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orchestra breva

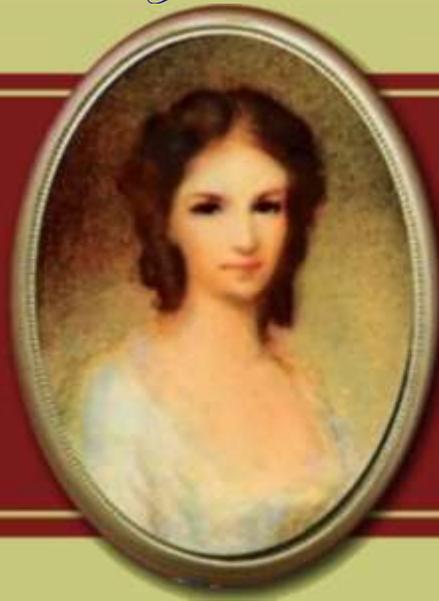
Melanie Paul Tanovich - Director

EROICA

A Sesquicentennial Tribute to

Laura Ingersoll Secord

*Laura
Secord*



150

Windsor - Tecumseh - Ingersoll - Brantford - Niagara

Classical Musicians and Local Historians unite to tell the remarkable life story of this iconic Canadian Hero

featuring BEETHOVEN'S EROICA SYMPHONY ...in honour of all War Heroes

May 25 | 8 pm
May 26 | 8 pm
June 20 | 8 pm
June 21 | 8 pm
June 23 | 2 pm

Assumption Hall - University of Windsor
Paroisse Ste Anne - Tecumseh
Cheese Museum - Ingersoll
Sanderson Centre - Brantford
Queenston Heights - Niagara-on-the-Lake

Ticket pricing based on demand
VETERANS - free

519.980.1113 | orchestrabreva.com



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LAURA SECORD SESQUICENTENNIAL CONCERT PROJECT

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the passing of the remarkable Canadian hero of the War of 1812, Laura Ingersoll Secord. Orchestra Brevi will recognize Ms. Secord's significant contributions to our country's history with a concert celebration highlighting her heroic acts and life's journey, illustrated through music significant to her time and circumstance. All who have served humanity through in times of war and peace, through acts of bravery and sacrifice, will be honoured. It will feature classical musicians, Indigenous artists, local historians, new works, and Beethoven's Eroica Symphony.

Orchestra Brevi will tour the concert through present-day communities significant to Laura Ingersoll Secord's life and deeds: Windsor, Tecumseh, Ingersoll, Brantford and on the Battlefield of Queenston Heights, Niagara-on-the-Lake.

This project will make a significant contribution to communities of Ontario and Canada. The concert will raise awareness of our regional and national history by highlighting the profiles of important historical figures such as Laura Secord, General Brock, Warrior Chief Tecumseh, and Chief Joseph Brant, and by honouring the veterans of battles that shaped our freedoms, thus emboldening citizens of today to act peacefully and live in harmony.

Join our growing list of partners....including Friends of Laura Secord, University of Windsor, Tecumseh Historical Society, Ingersoll Cheese Museum, Ste Anne's Parish, and the Niagara Parks Commission.



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SESQUICENTENNIAL OF CANADIAN HERO LAURA SECORD

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the passing of prominent Canadian historical figure, Laura Ingersoll Secord. Ms. Secord is well known for her heroism during the War of 1812. Upon overhearing American plans to overtake a British outpost at Beaver Dams (Niagara), Laura embarked on an 18-hour, 32 kilometre trek across difficult Niagara Escarpment terrain to deliver the message to the British. With the valuable aid of Aboriginal forces and Laura's vital information, the British were able to counter the American attack with a victory that was considered integral to the ultimate preservation of Canadian territory.

Laura Ingersoll Secord was born in Great Barrington, Massachusetts in 1775, during the American War of Independence. In 1793, her father, Thomas Ingersoll, responded to a notice posted by Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe, offering blocks of land in Upper Canada on easy terms to American settlers. With the support of Mohawk Chief and Canadian political leader Captain Joseph Brant (Chief Thayendanegea), Mr. Ingersoll settled his family to the land which is now the town of Ingersoll, Ontario, just east of London.

Soon after, Laura met and married merchant James Secord, a Loyalist of French (Huguenot) descent. The couple lived in the region of present-day Niagara-on-the-Lake and became parents of seven children.

During the War of 1812, James Secord served as a soldier under General Isaac Brock. James was seriously wounded during the same battle in which General Brock met his end, the Battle of Queenston Heights. These events took place just steps from the Secord Homestead. Laura witnessed the body of Brock being carried by her house and ran to the battlefield to find her husband and bring him back home. While he was convalescing, American soldiers took over the Secord home, and that is when Laura overheard their plan of attack. Her famous journey was made on June 22, 1813.

Laura went largely unrecognized for her act of courage, and, after her husband died, she met with poverty. As a widow she petitioned the government several times for a small personal pension, seeking recognition for her war-time contribution, but was refused. At the age of 85, Edward, Prince of Wales, heard of her appeal and awarded her 100 pounds, which allowed her to live out last 8 years of her life in relative comfort. She was honoured by the Prince along with 1193 veteran soldiers of the War of 1812 and, though not invited to sign the official registry with the soldiers, she insisted upon it. If Laura's famous signature, yielded by her tenacity, was not on this document, we may never have surely known of her contribution to the freedom of our country.

Laura Secord's example of courage, resourcefulness and dedication as a citizen, a pioneer, and a veteran continue to be an inspiration to all.

In May and June of 2019, Orchestra Brevi will pay tribute to this remarkable Canadian with concert celebrations in communities significant to the life and times of Laura Secord, including Ingersoll, Brantford, Niagara, Tecumseh and Windsor. The programme will include both new and historic works and will feature Beethoven's Eroica Symphony, in honour of all veterans.