



Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

March 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
Website: www.smfa.ca

President's Message

Joy McFarlane-Barton



Excitement is building in homes across Saskatchewan as young musicians are preparing for the 47 District Music Festivals. It has been said that it takes a village to raise a child. In this Province our musical village consists of parents, teachers, committee members, volunteers, and audience at the District level, AND also at the Provincial level with the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association Office Staff, Board of Directors, and Adjudicators lending support as well.

Many of our volunteers have been involved in the Music Festival movement in Saskatchewan for decades. Support from sponsors, patrons, and donors are so very important in any cultural organization. Please let these individuals, organizations, or businesses know that you appreciate their continued support. The SMFA is grateful for the funding received from Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust for Sport, Culture, and Recreation, SaskCulture Inc., and the Saskatchewan Arts Board. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Please notice on page 2 an Invitation to become a Festival Friend. This is the SMFA's latest fundraising campaign. You will notice that it is once again an opportunity to support both the District Festival, as well the programs and assistance offered from the Provincial level.

By the time this edition reaches you, several of the District Festivals will be completed and their District Winners will be anxiously waiting for the Provincial Finals being held in Saskatoon, June 2 at the University of Saskatchewan. The Provincial level of National Competition will take place on June 1 at the same location. The Grand Awards will be on Sunday, June 3. We hope to see many of you in Saskatoon supporting your District Music Festival winners as they compete at the Provincial level.

For the latest information on SMFA events, festivals, competitions, and regulations, please check our website www.smfa.ca. Did you know that you can follow SMFA on Facebook and Twitter? Please consider networking with us.

Congratulations to Chelsea Mahan as the 2012 Winner of the Gordon C. Wallis Memorial Opera Competition. The Competition was held at Convocation Hall on the University of Saskatchewan Campus on Saturday, February 25. Judging this biennial competition were Leslie Fagan (Hamilton) and Nathalie Paulin (Toronto). They also conducted an amazing Masterclass for the 12 competitors on Sunday, February 26.

The National Music Festival will be held in Fort McMurray on August 13-18, 2012. Watch for the announcement of Team Saskatchewan after June 1.

The Board of Directors and SMFA Staff would ask your District Festival to consider being involved in Culture Days, September 28-30 across our Province. SMFA was involved in the 2011 celebrations in Regina (CBC), Swift Current (Blenders Art Gallery), Kipling (Kipling and district Schools), and Assiniboia (Assiniboia Art Gallery). We hope to see more District Festivals involved in 2012. Consider partnering with another cultural organization in your community, a museum, or school. We have some fun plans in the works. Please watch for details in upcoming editions.

The Board of Directors is so pleased to announce Mr. Bill Shurniak, Founder and President of the Assiniboia Art Gallery has come forward as sponsor for the Concerto Competition. The next Concerto Competition will be held in Regina on February 23 and 24, 2013.

Congratulations to Parkland and District Music Festival on their 75th Anniversary! Please let the SMFA know of the District Festival celebrations.

I extend my best wishes for a successful season of Music Festivals across our beautiful Province. May our musical village continue to enjoy our musical heritage as we build toward the future.





Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

March 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

March 2012

Being online is the wave today and the future

by Adrian Bourgeois, Melfort Music Festival Association

Many organizations around the world have been working toward a process of registration of members and people via online registrations. Two years ago, the Melfort Music Festival thought we would try this process for their registrations and sharing of information on a website. Little did we know this would be a huge success in time saving and communication with our participants, teachers, and parents.

I have been working with many different groups and organizations over the years who use online registrations and payment options to collect information and data. Because of this knowledge, I decided to move the Melfort Music Festival in to the 21st century. It started with a simple website with information on our local festival, dates, times, and venues. The members of the executive liked the website, so we expanded the information on the site to include online registrations, but without payment. The payment was made through the mail or as a drop off at a given location. This year our site has grown to include online registrations, all of our local classes, advertising for our program sponsors, online payments, links, and many different useful information.

Why did we expand to what we have today? Why did we spend the initial time to set up the website? These questions can be answered in following information.

