



20

2004

2024

 Nova Voce
Nova Scotia's Provincial Men's Choir

Season 2023-2024

Nova Voce

Congratulations to Nova Voce
on our 20th Anniversary!

Twenty years of outstanding male choral
singing is quite an accomplishment!

Bill Perrot
Co-Artistic Director of Nova Voce

CONGRATULATIONS NV
ON 20 YEARS

GREAT TO BE A PART OF
AN AMAZING CHOIR FAMILY
SPICE GIRLS AND ALL

DUNCAN AND ANN MILLER

Congratulations
Nova Voce
for 20 years of male harmony!

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Bruce McCulloch

In 2005, I was taking voice lessons at the Maritime Conservatory for Performing Arts, and my instructor, Jason Parkhill, told me there was a new men's choir that had started up, and suggested I follow up. I did just that and was invited to audition for Terry Hurrell and Giuseppe (Joe) Renzi at St. Matthew's United Church on Barrington St. To my amazement they advised me, a day or two later, that I was accepted into Nova Scotia's Provincial Men's Choir, Nova Voce!

For the next 10 years my life was filled with lots and lots of notes, high ones (but not too high, I'm a baritone/bass), middle notes and low notes, flat notes and sharp notes, so many notes! Great times.

Nova Voce's participation in the Festival 500 in St. John's Newfoundland, and Europa Cantat were most memorable.

Thanks for the memories, and all those notes!

Christopher Hopgood
Nova Voce 2005 to 2015



Tired of singing alone?

Nova Voce is seeking new singers.
Contact us to arrange an audition





A Message from the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia

As The King's representative in Nova Scotia and the Honorary Patron of Nova Voce, I am happy to celebrate two decades of excellence as the ensemble embarks on its 20th Season.

As Nova Scotia's provincial men's choir, Nova Voce has delighted audiences in Canada and beyond, sharing a sound and repertoire that embodies the spirit of the province. Since 2004, Nova Voce has joined Symphony Nova Scotia, the Annapolis Valley Honour Choir, the Phoenix Community Choir, and many others, to ensure that residents across the province have access to live musical experiences. I am sure that I speak for everyone when I say these performances are a unique and special gift to listeners.

Through your music, all Nova Scotians are reminded of the beauty that is tied to our culture. Thank you for lending your exceptional talent, skills, and passion to our artistic community. We are fortunate to have singers of your caliber living and working in the province. I have no doubt that your music will continue to inspire audiences for generations for come.

On behalf of the Crown and all Nova Scotians, I extend heartfelt gratitude for your invaluable contributions. Patsy and I send best wishes for the upcoming season and hope to see you soon.

Arthur J. LeBlanc, ONS, KC
Lieutenant Governor

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COMMISSIONAIRES

Welcome

It is my distinct honour on behalf of Nova Voce to welcome you to our 20th anniversary season.

Nova Voce performances will take place in Mi'kma'ki the ancestral unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People. We acknowledge them as the past, present, and future caretakers of this land, and the first people to raise their voices to sing of the land they love. Nova Voce is proud to add our voices to theirs to sing songs not only of this place we all now call home but songs from other places and lands meant to bring messages of hope and inspiration.



Whether you have followed Nova Voce since our beginning or have just heard us for the first time, we thank you for your support. Nova Voce was founded with one of its goals to spread the joy and splendour of male TTBB singing. It has been our distinct pleasure to represent Nova Scotia throughout the province, Canada, the United States and beyond. As a founding member, I find it hard to believe Nova Voce is twenty years old. The birth of Nova Voce may not have made national or international headlines, but it made an indelible mark on the choral landscape which is worthy of celebration. And celebrate we will.

The Season will be filled with collaborations and musical imagery which we hope will continue to dazzle and delight our audiences. The choir has already participated in Nocturne and submitted a work for inclusion in the annual Christmas Daddies program. Nova Voce will be joined for its annual December show by the Halifax Boys Honour Choir. In March, we will present our anniversary concerts over two nights in Halifax in collaboration with the Halifax Gay Men's Chorus, who are celebrating their 5th anniversary, featuring songs from our 20-year history chosen by the choir. In June, Nova Voce will be joined by the Cantabile Singers for two concerts in Halifax and Truro.

If you are looking for a more intimate Nova Voce experience, consider joining us for our Spring Gala at Ashburn Golf and Country Club on April 20, 2024.

The one cord that binds all cultures is music. Whatever music style you may be looking for, Nova Voce has something to offer. I invite you to join Nova Voce this year and let's get ready to party! Just sit back and relax and celebrate the musical landscape and artistry that is Nova Voce, your provincial men's choir!

Steven Beeler
Nova Voce President



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TO YOU:

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Nova Voce is a not-for-profit registered charity. Our only sources of revenue are ticket sales, fundraisers, or “financial applause” (donations made by our supporters). We couldn’t do this without YOU!



