

**This SMFA Adjudicator Directory contains short bios, photos and lists of assignments within the past five years for all current SMFA adjudicators. It is organized by province and then alphabetically by adjudicator last name.**

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## Kevin Ackerman

Humboldt

### Guitar, Woodwinds, Brass, Small Ensemble

Kevin completed his Bachelor of Arts – Music, from the University of Saskatchewan; Kevin studied music history/literature and his principle instrument was guitar. His chosen degree path offered the opportunity to attend the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Saskatoon as a visiting student. He has presented papers at City University of New York – Graduate Center, Simon Fraser University music composition class in Vancouver, at the National Registered Music Teacher convention in Halifax and in Regina at the Saskatchewan Music conference. Kevin now balances instructing Power Engineering at Carlton Trail College in Humboldt, and a music career. Kevin is a part-time guitar instructor helping students prepare for music festivals, Royal Conservatory of Music practical and theory exams and university auditions. Kevin is a Registered Music Teacher in the province of Saskatchewan and is past-president of the Watrous Music Festival. Their guitar flute duo which includes Dr. Michele Ackerman, perform province wide in diverse opportunities which include a Convocation performance to being members of St. Pete's Chorus house band in Humboldt. The past four summers 2016/17/18/19, Michele and Kevin were 'Artists on Board' Via Rail for a portion of the cross-Canada journey. Come ride the rails and enjoy the music beginning this July 2020.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

- 2019
  - Estevan & District Music Festival
- 2018
  - Watrous & District Music Festival
- 2017
  - Quill Plains Music Festival
- 2016
  - Nipawin Music Festival
  - Parkland & District Music Festival
- 2015
  - Nipawin Music Festival



## Scott Adelman

Regina

### Band, Brass, Instruments

Scott Adelman is originally from Moose Jaw. He obtained his Bachelor of Music in Music Education degree from the University of Saskatchewan as a trumpet major in 1995. His 21 years of teaching experience in Saskatchewan began in the towns of Grenfell, Wolseley, Balcarres, Lemberg, and Neudorf. From 1999 to 2005, he taught band at Weyburn Junior High School and in 2006, Scott moved to Regina to teach grades 6-12 band for the Regina Catholic School Division. In the Winter Semester of 2010, Scott was an interim-conductor of bands at the University of Regina. He was also an assistant conductor for the University of Victoria Wind Symphony, and completed his Masters in Education from the University of Victoria in 2006. His Masters project focused on exemplary teaching in beginner band. Scott moved to Saudi Arabia in 2011 to teach music for Saudi Aramco, the world's largest oil company. In 2012, he moved back to Regina and has taught grades 6-8 band for the Regina Public School Division. Scott continues to adjudicate throughout Saskatchewan and will guest conduct the North Saskatchewan Intermediate Honour Band in March.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

- 2019
  - Redvers & District Music Festival
- 2018
  - Weyburn Music Festival
- 2017
  - Qu'Appelle Valley Music Festival



## Cherith Alexander

Weyburn

### Piano

Cherith Alexander is a dynamic pianist based in Weyburn, Saskatchewan. As a respected piano and theory teacher in the community for over twenty years she has worked with a variety of students of all ages and levels. For the past few years she has also been employed part-time as an accompanist/coach at the Conservatory of Music in Regina. Cherith enjoys coaching young musicians, a passion which has led to nine trips to the National Music Festival as a piano collaborator for the Saskatchewan competitors. She is a frequent adjudicator at Western Canadian festivals including the Vancouver, Calgary, and Edmonton Kiwanis Music Festivals. Cherith was educated at the University of British Columbia where she was a pupil of Kum Sing Lee.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

- 2019
  - Sask Valley Music Festival
  - Twin Rivers Music Festival
- 2018
  - Moose Jaw Music Festival
- 2017
  - Rosetown & District Music Festival

2016  
Eston Music Festival  
Gravelbourg & District Bilingual Music Festival  
Mainline & District Music Festival  
Saskatoon Music Festival  
2015  
Lloydminster & District Kiwanis Music Festival

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## Michael Alstad

North Battleford

### Band, Instruments

Michael Alstad has taught trumpet and directed bands for youth and adults. He has both a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Arts in Music Education from Eastern Washington University. His students have received recognition throughout the world for musical accomplishments as soloists and in ensembles. For the past twenty-five years Michael Alstad has been a believer in community music making a difference in people's lives. Working with local groups he has shared the stage with internationally renowned guest artists including Maynard Ferguson, Clark Terry, and Lew Soloff among others. He has just returned to Saskatchewan as the Artistic Director and Conductor of the North Battleford City Kinsmen Bands.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
Prairie Sunset & District Music Festival  
Rosetown & District Music Festival

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## Gene Aulinger

North Battleford

### Band, Instruments

Gene Aulinger currently works with the North Battleford City Kinsmen Band, Battlefords Concert Band, and Light of Christ Roman Catholic School Division Bands. Previous to that, Gene was with the Living Sky Public School Division. He directed the high school Band and Choir, and was the Music Consultant for the division for sixteen years. After retiring from classroom work, he accepted a position as the Arts Consultant with the Living Sky School Division. Previous to his time in the Battlefords', he was a full time Band director with the Kindersley School Division for fourteen years. Gene has adjudicated festivals and led workshops in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Louisiana. During these events, his goal has been to create an appreciation of music and performing. He has performed several recitals on clarinet of nineteenth and twentieth century literature, and has recently been a guest performer with the Gallery Singers.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
Prince Albert Music Festival  
2018  
Humboldt Music Festival  
Rosetown & District Music Festival  
2017  
Kindersley & District Music Festival  
Prairie Sunset & District Music Festival  
Twin Rivers Music Festival  
2016  
Melfort Music Festival  
Weyburn Music Festival  
2015  
Estevan & District Music Festival  
Moose Jaw Music Festival

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## Adrienne Bank

Saskatoon

### Piano

Adrienne Bank has been teaching piano for over 30 years. She has had the privilege of studying with many great teachers: Dr. Lyell Gustin, Prof. Robin Harrison, Bruce Anderson (U.S.) Haruko Kataoka (Japan), Dr. Lorne Watson and Glen Montgomery to name a few. She was a music specialist for several years with the Regina Board of Education and has taught choirs, handbells, guitar, and strings. She has been active as an accompanist, church musician, lecturer, workshop clinician and music consultant developing music curriculum and writing music textbooks for use in the school system. She is a specialist in the Suzuki Talent Education Method, teaching children as young as two and three years of age. She home schooled her three wonderful children, one of whom is an aspiring opera singer and harpist and one who is a professional violinist and orchestral conductor. She currently has a thriving piano studio of over 60 students.

Adrienne says that she has the best job ever, because she gets to do what she enjoy most: children music and teaching. She looks forward to hearing each of you play!

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
Carnduff & District Music Festival  
Unity Music Festival

- 2018
  - Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival
  - Sand Hills Music Festival
- 2017
  - Central Sask Music Festival
  - Maple Creek & District Music Festival
  - Prince Albert Music Festival
- 2016
  - Lloydminster & District Kiwanis Music Festival
  - Potashville Music Festival
- 2015
  - Lanigan & District Music Festival
  - Moosomin & District Music Festival



## Anna Marie Bekolay

Saskatoon

### Vocal, Strings, Speech Arts, Musical Theatre, Choral, School Music

**Anna Marie Bekolay** (BMusEd, ARCT), soprano, violinist, teacher, adjudicator performs with many ensembles in and around Saskatoon and runs *Anna Bekolay's Studio* teaching Voice, Violin, Recorder, and Fiddle. In 2006, she received a gold medal from the Royal Conservatory of Music for the highest mark in the country on her Associate Diploma exam in Voice Performance. Her current projects include: a classical vocal album in collaboration with Deborah Buck, under the stage name, **Anna Maria Soparlo: Songs in Loving Memory of My Father** (2017), *Back of the Bus* (Celtic), *The Stephanies* (Pop/Folk), *The Whiskey Jerks* (Klezmer/Folk/Jazz), *Mac Talla Quartet* (classical/Pop/Folk), *Troubadours du Bois* (Renaissance), a brand new project called *Phantasma* (exploring Operatic vocals over heavy Epic bass and drums), and a variety of freelance collaborations including performances with *Flamenco Borealis* and *Free Flow Dance*, a recent retirement party that involved some music from the musical *Billy Elliot*, arranged and directed by Deborah Buck, and a Fringe play *Brell!* (July, 2017), based on the music of Jacques Brel – where she was both musical director and performer. Ms. Bekolay's singing was also featured recently at the 2017 Saskatchewan Wearable Art Gala in the collaborative presentation of the wearable art piece *Faceted Wing* by Nadine Jaggi.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

