. That night, with my new 5-string banjo in hand, I wrote the song in a folk style. I used the Biblical ideas of both Noah and the Prodigal Son as the framework for this Maritime song of redemption. I had completely forgotten about the piece until a visiting Peter Gillis—the Cape Breton Tenor—discovered it in a box of music sheets alongside our piano. Peter’s arrangement and recording of the song elevated it to a whole new level. I found it to be a very satisfying metamorphosis.

O For the Spirit of the Dove

Second-prize winner of our 2013 composition contest, Matthew Emery has created an original setting of a hymn by Henry Alline (1748-1784), a travelling evangelical preacher who led a religious revival known as the New Light movement, and worked to establish independent churches throughout present-day Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Alline encouraged singing as part of worship; in the absence of hymnals in the isolated communities he served, he would write his own hymns, some of which were later included in standard American collections. Emery’s sensitive setting captures the deep emotion of the

hymn, which describes Alline's longing for mystical union with God.

They Shall Be Mine & Nothing but Peace in That Land

The Maritime versions of these spirituals were recorded by a group of young singers at the Home for Coloured Children in Preston, NS in 1943 and 1944, during visits by the folksong collector Helen Creighton. The words of "They Shall Be Mine" are from the prophetic book of Malachi (3:17) and talk about God gathering his people to him as his treasured possessions at the end of time. "Nothing But Peace in That Land" is similarly about a better life that is promised to the believer after this one. However, that 'promised land' may also be understood as a more concrete place where those escaping slavery could taste peace and freedom. In 1989, children from the Halifax schools sang "Nothing But Peace in That Land" in tribute to folklorist Helen Creighton as she left the stage after receiving an award for her work from the Canadian Music Educators' Association, at what would turn out to be her last public appearance.

Put Your Hand in the Hand

Though born in Québec and raised in Ontario, songwriter Gene MacLellan spent much of his adult life living on PEI, at first during the 1960s and 70s, and then in the 1990s, during the final years of his life. He was an honorary life member of the PEI Songwriters Association, and was honoured at the East Coast Music Awards in both 1995 and 1996.

Gene MacLellan's gospel song "Put Your Hand in the Hand", and "Snowbird" have been recorded by a who's who of pop and country singers, including Anne Murray, Elvis Presley, Joan Baez, Loretta Lynn and Bing Crosby. MacLellan's daughter Catherine has followed in her father's footsteps by also making a name for herself as a singer/songwriter.

Rest

Since 2006, Atlantic Voices has been honoured to sing at the National War Memorial as part of the ceremony commemorating the sacrifices of members of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment at the Battle of Beaumont-Hamel on July 1, 1916. "Rest" is a moving tribute to those who died that day. The piece was commissioned by the Quintessential Vocal Ensemble and their Artistic Director, Susan Quinn, from the composer Kathleen Allan. Its text comes from the souvenir booklet of the unveiling of the Great World War memorial tablet at St. Bonaventure's College in St. John's. It includes the motto of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment: 'better than the best' and offers a prayer that 'God rest you gallant lads beneath the sod.'

Ave Maris Stella

A plainsong Vespers hymn to the Virgin Mary, "Ave Maris Stella" (Hail, Star of the Sea) dates back to at least the 8th century. It was adopted as the anthem of the Acadian people at the Second Acadian National Convention, held in Miscouche, Prince Edward Island, in 1884, and remains a source of Acadian pride and patriotism to this day. It was sung in the original Latin until French lyrics were written in 1994, although the first verse remained faithful to the original.

The Welcome Table

This spiritual was widely sung throughout the American South, sometimes under the name "Down to the River Jordan". Much later, it was taken up as a freedom song by civil rights protestors. Helen Creighton collected several versions in Nova Scotia. Alec Tilley has based his choral arrangement on a version sung by Charles Owens of Inglewood, a community near Bridgetown NS founded by descendants of Black Loyalists who came north following the American Revolution. Mr. Owens was 99 years old at the

time of the recording in 1953, and was accompanied by his family, including his daughter Isabel Owens on guitar.

Mary Ellen Carter

This song is intended as an inspirational anthem about triumphing over great odds. It tells the story of a heroic effort to salvage a sunken ship, the Mary Ellen Carter, by members of her former crew. It is one of the most popular songs written by Stan Rogers, first appearing on his live album *Between the Breaks*.

We Rise Again

The debut performance of “We Rise Again” was by Raylene Rankin and the cast of the 1995 *Rise and Follies of Cape Breton Island*. Its composer, Dr. Leon Dubinsky, received an honorary Doctor of Letters degree from the University College of Cape Breton(UCCB) in 1997, and the song became UCCB’s official song in 1999. The song, its composer, and performers have since become internationally recognized symbols and ambassadors of Cape Breton Island.



As you can see, we love to sing!

Do you know?



Atlantic Provinces Trivia Questions Of the four Atlantic provinces...

1. What is Canada's only officially bilingual province?
2. Where can you find the only authenticated Viking settlement in North America?
3. True or false: there are over 100 lighthouses in Nova Scotia.
4. What is the Latin motto of Prince Edward Island?
5. The SwissAir flight 111 crash happened off the coast of what famous landmark?
6. For what food is the Annapolis Valley famous?
7. Where can you find the world's largest fiddle?
8. What is the highest point in each of the Atlantic provinces? (4 answers)
9. Which province extends the furthest west?
10. Which province administers Sable Island?
11. Which province has the shortest ocean coastline?
12. Which province has recorded the highest temperature?
13. Which province participated in the "Aroostook" or "Pork and Beans War" with the USA (1838-9)?
14. Where can you find the world's highest tides?
15. What Newfoundland and Labrador town opened its airport and community when American airspace closed on 11 September 2001?

(answers on last page)

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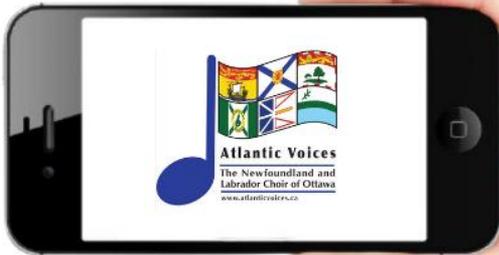
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Website: www.atlanticvoices.ca



Threads: AtlanticVoices



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



SAVE THE DATE!
Our next Winter concert is on
24 January 2027



TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. New Brunswick
2. L'Anse aux Meadows (NL)
3. True: there are over 150 lighthouses
4. Parva sub ingenti (the small under the protection of the great)
5. Peggy's Cove (NS)
6. Apples
7. Sydney (NS)
8. Mount Caubvick (Labrador); The Cabox (Newfoundland); Mount Carleton (NB); White Hill (NS); Springton (PEI)
9. New Brunswick
10. Nova Scotia
11. Prince Edward Island
12. New Brunswick
13. New Brunswick
14. The Bay of Fundy (between NB and NS)
15. Gander (NL)



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