

More Music for More Kids as Band Camp Returns to KW

Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario, June 6, 2023 – Non-profit Bandology is returning to the Kitchener-Waterloo area for their second annual Band Camp in the region. An academic music camp for kids in grades 2-12, the week-long day camp will take place July 20-24.

This summer's Band Camp in Kitchener-Waterloo will take place at the Bluevale Collegiate Institute in Waterloo. Marcia Connolly, the Head of Music at Bluevale, will act as Music Director for Band Camp this summer. Connolly has conducted both instrumental and choral groups and previously spent twelve years playing saxophone with the Canadian Armed Forces.

"I am very excited to be directing Band Camp this summer. Band Camp is a special place where kids make memories and friendships that will last beyond the week of camp," said Connolly. "That was my experience in band camp and I know it will be the same for these kids. It will also inspire and excite them as they look ahead to being in music in the next school year."

Band Camp is a week-long curriculum-based day camp for both teens and younger kids. Campers spend the week in a concert band setting, honing their musical skills while making new friends. For the younger campers, Band Camp Junior gives them the chance to experience a variety of introductory hands-on workshops on a range of instruments and styles.

"It's really exciting to be able to bring these programs to the region where I grew up," said Sandy Wright, Bandology's Education Manager and Head of Programming. "This kind of enrichment not only helps build their musicality, but it helps kids develop confidence and build skills like teamwork and self-discipline. It's exactly the kind of program I wish was around when I was a kid."

BANDOLOGY

Bandology has run Band Camp in the Halton region since 2017 and expanded to the Kitchener-Waterloo area last year. In March of this year, they partnered with the newly rebranded Laurier Academy of Music and Art (LAMA), formerly known as the Beckett School at Laurier, to host their first ever March Break Music Camp.

As part of Band Camp's programming, experienced musicians and music professionals are invited to help mentor young inspiring musicians. Bandology will be announcing their clinicians over the next few weeks in advance of Band Camp.

"There's nothing quite like the thrill of working with young musicians at camp. The energy and passion they bring to their craft is contagious," said Sara Thoeny, Camp and Workshop Coordinator at Bandology. "I can't wait to help them hone their skills and develop a love for music that will stay with them for years to come."

For those not in the Kitchener-Waterloo region, Bandology will be running two other Band Camps, one in Halton during the week of July 10-14 and the second in Guelph the week of July 17-21. Registration for all three camps is open and can be found at <u>bandology.ca/band-camps</u>.

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.

- 30 -

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Photos available upon request.