



DURHAM WEST ARTS CENTRE

Kids Saturday Morning Music Madness

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The Durham West Arts Centre brings a free music series for young people to the Pickering Central Library Auditorium for six Saturdays in July and August. "What's special about this series is that the performers are between 8 and 18 years of age. The first four concerts are the 'musical champions' of the 2006 Pickering Rotary Music Festival," says DWAC Director Judy Scott-Jacobs, "and the enthusiasm with which they sing, dance and play a variety of musical instruments should inspire other young people to become interested in the performing arts." August 12th features young composers from local high schools performing the contemporary music they've created as part of the SASS program (School Alliance of Student Songwriters). Ye Yuan of Pickering High School finishes the series on August 19th with an interactive drama and music presentation that demonstrates the power of soundtracks.

Melodrama and Mayhem, like the other concerts, starts at 10 a.m. and runs about an hour. Each performance has teacher emcee and an accompanying children's book display, thanks to Douglas Minacs, the Pickering's Children's Librarian. "Parents may be sure that the performances will educate and inspire," adds DWAC Chair John Sabean. "DWAC's vision is that a permanent performing arts centre will educate, inspire and preserve. To that end, the second concert named *Mad Dogs and Englishmen* preserves the musical heritage of the British Isles while the others present classical and semi-classical pieces from around the world."

Although this is the first year for Music Madness, the strong sponsorship of Scotiabank and Ontario Power Generation and the support of the Pickering Central Library and the Rotary Club of Pickering, ensure that young composers and performers from the local community will have this opportunity to showcase their musical talents in the future. Organizers Judy Scott-Jacobs, Jane Stone and Angie Littlefield have woven together the free summer fun to keep the value that the arts add to community life in the public eye as part of DWAC's vision to make a permanent arts centre for west Durham a reality.

Durham West Arts Centre • Educating • Inspiring • Preserving our artistic heritage



Mad About You, July 8

Burgmueller, Duvernoy, Chopin, some of the composers featured by 11 year old pianist Scott Clumpus and 16 year olds, Sibohan Saravanamuttu, Alex Defaria and Song Yang, show the power of Paris, France. These musicians, born in Germany, Italy and Poland, were drawn to the excellence and excitement of Paris as a cultural centre. We hope you'll be drawn to culturally rich Pickering to hear 13 year old Anna Macdonald, 14 year old Spencer Horeman and 9 year old Emily Steward round out the opener of Musical Madness. You'll be mad about these young musical champions of the piano and violin.

Only Mad Dogs and Englishmen, July 15

Piano, cello, violin and vocal performances by young people aged 9 to 16 years of age feature music from the British Isles. Nine year old Nathan Sim, 12 year old Aaron McSherry, 13 year olds Martina Parson and Kevin Odorico, 16 year old Michelle Odorico and 14 year old Rheannon Stalleart lead in to highland dancers from Jacqueline's School of Dance. There will be a lot of toe tapping during this concert emceed by vocal performer Gary Faulkner as young people find out why, "Only mad dogs and Englishmen go out in the midday sun."

Mad About the Classics, July 22

Chopin and Duvernoy return to the series along with Italian/British composer Clementi, French composer Debussy, German composers Schumann and Beethoven and Irish composer Buckley. Performing their classics on the piano are 9 year old Krista tMannetje and her 12 year old sister Rebecca, 10 year old Nicholas Hung, 15 year old Kevin Bedi, 16 year old Theola Li and 11 year old Christin Spencer. J. Clarke

Richardson music teacher Jack tMannetje emcees this program mixing information about great composers with that of great young performers.

Madly Opposite, Madly Together, July 29

Director of the Young Singers, Anna Lynn Murphy emcees this program in which young people learn what musical team work means and that even in things opposite, there is often musical common ground. Piano and duets and piano counterpoints with 11 year old James and 16 year old Sibohan Saravanamutto start off followed by more family virtuosos. Eleven year old Sean Webster is joined by his 12 year old sister Shannon and his dad for a piano Rondo and then sisters Rachel and Sarah Wood perform a vocal duo. Chantelle MacMillan and Danielle Johannes add more vocal power. This program provides family fun, harmony and diversity!

SASSY Madness, August 12

Performers from Pine Ridge Secondary School's and Dunbarton's SASS clubs perform their own contemporary music. The School Alliance of Student Songwriters, with clubs in over 50 Durham schools, has an enviable record of student composers creating outstanding works. One of the featured composer, Anastasia Pheakos of Dunbarton High School, won the top award at this year's SASS concert at the Hummingbird Centre in Toronto. The other featured composers between 14 to 18 years of age show the positive power of music in Pickering.

Melodrama and Mayhem, August 19

The summer musical madness ends with 18 year old Pickering High School pianist Ye Yuan. After Ye shows off his awesome improvisational piano skills, emcee Angie Littlefield will solicit audience participants to take part in simple melodramas. After a few run throughs, Ye Yuan will improvise sound tracks for the audience-performed melodramas. This interactive and fun session provide young people with insights about the power of background music in movies and on TV. It also tells some of the story of the young man from China who hopes to become doctor.