



# Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

June 2012

SMFA Provincial Office  
#14 - 62 Westfield Drive  
Regina, SK S4S 2S4



"Classical Competitive Festivals"

Phone: (306) 757-1722  
Fax: (306) 347-7789  
Toll Free: 1-888-892-9929  
E-Mail: [sask.music.festival@sasktel.net](mailto:sask.music.festival@sasktel.net)  
Website: [www.smfa.ca](http://www.smfa.ca)

## President's Message

*Joy McFarlane-Burton*



Spring is a very busy time in the Province of Saskatchewan; new growth, rejuvenation, and hope for the harvest ahead. It is also the busiest season for the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association Provincial Office. Preparing for the Provincial Finals takes a tremendous amount of effort by our Staff to organize, schedule, and create the event that has been equated to our musical harvest. It is the culmination of months of study and rehearsal that brought us to Saskatoon June 1–3 to hear our Province's finest young musicians.

We were excited that the entries in the Provincial Finals were up from last year. Thanks to the competitors, accompanists/collaborative artists, teachers, parents, and volunteers whose efforts have made this another successful year for our Provincial Music Festival, as well as the 48 District Music Festivals. Congratulations to everyone on their personal achievements! The Grand Award winner was Gerard Weber, alto saxophone. The full list of award winners is found on Pages 4 to 6.

Gerard Weber, alto saxophone. The full list of award winners is found on Pages 4 to 6.

The SMFA is grateful for the support of our 2012 corporate sponsors SaskTel, SaskEnergy, and PotashCorp. We also acknowledge the University of Saskatchewan, Troy Linsley, and Yamaha Pianos, Roger Jolly for their support of the Provincial Finals. We are also thankful for the donors of scholarships and awards. Your continuing support is very much appreciated.

The Provincial Level of National Competition was held on Friday, June 1 with 10 competitors representing the categories of Voice, Piano, Strings, Guitar, Woodwind, Brass, and Chamber Music. We are thrilled to announce the Saskatchewan Team for Nationals: Voice – Whitney Mather; Strings – Laura Hillis; Woodwind – Gerard Weber; Brass – Aaron Bueckert; and Chamber Group – 3 Directions (Arthur Boan, Emily McBean, and Yuli Chen). These musicians will compete at the National Music Festival which will be held at Keyano Theatre and Arts Centre in Fort McMurray, Alberta, August 16–18.

The new SMFA Syllabus will be available in early September. Thanks to the type-setters, Carol and John Donhauser, the Syllabus will have a new look. There are new classes from which to select and some new rules too. I urge you to read this document thoroughly and acquaint yourself with all the new information that is contained between its covers. It will be available online [www.smfa.ca](http://www.smfa.ca) as well as in print form. A sincere "Thank you" is extended to Theresa Brost, the 2013-15 Syllabus Chairperson, and her committee. You have done an incredible job! Thank you also to the Music Selectors and all those who have contributed to the Syllabus preparation.

We hope that many more of the District Festivals will take part in Culture Days September 28–30 across Saskatchewan. Please check Page 11 for more information on this event.

It is time to think about recognizing those special volunteers who go 'above and beyond' in their work with your District Festival. September 30 is the deadline to have the names and brief bios into our Office. Please check the Administration Section of the SMFA website: [http://www.smfa.ca/Administration/Forms\\_Festivals.festival\\_forms\\_&\\_guides.htm](http://www.smfa.ca/Administration/Forms_Festivals.festival_forms_&_guides.htm)

Please mark your calendars for the Saskatchewan Music Conference November 3–5, in Saskatoon. I urge you to attend the conference and the SMFA AGM.



Our latest Fundraiser is "Festival Friend". Please check Page 7 for opportunities to get involved.

In all of our efforts at the SMFA we gratefully acknowledge the support of Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust for Sport, Culture, and Recreation, The Saskatchewan Arts Board, and SaskCulture Inc.

Have a pleasant, relaxing, and safe summer season!





# Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

June 2012

## A Fond Farewell

*Doris Covey Lazecki retires as SMFA Adjudicator Liaison*



Effective in June of 2012, Doris Covey Lazecki will retire as the Adjudicator Liaison for SMFA, concluding a career that began in 1982 as the Executive Director. Doris' message in the spring edition of Festival Focus this year began with these words: "The Adjudicators have been hired for another year – the 30<sup>th</sup> time I have hired the professional musicians who judge our festivals in Saskatchewan."

