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Get The

BEAT

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2026

PROGRAM NEWS

REGULAR PROGRAMS RESUME ON JANUARY 4TH, 2026

NEW YEAR, NEW MUSICAL OPPORTUNITIES!

Looking to try something new? We've got you covered!

Friends of Music's regular programs are back in action on January 4th, starting with Guitar Lessons and Open Mic. We've got lots of choices available for you! The new year is a great time to learn a new instrument, or drop in on a group you haven't tried to before. While most of our groups offer continuous entry, we'd like to put a spotlight on our lessons and drop-ins; Fundamentals, Beginner Band, Skills Band, Guitar Lessons, and Drum & percussion, who are welcoming new participants. This is the best time of year to get involved in these groups, and make some new friends.

THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS, WE HAVE A LENDING LIBRARY OF INSTRUMENTS TO LOAN OUT!

If we have the instrument you're looking for, you can sign it out to practice at home. Typically, we will have guitars (acoustic and electric), ukuleles, hand drums, music books, and a selection of band instruments. If you have an instrument to donate, get in touch!



HOLIDAY CONCERTS, WORDS OF GRATITUDE & PRAISE

We want to thank all of our volunteers and musicians who pulled together to put on our annual Christmas Dinner & Dance at the Da Vinci Centre in December. The Christmas Dinner & Dance was a truly outstanding community effort, with great music, great company, and a delicious buffet dinner. We offer our heartfelt gratitude to David Lang, Nikolaas Sillem and Camosun's Culinary Arts Students, for preparing the Turkeys for us at the dinner. They have done this for us every year, ensuring that we can put on the best feast for our guests. Thank you!

We're so proud of all of our musicians who performed in the community at 13 different concerts and events throughout the month of December, including 5 dazzling public performances at Lights of Wonder in Centennial Square. Way to end the year on a high note! We hope you'll get a chance to check out our Facebook and Instagram pages, for photo highlights from our holiday concerts.

COMMUNITY CONCERT SERIES!

Come enjoy FREE concerts at Eric Martin Theatre

Our Winter Community Concert Series starts up on January 8th—and you're invited! Join us every Thursday evening from 6:00–6:45pm for a cozy lineup of FREE concerts, featuring a different band each week, bringing their own flavour of music. Bring your friends, family, and neighbours, there's plenty of room for everyone! Doors open at 5:30. Sit back and enjoy the tunes while we provide refreshments and snacks to keep you warm and welcomed.

SHOWCASE YOUR TALENT AT OPEN MIC

Looking for more performance opportunities? We host Open Mics on Sundays, from 6-8pm. You are welcome to attend as part of the audience, perform solo, sit in with other musicians, or bring your whole band with you. For those who don't know, Open Mic offers a supportive and fun drop-in band experience, for all levels of musicians, looking to connect and play with others. Just check in with our hosts, Steve or Chey, and they'll sign you up for a performance spot.

FRIENDS OF MUSIC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY 2026

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
FRIENDS OF MUSIC IS LOCATED IN THE ERIC MARTIN PAVILION THEATRE. FIND OUR MAIN ENTRANCE THROUGH THE GLASS SLIDING DOORS FACING THE FORT STREET SIDE			31 NEW YEAR'S EVE	1 New Year's Day STAT HOLIDAY NO PROGRAMS OFFICE CLOSED	2	3
4 Guitar 4:00-5:30pm OPEN MIC 6-8 pm	5 Finance MTG 5:30pm BOARD MTG 6:00pm	6 Drum & Percussion Class 1-3pm Learn Ukulele 3:30-4:15 pm UKULELIANS 4:30-6:00pm Moodswing Chorus 6:30-8:30	7 Beginner Band 11am-12pm Skills Band 12-1pm Jazz Combo 1:30 - 3:30 Recovery Rock Band 5-7pm	8 Eclectics 11:00-12:30 Fundamentals 1-3pm Community concert JAZZ COMBO 6:00-6:45pm Moodswing Orchestra 7-8:30	9 Haywires 1:30-3:30 Minds @ Work 3:30-5:30	10
11 Guitar 4:00-5:30pm OPEN MIC 6-8 pm	12 Concert MINDS AT WORK 6pm Movie 7pm	13 Drum & Percussion Class 1-3pm Learn Ukulele 3:30-4:15 pm UKULELIANS 4:30-6:00pm Moodswing Chorus 6:30-8:30	14 Beginner Band 11am-12pm Skills Band 12-1pm Jazz Combo 1:30 - 3:30 Recovery Rock Band 5-7pm	15 Eclectics 11:00-12:30 Fundamentals 1-3pm Community concert HAYWIRES 6:00-6:45pm Moodswing Orchestra 7-8:30	16 Haywires 1:30-3:30 Minds @ Work 3:30-5:30	17
18 Guitar 4:00-5:30pm OPEN MIC 6-8 pm	19	20 Drum & Percussion Class 1-3pm Learn Ukulele 3:30-4:15 pm UKULELIANS 4:30-6:00pm Moodswing Chorus 6:30-8:30	21 Beginner Band 11am-12pm Skills Band 12-1pm Jazz Combo 1:30 - 3:30 Recovery Rock Band 5-7pm	22 Eclectics 11:00-12:30 Fundamentals 1-3pm Community concert ROCK BAND 6:00-6:45pm Moodswing Orchestra 7-8:30	23 Haywires 1:30-3:30 Minds @ Work 3:30-5:30	24
25 Guitar 4:00-5:30pm OPEN MIC 6-8 pm	26	27 Drum & Percussion Class 1-3pm Learn Ukulele 3:30-4:15 pm UKULELIANS 4:30-6:00pm Moodswing Chorus 6:30-8:30	28 Beginner Band 11am-12pm Skills Band 12-1pm Jazz Combo 1:30 - 3:30 Recovery Rock Band 5-7pm	29 Eclectics 11:00-12:30 Fundamentals 1-3pm Community concert ECLECTICS 6:00-6:45pm Moodswing Orchestra 7-8:30	30 Haywires 1:30-3:30 Minds @ Work 3:30-5:30	31

