



## O.C.V.I. Performing Arts Newsletter



November & December Recap: "Let It Snow, Let It Show"

*As snowflakes dance, carols are sung, and bells chime, the O'Neill Performing Arts performances warm our hearts every holiday season.*

### **REMINDER: 2 GIRLS AND AN OVEN FUNDRAISER!**

You will have friends and family drooling with this ready made cookie dough! Just take them out of the bucket and place them on your tray. The hardest part is waiting for them to finish!

**Flavors Include:** *Lemon White Chocolate, Oatmeal Chocolate Chip, Chocolate Chip, Vegan Chocolate Chip and Vegan Chocolate*



**! ORDERS ARE DUE FRIDAY FEBRUARY 7 !**

### **MAIN SPOTLIGHT EVENTS: PERFORMANCES**

#### **FALL MUSIC NIGHT**

We kicked off our musical year with another successful fall music night! **Concert bands** and **choirs** performed for an almost packed auditorium showcasing impressive performances highlighting their hard work and dedication. Audiences enjoyed a **diverse repertoire**, ranging from **classical pieces to contemporary favorites**. The event set a high standard for the rest of the season, leaving attendees excited for future performances.



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## JAZZY JINGLES

Jazzy Jingles was a resounding success, featuring lively performances that captivated the audience with **festive tunes** and performances featuring our **jazz bands, singers** and **dancers**. Performers delivered an energetic and polished show, spreading holiday cheer throughout the venue. **A big thank you to the parent volunteers** who provided the yummiest of treats for our hot chocolate and treat bar!

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CONCERTS

A board-wide invite to all the Durham District School board elementary schools was sent out for a **winter themed concert** made up of the **O'Neill bands, choirs, and dancers** on December 6th. Full of optimism and excitement, the performance ended with everyone dancing and singing along with **'Can't Stop The Feeling'**!



## TRIPS, EVENTS & PROJECTS: INSTRUMENTAL 🎷

### Devonte Hynes Concert — November 1

From 5-10PM, a **free concert** featuring the music of Devonte Hynes with the TSO (Toronto Symphony Orchestra) and a **pre-show workshop** choral workshop with Darren Hamilton at Roy Thomson Hall.



### Women's Blues Review at Massey Hall — November 29

A **free of charge concert** for the music students featuring singers, Diana Braithwaite, Tanika Charles, Kellylee Evans, Rebecca Hennessy, Meghan Parnell & Crystal Shawanda and



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also Alison Young, Angelique Francis, Carrie Chesnutt, Dale Anne Brendon, Elena Kapeleris, Emily Burgess, Jenie Thai, Marie Goudy and Selena Evangeline, the band.

### Pep Band Performance with the Whitby Wildcats — November 6th

Our **instrumental jazz class** was invited to perform at the **U16AAA Whitby Wildcats "Pink the Rink" fundraiser**. They performed O'Canada, at all the whistles and a concert between periods. The crowd was hopping, the students had a blast and the feedback was great!

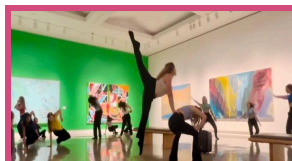
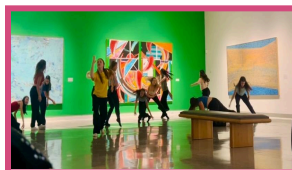
### Area School Tours — November 5 & 19

The **jazz students** loaded up their gear and headed out for 2 days of touring 8 of our **local area schools**. They had a chance to perform a variety of music and share more about all the opportunities in our Performing Arts program. The elementary students loved meeting the performers and had a great time getting up and dancing to music!

## TRIPS, EVENTS & PROJECTS: DANCE AND MOVEMENT STUDIES

### Robert McLaughlin Gallery Performance at RMG - Passages - Friday November 1st

A premiere of new collaborative works by artists Keira Bhreagh and Megan Nadain and the O'Neill Dancers filled the art gallery with beautiful movement works inspired by the themes of resistance and resilience.



### Canadian Contemporary Dance Theatre Wintersong - Dances For A Sacred Season Trip

On December 11th, the dancers enjoyed a day of dance in Toronto to see Canadian Contemporary Dance Company's Wintersong performance at The Fleck Dance Theatre at Harbourfront Centre. The performance was a diverse program of works inspired by the winter solstice and curated by CCDT artistic director- Deborah Lundmark.





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## PA Teachers in The Nutcracker with the National Ballet of Canada

On December 15th, **Ms. Ferguson** and **Ms. Collins** were honored to be **invited** by a **former O'Neill PA student** who works for the **National Ballet of Canada** to be the **Cannon Dolls in the Nutcracker**, in recognition for their contributions to arts education.



## TRIPS, EVENTS & PROJECTS: VOCAL & DRAMA

### UPCOMING: O'Neill Theatre Troupe's 'Passing Period Purgatory'

O'Neill Theatre Troupe is hard at work preparing this year's **National Theatre School Dramafest's entry 'Passing Period Purgatory'**. We will be performing at the festival after our school performance on **February 11th, 2025 at 7PM**. Tickets will be five dollars and available at the door for purchase.

### Fall O'Neill Improv Night: 'An Error of Comedies' — November 26

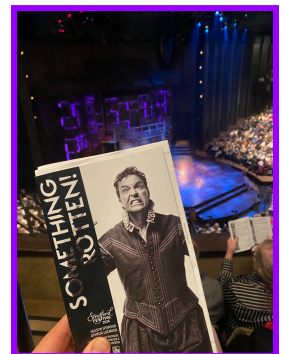


The fall O'Neill Improv night was a fantastic success! **32 students** were on or helping behind the stage and the audience loved our **'Dating Game'** and **'Freeze'** performances. The club is always open to new members and we will start up again in January.



### Something Rotten: Stratford Trip — October 1st

An exciting trip to **Stratford** to watch **'Something Rotten'** to prepare for our own production of the show in May! The students even had an opportunity to talk with the show's lead actor and stage manager afterwards for a Q&A.





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## Brenda Earl-Stokes Workshop — Nov. 4

Immense talent on the O'Neill stage! NYC artist Brenda Earle Stokes (from Sarnia, ON) and Toronto jazz musicians Lauren Falls (bass), Elena Kapeleris (sax, and the band leader for the Women in Blues concert!), and Ted Warren (drums) performed a concert, followed by a vocal jazz workshop.



## Bright & Merry Market Performance — November 15



## Caroling with DRPS at Seniors' Residence — December 17/18

Vocal students went out into the community to spread holiday cheer! They went to the Carriage House seniors' residence, to Grandview Children's Centre and with the DRPS to seniors' residences Hillsdale Manor and Estates.





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## SAVE THE DATE!

INSTRUMENTAL	VOCAL	DRAMA	DANCE
<p>Wednesday, February 12th, OBA Concert Band Festival Trip</p> <p>Thursday &amp; Friday February 27, 28th, Motor City Jazz Festival</p> <p>Monday, March 3rd, Concert and Jazz Band Festival Showcase</p>	<p>March 25, 26th, Ontario Vocal Festival</p> <p>April 3rd, Choral Festival Showcase</p> <p>April 7th, Bradley Barnham Workshop</p>	<p>February 11th, OTT Performance (@ O'Neill)</p> <p>February 20th, OTT Festival Competition (@ J.C. Richardson)</p>	<p>February 19th, 'Gather'</p>

## FOLLOW THE PA SOCIALS TO KEEP UP!



Instagram



Facebook (For Guardians)



Twitter



Youtube