



# Newsletter- December 2008

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## **Christmas Time is Here!**

Christmas concerts, carol-o-grams, Christmas parties, Christmas Hampers, and lots of snow is what December looks like for Harmony. We NEED everyone, does not matter the program you are in to participate in these critical pay it forwards. Harmony has three to five concerts a week, plus carol-o-grams and many other Christmas activities for the youth, and it is important that each and every student pay it forward. I know everyone knows how to sing "jingle-bells" and you must participate in these activities to make your pay it forward hours. All accounts will be checked in January, so please ensure that your child has fulfilled the contract of paying it forward. Each week there may be changes and I cannot stress enough to please check the web-site for changes, additions, and omissions. So often a group will call us, and we add an additional concert at the last minute. Last Saturday we had a concert at Shoppers and 7 kids were out!!!! Totally unacceptable!!!! We all enjoy the programs, the café, the tutoring, etc. but we forget that Harmony is NOT free and that the students are REQUIRED to pay it forward.

We also need drivers for the carol-o-grams. If you are interested and can help please see Laura and she will give you the necessary paper work to drive the kids.

### **Carol-o-grams**

Carol-o-grams are still for sale. These are a wonderful gift for those "hard-to buy" for people. For \$10.00 (local) and (\$15 out of town) you can send your friends and families.

We will require **all students** participate in this pay it forward program, as well as require a great many volunteers to drive the kids to caroling. It is a great way to help get into that Christmas spirit. If you know of any person that is a "shut-in" and would like to receive a carol-o-gram, please forward this information to Joanne. We do not charge for shut-in's. We just want to share the season with them.

Carol-o-grams begin the first week in December.

### **Christmas Hampers and Gifts**

I am just finalizing the list of names for hampers. If you and your family needs assistance this is the last week to submit your name. Families that would like to help can "adopt" a child for Christmas. We will supply sex and age only, to purchase an appropriate gift. Hampers will be delivered on Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>. We need volunteers to help collect donations. If your place of employment would like to start a food drive, know it will go to help make Christmas special for our Harmony families. Many of us have much, and sharing our good fortune with families struggling truly is the spirit of the season. Please consider helping us, help our Harmony families.

### **Program Cancellation Reminder**

#### **As Always**

***All Harmony functions that must be cancelled on short notice are announced on the FOX radio and our answering machine. Please listen in if the weather looks like our plans may have to change. We do not want anyone to take unnecessary risks due to the weather...***

### **Christmas party**

Our Annual Christmas party for all students and their friends and families is scheduled for Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> at Stokes By the Bay. **The cost is \$8.00 per adult and \$5.00 for students. (all ages) if you cannot afford to attend this event please see Joanne. We do not want anyone to miss this due to financial reasons,** and sponsorship is available to assist families. Please mark this date, there will be a special guest!!!! I need numbers of families planning on attending this week. Please let us know if you are going to attend.

### **Uniforms**

Harmony used to carry the uniforms, but unfortunately we had over 300 taken, and never returned. Now, you must go to Art Wear plus to order your shirts. Art wear is located on Queen street. **We strongly encourage all students to purchase a shirt for the Christmas season.** The white t-shirts cost \$12.50. All students need a shirt and must wear black pants, socks and shoes. Only the t-shirt must be purchased from our supplier.

### **Harmony Turkey Dinner**

Our Thanksgiving dinner was such a success that we decided to have a Christmas dinner as well. Our dinner will be Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> at Harmony. We are looking for some donations of desserts, salads, veggies etc. Please contact Denise is you are willing to help.

### **December programming**

Just a reminder to all that regular programs end Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>, and resume January 5<sup>th</sup>. We really rely on the concerts as a major part of our funding. Since donations to Harmony are down by 40% we especially need everyone's full support on our Christmas concerts. As we are facing an economic downturn we need to work harder to ensure that the financial turn of the economy does not affect our programs. Please check the web-site weekly for changes and additions. Often we are given additional concerts over this season. Your help with this is greatly appreciated.!

### **Christmas Float**

Our Christmas Float is going to be massive this year. We have special help from some wonderful volunteers. We are hoping that everyone participates in the building of the Christmas Float and parade. Mark December 6<sup>th</sup> on your calendar. We ask all volunteers to arrive at Harmony by 8:00 a.m.

### **Building**

As many are aware, our building needs some major repairs, primarily the replacement of our two boiler systems. We will be selling for the next two months name plaques for a special wall plate to hang in our foyer. This plaque will name the generous benefactors who were instrumental in the solidification of the Harmony Center.

**This makes a great Christmas present for someone who has everything. A legacy given to the youth of our community!!!** There will be three levels and only room for 50 names.

The gift levels are;  
Gold; \$1000.00 (20 places)  
Silver; \$500 (15 places)  
Bronze \$100 (15 places)

The unveiling of this plaque will be at our Annual Open house in November. Please find attached the form for your family gift.

