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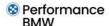
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Karen Ages

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Austin Hitchcock P
Janice Fralick
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## BRADLEY THACHUK

Canadian conductor, **Bradley Thachuk** enters his 13th season as artistic leader and conductor of the NSO in its 2023/2024, 75th Diamond Anniversary Season.

Previously, Thachuk held the positions of Interim Music Director of the Prince George Symphony Orchestra and Music Director of the Brampton Symphony Orchestra (Canada); Music Director of the Erie Chamber Orchestra, Associate Conductor of the Fort Wayne Philharmonic, Conducting Assistant of the Cincinnati Symphony and Pops Orchestras (US); and Staff Conductor of the Opera Theatre of Lucca (Italy).

As an in-demand guest conductor in North America and Europe, Thachuk's recent guest engagements include: English Symphony Orchestra (UK); Genesis Revisited with legendary guitarist Steve Hackett (UK tour); Thirteen Strings Orchestra, Windsor Symphony Orchestra (Canada); Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra, Ocean City Pops, Reading Symphony Orchestra, Fort Wayne Philharmonic, Tuscon Symphony Orchestra, Cincinnati Pops, Richmond Symphony, Hartford Symphony Orchestra (US); Sinfonieorchester Wuppertal (Germany); and the Hradec Kralove Philharmonic (Czech Republic).

A versatile and diverse musician, Thachuk has also established himself globally as one of the handful of conductors who moves easily between the Classical and Rock worlds. He is a highly sought-after symphonic arranger, with numerous collaborations. Recent projects include work with Steve Hackett of Genesis, the music of Leonard Cohen, a tribute to the Tragically Hip, Dave Mason of Fleetwood Mac and Traffic, ABC's Dancing with the Stars franchise, Tony award-winning Heather Headley, Sarah Slean, Chantal Kreviazuk, The Beach Boys, and Air Supply.

A supporter of the next generation of orchestral musicians, Thachuk is also a lecturer in Orchestral Literature at the world-renowned Glenn Gould School at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, sharing his knowledge and passion for orchestral music with post-graduate students from around the world.

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the spirit of Truth and Reconcilliation, the Niagara Symphony Orchestra acknowledges that we are on the shared traditional lands of the Haudenosanuee, Anishinaabe, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, the Attiwonderonk (Neutral) Peoples, and many other Indigenous Peoples from across Turtle Island. We offer our gratitude and respect to the original and continued stewards of this land.

The territory we work and perform within is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties Act and is within the land protected by the "Dish With One Spoon" Wampum Agreement. This land has been a site of human activity for 15,000 years and is the traditional shared hunting and gathering grounds of many nations and continues to serve as a meeting place and crossroads for Peoples of many Nations to this day.



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## An Annual Festive Tradition





Each year, the May Court Club of St. Catharines presents their annual fundraising tradition: the popular "Win a Christmas Tree" raffle! This year, they are partnering with the NSO!

During Brad's Home for the Holidays, browse the beautifully decorated trees, wreaths, and garlands, in the PAC lobby, and participate in the raffle and silent auction, or take a photo with Santa Claus by the fireplace!

Since 1935, the May Court Club of St. Catharines, a women's service organization serving all of Niagara, addresses the needs, primarily of women and children, through volunteerism and fundraising. *All proceeds of the Christmas Tree Fundraiser will go to the NSO's Educational programs*.





It takes more than a great orchestra to bring music to life...

## IT TAKES YOU!

Your support means the NSO can continue to present world-class concerts, break down barriers so that youth will benefit from our important education programs, and keeping ticket prices accessible for everyone.

From concerts to education programs, the NSO ignites musical passions throughout Niagara, all made possible thanks to *people like you*.

Please consider making a donation when purchasing your concert tickets. You can "round up" - an increasingly common way to donate - or scan the QR code above to donate securely through CanadaHelps.

**And remember:** Make the most of your year-end donations. To get your 2023 charitable tax receipt, donate to the Niagara Symphony Orchestra before December 31.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2023 | 7:30PM SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2023 | 2:30pm



## BRAD'S HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

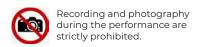
Bradley Thachuk, conductor

Kaylee Harwood, soprano
Sayer Roberts, tenor
Laura Secord Secondary School Choir,
Katryna Sacco, Music Director

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www.robertnowellblog.com





Stillman & Styne Home for the Holidays arr. Mann & Williams

Williams Merry Christmas from Home Alone

Anderson Sleigh Ride

Kent/arr. Bolks I'lll Be Home for Christmas

Greene & Lowry/arr. Thachuk Mary Did You Know?

