

Springtime Jazz

Cantabile Singers

*Chris Bowman, artistic director
Heather Bruce, assistant conductor
Belinda Adshade, collaborative pianist*

Nova Voce

*Bryan Crocker, co-artistic director
Bill Perrot, co-artistic director
Lynn Pelton, collaborative pianist*

Tuesday Night Band

Fran Farrell, soprano soloist

*Saturday, May 30, 7pm @ First United Church, Truro
Sunday, May 31, 3pm @ Life Branch Church, Dartmouth
Saturday, June 6, 4pm @ St. John's Anglican, Lunenburg*

Our Special Guests...

Frances Farrell

A native of Halifax, Nova Scotia, Frances Farrell pursued her music studies in Winnipeg, graduating with both Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Education degrees from the University of Manitoba. She subsequently earned a Master's Degree and Artist's Diploma in Vocal Performance from McGill University. Fran continued graduate studies, earning a Doctorate of Music in Choral Conducting from the University of Toronto. An active choral clinician, Dr. Farrell has worked with groups from across Canada offering workshops in choral improvisation, vocal technique, and most recently, the Alexander Technique as a certified teacher of this work. Fran has also published articles in *Anacrusis*, the *Teaching Music Through Performance Series*, and the *Canadian Music Educator*. Her choral compositions have been published by Cypress Music and Hinshaw Music. Currently, Fran is a music educator with the Halifax Regional Centre for Education. In addition to teaching music at Citadel High School, she is also a choral specialist with the Halifax Regional Arts Program. Outside of school, Fran conducts the Aeolian Singers, an adult community choir comprising upper voices' singers and also sings with a vocal jazz quartet called Canvas.

Tuesday Night Band

The Tuesday Night Band is an 18-piece big band where every member shares a passion for Jazz and Big Band music. Based in Halifax, Nova Scotia, many of the city's finest players have held a chair in the TNB over the years. While the personnel has been through some changes its mandate and regular weekly rehearsal on, you guessed it, Tuesday night has been consistent for over 35 years, keeping the tradition alive and getting the music out to the people.

Tuesday Night Band has been a staple of the Halifax Jazz Festival every summer since its inauguration. It has also been enjoyed at bandstands and community festivals around the province. It has played swing dances, and New Year's eve revelries, conferences, charities, school performance, weddings, and other social functions.

"Swing, Blues, Shuffle, Bop, Funk, Latin, Jump and Jive, that's the music we love to play." Drawing on an extensive library of over 400 arrangements the bands show remains relevant. Featuring new and original compositions and arrangements along with old favourites from arrangers such as Sammy Nestico, Dave Wolpe, Mark Taylor, and Andrew Holmzy.

Cantabile Singers (with members of Nova Voce)

A Little Jazz Mass

– Bob Chilcott

Kyrie

Gloria

Sanctus

Benedictus

Agnus Dei

Translations:

I. Kyrie

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

II. Gloria

Glory be to God on high, and in earth peace, good will towards all.

We praise thee, we bless thee, We worship thee, we glorify thee.

We give thanks to thee for thy great glory.

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ:

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.

That takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world, hear our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord,

thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father, Amen.

III. Sanctus

Holy, Lord God of hosts, Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

IV. Benedictus

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

V. Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Nova Voce

Hymn to Freedom
Libertatum

– Oscar Peterson, arr. Ryan Billington
– Jim Papoulis, ed. Francisco Nunez

Texts/Translations:

Hymn to Freedom

*When ev'ry heart joins ev'ry heart
and together yearns for liberty,
that's when we'll be free.*

*When ev'ry hand joins ev'ry hand
And together molds our destiny,
that's when we'll be free.*

*Any hour, any day, the time soon will come
when men will live in dignity,
that's when we'll be free.*

*When ev'ry man joins in our song,
and together singing harmony,
that's when we'll be free.*

Libertatum

*Deo Domine nun Domine (O God, O Lord, to God)
Vivere in libertatum avolare (To live in freedom, to fly away)
If you're gonna live, live in freedom
Stand up for your rights and tell them libertatum.
Freedom for living a life you believe in is freedom.
Give me a life to live and I'll live it in freedom.*

Tuesday Night Band

I Just Found Out About Love – Jimmy McHugh/Harold Adamson
arranged by Frank Foster, vocalist Yeliz Christensen

A Little Tear – Deodado/Gilbert/Valle
arranged by Ted Blackbourn, vocalist Yeliz Christensen
piano solo Tristan Kelloway, flute Amanda Mark

Not Too Blue - Ted Blackbourn
guitar solo Bob Bauer

So Danco Samba - Antonio Carlos Jobim
arranged by Mark Taylor, vocalist Yeliz Christensen

Band Members:

Saxophones:

