

# ARTS

## Renowned musicians can be found right here

By **Stephanie Hounsell**  
CANADIAN CHAMPION STAFF

High ticket prices. Expensive parking. A long drive.

These can all prevent local residents from making the trek to Toronto or another neighbouring city to take in a concert.

But what some Miltonians don't realize is that beautiful music by renowned musicians can be heard right in their own community, seven times each year.

For more than two decades the volunteers of Milton Concert Presentations (MCP) have been working to make high quality performances accessible.

"We bring musical performances of a professional quality," explained board member Heather Shoemaker.

The organization presents concerts in a variety of styles, including classical, jazz, opera and Broadway.

"We bring in some spectacular performers," Shoemaker said, adding the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra recently made its Canadian debut in Milton.

The concerts — which can draw as many as 500 people — take place at St. Paul's United Church, 123 Main St. E.

"The nice thing about St. Paul's is

the acoustics are beautiful," said founding member Charles Somerton.

MCP is now in the middle of its 22nd season, with four performances remaining.

On Friday, Jan. 18 at 8 p.m., the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony, under the leadership of Concert Master Stephen Sitarski, will present a baroque concert featuring Italian composers Respighi and Vivaldi.

On Friday, Feb. 29, MCP will welcome Kerry Stratton, who'll conduct "A Viennese Extravaganza" featuring a chamber orchestra and a vocal soloist performing works by Strauss, Brahms, Mozart, and more. Attendees are invited to dress in their finest for the special Valentine's concert.

On April 4 and 25, MCP will bring to town the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra and a trio of soloists performing "Broadway to Opera" respectively.

Tickets cost \$35 each for adults, \$30 for seniors and \$25 for students.

For more information, visit [www.miltonconcertpresentations.com](http://www.miltonconcertpresentations.com). To order tickets in advance, call Joyce Scott at (905) 878-1526.

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GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION

**YOU'RE INVITED:** Milton Concert Presentations president John Dorris and secretary Heather Shoemaker show 2008 season brochures and a poster of the group's upcoming event.

# PREFER HAPPY ENDINGS?

**Get a dinner & movie deal for only \$17.99 per person**

Includes a chicken or pork Original Souvlaki and movie ticket. Reservations recommended. Cannot be combined with any other special meal offer.

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Sunday	FREE dessert with purchase of any 2 entrées
Monday	Two can dine for \$19.99 (2 Original Souvlaki dinners)
Tuesday	FREE kids meal with the purchase of any entrée
Wednesday	Free Saganaki with purchase of any 2 Classic Souvlaki entrées
Thursday	FREE Dip with the purchase of any 2 entrées

\*Hot of Grill offers expire March 15, 2008. Offers only valid at Mr. Greek Milton. The above specials are for dine-in only. Applicable taxes extra.

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