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## THE GRAND RIVER CHORUS



Artistic Director  
Richard Cunningham, 519-841-9708

President  
David E. Neumann, 519-759-7885

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# THE GRAND RIVER CHORUS

## TENTH YEAR ANNIVERSARY

We intend to mark the milestone of our tenth season with a year-long celebration. Our Tenth Anniversary Committee, led by Pat Lenz, has planned for a number of events and activities throughout the year. Three highlights are the Season Launch in October, the Tenth Anniversary Gala concert in April, and the Celebration Social following our last concert on June 14th.

The Grand River Chorus is an auditioned, mixed-voice choir founded in Brantford in 1999, now numbering over seventy singers. We offer four major concerts, the highlight being the performance in April 2009 of *Saul*, a major oratorio by George Frideric Handel. It will mark the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the choir's first public concert - the performance of Handel's *Coronation Anthems* and the *Mozart Requiem* in April 1999. April 2009, will also mark the 250th anniversary of Handel's last attendance at a performance of one of his own oratorios, and of his death a few days later on April 14, 1759.

We hope that many past members of the chorus will join us throughout the year, especially at this final concert and social. We will invite them to join us on stage to sing some of the pieces. For information about our 10th anniversary activities, please call **519-752-8053** or e-mail us at [grandriverchorus@rogers.com](mailto:grandriverchorus@rogers.com). We welcome your participation.

David Neumann,  
PRESIDENT

Plan to attend...  
THE NINTH ANNUAL  
**GRAND FÊTE DE VIN**  
*Gala Wine Tasting Event with Dinner  
and Silent and Live Auctions*  
Saturday February 21, 2009  
**Best Western - Brant Park Inn,  
Brantford**



For details  
and tickets call  
519-752-8053 or  
519-759-7885

Because of our landmark celebration, this season's programme is the most ambitious (and costly) year we have had. Please consider becoming a Supporting Membership Donor at one of these levels of support:

1. Patron .....\$1000+
2. Benefactor .....\$500 - 999
3. Contributing Donor .....\$350 - 499
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6. Member Donor.....\$25 - 174

Appreciation privileges apply to these levels, including 2 season subscriptions for levels 1, 2 and 3, and one season subscription for level 4. Level 5 includes a pair of tickets to a concert of your choice. Make cheques payable to The Grand River Chorus. For more details call 519-759-7885



# THE GRAND RIVER CHORUS

## TENTH YEAR ANNIVERSARY

2008 - 2009  
S E A S O N

Join us in  
Celebration!



# THE GRAND RIVER CHORUS

## 2008 - 2009 SEASON

### 1. THE FRENCH ROMANTIC

**Requiems by Gabriel Fauré and Maurice Duruflé**

Sunday, November 2, 2008 - 3:00 p.m.

**St Pius X Roman Catholic Church, Brantford**

Twentieth century France had many great composers. Two of the best known are Gabriel Fauré and Maurice Duruflé. Fauré's universally loved masterpiece certainly influenced the manner in which Duruflé set the themes from Gregorian Chant. Come and witness the fire and passion which is the French Romantic.

### 2. HANDEL'S MESSIAH

Sunday, December 14, 2008 - 3:00 p.m.

**Wesley United Church, Brantford**

Four great soloists and a fabulous choir with the best baroque orchestral players there are. Add that to Handel's timeless masterpiece and you have this most special Christmas entertainment. What a great way to give meaning to the season.

Photo courtesy of Takacs Studios.

### 3. HANDEL'S SAUL

Sunday, April 5, 2009 - 3:00 p.m.

**Saint Basil's Roman Catholic Church, Brantford**

This concert will be the gala for our tenth anniversary season. Our talented array of wonderful soloists from across the country along with the Grand River Chorus and Orchestra tell the story of the fall of King Saul and the rise of King David. Starting with the slaying of Goliath and ending with David becoming King of Israel, this powerful work will hold you spellbound.

### 4. WE SAIL THE OCEAN BLUE

**Two venues: your choice**

Friday June 12th at 7:30 p.m. at

**LaSalette Church in Norfolk,**

OR Sunday, June 14, 2009 at 3:00 p.m.,

**Wesley United Church, Brantford**

Seafaring Songs; Sacred, Secular, Serious & Silly; Come and be entertained by the Chorus in a more relaxed and festive mood as we sing and shanty our way around the Seven Seas.

## A word from the Artistic Director

**Welcome to the Tenth Season for the Grand River Chorus...**

...and what a season it promises to be!! We have pulled out all the stops this year in order to present our grandest and most exciting season yet. Everyone loves Handel's Messiah, that timeless classic which has become a staple of every listener's Christmas season. On December 14th we have four fabulous soloists coming to perform this work along with our chorus and our regular orchestral players.

On April 5th, we have six other tremendous soloists coming from across the country to highlight the gala concert of our fabulous season - a performance of Handel's most dramatic oratorio Saul. This will be a performance to remember.

We start the season this fall in November with two great works of the French twentieth century. Gabriel Fauré's setting of the Requiem centres on the peace and serenity of the afterlife, while Maurice Duruflé has much more power and passion in his setting. Two wonderful soloists complement the choir for this great event.

In our final concert of the celebratory tenth season the choir will sing a much more laid back concert of music featuring the sea. There will be songs that are familiar Canadian folk songs, some grander music from an oratorio, maybe a shanty or two, and a tippie of Gilbert & Sullivan to add just the right amount of zest to the afternoon.

This will be a season that you won't want to miss. Be sure to get your season's tickets and to mark all of the dates on your calendar. The Grand River Chorus will entertain you with every note that is sung and played this year. I look forward to seeing you there.



Richard Cunningham



## Order Form

Adult Season Pass \_\_\_\_\_ @ 75.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Senior/Student Pass \_\_\_\_\_ @ 60.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

**Adult Individual**

**Concert** \_\_\_\_\_ @ 25.00 ea. = \_\_\_\_\_

Concert 1, 2, 3, 4, (please circle)

**Senior/Student**

**Individual Concert** \_\_\_\_\_ @ 20.00 ea. = \_\_\_\_\_

Concert 1, 2, 3, 4, (please circle)

**High school student** (with current I.D.)

\$5.00 ticket price on

all performances \_\_\_\_\_ @ 5.00 ea. = \_\_\_\_\_

Concert 1, 2, 3, 4, (please circle)

**Children** (age 12 and under)

special \$5.00 ticket price on

all performances \_\_\_\_\_ @ 5.00 ea. = \_\_\_\_\_

Concert 1, 2, 3, 4, (please circle)

I would like to make a tax deductible\*

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**Suite 201**

**245 King George Rd.**

**Brantford, ON**

**N3R 7N7**

\*Registered charitable organization number: 869448639RR0001