



Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

September 2014

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



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



"So long, farewell, auf weidersehen, good-bye"

The Sound of Music, 1959, was the final musical written by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein.

This, too, is my final President's message for *Festival Focus*. It has been a wonderful journey and I am proud to be the 71st person to occupy this office. In trying to choose a topic, my thoughts wandered to the question: "Why do we value our classical, competitive music festivals in affiliation with the SMFA?" I know that our pride in this organization comes from our history, our progress, our leadership, and our innovation.

Governor General Earl Grey, 1904-1911, promoted culture and supported the arts among many other projects. The Grey Competition for Music and Drama was held in 1907. When he announced his vision of a festival system in Canada comparable to England, Saskatchewan was the second province to respond after Alberta. Saskatchewan became a province in 1905

and the fore-runner of SMFA came into being in 1908. Right from the beginning, "musicians eagerly seized the opportunity for public performances and Adjudicator's evaluations" (all quotes taken from "Music for One... Music for All" by Mossie Hancock). The Annual Festival, a province wide competition, rotated from Regina – Saskatoon - Prince Albert - Moose Jaw. Thanks to the dedication of Norman Palmer local festivals were established, with Unity being the first in 1926.

With the leadership of Executive Directors – originally called Provincial Secretaries – and capable Boards of Directors, with input from all the local festivals, many achievements of SMFA have become milestones of the system.

- 1951, election of first female president, Mrs. G. C. Bradley. (I just had to add that!)
- 1953, election of Provincial President from a local festival.
- 1954, district winners now performed at the Provincial Finals Competition.
- 1956, president's position became a two-year term.
- 1972, first Annual National Festival.
- 70's, marking system in which top two marks are numerical, all others receive letter grading (at the request of the Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers' Association). Most provinces now follow this system.
- 1979, Concerto Competition recognises amateur musicians with the chance to perform with the Regina Symphony, and later, also the Saskatoon Symphony. This is a "much envied opportunity for a Saskatchewan musician, unequalled in Canada".
- Mid '80's, promotion of Canadian composers and use of their works in competitions.
- 1988, provincial office staff takes computer course.
- 1990, increasing interest in using computers at conference round table discussions.
- 1991, introduction of first three-year Provincial Syllabus.
- 1993, Volunteer Awards became part of the Annual Fall Conference.
- 1994, first conference speaker on use of computers at District Festivals level.
- 1997, development of the Speech Arts Manual, now being revised 2014-2015.
- 2000, The Gordon C. Wallis Memorial Competition is established.



This is such a short version of a much larger picture! Many thanks for the support of volunteers, staff, donors, sponsors, SaskCulture Inc., Sask Arts Board, and Sask Lotteries for Sport, Culture and Recreation.

The Mission Statement, Vision and Cultural Impact Statement succinctly state the objectives and ambitions of SMFA. These can be read online in the Annual Reports at smfa.ca. The whole system of District Festivals and Provincial Festivals across Canada, culminating in the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals National Competition is very much summed up in these words, "All different but united in aims and in caring about music and youth."





Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

September 2014



Federation of Canadian Music Festivals La Fédération canadienne des festivals de musique

Marilyn Wiwcharuk
President/présidente

Pam Allen
Past-President/présidente sortante

Rhéal Fournier
Vice-President/vice-président

Leslie Walters
Treasurer/trésorsière

Dianne Johnstone
Director/administrateur

Susan Belleperche
Director/administrateur

Gloria Nickell
Director/administratrice

Joy McFarlane-Burton
Director/administratrice

Heather Bedford Clooney
Executive Director
14004 75th Ave.
Edmonton, ON T5R 2Y6
1-877-323-3263 (toll-free)
fcmf@shaw.ca

Saskatchewan wins at National Music Festival

The 2014 National Music Festival took place August 14th to 16th at University of British Columbia Okanagan, Kelowna, British Columbia. Fifty-three amateur musicians from across the country ranging in age from 14 to 28 years old competed in eight disciplines: piano, strings, voice, woodwinds, brass, guitar, chamber groups, and for the first time ever at the National Music Festival, music theatre. The first place winners of each discipline competed for the Grand Award title and prize of \$5,000 on Saturday, August 16th, at the Rotary Centre for the Arts in Kelowna. And the winner is...MARCEL D'ENTREMONT, tenor, from Nova Scotia (NS)

To compete at the National Music Festival, the musicians have to first receive a first-place standing in a senior class or provincial/national class at one of Canada's 233 local festivals. Only after winning at a local festival, and upon adjudicator recommendation, they then proceed to a Provincial Music Festival. They must win first place and be recommended by the adjudicators to represent his or her province at the National Music Festival.