Doris Covey Lazecki (ARCT) was born in Saskatoon and began her early vocal training with the late Mary Anderson, who entered all her students in the annual Saskatoon Music Festival. She studied piano with the late Dorothy Lockerbie of Saskatoon and Kathleen Keesey of Regina. Further vocal studies were with Jan Van der Gucht and Philip May of Regina. Doris has been a chorister and soloist with various churches across Saskatchewan, the Regina Conservatory Choir, the Regina and Saskatoon Symphony Orchestras and the Elizabethan Singers of Regina, of which she was a founding member. Doris taught singing at the Conservatory of Music for ten years and prepared her vocal students for examinations and festival competitions at the local, provincial and national levels.

We asked Doris to comment on her career with SMFA and her plans for retirement, and these are her words:

*"Opportunity has knocked on my door many times. I was teaching a voice student at the Conservatory of Music when a knock came to the studio door – it was Gordon Hancock (one of my heroes) who invited me to the Swift Current Music Festival to train as a vocal adjudicator with Prof. Dorothy Howard – what an adventure that was! So for several years I was involved at the adjudicating level of SMFA. Then another knock came to my studio door – it was Dr. Vernon Sanders who asked if I might be interested in applying for the new position of Executive Director of the Sask Choral Federation (SCF). I was, and I became the first full-time ED of that group. Kathleen Keple, Executive Director of SMFA had graciously provided office space for the SCF and so it came to pass that I moved a desk into 3806 Albert Street above the Golden Mile Plaza, and shared the office space with Kathy and Sandra Donison. We had a jolly time and it was indeed a hectic atmosphere with the phones ringing incessantly and the photo copier rattling away continuously. We had lots of visitors to the office for both organizations and it was my introduction to many of the SMFA volunteers.*

*Opportunity did not have to go far afield when Kathy proposed that I should take over the ED responsibilities of SMFA as she was going to become the General Manager of the Saskatchewan Arts Board. So in the fall of 1982, Kathy invited me to the SMFA conference in Prince Albert, where I was introduced to delegates as the Interim Executive Director. The SMFA Board ratified my hiring; I had a short training session, jumping into my new position with enthusiasm and excitement. One of the highlights for me as ED of SMFA was the festival visiting which I undertook with the current president each year. Driving across our beautiful province to hear so many talented students and to meet and talk with the volunteers and adjudicators in each centre was truly special. In my tenure I visited all of our 49 member festivals. The hiring of adjudicators over the past 32 years has allowed me to correspond and talk with so many of our wonderful musicians in Canada, many of whom I can now call friends. Each year I would fill over two hundred spots in our 49 festivals, Concerto, Opera, and Provincial Competitions. Contact at Nationals each summer with musicians and volunteers was an important tool in the hiring process, and I valued the opinions of colleagues from other provinces - word of mouth is still a very valid evaluation method!*

(Continued on next page)



# Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

June 2012

*There were many memorable moments in my career with SMFA, but I particularly remember hosting the National Music Festival in 1984 in Regina and co-sponsoring the Jon Vickers concert in Saskatoon with OSAC that same year. The publishing of our history and the Speech Arts Resource Manual, both compiled by Mossie Hancock, were major accomplishments. We worked with Carol Donhauser on the Speech Arts Manual, the beginning of our great connection. The Concerto Competition, the Canadian Composer Series and the Wallis Opera Competition remain highlights of SMFA programs for me. The SMFA annual conferences were a delight to plan and I particularly remember the conferences at Maple Creek, Melfort, and Kenosee Lake; the costume parades (our conferences were always near Halloween); and the inspiring speakers we had – Lieutenant Governor Fred Johnson, Sheila Shinkewski, Mossie Hancock, and Lillian Mitchell, to name a few. But the most memorable events for me have been being a part of an organization that has nurtured the lives of so many young performers. To watch these young people progress – many to become professional musicians with amazing life skills, has truly been a gift. Now that I am retiring as Adjudicator Liaison, I can become more involved with my grandchildren and their musical endeavours. They live in Pennsylvania and Ontario, and Morris and I look forward to attending their recitals, soccer and hockey games as their number one fans!"*

Doris is a former executive member of the Association of Canadian Choral Conductors, the Saskatchewan Council of Cultural Organizations, the Saskatchewan Choral Federation, and a voting member of the Canadian Music Centre, Prairie Region. She has been an active member of the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals, serving as chair of Membership and Choral Committees and as president, and served a three-year term as president of ArtSchool Saskatchewan. Doris assisted with the production of the SMFA 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Re-enactment Concert in May of 2009, and in 2010 she was granted an Honorary Life Membership with the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association.

