



Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

March 2013

SMFA Provincial Office
4623 Albert St.
Mailing Address:
PO Box 37005
Regina, SK S4S 7K3



"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

Karen MacCallum, President



*I'm busy as a spider spinning daydreams,
I'm giddy as a baby on a swing,
I haven't seen a crocus or a rosebud,
Or a robin or a bluebird on the wing,
But I feel so gay in a melancholy way,
That it might as well be spring.*

-Rodgers & Hammerstein

As I am writing this, I am wondering if Spring has slept in. We still have so much snow and have had to plow through snowdrifts just to get in the yard. And that is after my husband has cleared the whole yard with the tractor- twice! But after all, we live in Saskatchewan and we love it! And I saw a gopher today!

Further on in this issue, there is an article on the Shurniak Concerto Competition held in February. My congratulations go once again to Gerard Weber. I have observed Gerard's progression through our Provincial and National Festival System and Competitions. I am sure that he has a great career ahead of him.

At the time of this publication, approximately half of the District Festivals are finished and half yet to start. I must say that I admire those festivals that are so organized as to have this event in February! With a new Syllabus, there are always district scholarships lists and addenda to update. Perhaps you have new people on your Board and it's exciting to guide them in all things Festival! Adjudicators are travelling all over the province. Venues and accommodations are confirmed. Classes and programs are compiled. So many emails are flying through the air that it is surprising that we don't hear a sizzle!

When I think of all the wonderful music performed at our festivals, I am in awe. From the greats of the past like Bach, Beethoven, Mozart, to the marvelous of the present like Christopher Norton (I love telling my students that I have met him!), Linda Niamath, Nancy Telfer and many others too numerous to mention. We are so proud of our Canadian and especially our Saskatchewan composers. In my home festival, Swift Current, we have classes for Own Composition and it has proven to be very interesting.

To the District Festivals, please pay special tribute to all your volunteers. It is to their credit that we have surpassed one hundred years of festivals in this province. Congratulations to the festivals that are celebrating milestone anniversaries in 2013.

My condolences to the family and many friends of Lillian Mitchell on her passing. She was a stalwart supporter of music and festivals and will be fondly remembered. As will Stompin' Tom Connors, albeit at the other end of the music spectrum, he was a staunch believer in Canadian music. (Yes, I really do know who he is and I think I recall seeing him early in his career with his stompin' board!)

I hope you have had or will have a great (includes all the words in a thesaurus) festival season! See you in June at Provincial Finals!





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In Memory

MITCHELL, Lillian (nee Heuser)
May 22, 1921 – February 26, 2013



The Saskatchewan Music Festival Association Family is saddened by the news of the death of Lillian Mitchell. Lillian has been an Honorary Life Member of the SMFA for many years and was a welcome and familiar face at our conferences. She was an encouragement and inspiration to all who knew her. We will miss her. Funeral services were held at Grace Westminster United Church in Saskatoon on Friday, March 8, with Rev. Darryl Woods officiating. Following is Lillian's obituary:

"A great friend, sibling, aunt, and mentor has passed. Lillian Mitchell left us on February 26, 2013, at the age of 91, as the result of a severe stroke, and leaves innumerable relatives, friends, and former students better for having known her. Lillian is survived by three siblings, Olive Wilson of Cornwall, Ontario, Neil (Edith) Heuser of Calgary, Alberta, and Alex (Evelyn) Heuser of Winnipeg, Manitoba. She was predeceased by husband Jack in 2000, and siblings Iva Schneider, Grace Richardson, and Gwen Dingwall. Lillian was born in a simple farmhouse near Melaval, Saskatchewan, the fourth of seven children of parents