The National Music Festival is held under the auspices of the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals. A National Music Festival has been held in Canada every year since 1972. The Festival provides a showcase for Canada's finest amateur classical musicians. Its purpose is to provide artists with the opportunity to compete against other elite amateur musicians, to be critiqued by world-renowned adjudicators, to attend master classes and to receive substantial scholarships.

Saskatchewan was proudly represented by:

Tricia Florence, Saskatoon – Voice *

Brendan Catalano, Saskatoon – Woodwinds *

William Boan, Saskatoon – Strings *

* accompanied by Jaya Hoy, Saskatoon

Abby Fuller, Regina – Brass (accompanied by Maria Fuller)

Braeden Woods, Regina – Musical Theater (accompanied by Rob Ursan)

Choir Entries (judged by tape):

Cantate Senior Choir (directed by Deborah Nelson), Regina

Campbell Collegiate Chamber Choir (directed by Deidre Baird), Regina

Competitors placing from Saskatchewan are as follows:

3rd Musical Theatre – Braeden Woods

The Saskatchewan Music Festival Association, Karen MacCallum, President, is proud of the young musicians representing our province. We look forward to the competitions next year to be held in Edmonton, Alberta. For further information contact Carol Donhauser, Executive Director at sask.music.festival@sasktel.net or visit our website at www.smfa.ca.





Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

September 2014

Joy McFarlane-Burton, SMFA Past-President, elected to FCMF Board of Directors



The Saskatchewan Music Festival Association (SMFA), Karen MacCallum, President, is very pleased to announce that Joy McFarlane-Burton, SMFA Past-President, was elected as Director to the FCMF Board of Directors at the 2014 AGM and Conference held August 11 to 13.

Joy has served as a delegate from Saskatchewan to the FCMF AGM and Conference annually since 2007. When Saskatchewan hosted FCMF AGM/Conference and National Music Festival in 2009, she was Co-chair of the volunteer committee. At the 2009 AGM, Joy became chair of the Ad Hoc Committee for the inclusion of Musical Theatre at the National Festival. The work of this committee enabled the addition of the Musical Theatre Class at the 2014 National Music Festival. For her many years of service, Joy was recognized as a Volunteer of the Year for Saskatchewan by the FCMF in 2013.

In 2015, Joy will have been involved with the Biggar & District Music Festival for 50 consecutive years as a competitor, teacher, or committee member.

Joy understands the role of the board and the mission and vision of the FCMF. She is passionate about the work involved in the festival movement, empowering and supportive.

Well-respected within the music festival community, Joy brings honesty and integrity to this board. Her excellent communication and organization skills as well as many years of experience as a vocal teacher, adjudicator will only enhance the work required by the FCMF Board of Directors.

The National Music Festival is held under the auspices of the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals. A National Music Festival has been held in Canada every year since 1972. The Festival provides a showcase for Canada's finest amateur classical musicians. Its purpose is to provide artists with the opportunity to compete against other elite amateur musicians, to be critiqued by world-renowned adjudicators, to attend master classes and to receive substantial scholarships.

We wish to congratulate Joy and wish her all the best in her new role. FCMF is lucky to have her.





Festival Focus

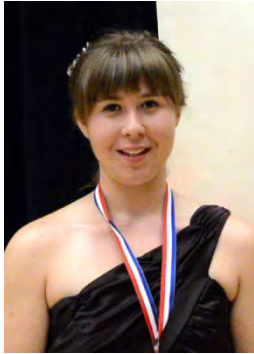
SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

September 2014

Abby Fuller, Team Saskatchewan Brass Representative



We would like to showcase the members of Team Sask who represented us at Nationals in Kelowna, B.C. Abby Fuller represented us in the Brass division and here is her story in her own words.

