



— LEAHURST RECORDS —



THANK YOU

I am writing this preface to Leahurst College's first-ever studio album as I listen to the music we have produced together over the past three years. It brings me great joy to share this collection with our community. I hope you love it as much as I do! I am absolutely beaming with pride. I could not have asked for a better collection of music from the ultra-talented contributing artists included in this volume. I hope this becomes a regular tradition at Leahurst and look forward to hearing what our next generation of artists create.

I would like to acknowledge several people who have made this album possible. First, the beautiful tone in our singers' voices was expertly guided by our former vocal teacher, Julie Mylks, who sat in with me on several of the sessions to help students tune into their best sound. Next, Ryan McIver, a Leahurst Alum, provided a great deal of the piano instrumentation and brought many of the first generation musicians together by leading sing-alongs at lunch time on a VERY regular basis. (Sidenote: Hana has already taken over this role, leading many singing sessions with our Grade Sixes this past year!) Ryan also produced the music video for our recording of "Machine". Brad Pronovost and Michael Pitblado helped with producing two of our other music videos and did a fantastic job. Janine Biagi helped to run vocal rehearsals for our 2018 CBC contests and certainly will be a great coach for our future projects. Jesse Streight pointed me toward some great software for mastering the album. I thank him for the tip! Jamie McTaggart was the artist who created the album cover, and I thank him for making the album booklet "pop" off the page. Emma-Lee Goulding produced the digital album booklet and without her there would be no visual product to accompany the music. Lastly, I must thank our Head of School, Elizabeth Turcke, for building a school where it is easy for students to inspire each other and find a brave and beautiful voice inside themselves.

Of course, NONE OF THIS would be possible without our artists!
They deserve the biggest and most heartfelt thank you.

Thanks for listening.

Robert Chatelain

Bow and Arrow



Performed By:
Eila (lead vox),
Celeste (vox)
Ryan (piano and
harmony vox),
Isla, Eden and Bryn
(harmony vox),
Catia and Lucas
(strings),
Hana, Alana, Michelle,
Emily-Kate, Cassandra,
Sarah, Nate and
Michael (chorus vox)

Bow and Arrow was the first song produced at Leahurst, and earned us a top-ten mention in the 2015 national CBC Music Class Challenge. This track has a special place in my heart because it taught me what secondary students are capable of and to never underestimate them.

Check out our music video at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yEmCZGxbfWA>.

Written By: Reuben and the Dark



Can't Blame a Girl for Trying

Performed By: Natalie and Tess (vox),
Valentina (Ukulele)



This song was performed by three Grade 7 girls who have developed a great friendship this past year. They rehearsed and arranged the piece completely under the radar, just for fun. I would have never known it even existed, if it weren't for my colleague Jesse Streight who came up to me one day and said, "Robert, listen, you **HAVE** to record Natalie, Tess and Vali. They are going to blow you away." And he was right.



Written By: Meghan Trainor, Al Anderson and Chris Gelbuda





Home

Written By: Gabrielle Aplin and Nick Atkinson

Performed By: Celeste (vox)

Celeste has a voice filled with colour, nuance and power. The way she sings here truly transforms this cover into something she can feel proud to call her own. She was calm and focused during the tracking session and knew how to capture her best sound; in fact, she taught me a thing or two about not moving on too quickly! Great ears, Celeste, and great job!



tie yourself to me

Written By: Robert Chatelain

Performed By: Emily (lead vox), Nate, Madison,
and Sarah (backup vox)

Have you ever seen pre-schoolers being led by their teachers with a walking rope? When I first saw this system, I thought it was genius, cute and--strangely enough--inspiring. I turned the imagery into a song about sticking together and supporting each other. I am so grateful that my Grade 7 computer science class helped me record it and turn it into a music video. Although only four students are featured on the music track, the whole Grade 7 class (and some students in older grades) got involved in making it into a super funny and happy video.

Check out all the charming footage of Leahurst students at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zSHmjbVAWq4>.

Love



Performed By: Hana, Eden and Isla (vox)

Written By: Lennon and Maisy

The performance by Hana, Eden and Isla is so pure and beautiful it required no instrumentation for the first half of the song. They arranged the vocal harmonies completely by themselves. I heard them practicing it one day and knew it belonged on the album. This track sometimes gives me the chills! So pretty.



