

The Bermuda Philharmonic 2008 AGM Report



This past year has been a rebuilding and revitalizing time for the Bermuda Philharmonic. While we are pleased to report that progress has been made on many fronts, there still remains much work to do.

Several new members joined the executive committee this year and we would like to acknowledge the new individuals on the team namely: Rick Hawke, Karen O'Brien, Jennifer Sheridan, Kent Hayward, Conrad Roach and Claire Osbourne.

Thank you all for supporting such an important endeavour. Happily I believe all have agreed to continue their good work this year subject to ratification at this meeting.

Unfortunately, last year several committee members moved on, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank the following for their contributions to the work of the Philharmonic. Gwyneth Rawlins, Ester Barroso, Ewing Lauder and Emma Muggleton. Karen O'Brien and Claire Osbourne also have decided not to stand for re-election after 18 months of hard work.

The most notable achievement this past year was the Pops in The Park concert held on last September at Barr's Park in Hamilton. The concert was arranged and conducted by the partnership of Conrad Roach and Kent Hayward and was well attended despite the slightly challenging weather conditions.

We would like to particularly thank Jane Lee, Allan Lee and Clair Osborne for the incredible efforts that they put forward to make the concert a success. We look forward to the next performance in this popular series.

The Philharmonic Executive initiated a strategic planning process this year which included an in depth analysis of the Mission, Objectives and Goals of the organization and remains an ongoing focus to ensure that the Philharmonic is squarely aligned with appropriate goals and a sound methodology is used to pursue those ends.

The Philharmonic Society is responsible for the administration of the Tankard Trust. The Executive has reviewed the investments of the Trust and has prepared a scholarship application form. The scholarship will be advertised early next year and scholarship(s) awarded for the first time in several years.

Just recently, the Philharmonic has sponsored a new type of event, which saw five musicians from the Bermuda School of Music perform a short program of Bach and a sparkling rendition of the Brahms Quintet in F minor. What set this performance apart was the relatively small size of the performing group and the fact that it was filmed for television (and possibly DVD). Keep your ears open for the announcement of the broadcast time(s) of this ground breaking event. If the model proves successful, then it may be possible for future concerts to be enjoyed by audiences all over Bermuda and around the world for years to come. We would like to acknowledge Montpelier Re and the 3264 Group for their kind sponsorship of this event.

Looking ahead, we hope that you will join us in supporting the Philharmonic through active membership, volunteering to serve on committees, serving on the executive, sponsorships, attending the concerts and events, but most importantly – being an advocate for the Philharmonic and spreading the word to all those who may not know about us. What greater reward can there be than helping to spread the joy of music throughout our island community?