### **Board Of Directors**

Every year the Board of Directors has an election by the general assembly for the new board. Our election is held at the Annual General Meeting, scheduled for January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Board of Directors, or know of someone who would be interested applications for the Board are available at the front desk. The board governs Harmony, and protects the mission and mandate of the organization. Our board members are a critical and exceedingly important part of our organization. So many of us do not realize their vital role, that often goes unrecognized. These special people guard your child's programs. Take time over the holidays and say a special thank you to these amazing folks. Now we are needing to think of individuals that will continue to do this very important job. Please take time and think of individuals that will protect and guard this wonderful organization.

### **Chicago**

Just a friendly reminder to all the folks involved in the trip to Chicago. Please get on your passport, and keep up with those fund-raisers!!! Many still have not made their deposits for the trips. The deposits MUST be made before Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>. At this point we do not have enough students paid for the trip, so if your child is planning on attending please get those deposits in.

### **Fraser Institute**

Harmony has been short-listed for being one of Canada's top ten charities by the Fraser Institute. Went well, but we did not win. We were the first charity to make the finals on a first time application. The Fraser Institute published a book titled, "Profiles of Excellence" which outlines the top 27 charities, and Harmony being one.

### **Bake Sale – December 18th**

Our monthly bake sales will take place December 18th at Shopper's Mitton St. Please mark this date on your calendar.

### **Office Help**

If you are interested in helping out in the office we need help Monday thru Friday in the afternoon shift. This shift is from 12-4. We also need office help Wed. from 8-12 a.m.

If you know of someone who can help please forward the information to them.

The office will close for Christmas on Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> and remain closed till January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Wish List, please help!!!**

Food Drive; Non-perishables  
Volunteer drivers carol-o-grams  
Grocery coupons

Muscles; clean up our center

Engineer or architect to find out if we can tear down a wall

Board members for 2009 year

**Christmas gifts for families less fortunate**

### **Donations needed:**

paper plates and bowls, plastic silverware and cups  
frozen veggies, ground beef, perogies, ham, potatoes,  
Cheese, rice, desserts  
juice, dish soap

Café for December; 12th



# **SARNIA Pay it Forward**

## **Timetable**

Date	Time	Location	Event / Contact Person
<p><b><u>Please Note; Check the web-site for Changes.</u></b>  <b><u>There are FREQUENT additions during this busy time of year!!!</u></b></p>			
<b>December</b>			
December 1	7:00	St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church (Christina St.)	<b>Christmas Concert</b>
December 2	5-6	Harmony Center	Family Night
December 3	3-6	Carol-o-grams	<b>Carol-o-grams</b>
December 5	6-8	Canatara Animal Farm	<b>Christmas on the Farm Concert</b>
December 5	12:30	Norm Perry School	<b>Christmas concert</b>
December 5	6-8	Cabin Canatara Park	<b>Decorate cookies (6 moms)</b>
December 5	All day	International volunteer day	Celebrate volunteers
December 6	1-4	Cabin Canatara Park	Decorate cookies (6 moms)
December 6	All day	Harmony center	Christmas Parade (Build float and be in parade)
December 7	1-4	Cabin Canatara Park	Decorate cookies (6 moms)
December 7	2-4	Stokes By the Bay	<b>Harmony's Christmas Party</b>
December 8	3-6	Carol-o-grams	<b>Carol-o-grams</b>
December 9	3-6	Carol-o-grams	<b>Carol-o-grams</b>
December 12	6-8	Carol-o-grams	<b>Carol-o-grams</b>
December 12	7-10	Harmony Center	Cafe
December 13	9-9	All over	<b>Carol-o-grams</b>
December 13	10 a.m.	Simon and Cheryl's No Frills Corunna	<b>Concert</b>
December 13	11:30 a.m.	Winners (London Rd)	<b>Concert</b>
December 13	7	Trinity Anglican Church	<b>Christmas Concert</b>
December 15	6:45	245 Essex St. (Mason's Hall)	<b>Christmas Concert</b>
December 16	4-8	Carol-o-grams	<b>Carol-o-grams</b>
December 16	5-6	Harmony Center	Family Night
December 18	6-8	Carol-o-grams	<b>Carol-o-grams</b>
December 18	9-12	Shoppers Mitton St.	Christmas Bake Sale

December 19		Last day, Center Closed for Holidays	
December 20	12	Deliver Christmas Hampers	Deliver Hampers
<b>January</b>			
January 5	All day	Harmony Center	Programs begin for new year
January 6	5-6	Harmony Center	Family Night Dinner
January 9	7-19	Harmony Center	Cafe
January 13	5-6	Harmony Center	Family Night Dinner
January 16	7-10	Harmony Center	Cafe
January 20	5-6	Harmony Center	Family night Dinner
January 23	7-10	Harmony Center	Cafe
January 27	5-6	Harmony Center	Family night Dinner
January 29	9-12	Shopper's Mitton St.,	Bake Sale
January 30	7-10	Harmony Center	Cafe

# *Legacy Commemoration Plaque*

## **Become a legacy Benefactor.**

Our goal \$20,000

## **Replace our boilers in our building.**

Please fill in the form below and return with your donation.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Inscription: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount:	Bronze (\$100)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Silver (\$500)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gold (\$1000)	<input type="checkbox"/>