- 2019
  - La Ronge & District Music Festival
  - Nipawin Music Festival
- 2017
  - Eston Music Festival
  - Hafford & District Music Festival
  - Unity Music Festival
- 2016
  - Central Sask Music Festival
  - Melfort Music Festival
  - Prince Albert Music Festival
- 2015
  - Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival



## Lenora Bells

Saskatoon

### Wind Instruments, Percussion, Classroom Music, Band, Choir

Lenora received her Bachelor of Education in Music Education and Masters of Education from the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon. As an active educator, she directs school and community musicals; adjudicates at various choral, band, and classroom music provincial festivals; and facilitates educator workshops throughout Saskatchewan and Alberta.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

- 2019
  - Swift Current & District Music Festival
- 2017
  - Saskatoon Music Festival
- 2015
  - Assiniboia Music Festival
  - Prince Albert Music Festival



## Heather Blakley

Saskatoon

### Piano

Heather received her Bachelor of Music from Brandon University, her Associate of Music from the Western Board of Music and is a Registered Music Teacher with many years of experience teaching and playing music of all kinds in Saskatoon. Heather teaches a large private studio of piano and theory students and is the Music Director at Emmanuel Anglican Church. She taught for many years as an Early Childhood music educator and has conducted children's and adult choirs. Heather examines for a national conservatory and adjudicates music festivals in Canada. Heather was for many years a national board member with the Canadian Registered Music Teachers' Association and chair of the CFMTA National Piano Competition, as well as chair for the Contemporary Showcase Saskatoon.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

- 2019
  - Regina Music Festival
- 2018
  - Rosetown & District Music Festival
- 2017
  - Weyburn Music Festival
  - Yorkton Music Festival
- 2016
  - Lloydminster & District Kiwanis Music Festival
  - Prince Albert Music Festival
- 2015
  - Estevan & District Music Festival



## Deborah Buck

Saskatoon

### Piano, Speech Arts, Voice, Choirs

Deborah Buck combines her love of music and theatre in a unique freelance career. A collaborative pianist, she has accompanied ensembles and solo artists in concerts, broadcasts and competitions, and served as Saskatchewan's official accompanist at the National Music Festival. She's been featured as a mezzo-soprano soloist with groups like Saskatoon Choral Society and the Saskatoon Men's Chorus (which she currently conducts), and the Juno-nominated Canadian Chamber Choir, a national touring ensemble with which she has sung since 2005. Deborah is also a theatre artist and music director who has worked for professional theatre companies in Alberta, Manitoba, B.C., and Saskatchewan, winning the Saskatoon Area Theatre Award for "Outstanding Contribution to Theatre" in her home city. She enjoys teaching voice and piano in her home.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

- 2019
  - Meadow Lake & District Music Festival
- 2018
  - Humboldt Music Festival
- 2016
  - Spiritwood & District Music Festival



## George Charpentier

Saskatoon

### Band, Winds, Strings, Percussion, Classroom

George Charpentier conducts the Saskatoon Concert Band and the Saskatoon Philharmonic Orchestra. He received his Bachelor of Music and Certificate of Business Administration from the University of Saskatchewan. He holds a Diploma from the Kodaly Institute of Music Pedagogy in Hungary and a Masters Certificate in Orff Schulwerk Methodology from Jos Wuytack. He is a student of the Saito method of conducting. He has studied piano, clarinet, voice and violin. He is a charter member of the Saskatchewan Band Association, a Past President of the Saskatchewan Music Educators Association, and has served on many of that organization's committees. He served two terms on the Saskatchewan Arts Board, and sat as a volunteer on the funding committee of Saskatchewan Lotteries for the Saskatchewan Council of Cultural Organizations. He has served on the Ceremonies Committees for several major Saskatoon events, including the Jeux Canada Games, World Junior Hockey, University Cup, Special Olympics, and the Labatt Brier. Mr. Charpentier is retired from the Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools, where he was the Coordinator of Arts Education and Social Studies. He has taught instrumental, choral and classroom music from Kindergarten through Grade 12, and has lectured at the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Alberta. He was the Associate Conductor of the Saskatoon Youth Orchestra for many years.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

- 2019
  - Lloydminster & District Kiwanis Music Festival
- 2016
  - Prince Albert Music Festival
  - Swift Current & District Music Festival

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## Sarah Clark Gregory

Watrous



### Piano, Voice, Speech Arts

Sarah Clark Gregory's life is immersed in music. She began teaching while still in high school, and now runs a multi-location private music studio, teaching piano, voice, theory, composition and classical guitar. Her students have won awards and scholarships at both local and provincial levels in performance and composition. Sarah holds ARCTs in both piano and in voice, and has a Bachelor of Education in Special Education, which brings a unique feature of adaptive and individualized programming to her studio. She has directed, sung with and accompanied various concert, community, church and symphony choirs in Saskatchewan, Alberta, Ontario and BC. She has been the musical director for eight Broadway-style musicals, and has had the privilege of performing in 4 provinces, 38 states, and 7 European countries. Sarah is a member of the Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers' Association, and co-designed/launched and for many years administered the Community Music Award program for the organization, a program which recognizes students of SRMTA teachers who volunteer their musical talents in their communities. She currently resides in Watrous, SK, with her husband Doug, and enjoys tinkering with her newest instruments (flute, cello and djembe), and performing with a recorder quartet.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Hafford & District Music Festival  
Parkland & District Music Festival

2015

Outlook & District Music Festival  
Parkland & District Music Festival

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## Chantelle de Coninck Smith

D'Arcy



### Piano

Chantelle de Coninck Smith, pianist and flutist, began her musical training at the age of 7 in piano and age 12 in flute. She completed her performer's A.R.C.T. in piano at age 20 and her teacher's A.R.C.T. in piano at age 22. She also holds a grade 8 RCM level in flute and studied with Randi Nelson (Saskatoon). Her piano studies include working with Lola Arthur (Rosetown), Gloria Nickell (Rosetown), Kathleen Gable (Saskatoon), and she acquired her A.R.C.T.s while working with Claire Seibold (Rosetown). Chantelle had an exciting performance career throughout her years having won numerous competitions, five silver medals between her two instruments and the Gordon Wallis (Pedagogy) Piano Competition in 2005 under the direction of Claire Seibold. She is a member of the S.R.M.T.A. and her time is filled coaching young musicians in her active studios located in Kindersley, D'Arcy and Rosetown. She accompanies numerous soloists and has appeared in a number of local productions as well as being a part of the band "The Vesper Club" in 2008/2009 before she settled down and started a family. Chantelle lives on a farm near D'Arcy, Saskatchewan with her husband and daughter. In her leisure time, she enjoys spending time with her family, friends and travelling. She also has a very active business in photography!

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Gravelbourg & District Bilingual Music Festival

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## Ron de Jager

Caronport



### Voice

A native of Nova Scotia, Ron de Jager arrived in Saskatchewan after a two-year study leave during which he completed a DMA at Shenandoah University in Winchester, Virginia. Recent research and recitals have focused on Canadian vocal music particularly works by Torontonian composer John Beckwith. As a professor at Briercrest College, he enjoys giving leadership to the music/worship arts department, teaching private voice, vocal pedagogy, vocal master class, musical theatre workshop, acting and directing opera scenes while maintaining a performance schedule.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Borderland Music Festival  
Estevan & District Music Festival  
Swift Current & District Music Festival

2018

Shaunavon & District Music Festival  
Weyburn Music Festival

2017

Kipling & District Music Festival



## Kim de Laforest

### Strings, Fiddle

Saskatoon

Kim de Laforest is a fiddle, violin, viola and vocal performer and teacher based in Saskatoon. She enjoys combining many different styles of folk and classical music to create her own unique sound. In her classical world, Kim has played with the Regina and Saskatoon Symphony Orchestras. She is currently the first violin player in the Mac Talla string quartet. Kim plays and sings with Prairie Sea (folk trio based in Nova Scotia and Sask). Both of Prairie Sea's CD's have been nominated for Traditional/Roots Recording of the Year by Music Nova Scotia. Kim plays with local Irish band 'Jim n Kim' as well as doing a lot of solo fiddle work. Kim teaches at home in Saskatoon as well as travelling to Baffin Island, NU twice a year to work with Inuit youth ([musicforthefuture.ca](http://musicforthefuture.ca)). Kim has been the musical director of the Saskatoon Fiddle Orchestra for the past 12 years.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015

