



Saskatchewan Music Festival Association FESTIVAL FOCUS

2016 Provincial Finals

The 2016 Provincial Level of National Music Festival Competition and Provincial Final Competitions were held in Saskatoon, at the University of Saskatchewan, June 3, 4, & 5. Along with their supportive families and friends, musicians representing their district festivals from across Saskatchewan, in various disciplines of music and speech arts, filled the corridors and performance halls with energy and excitement.

The judges for the weekend competitions were: Michael Esch, Markham, ON (Senior Piano); Jane Wood, Toronto, ON (Intermediate Piano); Christianne Rushton, Wolfville, NS (Senior Voice); Jeffrey Plotnick, Calgary, AB (Strings); Mary Lou Fallis, Toronto, ON (Musical Theatre, Speech Arts); Allen Harrington, Winnipeg (Woodwind, Brass, Percussion); Frank Ho, Edmonton (Strings); and Catherine Robbins, Winnipeg (Choirs).

On June 3, a record twenty-four musicians vied for the opportunity to compete at the 2016 National Music Festival to be held August 11 - 13 in Edmonton, AB. The following were chosen to represent Saskatchewan:

Voice (Rose Schmalz):Spencer McKnight (lyric tenor)
 Piano (Anna Klassen Endowment Fund):Gloria Yu
 Strings (SOA Bursary Fund):William Boan (violin)
 Woodwinds (Gordon Wallis Trust Fund):Vanessa Klassen (clarinet)
 Brass (Ross Ulmer and Karen Ast):Abby Fuller (trumpet)
 Guitar:Stephen Davis
 Percussion:Fraser Krips
 Chamber Group (anonymous donor):BEAM Quartet
 (B. Catalano, E. Wong, A. Wheeler, M. Bauman)
 Musical Theatre (Prairie Mines):Jake Heisler
 Paul J. Bourret Choral Class:AVE (Melissa Morgan)



"Team Saskatchewan" l to r (Megan Bauman, Brendan Catalano, Stephen Davis, Abby Fuller, William Boan, Fraser Krips, Gloria Yu, Spencer McKnight, Vanessa Klassen)

(continued on next page)

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Saskatchewan Music Festival Association

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2016 Provincial Finals (continued)

The provincial competition took place over three days with over 300 competitors from throughout the province. The standard of performance was universally high, offering an outstanding example of the vast array of musical talent and hard working students in our province. The event culminated in a mesmerizing concert of competition for the Grand Awards. The top senior competitors of the weekend were chosen from the nine disciplines, and each presented a ten minute performance. On hand at the event was Potash Corp representative, Rolando Ancheta, Manager of Internal Audit, who was very impressed with quality of the performances, and who made a comment comparing the standard of excellence that day to what he might expect to hear at the Julliard School of Music. High praise indeed!

The following were declared Provincial winners:

Mary Anderson Memorial Choral Scholarship - \$500..... Prairie Spirit Chamber Singers (Marcia McLean, conductor) Swift Current
Saskatchewan Choral Federation Scholarship - \$300 Luther College Senior Choir (Melissa Morgan, conductor) Regina
Betty Tydeman Memorial Choral (runner up) Scholarship - \$200. Kamala (Dianne Gryba, conductor) Battlefords
Kiwanis Club of Regina Gallagher Memorial Choral Scholarship - \$500 AVE (Melissa Morgan, conductor) Regina
Goodfellow Memorial Senior Grade A Female Voice - \$400..... Emma Johnson (Regina)
Goodfellow Memorial Senior Grade A Male Voice - \$400 Gabriel Benesh (Saskatoon)
Goodfellow Memorial Senior Grade B Female Voice - \$400 Siarra Riehl (Saskatoon)
Thomas & Don Hatton Memorial Senior Grade B Male Voice - \$400..... Mikael Steponchev (Battlefords)
Covey Intermediate Female Voice - \$300 Olivia Guselle (Saskatoon)
A.L.'s Music Intermediate Male Voice - \$300. Jayden Burrows (Saskatoon)
Goodfellow Memorial Senior Oratorio - \$400 & Helen Davies Sherry Memorial Trophy Spencer McKnight (Battlefords)
Goodfellow Memorial Senior Operatic - \$400 Emma Johnson (Regina)
Dorothy Howard Memorial Senior French Art Song - \$400 Emma Johnson (Regina)
Heather Laxdal Memorial Lieder Voice - \$200 & Whelan Lieder Piano - \$200 Kateryna Khartova & Yuli Chen (Saskatoon)
Goodfellow Memorial Senior Grade A Concert Group - \$400 Emma Johnson (Regina)
Nancy & Alastair Todd Memorial Senior Grade B Concert Group - \$300..... Siarra Riehl (Saskatoon)
Regina Music Festival Intermediate Vocal Concert Group - \$300 Olivia Guselle (Saskatoon)
Goodfellow Memorial Senior Canadian Vocal Music - \$400..... Kateryna Khartova (Saskatoon)
Arlene Stuart Memorial Senior Bach - \$400 Bradley Little (Regina)
June Barber Intermediate Bach - \$300 Presley Reddekopp (Swift Current)
Wallis Memorial Senior Beethoven - \$400 Sophie McBean (Saskatoon)
Daryl Cooper Intermediate Beethoven - \$300..... Eleanor Chen (Saskatoon)
Shirley Andrist Senior Haydn & Mozart - \$400. No entries
Frances England & Hugheen Ferguson Memorial Intermediate Haydn & Mozart - \$300..... Kara Seno (Regina)
Sask. Registered Music Teacher's Assoc. (SRMTA) Senior Romantic - \$400..... Shantelle Mayo (Moose Jaw)
Music for Young Children Sask. Teachers' Association Trust Senior Chopin - \$400 Godwin Friesen (Saskatoon)
Gordon & Mossie Hancock Intermediate Chopin - \$300 Adrianna Dolata (Qu'Appelle Valley)
MYCTA Inc. Senior French Music - \$400..... Bradley Little (Regina)
Jackson Memorial Intermediate Piano - \$300 Eleanor Chen (Saskatoon)
Gale Glenn Memorial Senior 20th & 21st Century/Canadian Piano - \$400..... Bradley Little (Regina)
Frostad Piano Intermediate 20th or 21st Century/Canadian Music - \$300 Adrianna Dolata (Qu'Appelle Valley)
Gloria Nickell Intermediate Piano (most outstanding Intermediate piano) - \$400..... Adrianna Dolata (Qu'Appelle Valley)
Past President's Intermediate Piano (runner-up) - \$200 Eleanor Chen (Saskatoon)
John and Judy Hrycak Senior String Concert Scholarship - \$400 Joanne Peng (Moose Jaw)
Clare K. Mendel Memorial Senior Violin - \$400 & Trophy. Joanne Peng (Moose Jaw)
Blanche Squires Senior Viola/Cello/Double Bass Recital - \$400 Charlee Wielgoz, 'cello (Regina)
Robert C. Mitchell Memorial Intermediate Violin - \$300 & Trophy Hannah Lissel-Decorby (Saskatoon)
Johanna Mitchell Memorial Intermediate Viola/Cello/Double Bass - \$300 Amos Friesen, 'cello (Saskatoon)
Senior Classical Guitar - \$300 No award presented
Intermediate Classical Guitar - \$300 Carson Froehlich (Quill Plains)
Long & McQuade Senior Woodwind Recital - \$400..... Brendan Catalano, alto saxophone (Saskatoon)
Saskatchewan Band Association Senior Woodwind - \$400 Glenda Lindgren, oboe (Saskatoon)
St John's/Yamaha Intermediate Woodwind - \$300..... Nicole Toews, flute (Saskatoon)
St. John's/Yamaha Senior Brass Recital - \$400..... Abby Fuller, trumpet (Regina)



Photographs by Stephen Nicholson



Saskatchewan Band Association Senior Brass - \$400	Abby Fuller, trumpet (Regina)
Colin Grunert Memorial Intermediate Brass - \$300	Dominic Ghiglione, trombone (Regina)
St. John's/Yamaha Senior Percussion - \$400	Fraser Krips (Saskatoon)
Maple Creek Music Festival Intermediate Percussion - \$300	Sam Boot (Saskatoon)
Ursan Family Senior Musical Theatre Ballad - \$400	Benton Froc (Melfort)
Regan Grant Memorial Intermediate Musical Theatre Ballad - \$300	Bri Harland (Lloydminster)
Joy McFarlane-Burton Senior Musical Theatre Up-Tempo - \$400	Jake Heisler (Moose Jaw)
Sandra Ryba Intermediate Musical Theatre Up-Tempo - \$300	Mayson Sonntag (Regina)
L.I. Bryson Memorial Senior Speech Arts - \$400	Catherine Benoit (Lloydminster)
Heather Macnab Intermediate Speech Arts - \$300	Patrick Benoit (Lloydminster)

