

The Bob Charest Band

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The Bob Charest Band, consistently voted Maine's Best Band in the Maine Sunday Telegram's Audience Readers' Poll, is thrilled to have been chosen to provide music entertainment for Gita and Aron's wedding festivities.

Comprised of nine talented musicians - three dynamic lead vocalists (two female and one male), horns (trumpet, flugelhorn, and soprano and tenor saxes), and a full rhythm section (keyboard, guitar, bass, and drums) – the Bob Charest Band has been wowing audiences for the past eleven years. Their repertoire includes a complete range of musical styles – swing, classic rock, R&B, disco, funk, and country – and their appeal and energy make for a great night of dancing for Gita, Aron, and their guests.

Bob, a Maine native, has been playing in bands since his teens and graduated from the University of New Hampshire in 1974 with a degree in composition. After marrying, he worked in IT for twenty years. In the late 90's, he decided to get back into music full time and formed the Bob Charest Band. He also teaches jazz improvisational piano at his home studio.

Cindy was born in Norwood, MA, but has now lived more than half her life in Maine, having graduated from the University of Southern Maine with a music teaching degree. She taught vocal music in the Norwood Schools for six years, and then moved back to Maine after marrying Bob. She worked for about ten years in the travel industry and then spent the next eight years or so homeschooling the couple's two children, Leigh and Mark who are now 19 and 17, respectively. After Bob started the band and the kids were a little older, she lobbied to join the band with the idea of adding another female vocalist and a fourth harmony part.

Cindy and Bob are joined in the band by Matt Zaro (lead male vocal), Lori Campbell Bissonnette (lead female vocal), Eric Stokes (trumpet and flugelhorn), Andrew Doody (soprano and tenor sax), Stew Guernsey (guitar, vocals, and harmonica), Geoff Chartier (bass), and Luc Bergeron (drums).