From the SMFA Board of Directors and Staff, and on behalf of District Festivals all across the province, sincere thanks and best wishes to you, Doris. May you and Morris enjoy many train trips, recitals, and sporting events in your retirement!



FCMF wishes you a successful 2012 festival season and extends our gratitude to the many volunteers who make this possible each year!

## NATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

August 16 – 18, 2012

Fort McMurray, Alberta



For more information, please contact:  
Executive Director – Heather Bedford-Clooney  
14004 75 Ave. NW, Edmonton, AB T5R 2Y6  
1.877.323.3263 (FCMF)  
info@fcmf.org  
www.fcmf.org



# Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

June 2012

## Provincial Finals Report

*Submitted by Robyn Rutherford*

Saskatoon was alive with the sound of music, June 1-3, when the city played host to the Saskatchewan Music Festival Provincial Finals. On Friday, nine solo performers and one chamber group competed in the Provincial Level of National Competition, for the right to represent Saskatchewan at the National Music Festival in Fort McMurray, AB, August 16-18. Members of the Saskatchewan team are:

**Voice:** Whitney Mather (soprano), Saskatoon Festival

**Strings:** Laura Hillis (violin), Regina Festival

**Woodwinds:** Gerard Weber (alto saxophone), Saskatoon Festival

**Brass:** Aaron Bueckert (trumpet), Saskatoon Festival

**Chamber Group:** 3 Directions (Arthur Boan, Emily McBean, Yuli Chen), Saskatoon Festival



Back Row: Jacques Després, Gerard Weber, Arthur Boan, Yuli Chen, Aaron Bueckert  
Front Row: Ed Wasiak, Lorna MacDonald, Laura Hillis, Whitney Mather, Rennie Regehr

Three choral entries were submitted and judged by CD prior to the competition. Winner of the **George S. Mathieson** Class and recommended to Nationals is Juventus Concert Choir (Diana Woolrich, conductor), Regina Festival. Winner of the **Paul J. Bourret** Class and recommended to Nationals is Campbell Collegiate Chamber Choir (Deidre & Russ Baird, conductors) Regina Festival.

Judges for the Provincial/National level of competition and Provincial Competitions were: Jacques Després, Edmonton, AB, (Senior Piano); Lorna MacDonald, Toronto, ON, (Voice); Rennie Regehr, Ottawa, ON (Strings); Ed Wasiak, Lethbridge, AB (Woodwind, Brass, Percussion); Alexandra Munn, Edmonton, AB (Intermediate Piano); Ian Nelson, Saskatoon, SK (Speech Arts, Musical Theatre); and John Wiebe, Edmonton, AB (Choirs).

Provincial competitions took place on Friday evening and all day Saturday at the University of Saskatchewan. Over 260 performances by winners in all disciplines from Saskatchewan's 48 District Music Festivals were heard. Sunday, June 3, chosen senior competitors from each discipline competed in the Grand Awards Competitions. The following musicians were declared Provincial Winners:



# Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

June 2012

## Voice

Goodfellow Memorial Grade A Female Voice-\$300: Jeanette Wiens (Regina)  
Goodfellow Memorial Grade A Male Voice-\$300: No entries  
Heather Laxdal Memorial Grade B Female Voice-\$300: Tricia Florence (Saskatoon)  
Thomas & Don Hatton Memorial Grade B Male Voice-\$300: Spencer McKnight (Lanigan)  
Covey Girls' Voice-\$200: Lara Donnan (Saskatoon)  
Marlene Cherry Young Men's Voice-\$200: Daniel Julien (Saskatoon)  
Goodfellow Memorial Award Senior Grade A Concert Group-\$300: Stephanie Tokarz (Saskatoon)  
Nancy & Alastair Todd Senior Grade B Concert Group-\$300: Chelsea Woodard (Regina)  
Goodfellow Memorial Oratorio-\$300 and the Helen Davies Sherry Memorial trophy: Hadia Cooper (Saskatoon)  
Goodfellow Memorial Operatic-\$300: Emma Johnson (Regina)  
Regan Grant Memorial Musical Theatre-\$300: Katja Meszaros (Biggar)  
Goodfellow Memorial Canadian Vocal Music-\$300: Chelsea Woodard (Regina)  
Goodfellow Memorial Lieder Voice & Whelan Lieder Piano Scholarship-\$400: Emma Johnson & Jennifer Qing (Saskatoon)  
Dorothy Howard French Art Song Scholarship-\$300: Whitney Mather (Saskatoon)  
L.I. Bryson Memorial Senior Speech Arts Scholarship-\$300: Tavia Hoenecke (Outlook)

## Woodwind/Brass/Percussion/String

Mary Anderson Memorial Senior Woodwind-\$300: Gerard Weber (Saskatoon)  
Mary Anderson Memorial Intermediate Woodwind-\$200: Carl Hofmeister (Saskatoon)  
Blanche Squires Memorial Senior Brass-\$300: Aaron Bueckert (Saskatoon)  
SMFA Past President's Intermediate Brass-\$200: Abby Fuller (Regina)  
Jon Ormerod Memorial Senior Percussion-\$300: No entries  
Blanche Squires Memorial Intermediate Percussion-\$200: Ashley Patoine (Regina)  
Mrs. Clare K. Mendel Memorial Senior Violin-\$300: William Boan (Saskatoon)  
Robert C. Mitchell Memorial Intermediate Violin-\$200: Samantha Leech (Regina)  
Kiwanis of Wascana Senior Viola/Cello/Double Bass-\$300: Katie Newman (Regina)  
Johanna Mitchell Memorial Intermediate Viola/Cello/Double Bass-\$200: Alaina Majewski (Regina)

## Piano

Arlene Stuart Memorial Senior Bach-\$300: Anna Currie (Qu'Appelle Valley)  
Gordon C. Wallis Memorial Senior Beethoven-\$300: Armand Konecni-Luzny (Qu'Appelle Valley)  
Gordon C Wallis Memorial Intermediate Beethoven-\$200: Thomas Yee (Moose Jaw)  
Shirley Andrist Senior Haydn & Mozart-\$300: Trista Gargol (Regina)  
Frances England & Hugheen Ferguson Memorial Intermediate Haydn & Mozart-\$200: Godwin Friesen (Sask. Valley)  
Music for Young Children Sask. Teachers' Association Senior Chopin-\$300: Armand Konecni-Luzny (Qu'Appelle Valley)  
Deason Intermediate Chopin -\$200: Katrina MacKinnon (Battlefords)  
Music for Young Children Sask. Teachers' Association Senior French Music-\$300: Jeffrey Folster (Saskatoon)  
Jackson Memorial Intermediate Piano-\$200: Candace Huculiak (Lloydminster)  
Gale Glenn Memorial Senior Piano-\$300: Bradley Little (Nipawin)  
Maude McGuire Memorial Intermediate Piano-\$200: Kristian Wenaus (Qu'Appelle Valley)  
Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers' Association Senior Romantic-\$200: Jeffrey Folster (Saskatoon)  
Gloria Nickell Intermediate Piano-\$400: Kristian Wenaus (Qu'Appelle Valley)  
Lazacki Memorial Intermediate Piano-\$200: Katrina MacKinnon (Battlefords)

## Final Grand Award Recipients:

Goodfellow Memorial Vocal Award-\$400 and the Chief Justice J.T. Brown Shield: Stephanie Tokarz (Saskatoon)  
Heather Laxdal Memorial Vocal Award-\$300 and the Golan E. Hoole Memorial Shield: Whitney Mather (Saskatoon)  
Blanche Squires Memorial Woodwinds Award-\$400: Gerard Weber (Saskatoon)  
SMFA Woodwinds Award-\$300: Jakob Greifenhagen (Regina)  
Guy Few Award in Brass-\$500: Aaron Bueckert (Saskatoon)  
Daryl Cooper Investment Group Brass Award-\$300: Alice Fuller (Regina)  
Fred S. Mendel Memorial String Award-\$500 and Trophy: William Boan (Saskatoon)  
John & Judy Hrycak String Award-\$300: Laura Hillis (Regina)