Grand Awards:

Wallis Speech Arts Award - \$400	Catherine Benoit (Lloydminster)
Saskatchewan Music Educators' Association (SMEA) Guitar Award - \$400	No scholarship awarded
Saskatchewan Band Association (SBA) Percussion Award - \$400	Fraser Krips (Saskatoon)
Estevan Music Festival Musical Theatre Award - \$400	Jake Heisler (Moose Jaw)
Brost Family Woodwinds Award - \$400	Brendan Catalano (Saskatoon)
Guy Few Brass Award - \$500	Abby Fuller (Regina)
Heather Laxdal Memorial Vocal Award - \$500 & Shield	Emma Johnson (Regina)
Fred S. Mendel Memorial String Award - \$400 & Trophy	Joanne Peng (Moose Jaw)
Anna Klassen Memorial Piano Award - \$400	Godwin Friesen (Saskatoon)
Blanch Squires Memorial Bronze Award & Trophy - \$500	Catherine Benoit (Lloydminster)
Wallis Memorial Silver Award - \$750	Godwin Friesen (Saskatoon)
Sister Boyle Gold Award of \$1,000 to the most outstanding competitor of the Grand Awards	Joanne Peng (Moose Jaw)

The event concluded with a reception and the announcement of the winners of the Grand Awards. Good luck to Team Saskatchewan at the National Music Festival and congratulations to all competitors, collaborative pianists, local festival committees and parents who participate in and support the local and provincial festival.

Since 1908, the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association has played a major role in the development of a classical competitive music festival system of the highest standard. SMFA gratefully acknowledges sponsorship from SaskTel, PotashCorp, and Business for the Arts; gifts in kind from the University of Saskatchewan, Music Department/Yamaha Piano Centre and the continuing support of individual donors and the Sask Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture & Recreation administered by SaskCulture.

Submitted by: Tammy Villeneuve



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
Department of Music

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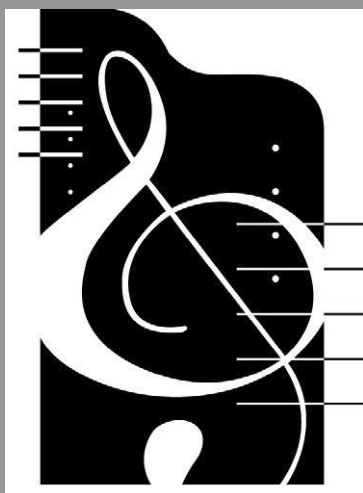


PotashCorp



Photographs by Stephen Nicholson





NATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL
Le Festival national de musique



**FEDERATION OF CANADIAN
MUSIC FESTIVALS**
La Fédération canadienne des
festivals de musique

The Federation of Canadian Music Festivals
wishes you a successful 2016 festival season
and extends our gratitude to the many volunteers
who make this possible each year!

We invite everyone to attend the next annual competition,
featuring the best young musicians from every province in
Brass, Chamber, Guitar, Musical Theatre, Percussion,
Piano, Strings, Voice, and Woodwinds.

NATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

August 11 – 13, 2016

**MacEwan University, Alberta College Campus
& McDougall United Church
Edmonton, Alberta**

For more information, please contact:

Executive Director – Heather Bedford-Clooney

14004 75 Ave. NW, Edmonton, AB T5R 2Y6

Phone: 1.877.323.3263 (FCMF)

info@fcmf.org

www.fcmf.org

Tax deductible receipts issued for memberships and donations.
Please consider sponsoring an award.

We encourage parents, teachers and anyone who loves
music to become a member and support our young
musicians from across Canada.



2015 National Music Festival Competitors

www.fcmf.org

President's Message



Mother Nature has been kind to us this year, and we now find ourselves on the brink of summer and all its glory. As we reflect back on this music festival season, I hope we can say we did our best. Thank you to the many volunteers who work so hard to keep music festivals thriving in your own communities! May the summer months be a time for rest and rejuvenation.

Provincial Finals weekend was, as always, an amazing demonstration of talent and dedication by our young musicians. Twenty-four entries in the Provincial Level of Nationals Competition proved that commitment does indeed exist at the highest level. Fifty-seven entries in musical theatre underscore the popularity of that discipline all over the province. The Grand Awards Concert, with its new format, showcased the top competitor in each discipline, now including speech arts and classical guitar. The diverse repertoire, ranging from Mozart to Gershwin to contemporary works in musical theatre and percussion, made for a most entertaining concert. We invite your feedback on the new format. We are grateful for the grant we receive from the Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation administered by SaskCulture to help deliver this program as well as the many programs and services provided through our organization.

