Oakville, Ontario, August 29, 2022 – Bandology co-founders Lisa Michaels and Peter VanDuzer were honoured to have received the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Community Service Award for their contributions to the community of Halton.

Michaels and VanDuzer were presented with the award on August 29 by Oakville-North Burlington MP Pam Damoff. A select number of community members have received this award in recognition of their hard work and dedication. Nominees were selected using a wide variety of criteria, all based on dedication to their local community.

Bandology was founded with one main goal in mind: to bring music to more kids. Music education has countless benefits including better grades, improved mental health and increased self-confidence. Both Lisa Michaels and Peter VanDuzer strongly believe in the long-term benefits of music.

Lisa Michael has spent more than two decades as a self-employed marketing consultant and serial entrepreneur. With a B.A. from York University, she has volunteered with the Pan Am Games, Oakville Waterfront Festival, Burlington Youthfest; served as an English language instructor in Spain; and sings with and serves on the board of directors for Circle of Harmony chorus, a local award-winning a cappella chorus. She is passionate about the value of music and its benefits, having seen firsthand its impact on her own children – all saxophonists.

"We weren't expecting to receive such an incredible honour," said Lisa Michaels, Executive Director and co-founder of Bandology. "We started Bandology to bring music to more kids and couldn't be happier that people in Halton also recognize the value of music education."

Peter VanDuzer studied at the universities of Western and McMaster and currently manages a national home improvement store. Since 1985, Peter has been volunteering for children, including as a board member of Big Brothers of Hamilton and as a long-term member of the Lawson Foundation. He has been actively engaged in the greater music community for years, including co-founding AMP, a parent group that supports music, in 2012.

"Lisa and I are very happy to have been given this award," said Peter VanDuzer, President and co-founder. "Music has been a part of my life for a very long time and to be able to bring music to more and more people and see how it impacts their lives is an incredible experience."

Bandology is a Canadian non-profit dedicated to more music for more kids via education, collaboration and community. Based in Oakville, Ontario, it provides young musicians with more opportunities to play, learn and be inspired. Learn more about Bandology's programs and services at bandology.ca.

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Photos are available upon request.