# Festival Focus

## SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

June 2012

Anna Klassen Memorial Piano Award-\$400: Jeffrey Folster (Saskatoon)  
 Gordon & Mossie Hancock Memorial Piano Award-\$300: Bradley Little (Nipawin & District)  
 Wallis Memorial Bronze Award-\$500 and trophy: William Boan (Saskatoon)  
 Wallis Memorial Silver Award-\$750 and trophy: Stephanie Tokarz (Saskatoon)  
 The Sister Boyle Award of \$1,000 to the most outstanding competitor of the Grand Awards: Gerard Weber (Saskatoon)

**Provincial choral awards: (taped performances)**

Saskatchewan Choral Federation Scholarship of \$300: Juventus Concert Choir (Diana Woolrich, conductor) Regina  
 Betty Tydeman Memorial Choral Scholarship of \$200: Yorkton Community Ladies' Concert Choir (Laurene Jemieff, conductor) Yorkton  
 Mary Anderson Memorial Choral Scholarship of \$500: Combined Community Youth Choir (Sharon Carter, conductor) Humboldt  
 Kiwanis Club of Regina Gallagher Memorial Choral Scholarship of \$500: Campbell Collegiate Chamber Choir (Deidre and Russ Baird, conductors) Regina

Since 1908 the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association has played a major role in the development of a classical music festival system of the highest standard. We are most grateful for generous financial assistance offered to young musicians by our scholarship donors.

The Saskatchewan Music Festival Association acknowledges corporate sponsorship from SaskTel, SaskEnergy, and PotashCorp, gifts in kind from the University of Saskatchewan (Saskatoon), Music Department, Yamaha Piano, and the continuing support of the Sask Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture & Recreation, SaskCulture, Sask. Arts Board, and individual donors.

It was a very busy weekend with lots of great music. President Joy McFarlane-Burton wrote this poem (with apologies to Clement Clarke Moore) that sums it all up.

'Twas the night before Provincials when all 'round the table  
 Board members were weary, but the problems dis-abled.  
 With Carol's stack of papers all neat and trim,  
 The meeting complete...let the briefing begin!

Theresa hosted the Judges and Board in her room  
 With the usual care; tasty treats to consume.  
 Joy traveled home each night to her bed-y  
 And triple checked notes to make sure all was ready.

Friday a.m. – Darren quick on the spot  
 To open, move tables, and right on the dot!  
 Robyn, Anita, Nancy, and Karen  
 With Gail too - each job was for sharin'.

Great teamwork, good folk, and laughs 'long the way.  
 Sandra in the office 'til the end of the day.  
 The Board worked like crazy all weekend long.  
 As volunteers our pay is really "Just for a Song"!

You're a wonderful bunch.....I'm so proud of each one!  
 The best Board to be found under the Saskatchewan sun.



**Missing the Journal of the Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers' Association (SRMTA)?  
 OPUS can be found on the SRMTA website**

<http://www.srmta.com/vol-58-no-3---june-2012.html>



# Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

June 2012

*Invitation*

**BECOME A "FESTIVAL FRIEND"!**

This is your invitation to join us in becoming a "Festival Friend". Since 1908, Saskatchewan Music Festival Association (SMFA) has delivered programs that fulfill our mission. Your donation will help to ensure these programs will continue and that the festival movement in Saskatchewan will continue into the next Century! For every donation of \$10 or more, the SMFA will give half of the donation back to the District Festival of your choice or, if requested, the entire donation will remain with the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association.

YES, I would like to become a "FESTIVAL FRIEND"! Please accept my donation of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

YES, I would like to receive a copy of the **FESTIVAL FOCUS** newsletter  
e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation to Local (please specify SK festival): \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your cheque payable to the  
Saskatchewan Music Festival Association and send to:  
**Saskatchewan Music Festival Association**  
#14 – 62 Westfield Drive  
Regina, SK S4S 2S4

*Tax receipts will be issued for all donations over \$10.00  
Charitable No. 11914 0267 RR0001*

*"TO PROMOTE EXCELLENCE IN MUSIC AND SPEECH ARTS  
THROUGH COMPETITIVE MUSIC FESTIVALS."*



# Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

June 2012

## Adjudicator Anecdotes

*Compiled by Nancy Toppings, 2nd Vice President*

We asked adjudicators to share some significant moments from their Music Festival experiences. Here are their stories.

