

FROM: CHILLIWACK ARTS &
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High Resolution photo: [Winter Harp jpeg](#)

Description: Janelle Nadeua (left) and Lori Pappajohn (right)

Photo Credit: N/A

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Winter Harp - Where Winter Truly Begins

CHILLIWACK, BC—

There is a show that's become synonymous with Christmas at the Chilliwack Cultural Centre. A show that has performed to sold-out crowds for three years in a row and that truly captures the heart of the season in a way few others can. And that special festive favourite will enchant audiences once again at The Centre this season when *Winter Harp* returns to Chilliwack on **December 15, 2015**. For a night steeped in magical medieval atmosphere, and a pre-Christmas feast of luxurious sounds, stunning aesthetics, and captivating energy, make sure to be part of the celebration this year when *Winter Harp* bring the meaning of Christmas to the HUB International Theatre stage.

Winter Harp wraps everything you love about Christmas into one majestic display of sound and scenery. From the timeless and heartwarming carols and nights wrapped up around the fire, to remembering those important to us and stepping away from the

everyday into a world of festive joy, this show offers it all with matchless charm. You'll be swept away as the performers take the stage, complete with beautifully carved historic instruments, exquisite medieval attire, and a Renaissance-inspired setting illuminated by shimmering candlelight. Bringing to mind a twilight evening in an ancient cathedral, the visual splendor is just part of the experience, and as the performers break into song the true essence of *Winter Harp* comes to life, conjuring an unparalleled celebration of the spirit of the season before your eyes, and transporting you to a world of unforgettable Christmas wonder.

It was a desire to offer audiences this sensational experience that motivated Lori Pappajohn, the founder, harpist, and director of *Winter Harp*, to form this special ensemble over two decades ago. And, as she says, the show allows people to truly focus on what makes Christmas special to them. "Christmas is a special time of year for people" Lori says. "You may only see relatives once a year and that may be at Christmas, and that time also holds a lot of memories - people recall their childhood, their families, and what is important to them. And although it can get busy, and get hectic, and there's a lot of commercialism, I think what people *really* want at this time of year is Christmas. And that's just what *Winter Harp* offers, through beautiful songs and beautiful readings that take people back in time. Back to their memories, and to other eras that really brings to mind what Christmas is all about."

With its array of classic carols and seasonal songs, complimented by the delicate ambience of the distinctive Celtic harps and extraordinary historic instruments, *Winter Harp* truly does take audiences to a different time. It's a spectacular sight and an inspirational musical experience all at the same time, and as Lori reveals, the two elements of *Winter Harp* go truly hand in hand to create a truly remarkable concert. "I wanted to share the beauty and exuberance of this music with others on instruments rarely heard -- namely harps and rare medieval instruments. Most of the carols are 200 to 800 years old, and as our instrument styles date back as far as 800 years, I couldn't imagine performing in modern clothes -- it didn't make sense. So

while our music transports you back in time audibly, our medieval attire transports you visually”

Winter Harp has become a hallmark of The Centre’s run-up to Christmas, and those that have experienced this seasonal sensation in previous years will surely be thrilled to see the return of the show. Yet, it seems like it isn’t just the patrons that will be counting down the days on their advent calendars until December 15 - Lori is just as excited to be back in the ‘wack!

“We love performing at the Chilliwack Cultural Centre!” she concludes. “The acoustics and sound are always amazing, and we love the Chilliwack audience which is so responsive - you can tell people are listening intently which is always a joy; it always makes for a really fabulous show!”

So to be part of the magic this Christmas, make sure to purchase your tickets for *Winter Harp* today! Tickets are \$45 for adults, \$42 for seniors, and \$40 for students and are available at The Centre Box Office, visit www.chilliwackculturalcentre.ca or call 604-391-SHOW(7469) for more information.

Winter Harp is generously sponsored by: Platinum Sponsor: Canadian Tire, Silver Sponsor: Amax Praetorian, Bronze Sponsors: Laurie Throness MLA, Minter Country Gardens, MNP LLP, Wagner Appliances, John Martin MLA, Media Sponsors: Chilliwack Times, Government Sponsors: Department of Canadian Heritage, City of Chilliwack, British Columbia Arts Council, Province of British Columbia.

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For additional information and to arrange interviews, contact:

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Chilliwack Cultural Centre

Owned by the City of Chilliwack, the Cultural Centre houses two unique performance venues, an art gallery, music instruction studios, arts and crafts studios, meeting rooms, offices, and is home to the Chilliwack Academy of Music and the Chilliwack Art Gallery. Since opening in 2010, over 270,000 tickets have been sold through the Centre Box Office, with a value exceeding 3,6400,00. The Centre is overseen by The Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society on behalf of the City.

Chilliwack Cultural Centre highlights:

- 597 seat performance theatre
- 168 seat recital hall / rehearsal space / dance studio / meeting space
- Chilliwack Art gallery (22-foot high display area)
- 21 music instructional rooms
- Arts and crafts studios
- Storage and Archival Resource Room

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The Chilliwack Arts & Cultural Centre Society is registered under the British Columbia Society Act as a not-for-profit society (society number S-54973), and is a registered Canadian charitable organization under the Canadian Charities Directorate. (charity number 805742897 RR0001)

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