Sask Valley Music Festival



## Tanya Derksen

### Piano

Regina

Tanya Derksen is the Executive Director of the Regina Symphony Orchestra (RSO) and has almost twenty years of experience in the music industry as a performer, teacher, board member, and arts administration leader. Since joining the RSO, Tanya has led the organization to increased growth in subscription revenue and sponsorships, transformed the customer service and marketing approach, established new education programs, and developed a visionary 5-year strategic plan for the organization. Tanya has a strong education and community outreach background from her work with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra. During this time, she developed the educational programming from a handful of local offerings for students to more than 20 programs that reached 60,000 students and adults each year across the province. In 2011, she initiated an innovative program called Sistema Winnipeg for students living in neighbourhoods with the lowest socio-economic status in Winnipeg. Tanya Derksen is a passionate and active arts leader with experience on various boards in the arts and business community including Orchestras Canada, Sistema Canada Steering Committee, the Manitoba Conservatory of Music and Arts, and the Future Leaders of Manitoba. Tanya has adjudicated a numerous piano festivals and competitions in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Tanya Derksen has a Master of Business Administration from the University of Manitoba and a Bachelor of Music (piano) from Brandon University. She is thrilled to be leading the RSO and a part of the thriving arts and culture community in Regina.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Prince Albert Music Festival

2018

Kindersley & District Music Festival

2017

Twin Rivers Music Festival



## David Dick

### Brass, Band

Regina

Dr. David Dick is the Principal Trombone of the Regina Symphony Orchestra and Assistant Professor in the Department of Music at the University of Regina, where he directs the jazz ensemble, teaches music theory and brass classes, as well as applied trombone lessons for the university and the conservatory. His previous teaching appointments have included University of Memphis, Jackson State University, Belhaven University, and Briercrest College. Before returning to Regina, he was the Principal Trombone player of the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra. Dr. Dick is in demand as a clinician and adjudicator, working with bands, jazz bands and soloists at regional and provincial music festivals, in addition to performing recitals and giving masterclasses. He continues to perform in a wide variety of settings including orchestras, chamber groups, early music ensembles, jazz ensembles, and blues bands. He earned degrees from the University of Memphis (DMA), McGill University (MMus), and the University of Regina (BMus).

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Swift Current & District Music Festival

Yorkton Music Festival

2018

Prince Albert Music Festival

2017

Mainline & District Music Festival

2016

Quill Plains Music Festival

2015

Carnduff & District Music Festival

Potashville Music Festival

Redvers & District Music Festival

Yorkton Music Festival





## Luz Marina Dominguez

### Guitar, Percussion, Flute

Wynyard

Musician Luz Marina enjoys a diverse career as a performer and teacher. She was born in Medellin, Colombia, where she studied music, basic piano, lira and guitar in the Superior School of Music and in Bellas Artes. Besides her musical training, she is also an educational psychologist, has a master's degree in marketing management and has a wide diversity of experience as a university professor, speaking at international conferences, and also working as a private teacher. She started performing in a string ensemble (estudiantina) from the age of 12 years old, and continued with the group until she was in her 20s. She also was a member of several university choirs, different local bands, Latin American ensembles, and has performed in the most important scenarios in cultural theaters in Colombia. After moving to Canada in 2007, she established a private studio in Wynyard SK (Música Maestro) that she still maintains. Her lessons include classical guitar, acoustic guitar, ukulele, percussion, musical theory and history. She has been involved in the music festival in Saskatchewan since 2011. Luz Marina shares her passion for music with the elementary school division by directing a percussion band (bucket band) and integrating the basics of music in their repertoire. She has been an active freelance performer in guitar and voice and has been promoting the Latin style in events like Folk Fest in Saskatoon, My Mosaic in Regina, Tapestrama in Prince Albert, Yorkton Festival of Cultures, library of Humboldt, newcomer's events, etc. When she is not teaching, she and her husband enjoy the prairies and are passionately fond of nature and animals.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Nipawin Music Festival



## Katherine Dowling

Regina

### Piano

Praised by the New York Times for her "crystalline performances, gestural expressiveness, and careful attention to color", and by the Boston Globe for her "effortless incisiveness", award-winning Canadian pianist Dr. Katherine Dowling performs across North America and Europe. She is familiar to audiences as a multi-year fellow of the Tanglewood Music Center, a New Fromm Fellow, a Britten-Pears Young Artist, an International Musicians' Seminar at Prussia Cove artist, through extensive involvement and numerous positions at The Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, the Orlando Festival, and the Avaloch Farm Music Institute, and through multiple winners' tours under the auspices of the Eckhardt-Gramatté National Music Competition. As a member of the chamber ensemble Gruppo Montebello, Dr. Dowling appears on many critically-acclaimed recordings on the Etcetera label. Her performances have been broadcast on the CBC, Radio-Canada, BBC, and National Radio (Holland). Dr. Dowling is on faculty at the University of Regina. [www.katherinedowling.com](http://www.katherinedowling.com)

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Kindersley & District Music Festival

Qu'Appelle Valley Music Festival

Weyburn Music Festival

2018

Assiniboia Music Festival

Swift Current & District Music Festival

Vanguard & District Music Festival

2017

Outlook & District Music Festival



## Peter England

Saskatoon

### Brass, Woodwind, Percussion, Guitar, Strings

Peter England is a former teacher with the Saskatoon Catholic Board of Education. The majority of his teaching career was spent teaching at Holy Cross High School. During his tenure there he was responsible for the growth of the instrumental music program to include four curricular concert bands, two full jazz ensemble and several jazz combos. Most recently Peter has been program director and conductor of the Saskatoon Community Band Wind Ensemble. He continues to perform as bassoonist with the Prairie Winds Woodwind Quintet. He is a Past President of SaskCulture Inc., the provincial body responsible for the distribution of Lottery proceeds to all Cultural groups in the Province of Saskatchewan. Other interests include weight training, competitive bodybuilding and he holds a certificate in Personal Training from Can Fit Pro.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Quill Plains Music Festival

Twin Rivers Music Festival

2018

Outlook & District Music Festival

2017

Lloydminster & District Kiwanis Music Festival

Swift Current & District Music Festival

2016

Biggar & District Music Festival

Kindersley & District Music Festival





## Shirley England

Saskatoon

### Piano

A native of Saskatoon, Shirley England began her studies in music under the instruction of Douglas Voice, Marjorie Wiens-Beckett and Dr. Lyell Gustin. She earned a B.Ed. from the U of S. She then taught English, choir, general music and band for the Saskatoon Catholic Board of Education at both the secondary and elementary levels, however, she now has devoted her energies to private teaching in piano and theory where she has established a reputation for excellence due to the achievements of her students. Shirley has been involved in the musical life of the city of Saskatoon and the province of Saskatchewan. She has been a member of the SRMTA at the provincial and local levels and has served on committees and held executive positions in support of that organization. Shirley has adjudicated music festivals since 1989 and believes that the friendly competition that they encourage is an integral part of the musical learning process.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018  
Prairie Sunset & District Music Festival  
2017  
Nipawin Music Festival  
2016  
Central Sask Music Festival  
Rosetown & District Music Festival  
2015  
Saskatoon Music Festival  
Swift Current & District Music Festival

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## Lynn Ewing

Saskatoon

### Piano, Voice, Speech Arts

Lynn Ewing has taught piano, music theory, and, more recently singing for many years in Saskatoon. Of particular note has been her work with special needs students, including visually handicapped students and students with autism spectrum disorder. Her students have distinguished themselves locally, provincially and nationally as recipients of diplomas, scholarships and competition prizes. In addition to teaching, Lynn also enjoys performing both as singer and as pianist in a wide variety of settings either as a collaborative artist or as a soloist. She works as a music adjudicator in western Canada and has examined for Conservatory Canada. Lynn holds diplomas in piano (ATCL, LTCL, ARCT) and singing (ARCT, LTCL, FTCL) from the Royal Conservatory of Music Toronto and Trinity College of London, UK. She also has a B.A. and M.A. from the University of Saskatchewan and a B.Ed. (Secondary) from the University of British Columbia. A Past-President of both the Saskatoon Registered Music Teachers' Association, the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra Board of Directors and Saskatoon Opera Association, Lynn is a passionate advocate for the arts in Saskatoon. She was pleased to serve for many years as a senator representing the Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers' Association in the University of Saskatchewan Senate. She is currently chair of the Lyell Gustin Memorial Piano Scholarship Competition, as well as the Gordon C. Wallis and Florence Bowes Piano Scholarship competitions. She is Saskatchewan's Trinity College of London (UK) representative. In addition to serving on her local RMT executive, Lynn is now President of the Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers' Association.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
Melfort Music Festival  
2018  
Spiritwood & District Music Festival  
2017  
Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival  
2016  
Nipawin Music Festival  
2015  
Hafford & District Music Festival