Congratulations to the members of our National team, and their collaborative artists, who will compete in Edmonton, August 11-13. I encourage you to come to Edmonton to support our musicians and enjoy the National Music Festival, held for the second consecutive year at the Alberta College Campus of MacEwan University and the Winspear Centre for Music.

One of the truly beautiful things about the music festival system in Saskatchewan is how culturally rich we are and how well we all work together. From La Ronge Music Festival in the north, to Estevan in the south, our 47 District Festivals encompass a vast geographical area, bringing performance and educational opportunities into communities of all sizes and socio-economic backgrounds. At Provincial Finals, a music student from tiny Lafleche competes with another from Saskatoon, and both come away richer for the experience. Festival de Musique bilingue de Gravelbourg et Région/Gravelbourg & District Music Festival embraces its Francophone roots with its annual bilingual event. The SMFA Syllabus contains a tremendous diversity of content: Folk Song Chorus in any language, speech arts classes in French and English, classes for First Nations Drum/Song and Native American Flute, and classes encouraging students to learn the national anthem of Canada or a country of their choice. There are classes for six year olds and for senior citizens, classes for community bands and for families who make music together, classes for budding composers and classes for students with special needs. The rubric for our sacred choral classes invites selections "appropriate for performance in church, synagogue, or other places of worship". Our annual Fall Conference provides a forum for festival volunteers to share information about their challenges and successes, and to discuss ways to adapt to the rapidly changing face of our province.

On that note, I urge you to attend this year's Fall Conference, "Classical Connections" in Swift Current, October 28 & 29. We look forward to returning to the more intimate conference setting, and we encourage you to nominate an outstanding volunteer from your festival to receive an SMFA Volunteer Recognition Award, which will be presented at the conference luncheon.

I write this message in the dark shadow of the tragedy in Orlando, and this quote by Max De Pree struck a chord: "We need to give each other the space to grow, to be ourselves, to exercise our diversity. We need to give each other space so that we may both give and receive such beautiful things as ideas, openness, dignity, joy, healing, and inclusion."

Music festivals promote diversity and inspire creativity, they offer opportunities for civic pride, and they improve our general well-being. In short, they make our communities a better place to live. Be proud!

Nancy Toppings, President



We need to give each other the space to grow, to be ourselves, to exercise our diversity. We need to give each other peace so that we may both give and receive such beautiful things as ideas, openness, dignity, joy, healing, and inclusion.

- Max De Pree

Speech Arts Workshops

Sask Valley Music Festival

Sask Valley Music Festival was privileged to have Heather Macnab in our district from November 23-27, 2015. During the week, she presented to 14 different groups in 8 different schools in our area, including Rosthern, Duck Lake, Hague, Waldheim, Laird and Rosthern Junior College. Thirteen teachers were excited to use Heather's expertise with their students. She taught grades 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 12 classes and presented to 2 drama/theatre arts classes, one from grades 6-12 and the other grades 10-12. In total 305 students were involved.

I was very impressed that she was so quickly able to adapt her presentation to the interests of the various classes. Behavior was sometimes an issue with some classes, but she was able to handle it with humor and energy. I heard many students expressing interest in entering the Festival. We sent home information sheets provided by Heather and a sheet of local data regarding how to enter and the entry deadline. In followup, we communicated with many of the involved teachers closer to our January deadline. One teacher had a speakoff for his class and the local parent committee paid the winner's entry fee. Unfortunately, we had only 7 entries in solo speech (6 entrants) and one in choral speech. In 2015 we had 2 in choral speech and 5 entries (but just 2 entrants, one of whom was a Senior student entered in 4 classes and has now moved on in her life). We are pleased with the increase in entrants and are brainstorming ways of encouraging more entries for 2017. We were able to include a well-presented, very humorous poem in our final program.

- Linda Swab, President, SVMFA



Unity Music Festival

Speak Well? Communicate Well! ... and have fun doing them both. Have you heard of Margaret Atwood, Roald Dahl, or Eric Peterson? St. Peter's School grades 3 to 6 students certainly have now thanks to Heather Macnab, speech artist extraordinaire! She lives on a farm near Maple Creek where she is a voice and speech teacher, singer, adjudicator, and accompanist. Heather is the ultimate example of speaking and communicating artistically in public.