My Fault

Performed and Written By: Eila (vox)

I knew early on at Leahurst that Eila has a fantastic lead singing voice. You have already heard her by now - she was featured in the first track "Bow and Arrow". However, this year, I learned that she is also a budding songwriter. I heard a simple arrangement she had put together on the ukulele and was amazed by her natural understanding of song structure and lyrics. She communicates a relatable love story in very few words and a moving melody. Working on original compositions has a special place in my heart, and it was my great honour to help Eila record her first tune!



Hallelujah

Written By: Leonard Cohen
Performed By: Harrison (vox)
and Ryan (vox and piano)



Harrison and Ryan are kindred spirits. When Harrison joined Leahurst in his Grade 6 year, Ryan was already in Grade 12. Despite their six-year age difference, teachers would often notice Ryan and Harrison hanging out during lunchtime; they seemed like true friends right from the start. Not only are they alike personality-wise, they both can sing! The first time we heard them sing Cohen's "Hallelujah", it became an instant Leahurst hit. I overheard students in the audience say: "I think this is now my favourite version of Hallelujah"--a great compliment considering how MANY versions of this song are out there!

LISTEN UP

Written By: Robert Chatelain
Performed By: Robert and Julie

My first year at Leahurst was also my first year teaching elementary and secondary school. It was also the year I realized just how much I loved my newfound career. The reason: the kids at Leahurst inspire me each and every day. This song was written and performed in dedication to the students who--by the simple virtue of being themselves--changed my life for the better. Julie Mylks and I arranged the vocals together and performed it for the students and their families during the 2015 Leahurst Showcase.



Grad Song

Written By: Ryan McIver
Performed By: Ryan (piano and lead vox),
Isla and Eden (backup vox)

Ryan, perhaps in a gesture born from humility and reciprocity, wrote a song dedicated to his teachers. This is the first composition Ryan had ever played for us. The fact that he decided to write it as a thank-you and goodbye to his teachers--performed for the first time as a surprise at his Grade 12 graduation ceremony--brought many legitimate tears to the eyes of the teachers who stood and watched. Side note: after listening to this song, the tune gets stuck in my head all day. Be careful!



MACHINE

(BONUS LIVE PERFORMANCE #1)



The last three songs of the album were recorded as a live band rather than one instrument/vocal track at a time. We have included these songs to showcase the students' prowess at combining individual unique voices into a coherent and blended sound. The first track, "Machine", was 100% arranged by the students involved, and includes an original composition in the bridge section. The result of this amazing performance was our second top-ten mention in the national CBC Music Class Challenge.

You can watch the beautiful student-made video at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yEmCZGxbfWA>.



Written By: Scott Helman,
with Bridge written by Ryan, Isla, and Eden



Performed By: Ryan (piano and vox),
Eden, Brian, Hana, Celeste, Isla,
Sandy, and Ketia (vox)





Performed By: Izzy (lead vox), Kayden (drums), Ria, Grace, Nathan, Rachel and Alex (boom-whackers and backup vox), Ani, Olive and Iza (dancers and backup vox)

Stay

(Bonus Live Performance #2)

The second live track we've included is a song that's going to knock your socks off! The Grade 5/6 students involved worked so hard on this number, and were recognized significantly in the CBC 2018 national contest. We were honored for the third time as a top-ten national entry and were also featured in three CBC highlight reels including Top 5 Under 5 Feet and Top 5 Natural Born Performers. Make sure you listen to the amazing drum rhythms, the precise boom-whacking, the charming backup vocals and the prodigal lead singing--the high note at the end may shatter your wine glass! Check out the music video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x1AD7ciZAY8&fbclid=I-wAR0cWU0AT3uHknjtix4nprdK5lk0xvfgLw54-GjEknDbFRb7lOWZ8akpzo>.

Written By: Linus Wiklund, Sarah Aarons, Anders Froen, Alessia Caraciollo, Anton Zaslavski, Jonnali Parmenius

