



# Newsletter- September 2008



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## Welcome Back!

Welcome back to another great year of Harmony. As usual we have some great things planned for this year. Two new programs, a great trip, convention, amazing concerts, and lots of pay it forwards. Make sure that you register now to be involved in all the great events. We will be changing some things, and are looking for volunteers for some new positions to improve our efficiency.

## Bell Choir

Thanks to the Trillium Foundation, we have been granted the funds to purchase hand bells. A hand bell choir is a very special sounding choir. This year, watch for the new choir to perform, especially throughout the Christmas season!

## Harmony Haven

Thanks to Libro Financial Group, we will be starting the "Harmony Haven" project. This special program will supply volunteers that have been screened to host a "Harmony Haven" sign in their window of their home, to help kids walking to school, home, or in general needing help. We will be able to reach out and help youth in and around our community. Training will be supplied. If you are interested in being a "Harmony Haven", please fill in application at the office. The first training will take place October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Harmony Convention

The first annual Harmony convention will be Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> weekend. It is approaching very quickly, and we need many volunteers for the next few weeks to get everything ready. We are hoping for maximum attendance. This is an event for all former, and current students, and their families, sponsors, supporters. Tickets are available at the office. You can purchase tickets for individual events, or for the entire weekend. The workshops, which will take place all day Saturday, and Sunday morning are no charge. The only costs are for the meals.

We are needing help preparing for the cocktail reception, gala, and meals at the center. If are interested in helping please sign up at the office today!

Please note Gala tickets MUST be purchased in ADVANCE! Don't miss this spectacular evening, dinner, dance, and live entertainment from an amazing jazz band, and our Houston Piper!

## 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.*

## Parents, we need YOU!!!

### Registration

Registration will take place the first two weeks in September. You can come in the first week in September from 9-5, and when programs begin September 8<sup>th</sup> students can come in before class.

### Executive Committee

We are trying to make things work a little better this year and will be changing the executive committee. Instead of meeting weekly, executive members will be running their own committee meetings and reporting only once a month. Many people do not want to run a committee, but will participate on a committee. If you are interested in either heading up a committee, or joining a small group committee, please pick up a volunteer application today. All parents are strongly encouraged to sign up on at least one committee. Everyone has a talent, and we all promise to "pay it forward" so lets put our words in actions! The first committee meeting will be September 11<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.

### Positions

#### **Special Events**

#### **Marketing**

#### **Fund-raising-general**

**Fund-raising-major events** (Haunted house, open house, Bayfest)

#### **Programming**

#### **Office**

#### **Family program**

### **Family Night**

Last year, we started hosting "Family night" to help families get to know each other, and have some fellowship with one another. This year we will continue hosting family night again on Tuesday evenings. If you are interested in helping out, please sign up in the office.

### **Volunteers**

Volunteers are the life blood of Harmony. The volunteers are critical for the success of the programs. We ask each person to consider volunteering in at least one aspect. The volunteer jobs vary from office work, teaching, fund-raising, baking for bake sales, etc. We need volunteers to operate bake sales, help out in every aspect of the organization. It is critical that we recruit volunteers each year. If you or if you know someone who might be interested come and talk to us today.

Each and every volunteer is required to fill out a police check, and application. This is to ensure the safety of all children and the organization. It is not a personal insult. Many people feel offended when we request a police check. Each and every volunteer must have a check and application.

Finally we ask volunteers to attend training workshops once a month. This is to help communication, and ensure that our volunteers know what is happening at Harmony. The volunteer meetings will be the first Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the community room. The first meeting will be September 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **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. 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.

### **Haunted House**

Every fall we must gear up for our annual Haunted House. Currently we are busy looking for a facility to host our major fall fundraiser. If you know of a location, please let Joanne know as soon as possible.

The Haunted House committee will be meeting on September 4<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. to begin preparations. All are welcome!

### **William Joseph**

William Joseph is the new protégé of David Foster. He has opened for Il Divo, Michael Buble, and Josh Groban. When he was a young boy he could not afford piano lessons, and through the generosity of others was able to

study the piano. This amazing pianist will be performing at the SSEC on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Harmony is the official charity that will receive a portion of the proceeds. We need to sell 2000 tickets. The tickets are available in group sales for our corporate partners, as well as individual sales. We are looking for some volunteers to help us sell these tickets. If you are interested in this spectacular event please see Joanne.