Dear Members of the SMFA,

I was born and raised on a grain farm 8 miles north of Earl Grey, SK. Growing up, music has always been a part of me. I have three older siblings, two of which have represented Saskatchewan at the FCMF. All three of those siblings play the trumpet and piano; I am the fourth to follow that trend and my younger brother is the fifth to follow it.

At age six I started playing the trumpet and soon after that I was playing in church services with my siblings. Not long after this we acquired the name of "Fuller Brass". Now when we are together, we play across southern Saskatchewan at many retirement homes, churches, organization suppers and banquets.

It wasn't until I was fifteen that I started to compete. In my second year of competing, I won the brass/woodwind division of the Regina Music Festival for the 16 & under age category. I went to the provincial competition and won the brass division for the 16 & under division. From there I started my journey to Nationals.

It was such a privilege to represent the SMFA at Nationals. It was exciting, thrilling, and scary all at the same time. You didn't want to let down the wonderful people at the SMFA, yet you knew they were proud of you for all that you had done to get there.

My performance at Kelowna was okay. In some areas I had better runs and in some areas it was the best that I've ever played. For the Artunian Concerto, I was complemented by some audience members saying that they felt the heaviness of the piece. (The piece is about the massacre of the Armenian people.) I felt that was a big achievement. I always want my audience to feel the journey I am taking them on musically. My second selection was the Kennan Trumpet Sonata, minus the second movement. It was the best I have ever played it. There were fumbles, but with nerves and knocking knees, anyone can almost expect that. At my adjudication, the adjudicator said I was an exciting performer and the last movement was "thrilling". After I told him that in eight short weeks I had learned and memorized it, he called me a "tank". None-the-less, I am content with the overall performance for my first year at Nationals.

The most positive thing that I gained from this experience was the adjudication and musical experience. During my adjudication, Aaron [Hodgson] gave me many helpful tips with my breathing that would give me a more rounded and full sound. I have been using those techniques ever since.

My best memory of Nationals was the Grand Awards Concert. The feeling of light, happy celebration was so enjoyable after an intense week of focusing and competitions. We all got to mingle and see each other all dolled up for the occasion – sort of felt like the red carpet. After the night was over, a few of us hiked up a mountain at 1:00 a.m. and sang songs, told stories and wondered what would happen if we got eaten by a bear. After our hike we pulled an all-nighter and enjoyed the last few hours of each other's company.

I would like to thank the SMFA for not only cheering us on and being supportive, but for the financial support we received to go. It was very much appreciated and made this experience possible. I would also like to thank Carol Donhauser, Karen MacCallum, Joy McFarlane-Burton, Sandra Kerr, and our wonderful chaperone, Nancy Toppings, for all of their love and support in Kelowna, as well as their bright, encouraging smiles in the audience as we performed. It truly "spurred" us on when we felt overcome with nerves.

Thanks again for the wonderful experience.





Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

September 2014

2014 SMC

**MUSIC FOR ALL...
LIVE IT, LOVE IT, LEARN IT!**

SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC CONFERENCE
NOVEMBER 13TH-15TH 2014
SASKATOON INN & CONFERENCE CENTRE

The annual Saskatchewan Music Conference brings together the provincial music community to collaborate and enhance their skills. This year's keynote address is Tom Allen, the host of CBC Radio's *Shift*, author, and symphony orchestra host. Other noted presenters include Ray Baril, principal conductor and music director of the New Edmonton Wind Sinfonia; Willi Zwozdesky, widely-known arranger as well as conductor and artistic director with the Vancouver Men's Chorus; Larry Johnson, developer of the Music Festival Organizer; and Chris Crockarell and Chris Brooks of Row-Loff Productions, who will provide sessions on drumming and percussion.

This year's conference will feature sessions on low brass, ear training and "tips and tricks" as well as a presentation for first year teachers and students. Other highlights include the delegate wind ensemble, delegate choir, an intercollegiate jazz band, awards banquet, and annual general meetings.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
www.saskmusicconference.net

SUPPORTED BY

The Saskatchewan Music Conference is an initiative of five provincial music organizations: the Saskatchewan Band Association, Saskatchewan Choral Federation, Saskatchewan Music Educators Association, Saskatchewan Music Festival Association and the Saskatchewan Orchestral Association.



Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

September 2014

Saskatchewan Music Conference – SMFA (Saturday) Sessions

**JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL NETWORKING SESSION ON SATURDAY MORNING
(8:00 A.M. TO 9:00 A.M.) FOR COFFEE, MUFFINS, AND SOCIALIZING**

- 9:00 a.m. Larry Johnson - On-line entries/MFO Computer Program. Now that we have been through one full year of online entries using the MFO by Larry Johnson, join us as we discuss suggested improvements.
- 10:30 a.m. Keynote Address – Tom Allen
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch and AGM
- 1:30 p.m. Speech Arts with Lisa Packet
- 2:30 p.m. **Festival Sessions**
- Syllabus-Directory Quiz
 - SMFA Bylaws & Constitution Review
 - Musical Theatre-Ballad/Up Tempo criteria, appropriate repertoire and attire
 - Q & A

DOOR PRIZES AND FESTIVAL PROMOTION ITEMS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SMFA DELEGATES!

SMFA Calendar of Events

September 26 - 28, 2014

Culture Days

November 13 - 15, 2014

Saskatchewan Music Conference and SMFA AGM – Saskatoon

February 21, 2015

Shurniak Concerto Competition – Saskatoon

February - May, 2015

SMFA District Festivals (48 Locations)

June 5 - 7, 2015

SMFA Provincial Finals – Saskatoon

August 13 - 15, 2015

FCMF National Competitions – Edmonton, AB



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





Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

September 2014

Nominations for Provincial Board Position

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: Joy McFarlane-Burton, Past President rburton@sasktel.net



NOTICE OF SMFA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, November 15, 11:30 am-1:20 pm – Saskatoon Inn, Saskatoon, SK

Notice of motions

To increase the adjudicator daily rate from \$300 to \$350, effective 2015/2016 operating year.

Rationale: The last fee increase was in 2007 when fees were increased from \$250/day to \$300/day. Increasing the fees to \$350/day for the 2016 festival year will mean the last increase was 9 years ago.

To increase travel compensation for adjudicators, board, and staff from 40¢/km to 42¢/km, effective 2015/2016 operating year.

Rationale: The Canadian Music Festival Adjudication Association (CMFAA) recommends a minimum 45¢/km. The Saskatchewan Provincial Government recently (April 1, 2014) increased their rates to 42.03¢/km. The Canadian Revenue Association rate for income tax purposes was posted at 45.5¢/km for the Province of Saskatchewan in 2013. Given the rise of gasoline prices, the 40¢/km we are currently paying no longer covers the cost of gas and wear and tear on a vehicle.



Volunteer Recognition Award

The Volunteer Recognition Awards will be presented at the Awards Banquet of the Saskatchewan Music Conference (SMC), Friday, November 14, 2014, at the Saskatoon Inn, Saskatoon.

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 Festival Unit per Fall Conference.
- ✓ Each Volunteer Award recipient should be present at the Award Banquet.
- ✓ Nomination's including biography must be received at the Provincial Office by **September 30**





Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

September 2014

Adjudicator Liaison Report

Sandra Kerr

Hiring for the 2014 Music Festivals is almost 60% complete. Thank you to those festivals who were prompt in providing us with their Adjudicator Time-Frame forms! If the Time-Frame forms are submitted to us by the end of June, the process of hiring can begin in July. Many adjudicators prefer to have their year scheduled before September. Hopefully all adjudicators will be booked by the end of October.

Once all adjudicators have been hired for a particular festival, the "Adjudicator Report Form", with adjudicators' bios and contact information, will be emailed to the Corresponding Secretary. This Report Form lists the adjudicators who have been hired for your festival. At this time you are free to contact your adjudicator when necessary; however, **it is important that you contact Provincial Office if there are ANY changes from the Report Form!**



Shurniak Concerto Competition

February 21, 2015
University of Saskatchewan (Saskatoon)

Sponsored by Mr. William Shurniak
Presented by the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association in partnership with
the Regina and Saskatoon Symphony Orchestras

For details visit www.smfa.ca


SASKATCHEWAN
MUSIC FESTIVAL
ASSOCIATION
Classical Competitive Festivals


LOTTERIES


Culture



Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

September 2014

Festival Highlights

Estevan and District Music Festival – 50th Anniversary

The Committee is pleased to say that we have had another successful Festival from March 16-April 10, 2014. While our entries were slightly down again this year, we still had 603 entries. Band and strings had 237; vocal and speech had 130 and piano maintained its commanding lead with 310 entries. Our festival runs over 3 weeks to ensure adequate space, time, and volunteers. As with all festivals, we value the commitment we have from our volunteers and will always keep them happy.