**The first three anecdotes have been contributed anonymously:**

- *My Mom has travelled with me to a couple of festivals. One of my earliest Festivals was in a very small community. My Mom was sitting in the audience watching the young competitors. A young Mom came into the venue, and my Mom had noticed this woman kept glancing in her direction. The woman's curiosity soon got the best of her and she moved to sit beside my Mom and asked "Who are you here to see?" My Mom's reply was "The Adjudicator".*
- *When we come in to communities we seldom have a sense of the local history. At one Festival two sisters sang a duet - it was a beautiful arrangement and they sang it beautifully. When they were finished there was not a dry eye in the room. I learned during the lunch break that the singers' Mother had passed away within the time since the previous Festival. They sang this as a tribute to their Mom as it was one of her favorite songs. I still get shivers when I think of that performance.*
- *I often suggest that on Musical Theatre nights in small communities we let the evening run concert style, no adjudication until the end. I remember vividly a festival where an entire family performed in the Family Music Class. It was a very moving performance to see every member of the family performing together on various instruments as well as singing. I was very choked up by the end of their selections and was so glad not to have to adjudicate at that point. I am sure I would have been too emotional to speak.*

**Cherith Alexander shares the following stories, which are sure to make you laugh and cry at the same time. Thank you, Cherith!**

*Over the past 17 years of adjudicating I've experienced many inspiring and the occasional embarrassing moments. One of the ones I'd like to forget was when I suggested to a young boy that he depress the damper pedal with his right foot rather than his left to which he replied in front of the entire crowd, "I can't do that because I have a wooden leg."*

*A wonderful moment I'll also never forget happened in Calgary eight years ago when a young blond-haired boy named Jan Lisiecki played two Bach Sinfonias for me and I sat at my desk with tears streaming down my face because I'd never heard a child play Bach that exquisitely. I told many of my musician friends when I got home from Calgary that I was quite sure I'd just heard Canada's next Glenn Gould.*

*However, the story I'd like to share with you happened just this past March in Moose Jaw. On the final day of the festival my entire morning was spent listening to the students who participate in the "Heart of the City" piano program. The mission of this made-in-Saskatchewan program is: "to proactively promote the advancement of a more equitable opportunity for potentially at-risk and economically disadvantaged youth to participate in a life-long music education experience". That morning I had the privilege of listening to 20 young pianists who are taught by a group of volunteers organized by Melinda Anderson-Grass and who do their practicing over recess and lunch breaks on their schools' pianos. The children, who ranged from age 8 – 17, were well-prepared. Most played from memory. Many were wearing their sharpest duds. I was particularly surprised by a young man named Terrence. He appeared to be a boy of about 12 or 13 wearing a brightly coloured western-style shirt. When he sat his large-framed body down at the piano to play the ever-popular "Spooks" by Clifford Poole I anticipated that it might be rough as we all know this deceptively simple-sounding little piece is full of musical and technical challenges. Well, Terrence proceeded to put on a masterclass in how to play this piece well. All the articulation was perfect and he managed to get a truly pp tone. He told a story with his playing. This kid was a performer! I told Terrence that I've heard this piece played all over Western Canada hundreds of times but it was never played better than that morning in Moose Jaw.*

*I had the privilege of awarding three brand-new \$50 scholarships to students in the Heart of the City Program that morning. The kids, parents, and teachers cheered for their friends who won. We had a group picture and then the kids and their dedicated teachers were off on the bus to McDonald's for a treat. Thanks to the Moose Jaw Festival for providing the opportunity and giving these kids the chance to perform and learn in the festival environment. It was truly an honour to hear them perform and an experience I won't forget.*





# Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

June 2012

Robyn Rutherford contributed this touching little story that reminds us what Music Festivals are really all about. She calls it "Wait for Grandma".