This special school workshop, sponsored by the SMFA and Unity Festival, funded by a grant from the Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation administered by SaskCulture took place on Monday, May 16, 2016 with 84 students ages 8 - 12 and 5 adults 18 and over attending. The goal for the workshop is to grow in public speaking/communicating skills to be used in the Festival, school, and everyday life as required. Information gained for teachers is invaluable for enhancing Language Arts. The workshop included teaching the students skills to use when presenting poetry, scenes, prose, and storytelling in any life circumstance. Students used breathing, meaning, rhythm, emotion, and especially imagination to be the best speaker possible!

Prince Albert Kiwanis Music Festival

The Prince Albert Kiwanis Music Festival local was privileged to have a Speech Arts Workshop sponsored by the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association. This event was held on November 2-5, 2015. Speech Arts clinician Heather Macnab was the facilitator who spent four days in Prince Albert.

Heather provided interactive sessions in four different schools. There were approximately 180 students who benefitted from the experience of solo work, small group and full classroom exercises and presentations.

The majority of the students were in grades 5, 6, and 7 with one group of 10 and 11 students from the high school drama class. The numbers were divided up into times that made it possible for Heather to provide her entire full workshop to all groups.

The teachers involved were very impressed with Heather's organization of the sessions, the information provided, the active participation involved and her style of presenting. A comment received was that Heather broke it down into parts and it was taught in an "I do, We do, You do" format. This made it possible for the students to grasp the information. Heather's presentation was relevant to the "presenting" outcomes of the ELA curriculum which assisted the teachers and the time given up in the classroom for other things.

All feedback was very favorable and everyone was thrilled to have Heather come into their classrooms.

Unfortunately, the workshops did not increase any numbers in Speech Arts entries to our festival. We are hoping the workshops have planted a seed that will inspire teachers to work with Speech Arts and move forward to entering their works into the festival.

We will follow up with these educators in the fall to encourage and support them in the Speech Arts. We thank the SMFA and Heather Macnab for the entire experience.

- Donna Kreiser for the Prince Albert Kiwanis Music Festival

“ *Public speaking still remains as one of the most effective ways to get your message across to a large audience.* ”

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FCMF Conference/AGM and National Music Festival Competitions
August 11 - 13, 2016 (Edmonton)

SMFA Fall Conference and AGM
October 28 - 29, 2016 (Swift Current)

SMFA District Festivals (47 Locations in SK)
February - May 2017

SMFA Provincial Finals Competitions
June 2 - 4, 2017 (Saskatoon)



Rising Stars – 2016 “Team Saskatchewan”

Stephen Davis

Discipline: Guitar

Local festival: Saskatoon

Hometown: Saskatoon

Years of instruction: 15 (Guitar -10)

What do you hope to be doing in 5 years? Teaching

Music mentors: Walter Hofmeister

Memorable moment: First time performing a concerto

Fraser Krips

Discipline: Percussion

Local festival: Saskatoon

Hometown: Saskatoon

Years of instruction: 4 years

What do you hope to be doing in 5 years? I hope to be starting a masters degree in percussion performance

Music mentors: Darrell Bueckert

Memorable moment: The first time I performed percussion at the music festival 3 years ago and was selected to advance to provincials

Abby Fuller

Discipline: Brass

Local festival: Regina

Hometown: Earl Grey

Years of instruction: 6 years

What do you hope to be doing in 5/10 years? In five years, I see my much like I am today, broke, single, and still in college. In ten years, I see myself being Dr. Fuller, teaching at a university, and still single.

Music mentors: Sharie Argue and Miles Newman

Memorable moment: Last year at Nationals when all of team Saskatchewan placed at Nationals in Edmonton. Or when we blew up a beaver dam right before Provincials this year :)

Spencer McKnight

Discipline: Voice

Local festival: Battlefords

Hometown: LeRoy

Years of instruction: 6 years

What do you hope to be doing in 5 yrs.? / 10 yrs: Hopefully soloing with some of North Americas best orchestras and opera companies.

Music mentors: Lisa Hornung and Mark Daboll

Memorable moment: Making my orchestral debut with the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra with Handel's Messiah in December of 2014.

Gloria Yu

Discipline: Piano

Local festival/Hometown: Saskatoon Music Festival/Saskatoon

Years of instruction: 11 years

What do you hope to be doing in 5 years? Performing concerts while studying a field of the health profession

Music mentors: Current teacher - Professor Kathleen Solose

Past teachers - Walter and Edna Thiessen, Lynn Ewing

Memorable moment: Winning a scholarship in my very first festival class in 2006

BEAM Quartet: Brendan Catalano, Eric Wong, Anna Wheeler,

Megan Bauman)

Local festival: Rosetown Music Festival.