Alexander and Lily Anne Heuser. Her early education was at a two-room public school in Melaval, followed by Teachers' College in Regina, SK, and finally she got her Masters degree in B.C. Teaching assignments followed at several towns in southern Saskatchewan including Sinclair Hill, Marquis, and Indian Head. In 1949, she settled in Grenfell, SK where she taught English, Math, and Choir and was principal for two years. In 1962, she married Jack Mitchell also of Grenfell, Saskatchewan. While they had no children, Lillian spoke frequently of the many adopted children of her classrooms. It is for her passion and commitment during these teaching years that she is most fondly remembered. Lil retired from her teaching career in 1973, but continued to be a tutor and also to be very involved in a variety of volunteer activities. Lillian and Jack were involved in various community bands and choirs, church and children's choirs, the Saskatchewan Music Festivals, and promotion of UNICEF fund- raising. In 1997, Lillian received a Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal recognizing her countless hours of service. In spite of very limited eyesight she lived large, taking on adventures of cross-country skiing, white water rafting, camping, and Canadian travel. Lil was also very close to many of her nieces and nephews and thoroughly enjoyed gathering with extended family for celebrations of any kind. She will be remembered as a force of nature, and undoubtedly she was grateful for a life well- lived, for the love and support of family and friends, and for the privilege of living independently to the end."

"Lillian's contributions to the musical history of the southeast part of the province are innumerable. She and her husband, Jack, were the backbone of the "Mainline Music Festival" for years and years. She was very recognizable to all who met her, since she had striking white hair all her life and was visually impaired. Her disability did not stop her determination to drive forward and to draw out the very best in those who surrounded her. Several hundred of her students were strongly influenced not only to pursue excellence in English and Mathematics, but to continue into music studies because of her. She leaves behind a huge legacy."

– **Phyllis Johnston** (Friend, Benefactor, Ex-Student, and also long-time member of the Mainline Music Festival Association)

"Lillian will be greatly missed. She and Jack inspired my involvement with both our local festival and SMFA, and she was so supportive when I joined the board. She commented that she hoped she would "still be around" when I assumed the presidency, and I'm sad that that will not be the case. Lillian taught in Grenfell High School, which is about 30 miles from Kipling. She directed a thriving high school choir with many male voices. When recruiting choir members, she didn't take "no" for an answer; being a hockey player did not exclude you from also having a place in the choir. As a result, a great many students were exposed to the joy of choral singing and their lives were enriched because of it. She and Jack were a positive influence in their community for many years."

– **Nancy Toppings** (SMFA 1st Vice President)





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Clarifying Misconceptions about Copyright - What Every Music Educator Needs to Know

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What is copyright?

The term "copyright" refers to the property/ownership rights of the creator of an intellectual work such as music. Although not always tangible, a creative work is still property. The Canadian Copyright Act protects the rights of creators to retain control over, and be compensated for, the use of their intellectual property. Many people don't realize that the reproduction of copyrighted materials such as print music is in essence theft of property. As music educators, we all recognize the value of creativity. Music teachers can play an important role in encouraging their students to respect composers' efforts by ensuring that students are made aware of the intent of the Canadian Copyright Act.

Misconception # 1: A teacher may copy music for educational purposes.

False.

Many teachers may be under the impression that photocopying for educational use is legal. Although teachers in institutions may have paid for a licence to enjoy special copying privileges in some situations, **print music is excluded from this arrangement**. This means that teachers are not authorized to photocopy print music. A publisher is often the composer's representative, and should be contacted directly to obtain permission to make copies for any purpose. In Canada, CanCopy is typically able to quickly handle requests to photocopy.

Misconception # 2: It's okay to photocopy music in order to facilitate a page turn.

False.

Permission must be granted by the holder of the copyright (the publisher) on the composer's behalf in order for a copy to be made for any purpose, including the facilitation of page turns.*

Misconception # 3: It's legal to photocopy music from an out-of-print publication.

False.

Copyright does not cease to exist just because a book is no longer for sale. It is only legal to make a copy of out-of-print music if permission is granted by the copyright holder. On occasion, a teacher may wish his or her student to study a particular piece of music which is no longer available from music retailers. Contact the publisher of the music for permission to make a copy.

Misconception # 4: Permission isn't required to copy works of long-dead composers.

False.