## Audrey Falk Janzen

Rosthern

### Piano

Audrey has more than 25 years of experience teaching piano and theory. Her solo and collaborative piano performance studies have allowed her to develop numerous strategies that have resulted in a holistic approach to teaching students of all levels. Audrey adjudicates music festivals and competitions, has presented workshops, and is a member of the College of Examiners of the Royal Conservatory of Toronto. She has been assistant musical director with productions at Rosthern Junior College (SK) for many years and is a past performer at the Station Arts Centre (Rosthern) professional summer musical production. Audrey is currently one of the facilitators for the Online Piano Teacher Courses offered by RCM, has worked as a Sessional Lecturer at the University of Saskatchewan teaching musicianship, and also with the music department's delivery of online courses. She maintains a small private studio teaching piano and theory as well as some voice. She continues to collaborate with vocalists and regularly accompanies choirs. Audrey's choral experience extends to singing with many semi-professional choirs and smaller ensembles. This training and experience are synthesized into her approach to teaching. Audrey and her husband, Richard, have two grown children, and a dog.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Lanigan & District Music Festival  
Lloydminster & District Kiwanis Music Festival

2018

Watrous & District Music Festival  
Weyburn Music Festival

2017

Lafleche & District Music Festival

2016

Prairie Sunset & District Music Festival  
Prince Albert Music Festival  
Unity Music Festival



## Karen Frandsen

Regina

### Voice, Musical Theatre, Speech Arts

Karen Frandsen is a graduate of the University of Regina music department receiving both a Master's and a Bachelor's degree in vocal performance. In Regina, she has maintained a busy and active singing studio for over 20 years. Her love of singing and music education have inspired many students to reach their goals. Over the years, her students have won numerous awards at music festivals, participated in auditioned provincial and national choirs, gone on to build professional careers in the arts and graced the theatre and music stages of Canada and beyond. For 8 years, Karen was the Studio Director for the SaskExpress Musical Theatre Studio. Karen has held many different executive positions with the local branch of the Sask. Registered Music Teachers' Association (SRMTA) and is also currently a provincial board member of that group. She has enjoyed adjudicating voice, music theatre, choirs and speech arts for the Sask. Music Festival Association (SMFA) for 20 years. In 2015, she spearheaded a student and teacher art song recording project for the Regina SRMTA branch. The project, entitled, Art Songs of Canada, featured the vocal music of Saskatchewan composers, David McIntyre and Robert Ursan.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Kindersley & District Music Festival

2017

Prince Albert Music Festival

2016

Lafleche & District Music Festival



## Janie Fries

Moose Jaw

### Band, Classroom Music, School Choir

Throughout the course of her teaching career, Janie Fries has taught the gamut from Pre-K to university music education classes including band, strings, choral and classroom music. The majority of her experiences have come from the students in the Moose Jaw Catholic schools. Her Master in Music Education degree was obtained from Brandon University. She is a member of both the Moose Jaw Music Festival and has been involved with the Moose Jaw Band and Choral Festival committee since 1995. She has been actively involved in Saskatchewan Arts Education curriculum writing, advising and actualizing and has written lessons for the National Arts Centre "Music Alive Program", providing lessons for the non-specialist music teacher in Saskatchewan schools. She is a sessional lecturer at the University of Regina teaching Orff Levels I and II during the summer and has been a recipient of the Sylvia Yam award for teaching excellence, presented by the Saskatchewan Orff Chapter. She adjudicates throughout the province at local music festivals and SpringFest. Her present musical endeavours include conducting the Moose Jaw Community String Orchestra, and playing horn in the Moose Jaw Community Band.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Mainline & District Music Festival

2018

Estevan & District Music Festival

2017  
Humboldt Music Festival  
Weyburn Music Festival

2016  
Carnduff & District Music Festival  
Prince Albert Music Festival

2015  
Saskatoon Music Festival  
Swift Current & District Music Festival  
Yorkton Music Festival



## Louella Friesen

Waldheim

### Voice, Musical Theatre, Speech Arts, Choir

Soprano, Louella K. Friesen ~ singer, vocal teacher and adjudicator provides vocal instruction to a studio of students at Rosthern Junior College and in her home community of Waldheim. Louella is a member of the Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers' Association / National Music Teachers' Association and the Sask. Valley Music Festival Association. In addition, she has participated in a Voice Summer School program with Lisa Hornung - North Battleford, and has spend some time with Vocal/Alexander Technique teacher Michael Hanko - New York, NY. With Bachelor of Music degrees in Vocal Performance from CMU Winnipeg, MB and the U of S, SK, Louella has enjoyed many choral and solo singing opportunities. She is a singer and soloist with the Saskatoon Chamber Singers and continues to be guest soloist for other various choral groups in and around Saskatoon. Louella believes that her role as a voice teacher is to help her students cultivate their desire to communicate through the wonderful language of song and foster a life long appreciation for music of all genres. In addition to providing her students with performing opportunities at studio recitals, Louella also prepares many of them for regional and provincial festivals, as well as RCM Vocal exams.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
Twin Rivers Music Festival  
Yorkton Music Festival

2018  
Maple Creek & District Music Festival

2017  
Lanigan & District Music Festival

2016  
Last Mountain & District Music Festival  
Outlook & District Music Festival

2015  
Meadow Lake & District Music Festival



## Wes Froese

Saskatoon

### Piano, Choir

Wes Froese is a Saskatchewan musician, growing up on a farm near Swift Current, and currently living and working in Saskatoon. Wes graduated from the University of Saskatchewan's Music Department in 1989 and has been teaching and performing since then. He is the founding artistic director of the Saskatoon community chorus, called "Eclipse Chorus". Wes is the author of the piano education series entitled "Starting with Blues." He has an office in Veteran's Village at Sherbrooke Community Centre in Saskatoon, and works there as a recreation coordinator specialising in music.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
Last Mountain & District Music Festival  
Prairie Sunset & District Music Festival

2018  
Unity Music Festival

2017  
Sask Valley Music Festival  
Spiritwood & District Music Festival

2016  
Kindersley & District Music Festival  
Lloydminster & District Kiwanis Music Festival

2015  
La Ronge & District Music Festival  
Shaunavon & District Music Festival



## Gail Fry Choral

Regina

Gail Fry received a Bachelor of Music Education with great distinction from the University of Regina. Since 1976, she has taught at high schools in Saskatoon, Regina and La Ronge. From 1987-2014, Gail was a faculty member at Luther College High School in Regina, teaching music and mathematics as well as being the academic guidance counselor. Gail was the producer of Luther College's renowned music theatre productions for twenty years. She also directed various choirs and handbell choirs there. Under her direction they received many awards at local, provincial and national competitions. Gail is an active choral clinician and adjudicator, and a former board member of the Saskatchewan Choral Federation. She has been a member of many choirs including the Luther Bach Choir, University of Regina Chamber Singers, Saskatoon Chamber Singers and Regina Philharmonic Chorus. Gail is an active member at Bread of Life Lutheran Church Choir directing their two church musical groups and continues to be one of their church pianists.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
Unity Music Festival  
2018  
Saskatoon Music Festival



## Natalie Fuller Brass, Band

Regina

Natalie Fuller began playing the piano at the tender age of 4, and trumpet followed 2 years later. Born and raised in Saskatchewan, Natalie's 12 years of homeschooling allowed her the freedom to travel across Canada and the United States as well as internationally to Great Britain and Japan with award winning ensembles including the Regina Lions Band (Bob Mossing) and the South Saskatchewan Youth Orchestra (Alan Denike). A short six months after being diagnosed with cancer, Natalie went on to achieve the highest mark in Canada for the Associate of the Royal Conservatory of Toronto diploma in trumpet performance, under the tutelage of Sharie Argue. At the University of Regina in Saskatchewan, Natalie studied under Dr. Ed Lewis (CBC Radio's "Jazz Doctor") and Miles Newman (principal of the Regina Symphony Orchestra). After completing the bachelor's degree in just three years, Natalie was awarded the President's Medal, the highest distinction upon graduation. Natalie then moved to Rochester, New York where she studied with renowned James Thompson at the Eastman School of Music for both a masters and doctoral degree. During her time there, Natalie won 1st-place in the brass division of the Canadian Music Festival and placed in the top three at the American National Trumpet Competition several times. Natalie has performed for a wide variety of audiences, including notable trumpet greats like Stephen Burns, Tom Stevens, John Wallace, and Mark Gould to dignitaries including the Governor General of Canada and even Prince Charles. Recently, Natalie has taught at the University of Rochester, Eastman Community Music School, and Cornell University. After heading up the brass department at Montana State University for a year, Natalie has returned to Saskatchewan where she is excited to be playing trumpet with the Regina Symphony Orchestra, maintaining a very active studio and performance schedule.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016  
Saskatoon Music Festival