FEBRUARY 2026

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
1 Guitar 4:00-5:30pm OPEN MIC 6-8 pm	2 Finance MTG 5:30pm BOARD MTG 6:00pm	3 Drum & Percussion Class 1-3pm Learn Ukulele 3:30-4:15 pm UKULELIANS 4:30-6:00pm Moodswing Chorus 6:30-8:30	4 Beginner Band 11am-12pm Skills Band 12-1pm Jazz Combo 1:30 - 3:30 Recovery Rock Band 5-7pm	5 Eclectics 11:00-12:30 Fundamentals 1-3pm Community concert MINDS AT WORK 6-6:45pm Moodswing Orchestra 7-8:30	6 Haywires 1:30-3:30 Minds @ Work 3:30-5:30	7
8 Guitar 4:00-5:30pm OPEN MIC 6-8 pm	9 Concert ROCK BAND 6pm Movie 7pm	10 Drum & Percussion Class 1-3pm Learn Ukulele 3:30-4:15 pm UKULELIANS 4:30-6:00pm Moodswing Chorus 6:30-8:30	11 Beginner Band 11am-12pm Skills Band 12-1pm Jazz Combo 1:30 - 3:30 Recovery Rock Band 5-7pm	12 Eclectics 11:00-12:30 Fundamentals 1-3pm Community concert CHORUS 6:00-6:45pm Moodswing Orchestra 7-8:30	13 Haywires 1:30-3:30 Minds @ Work 3:30-5:30	14
15 Guitar 4:00-5:30pm OPEN MIC 6-8 pm	16 FAMILY DAY STAT HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSED	17 Drum & Percussion Class 1-3pm Learn Ukulele 3:30-4:15 pm UKULELIANS 4:30-6:00pm Moodswing Chorus 6:30-8:30	18 Beginner Band 11am-12pm Skills Band 12-1pm Jazz Combo 1:30 - 3:30 Recovery Rock Band 5-7pm	19 Eclectics 11:00-12:30 Fundamentals 1-3pm Community concert ORCHESTRA 6:00-6:45pm Moodswing Orchestra 7-8:30	20 Haywires 1:30-3:30 Minds @ Work 3:30-5:30	21
22 Guitar 4:00-5:30pm OPEN MIC 6-8 pm	23	24 Drum & Percussion Class 1-3pm Learn Ukulele 3:30-4:15 pm UKULELIANS 4:30-6:00pm Moodswing Chorus 6:30-8:30	25 Beginner Band 11am-12pm Skills Band 12-1pm Jazz Combo 1:30 - 3:30 Recovery Rock Band 5-7pm	26 Eclectics 11:00-12:30 Fundamentals 1-3pm Community concert UKULELIANS 6:00-6:45pm Moodwing Orchestra 7-8:30	27 Haywires 1:30-3:30 Minds @ Work 3:30-5:30	28

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM AND FACEBOOK! Want to get the most current updates on what's happening at Friends of Music? Find us on social media - that's where we post photos, videos, events concerts, and real-time updates. Don't miss out! Here's our handles:



@FOM Music Society



@FOM Music Society



DONATE TO FRIENDS OF MUSIC SOCIETY USING OUR VIRTUAL DONATION BOX: Just point your cell phone at the QR Code to be connected to our donation page at CanadaHelps. FOM Music Society gratefully acknowledges the support of the Province of BC, Island Health, The Victoria Foundation Community Grants, Mary Elizabeth Hemeon Memorial Fund through the Victoria Foundation, and all of our friends & supporters.