

Remarks from the Chair

ONHB AGM November 19, 2023

- First time in two years that we were able to offer another level of music challenge within our band line-up besides “intermediate”
 - Felicia’s Easy-Intermediate Concert band also included some instructional clinics
 - This easier level was chosen to act as a bridge between our planned Beginner band for Fall 2023 and the intermediate bands we currently have going
- Percussion repair/replacement
 - ONHB owns a significant number of percussive instruments – two complete sets at our two primary locations (Brookfield HS and Woodroffe United Church)
 - After consulting with our percussionists, we identified and prioritized repairs/replacement based on budget allowances
- Working on a website revamp
 - Current website uses an older Wordpress template that cannot keep up with new updates
 - Our website volunteer, with experience in building websites, advised we move to a new template
 - Work has been ongoing this past year to launch the new site in the New Year
- New band leader
 - Welcomed Nick Roy to our jazz band lineup in Fall 2022; he continues to lead the intermediate jazz band with great success
- ONHB Info Night in June
 - First time we offered this since 2019
 - Primary purpose is to draw interest to the Beginner band
 - Over 40 attendees; 25 new to playing an instrument
 - Number of ONHB musicians showcased their instrument for all participants
- Member survey in June
 - Generally send a survey to all members each spring
 - This past June was a shorter one, more to get a sense of participation in particular bands this fall
 - Reasons for choosing a band are varied, with location, band leader and weekday coming out as significant factors ahead of music challenge
- Final thoughts
 - ONHB is a unique band experience in Ottawa
 - Our philosophy “your best is good enough” distinguishes us from other band programs
 - Non-competitive spirit, supportive environment, social aspect, will continue to guide the work we do going forward

Jackie Scheffel
Chair of the ONHB Board
November 2023