



MUSIC FOR THE FUTURE

TUSARNAARNIQ SIVUMUT ASSOCIATION



Benefit Concert Highlights

It happened! We held our first Benefit Concert in 4 years! We loved connecting with so many long time supporters and first time attendees as well.

The event was co-emceed by Julie Lohnes-Cashin & Fiddle Instructor, Stacey Read. The Riverport & Area Community Choir opened the show as they have for 12 years and they did not disappoint, singing a combo of new and old songs. They are always

a sight to see with members ranging in age from 9 - 83. This group knows the power of music and was created more than thirty years ago, with some original members still in the choir.

We were so pleased to introduce the audience to two of our current fiddle instructors, Stacey Read and Kaitlin Barrett, who had just returned from their third trip with TSA to Nunavut at the

end of September. They not only had the audience tapping their toes with fiddle tunes, but they told stories of their experiences and even did a demonstration with a couple of willing youth in the front row. They showcased how they get brand new fiddle students in Nunavut to begin to play the fiddle after only a few minutes. The audience was moved when the youth

(continued on page 2)

Benefit Concert Highlights (continued)

(continued from page 1)

started playing "Open String Blues" after only a few minutes and were imagining what that must sound like and feel like for the students in Nunavut. They finished their time on stage with a special set of tunes they like to call "Northern Hit List", featuring a lot of the tunes they teach our students.



Last but certainly not least, Old Man Luedecke closed the show and as always, his originality and raw humour both entertained and endeared the audience. He played songs from multiple albums including his most recent entitled *Easy Money*, while also playing a few audience favourites, including *The Early Days*, while a couple of toddlers danced in front of the stage.

A big thank you goes out to all musicians and volunteers who helped create a beautiful space for the event and help make sure everything ran smoothly. We appreciate you all and your support. And to the audience.. thank you for adding us to your calendar and being a part of such a special evening in support of Tusarnaarniq Sivumut Association - Music for the Future.

- ◀ Old Man Luedecke headlining with his trademark humour and skill.
- ▼ The Riverport and Area Community Choir return post-pandemic to serenade us once again!

Photo credit for photos on pages 2 and 3: Garry Woodcock



More benefit concert photos on page 3!

► Kaitlin Barrett and Stacey Read demonstrate their teaching techniques with a couple of brave volunteers.

▼ Kaitlin and Stacey perform.



► Julie introduces TSA fiddle instructors Stacey Read and Kaitlin Barrett to the Mahone Bay audience.

▼ The crowd checks out the silent auction tables. A huge thank you to our generous contributors and bidders!



Ukes arrive in Baker Lake!

In June, TSA put a call out for donations for our first ever Ukulele Workshop in Baker Lake, Nunavut, and what a response we received! With help from 19 individual donors, we raised \$2,680.00 to cover the cost of 20 ukuleles, cases and supplies to be shipped to Baker Lake, with help from Long & McQuade in Winnipeg. Qujannamiik to

all of you who contributed to the fundraiser and for being a part of something that will have long lasting effects on a community.

The workshop was held in Baker Lake from August 9th-14th in partnership with Baker Lake Wellness (Hamlet of Baker Lake) with instructor Aasiva, a former TSA student. After teaching

the students how to care for the ukuleles, they learned multiple tunes, including "You are My Sunshine" and learned to tune and take care of the instruments as well. On the Saturday evening of the workshop, students performed for a crowd of 70 community members and proud

(continued on page 5)

Proud students, Linda and Tara, show off their ukulele chops. ▼



Ukes arrive in Baker Lake! (continued)

(continued from page 4)

parents/guardians. Plans are in the works for the 2nd annual Ukulele Workshop for August 2024. In the meantime, Aasiva will be providing virtual ukulele lessons with help from Tara and Linda as Lesson Supervisors.

TSA is pleased to support these lessons and provide opportunities for leadership among the group of talented young people in Baker Lake.



▲ Students (with their teacher, Aasiva) show off their newly gained skills for proud family and friends!

More Program Updates

This fall, TSA instructors travelled to Nunavut for the 26th fiddle workshop since 2009. Instructors Stacey and Kaitlin spent their first week in Igloolik working with students mostly at Iglulik High School with a few workshops also held at Sivuniit Middle School as a

▼ Fall Fiddle Workshops in Igloolik.



means to get more students playing music... and earlier. Their week in Pond Inlet was spent working mostly with students in grades 7-12 at Nasivvik High School, with two morning workshops with grade 5 & 6 students at Ulaajuk Elementary School.

We were pleased to have one of our grade 12 students accompany Stacey and Kaitlin at the Elementary school to assist with teaching in a mentoring capacity and looking forward to continuing this learning in the spring as well. A flight cancelled out of Pond Inlet, meant our instructors were

3 days later than planned getting home to New Brunswick. It's always an adventure and never easy to operate in the North. Stacey and Kaitlin made the most out of their extra days by holding additional workshops at the high school and went with the flow as they bounced from one flight and hotel to another as they made their way home.