William Joseph has appeared on the Dr. Phil show, and can be seen on you tube. Please check him out today!

### **Mackenzie Milne Golf Tournament**

Mackenzie Milne is hosting a golf tournament for Harmony and SODA on September 18<sup>th</sup>. We are hoping many members and sponsors will enter a team, or help volunteer at this event. Tickets are available at Harmony.

### **Petrolia Fair**

Friday September 5<sup>th</sup> Harmony will be performing at the Petrolia Fair. Students should be there by 4:45. Also, there will be a pie auction. The makers of the pie will be auctioned off as well. Joanne will be auctioned off this year, as well as Michele Stokley, and Charles Fairbank. If you want to spend time and have a pie delivered directly from one of these people make sure you are there. The auction follows the Harmony concert.

### **Trip**

This year the choir and band will be entering into a music festival in *Chicago*. The trip is scheduled for the end of May and will be four days. Fund-raising will begin in September. The Festival choir will allow adults to also participate. So parents if you want to share a unique event with your kids make sure you join this group.

### **Fraser Institute**

Harmony has been short-listed for being one of Canada's top ten charities by the Fraser Institute. We will be going to Toronto on November 19<sup>th</sup> for an awards ceremony at the Four Seasons for a possible award. This is quite an honor for us making the top twenty. The "Donner Awards" nominees will be announced in the media on September 3rd. Check out the local and national media!!

### **Bake Sale – September 25th**

Our monthly bake sales will begin again this month. The bake sales are always the third Thursday of the month at Shoppers on Mitton St. We need lots of baking as well as volunteers to run the bake sale. The sale runs from 9-1. Baking can be dropped off each Wednesday evening prior to the sale at the Harmony center or be brought directly to the sale on the Thursday. Please package baking in small packages to sell.

### **Student Auction**

Every Fall we auction the kids off to rake leaves, and help families do fall clean-up. Kids go out in groups of four or five with a volunteer. We will be hosting this event on November 6<sup>th</sup>. The kids will go out that weekend November 8<sup>th</sup>, and the rain date being the 9<sup>th</sup>. Mark this date your calendar!

# **SARNIA Pay it Forward**

## **Fall Timetable**

Date	Time	Location	Event / Contact Person
<b>September</b>			
September 2-5	9-5	Harmony Center	Registration
September 4	6	Harmony Center	Haunted House meeting
September 5	4:45	Petrolia Fair Ground	<b>Harmony Concert</b>
September 5	7:00	Petrolia Fair Ground	Pie Auction
September 8-12	2:30-8	Harmony	Programs resume
September 9	5:00	Harmony Center	Family night (dinner)
September 11	6:00	Harmony Center	Executive Meeting
September 16	5:00	Harmony Center	Family night
September 18	9:00	Confederation Golf	<b>Mackenzie Milne Golf tournament</b>
September 23	5:00	Harmony center	Family night
September 25	9-1	Shoppers Mitton St.	Bake Sale
September 26-28	All day	Various	<b>Convention</b>
September 30	5:00	Harmony center	Family night
<b>October</b>			
October 2	6:00	Harmony Center	Executive meeting
October 17-18	4-10	To be announced	<b>Haunted house</b>
October 21	5:00	Harmony center	Family night
October 23	9-1	Shoppers Mitton St.	Bake Sale
October 24-25	4-10	To be announced	<b>Haunted house</b>
October 25	7-?	SSEC	<b>William Joseph concert</b>
October 28	5:00	Harmony Center	Family night
October 31			Harmony closed for Halloween
<b>November</b>			
November 4	5:00	Harmony Center	Family night
November 6	6:00	Harmony Center	<b>Student Auction</b>
November 8	9-5	Various locations	<b>Yard clean-up (Rain date 9<sup>th</sup>)</b>
November 11	5:00	Harmony Center	Family night
November 18	5:00	Harmony Center	Family night
November 19		Toronto	<b>Fraser Institute Donner Awards</b>
November 20	9-1	Shopper's Mitton St.	Bake Sale
November 25	5:00	Harmony Center	Family night
<b>December</b>			
December 2	5:00	Harmony Center	Family night
December 4	6:00	Harmony Center	Executive committee
December 9	5:00	Harmony Center	Family night
December 16	5:00	Harmony center	Family night

(Note: Always check with the Centre for admissions and omissions that may come about during the month)

# *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"/>