



Oakville Choir for Children & Youth
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MEDIA RELEASE

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Oakville Choir Welcomes New Artistic Director

Oakville, ON - The internationally acclaimed Oakville Choir for Children & Youth is delighted to announce the appointment of Maria Conkey as its new Artistic Director.

“I am both humbled and thrilled to be the next Artistic Director of the Oakville Choir for Children & Youth,” said Conkey. “The OC is celebrated for its innovative programming, musical excellence, and its focus on helping young people discover the power and impact of their voices. I look forward to getting to know this vibrant community and exploring new creative ideas, projects, and collaborations in the years to come.”

Conkey has earned a reputation as an inspiring and innovative conductor and educator. She was most recently Artistic Director at Young Voices Toronto and continues to be a conductor at Toronto’s St. Michael’s Choir School. Conkey is originally from Newfoundland and Labrador, and is a graduate of Memorial University and the University of Alberta, where she obtained a master’s degree in choral conducting.

Maria Conkey is only the third permanent Artistic Director in the OC’s nearly 30 year history.

“It’s a pleasure to pass the baton to Maria Conkey,” said Dr. Sarah Morrison, who is finishing off a remarkable 15-year run with the OC. “Maria has strong experience and skill as a conductor and leader in the choral field. I know that she will maintain both the welcoming spirit and excellence of the OC and that the singers will flourish under her leadership.”

The Oakville Choir for Children & Youth has been providing exceptional music education and training to young people since 1994, currently offering a collaborative and cooperative choral music program to 150 young people. Visit oakvillechoir.org to learn more or to join us.

Media Contact

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Maria Conkey



A native of Newfoundland and Labrador, Maria is emerging as an inspiring and innovative conductor, clinician, and pedagogue in Canada's choral scene. She is passionate about choral music as a means to create community and foster leadership in young people. She is currently the Junior Choir Conductor at St. Michael's Choir School. Most recently, she was the Artistic Director at Young Voices Toronto.

Maria is a graduate of Memorial University (Bachelor of Music, Piano) and the University of Alberta (Master of Music in Choral Conducting), where she studied choral conducting under the direction of Dr. Debra Cairns and Dr. Leonard Ratzlaff. She has worked with internationally acclaimed conductors such as Maria Guinand, Jon Washburn, and Fred Sjoberg. Past engagements include the Conductor of the award-winning senior choirs at St. Bonaventure's College (NL) and the Choral Director at the Basilica of St. John the Baptist (NL).

She has also worked with Shallaway - Newfoundland & Labrador Youth in Chorus and several children's, youth, and adult choirs, including the Alberta Youth Choir and the University of Alberta Madrigal Singers. Maria also serves as President-Elect on the Board of Directors for Choirs Ontario.



