

***The Lucia Procession*** is celebrated as a festival of light in Sweden that marks the return of daylight and ushers in the Christmas season. The Canadian Nordic Society in Ottawa organizes this procession every year with great success and this year they have very kindly accepted to be part of our “Holiday Celebrations”. It will be a procession of children of all ages.

***Seda Güvener***, an Ottawa resident, was born and raised in Turkey where she studied music and graduated with honors from the Performing Arts (Opera) Division of the Dokuz Eylül University in Izmir. She studied with Konstantin Lissovsky and worked with soprano Lia Lantieri. Seda played a role in Bellini’s Norma, staged by the Izmir State Opera and Ballet Company and also performed as alto soloist in Handel’s “Israel in Egypt” with Canadian Amateur Musicians Association in Ottawa. She is continuing her career in Ottawa.

***Paula Lin*** obtained her Master of Music Degree from the University of Ottawa in 2003. As a TA, she has accompanied Opera Workshop with its many successful stage performances directed by Sandra Graham. She attended *Oberlin at Casalmaggiore International Summer Music Program* in Italy in 1999, and *short-term Residency Program at The Banff Centre* in 2000 when she resided in Calgary where she was an Associate Piano Instructor and a collaborative artist for the Academy of Music Program at the Conservatory of Mount Royal College. Currently, she works for the Music Department of the University of Ottawa as an accompanist, and holds the position of music director at St. Paul’s Eastern United Church in addition to teaching at her home-studio.

***Mahir Güçlü***, a talented young musician from Izmir, Turkey who plays the *Bağlama*, a Turkish traditional string instrument, as well as the guitar, is a new resident of Ottawa and is looking forward to pursuing his career and also teaching.

***The MayaMuzic Choir:*** *Maya Ethier* is a well known musician in Ottawa and owner of the MayaMuzic School of Voice and Guitar <http://web.mac.com/mayamuzic/iWeb/MAYAMUZIC/Home.html> which has been in the Glebe for six years, teaching singing, guitar and drums. Maya’s students have performed at various events across the city including the launch of the charity “Helping for United Good” (**HUG**) whose mission is to bring peace to the world through education ([www.hugworldwide.org](http://www.hugworldwide.org)); the Lighting Ceremony at Parliament Hill, The Central Canadian Exhibition and the HBC Run for Canada. Her music career has taken her to Chile, where she represented Canada in the largest Latin song writing competition in the world, The Festival de Vina. At this competition, she performed for a live audience of over twenty five thousand people. Maya now focuses her time on her music school.