## Garry Gable Voice, Musical Theatre

Saskatoon

Garry Gable has performed and taught extensively in Canada and abroad, including the USA and China. He has performed with such groups as CBC, Canadian Opera Company, various musical productions and orchestras. He is Associate Professor of Voice at the University of Saskatchewan where he teaches all things singing-related and is Director of the Music Theatre Ensemble. Garry is also Adjunct Lecturer at Music Conservatories in Wuhan and Tianjin, China. He holds performance degrees from Michigan (DMA, MMus), Wilfrid Laurier (Opera Diploma), and Windsor (BMus) universities. He is a regular contributor in Saskatoon Opera productions, and has appeared many times with the Saskatoon Symphony, and most recently with the Regina Symphony.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018  
Swift Current & District Music Festival  
Twin Rivers Music Festival  
2017  
Lloydminster & District Kiwanis Music Festival  
2016  
Moose Jaw Music Festival  
2015  
Hafford & District Music Festival  
Lanigan & District Music Festival



## Katie Gannon

Regina

### Strings, Fiddle

A member of the Regina Symphony Orchestra, Katie also performs with the Sotto Voce String Quartet and was previously a member of the Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra and Chamber Players. Katie is currently teaching gifted students of all ages at Regina's Conservatory for the Performing Arts and enjoys coaching chamber music and assisting with orchestral training. With her advanced students she explores the importance of musicality while reinforcing proper violin technique, successful practicing habits and the importance of music reading. Her balanced method of teaching integrates concepts from the traditional Suzuki method as well as singing and clapping games providing a solid foundation of violin techniques that can be built upon as skill levels advance. An Ontario champion fiddle player, Katie also teaches fiddling to students with a particular interest in this area. While earning her Masters of Music in performance, studying with violinist Dr. Nancy Dahn at Memorial University of Newfoundland, Katie had the chance to develop her own teaching skills. During her two years under Dr. Dahn, she not only advanced her violin skills but studied the impact on violin playing of Alexander Technique and body alignment. Classes with expert and author Jennifer Johnson led her to incorporate these techniques into her own lesson plan. At MUN Katie was also entrusted with supplemental teaching and chamber music coaching during Dr. Dahn's absences. Katie pursued undergraduate studies in performance at Wilfrid Laurier University with Jerzy Kaplanek. At WLU, as a member of the Sirius String Quartet she was awarded the Penderecki Chamber Music Award.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Nipawin Music Festival

2018

Carnduff & District Music Festival



## Brent Ghiglione

Regina

### Bands, Brass, Woodwinds

Raised in Moose Jaw, Brent Ghiglione started his musical career with the Moose Jaw Lions Jr. Band. He then continued his musical education at the U of R where he graduated with a B.Mus.Ed. degree. He has also completed a Diploma of Fine Arts from the U of C in Wind Band Conducting and Repertoire and finished his M.Ed. from the University of Victoria. After teaching at Campbell Collegiate for 17 years Brent moved to the U of R where he is director of bands responsible for the Wind Ensemble and Concert Band. As a trumpet player, he is a member of the Regina Symphony Orchestra and currently leads The Bob Moyer Big Band. Brent has initiated the Regina Jazz Orchestra (RJO), a professional big band, and the Regina Winds, a semi-professional wind band. Brent is also an active clinician and adjudicator and is a Yamaha Performing Artist.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Moose Jaw Music Festival



## Janet Gieck

Pambrun

### Piano, Composition

Janet Gieck grew up surrounded by rural Saskatchewan culture and landscape, a fact which has profoundly affected her musical output. After completing music degrees from Prairie Bible College (Three Hills, AB) and the Royal Conservatory of Music, she has had her compositions performed at many concerts, New Music Festivals and on CBC radio. Her pedagogical compositions are now listed on many different syllabi across the country. Passionate about sharing music with those in her community and beyond, Janet is a member of the Alliance for Canadian New Music Projects, the Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers' Association (currently serving as president of the Swift Current branch), and the composer's collective Red Leaf Pianoworks. Currently, Janet works as a member of the fine arts department at Millar College of the Bible in Pambrun, SK where she lives with her husband and three children. She is also in demand as a piano teacher, adjudicator and clinician.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Humboldt Music Festival

Maple Creek & District Music Festival

2018

Melfort Music Festival

2017

Carnduff & District Music Festival

2016

Assiniboia Music Festival

Shaunavon & District Music Festival

Weyburn Music Festival

2015

Kindersley & District Music Festival

Maple Creek & District Music Festival



## Glen Gillis

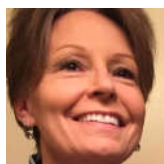
Saskatoon

### Band, Woodwinds, Brass, Percussion, Strings

Glen Gillis, Professor of Music, conducts the Concert Band and several saxophone ensembles, and teaches saxophone, conducting, and music education courses at the University of Saskatchewan. Dr. Gillis has remained active as a clinician and adjudicator for solo/ensemble festivals/workshops as well as conducting honour ensembles. As director of the U of S Wind Orchestra from 2001-10, the ensemble released three commercial CDs in 2005, 2007, and 2009. In 2004 he created the Band Directors Professional Development and the High School Select Wind Orchestra and in 2005 the North Saskatchewan Wind Symphony. Dr. Gillis is a Conn-Selmer Saxophone Artist/Clinician and has performed in North America, Europe, and China as well as numerous conferences such as the World Saxophone Congresses and the North American Saxophone Alliance Biennial and Regional Conferences. He released SaxSpectrum (2009) and SaxSpectrum 2 (2014) through MSR Classics performing many of his compositions (Eighth Note Pub) and commissioned works, all world premiere recordings. International music magazines such as Fanfare, American Music Guide, BBC Music Magazine, and Gramophone gave stellar reviews of his CDs. SaxSpectrum 2 also received a nomination for the 2015 Instrumental Recording of the Year from the Western Canadian Music Awards.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

- 2019
  - Meadow Lake & District Music Festival
- 2018
  - Lloydminster & District Kiwanis Music Festival
  - Saskatoon Music Festival
- 2017
  - Melfort Music Festival
  - Yorkton Music Festival
- 2016
  - Estevan & District Music Festival
  - Meadow Lake & District Music Festival
- 2015
  - Humboldt Music Festival



## Corinne Groff

Regina

### Piano

Corinne began piano lessons at the age of six. Throughout her years of piano studies in rural Manitoba she was active in festivals and examinations receiving many awards and scholarships. She began teaching while still in high school and it has been her passion and full-time work since 1979. She taught in Brandon for seven years and in Yorkton for ten until her family moved to Regina in 1997, where she now resides and continues to love her very busy teaching studio and professional life. She teaches piano and theory using the RCM and Conservatory Canada Syllabi as well as Contemporary Idioms. She is a member of the Saskatchewan and Regina Registered Music Teacher Associations. She is currently Artistic Director of three Regina choirs and in the past has been the pianist and director of the Lumsden Beach Camp annual musicals. Corinne is the Chair of Regina's Contemporary Showcase and a board member and concert coordinator for the Cecilian Chamber Series.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

- 2019
  - Potashville Music Festival
- 2018
  - Kipling & District Music Festival
  - Shaunavon & District Music Festival
- 2017
  - Mainline & District Music Festival
  - Swift Current & District Music Festival
- 2016
  - Borderland Music Festival
  - Carnduff & District Music Festival



