



NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE
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National Arts Centre Orchestra's Atlantic Tour Education Programming

The National Arts Centre Orchestra's Atlantic Tour is a wonderful opportunity to inspire artists and audiences young and old, and to mentor tomorrow's great Canadian musicians. The National Arts Centre Orchestra (NACO) – led by Pinchas Zukerman, Music Director, world-renowned violinist and conductor – will perform in concert halls, as well as in schools with the region's most promising young classical artists and composers. Here is a summary of education initiatives planned for the Atlantic Tour:

Master Classes

Talented young musicians are given the opportunity to study one-on-one with Pinchas Zukerman and principal musicians of the National Arts Centre Orchestra. Other musicians will sit in on the lessons as observers. The sessions are open to the public. Attendance ranges from 20 to 150 people, depending on the instrument.

Masterclasses will be held at:

- Memorial University, St. John's, NF & Lab.
- Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS.
- Acadia University, Wolfville, NS.
- Université de Moncton, Moncton, NB.
- University of Prince Edward Island, Charlottetown, PEI.
- The Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto, ON.

Sectional Rehearsals

Instrumental groups from youth orchestras are to receive instruction from NACO musicians on repertoire, instrument techniques, and ensemble playing. There are typically 20 to 30 young musicians involved in each rehearsal.

Ensembles participating in sectional rehearsals include:

- Newfoundland Symphony Youth Orchestra
- New Brunswick Youth Orchestra

String Quintet Performances

Five members of NACO's string section will present a one-hour instructional performance for school children. Concerts are scheduled in:

- St. John's, NF and Lab.
- Wolfville, NS
- Charlottetown, PEI

Student Matinee

Apprentice conductor Jean-Philippe Tremblay will lead the Orchestra in a one-hour performance featuring the music of Schubert. Students receive educational materials about the composer in advance, and local musicians are included in the performance. The student matinee concert will take place in the auditorium of Holy Heart of Mary High School in St. John's. One thousand children from the local community, and outlying areas such as Ferryland and Spaniard's Bay, will attend.

The concert will feature local clarinetist Sean Rice who was recently featured on CBC's *Up and Coming* series heard across Canada. Mr Rice is an alumnus of Holy Heart of Mary High School.

Question & Answer Sessions

These sessions are a rare opportunity for young musicians to meet and talk with exceptional musicians such as Pinchas Zukerman. Over the course of an hour, children are invited to ask questions about music, education, and life experiences.

Sessions will be held in:

- St. John's, NF and Lab. (string students from St-John's, Ferryland, Spaniard's Bay)
- Charlottetown, PEI (local string students)

Composition Sessions

Gary Kulesha, one of Canada's foremost composers, will be travelling with the orchestra on tour. In addition to having his work *Syllables of Unknown Meaning* performed in each city, he will be leading workshops with composition students at several universities. Members of the National Art Centre's New Music Ensemble will also be on hand to provide demonstrations.

Participating schools include:

- Memorial University (St. John's)
- Dalhousie University (Halifax)
- Université de Moncton (Moncton)

Students at other universities will also be able to participate in the first session held at Memorial University using broadband technology (see New Media section below).

Youth Choir Performances

Local youth choirs will have the opportunity to present pre-concert lobby performances in each tour city. The following choirs have confirmed their participation:

- Newfoundland Symphony Youth Choir (St-John's)
- Les Jeunes Chanteurs d'Acadie (Moncton)
- Confederation Girls Choir (Charlottetown)
- Rothesay Netherwood School Girls Choir (St-John)

Schubert's Party: Student Resource Kit

The National Arts Centre has created a student resource kit in French and English focusing on the life and music of Franz Schubert. Each kit will include the orchestra's most recent recording on CBC Records/Les Disques SRC, featuring Pinchas Zukerman conducting two Schubert symphonies. A copy of the kit will be distributed to every elementary school in Atlantic Canada and each student attending the Student Matinee performance in St. John's will receive their own personal copy.

New Media Initiatives

The National Arts Centre will create a section on the National Arts Centre's education outreach Web site, ArtsAlive.ca, devoted to the Atlantic Canada Tour. Students, parents and teachers will be able to access information on the tour, view video Web journals, watch master classes with Pinchas Zukerman, and send questions to NACO musicians. Copies of the Student Resource Kit will also be available to download or view online.

The National Arts Centre will use cutting-edge network technology to make educational programming available to students outside Atlantic Canada. Using broadband technology, the composition session with Gary Kulesha at Memorial University will be streamed to students at the University of Ottawa. These students will be able to interact in high quality audio and video with the composer and the students at Memorial in real time.

Pinchas Zukerman's master class in Toronto at the end of the Tour will also use broadband videoconferencing to reach students in other cities.

The National Arts Centre Atlantic Tour is coming!

Music students and teachers all over Atlantic Canada are eagerly awaiting the arrival of the National Arts Centre Orchestra's upcoming tour and education outreach activities. Here are excerpts of letters the Orchestra has received over the last few weeks:

"In Atlantic Canada we are proud of our musical heritage and the success we have had developing professional musicians. A large part of this success has come about because we work hard to provide students with the opportunity to be exposed to the highest quality artists available. The National Arts Centre Orchestra Tour will be an extremely important part of this endeavour in 2002-2003."

*- Dr. Gregory Burton, Music Director
Nova Scotia Youth Orchestra*

"The New Brunswick Youth Orchestra is a flourishing and vibrant training ground for young musicians. Although we have a number of strong musical mentors, the small population of New Brunswick limits the training to some extent. The opportunity for your orchestra to play for and work with our members will be a musical highlight that normally would not be possible for our members."

*- Barbara Clarke, President
New Brunswick Youth Orchestra*

“This visit by National Arts Centre performers to a rural campus will allow Acadia students to learn from internationally established master performers without being hindered by the traditional barriers of geography....The effect of bringing master performers into joint action with well-prepared performance students will maximize the learning potential for these students.”

- *John Hansen, Director*

Acadia University School of Music (NS)

“Very few of our schools offer strings programs in our district and only one offers them to primary and elementary students. To be able to provide our fledgling string players the opportunity to hear and to participate musically with professional players would truly be an extraordinary experience for them... and provide a level of expertise towards which they should strive.”

- *Krista Vokey, Program Specialist (Fine Arts/English 7-12)*

Avalon East School District (NFLD & Lab.)

“To observe the performance of great music performed meticulously is apt to be far-reaching. The performance, combined with workshops for our students, will result in a new and renewed enthusiasm for pursuits in music.”

- *Karem J. Simon, D.M.A.,*

Chair & Professor, Department of Music, University of PEI

“We are delighted to have made contact with Gary Kulesha to coordinate a composition workshop. The idea of his vetting several short works is a wonderful opportunity for our students to be in “tutorial contact” with a great artistic force in Canadian music.”

- *Professor Lynn Stodola, Chair*

Department of Music, Dalhousie University (NS)

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