Online Registrations-We just thought we would see what kind of response we would get from the option of registration on line. In 2011, we offered the online registration for the first time. We had approximately 45% of our registrations come in online. Receiving this information via e-mail instantly was a HUGE time saver. I was able to deal with the class information and the participant as soon as it arrived. I did not have to try to read the teacher's handwriting, which was usually impossible to read. I didn't have to wait for the information to be passed on to me from the entry secretary. And the website I used gave me a database spreadsheet with all the registration information all set up for me. Having 45% of the registrations received in this way was worth the time and effort to set up the site. We were still receiving the payments through the mail, but we still saved a lot of time. In 2012, we had over 98% of our registrations received online. We have a day where members from the executive sit in our local mall to take in registration forms. We usually have 75+ forms come in on that day. This year we had 3 because everyone registered online.

Online Payments-The first year we offered online registrations, we did not offer the option of online payment. This year we offered an online registration option through Paypal. We received over 35% of our registration money via online payments. Our treasurer enjoys this because she just has to do a bank transfer and everything is done in seconds.

Local Classes-we have a page for our local classes in different disciplines. This can be changed and updated on a regular basis. Having these classes on line saves teachers a lot of time trying to find local classes for their students. It saves us time trying to pass on the information to the teachers and students.

Central contact point-The website has created a central contact point. If people have questions, they are usually answered by checking the website out. If not, there is contact information for our executive, who can answer the questions.

Being online has been a huge time saver for everyone involved. The cost to run our website has been covered through the links and advertisements offered on the website to our sponsors. As a person who needs to find every second of available time in his day, this was a major help. The website building program I used has many different options for organizations. We pay \$80 for a 2-year subscription to the site, which includes all the features we need for our organization. If you would like to see more of what we have to offer on our website and how it works, feel free to check it out. Do a registration online to see how simple it can be for the user. We are done with our festival registrations, so any I receive now I will know are people just testing the water. If you have any questions about setting one up for your festival, feel free to contact me and I would be glad to assist your organization. My contact e-mail is on the Melfort Music Festival Website. The link is listed below.

Success and progress go hand in hand. Being available to people via online registration and online communication saves time in the long run. Being online is the wave of the today, and the future.

www.melfortmfa.webs.com





Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

March 2012

Online Entries

Submitted by Susan Paley and Sandra Senga

We, at the Meadow Lake and District Festival, were inspired by Melfort's presentation at the AGM, where we learned of their online entry process. Consequently, we developed our own protocol for our 2012 Festival. Since we do not have our own website, we worked with [Executive Director] Carol Donhauser to add the required links onto our page of the SMFA website.

Employing free aspects of Google.ca, we first set up a Gmail account for our festival, and then developed our online entry form using Google Documents. This was not a difficult process. Our treasurer worked with PayPal to set up an account through which entrants could pay their fees. The entry form and payment option are separate entities. Entrants can do both or either. The receipt of each entry is automatically time stamped, and committee members, through password-protected access, can view and edit these at any time. Only our treasurer has access to the PayPal account.

The entries are easily transferred to a spreadsheet where they can be manipulated in a variety of ways. This alone is valuable, however, our festival transfers the information into a database system we designed, and have used for a number of years.

Among the benefits of this online systems for the committee are not having to decipher illegible penmanship, and saving a great deal of volunteer time. The entrants are provided the luxury of entering at their convenience. In this first year, nearly 80% of our entries were received online, and we received much positive feedback. Our experience has determined that, with some minor adjustments, we will continue to use online entries.



Adjudicator Liaison

Doris Covey Lazacki

Dear Festival Friends:

The Adjudicators have been hired for another year – the 30th time I have hired the professional musicians who judge our festivals in Saskatchewan. Over that time I have been privileged to meet and correspond with these talented people, who gave and give of their time to support the music festival system in our country. Yes, they are paid a fee, but in most cases they give up teaching and performance days to travel and assist us with our competitions, often at a personal cost. So in addition to receiving their constructive criticisms we are indebted to these professional musicians for their ongoing support of our festivals over the past one hundred years.