TERRY HURRELL:

Nova Voce recognizes the long-standing contribution of our Director Emeritus, Terry Hurrell, to the continuing success of the choir. Terry has, for nearly two decades, written and arranged hundreds of the songs we have had the pleasure to sing for you. Terry graciously provided Nova Voce with the body of work he’s compiled over those years and “arranged by Terry Hurrell” pieces will continue to be part of our repertoire. Thank you, Terry, for your ongoing participation and allowing us to continue to share your musical talent!

NSCC:

Nova Voce rehearses at the Nova Scotia Community College – Leeds Campus. We are very grateful to Karen Mulvihill for their ongoing support and generosity in providing us with rehearsal space for the last 20 years.





Steele

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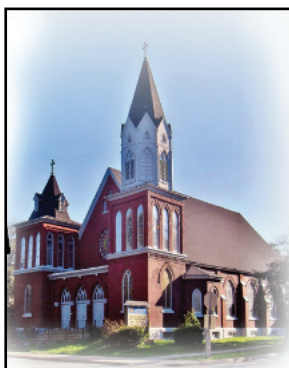
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Nova Voce

**for 20 years of
musical memories**



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Team Nova Voce

Co-Artistic Directors Bryan Crocker and Bill Perrot
Accompanist Lynn Pelton
Artistic Director Emeritus Terry Hurrell
Concert Manager Gina Sanford

The Choir

Tenor I	Tenor II	Baritone	Bass
Daniel Boland	Kenneth Field	Steven Beeler	Tom Black
Tim McClare	Richard Foot	Bryan Crocker	Byron Hermann
David Packer	David Gale	Peter Fillmore	Jeff Johnston
Mike Pottie	Richard Gooch	Ron Macdonald	Greg MacLeod
Norm Scrimger	John Wallace	Max Guitton	Duncan Miller
		Robert McCalla	Bill Perrot
		Bruce McCulloch	Duncan Pike
			Phil Porter

Board of Directors

Steven Beeler President
Tim McClare Vice President
Norm Scrimger Past President
Richard Gooch Secretary
Greg MacLeod Treasurer
Daniel Boland At Large
Kenneth Field At Large
Richard Foot At Large
Ron Macdonald At Large
Judy Porter At Large
Phil Porter At Large
Bryan Crocker Artistic Director (ex officio)
Bill Perrot Artistic Director (ex officio)

Schedule

NOCTURNE.....Saturday, October 14 , 2023
Government House 6:00 pm
1451 Barrington St., Halifax, NS

HOLIDAY CONCERT Friday, December 1, 2023
St. Patrick’s Catholic Church 7:00 pm
2263 Brunswick St, Halifax NS

ANNIVERSARY CONCERT Saturday March 16, 2024
(with The Halifax Gay Men’s Chorus) 7:30 pm
St. Andrew’s United Church
6036 Coburg Rd., Halifax, NS Sunday, March 17, 2024
3:00 pm

SPRING GALA Saturday, April 20, 2024
Ashburn Golf Club 6:00 pm
3250 Joseph Howe Dr, Halifax NS

COMBINED CONCERT.....Saturday, June 1, 2024
(With Cantabile Singers Truro) 7:30 pm
Life Branch Church
10 Lancaster Dr, Dartmouth NS

First United Church, Truro,..... Sunday, June 2, 2024
711 Prince St., Truro, NS 3:00 pm

CONGRATULATIONS
ON THIS MILESTONE
AND BEST WISHES FOR MANY MORE YEARS
OF GREAT MUSIC MAKING.

DAVID KALIX
TENOR 2 2005-2020

Nova Voce requests that there be no flash photography or use of recording devices during performances.
Please remember to turn off your cell phone and other electronic devices before the concert begins. Thank you.



Bryan Crocker – Co-Artistic Director



Bryan has been conducting choirs since 2000 when he was appointed Artistic Director of the Dalhousie Health Professions Chorale. Previous to that he enjoyed being a professional saxophonist in Halifax playing with such artists/events as Ice Capades, The Moscow Circus, The Temptations, The Spinners, Rosemary Clooney, Dionne Warwick, the John Alphonse Big Band and many others.

Since that time, Bryan has continued to expand his conducting skills and besides Nova Voce he is also the first Artistic Director of the Halifax Gay Men's Chorus (HGMC).

Bryan sings baritone with the acclaimed Halifax Camerata Singers and is a long-standing member of the Sackville Concert Band playing baritone saxophone. He is involved with the Nova Scotia Choral Federation, and sits on a number of planning committees, both provincially and nationally. Between weekends, in his free moments, Bryan is a full-time clinical manager with Information Management & Information Technology at the Nova Scotia Health Authority.

