Music Camp Comes to Laurier this March Break

Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario, January 9, 2023 – For the first time, non-profit Bandology will be hosting a March Break Music Camp in collaboration with the Beckett School at Laurier. The camp is designed for those aged 7-10 and will focus on a wide array of music instruments and styles as well as fun games and activities.

March Break Music Camp runs March 13-17, 2023, at the Beckett School on the Laurier University campus. Campers will enjoy hands-on introductory workshops and participate in a variety of musical activities. Alongside dedicated music mentors, kids will try out different musical instruments, take a field trip through the Wilfrid Laurier University campus and enjoy performances by trained musicians.

"It is the combined goal of the Beckett School at Laurier and Bandology to provide as many opportunities as possible for children in our region to engage in group music-making to continue the rich, musical heritage of our KW community," said Rebekah Jordan-Miller, the Director of the Beckett School at Laurier.

"Learning is at the core of our camp program," says Sandy Wright, Education Manager at Bandology and a local songwriter and composer. "We want campers to be able to do something they couldn't at the beginning of the week, to enjoy themselves and to engage with music in new ways. It's about fostering a lifelong love of music—and making a bunch of joyful noise, of course."

Bandology has previously hosted Band Camp in July 2022 at St. John's-Kilmarnock School in nearby Breslau for kids in grades 1-12 and the non-profit, which is going into its seventh year, is excited to be back in the area bringing more music to more kids. No musical experience is required.

"We're delighted to partner with our friends at Bandology to enhance our shared mission of fun, high-quality music education for all," said Cynthia Johnson-Turner, Dean of the Faculty of Music at Laurier University.

"Transferable skills like collaboration are a big part of everyday life. Music is a fun and challenging way to teach students skills that they will use forever," says Ryan MacKinnon, Camp Coordinator at Bandology. "Learning and having fun, rather than thinking about perfection, is what we are really striving for at camp."

Registration is now open for kids ages 7-10 at <u>bandology.ca</u>. Parents are encouraged to reach out to ask questions about the camp.

Bandology provides other opportunities for young musicians to play, including the Play A Gig program, which connects young musicians with performance opportunities in the community and online. Bandology also works to promote and advocate for the long-term value of music education. More information can be found at bandology.ca.

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Photos available upon request.