



St. Jude's Anglican Church is lit by candles in this file photo of last year's Earth Hour concert. This year will mark the sixth year the Oakville church is hosting a concert in the dark commemorating Earth Hour, on Saturday, March 23.  
photo by Steven Der-Garabedian - Oakville Beaver file photo (Follow on Twitter @halton\_photog)

## St. Jude's to go dark for Earth Hour

by Dominik Kurek  
Oakville Beaver Staff

The lights may be out, but the mood will certainly be bright at an upcoming Earth Hour concert at St. Jude's Anglican Church.

The church is hosting its Sixth Annual Earth Hour Concert on Saturday, March 23, this year featuring songs and prayers for the Earth.

"The concert proceeds without the aid of any electric light. It's quite atmospheric and it's usually quite well attended and the net proceeds go to a charity chosen by the church," said Doug Field, artistic director at St. Jude's Celebration of the Arts. "The concert is one of the big Oakville Earth Hour events."

The concert will begin at 8:15 p.m. and the lights will go out at the start of Earth Hour at 8:30 p.m.

Earth Hour started in Sydney, Australia in 2007 and has since been taken up by communities across the world. For one hour, participants turn off all their lights from 8:30-9:30 p.m.

Field encourages everyone to celebrate the global event with the local concert in the dark at St. Jude's. The concert is organized by Ross Connell.

"It's very good music. It's entertaining. And people will, in a sense, align themselves with the Earth Hour movement to make a gesture towards conservation of, in this case, electrici-

ty, by turning out the lights. In so doing, they're also supporting a charity."

Net proceeds from the concert will go towards St. Jude's H2O4ALL, a charity that collaborates with local charitable organizations and non-government organizations to implement sustainable water solutions in developing countries.

Oakville pianist Xin-Xin Wang will headline the concert. The 15-year-old, Appleby College student has received a First Class Honours award in the 2012 Royal Conservatory of Music Grade 10 examinations.

His teacher and occasional collaborator, Ruta Vaivade, will also perform at the concert. The Oakville music teacher is also known as a soloist, accompanist and music collaborator.

The chamber chorus of Mississauga's Con Brio Singers, a children's choir, will round out the roster of performers. The chamber choir comprises of older members of the award-winning Con Brio Singers.

"It's a win-win. You come and get some really good musical entertainment," Field added. "It's a different atmosphere in that there is no electric light, no amplification and you're supporting a very worthy local charity."

Admission costs \$15 or \$10 for students and seniors. Tickets will be sold at the door.

The church is located at 160 William St. For more information, visit [www.oakvilleconcerts.com](http://www.oakvilleconcerts.com).

## Learn how to build audience

The Oakville Arts Council understands that social media can be a powerful tool for organizations and businesses, and it wants people to know how to use them.

The arts council is hosting its Social Media: Building Your Audience Through Relationships workshop at the Queen Elizabeth Park Community and Cultural Centre on Sunday, March 24.

The social media workshop will highlight the benefits of developing a social media strat-

egy, provide helpful tips to build one's online presence with limited resources and recommended tools to use for monitoring and measurement. The workshop will give participants a better understanding of a number of social media channels, such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, blogs and more.

The centre is located at 2302 Bridge Rd. The event runs from 2:30-4:30 p.m. Admission is free. For more information and to register, visit [www.oakvillearts.com](http://www.oakvillearts.com).

## Sally Armstrong speaks to CFUW

Oakville author Sally Armstrong will speak at a Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) Burlington event on Wednesday, April 10.

Armstrong is an author, journalist, teacher and human rights activist. She's launching her new book *Ascent of Women: Our turn, our way - a remarkable story of worldwide change*.

The event is put on by CFUW Burlington and A Different Drummer Books.

Proceeds from the event will go to the CFUW Scholarship Fund, which yearly gives scholarships to women in all Burlington high schools.

The event will take place at St. Christopher's Anglican Church, 662 Guelph Line, in Burlington. It starts at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$20 and are available at A Different Drummer Books, located at 513 Locust St., Burlington (905-639-0925).

## bignames small theatre

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