This year I hired 168 adjudicators for festivals, including the Provincials, Concerto, and Opera Competitions. There are always a few snags when dealing with this many people, but generally the communication between festival committees and the office went smoothly.

Thank you to those festivals who have notified Provincial Office of their schedule changes! It is important that we contact the adjudicators as soon as possible of any changes. It is also vitally important that we have the most current information. Occasionally an adjudicator must be replaced or is unable to contact the festival committee and the Provincial Office is their only contact.

We have begun the hiring process for next year, so it is never too early to send in your Time-Frame Form and Adjudicator wish list for the 2013 festival season, thank you.



PLEASE NOTE!

Be sure to send FOUR (4) copies of your festival program to the Provincial Office.
At the conclusion of your festival
send us the listing or database of competitors' marks.



Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

March 2012

Saskatchewan Music Inventory

We are asking you to provide information about any musical activity taking place in Saskatchewan. Examples include: private lessons, clinics or workshops, community and school programs, summer camps and activities, music festivals etc. We would like a listing of anything related to music in the province.

You will be able to enter five music programs in the survey at one time. To enter more you just click the link again and you can start over entering more events. All the information gathered will be compiled and posted on the Saskatchewan Music Alliance website as a reference for people looking to get involved in music. The Music Alliance website is located at www.saskmusic.ca. The first listing will be posted April 2, 2012. Here is the link to the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SKMusicInventory12>



Copyright and the Internet

Reprinted from the SMFA Directory by Darren Schwartz

With email and internet these days, there is no excuse for not having a second or third copy for the adjudicator or accompanist. Most major publishers will grant permission to make up to three copies (provided you have an original), for a small fee or no fee at all. **BUT, you have to email them and ask for permission.** They will then instruct you on how many copies you may make and what needs to be written on the bottom of each copy.

Copying for a page turn is not allowed and is an infringement of the law. Photocopies for page turning purposes will only be allowed when written permission is supplied by the holder of the copyright material.

If you wish to transpose any existing publication or modify it in any way, you must seek permission. It is illegal to duplicate or alter music that is copywritten.

Music in the Public Domain should be researched by your local music store to ensure it is in the Public Domain before any selection would be used for Festival purposes. Publications that are out of print or in the Public Domain may not be photocopied until you have cleared it with the rightful owner.

Your local music store should be able to assist you with any of these procedures.




Second Copies for Festivals

Reprinted with permission From Darren's Music Place Newsletter

There seems to be a misconception out there that [music dealers] are able to provide permission letters for [second copies of music]. This is not the case. We provide permission letters when an item has been ordered and prepaid but not yet arrived or in a backorder status. When a publication is still in print it is your responsibility to obtain a second copy or ask the publisher for permission to photocopy. I have links on our website for most of the major publishers (<http://www.darrensmusicplace.com/Teacher-Page.html>). By clicking on the ENTER button beside these publishers you will be directed to the permissions and copyright department. Simply follow the instructions. Of course, if you run into a problem please call and we'll see what we can do to help you.



 The majority of planned gifts to charities are in the in the form of bequests. Lawyers, accountants or financial planners can assist in helping make provision in a will for both loved ones and charitable organizations. SMFA is very fortunate to be one the many charities that have been left bequests by people who believe in our programs and want to "leave a legacy". Please contact our office for information on ways that you can leave your footprint.

LEAVE A LEGACY™





Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

March 2012

ADVERTISING RATE CARD



2013 - 2015 SMFA Provincial Syllabus

Ad sizes available

FULL PAGE	4 7/8" wide x 8" tall	\$200
HALF PAGE	4 7/8" wide x 4" tall	\$100
BUSINESS CARD		\$50

Camera ready electronic files must be provided in PDF or JPEG format on or before **May 15, 2012**.

Color ads will be accepted but will only appear in the online version. Printed ads will be published in black and white only.