The next in-person Fiddle workshops are being planned for March and September 2024. Stay tuned for details as they unfold.

Virtual Lessons resumed last month with virtual fiddle lessons in Pond Inlet and

(continued on page 6)

More Program Updates (continued)

(continued from page 5)

Igloolik, and virtual guitar lessons for students in Pond Inlet, with weekly group guitar lessons resuming again in Resolute Bay in January 2024. TSA is very proud to also be supporting two grade 12 students at Nasivvik High School with additional virtual lessons in their respective instruments, fiddle and guitar, through private weekly lessons - helping not only improve playing, but also helping to prep them for auditions and provide additional mentorship.

Virtual ukulele lessons in Baker Lake will be taking place on Thursdays after school and will be beginning very soon with instructor, Aasiva Nakashuk.

A big thank you to Canadian North, Leanne Children's Foundation, Christopher Hope for Children, our "Community Chorus" of monthly donors and to all donees who have supported and contributed and continue to give to TSA - Music for the Future, ensuring we are able to continue to teach music in Nunavut.



▲ ▼ Participants in the Fall Fiddle Workshops in Igloolik.



Instructor Profile - Kaitlin Barrett

Kaitlin grew up on the east coast of New Brunswick and has been playing fiddle since she was 7 years old. Her family originally came from Cape Breton Island, which is where her passion for Celtic music began, growing up listening to people like Natalie McMaster. Kaitlin has been a fiddle teacher for the past 5 years and has loved the opportunity to teach and connect with the students in Nunavut! Music, specifically fiddle, has always been a huge part of her life. "It is such a joy to be able to share this passion with kids and see their love for music grow as they learn to play" says Kaitlin. When she is not playing fiddle, she's in the woods hiking and exploring or spending time with her friends and family, which often includes searching for cafes and seeing what yummy treats she can find!



Proud to announce that our
2024 Airline of Choice is



Since last spring, TSA has purchased and shipped 5 fiddles to Ulaajuk Elementary School, 20 ukuleles with lots of supplies to Baker Lake & 1 electric guitar to Nasivvik High School.



"Music for the future' has helped me learn how to use my fiddle properly, including the positions, bowing, and other techniques in order to help prepare me for my University Bachelor of Music program in the south. They have guided me to develop a passion towards my future career in music."

— L. Milton, Grade 12 Student at
Nasivvik High School, October 2023

A Visit to Rideau Hall

On June 21st, 2023, our Board Chair and Co-Founder, Julie Lohnes-Cashin, received a Meritorious Service Medal (Civil Division) from Her Excellency the Right Honourable Mary Simon Governor General of Canada at Rideau Hall in Ottawa. It was a very special ceremony, on National Indigenous Peoples Day, presenting honours to a number of amazing

First Nations, Métis and Inuit individuals, as well as to non-Indigenous individuals who have made positive contributions to Canada including initiatives supporting reconciliation and Indigenous peoples in Canada. Congratulations to Julie, and a huge thank you to every student, teacher, community member and supporter of TSA who make this work possible.



▲ Julie Lohnes-Cashin with the Right Honourable Mary Simon, Governor General of Canada.

▼ Canadian honours recipients on June 21, 2023.

Photo Credit: Sgt Anis Assari, Rideau Hall © OSGG, 2023



What people are saying about TSA - Music for the Future

- TSA has been coming to Iglulik High School for 9 years. The students look forward to their visits, both the in-person workshops and the virtual weekly sessions. Exposure to a different genre of music and learning how to play an instrument has had positive effects on the students, from increased attendance to improved mental health. We even have students that graduated last year, come back when the instructors are in town!
— L. Schutt, Acting VP - Iglulik High School, October 2023
- I choose to give to Music for the Future because I believe opportunities and creative outlets should not be restricted by geography. All students deserve programs to help explore their own creativity and strength.
— Monthly Donor (October 2023)



Happy Holidays

Quvianaq Inuuvia

From all of us at
Tusarnaarniq Sivumut Association
Music for the Future



Holiday Gift-Giving

The gift of music keeps on giving! Consider a donation to TSA - Music for the Future this holiday season and know that your gift will make a difference in the lives of youth in Nunavut. We would be happy to send a special note in a holiday card to the gift recipient... just send us an email or include your request in your message when you make your donation online.

Year End Giving

As the calendar year comes to an end, lots of us are making our final 2023 donations with an eye on charitable tax receipts. Every dollar counts. End your year on a high note by donating to Music for the Future by December 31st - win-win!

Considering a gift to TSA? Donate [here](#).