Hometown : 2 from Saskatoon, 2 from Medicine Hat.

Years of instruction: 5-15 years, completed our bachelors degrees from the U of S. Eric's was in Pharmacology, but he's a music nerd at heart, so he hangs around the music department a lot.

What do you hope to be doing in 5 years?: We're most likely disbanding after nationals, as two of us are going to grad school, another is getting his jazz degree, and the other is finishing her education degree.

Mentors: influenced by the Marcel Mule Quartet ~mentored by Troy Linsley and Glen Gillis.

Memorable moment: When we were announced as the 2016 National Chamber group representatives. We had some really stiff competition, and it was extremely humbling and gratifying to be chosen.

William Boan

Discipline: Strings

Local festival/Hometown: Saskatoon

Years of instruction: 13 years

What do you hope to be doing in 5 yrs.? / 10 yrs:

I hope to be a professional violinist, either continuing to learn, perform, and compete or playing in an orchestra

Music mentors: My greatest violin mentor is of course my teacher and professor, Robert Klose. He is a truly remarkable artist, and is absolutely dedicated to his

students. I am also constantly inspired by my accompanist and former piano teacher, Bonnie Nicholson.

Memorable Moment: In 2013, one of the classes I entered was the violin repertoire class, and I ended up not having a professional accompanist, but instead a friend, Chris Waddell, accompany me. The piece was a pop arrangement of "America" from West Side Story. We'd worked it up for a high school variety night, and had devised what we called "the switch," where Chris started out on the violin and I started out on the piano—then, two minutes into the piece, without interrupting the music, we dramatically switched instruments (with the help of a few added glissandos). We debated whether to do "the switch" in the music festival—who knows how the adjudicator might react? (Also, I imagine this would've technically been against the rules.) But we were the only people in the class, so we went for it. What was memorable was that the violin adjudicator, Lance Ouellette, didn't bat an eye. Instead, when Lance adjudicated me, he nonchalantly critiqued my piano playing, and then went on to critique the violin portion—as it turned out, Lance happened to be a professional pianist as well as a violinist.



SRMTA Provincial Convention 2016
Mozart to the Internet:
 Celebrating our Musicianship &
 Moving Forward

Saskatchewan
Registered
Music
Teachers'
Association

October 14-15, 2016

Reserve your spot today!
Member: \$140
Non-member: \$160

For more information or to book your ticket,
 visit www.srmta.com/convention





School Class Attends SMFA Provincial Finals



Dr. John G. Egnatoff School, Grades 6/7 class came to listen to part of the SMFA Provincial Competition on Friday, June 3 at Quance Theatre in the Education Building at the U of S.

We were thrilled to have them attend!! It is such a great opportunity for young students to see live performances of Saskatchewan's up and coming classical musicians. We thank their teacher and chaperones for taking the time to do this and welcome other classes to do the same.

NOTICE:

Festival statements have been issued and are payable on or before June 30. Statements include affiliation dues and stationery items. A "Conference credit" of \$150 and SaskTel Sponsorship of \$100 was also issued, on this statement. Year-end Financial statements or Revenue/Expense Forms must show these expenses and credits (revenue).

Classical Connections 2016 SMFA Fall Conference & AGM

Swift Current - October 28 & 29, 2016



Classical Connections

Join us for an informative, fun-filled conference as we re-connect and re-focus on our mission/mandate.

We will honour our volunteers at a special luncheon. Please submit your Volunteer Award Nominations before October 1. A special keynote will be on hand to inspire us during the Volunteer Award luncheon...you won't want to miss this!

Online Registration forms will be available by September 15.

Schedule of Events

October 28

- 5:30 p.m. Registration
- 7:00 p.m. Session #1
- 9:00 p.m. President's Reception

October 29

- 8:00 a.m. Networking Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. Session #2
- 10:00 a.m. AGM
- Noon Volunteer Luncheon
- 2:00 p.m. Session #3
- 3:00 p.m. Session #4
- 4:00 p.m. Wrap-up

Call for Nominations

Directors of the SMFA are elected by the member delegates appointed to attend the AGM. To serve as a Director of a non-profit in Saskatchewan a person must be at least 18 years of age, of sound mind, not bankrupt and in attendance at the AGM.