Saskatchewan Music Festival Association (SMFA) Provincial Syllabus

Since 1912, the SMFA Syllabus (used in conjunction with the SMFA Annual Directory) has been used as a tool to govern the SMFA festival system. Produced every three years, the Syllabus contains over 1,000 test selections chosen by professional musicians and provides a listing of over 1,200 classes available in SMFA Festivals. The 2013 - 2015 edition will contain Canadian test selections and works by Saskatchewan composers.

Over 1,200 printed copies will be available for distribution across the province. A pdf version of the entire document will be posted on the SMFA website for viewing and downloading. The Syllabus is used by music students, teachers, festival organizers, adjudicators, and the music industry (composers, publishers, retail stores and piano technicians).

Don't miss this opportunity to purchase an advertisement in the new Provincial Syllabus! Release date is scheduled for early August 2012.



CONTACT:

Saskatchewan Music Festival Association
#14 - 62 Westfield Drive
Regina, SK S4S 2S4
(306) 757-1722
sask.music.festival@sasktel.net
www.smfa.ca





Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

March 2012

If you Can't Beat Them...Join Them!

Celebrating Music while enjoying our Nation's Passion - Hockey!

Submitted by Anita Kautz

I can't think of a better way to celebrate Canada Music Week than to have a piano recital during a HOCKEY GAME! When brainstorming about ways to increase the awareness of our young musicians in our community by creating unique performance opportunities for them, the Estevan and area music teachers came up with the idea to combine sports with music! Since so many of our students are involved in both, we decided this 'combination' might be both exciting and intriguing. If we can't beat them...join them!

After contacting our local SJHL (Estevan Bruins) hockey club, they agreed to let us host a recital in the lobby of our local arena, during intermission of the SJHL hockey game - over 2 nights! (This extra night gave the students a choice and helped us with the limited time factor).

The students and teachers started the evening by gathering at center ice to lead the audience with the singing of O Canada. During the first intermission it was then announced that the music community was celebrating Canada Music Week and there would be a 'Music Recital' in the lobby. A digital piano was set up alongside of a 'red and white' display table. One by one, the students sat down and performed a song of their choice (no formal introduction) and before we knew it, there were more than 50 people standing around enjoying this event. We showcased Canada Music Week by having name tags made of Canadian

flags for the performers. We had a poster that read "Some of the best players spend time on the bench" and had advertising from both SaskCulture and the Saskatchewan Music Festival Assoc. The SMFA neon colored 'maracas' were a HUGE hit as we gave them away as the night went on!

Many people, including the parents and the Bruins organization, commented on how much they enjoyed that 'twist' at the hockey game - and since the students who played in the recital got in free it was a 'win/win' situation for all! We have already been approached and asked if we would consider doing it again next year.

In this changing world, it is important to find new and innovative ways to celebrate music! WE know MUSIC is worth it - we just have to find ways to convince others!



Did You Know?

- That adjudicators should be briefed by a committee of two or more people
- That music teachers or parents of competitors eligible for scholarships should not sit on the Scholarship Committee of District Festivals
- That the suggested meal per diem for adjudicators is \$40 per day
- That over 160 musicians are hired annually to adjudicate music festivals across Saskatchewan. Festival committees may contact the Provincial Office for a listing of adjudicators in order to help complete their wish list.
- That SMFA is on Facebook and Twitter





Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

March 2012

Saskatoon Singer Wins Wallis Opera Competition



Chelsea Mahan's performance impressed judges Leslie Fagan of Hamilton and Nathalie Paulin of Toronto on Saturday, February 25, 2012 so much they awarded her the \$5,000 prize in the Gordon C. Wallis Memorial Opera Competition.

The Saskatoon singer performed works by Strauss, Handel and Bizet in a hotly contested competition with 12 entrants. The competition was established by the late Gordon C. Wallis, former assistant director of the University of Regina Conservatory of Music and is presented by the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association (SMFA). The competition is held every two years, alternating between Saskatoon and Regina and is intended to support young singers in further studies in opera.

Chelsea Mahan's love for the interpretation of song has led her to McGill University in Montreal to study with soprano Joanne Kolomyjec. Originally from Saskatoon, Chelsea studied voice with Garry and Kathleen Lohrenz Gable while completing her Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Education at the University of Saskatchewan. Performing is a passion for Chelsea and in addition to her three years in the University of Saskatchewan Music Theatre group, Chelsea was an ensemble member with the Saskatoon Opera Association in 2007, 2009 and 2011.