This year has been a bit challenging as we moved to an online registration program. We have concluded that it was the best move for us as more than half of our entries were received online. Much gratitude goes to Anita Kuntz who has spent countless hours learning the new program. Next year will be easier as we move forward.

We started with the Vocal and Speech discipline with Andrée Dagenais from the University of Brandon as our adjudicator. She was well liked by students and teachers alike. As a committee, we encouraged more entries in French as she is bilingual and this would have been a good opportunity for our French immersion students. There were some entries but we hope to increase it next year. Vocal entries were down substantially this year due to personal commitments by local teachers, but we are confident they will increase for next year.

For the Band/Strings portion of our Festival, David Dick and Janie Fries were our adjudicators. Again, they were wonderful with our students and teachers. We are fortunate in Saskatchewan to have great adjudicators work with our students. Interest was expressed by the adjudicators and band directors to have a workshop with the adjudication. As a committee, we will have to decide if we are able to work this into the schedule. It will be considered for 2015. The adjudicator travelled to different schools in Estevan to accommodate students. This is the fourth year for this arrangement and it has worked very well. It lessens hectic bus scheduling and allows for students to perform in their familiar band rooms.

Because of the school calendar year changing for 2014, we then had a 2-week break and continued with Piano in April. Janis Smith was our adjudicator. There were many changes to the scheduling for piano because of community events students were committed to. We strive to include all in the festival to encourage continued participation and we do not want to turn anyone away. Ms. Smith was able to accommodate everyone while rearranging an already hectic schedule. Hopefully, fewer conflicts will occur next year.

Something unique to our Festival is the continuation of all our age 7 and under classes listed as 'non-competitive'. Instead of the normal marking sheet each student receives a certificate indicating one thing that the adjudicator liked and one thing they could improve on. The adjudicator also presents each young performer with a medal right after the class is completed. This has been a drawing card for our festival in the vocal/speech discipline and especially the piano discipline as we have a full day of young piano entries.

In November, we were pleased to recognize Anita Kuntz and Shirley Andrist for their many years of volunteering to the Estevan and District Music Festival. The hours and dedication these women have given us is priceless. We host a small banquet in honour of our volunteer nominations.

We are always thankful to our committed sponsors in the community of Estevan without whom we would be unable to operate. The never ending support of SaskEnergy, Potash Corp., and SaskTel is greatly appreciated. The organization and support provided from the SMFA office throughout the year is also appreciated.

Although our Festival has a small financial loss this year, we are still in a very good financial position from abundant years prior. Next year we are optimistic for increased entries and we do not foresee an increase in our entry fees.

2014 marked the 50th Anniversary of the Estevan and District Music Festival. This milestone was mentioned at each of the sessions of our Festival. Each performer was given a mini chocolate bar personalized to our festival. We are proud of this milestone and with our wonderful community volunteers. We will have another 50 years of Festival in Estevan and District.





Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

September 2014

Maple Creek & District

Irene Ahmer (Archivist)

Maple Creek & District Music Festival held its 29th annual event from March 23-28, 2014. The sessions were held at Maple Creek Composite School. The program reveals 108 individual entries as well as entries from four school bands, four school classes, vocal ensembles and a wide variety of Musical Theatre solos, in 95 classes. Twenty-nine individual participants performed, several in multiple disciplines. Three adjudicators presided over eight sessions of piano, strings, voice, speech arts, woodwind, brass, and band ensemble classes.