Consider nominating someone from your District festival to serve on the Provincial Board of Directors or consider running yourself. The Board consists of nine elected members. This year there are two three-year positions open.

Board Members will always be on one or more committees and although there are some very busy times, we have a great deal of fun. Knowledge of music is not mandatory – a good board is made up of people with a wide range of strengths, backgrounds, and areas of expertise. Everyone has something to offer. The Nomination Form can be found on our website (www.smfa.ca - click on "Administration" to find it in the list).

Please send the nominations to: Karen MacCallum, Past President (karenmaccallum@sasktel.net).

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Days Inn, Swift Current
Saturday, October 29, 2016
@ 10:00 a.m.

WIN AN IPAD CONTEST WINNER

**Dorothy
Sandercock**

***Congratulations, and
thank you to everyone
for entering!***

Tribute to a Special Music Teacher

On Sunday, April 10, 2016, I had the pleasure of attending the Last Mountain District Music Festival. It was held in the Southey Lutheran Church where the week's performances were also held. In the program was the following dedication to Helen Nixon. What an inspiring woman she was to so many for so long. Even the piano used that week at Festival was hers, on loan because the church did not have one. Helen was truly an inspiration to us all.

- Kelly Stein, SMFA Director

DEDICATION TO HELEN NIXON

We dedicate our festival this year to an extraordinary lady who exemplified the beauty, strength and emotion that music brings to a person's soul. Helen Nixon brought the gift of music to hundreds of people throughout her life, and each person she shared her gift with benefitted from it in numerous ways.



Helen started playing for the church when she was 14 years old and remained a dedicated and faithful church organist for more than 60 years. A special part of her organist duties was directing the North Southey Choir. Performing regularly at church as well as touring to seniors' and care homes in the area, Helen led the choir, lifting up the hearts of all who could hear the music. As well as leading the choir, Helen and her husband Bob formed a family band with their children. They played at community events and dances for over ten years. Helen valued family above all else. Her most enjoyable moments were spent with her family singing around the piano in her music room. Music was always Helen's true passion, and this resulted in her pursuing a career as a music teacher.

Helen passed her knowledge and passion for music on to countless students over her lifetime of teaching, showing them how to put on a happy F-A-C-E. Her keen teaching ability, patience and smile encouraged her students to believe in their own talents and contributed to their love of music. In addition to the annual recitals she arranged, part of her encouragement was to enter her students in this music festival. Helen was involved with the festival for years, giving many children the opportunity to exhibit their musical education and have 'Mrs. Nixon' cheering them on. It is a joyful thought to know she has children, grandchildren, students, and her church family to use and carry on her musical legacy.

A warm heart, a brilliant mind and ear for music, and a gifted pair of hands. A strong, family-oriented and hard-working woman with a genuine laugh and an easy way of making everyone feel welcome. All of these and more define a truly remarkable life well-lived. Thank you Helen. We miss you!

Message from Sandra Kerr

Adjudicator Liaison/Administrative Assistant Report

Ten years ago I was considering a change from teaching and accompanying. Doris Lazecki had stepped down as Executive Director of SMFA and Carol had moved into that position. Doris asked if I was interested in the Administrative Assistant job and I took the opportunity. With Doris' retirement as Adjudicator Liaison in 2013 I agreed to be the Interim Adjudicator Liaison for the year, which was subsequently extended for a couple more years. In the meantime, I continued to teach, eventually resumed accompanying, and was appointed the Registrar/Secretary/Treasurer of the Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers Association, and though I have tried retiring as church organist more than once, I still manage to share those duties on a regular basis.

Throughout my years with SMFA there were changes, as was expected and necessary: changes with Festival committee members; SMFA Board members have come and gone; and duties and responsibilities of this job. So like the cliché "with time comes change", ultimately I felt it was time for me to leave so I handed in my resignation in March.

It was a pleasure working with so many and varied people from across our province, and indeed the country: committee members, adjudicators, competitors, accompanists, parents, teachers, and board members. Though the job was not without its challenges and difficulties, it was always interesting. Never having met many of you face to face, I like to think we nevertheless established a rapport, and I quickly learned who could be counted on to get the job done and who would remind me of errors or omissions. I have enjoyed working at the conferences and the competitions, especially putting more faces with the names. I wish the best for SMFA in their continued work of providing "performance and educational opportunities" for the students of Saskatchewan.