Steve Rigden, Tobias Beale, Amanda Mark, Derek Cochrane, Peter Brown

Trumpets:

Ted Blackbourn, Ryan Cameron, Chris Jauer, Jonathon Plumber

Trombones:

James McDonald, Darlene Sanford, John Oliver, Rueben Bauer

Piano: Tristan Kelloway

Guitar: Bob Bauer

Bass: Alex Cochrane

Drums: Gerry Johnston

Vocals: Yeliz Christensen

Intermission

Cantabile Singers, Nova Voce, and Tuesday Night Band; Frances Farrell, soloist

Sacred Concert

- Duke Ellington

1. Praise God
2. Heaven
3. Freedom-suite
 - a. To be contented
 - b. Freedom
 - c. Word you heard
 - d. Freedom is a word
 - e. Sweet, fat and that
 - f. Freedom – Svoboda
 - g. To be contented
4. The Shepherd
5. The Majesty of God
6. Come Sunday
7. David danced before the Lord
8. Almighty God
9. T.G.T.T.
10. Praise God and Dance – Finale

Texts

1. Praise God

Praise God with the sound of the trumpet.

Praise God with the psalt'ry and harp.

*Praise God with the sound of the timbrel
and dance.*

*Praise God with the sound of the stringed instruments
the organ, the cymbals, the loud high sounding cymbals,
let everything that has breath praise God.
Praise God, praise ye the Lord, praise God
and dance.*

2. Heaven

Heaven, my dream.

Heaven divine.

Heaven supreme

*combines ev'ry sweet and pretty thing
life would love to bring.*

Heavenly Heaven to be

is just the ultimate degree to be.

3a. Freedom

Freedom.

To be contented pris'ners of love

or to reach beyond our reach to reach for a star

or go about the bus'ness of becoming who we already are.

Freedom.

3b. Freedom

Freedom

3c. Freedom (Word you heard)

Freedom. Freedom's what you thought you heard

Freedom. Freedom's not just one big word.

Freedom. A perfect healing salve.

Freedom. It's what you got to have.

Freedom. Freedom's good both night and day

up and down and all around and all the way

give me Freedom.

Freedom. Freedom must be won 'cause Freedom's even good fun!

3d. Freedom is a word...

Freedom is a word that is spoken and sung,

Loudly and softly all around the world,

And in many languages.

The word freedom is used for many purposes.

It's sometimes even used in the interest of freedom.

3e. Freedom (Sweet, fat, and that)

*Freedom is sweet, on the beat
Freedom is sweet to the reet complete
It's got zestness and bestness.
Sugar and cream on the blessedness,
no more pains, no more chains
to keep me from being free.
Freedom is sweet, fat and that's for me.*

3f. Freedom – Svoboda

3g. Freedom

*Freedom.
To be contented pris'ners of love
or to reach beyond our reach to reach for a star
or go about the bus'ness of becoming who we already are.
Freedom.*

4. The Shepherd

5. The Majesty of God

*The beauty of God is indescribable.
The power of God is unapraisable.
The sight of God is unimaginable
and we should know that the light of God
is truth and does not a shadow throw.*

*The wonder of God
The future of futures
The splendor of God
The Heaven of Heavens*

*The domain of God is universal beyond end.
The beginning is love and only God knows when.*

6. Come Sunday

*Lord, dear Lord above:
God Almighty, God of love,
Oh please look down and see my people through.*

*I believe that God put sun and moon up in the sky
I don't mind the grey skies 'cause they're just clouds passing by.*

7. David Danced

*David up and danced,
David danced before the Lord.
He danced before the lord with all his might.
Psalt'ries, timbrels, harps and cymbals
rang out loud and clear.
Shouting, singing turmpets
Bringing love to every ear.*

8. Almighty God

*Almighty God has those angels away up there above
up there a weaving, sparkling fabrics just for you and me to love.
Almighty God has those angels up in the proper place
Waiting to receive and to welcome us and remake us in grace.
Wash your face and hands and hearts and soul
'cause you was so well.
God will keep you safely where there's no sulphur smell.
Almighty God has those angels as ready as can be
Waiting to dress, caress and bless us all in perpetuity.*

9. Too Good to Title

10. Praise God and Dance

Praise God with the sound of the trumpet.

Praise God with the psalt'ry and harp.

*Praise God with the sound of the timbrel
and dance.*

*Praise God with the sound of the stringed instruments
the organ, the cymbals, the loud high sounding cymbals,*

let everything that has breath praise God.

*Praise God, praise ye the Lord, praise God
and dance.*

Praise God with sound of trumpets.

Praise God. Praise ye the Lord and dance.