We thoroughly enjoyed the adjudicators this year. They were very efficient, informative, and helpful to the students. Alan Young, of Lethbridge, made a return visit to our festival and graciously adjudicated piano and string classes. Alicia Woynarski, of Airdrie, provided enthusiastic support and helpful hints for the voice and speech arts competitors. Rick Lett, of Medicine Hat, had time to workshop for nearly an hour with each band, providing the band members and their director with many suggestions for future study. He was impressed with the quality of the Maple Creek band program. One of the festival highlights this year was the MCCS Jazz Ensemble, conducted by our new band director, Amy O'Hara, in her first year of teaching.

\$1955 for twenty-nine scholarships was presented at the Festival Finale to individuals and ensembles. Each year we conduct a program cover competition at the elementary school level. This year the prize of \$100 was shared by Kyra & Mathew Anton, of Fox Valley.

Chelsea Cox was recommended to Provincials for Senior Speech Arts. She was also recommended, along with her husband, Andrew Hecker, for the Senior Voice and Piano categories.

The Finale evening concluded with a reception for the participants and the audience. We enjoyed an array of decorated cupcakes, created by Vicki McKenzie, which we had with fruit, cheese, and crackers. It was all delicious. Many hands helped with clean-up and we were all done shortly after 10:00 p.m.

Once again we were fortunate to have a good supply of volunteers to assist committee members throughout the week. We are always grateful for the continuing community support for scholarships, program advertising and contributions of time.

We will be preparing in the coming year for our 30th festival of the recent era, to be held in March of 2015.



Spiritwood & District Music Festival

Just seeing the smiles on the participants' faces makes it all worthwhile. With only 82 entries you wonder: should we proceed this year? Most of our participants come from Medstead which is quite a few miles down the road, but Kathleen and Heather Gatzke do the behind scenes work and every year things go along with no great glitches. Thank goodness for these two great ladies.

We really enjoyed having Lynn Ewing as our adjudicator, she was kind and spoke on a level the young students could understand and was able to give the older students some very helpful instructions. She was indeed a ray of sunshine to our 1½ gloomy days.

We ran our festival Monday, April 14 and the morning of April 15 with our concert on the evening of April 16. Our festival hands out 29 scholarships in piano, verse, and voice with our "outstanding performer" going to a 12-year-old young man by the name of Jaxon Penner.

Thank you goes out to Kathleen, Heather, Carolyn, and Marjorie for all their work in seeing our festival gets off the ground and runs so smoothly





Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

September 2014

Shaunavon and District Music Festival – 80th Festival of Music

Wendy Thiessen, President

2014 marked the 80th Festival of Music to be held by our Festival organization. While several changes have occurred throughout the years, the dedication and commitment of the many students, teachers, parents, and volunteers has not wavered. To celebrate, we hosted an 80th Anniversary concert on Sunday, April 6 to kick-off our festival week. The concert featured past participants, many from several decades ago. A surprise visit was made by Rick Hughes of Toronto who shared a moving rendition of "On the Street Where You Live", and he also shared memories of his festival days with the audience. SMFA Executive Director Carol Donhauser was on hand to bring greetings from the SMFA and we truly appreciated her participation! It was amazing to hear and see performers whose love of music has continued to flourish, and the memories of that concert will live on for a long time! I would like to thank co-organizers Lorie Gronhond and Nancy Phillips for their efforts in organizing this event.

The 2014 festival included participants from Admiral, Bracken, Claydon, Climax, Eastend, Frontier, Gull Lake, Shaunavon, and Val Marie, showcasing the musical talent from each of these communities. 101 participants performed 219 selections. Twenty of these pupils were new participants! The performers included vocal and speech art students, three school choirs, three choral groups and many piano students. Six vocal/speech arts/school group sessions and five piano sessions were held during the four-day festival.

Centre Street United Church was the venue for all sessions this year. Our final concert was held on the evening of April 10. "Together We Celebrate-80 Anniversary Song" was written by Sandra Davis and she conducted her Shaunavon Public School in its performance to kick off the evening. Mr. Randy Surjik was named Honorary Patron for 2014 and also shared a piano performance with us at the Final Concert.

Advertisements of the Festival were conducted in a radio interview, local newspapers, and school newsletters. Programs were available in Eastend, Frontier and Shaunavon prior to the festival, as well as at the venues.