Chelsea has been the recipient of many awards and in 2011 received the Goodfellow Memorial Operatic Scholarship at the Saskatchewan Provincial Music Competition. Other awards include the Laxdal Memorial Vocal Award from the Saskatchewan Provincial Music Competition and numerous scholarships from the University of Saskatchewan in 2011 including the Earl Robert Hale Scholarship. Recently, through the Canadian Federation of Music Teachers' Associations, Chelsea won the 65th Young Artist Series Western Concert Tour. Chelsea will finish her McGill studies in 2014 and plans to continue performing at every opportunity.

Winning the Wallis competition provides Chelsea with the opportunity to perform with the Regina and Saskatoon symphonies in an upcoming season.





Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

March 2012

Speech Arts Workshops

Children and youth in Macklin, Eatonia, Kindersley, and Eston had the privilege of attending Speech Arts Workshops in their communities, in January. Heather Macnab and her team of young assistants from Maple Creek coached the students on poetry, public speaking, solo scene, and story-telling. Workshops were adapted to the age and ability of the students and included demonstrations by Heather's assistants, aged 11, 12, and 15. Participants were given a copy of the SMFA Speech Arts Manual, and Heather distributed a handout complete with information to assist students entering their local festivals. Heather sums up the experience by saying, "In every case the children participated willingly. This was an enjoyable experience..."

Sounds like fun, doesn't it? SMFA provides financial support to host Speech Arts Workshops throughout the province. Contact the Provincial Office to inquire about the possibility of having a workshop in your community!



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)

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 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!



Missing the Journal of the Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers' Association (SRMTA)?

OPUS can be found on the SRMTA website

www.srmta.com



Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

March 2012

A Tribute to Volunteers

written by D.J. Cronin (adapted)

You make a difference in the dash.

Life is short. In the scheme of things, this oft quoted saying must be true. Our planet has been here for millions of years. On our headstones will be the etching of when we were born and the date when we died, for example 1960-2050.

What matters most are not the two years mentioned; it is the dash...that little dash. That represents the short time we have here, to make a difference or not. And making a difference means many different things to many people.

But for you, the **volunteer**, what you do during that dash is most significant. You can give money for my cause. Sure...but I may pay that back to you. Say you give a dollar a month; it is appreciated without doubt. It is your dollar. However, you may pick it up elsewhere - something extra you do, some other way of earning that buck. But how do we give back time?

As a volunteer you give **time**, the most precious resource in our lives.

Look at the dash. How many hours are in there? It's not billions. It's not infinite. Once you give an hour of your time it is lost forever. That hour you just gave volunteering will never be replicated. Your time volunteering must be valued but we can never put a value on that time. How can you value something that is priceless?

As a volunteer you bring much to this organization: skills, advice, experience, friendship, vision, leadership, inspiration, etc. That you bring, but time you **give**. In our time-poor world, you bear the gift of time. You choose to donate the most precious commodity in the known universe.

We may count your time in numbers. We may attempt to count your time in cash value. Though such methods have their reasons, we will all be poorer if we don't realize that the giving of your time is simply and utterly magnificent.

So today, we take a little time out to thank you for the amazing "time in" that you give. **Truly, thanks for your time!**



Provincial level of National Competition and
Provincial Finals Competitions
Saskatoon, June 1-3, 2012
Entry deadline is May 15!
Entry Forms can be found online
(www.smfa.ca)



Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

March 2012

Patricia Katz – Saskatchewan Music Conference Keynote Speaker



The Saskatchewan Music Conference is scheduled for November 1 to 3, 2012 in Saskatoon with SMFA sessions scheduled for Friday, November 2 and Saturday, November 3 (Festival Roundtable Sessions and AGM). General sessions will also be available on Friday that may be of interest. Watch for more details and registration information on the Saskatchewan Music Alliance website <http://www.saskmusic.ca/> or the SMFA website at www.smfa.ca.