Copyright exists both in a musical composition and in the physical notation of a musical score. This means that even if a composer's works are in the public domain (as Bach's are), a particular publisher's edition of those works is still protected property. So, if you wish to write out a particular Bach Invention by hand, then you may do so; however, you may not photocopy it from a music book without the publisher's permission. (Note: The compositions of a living composer or a composer who has been dead for fewer than fifty years may not be copied without permission, either by hand or otherwise.)

* The Frederick Harris Music Co., Limited allows festival, recital, and examination participants to photocopy one page per publication in order to facilitate a page turn. Please print the public notice found at their website: (http://www.frederickharrismusic.com/wcm/ContentMgr/images/page_turn_public_notice.pdf) and bring it with you to your festival, recital, or examination.





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Shurniak Concerto Competition

Submitted by Gail Mergen

The 30th SMFA Concerto Competition took place Saturday, February 23 in the Shumiatcher Theatre at the MacKenzie Art Gallery, Regina. This event was sponsored by Mr. Bill Shurniak, and attracted six performers from across Saskatchewan. Alto saxophonist Gerard Weber of Saskatoon gave the afternoon's winning performance of *Concerto for Alto Saxophone and Orchestra, Op. 26*, by Paul Creston. This 20th-Century work features ever-shifting rhythms and an energetic vitality, with a hauntingly sweet 2nd movement. Bonnie Nicholson was the superb accompanist on piano.

Gerard is currently finishing a Bachelor of Music in Applied Study and Performance at the University of Saskatchewan. He studies saxophone with Dr. Glen Gillis. Gerard performs regularly with the U of S Wind Orchestra, Jazz Ensemble, Saxophone Quartet, and Saxophone Choir. He plans to continue graduate studies in the USA next year. Gerard's prize from the Shurniak Concerto Competition includes \$2000, and performances with the Regina Symphony Orchestra and the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra. Watch for those dates to be announced!

Other performers included Eric Bews (Saskatoon), William Boan (Saskatoon), Alyssa Ramsay (Regina), Austin Castle (Swift Current), and Jessica Ramsay (Regina). Jessica Ramsay, violinist, was awarded 2nd place, and her sister, Alyssa Ramsay, cellist, was selected as 3rd place.

The audience was very appreciative of the high calibre of musicianship shown. Three distinguished musicians adjudicated the competition: Audrey Andrist, pianist, formerly from Estevan, now from Washington, D.C.; Maxim Antoshin, Executive Director of RSO; and Shauna Rolston, cellist, from Toronto. In announcing the winners, Audrey Andrist mentioned that she herself had won this competition during the "Jurassic Age" (1980!), and that it had been a great benefit to her career.

The next Shurniak Concerto Competition will be held February 2015 in Saskatoon. Please consider attending the SMFA opera and concerto competitions, held in alternate years. You will be astounded by the "cream of the crop" of Saskatchewan music festivals, a very rewarding experience for all those who work so hard for SMFA at the local level of competition. See you there!



L to R, front row: Eric Bews, Maxim Antoshin, Shauna Rolston, Audrey Andrist, Gerard Weber, Jessica Ramsay, Alyssa Ramsay
Back row: William Boan, Austin Castle





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Adjudicator Anecdotes

Karen Unger

In this issue of "Adjudicator Anecdotes" we are pleased to share stories submitted by our most recently named Honorary Life Members of the SMFA, Janet McGonigle and Penny Joynt.

The first two stories are from Janet McGonigle.

Keep Your Distance!



Prior to my first adjudicating assignment in Saskatchewan, I hadn't realized how seriously the local festivals looked upon "fraternizing with the adjudicator". It was my first day and although a little nervous, I felt the first half of the morning had gone well. I was delighted to discover that the committee scheduled a coffee break with baking, available to participants, parents, and to those of us working. I was anxious to visit with the people of the community, so I picked up my coffee and my "home baked" brownie and proceeded to the sitting area which consisted of long tables covered with paper. I chose a table that was fairly full of eager looking locals and headed in that direction. A movement that I can only describe as "Tsunami-like" occurred as all of those at the table and adjacent tables flowed in mass to the other end of the room, just as I was settling in to chat. With a degree of discomfort, I had my coffee while looking straight ahead, wondering if I had developed a rash, or had neglected my hygiene that morning. When the break was over I self-consciously returned to my desk. A committee member clued me in. I avoided the community coffee room for the remainder of the week!