Canadian Music Festival Adjudicator's Association (CMFAA) "Duet Challenge"

NOTICE TO ALL FESTIVALS:

We are looking for the Piano Duet Capital of Canada!

"The Duet Challenge"- A new prize of \$500.00 to be awarded to the Music Festival with the most duet entries in Canada.

CMFAA has launched a new initiative! We want to find the Duet Capital of Canada! We know "the loneliness of the long-distance runner" applies to piano students, as they practise alone. They have fewer opportunities to be part of ensembles in the way singers and instrumentalists do. We believe in the value of duet playing, and hence this award.

Requirements: Any Music Festival in Canada (belonging to the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals) is eligible. To apply we need two pieces of information: the total number of solo piano entries, and the total number of duet entries in the Festival for a calendar year. The festival with the highest ratio of duet entries to solo entries will be awarded the Duet Capital of Canada and receive a \$500 scholarship.

The Application form is available online at <http://cmfaa.ca/>. It must be signed/dated by a member of the Executive of the Festival, and submitted to our Registrar by July 15, 2016. This date accommodates all "local" Festivals which are completed by the end of May. For Festivals that are held in the Fall of 2015-2016, they can submit as soon as their Festival is over.

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Here we are with June more than half over and another festival year in the books. This year, January 1, marked my tenth year as Executive Director and, as you have read earlier, Sandra's tenth year as Administrative Assistant. I am fortunate to be working for an organization, where what we do makes a difference. We are promoting music through music festivals, as our mandate suggests, but we are doing so much more. We are building character in our youth, developing success-minded people with discipline, strong work ethics and persistence. We are developing leaders in the community in which we live. As Sandra leaves us, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to her for the massive amount of work she has done over the past 10 years and the knowledge that she has shared with me as well as the Board of Directors. Her experience and connections in the musical community has helped immensely as we tend to the administration of the SMFA.

I would also like to welcome Karen Klassen as our new Adjudicator Liaison/Program Coordinator. Karen comes to us with a wealth of knowledge and experience in the music festival system as a teacher, collaborative pianist, volunteer and most recently as

the Production Manager for the Regina Music Festival. She looks forward to her new position as she branches out to more administrative roles.

In order to help you complete your Adjudicator Time Frame Forms and help Karen in her new role as Adjudicator Liaison, we have posted an Adjudicator Directory on the SMFA website under "Administration". This Directory which will help you submit a "wish list" of possible adjudicators for Karen to hire for you in the upcoming festival year.

June is "follow up report" month for our District Festivals and I encourage you to submit your reporting on a timely basis. Efforts spent to collect these outstanding reports is not an efficient use of our time and energy. Please visit the SMFA website under "Administration" for the list of reports that are due and download the most current form. The information required often changes, so it is important to use the most current report form.

From a financial perspective, the results from our Lotteries Trust Fund (Annual Global Funding) grant application were not as lucrative as I had hoped. While we are fortunate to receive the level of funding that we do, receiving "status quo" funding, added with the cost of inflation, is considered a decrease in funding. The good news is that even though we did not receive the increase that we had hoped for, the SMFA Board of Directors have allocated \$10,000 toward member funding through an application process. The online application will be available, to SMFA Affiliated Member Festivals in good standing, on or before September 1 with a submission deadline of October 1. Applicants can apply for funding for Promotional Workshops, Speech Arts Workshops, Program Enhancement, Capacity Building (website development, software/hardware purchase), Professional Training (board governance workshops), Registration fee for SMFA Annual Music Conference, or Special Anniversary Celebrations. Applications will be adjudicated by the SMFA Board of Directors with allocations determined based on number applications, amounts of funding requested, and relevancy of the application.

In the fall, we will be working with Flo Frank, a consultant, trainer, facilitator and community development specialist, as we "Look through the Lens" in Diversification Training. Diversity is about inclusion and equity in programs, services, roles, and representation in all community-based activities (as well as improving attitudes, values, behaviours). Some of the key areas that we will focus on when assessing diversity within our organization are: awareness, perception, access, relevancy, engagement, and contribution to evolution/future.

As we prepare to attend the FCMF AGM/Conference and National Music Festival in Edmonton, August 9 to 13 and you prepare for your AGM meetings, I encourage you to attend the SMFA Provincial AGM and Conference in Swift Current (October 28 & 29). We are part of a large festival movement across Canada, and attending meetings, such as these, is way to make that "Classical Connection" and learn from each other.

I wish you a wonderful summer. I hope you have time to relax, reflect, and recharge.

Carol Donhauser, Executive Director



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