Lynn Pelton – Accompanist



Lynn Pelton, pianist and former music educator, is a graduate of Nova Scotia Teachers College and Mount Allison University (B.Mus. Major in Performance and Music History). Lynn has previously accompanied many choirs and string groups, including Aeolian Singers, N.S. Choral Federation workshops and Halifax Metro Honour Choirs. Many of the school choirs she has conducted won several awards at the N.S. Kiwanis Music Festival. In addition to working with local choral conductors, she has had

the opportunity to work with many well known choral clinicians including Mark Sirett, Mark Ramsay and Charles Bruffy.

Bill Perrot – Co-Artistic Director

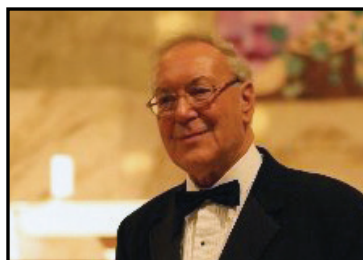
Bill graduated from Westminster Choir College Princeton, NJ, in 1975 and has been involved in school, church and community choirs since his arrival in Nova Scotia. He has been active in the Nova Scotia Choral Federation since its inception in 1976 and is also a Charter Life Member of Choral Canada. Bill is the founding conductor of Kings Chorale, a community choir established in 1982. In addition, he has conducted the Annapolis Valley Honour Choir, the Acadia University Chorus, the Acadia Vocal Ensemble, and NSCF's Youth Choir Camp. He has



prepared choirs for Symphony Nova Scotia performances as well as for concerts with the Nova Scotia Youth Orchestra. In 1994, he was the Master Conductor for the Rotary Youth Choir in Halifax, now the Nova Scotia Youth Choir. In May of 2008, Bill was given the Alumni Merit Award from Westminster Choir College for his work with choirs, particularly youth choirs, in Nova Scotia. Bill is extremely pleased to be sharing the podium with Bryan Crocker as Co-Artistic Director.

Terry Hurrell – Director Emeritus

After training as a music educator in England, Terry, together with his wife Stephanie, came to Nova Scotia in 1967, and he became deeply involved in the music scene. An educator, innovator, music director, and vocalist, Terry found his niche in choral music. He has been the founding music director of such diverse



groups as the Lockeport Male Choir, Liverpool Boys' Choir, Halifax Boys Honour Choir, Queens County Community Choir, Nova Scotia Youth Chamber Choir, and two church handbell choirs. He is also the former Choral Conductor of Jubilate Singers. He is an Honorary Life Member of the Nova Scotia Music Educators' Association. Terry is the founding Artistic Director of Nova Voce. He led the choir from January 2004 until his retirement in December 2010.

Noël Wan, harp
Saturday, October 14, 2023

Stick & Bow, cello and marimba
Saturday, November 18, 2023

Duo Cordelia, violin and piano
Friday, February 16, 2024

Helios Vocal Ensemble
Saturday, March 23, 2024

Back Alley Big Band
Saturday, April 27, 2024

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Noël Wan, Stick & Bow and Duo Cordelia
are presented in collaboration with Debut Atlantic



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Gina Sanford – Concert Manager



Gina is passionate about music, as a soloist, choir member, and choral conductor. Working with Nova Voce is one of many volunteer positions that she enjoys. Travelling with and organizing travel for the group is another one of her interests. Her diligence and good humour have earned her the love and respect of the Nova Voce family. Gina also serves as a member of The Tartan Team at Halifax Stanfield International Airport.

Student Mentorship Program

Nova Voce is committed to the development of young male singers in Nova Scotia. The choir offers five mentorship positions each season and invites young singers (ages 16 to 25) to audition for these positions. Singers who are accepted are welcomed into the choir and have their fees waived. They are provided with skilled choral tutoring in a professional environment where their choral skills are honed.



Max Guitton

Get involved...

Nova Voce has opportunities for non-singers to be involved in our organization. You don't have to be a male singer. You could be anyone who has an appreciation for male choral music and shares our vision of bringing this music to a wider audience. If this sounds like you, why not consider serving on Nova Voce's volunteer Board of Directors? The board meets about ten times a year and guides the choir's direction, including finance, publicity, charitable endeavours and most aspects of our program and operations. If it feels like you might be a fit, and you would like to learn more, please get in touch with Steven Beeler, president, at information@novavoce.com.



STEVEN BEELER - BARITONE



It seems like yesterday that a group of 60 of us were sitting in the basement of Bedford Baptist Church. Once I heard everyone singing, I was hooked. I felt truly fortunate to be in that first group. I was shocked to find out I made the cut after our original auditions.

