

Sistema South London

CRA# 826970196RR0001

www.esslondon.ca

HIP News-Fall 2018

Humility + Integrity + Passion = HIP

*El Sistema South London presents The Messiah by G.F.Handel featuring the Catholic Central Chamber Choir
St. Peter's Cathedral, Tuesday December 18th at 7:30 pm. Admission is FREE*

*El Sistema South London will be featured at the Lutheran Social Services Christmas celebration December 9th, at St
Paul's Cathedral, 3 p.m.*

You are receiving this News letter because you care, Thank you!

Unique partnership with Thames Valley Children's Centre

We are very excited that over the last year we have been working in partnership with Thames Valley Children's Centre (TVCC), a regional rehabilitation centre in South Western Ontario, which offers services to support a range of special needs including physical challenges, communication disorders, developmental delays and autism spectrum disorders. El Sistema based music instruction is offered to clients of TVCC. There are 12 participants in the nucleo which had its first session on September 18. El Sistema South London provides the curriculum, the teaching, and instruments for home practice. TVCC provides therapeutic support to assist with accommodations and strategies for participation, percussion instruments for classes, and space. The program is percussion (drum) based rather than string instrument based, however the principles are the same –creating quality citizens through a performance music program. This El Sistema program exists because of Marg Wolsley, a retired high school music teacher with over 20 years of experience providing quality music programs to children and youth with special needs. This program is unique internationally for El Sistema and is opening exciting possibilities. El Sistema is able to offer this music instruction through a generous donation from Dr. Vicki Siu, an internationally respected geneticist. The program is in its early stages and we look forward to the results of our program evaluation.



New El Sistema South London nucleo opens in St. Thomas

(A *nucleo* is the physical location of an El Sistema program, close to the participants so that travel is not a problem and located in an area that would benefit from a program such as ours. The Wilton Grove nucleo is in its seventh year.)

On October 9, 2018, the Locke Public School, St. Thomas nucleo of El Sistema South London officially began with 17 keen participants. The members are from Locke Public School and Monsignor Morrison Catholic School. The 2 schools share the same property at the entrance to Waterworks Park. The participants are Grade 5 and 6 students and the teacher is Mrs. Anita May.

Mrs. May is well known because she had taught French in both schools and together with her husband Brian she is director of Studio Arts Music Academy in St. Thomas. Mrs. May retired from the classroom and is very excited to be leading the Locke location.

Seth McNall, the music teacher at Locke P.S., was vital in bringing the program to St. Thomas and he has supported our efforts in every way possible. Wayne Carroll, former long-time organist at Knox Presbyterian Church in St. Thomas has made generous donations to allow El Sistema to begin in St. Thomas.



Hard work earns snacks !

Mentorship Program

This year we have established an exciting mentorship program whereby senior students are chosen to be the teachers for the beginning group, supervised by the program director. Cynthia Cepeda and Ethan Edgar have been working with the beginners since late September. While one is teaching, the other is assisting and coaching. Cynthia and Ethan are Grade 10 students and have been in El Sistema since they were in Grade 5.

They are both members of the senior octet and prior to this year have been volunteering to coach junior students on their off days from their own El Sistema sessions. They have been coming every day for at least the last 3 years. Their knowledge of string playing, maturity and confidence equip them to be outstanding teachers, and their success thus far bears this out. Each one plays multiple instruments and so are comfortable addressing the needs of each section of the class.

They personify the core values of **Humility**, **Integrity** and **Passion** and their students are making exceptional progress under their direction. Cynthia and Ethan are paid for the time they commit to their teaching, and this opportunity provides them with an exciting and well respected part time job.



Holding the bow—hand training with “Fiddlesticks”



Performances since our June Final Concert 2018

<u>Date</u>	<u>Performance</u>	<u>Location</u>
Monday June 18	TVCC AGM	Victoria Hospital
Sunday July 15	Service Music	St. Anne's Church Byron
Wednesday July 18	Performance	Windemere on the Mount
Sunday August 12	Service Music	St. Anne's Church Byron
Sunday September 23	Dedication ceremony	St. Anne's Church Byron
Monday October 1	UCW Meeting	Metropolitan United Church
Saturday October 13	Valleyview Male Chorus	St. Stephen's Church
Sunday October 14	Lutheran Conference	Hilton Ballroom
Sunday October 21	Seniors Performance	Queens Village Retirement Home
Wednesday October 24	Seniors Luncheon	St. Anne's Church Byron
Sunday October 28	Service Music	Redeemer Lutheran Church

One of our quartets performing at a recent Valleyview Male Chorus concert



Keeping young minds busy doing what they love to do !

We continue to grow !

We are now in our seventh year at Wilton Grove Public School including students from St. Francis Separate School and going strong!

This past year was very exciting with one of our quartets playing at the Provincial Music Festival in Hamilton based upon excellent playing in the Kiwanis Music Festival of London.

Three of our Juniors earned National Music Camp Tuition Scholarships

Our Community Support enables us to continue to grow...



Conductors Cynthia, Kieren and Ethan, our seniors, leading the orchestra June 2018



You can donate online now at our website where you see the DONATE NOW button on the first page.

Donations may be mailed to: El Sistema South London, Unit 5 – 455 Hyde Park Road, London, On. N6H3R9

Please include your complete address and email. for your tax receipt.

Thank you for supporting our students and their families! www.esslondon.ca CRA# 826970196RR0001