

Cambridge Community Orchestra music to the ears

Wow! What a long way the Cambridge Community Orchestra has come since its inception a year ago. At the inaugural concert last weekend, they wowed the

audience of about 100 people with their accomplished playing.

This orchestra has matured so much this past year – under the guidance of conductor Ann Green – it was a pleasure to listen to them.

More than a dozen years ago when Janko Peric (always an advocate for the arts) and I sat on an arts related committee, he suggested we needed a community orchestra in Cambridge. I thought he was out to lunch. Where and how could we accomplish that. I wondered? Now, more than a decade later, it has come

true. We have an orchestra of which to be proud.

The concert, held in the Toyota Room on Sunday, was quite an occasion.

The first part of the concert brought us Bach's Brandenburg Concerto and Handel's Arrival of the Queen of Sheba, played by the Harmonia Ensemble of Kristi Coleman-Dorland, Julia MacFarlane and Ann Green. Their enthusiasm, professionalism and love for their music are clearly

apparent and rubbed off on the audience.

As an audience, we have to learn more concert etiquette. Some of us, me included, clapped vigorously at the wrong time. We clapped in between movements, but were informed very diplomatically by the director before we could repeat the faux

pas. During the intermission, the refreshments donated by Sarah Alvarado and fami-

ly were delicious and much appreciated.

The second half of the concert showed the strength of the full orchestra (more than 50 strong) as they played Symphony No. 1 in C Major, by Beethoven.

The last piece was Finlandia by Sibelius. A rousing melodic piece in which the new timpani, purchased by funds raised last year from the Mayor's Celebration of the Arts, was given a wonderful work out by Ron Scott.

If you (as many of you did) missed this event, you will have the opportunity to hear Finlandia again at the Mayor's Celebration of the Arts.

The event will be held at the School of Architecture

on June 17, from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. The evening will once more bring together all disciplines of the arts; those who produce; those who admire others work and those who like to mingle with them.

For \$20 a ticket – available from all branches of the library, the Cambridge Centre for the Arts and the Chamber of Commerce – the evening offers epicurean delights from more than 20 local restaurateurs, the works of four visual artists, dramatic excerpts from their current productions of three theatre companies, more than 16 performances of music from all genres, a humourist poet, and work by the students of the School of Architecture.