## Dianne Gryba

North Battleford

### Piano, Voice, Choir

Dianne Gryba resides in North Battleford, Saskatchewan where she works as a teacher, accompanist and choral director. She received a Master of Arts degree in piano performance from the University of Saskatchewan, where she studied with Robin Harrison. Dianne has a great love of choral music, and she works with several groups in the Battlefords, including the Gallery Singers and the Battlefords Children's Choirs. The children's program involves about 50 students in two choirs, which are co-directed by JoAnne Kasper. Dianne loves to play and perform with her duo-piano partner, Bonnie Nicholson. In 2016, Dianne and Bonnie, along with Chris Kelly and Janice Paterson, initiated a new summer school for pianists and vocalists. SAVP (Summer Academy for Voice and Piano) is held on the University of Saskatchewan campus in Saskatoon. Ms. Gryba maintains a studio of private voice and piano students, as well as adjudicating festivals and facilitating workshops. She enjoys the rich variety in her musical life.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
Regina Music Festival  
Sand Hills Music Festival  
2017  
Saskatoon Music Festival  
2016  
Saskatoon Music Festival  
Twin Rivers Music Festival  
2015  
Quill Plains Music Festival  
Regina Music Festival



## Maria Guidos-Albert

Regina

### Strings, Piano

Maria Guidos-Albert is a Saskatchewan native, and after living in Manitoba and Ontario for over 20 years, is now based in Regina. She is a violinist and a pianist, having her Performance A.R.C.T.s in both instruments. She is an alumni of Brandon University with a Performance Degree in Violin, and has studied with Ernest Kassian, Francis Chaplin, Gwen Hoebig, Nandor Szederkenyi, Dana Mazurkevich, and Sally Thomas, in both private and summer studies. Previous Concertmaster and Principle Second Violin in the Timmins Symphony Orchestra, and numerous chamber, and small ensemble orchestras, she is presently a member of the Regina Symphony Orchestra. Guidos-Albert is an active chamber player, including ensembles such as the Timmins Symphony Quartet, duos, trios, and ensemble works with people such as Simon Fryer, Natalie Williams Calhoun, Oxana Ossiptchouk, Marcelle Guidos, and Natalia Chabukiani. Teaching since 1983, Guidos-Albert has a full studio of private lessons and chamber coaching.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
Melfort Music Festival  
2018  
Nipawin Music Festival  
2017  
Moose Jaw Music Festival



## Valerie Hall

Regina

### Voice, Choral, Pipe Organ

An inveterate performer, Valerie Hall has appeared as an organ soloist and duo partner with soprano, Kerry-Anne Kutz, across Canada. Locally, she is known for her continuo playing on both organ and harpsichord with various professional music ensembles, including the Regina Symphony Chamber Players. A native of Winnipeg, she earned a Bachelor of Music in Organ Performance from the University of Manitoba and a Master of Church Music from Concordia University, River Forest, Illinois. More recently, Valerie became an Associate of the Royal Conservatory of Music in Voice Performance and is currently Head of the Voice Dept. at the Conservatory of Performing Arts, where she maintains an active voice studio.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018  
Redvers & District Music Festival  
2017  
Last Mountain & District Music Festival





## Tom Hearn

Melville

### Band, Instruments

Mr. Hearn was a Yorkton Regional High School Grad and received his BME (Instrumental and Vocal) from Northern State University. He has taught in Saskatchewan communities for 22 years and British Columbia for 11 years. He is a percussion specialist and has a soft spot for Jazz. He has played in many groups ranging from the Saskatoon Symphony, to country bands, Polka bands, Jazz bands, pit orchestras for musicals, Marching bands, and Jazz groups. His wife is also a Band Director and his two children are both in University.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Carnduff & District Music Festival



## Terry Heckman

Saskatoon

### Band, Brass, Woodwinds, Percussion

Terry Heckman has been the Principal Trumpet of the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra since the fall of 1991. As a soloist, Terry has been featured a number of times with the SSO - in Purcell's Sonata, the Trumpet Concertos of Haydn and Hetu, Copland's Quiet City, Barber's Capricorn Concerto, and Bach's Second Brandenburg Concerto. Terry has also established himself as a trumpet teacher, clinician and adjudicator of brass instruments and bands throughout the prairies. Terry is a Conn-Selmer Artist, and plays Vincent Bach trumpets. Terry holds a Bachelor of Music (Education) from the University of Victoria and a Licentiate in Music (Performance) from McGill University. Terry has been a member of the Regina Symphony Orchestra and the Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra, and earlier played in the Youth Orchestras of Calgary and Victoria. He has been on the Executive Board of the Saskatoon Musicians' Association, CFM Local 553, and has served on the Saskatoon Symphony Players' Committee and Negotiating Committee, and as the Production Manager for the Saskatoon Symphony, where he is currently the Director of Personnel. Terry is married to Kim de Laforest, one of the busiest violin and fiddle players and teachers. Their son Hunter has taken to music as well, playing both fiddle and trumpet himself!

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Biggar & District Music Festival

2018

Melfort Music Festival

2016

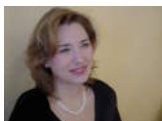
Watrous & District Music Festival

2015

Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival

Rosetown & District Music Festival

Twin Rivers Music Festival



## Lisa Hornung

North Battleford

### Voice, Speech Arts

Honoured as one of the U of S's Arts and Science Alumni of Influence, Saskatchewan born contralto, Lisa Hornung has been acclaimed for performances in repertoire ranging from Baroque to contemporary composers. In accordance with her belief that everyone deserves the opportunity to sing, Lisa runs a non-auditioned community youth choir and often collaborates with elementary and high school musical endeavours. She also conducts a non-auditioned community men's choir, is the founder and director of Summer School for the Solo Voice, and is well known as a teacher, adjudicator, clinician and choral coach.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Moose Jaw Music Festival

2017

Kindersley & District Music Festival

2016

Sask Valley Music Festival

Weyburn Music Festival

2015

Eston Music Festival

Lloydminster & District Kiwanis Music Festival

Prince Albert Music Festival



## Julia Jamison

Saskatoon

### Voice, Musical Theatre, Speech Arts

Julia Jamison teaches voice and acting in the Department of Drama at the University of Saskatchewan where she has directed numerous Greystone Theatre productions, including: *Into the Woods*, *Amadeus*, *Assassins*, *Black Comedy*, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* and *Elizabeth Rex*. Other local directing credits include: *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *The Guardsman* (Persephone), *Jake and the Kid* (Station Arts), *John & Jen* (Live Five) and *Billy Bishop Goes to War* (Souris Valley). Performance credits include multiple productions at The Stratford Festival, as well as *Phantom of the Opera* (Pantages Theatre) and numerous lyric mezzo roles with l'Atelier Lyrique de l'Opera de Montreal, New York City Bel Canto Opera, San Diego Opera, The Banff Centre and National Arts Centre. She is currently working with British composer, Stephen McNeff, on revisions to a music theatre adaptation of Dylan Thomas' screenplay, *The Doctor and the Devils*. Julia has a Master of Fine Arts in Acting (York University), a Master of Music in Vocal Performance (University of Regina) and a Bachelor of Music in Music Education (University of Saskatchewan).

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016

Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival



## Lauren Kells

Tuffnell

### Piano

Lauren Kells is a private and Music for Young Children teacher in the East Central area of Saskatchewan. 2017 marks her 20th year of teaching in the area. Lauren holds a Diploma in Primary / Elementary Piano Pedagogy and a Licentiate in Piano Pedagogy from the Canadian National Conservatory of Music and Level One Orff. Lauren is a member of the Board of Examiners of the Canadian National Conservatory of Music. She also adjudicates for the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association. Currently Lauren is the Past President of the Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers. Lauren's interests include music history and historical tuning of keyboard instruments. When she is not teaching she can be found playing the fiddle with the Tuffnell Circle Jammers, or reading a text from whatever class she is taking.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Twin Rivers Music Festival

2017

Kipling & District Music Festival

Unity Music Festival

2016

Parkland & District Music Festival

2015

Eston Music Festival

Naicam Music Festival



## Chris Kelly

Saskatoon

### Voice, Piano

Chris Kelly was born in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. He studied piano and was a member of the Prince Albert Boys Choir, serving as their accompanist and director of junior choirs. Chris entered the Department of Music at the University of Saskatchewan as a piano performance major and voice minor. He convocated with a double major – completing, performance and academic requirements in both voice and piano. He then received a Master of Music in Vocal Performance from the University of Western Ontario. Chris has taught voice at the U of S. He maintains a private voice and piano studio and performs regularly in recital, opera, and oratorio. Chris has also instructed music theatre classes and accompanied at Saskatoon dance studios. Chris has performed as guest soloist with the Saskatoon and Regina Symphonies in Handel's Messiah and Verdi's Requiem as well as other oratorios. He has also had numerous lead, chorus and accompanying roles with Saskatoon Opera. In addition to teaching, Chris accompanies singers and instrumentalists, coaches, adjudicates, and is a church organist and choir director. He and his wife, Paula, have two sons - Graham and William.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Humboldt Music Festival

