



November 3 - 5, 2022 in Blue Mountain, Ontario

## GATHERING SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

### SESSION 1

Friday November 4, 8:30 - 9:00 am

### Raising our voices together!

Please come and join in the singing as we learn/sing an a cappella round together and perform it for fun. All in ten minutes or less! What an incredible way to start the day in joining our voices in song and building community. We can't wait to sing with you all.

Led by: **SARAH MORRISON & SARA JOY**





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## GATHERING SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

**SESSION 5 - Friday November 4, 3:30 - 4:45 pm**

### Performance by the Ontario Provincial Honour Band

The Ontario Band Association presents the Ontario Provincial Honour Band, an ensemble made up of 90 of the province's best high school musicians, who are selected to take part in an intensive four days of music making. Participants will begin their experience at the Salvation Army Shoreline Camp in Jackson's Point, and work with their sensational guest conductor Dr. Gillian MacKay, from the University of Toronto, to prepare a challenging set of repertoire. The band will then take their program on tour, performing at various high schools en route to Collingwood. Their exciting experience culminates with their performance at the OMEA's Elevate 2022 Conference.



#### **GILLIAN MACKAY**

Gillian MacKay is Professor of Music of the University of Toronto, where she conducts the Wind Ensemble and teaches conducting. Gillian has an active professional career as a conductor,

adjudicator, clinician, and trumpeter. She has conducted honour ensembles throughout Canada and the United States, and is Associate Conductor of the Denis Wick Canadian Wind Orchestra. Dr. MacKay has adjudicated Canadian band festivals at local, provincial, and national levels in Canada. She has conducted honour bands and judged competitions in the US, Singapore, Thailand, and Korea. Gillian holds degrees and diplomas from the University of Lethbridge, McGill University, the University of Calgary, and Northwestern University.



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## GATHERING SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

### SESSION 5

Friday November 4, 3:30 - 4:45 pm

### Musical Conversations with Twin Flames



### TWIN FLAMES

Building bridges across cultures, continents, and styles, Twin Flames, brings together a richness of personal history and musical experience. Their songs tell stories of courage and survival written in English, Inuttitut, and French. Multi-Award-Winning chart-topping Canadian Indigenous Duo Twin Flames are a husband-wife team made up of Jaaji, (Inuk

and Mohawk) from Nunavik and Chelsey June, métis (Algonquin Cree heritage). Honouring their ancestor's history and representing their Indigenous backgrounds. Twin Flames have become a beloved powerhouse couple.



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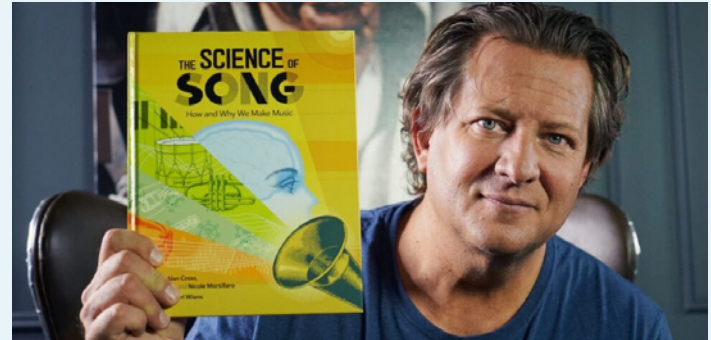
### SESSION 7

Saturday November 5, 10:45 am - 12:00 pm

## Mind-Blowing Facts About the Brain, the Body, and Music

There is no real biological need for humans to have music. Yet for some reason, our brains seemed to hardwired for it. This is why scientists are so interested in studying how the brain processes music and why we seem to need it so much. There's more, too.

Does vinyl really sound better? What's wrong with digital music? Why do songs get stuck in our head? And how can music be used when we get older to preserve our memories?



### ALAN CROSS

Alan Cross is an internationally known broadcaster, interviewer, writer, consultant, blogger and speaker.