*While adjudicating in Swift Current this spring I was listening to a duet class when an executive member asked if I could wait a few minutes. She explained that "Grandma" was on her way to see her granddaughter play. We took a few minutes break until Grandma arrived and then resumed with the rest of the class. I didn't meet this special Grandma but it is awesome to have such family support for our young musicians.*

Adjudicators, we know you have stories to share and would love to hear from you! Please send your stories to Nancy at [toppings@sasktel.net](mailto:toppings@sasktel.net) and we will include them in the next installments of *Adjudicator Anecdotes*.



## 2013-2015 SMFA Syllabus

The 2013-2015 Syllabus will be available for **purchase early September**. The Syllabus is to be used in conjunction with the SMFA Annual Directory which contains competition rules and regulations, scholarship information, Concerto and Wallis Opera Competition information and District Festival information. To obtain your copy of the new Syllabus, please contact the SMFA Provincial Office at (306) 757-1722 or [sask.music.festival@sasktel.net](mailto:sask.music.festival@sasktel.net). The purchase price for this three-year publication is \$20.00/copy. The Online version will be available at a later date.



**It's a win-win situation.**

Proceeds from the sale of Saskatchewan Lotteries tickets benefit over 12,000 sport, culture, recreation and community groups in Saskatchewan ... so *we all win!*





# Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

June 2012



November 1 - 3 (Saskatoon Inn)

The Saskatchewan Music Conference (SMC) is a joint project of five provincial music organizations: the Saskatchewan Band Association, Saskatchewan Choral Federation, Saskatchewan Music Educators Association, Saskatchewan Music Festival Association, and the Saskatchewan Orchestral Association. The annual conference brings together approximately 250 delegates from across the province.

**Keynote Speaker: Patricia Katz**  
"Ease the Load & Lighten the Way - Take a Break & Get a Grip"



A few of the sessions offered are:

- **Debra Giebelhaus-Maloney: The Magic of Music and Story**  
Institute Music and Movement, Clinician, teacher trainer, composer, story teller, educator, Master of Orff, Debra is a child advocate committed to excellence in music education.
- **Greg Chase: Cracking the Boy Code**  
Aiding male students to reach their fullest potential.
- **Sylvia Chave: You want me to sing with kids?!**  
Saskatchewan's Queen of the swing-set scene. Through her lively music and stage shows, Sylvia charms children and their adults into wiggling and giggling together.
- **Peter Boonshaft**  
Called one of the most exciting and exhilarating voices in music education today, Peter Boonshaft has been invited to speak of conduct in every state in the nation and around the world.
- **Adrian Bourgeois: Stop Preaching to the Choir**  
Adrian provides information and ideas on how to support performing music classes in schools.
- **Darren Schwartz: Online Festival Entries and Payment**  
Darren takes us through the steps of setting up to accept online entries and payment.

Partially supported by



**Early Bird Rates (before October 1)**

Full Conference - Member: \$170 Non-member: \$220

Single Day - Member: \$100 Non-member: \$150

Student rates are available

For more information visit: [www.saskmusic.ca](http://www.saskmusic.ca)





# Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

June 2012

## Thanks to the SMFA office staff!

*Submitted by Nancy Toppings*

As another busy festival season draws to a close, and we reflect upon the past year, one thing comes to mind: that none of this would be possible without our amazing office staff!

Carol Donhauser, Executive Director, provides the strategic direction, operational oversight, and daily management of the provincial association. She is the heartbeat of the organization, the problem-solver, the friendly face you meet in the office at provincial competitions, and the voice of reason at National meetings. She is a team player and a strong advocate for SMFA programs and the people who benefit from them. Carol's willingness to "go the extra mile" does not go unnoticed by her Board. Additional workload generated by the Music Alliance and related projects have meant extra weekend meetings and added responsibility to an already demanding position. Carol, thank you for your dedication – we couldn't manage without you!

Sandra Kerr, Administrative Assistant, brings efficiency and a strong music background to the SMFA Office. She keeps the office running smoothly and is a good source of support for district festivals. She is your direct line to the provincial office, the person who answers your questions before you ask them, reminds you to send in your reports on time, and keeps your festival committee on track. She is the busy person working behind the scenes at provincial competitions. Sandra, it is reassuring for district festival volunteers to know that the answers to their questions are only a phone call or e-mail away. Thank you for all you do!