She Looks Pretty Scary!

This story was told to me by a dear friend.

Adjudicating was second nature to this well-seasoned, experienced, and gifted teacher. She had been working in the festival system for years. As a smoker, she could always be found on breaks, outside the doors of the building having a puff or two. One morning a woman approached her outside the front door and said, "Have you met the piano adjudicator yet? I hear she looks pretty scary!" My friend said "No, not yet, but I will make a point of it." Can you imagine the look on this woman's face when she sat down beside her? She was her Secretary.

(continued)

Highlights

What were some of the highlights at your district festival this year? What will you remember? What made you smile? We'd love to hear from you! Please send an email to Karen at kjamb@sasktel.net, along with the name of your local festival, and we will be happy to report your highlights in our next issue of *Festival Focus*



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Adjudicator Anecdotes (continued)

Penny Joynt shares some of her favorite memories:

Who Is Sitting In My Chair?

When I was adjudicating in the southern part of the province, the motel did not have a restaurant so I went to a local café for breakfast. I had just ordered when a local gentleman came into the café and struck up a conversation with me. He talked for a good 10 to 15 minutes and then he went and sat and ordered his coffee. The next 2 mornings it was the same routine. The fourth morning, I sat at a different table. Within a few moments the local gentleman came into the café and he didn't say a word to me. I thought it was a bit odd and mentioned it to the waitress. She shared with me that the first 3 mornings I had been sitting in his spot. Who knew! He wasn't interested in talking with me. I had just messed up his routine.



The Festival Dress

Many years ago at a small town festival I was adjudicating, a family with two daughters close to the same age were performing in several classes. The girls both played very well and they were dressed nicely for this special event. At the end of each class there was a flurry of activity surrounding this family. The reason soon became apparent. The two girls were sharing the same dress. Often they were playing in classes back to back, so the rush was on to get the next girl ready for her class.

I guess I will never know if the issue was a money issue or not. Maybe both girls wanted the same dress and the solution was to share one. I only know that the girls were confident performers and they seemed to be supportive of one another. There was no embarrassment nor was there tension. I left there feeling admiration for the parents. Although I didn't know the whole story, I think I knew and I admired how it was handled with grace. They knew what was important and that's where the emphasis was placed. I learned a valuable lesson from that family.

Best Time of the Year!

When I was adjudicating out of province, a young girl came to the festival one evening. She was so excited to be there she could hardly stay in her seat. Her grandparents were there as well as her parents, her older brother, and a younger sister. From behind my chair I could hear her. "This is the BEST time of the whole year. It is better than CHRISTMAS!" I hope that enthusiasm continued for years and years. I really didn't want to be the adjudicator who quashed that!

Penny and Janet, thank you for sharing your stories with us! And thank you for the many ways in which you have contributed to the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association through the years.

Adjudicators, we know you have stories to share and would love to hear from you! Please send your stories to Karen at kjamb@sasktel.net and we will include them in the next installments of Adjudicator Anecdotes.



Provincial level of National Competition and Provincial Finals Competitions

University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon
Friday, May 31 – Sunday, June 1

Entry deadline is May 15!
ONLINE Entries (www.smfa.ca)



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Creative Kids

SaskCulture's Creative Kids program provides financial assistance for children to participate in the same art and cultural activities as their peers, regardless of a family's social and financial barriers. Families may apply to Creative Kids for up to \$750 per child, per year to participate in creative activities. We believe every child should have an opportunity to participate in creative activities, which are fundamental to the positive growth and development of children and youth; and that cultural programming is critical to a healthy, vibrant community.



We are a charitable program, initiated in Saskatchewan by SaskCulture and a group of dedicated volunteers. Creative Kids is funded by donations and corporate sponsorships, with one hundred per cent of all dollars raised funding creative activities for children. SaskCulture covers all administrative expenses and a partnership with the Saskatchewan Arts Board and the Give Kids a Chance charity for additional administrative support.