Arr. Roger Emerson There's Still My Joy

Laura Secord Secondary School Choir

Silvestri/arr. Thachuk When Christmas Comes to Town

from Polar Express

Soloists: Abby Cabaj (Dec. 16)

Zoë Taraba-Blair (Dec. 17)

Believe from Polar Express

Davis/arr. Thachuk The Little Drummer Girl

Traditional/arr. Thachuk O Come All Ye Faithful

INTERMISSION

Blake The Snowman

Soloist: Carly Greavette

Carey/arr. Mann All I Want for Christmas (Is You)

Soloist: Khloe Kalman

Arr. Kirby Shaw The Holly and the Ivy

Laura Secord Secondary School Choir

Mitchell/arr. Thachuk River

Adam/arr. Thachuk O Holy Night

arr. Thachuk Santa Claus is Comin' to Town

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# SOPRANO KAYLEE HARWOOD

Kaylee is delighted to return for another holiday season with the NSO. Born in London, Ontario, Kaylee was raised in Langley, BC and now makes her home in Toronto. She toured North America with Beautiful: The Carole King Musical, appeared on Broadway in Jesus Christ Superstar (also La Jolla Playhouse), and in the Radio City Christmas Spectacular. Kaylee has performed across the country at Stratford, Shaw, The Citadel, The Musical Stage Company, The Grand, Theatre Aquarius, Western Canada Theatre, Catalyst, and The Arts Club. Film/TV: Star Trek: Strange New Worlds, Workin' Moms, Luckiest Girl Alive, Mayday, Christmas Movie Magic, Reign, Good Witch, America's Got Talent, The Tony Awards. Kaylee is also a theatre director and educator, and she recently directed Retold and Now What? for Musical Stage Company and In Studio for Theatre Sheridan. Love to TH and DPR. kayleeharwood.com



TENOR SAYER ROBERTS

Originally from the West Coast, Sayer has performed across Canada with the Stratford Festival (*The Music Man, The Rocky Horror Show, Guys and Dolls, HMS Pinafore*), Vancouver Arts Club (*Kinky Boots, Les Misérables, Red Rock Diner*), Stage West Calgary (*A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*), and Drayton Entertainment (*Kinky Boots*), to name a few. When not on stage, Sayer is an orchestral composer for short films and podcasts, and he frequently creates themes and soundscapes for *Dungeons & Dragons* and other fantasy adventures. He and his partner Kaylee Harwood host the podcast *MCU and Me!*, a couple's journey through Marvel films and TV shows. As always, rwy'n dy garu di, cariad.

## LAURA SECORD SECONDARY SCHOOL CHOIR





Laura Secord Secondary School is in St. Catharines, Ontario. The school fosters an amazing artistic community with 10 extra-curricular choral, band, and string ensembles for students to choose from. The 90-member Concert Choir is open to all students in grades 9-12. They perform frequently at community events, regional and national festivals, school functions, and concerts throughout the Niagara Region, Southern Ontario, Canada, and North America. Last year, the Concert Choir scored a Gold at Musicfest Nationals and were a top 10 National Finalist in CBC's annual Canadian Music Class Challenge.

Laura Secord Secondary School Choir is under the direction of Katryna Sacco.

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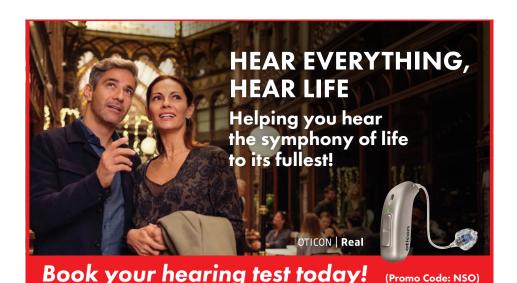


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Founded by Paul van Dongen, the Niagara Youth Orchestra is the premiere training ground for young orchestral musicians under 25 years old in the Niagara region.



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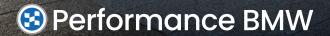
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