2018

La Ronge & District Music Festival

2017

Sand Hills Music Festival

2016

Melfort Music Festival

2015

Moose Jaw Music Festival

Spiritwood & District Music Festival



## Gaye-Lynn Kern

Saskatoon

### Voice, Music Theatre, Choral, Speech Arts

Gaye-Lynn Kern is a Performer, Teacher and Clinician (Voice, Music Theatre, Drama and Speech Arts). She has a Master of Music, a Post Graduate Diploma from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London, UK, and post graduate studies at the Mozart Opera Studies Institute. Ms. Kern has performed professionally in England, Europe, United States, and Canada in Opera (The Medium, Hansel and Gretel), Operetta (The Mikado, H.M.S. Pinafore), Music Theatre (The Sound of Music, My Fair Lady) and Dramas (Dancing at Lughnasa). Her thirty-four directorial credits include; Anne of Green Gables, Grease, Li'l Abner, Oliver!, The Real Inspector Hound, Blythe Spirit, and Nunsense. Ms. Kern has enjoyed adjudicating at over 155 Music Festivals in Western Canada since 1990. Twelve of her thirty-five years of Vocal Pedagogy have been at universities and colleges where she taught for both Music and Drama Departments. Her students are frequent festival scholarship winners at both local and provincial levels. Ms Kern coaches professionals in a wide variety of careers. She also performs as a soloist and as a member of The Gala Trio. Gaye-Lynn resides in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan with her husband, artist Gordon Grant and four feline friends; Magnolia, Harrison, Charlotte and Flynn.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Moosomin & District Music Festival  
Nipawin Music Festival

2017

La Ronge & District Music Festival  
Rosetown & District Music Festival  
Sask Valley Music Festival  
Swift Current & District Music Festival

2016

Lanigan & District Music Festival  
Prairie Sunset & District Music Festival  
Prince Albert Music Festival  
Quill Plains Music Festival

2015

Shaunavon & District Music Festival



## Sarah Konecsni

Regina

### Piano

Sarah is active as a pianist, clinician, adjudicator, composer, accompanist, teacher, and examiner for the Royal Conservatory of Music. She is in demand as a piano and theory teacher, and her students have received over 50 silver/gold medals for the highest marks in piano examinations in every grade from Preparatory A through Grade 10 RCM. Sarah's students have also won many scholarships in provincial competitions, and also at the Saskatchewan provincial finals, where several students were judged the most outstanding performer of the competition. Sarah holds an ARCT from the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto and a Licentiate diploma from Trinity College in London, England. A recipient of nearly all awards for piano performance provincially, including soloist with the Regina Symphony Orchestra, she was the Young Artist for Western Canada and performed ten concerts from BC, Saskatchewan and Manitoba; she was also a winner of the Sister Geraldine Boyle award for the most outstanding competitor of the Provincial Finals in 1994. In 2003, she was awarded a grant from the Saskatchewan Arts Board to present a series of seven concerts throughout Saskatchewan to present her compositions to the public. Sarah was also the winner of the 'Call for Compositions' national competition for a piano piece for Canada Music Week 2009. Her compositions reflect both her Saskatchewan surroundings, as well as many world cultures, as experienced on her many travels. She derives her inspiration from her students, and strives to both excite and delight pianists with her descriptive and imaginative compositions.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Mainline & District Music Festival

## Caroline Konecsni-Christie

Dysart

### Piano, Organ

Carol Konecsni-Christie was inspired by teachers Sr. Joan Miller and Sister Geraldine Boyle. Contact with the styles of numerous other influential keyboard, voice, and pedagogues helped to shape her musical education and prepare for the diplomas ARCT and LTCL. She opened her Regina studio in 1980. In addition, Carol currently commutes to her students' homes in the Fort Qu'Appelle and Balcarres area and teaches from her own home in Dysart.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Lafleche & District Music Festival  
Parkland & District Music Festival

2018

Carnduff & District Music Festival  
Lanigan & District Music Festival

2017  
 Melfort Music Festival  
 Shaunavon & District Music Festival  
 Twin Rivers Music Festival  
 2016  
 Estevan & District Music Festival  
 Moosomin & District Music Festival  
 2015  
 Assiniboia Music Festival  
 Central Sask Music Festival  
 Prince Albert Music Festival  
 Rosetown & District Music Festival  
 Vanguard & District Music Festival



## Jennifer Lang

### Choral

Saskatoon

Dr. Jennifer Lang is an Assistant Professor of Music Education and the Director of Choral Activities at the University of Saskatchewan where she conducts the Greystone Singers and teaches Choral Literature, Choral Methods, Choral Pedagogy, and Elementary Music Methods. She is the organizer of the Department of Music's Music Education in Action Series and the founder and organizer of the uSing uSask Choral Festival. Jennifer is also active as a conductor, choral adjudicator, clinician and conference presenter with local, provincial, national, and international invitations. While completing her graduate studies at the University of Western Ontario, Jennifer was awarded a SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship and was an instructor at the Don Wright Faculty of Music and Faculty of Education and the Teaching Support Centre. Currently Jennifer serves as the past-president on the board of the Saskatchewan Choral Federation, the Board Chair for Musical Futures Canada, and a member of Choral Canada's Advocacy Committee and Editorial Committee. Prior to completing her doctorate, Jennifer served as a program leader of vocal and instrumental secondary school music with the District of Niagara Arts Academy in the District School Board of Niagara.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
 Swift Current & District Music Festival



## Karen Langlois

### Voice, Musical Theatre, Piano, Choral

Prince Albert

Originally from La Ronge, SK, Karen grew up playing the piano and singing with her mom and sister. Karen went on to obtain a Bachelor of Music degree with Great Distinction in Vocal Performance from the University of Saskatchewan. She later went on to complete the Associate Diploma in Piano Performance from Trinity College of London. Karen keeps busy maintaining a private voice, piano, theory and history studio, several of whom have received gold medals for their exam work with the Royal Conservatory of Music. She has both directed and accompanied children's choirs in the past. In the summer, Karen and her husband host an intensive Theory School where students have the opportunity to learn one grade of rudiments in a five-day period. Karen currently teaches music through Broadway North Theatre Company's musical theatre program for youth and teens. She has directed the music for numerous productions with the most recent being *Mary Poppins Jr.*, and *Alice in Wonderland Jr.* Past performing credits include Vi Moore in *Footloose*, Laurie in *Oklahoma* and Grace Bradley in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. Her most recent performance has been in the one woman show *Marg Szkaluba: Pissy's Wife* (Spark Theatre Company). Karen joined the band this past summer as the pianist in *Mamma Mia!* (Broadway North Theatre Company). Karen currently resides in Prince Albert with her husband Mike and kitty Poco.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018  
 Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival  
 2015  
 Unity Music Festival



## Peggy L'Hoir

### Piano

Biggar

Peggy L'Hoir is an experienced and innovative teacher, mentor, clinician, collaborative artist and composer. Peggy holds an Associate Diploma in Piano Performance from Trinity College, London and has been sharing her enthusiasm for music with students, colleagues and friends for over four decades. Peggy embraces (and often instigates) many opportunities to create musical events in Biggar's Majestic Theatre, collaborating with musicians from near and far. Making music in new places, for diverse audiences, is an activity she enjoys with her students, colleagues and friends. She has worked with the local musical theatre group, New Creation Community Players as Musical Director since 2001. A catalyst for projects such as the SRMTA publication, *From Prairie to Pine*, Volumes 1 and 2, and CFMTA's *Call for Compositions*, Peggy is an avid supporter of Canadian music and composers.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
 Quill Plains Music Festival  
 Saskatoon Music Festival  
 Spiritwood & District Music Festival

2018  
Central Sask Music Festival  
Lloydminster & District Kiwanis Music Festival  
2017  
Kindersley & District Music Festival  
Regina Music Festival  
2016  
Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival  
La Ronge & District Music Festival  
2015  
Humboldt Music Festival  
Twin Rivers Music Festival

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## Troy Linsley

Saskatoon

### Winds, Brass, Percussion, Strings

Troy Linsley graduated from the University of Saskatchewan with a Bachelor of Music in Performance having studied with Professor Marvin Eckroth. As a soloist and chamber musician, Troy has had many opportunities to perform with a wide variety of settings. Music has allowed him to make wonderful friends and share experiences in local communities, within Canada, and in Europe. Highlights of his musical experiences come from time spent in school band and jazz ensembles, playing with community bands and the symphony, performing in local music festivals, and teaching and sharing ideas with other musicians. Troy enjoys adjudicating and encouraging young musicians to do their best in music.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018  
Twin Rivers Music Festival  
2015  
Prince Albert Music Festival

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## Kathleen Lohrenz Gable

Saskatoon

### Piano

Kathleen Lohrenz Gable's professional career includes experiences as a recitalist, voice coach, & accompanist, and as a musical director and rehearsal pianist for opera and musical theatre productions in Canada and the USA. Her studies have taken her to schools in Canada, the USA, and to Europe. Kathleen received her B.Mus. from Wilfrid Laurier University; a Diploma in Lieder from the Franz Schubert Institute in Austria; her Fellowship from Trinity College in London; and her M.Mus. in Accompanying and Chamber Music from the University of Michigan.