Since the fall of 2010, we've provided over \$500,000 for families and created opportunities for applicants in 100 Saskatchewan communities.



Calendar of Events

February - May, 2013

SMFA District Festivals (47 Locations)

May 31 - June 2, 2013

Provincial Finals – Saskatoon

August 8 - 10, 2013

National Music Festival – Kitchener-Waterloo, ON

November 7 - 9, 2013 – PLEASE NOTE DATE!

Saskatchewan Music Conference and
SMFA Annual General Meeting – Regina

February 22 - 23, 2014

Wallis Memorial Opera Competition – Regina

SMFA is supported by grants from Sask Lotteries Trust Fund for
Sport, Culture & Recreation, Sask Arts Board, and SaskCulture, Inc.

We Have Moved!

The SMFA Provincial Office is now located at 4623 Albert St. (Regina)

Our Mailing Address is:

PO Box 37005

Regina, SK S4S 7K3

Phone Numbers and E-mail remain the same.

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

OPUS can be found on the SRMTA website: www.srmta.com



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Saskatchewan Music Alliance - 2013 March Update

The Saskatchewan Music Alliance (SMA) continues to make progress. After completing the vision, mission and values for the organization and reviewing various operational models, the SMA recently completed its work plan for this year. The SMA is an initiative of the Saskatchewan Band Association, Saskatchewan Choral Federation, Saskatchewan Music Educators Association, Saskatchewan Music Festival Association, and the Saskatchewan Orchestral Association to develop new efficiencies and ways to work together to share resources to enhance the music community in the province.

The SMA will be governed by a board of directors with members appointed from each member organization. The board will be responsible for governing the organization, approving and reviewing the work plan, and ensuring financial controls. The daily operations will be performed by the Management Committee, which contains staff from each organization. The Management Committee will meet on a monthly basis to create and implement the work plan through shared decision making. Its members will be responsible for overseeing various projects and reporting back to the others. They will also look for new ways to partner and enhance program service delivery. Bylaws are currently being drafted and the SMA will be officially incorporated later this year.

One of the main projects that will take place is a music advocacy campaign. The initial phase will be to conduct research to determine the current state of the music industry in the province, identify and prioritize issues, and develop solutions. This research is necessary because there is a diversity of opinion within the music organizations regarding the overall goals and objectives of an advocacy campaign and what truly needs to be changed. Focus groups will be held this year to provide qualitative research on what and why things need to change. This project will also contain a literature review, consultations with other sectors, and inventorying current music programs to identify gaps. The goal is to create a state of Saskatchewan music report that will outline the gaps within our communities and proposed solutions to these gaps. This will lead to an advocacy campaign to bring about meaningful change in the music community.

Another important initiative will be the SMA Summer Music Camp, which will build upon a pilot project held last year in Saskatoon and Regina. Students at the camps had the opportunity to try eight different instruments, including violin, guitar, band, choir, First Nations storytelling, First Nations hand drumming, piano, and percussion. The results from this camp are outstanding:

Saskatoon

Fairhaven School – 14 participants, now six are in music/band
Howard Coad – 14 participants, five are in music/band lessons
St. Frances – 7 participants, five in music/band

Regina

Sacred Heart – 15 participants, 9 in music/band
Kitchener School – 10 participants, ALL involved in music/band
Wascana School – 15 participants, 5 in music/band

It is clear that this type of summer music program is wanted and needed in the community. It allowed children the opportunity to learn something that they would not otherwise have access to and taught them important lessons that they can take with them throughout their lives. This year, the SMA is looking to hold another music camp in Regina and Saskatoon, and expand the project to Prince Albert.

The Saskatchewan Music Conference is another example of the SMA in action. Last year the conference was held in Saskatoon and this year it will be held at the Delta Hotel in Regina, November 7-9. Plans are currently underway for the conference and clinicians are being contacted. Information and registration for the conference will take place on an enhanced SMA website.