Patricia Katz, Productivity and Balance Strategist, will deliver the keynote address and participate in a book signing of her new book. Below is part of a recent article describing Patricia Katz's latest book.

Try to make time in your busy schedule to attend. Mark the date in your calendar and plan to attend!

Give yourself permission to pause. In fact, make a point of it! It'll help ease life's load and create a more satisfying work and life experience – for you, as well as those around you, says Saskatoon based balance and productivity expert Patricia Katz. "Say goodbye to overloading practices that drain energy, sap productivity, cripple capacity and poison relationships," Katz recommends. "Say hello to rightloading strategies that engage your mind, encourage your heart, energize your body, and strengthen your spirit."

Working as a life balance strategist for 25 years, Katz strives to help people and organizations manage their loads in healthy, satisfying and sustainable ways – to shift from overloading to rightloading. And that means taking time to pause, re-energize and renew. In her fifth book, *Press Pause. Think Again: More Balance & Perspective For Work & Life* (Optimus Consulting, \$19.95), Katz delivers 64 sanity-saving solutions for those feeling trapped by the pace and pressure of 21st century life.

The overall focus of her latest book (which builds on the success of its earlier companion, *Press Pause. Press On*) is about being more thoughtful, Katz said. "About how we respond to situations, and about the choices that we make." "What I found is that people feel overloaded and overwhelmed - exhausted life-wise - sometimes underappreciated," she said. "And some of it's self-inflicted. "Because we're so busy running and trying to keep up and catch up, we don't stop to step back and say 'Is there a different way to do this? Is there another choice? Am I locked in a certain way of looking at things?'" she explained. "The key is to stop, to step back, to step out of the flow." Katz noted that people often see breaks as rewards for being done, whether it's a particular task, or a long to-do list. She encourages people to shift their thinking. "We really need to see that whole business of renewal and positive renewal as an investment in being able to continue, not a reward for being done - that it's a legitimate practice, that it's a necessary practice," she suggested. "Otherwise, we just exhaust ourselves and end up in those crash-and-burn kind of cycles again and again."





Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

March 2012

From the Provincial Office

Carol Donhauser, Executive Director



We all know what the third week of March means, right? It is the middle of the busiest month of the year for music festivals in Saskatchewan. Thousands of volunteers will be taking time off work or time away from their normal activities to volunteer at their local music festival. Each year volunteer committees are finding themselves doing more work as they have fewer volunteers. "Doing more, with less" seems to be the theme this year.

Recruiting volunteers can be a difficult task but it must be ongoing and constant. There are a couple reasons that an organization should always be "recruiting": to keep the organization alive and obtain new ideas. Recruiting is a matter of getting the right person in the right job, with the right skills at the right time. Ideally, we want to meet the needs for the volunteers as well as the organization.

Here are a few tips that that may help recruit volunteers for your festival. Define the job to be done. This will help ensure that the organization gets the right person to fill the position.

Develop a list of qualifications required to do the job. This will clarify the expectations and requirements of the volunteer position. A volunteer job description that lists all the qualifications needed to do the job is useful. The description should include title, purpose, responsibilities, qualifications needed, reporting relationship, estimated time commitment, and benefits. Offering flexible opportunities and being sensitive to your volunteer's life stage is important in recruiting **and** retaining volunteers.

Create a list of potential candidates who may be able to do the job and keep this list up to date for future recruiters. A good place to search for potential volunteers is other community organizations, schools, or other gathering places. During your music festival is a perfect opportunity to recruit volunteers for next year.

As the saying goes, "We are simply caretakers of the organization". It is up to us to leave it in good shape for the next generation. An organization that recruits regularly will ensure that their organization is healthy, vibrant and in a position to continue for years to come.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March to May, 2012

SMFA District Festivals (47 Locations)

June 1 – 3, 2012

Provincial Finals – Saskatoon

August 16 – 18, 2012

National Music Festival – Fort McMurray, Alberta

November 1 – 3, 2012

SK Music Conference/SMFA AGM - Saskatoon

