



The Benefits of Being a Resident of Burlington Getting to Know Your City

The Burlington Teen Tour Band... Need We Say more?



How could we run a series called "Best of Burlington," without devoting an issue to the Burlington Teen

Tour Band? We absolutely couldn't!

The world renowned marching Band began as *The Burlington Boys and Girls Band*, giving their first performance in December of 1947. Membership grew and in 1965 the name was changed to The Burlington Teen Tour Band. For over 70 years this Band has been making a name for itself not just in Burlington, but around the world.

Wayne Brown of the Burlington Teen Tour Band Boosters explained to us the importance of the Band in our community, and the importance of the community for the Band. The Band is renowned for its melodic excellence which boils down to the Teens being provided with an outstanding musical education, but the edifying benefits of being a member of the Band don't stop there:

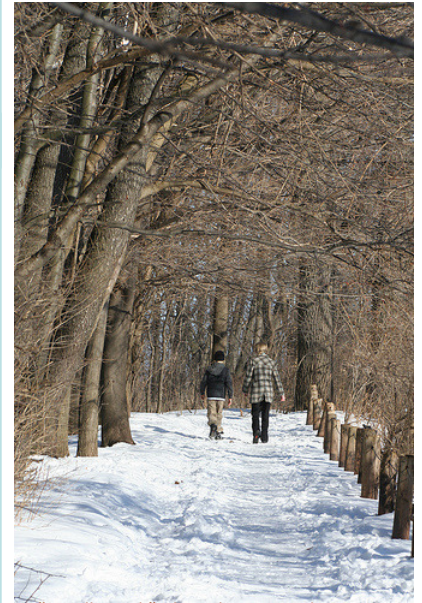
The Band members have the unique opportunity to perform all over the world, Their most recent expedition was to Hawaii to perform at the ceremonies for the 70th anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor. A quick glance at their itinerary, however, demonstrates that they didn't simply get off the plane, perform and then head back home. While in Hawaii, the Band got to take in the sights and sounds of the Polynesian Cultural Centre and the USS Arizona Memorial Visitor Centre. They were also able to enjoy a Hawaiian Luau dinner. Not only did they receive a lesson in history, but they were able to learn about a new country on a geographical, cultural and even culinary level. Kids who wouldn't otherwise reap the benefits of the kind of education that travelling affords have been given the opportunity to learn and grow by being members of the Band.

This brings us to how the community helps the Band. Volunteering is integral to the Burlington Teen Tour Band. The Burlington Teen Tour Band Boosters is a registered charitable organization focused entirely on promoting and supporting all activities of the Burlington Teen Tour Band. All members volunteer their time and efforts to supporting the Band. The Boosters fundraise, promote, organize, chaperone and liaise for the Band, ensuring that all Band functions can happen, and go off without a hitch.

Donations from local businesses have been integral to the Band, and the Boosters do everything they can to promote the Band and make as many people aware of our local treasure as possible to ensure the donations keep coming in. The one hundred and sixty Band members would each have to cover the cost of every airline ticket to each performance and back if the community hadn't become so actively involved in helping to alleviate the financial burdens of the Band. With the generous donations from the citizens and businesses of Burlington the Band can ensure that it leaves no one behind. Donations have also paid for the recent purchase of a trailer for the Band, in which they can keep their BBQ equipment when they flip burgers at city events.

Wayne Brown brings the Booster presence to numerous functions in Burlington with the express goal of getting the word out. "One in every 3 people I speak to about the Burlington Teen Tour Band don't know what it is, or has heard of it but has never seen them perform," says Wayne. The goal is to bring everyone together to back this local treasure and create a community of support.

"I want everyone to be a member of the Band family, of which we can all be proud, because when the Band marches, it marches for Burlington."



"LaSalle Park" Photo by Samantha Harvey

Create your own Best of Burlington Story by getting out and enjoying your city:

Sunday January 29th is the Lowville Winter Games! Treats, sledding, horse-drawn carriages, log-sawing competition and more. Fun for the whole family!

For over 22 years **Hearth & Home Realty Inc., Brokerage** has been offering personalized service in Burlington to home buyers and sellers. We are committed to the community and to helping home owners build foundations for their families. Knowing what living in Burlington has to offer is the first step in building great experiences that make this city home to you and your family.

Burlington has many stories to tell just like this one and we will continue to share them with you so that you can learn all the delights of living in Burlington!

Have you had a great experience in Burlington that you'd like people to know about? E-mail your story to sam@virtually-sold.com and it may be featured next!