Branding materials for the new organization are currently being developed and will help to provide a higher profile. These materials will play an important role as the advocacy campaign begins to unfold.

In addition to these projects, the SMA has led to greater cooperation and collaboration among members. With regular discussions and meetings, the members are creating new opportunities to work together to support the music community.





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FCMF Adds National Musical Theatre

Joy McFarlane-Burton



The delegates to the 2012 FCMF Annual General Meeting voted to include a National Musical Theatre class beginning at the 2014 National Music Festival competition. The committee has been working on the policy for this class concerning content, time limit, and regulations. Final approval of this new class will be at the 2013 AGM. We are excited about the prospect of the addition of musical theatre to the FCMF National Music Festival.



Thank You to our Wonderful Volunteers

As festival season hits full swing, we would like to acknowledge and thank the many volunteers who give of their time, talent, energy, and resources to make our 48 District festivals successful. We couldn't do it without you! You are appreciated.



Volunteers are the only human beings on the face of the earth who reflect this nation's compassion, unselfish caring, patience, and just plain loving one another.

~Erma Bombeck

Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless.

~Sherry Anderson



Volunteer Recognition Award

The Volunteer Recognition Awards will be presented at the Awards Banquet of the **Saskatchewan Music Conference (SMC), Friday, November 8, 2013, at the Delta Inn (Regina)**. While SMFA recognizes the importance of all volunteers, this award is intended for those who have made a significant contribution to your organization.

- A maximum of two Volunteer Recognition Awards may be presented per District Festival per Fall Conference.
- Each Volunteer Award recipient should be present at the Awards Banquet.
- It is the responsibility of the District Festival to pay any expenses incurred by your volunteer(s), including travel, accommodation, and the cost of the banquet.
- Return this form to the Provincial Office by September 30. Include a brief biography in particular noting your volunteer nominee's contribution to your festival. Late nominations will be considered for the following year.



Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following festivals celebrating "milestone" anniversaries!

Biggar **85 Years**
Hafford **50 Years**
Kindersley..... **50 Years**
Meadow Lake **35 Years**
Watrous..... **45 Years**
La Ronge **25 Years**





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Interim Adjudicator Liaison

Sandra Kerr

Hiring for District Festivals and Provincial Finals progressed smoothly for the most part. Thank you to all the festivals who promptly submitted their Adjudicator Time-Frame Requirement form. It is not too early to submit your requests for the 2014 Festival! It was more difficult to find local adjudicators for the March festivals, since many professionals either could not take time from their schedules due to classroom or studio teaching and/or involvement in their music festivals, were away adjudicating at out-of-province festivals, or traveling. Nevertheless all festivals were booked by January. March weather often plays havoc with travel plans. Thank you to both festival committees and adjudicators for flexibility in your schedules to allow for any unavoidable changes!

For those festivals yet to be held, please remember to properly brief your adjudicator before sessions begin so they are aware of your particular practices with regard to announcements, procedures for scholarship meeting, and so on. Communication is crucial! It is equally important to submit your adjudicator evaluation to the Provincial Office. Evaluations are a great asset in the hiring process. Information and forms can be found on the SMFA website (www.smfa.ca) and, as always, do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Hiring has now begun for 2014 Festivals, Provincials, and the Wallis Memorial Opera Competition. As I mentioned, please submit your 2014 Adjudicator Time-Frame form. Indicate any preferences for people and/or instrumentation and level (junior, intermediate, senior) as this helps in placing the best adjudicator for your festival.



Festival programs

- Please remember to send **two** (2) copies of your festival programs to the Provincial Office as soon as they are printed. In addition, you may send us an electronic copy.
- After your festival please send us the marks, either in a program or spreadsheet/database form



Congratulations



Congratulations to soprano Meara Conway, winner of the 2010 Gordon C. Wallis Memorial Opera Competition, on her performance with the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra. She joined mezzo-soprano Cassandra Warner, tenor Michael Harris, bass Chris Kelly, and the Saskatoon Chamber Singers in the symphony's December performance of Handel's *Messiah*. Meara will be appearing with the Regina Symphony Orchestra's upcoming concert of Brahms's *German Requiem* on April 13 along with guest artist Vasil Garvanliev, baritone, the Regina Philharmonic Chorus, Halcyon Chamber Choir, and the Luther Bach Choir.

