# Georgetown Children's Chorus to begin its 20th season

The Georgetown Children's Chorus had a great summer and is now looking for new members, ages 5 to 18, to join in its 20th anniversary season.

The highlight of the summer was when 30 members of the 100-voice choir traveled to Ottawa on Canada Day to sing at the National Arts Centre, as part of the 400-voice Unisong Festival choir.

Twelve choirs from across Canada were invited to perform and the Georgetown Children's Chorus was asked to represent Ontario at this year's festival. Conductor A. Dale Wood and chorus co-founder Lois Fraser were there to lead the trip, which included a special performance in the Rotunda, the centre hall inside the Parliament Buildings.

All the choirs from across Canada learned a dozen songs (all Canadian composers, of course!) before arriving in Ottawa. Once there, they had combined rehearsals for three days, led by Winnipeg Conductor Dr. Elroy Friesen, who is Director of Choral Studies at the University of Manitoba. This was a wonderful learning experience and Dr. Friesen made every minute of rehearsal fun and exciting. He had all 400 young people in the palm of his hand.

Highlights of the trip included performing three concerts on Canada Day, along with the 60-piece National Arts Centre Symphony Orchestra, at the NAC. There were 2,000 people in attendance at each performance. The kids also shared the stage with well known Canadian fiddler Natalie McMaster, which was a thrill for the kids. Her energy and talent inspired the Georgetown kids and a lucky few met her after the performance for a chat. Following the concerts, the kids enjoyed the famous fireworks display on Parliament Hill.

At the end of the trip, everyone was exhausted but agreed that it was a very patriotic and exciting five days. The Georgetown Children's Chorus has performed all over Canada as well as the UK and Europe. For more information on how to join, see www.georgetownchildrenschorus.ca or call Sharon, 905-877-6841.

Georgetown Children's Chorus was one of 12 chosen to perform in the 400-voice Unisong Festival choir (below) in Ottawa on Canada Day.

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