Get in touch with us, or come sing with us

Facebook & Instagram: @cantabiletruro @novavocechoir

Website: www.cantabiletruro.org www.novavoce.com

Email: cantabiletruroinfo@gmail.com information@novavoce.com

Consider a donation to the Cantabile Society:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/cantabile-choral-society/>

or email **cantabiletrurofees@gmail.com**

(tax receipts available; CRA registered business #118837384RR0001)

Consider a donation to The Nova Voce Male Choral Society:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/the-nova-voce-male-choral-society/> or email **treasurer@novavoce.com**

(tax receipts available; CRA registered business #847248762RR0001)

Cantabile Singers:

Alto: Belinda Adshade, Charlotte Barron, Colleen Armstrong Shaw, Donna Lyle, *Gina Sanford, Heather MacLeod, Holly Tree, Jewelle Escalona, Karen MacQuarrie, Kerrie Coady, Laurie Sandeson, Lesley Payn, Lillian Foley, Lisa Annand, Lynn Macpherson, Marie Braedley, Sue Murray, Terry Hearn

Bass: Bill Ripley, Bob Lyle, Dave Turner, Kent Loughead, Ron Laking, Sebastian Kordik, Ty Shreve

Soprano: Alison MacLean, Avis McNutt, Barb Main, Beth Peterkin, Cassandra Armsworthy, Corrie Spearman, Danielle Richard, Debbie Jamieson, Dianne Udby, Heather Bruce, Helen Bell, Joanne Lacey, LaVonne Bilby, Melanie Pos, Monica Hattie, Pam Bowman, Ruthann Brown, Sheila Allan, Stefania Bulnes Ostos, Sue Carter, Susan Pace, Susan Park, Susanne Maxwell, Tasha McKillop

Tenor: Alf Bent, Ben Campbell, Chris Bowman, James Stewart, Joy Hewitt, Malcolm Macpherson
(*denotes guest singer)

Cantabile Singers

Based in Truro, Nova Scotia, the Cantabile Choral Society was formed in 1981 to support the activities of the Cantabile Singers of Truro. Over the past 15 years, the Society has expanded its impact by nurturing young musicians through a variety of youth and children's choirs, most recently launching the Cantabile Children's Choir in fall 2024 under the direction of Bette Pring.

The Cantabile Singers of Truro, the Society's flagship ensemble, offers eclectic and engaging concert programming for audiences in Truro and across the province. Their repertoire spans large-scale classical works—such as Handel's Messiah and Rutter's Requiem—to folk, popular, multinational, and contemporary styles. In recent seasons, the ensemble has recorded arrangements by Nova Scotia folk musician Robbie Smith with Leaf Music, collaborated with several Maritime choirs, and premiered Missa Pro Terra (Mass for the Earth) by Nova Scotia composer Dr. Paul Aitken, performing the work at Carnegie Hall in March 2025. In summer 2025, the Cantabile Singers were proud to be named provincial and

national winners at the Canadian National Music Festival, a recognition that reflects their musical excellence and continued dedication to choral artistry.

Succeeding previous directors Jeff Joudrey and Ross Thompson, Chris Bowman has served as Artistic Director since 2013. He is committed to bringing together singers of all ages and backgrounds, and is a passionate advocate for Canadian composers and the performance of new choral works.

Nova Voce:

Steve Beeler, Tom Black, Bryan Crocker, Ken Field, Peter Fillmore, David Gale, Byron Hermann, Ron Macdonald, Greg MacLeod, Tim McClare, Bruce McCullouch, Alan McGrath, Duncan Miller,*Lynn Pelton, Bill Perrot, Phil Porter, John Wallace

Nova Voce

Founded in 2004, Nova Voce has become a distinctive and celebrated presence in Nova Scotia's choral landscape. As the province's official men's choir, this auditioned ensemble brings together talented male voices from across the region, united by a passion for rich harmonies and expressive performance.

Under the co-direction of Bryan Crocker and Bill Perrot, Nova Voce has developed a diverse repertoire that spans classical works, folk traditions, contemporary compositions, and original arrangements. The choir performs in Halifax and surrounding communities, as well as further outside the HRM with annual spring and fall performances, ensuring that audiences throughout the province can share in their artistry.

Over the years, Nova Voce has released multiple albums, participated in major cultural events in Canada, the United States and Italy, and collaborated with other choirs and musicians, further cementing its role as a cultural ambassador for Nova Scotia. Known for their warm, resonant sound and engaging stage presence, Nova Voce continues to inspire audiences while fostering a deep appreciation for the beauty and power of male choral singing.