Congratulations also to violinist Samuel Milner, winner of the 2009 SMFA Concerto Competition. Sam performed Mendelssohn's *Violin Concerto* with the Regina Symphony Orchestra on February 9, 2013, under the baton of guest conductor Patricio Aizaga, Music Director and Principal Conductor of the Ecuador Philharmonic Orchestra.





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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
PO Box 37005
Regina, SK S4S 7K3

*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."**

SMFA Friends List to date:
Sandra Ellis, Garry Gable & Kathleen
Lohrenz Gable, Joy McFarlane-Burton, and
Lillian Mitchell



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From the Provincial Office

Carol Donhauser, Executive Director



Here at the Provincial office we are busy answering phone calls, e-mails and looking for sponsors for Provincials. SMFA was fortunate to have received a grant from artsVest Saskatchewan. It is a sponsorship training and matching incentive program created by Business for the Arts and delivered in Saskatchewan with funding from Canadian Heritage and the Government of Saskatchewan Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport, and with support from SaskCulture Inc. The program's goal is to assist Saskatchewan's small and medium-sized arts organizations in the development of new and mutually beneficial partnerships with local businesses.

We are grateful to our long-time sponsors SaskEnergy, SaskTel, and PotashCorp for their support and we look forward to building new partnerships

through this opportunity with artsVest Saskatchewan. We are also grateful for

the support we receive from Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation, SaskCulture, and the Sask Arts Board.



On February 1, we submitted an application in order to receive three years of funding as a Provincial Cultural Organization from the Lotteries Trust Fund administered by SaskCulture and the Sask Arts Board. For those who may not be aware of the Lotteries Trust Fund, here is a bit of background. Many years ago, Chief Justice Brown persuaded the Saskatchewan government to provide an annual grant to the Association to be administered through the University of Saskatchewan which, in 1966, transferred it to the Saskatchewan Arts Board. By 2000, the Association received its funding from Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust for Sport, Culture and Recreation and the Saskatchewan Arts Board. The Trust Fund receives its money from the net proceeds of Saskatchewan Lotteries ticket sales and provides funding for the operation of the Provincial Festival Office which services its member festivals. Along with this grant and your affiliation dues, SMFA is able to accomplish the following:

- Promote SMFA as an important cultural movement in the province of Saskatchewan through website, social media, advertisements, press releases, annual reports, newsletter, brochures, signage and speaking engagements.
- Obtain and maintain Association funding as a Provincial Cultural Organization (prepare budgets, Annual Global Funding Trust Applications, supporting documents).
- Provide award certificates to district festivals and no charge as well as order, stock, and provide SMFA stationery and promotional items at cost.
- Maintain the SMFA Provincial website which members are encouraged to use to its full potential.
- Compile, design and distribute an Annual Report which includes Audited Financial Statements, district festivals yearly reports and detailed reports of all SMFA Programs.
- Hire and liaise with adjudicators according to each Festival's needs (Over 170 professional musicians are hired each year)
- Provide member funding when requested and approved by SMFA Finance Committee.
- Provide opportunity for young musicians in our province to progress from District to Provincial to National levels of competition.
- Continue to be a leader in the Canadian Music Festival (FCMF) movement with our unique programming as well as provide representation on members' behalf at AGM and Conference.
- Actively seek other sources of funding through corporate sponsorship and grants and provide group fundraising opportunities.
- Provide event liability insurance to all members at no cost.

Now, back to the future....we are testing out online entries and payments for Provincial Final entries this year and we hope to have the kinks worked out in order to present to you at Fall Conference in November. The SMFA's new website was not ready for online entries for the district festivals this year but we are confident that those interested in online entries will be able to do so for the 2014 festival year.

Happy Spring Everyone!