Justine Wilkes was our voice adjudicator and Alan Young adjudicated organ & piano. It was a wonderful week with both, Justine being a relative newcomer and Alan a seasoned veteran whom we have had the pleasure of hosting previously. Under the direction of our adjudicators, our Scholarship committee awarded 41 scholarships to children ages 9 & up, totaling \$4225, including \$300.00 to school groups.

As we enter our 2015 Festival season, we are in search of a Vice President and Entry Secretary, but anticipate continued success with our Festival and a similar number of entries.



Unity Music Festival

It was Sunday afternoon – the afternoon of our Final Performances and the high school gym was packed (we had to print more programs!) What an exciting ending to a great week! We had a total of 372 entries which included for the first time in a long time some school band entries as well as some of those students entering solo or small group numbers in brass and woodwinds.

A total of \$4574 was given out in scholarships and awards. Since the Festival, we have received two significant memorial donations in memory of two past executive members. These will be used to establish Memorial Scholarships. We are so thankful for all the funds that are provided to us.

We seek to honour a Volunteer of the Year on a local level. This year we honoured Irene Thiessen-Campbell. Though not involved that much on the Committee she volunteered MANY hours as an accompanist and has been a very valuable part of the Festival in that respect.

Our adjudicators were Michael Langlois and Harold Wiens who sought to give positive remarks to all the students and be an encouragement to our students along their musical journey.

Katherine Ulrich was a worthy nomination as a District Winner in 3 categories.





Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

September 2014

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
- Lillian Mitchell
- Glena Purdy
- Dave Kalist
- Flo Campbell
- Nancy & Richard Toppings
- Dorothy J. Andrews
- Jason Beutler Realty P.C. Ltd.,
- Jean Bews (Eileen Carlson)
- Theresa Brost
- Mr. & Mrs. K. Towle
- Rick Burton



Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

September 2014



SPEECH ARTS

Heather Macnab of Maple Creek , an active singer, teacher, speech artist, accompanist and adjudicator presents a fun-filled, informative workshop on Speech Arts. Not only does this art build confidence, improve speaking ability and communication skills; It is also FUN!

Contact the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association to book a workshop in your school or festival area.

www.smfa.ca



**SASKATCHEWAN
MUSIC FESTIVAL
ASSOCIATION**
Classical Competitive Festivals





SRMTA Fall Convention and AGM 2014

October 17 & 18, 2014

Knox United Church, 838 Spadina Cres. E, Saskatoon, SK
Park Town Hotel, 924 Spadina Cres. E., Saskatoon, SK

*Clinicians Marc Durand and Mary Lou Fallis
Concert with Mary Lou Fallis and Peter Tiefenbach
RMTA AGM Luncheon
... and more*

For more information see
<http://www.srmta.com/convention-2014.html>



Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

September 2014

2015 FESTIVAL DATE LISTING

Festival Unit	Dates	Entry Close
Assiniboia	March 29-April 2	February 18
Battlefords Kiwanis	March 11-27	January 17
Biggar.....	March 8-14.....	January 31
Borderland at Bengough	March 22-25	February 9
Carnduff.....	March 8-12.....	January 24
Central Sask at Davidson.....	March 23-24	January 28
Estevan	March 12-27	January 30
Eston.....	March 30-April 2	February 13
Gravelbourg.....	April 19-25	March 6
Hafford	March 23-27	January 23
Humboldt	April 20-May 6	February 5
Kindersley.....	March 8-20.....	January 23
Kipling.....	April 19-25	February 13
La Ronge	March 23-25	February 5
Lafleche	March 22-28	February 1
Lanigan	April 20-24	March 1
Last Mountain at Earl Grey.....	April 12-18	February 15
Kiwanis Lloydminster	April 19-May 2	January 24
Mainline at Indian Head.....	April 12-18	February 6
Maple Creek	March 16-19	January 31
Meadow Lake	April 19-25	March 10
Melfort	March 8-20.....	January 21
Moose Jaw	March 23-24; April 18-24.....	February 7
Moosomin	March 8-21.....	January 30
Naicam	April 12-17	February 6
Nipawin	March 16-25	January 31
Outlook.....	March 23-27	February 6
Parkland at Preeceville.....	March 8-14.....	January 25
Potashville at Esterhazy	March 15-28	January 22
Prairie Sunset at Kerrobert.....	March 16-18	January 13
Prince Albert Kiwanis	February 23-March 26	January 17
Qu'Appelle Valley at Balcarres	March 16-20	January 9
Quill Plains at Kelvington.....	April 20-24	February 6
Redvers.....	April 12-25	February 16
Regina.....	April 15-May 3	January 30
Rosetown	March 8-21.....	January 16
Sand Hills at Leader.....	April 13-15	February 7
Sask Valley at Waldheim	March 22-28	January 30
Saskatoon.....	March 17-19; March 23-27; April 26-May 1	January 19
Shaunavon.....	April 20-23	March 6
Spiritwood	March 30-April 1	February 13
Swift Current	March 8-28.....	January 23
Twin Rivers at Dalmeny.....	March 22-28	January 23
Unity.....	April 19-25	February 7
Vanguard.....	April 13-17	February 13
Watrous.....	March 2-5.....	January 16
Weyburn.....	March 2-13.....	January 16
Yorkton.....	March 9-29.....	January 23



Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

September 2014

Saskatchewan Music Alliance (SMA) Summer Music Camp

The SMA (Saskatchewan Band Association, Saskatchewan Choral Federation, Saskatchewan Music Educators Association, Saskatchewan Music Festival Association, and Saskatchewan Orchestral Association) in partnership with the Dream Brokers program, major funding from SaskCulture Inc. and several corporate sponsors successfully delivered three music camps, once again in Saskatoon, Regina, and Prince Albert. The goal of the camps was to provide the opportunity for Grade 4 to Grade 8 students, who otherwise may not have the opportunity, to experience music and its positive influence.

"My name is Fatima, This is my third year at the summer music camp. After the first summer I came to camp, I started taking guitar classes. Then after the second summer I came to camp, I started taking piano classes. Music has now become a big part of my life. My school band even got 2nd place this year in a competition. I am very happy that I have gotten the chance to try many new instruments at camp."

Fatima - Saskatoon, SK



THANK YOU



SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC ALLIANCE (SMA) SUMMER MUSIC CAMP SPONSORS





























PRESENTED BY













Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

September 2014

From the Provincial Office

Carol Donhauser, Executive Director



I came across this story over the summer and immediately tucked it away for my September newsletter article. Some of you may have heard this story before, but as you form your new festival committees for the upcoming festival season, I thought it may serve as a story of inspiration.

The Sense of a Goose – Author unknown

In the fall, as geese make their annual migration, flying along in V formation, you might be interested in knowing what science has discovered about why they fly that way. It has been learned that as each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird immediately following. By flying in a V formation, the whole flock adds at least 71% greater flying range than if each



bird flew on its own. (People who share a common direction and sense of community are traveling on the trust of one another.)

Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to go it alone, and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front. (If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those who are headed the same way we are going.)

When the lead goose gets tired, he rotates back in the wing, and another goose flies point. (It pays to take turns doing hard jobs with people or with geese flying south.) The geese honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed. (What do we say when we honk from behind?)

And finally, when a goose gets sick, or is wounded by gun shot and falls out, two geese fall out of formation and follow it down to help and protect it. They stay with the ailing goose until it is either able to fly again, or until it is dead, and then they launch out on their own or with another formation to catch up with their group.

One can take a few lessons from this story.

- People who are a part of a team and share a common direction are more efficient, because they are working on the trust of one another.
- Strong verbal and non-verbal communication skills are essential in all facets of life. The development of good communication skills take time, patience, and practice, but is highly beneficial. Efficiencies can be gained by sharing information with those you are working with (keep the lines of communication open).
- Many hands make light work. Sharing the work can make those large tasks far less daunting (and maybe even fun).
- And lastly, support each other when things get rough. Whether we like it or not, adversity is part of life. Overcoming adversity is one of the biggest hurdles we face. Problems, large and small may present themselves. Stick together as a team and try not to point blame.

I look forward to seeing you at Conference where we can share information and knowledge. See you in Saskatoon!



culturedays
create participate celebrate **september 26, 27 & 28, 2014**