



# BAND<sub>O</sub>LOGY

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For immediate release

## **Talented Music Educators to Serve at Local Band Camps**

**Oakville, Ontario, April 7, 2025** – Three talented and acclaimed local musicians, conductors and educators will serve as Music Directors for Bandology’s Band Camp programs this summer. Dr. Leah McGray, Alecia Blackman and Allen Carter have been invited to conduct during different weeks of the grades 7-12 band at Bandology’s curriculum-based day camp.

Dr. Leah McGray is a conductor, teacher and clarinetist currently working at Wilfrid Laurier University as an assistant professor and Director of the Laurier Wind Orchestra. She has guest conducted around the world including for the National Youth Band of Canada, Memphis Symphony Orchestra and the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, as well as for international schools, honour bands and music camps. Dr. McGray will be the Music Director for Band Camp Kitchener-Waterloo held at Rockway Mennonite Collegiate during the week of July 7-11.

Returning for her second year in Halton, Alecia Blackman is a performer, educator and conductor who currently serves as the Head of Music at Bernie Custis Secondary School in Hamilton. Throughout her career, Blackman has conducted many groups such as the Elmer Isler Singers and the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board Honour Bands. Band Camp Halton returns to King’s Christian Collegiate in north Oakville during the week of July 21-25 with Blackman at the helm.

Allen Carter is a familiar face to Bandology as well, having worked as Music Director last year in Kitchener-Waterloo. This time around, he will serve as Music Director for Band Camp Guelph, running the week of July 28 to



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August 1 in partnership with the Guelph Youth Music Center. Carter has over thirty years of experience as a professional musician. He currently conducts the Guelph Symphony Youth Orchestra and holds principal tuba positions with the Guelph Symphony Orchestra, Brantford Symphony Orchestra, among others. In addition, Carter has made appearances on television and radio soundtracks through his work performing with various ensembles.

“We are honoured and excited to have Leah, Alecia and Allen as part of the Bandology team this summer,” said Lisa Michaels, Executive Director and co-founder of Bandology. “They each bring something unique to Bandology and we can’t wait to see how their week of camp unfolds. Our campers are very lucky to have conductors of such a high level of expertise.”

Bandology’s Band Camps run in Kitchener-Waterloo from July 7-11; in Halton from July 21-25; and in Guelph runs from July 28 to August 1. Registration is currently open for kids in grades 1-12 at [bandology.ca](http://bandology.ca). For families with financial difficulties, subsidies of 10-90% are available, as are free instrument loans from Bandology’s Instrument Library. Families are encouraged to reach out to [camp@bandology.ca](mailto:camp@bandology.ca) with any questions.

[Bandology](http://bandology.ca) 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](http://bandology.ca).

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Photos available upon request.