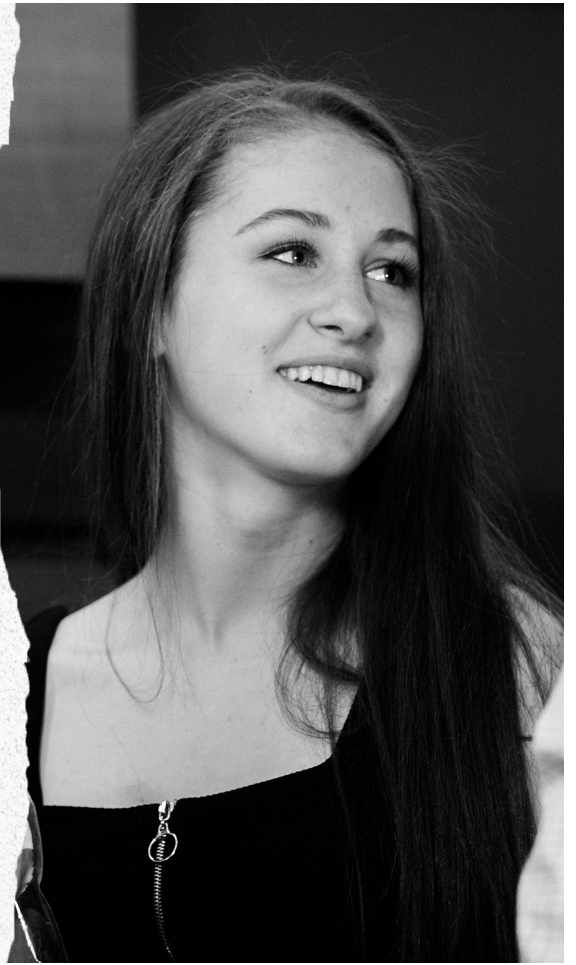


Home

(Bonus Live Performance #3)

Written By: Greg Holden and Drew Pearson
Performed By: Hana (piano),
Eila and Celeste (vox)

The final track of the album is a beautiful rendition of the Phillip Phillips single, "Home". Each year Leahurst holds an Evening of Celebration to recognize student accomplishment and to honour the Grade 8 and Grade 12 graduating classes with the entire Leahurst community. Emotions run high during these evenings. Musical performance is primed by the honest, nostalgic and ephemeral quality of the evening as students officially transition into the next year of their education. In this piece, guided by the steady pulse of Hana's piano playing, Eila and Celeste ride the keystrokes like a gentle wave. Together, all three of them made us feel at "Home".



LEAHURST RECORDS

• 1. Bow and Arrow

Written By: Reuben and the Dark
Performed By: Eila (lead vox), Ryan (piano and harmony vox), Isla, Eden and Bryn (harmony vox), Catia and Lucas (strings), Hana, Alana, Michelle, Emily-Kate, Cassandra, Sarah, Nate and Michael (chorus vox)

2. Can't Blame a Girl for Trying

Written By: Meghan Trainor, Al Anderson and Chris Gelbuda
Performed By: Natalie and Tess (vox), Valentina (Ukulele)

3. Home

Written By: Gabrielle Aplin and Nick Atkinson
Performed By: Celeste (vox)

4. Tie Yourself To Me

Written By: Robert Chatelain
Performed By: Emily (lead vox), Nate, Madison, and Sarah (backup vox)

5. Love

Written By: Lennon and Maisy
Performed By: Hana, Eden and Isla (vox)

6. My Fault

Written By: Eila
Performed By: Eila (vox)

7. Hallelujah

Written By: Leonard Cohen
Performed By: Harrison (vox) and Ryan (vox and piano)

8. Listen Up

Written By: Robert Chatelain
Performed By: Robert and Julie

9. Grad Song

Written By: Ryan McIver
Performed By: Ryan (piano and lead vox), Isla and Eden (backup vox)

• 10. Machine (Bonus Live Performance #1)

Written By: Scott Helman, with Bridge written by Ryan, Isla, and Eden
Performed By: Ryan (piano and vox), Eden, Brian, Hana, Celeste, Isla, Sandy, and Keria (vox)

• 11. Stay (Bonus Live Performance #2)

Written By: Linus Wiklund, Sarah Aarons, Anders Froen, Alessia Caraciollo, Anton Zaslavski, Jonnali Parmenius
Performed By: Izzy (lead vox), Kayden (drums), Ria, Grace, Nathan, Rachel and Alex (boom-whackers and backup vox), Ani, Olive and Iza (dancers and backup vox)

12. Home (Bonus Live Performance #3)

Written By: Greg Holden and Drew Pearson
Performed By: Hana (piano), Eila and Celeste (vox)



- Songs were CBC Music Challenge finalists

© 2015-2018

Recorded by Dr. Robert Chatelain for Leahurst College High School. Full credit to the original song writers.
The sound recording is unique to Leahurst College. Recorded at Leahurst College, Kingston, Ontario.