In his nearly 40 years in the broadcasting and music business, Alan has interviewed the biggest names in rock and is also known as a musicologist and documentarian through programs like the long-running show, *The Ongoing History of New Music*.



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Co-sponsored by:



### SESSION 7

Saturday November 5, 10:45 am - 12:00 pm

## KEEP ON GOING

Feeling burnt-out? Demoralized? Mickey Smith Jr. understands that everyone is facing unprecedented challenges. Mickey himself nearly stepped away from it all just before he saw the sound. That is why this 7-time Teacher of the Year and GRAMMY Music Educator is now helping others KEEP ON GOING so they can SEE THE SOUND. As this year's keynote speaker Mickey will share a motivational mixture of music & message to help you KEEP ON GOING to a SOUND school year.



### MICKEY SMITH JR.

Educator, Encourager, Musician. Those are just a few of ways that some would describe Mickey Smith Jr.

As a 7-time Teacher of the Year and recipient of the 2020 GRAMMY Music Educator Award Recipient, Mickey has inspired both children and adults alike through his unique motivational mixture of music and message. Mickey is not only an international keynote speaker and presenter,

but he also continues to serve as a full-time teacher at The King's Academy in West Palm Beach, FL. Through his love for music, Mickey blends the roles of educator and entertainer to create a dynamic experience that entertains, educates, and elevates everyone to excellence. Mickey is dedicated to helping educators discover their sound. No matter what the classroom challenge may be, he strives to encourage others to keep on going. Find out more about Mickey's Educator-Encouragement album and podcast SEE THE SOUND and his BAND:TOGETHER initiative at [MickeySmithJr.com](http://MickeySmithJr.com)



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## GATHERING SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

**SESSION 9 - Saturday November 5, 3:00 - 4:15 pm**

### Music: A Social-Emotional Health Phenomenon - With Dr. Bina John

Music, what all humans do, is one of the fundamental ways in which we relate to and communicate with each other. Across the lifespan, the bonds that are created when we make music together fuels social and emotional understanding and expression that ultimately contributes to overall health and well-being.

When the music making came to a deafening halt, as a result of the pandemic, we lost our musical connectedness. Our post-pandemic world is facing an acute mental health crisis that will last several years. Many students will still be experiencing post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms. It is not only timely, but essential that we explore the multiple ways in which music nourishes social emotional learning and overall well-being. This gathering session will address topics such as music as a psycho-social health phenomenon and trauma-informed pedagogy.



#### **DR. BINA JOHN**

Dr. Bina John is an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Music, University of Toronto. She teaches undergraduate/graduate courses in Music and Urban Engagement,

Psychological Foundations, Social Psychology of Music, Keyboard Skills, and Music in Childhood. She is the co-chair for the Anti-Racism & Anti-Oppression Committee at the Faculty of Music. Currently, Dr. John is working on several collaborative research projects; providing youth residing in detention centers access to music education, developing music curriculum for a mixed reality video game for children with cerebral palsy; and exploring experiences of performing during the COVID-19 pandemic for vocalists, pianists and athletes.



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### SESSION 9

Saturday November 5, 3:00- 4:15 pm

### Songs and Stories with Jeremy Fisher

Jeremy's performance will be an intimate and interactive event, as he digs deep into his catalogue, encourages audience participation and tells tales from his early days touring across North America by bicycle. Be prepared to move, let go and laugh out loud!



### JEREMY FISHER

Jeremy Fisher is a 3-time, JUNO-nominated pop-folk singer-songwriter based in Ottawa, ON. He has released 6 studio albums and his music has been featured on radio, in film (The Big Year, Our Idiot Brother), commercials (Volkswagon, American Airlines) and TV (Disney, Global). He is a co-creator, songwriter and voice actor in the new CBC animated series Jeremy and Jazzy, a show about how feelings become songs, songs become stories, and music, friendship, and collaboration create joy.