Artistic team bios - Cantabile:

Christopher Bowman (M. Mus Memorial University, B. Mus Mount Allison University) enjoys making music in many forms – as a conductor, solo and choral singer, educator, pianist/organist, and composer. He is full-time Minister of Music at First United Church in Truro, Nova Scotia, and Artistic Director of the Cantabile Society of Truro, where he conducts the Cantabile Singers and works with the Cantabile Children's Choir. He also sings with the Juno-nominated Canadian Chamber Choir and takes great delight in the fact that choral music has given him the opportunity to sing in every Canadian province. Chris is active as a baritone soloist; his debut CD “Over Hill and Valley” with pianist David Chafe won Music NS and Music NL awards, and was nominated for an East Coast Music Award.

Chris loves working with choral singers of all ages and stages, and has conducted community, church, school and university choirs in Atlantic Canada and Ontario. A recent highlight was the opportunity he had to be co-conductor of Junior Choir Camp for Sing Summer with the NS Choral Federation in August 2025. He is sought after as a clinician, adjudicator, and lecturer, and has taught in various university music departments in Atlantic Canada as a sessional instructor. As time permits, he is a composer/arranger; in addition to self-publication of dozens of liturgical pieces, he has had choral compositions published by Silent Dawn Publishing and East Chamber Music, as well as handbell music published by From The Top Music.

Chris' favourite musical collaborations, however, are with his wife Laura, and their children Erica and Meredith. They live in Valley, Nova Scotia.

Belinda Adshade grew up in Truro, NS and is thankful for a rich musical heritage that began with singing and playing in her church, and continued with her training in voice and piano locally, and as a student at Acadia University. Appreciated for her sensitive playing, Belinda has been accompanying soloists and groups since she was a teenager. She also has almost 30 years of experience both as a private music teacher (piano and voice) and as a music director for various churches in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. While residing in Miramichi, NB, she was additionally given the opportunity to teach music at Millerton School, and to accompany, and then direct, the community choir known as The Villagers. A former member of Cantabile, Belinda is pleased to have the opportunity to work with them again.

Heather Bruce is excited to be taking on the position of assistant conductor for Cantabile. Heather loves performing in choirs and she has a love of conducting. Heather has been conducting ensembles since she was in college. One of her favourite classes was under the direction of Will Kesling, who taught her how to conduct with sensitivity and great communication. Heather has been a public school music teacher for 17 years. She is grateful and honoured to be able to apply her skills in this position.

Artistic team bios – Nova Voce:

Bill Perrot graduated from Westminster Choir College, Princeton, NJ, in 1975 and has been involved in school, church and community choirs since his arrival in Nova Scotia. He has been active in the Nova Scotia Choral Federation since its inception in 1976 and is also a Charter Life Member of Choral Canada. Bill is the founding conductor of Kings Chorale, a community choir established in 1982. In addition, he has conducted the Annapolis Valley Honour Choir, the Acadia University Chorus, the Acadia Vocal Ensemble, and NSCF's Youth Choir Camp. He has prepared choirs for Symphony Nova Scotia performances as well as for concerts with the Nova Scotia Youth Orchestra. In 1994, he was the Master Conductor for the Rotary Youth Choir in Halifax, now the Nova Scotia Youth Choir. In May of 2008, Bill was given the Alumni Merit Award from Westminster Choir College for his work with choirs, particularly youth choirs, in Nova Scotia. Bill is extremely pleased to be sharing the podium with Bryan Crocker as Co-Artistic Director.

Bryan Crocker has been conducting choirs since 2000 when he was appointed Artistic Director of the Dalhousie Health Professions Chorale. Prior to that he enjoyed being a professional saxophonist in Halifax playing with such artists/events as Ice Capades, The Moscow Circus, The Temptations, The Spinners, Rosemary Clooney, Dionne Warwick, the John Alphonse Big Band and many others. Since that time, Bryan has continued to expand his conducting skills, and besides Nova Voce, he is also the Artistic Director of the Halifax Gay Men's Chorus (HGMC). Bryan sings baritone with the acclaimed Halifax Camerata Singers and is a long-standing member of the Sackville Concert Band playing baritone saxophone. He is involved with the Nova Scotia Choral Federation, and has sat on a number of planning committees, both provincially and nationally. Between weekends, in his free moments, Bryan is a casual senior analyst with Information Management & Information Technology at the Nova Scotia Health Authority after having recently retired from full-time duties.

Lynn Pelton, pianist and former music educator, is a graduate of Nova Scotia Teachers College and Mount Allison University (B.Mus. Major in Performance and Music History). Lynn has previously accompanied many choirs and string groups, including The Aeolian Singers, NS Choral Federation workshops and Halifax Metro Honour Choirs. Many of the school choirs she has conducted won several awards at the N.S. Kiwanis Music Festival. In addition to working with local choral conductors, she has had the opportunity to work with many well known choral clinicians including Mark Sirett, Mark Ramsay and Charles Bruffy.

Thank you for being here today, and for your support of arts
and culture in Nova Scotia!

Cantabile and Nova Voce are proud members of the
Nova Scotia Choral Federation.