SMFA Board of Directors



## Culture Days – September 28 to 30, 2012

*"Celebrating Arts + Culture From Coast to Coast"*

*(Submitted by Nancy Toppings)*



Culture Days is a collaborative pan-Canadian volunteer movement to raise the **awareness, accessibility, participation** and **engagement** of all Canadians in the arts and cultural life of their communities. A national Steering Committee, together with provincial committees (known as Provincial Task Forces) self-mobilize at the grassroots level to implement concurrent, annual, province-wide public participation events that take place throughout the country over the last weekend of September. The first annual Culture Days event was held in September 2010 in over 700 Canadian cities and towns and, by all accounts, was a great success. **The 2012 Culture Days weekend will take place September 28, 29 & 30, 2012.** Annual, Canada-wide Culture Days events feature free, hands-on, interactive activities that invite the public to participate "behind the scenes," to discover the world of artists, creators, historians, architects, curators, and designers at work in their community. ([www.culturedays.ca](http://www.culturedays.ca))

How does your Music Festival plan to celebrate Culture Days in 2012? September may seem like a long way off, but as we all know, getting committees together over the summer can be a challenge. Why not start planning your celebration now, while enthusiasm is high over a successful festival just completed, or one just about to take place?

Invite other cultural organizations in your community to co-host a Culture Days celebration. Suggestions could include:

- a noon-hour concert at a local museum or art gallery, featuring "stars" of the festival
- an outdoor concert featuring both local talent and a professional entertainer
- a partnership with the local Arts Council, theatre group or community choir
- a flash mob on Main Street or in a shopping mall
- an Open House with interactive displays showcasing some or all of the arts and cultural activities your community has to offer

According to the Culture Days 2011 Report:

- In 2011, Culture Days activities spanned 365 communities, 58% of which were participating for the first time. This represents a 30% increase from 2010!

Visit [www.culturedays.ca](http://www.culturedays.ca) to learn more about how your Music Festival and your community can participate in this nation-wide celebration of arts and culture. Get involved in 2012!





# Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

June 2012

## From the Provincial Office

*Carol Donhauser, Executive Director*



With the beginning of summer arriving and thoughts of festival far behind, it is time to submit your year-end reports (People/Stats, Money Forms, Adjudicator Evaluations, Adjudicator Time-Frame Forms, Directory Information and Annual Report) to the provincial office. These forms can be found on the SMFA website at [www.smfa.ca](http://www.smfa.ca).

As announced at the November AGM, affiliation fees will be increased for the 2013 festival season to \$4.50/entry. Please be sure to adjust your entry fee in order to cover this increase. Entry fee amounts for your festival must be posted on your page in the SMFA Annual Directory as well as any Scholarship Restrictions.

In our ongoing attempt to find efficiencies in the Provincial Office, you may have noticed that this past May, we issued one statement which included invoicing for festival unit supplies and affiliation dues as well as a deduction for SaskTel sponsorship money and Travel Lottery commissions. It is our hope that this statement makes it easier for your Treasurer as it certainly is more efficient for us to issue one statement instead of two invoices and two cheques.

This past spring, Doris Lazecki submitted her resignation as Adjudicator Liaison and has officially retired as an employee of the SMFA. The SMFA Adjudicator Training DVD is entitled the "Art of Adjudicating" and the "Art of Adjudicator Hiring" was the work that Doris did in hiring all of the adjudicators. Thank you so much for your work Doris, you will be missed! Sandra Kerr will assume the position of Adjudicator Liaison for the 2013 festival season so be sure to send in your Time-Frame forms as soon as possible so she can "let the hiring begin".

You will note Saskatchewan Music Conference information on Page 10. The keynote speaker, Patricia Katz, is sure to give an address that you won't want to miss. David Melax and Darren Schwartz will be delivering sessions on setting up your festival for receiving online entries/payments and integration into the Melax Festival System. Whether you are a committee member who has been to many conferences or a "festival committee rookie" you won't want to miss this one. Please plan to attend!

We wish everyone a safe, enjoyable summer.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**August 16 – 18, 2012**

National Music Festival – Fort McMurray, Alberta

**September 28 – 30, 2012**

Culture Days – various Saskatchewan locations

**November 1 – 3, 2012**

SK Music Conference/SMFA AGM – Saskatoon

**February 23 – 24, 2013**

Concerto Competition – Regina