So, what has singing in Nova Voce meant to me? It has provided me an opportunity to sing a diverse mix of music from jazz to folk, spiritual to classical, you name it. If Nova Voce has not sung the style before, they will work to master the style with a sound that is uniquely their own. And what a range in sound, from a mere whisper to a controlled crescendo that is still beautiful. Nova Voce has afforded me the opportunity to work with the incredibly talented men and women who make Nova Voce great and to build wonderful friendships that go beyond Nova Voce.

Nova Voce has been blessed to record three CD's, which was a new experience for me, and to travel within Canada, the US and Europe, all with a focus on sharing our love of music and specifically our love of male choral singing with others. It never ceases to amaze me, no matter what else has gone on in my week, after I finish rehearsal, I always feel better. Singing with Nova Voce just feels right - like it was always meant to be part of my life. I hope to be making music with Nova Voce for many more years to come.

PETER FILLMORE - BARITONE

When Terry and Joe issued their call for a men's choir, I was sceptical—but I decided to go along and see what it was all about. There was a good turnout at Bedford Baptist Church. Terry arranged us in our sections, gave us our notes, we sang our first chord—and I was hooked! There is something very special about a well-tuned chord in men's voices. I love to sing, and I am living proof of the fact that singing combines many of the elements needed for a good life. The good fellowship, the travel together, the sense of accomplishment after a carefully-prepared concert—all these and more mean that I'll continue to sing with Nova Voce as long as possible.



Members

ROBERT MCCALLA - BARITONE

I love Nova Voce first because of singing but, almost as importantly, because of friendships made. We see each other every Sunday from September through June with holiday breaks. We travel together in carpools, busses and on occasion airplanes. We share laughs and grief together. We celebrate birthdays, and unfortunately, illnesses and deaths of members. We welcome new members and get to know them. We are family. The singing part comes after much work, but it's all worthwhile; a fact that was established in my mind in the choir's first concert in June 2004. After the last Amen, sung pianissimo in Ave Maris Stella, there was a hush in the audience and I heard a gasp of appreciation from an audience member. As a singer it brought a chill to me, too. Singing can do that, not only for the listener, but also the singer.



JOHN WALLACE - TENOR II



While I have always had a musical background, I never did any singing until I migrated to Nova Scotia in '88 at which time I joined a church choir. It just so happened that Terry Hurrell was a member of that church choir. So, when Terry announced that he wanted to start a men's choir, I had to join. You see I grew up listening to male chorus' (my father was a barbershopper). It is that sound that sucked me in and has kept me going. It feeds my soul. Naturally, over the years a kinship with Nova Voce has developed. This has been a bonus. Travels with NV to various parts of Nova

Scotia, Ottawa, St. John's, the New England states and Italy have given me many fond memories and opportunities to grow as a singer. Nova Voce is now an integral part of my life!



Missing from photo: Steven Beeler

NORM SCRIMGER - TENOR I



Twenty years ago, I attended the Amherst Workshop for Male Voices hosted by Chor Leoni and Diana Loomer which spawned the founding of Nova Voce. Singing in a choir of 100 male voices was phenomenal, with a sound that only a men's choir can make, so I was eager to audition for the tenor section of Nova Voce under Terry Hurrell and Joe Renzi. That first season we sang music written specifically for the male voice, including such marvels as Spaseniye and Dostoyno Yest from the Russian Liturgy as well as folk pieces such as Loch Lomond, Shenandoah, and Wood River.

Since then, the repertoire has grown to include many Canadian pieces as well as music written in more than a dozen languages (some arranged by our own artistic directors and bass, Byron Hermann). We also have debuted many works written specifically for us. We share much of our music throughout Nova Scotia, Atlantic Canada and on Canadian and international tours. Touring is a wonderful way to make new friendships with other choir members. I found out I am not the only tenor who is a bass before my morning coffee kicks in!

TOM BLACK - BASS

It is alleged that Yogi Berra once said, "When you come to a fork in the road, take it." A random act. In looking at the history of Nova Voce, the effect of a random act, is quite astounding.



My journey with Nova Voce began with an innocent statement, "There is a choral workshop for men in Amherst next weekend. You should go." After some internal yes/no arguments, I went. The workshop was with Diane Loomer and about forty members of Chor Leoni and had about seventy participants from the Maritimes. At the close of the workshop, Diane challenged the group to form an east coast "bookend" choir to her Chor Leoni.

That summer, an email was sent out, asking if there was interest in forming a choir. After the Amherst experience, this was worth a drive to Halifax (I was living in Oxford at the time). There was interest! From Metro, the Valley, the South Shore and me from Northern NS.

If I had to pick just one memory from 20 years, it is not possible.

What is memorable are the people, the close friendships that have been made. The road with no bumps doesn't take you anywhere that is interesting. There have been highs and lows. The highs have been fantastic and the lows are when this band of brothers stick together to support one another.

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