

NEWS RELEASE



For Immediate Release
Oct. 17, 2011 | 150-11

CONTACT

Lee Willingham, Director
Laurier Centre for Music in the Community
519-884-0710 ext. 3621 or lwillingham@wlu.ca

Kevin Crowley, Director, Communications & Public Affairs
Wilfrid Laurier University
519-884-0710 ext. 3070 or kcrowley@wlu.ca

Laurier conference on music and healing to feature Steven Page

WATERLOO — Laurier's Faculty of Music will host its second annual Music Care conference Oct. 22, bringing together a cross-section of community stakeholders in music and care and featuring keynote performer Steven Page, formerly of the Barenaked Ladies.

The one-day conference at Laurier's Waterloo campus is being sponsored by the Laurier Centre for Music in the Community, and Room 217, a foundation that provides music resources for caregivers. The day will enrich, inspire, and challenge the lives and work of artists, educators, therapists, care-providers, scholars, and people interested in music and care from across the country and beyond.

"The goals of the conference are to inspire participants to embrace music in their lives, and to provide some practical applications they can use in their practice," said Lee Willingham, director of the Laurier Centre for Music in the Community.

Page will close the conference with a keynote performance. As a singer, songwriter, composer and radio host, he will also provide his perspective on music and care.

"It's important to see a celebrity who seems to have it made but who can also benefit from a spiritual reflective dimension of music, which sometimes gets lost in the business side of this art form," said Willingham. "Even today, Steven turns to music for centering and maintaining a balance in life."

The conference will feature two other keynote speakers: Dr. Richard Kogan has had a distinguished career as both a concert pianist and psychiatrist, and is co-chairman of the recently established Weill Cornell Music/Medicine Initiative; Therese Schroeder-Sheker is a musician, educator, clinician and dean of the School of Music-Thanatology, a discipline where a practitioner works with patients in the last few days of their lives.

Workshops throughout the day will cover topics such as: Music Care in Grief, Music Therapy and Individuals with Strokes and Acquired Brain Injury, Musical Improvisation in Care, Music Performance Medicine, Vibroacoustic Harp Therapy, Music Therapy and Autism, Music and Preserving Self in Alzheimer Dementia Care, Music and Neurological Research with Children.

All are welcome to attend. Full-day registration, including nutrition breaks and lunch, is \$125 (\$75 for seniors/students). Online registration is available at www.room217.ca/index.php/music-care-conference or by phone at 905-852-2499.