Kathleen has enjoyed an extensive teaching career in Canada and the United States, being called upon to share her expertise as both adjudicator and workshop clinician. Her students have won many top awards, including Regional, State, and Provincial competitions. Currently Kathleen teaches Applied Piano and is Music Director for the Music Theatre Ensemble at the U of S. In addition to her university teaching, Kathleen maintains a full teaching/coaching studio at home.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
Nipawin Music Festival  
2018  
Twin Rivers Music Festival  
2017  
Humboldt Music Festival  
2015  
Biggar & District Music Festival  
Moose Jaw Music Festival

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## Allison Luff

Regina

### Piano

Allison Luff returned to her hometown of Regina, SK, after pursuing piano performance studies which have taken her all over Canada, the United States, Germany, and Hungary. Allison completed a piano pedagogy specialization at the Kodály Institute of the Liszt Ferenc Academy of Music in Keszthely, Hungary in 2018. She is presently active in the music community as a soloist, collaborative pianist, and teacher.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
Mainline & District Music Festival  
2017  
Gravelbourg & District Bilingual Music Festival  
Last Mountain & District Music Festival  
2016  
Redvers & District Music Festival



## Christa MacBride

Saskatoon

### Band, Brass, Guitar, Instruments

Christa MacBride graduated from the U of S with B.Mus. and B.Ed. degrees. She is currently teaching band and guitar at Walter Murray Collegiate in Saskatoon. She has coordinated the Provincial Honour Groups, conducted the Saskatchewan Intermediate Honour Band, and has been a conductor and clinician at Saskatoon Band Camps. She is a trumpet player and has been a guest conductor and clinician for several junior high and elementary groups. Christa has been vice president of the SBA and is currently a member at large.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015  
Weyburn Music Festival

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## Heather Macnab

Maple Creek

### Speech Arts, Voice, Musical Theatre, Piano

Heather Macnab of Maple Creek is active as a singer, speech artist, teacher, accompanist, clinician, and adjudicator. Heather has a private studio of voice, speech and piano students, teaches at Summer School for the Solo Voice in North Battleford, and conducts workshops throughout Saskatchewan. She likes to sing and have other people sing, so has spent five seasons with Calgary Opera Chorus and frequently creates performance opportunities for herself and others. Sometimes she puts singers together and calls them a "choir". Heather enjoys working with youth, and has directed musicals in Maple Creek for 20 seasons including Anne of Green Gables, Les Misérables School Edition, The Music Man, HMS Pinafore... etc. She is a believer in life-long learning, recently completing her ARCT diplomas for Speech Arts and Drama. She likes to promote speech arts! Heather is a member of SRMTA, NATS, and is an adjudicator for the SMFA.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
Moosomin & District Music Festival  
2018  
Prairie Sunset & District Music Festival  
Quill Plains Music Festival  
2017  
Swift Current & District Music Festival  
2016  
Vanguard & District Music Festival  
2015  
Biggar & District Music Festival  
Sask Valley Music Festival

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## Chelsea Mahan

Saskatoon

### Vocal

On the operatic stage, soprano Chelsea Mahan has been noticed for her panache of character (La Presse), while her comedic work on stage "creates some of the most memorable, funny moments of the night" (Star Phoenix, 2016). Equally at home in soundtrack recording, concert repertoire and intimate recital settings, she has Ms. Mahan has lent her dramatic flare to up-close and personal performances outdoors and in warehouses, abandoned churches and public libraries alike. Since returning home to Saskatchewan with her Masters in Music (McGill University), Ms. Mahan has made appearances with La Compagnie Baroque Mont-Royal, Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra, Regina Symphony Orchestra, Saskatoon Opera, Souris Valley Theatre, Little Opera on the Prairie, Swift Current Oratorio Choir, and SUM Theatre. Outside the music world, Ms. Mahan can be found performing as a founding member of the SHEnigans All-Female Improv Comedy Troupe and contributes her voice to the female comedy scene in Saskatoon. When not on stage, Ms. Mahan teaches from her private home studio where she focuses on the voice as a part of the whole body through technique and body mapping and loves to strengthen the marriage of text and music - the foundation of a song!

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
Sask Valley Music Festival





## Dale Malden

Melfort

### Band, Instruments

Dale Malden started his musical training with the Moose Jaw Lions Band Program under the direction of Frank Connell. He started his teaching career with private music lessons in the Lions Band Program while in high school. Dale has been active as an adjudicator and clinician. He worked as Program Entry CoCoordinator for the Melfort Music Festival Association for the years 2002-2005. He has been the coordinator of the SBA Regional Band Camp in Prince Albert and served on the board of the SBA during his teaching career in many capacities. Dale was honored to receive the "Distinguished Band Director Award" from the SBA in 2011. In his retirement, Dale takes time for his hobbies of woodwork, photography, and travel. He also continues his love of band work, by playing in the Melfort Community Band, by being a substitute teacher, adjudicating, doing band clinics and teaching private lessons.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018  
Prince Albert Music Festival  
2016  
Humboldt Music Festival



## Hannah Marple

Saskatoon

### Piano

Hannah is a member of the Saskatchewan Registered Music Teacher's Association and has been teaching piano and theory since 2008 to all ages of students. She achieved her ATCL from the Trinity College of London in Vancouver in 2017 and is pursuing another diploma in piano performance with Bonnie Nicholson. In addition to teaching, Hannah serves on the Saskatoon Registered Music Teacher's board, competes regionally and provincially in music festival, accompanies, takes voice lessons and enjoys collaborating with her duet partner. Away from the piano, Hannah is usually found outdoors—running or cycling along the South Saskatchewan River!

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
Borderland Music Festival



## Will Martin

Saskatoon

### Brass, Woodwind, Percussion

Will grew up in a musical family on the South Coast of England, learning trumpet from the age of 8 and later also taking up percussion. He spent his early musical career playing regularly in many different Wind Ensembles, Symphony Orchestras, Big Bands and Brass Bands before moving to Greater Manchester in 2001 to complete a B.A. Honours degree in music at the University of Salford, under the tutelage of Prof. David King, Peter Graham and Dr. Roy Newsome. Will moved to Canada in 2007 and now resides in Saskatoon where he works as a Band Director for the Prairie Spirit School Division, also teaching private Percussion and Brass Lessons and performing clinics across the province. Will has performed regularly with the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra, various other local ensembles and is the current Conductor in Residence with the Saskatoon Brass Band. Will set up Saskatoon's 'Bridge City Brass' directing from its inception in 2008, the Annual "Prairie Music Residency" for brass and percussion and the "Resonate" Student Music Conference with the Prairie Spirit Music Team.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018  
Kindersley & District Music Festival  
2017  
Rosetown & District Music Festival  
2016  
Prairie Sunset & District Music Festival  
2015  
Kipling & District Music Festival



## Jennifer McAllister

Saskatoon

### Woodwinds, Band

In 2015 Jennifer completed her thesis, Health in the Winds: Wind Band Participation as a Health Promoting Activity for Older Men and received a Master of Education degree in School and Counselling Psychology from the University of Saskatchewan. She has a strong interest in the life-long benefits of playing music in ensemble with other people. Jennifer also holds a Bachelor of Music in Flute Performance from the University of Alberta, a Bachelor of Education from the University of Saskatchewan, and a Master of Music in Conducting from the University of North Texas where she studied under the guidance of Eugene Migliaro Corporon. She is an active flutist, regularly playing in the Saskatoon Symphony, conductor, working with groups of all ages across Canada, and is currently working as a Registered Psychologist for Saskatoon Public Schools.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
Kindersley & District Music Festival





## James McCarthy

Saskatoon

### Percussion, Band

Jim McCarthy is a freelance musician with over 25 years' professional experience with performing, composing, arranging for bands, studio production, teaching and instrument building. He graduated from the University of Adelaide in 1996 with a Masters degree in Music Performance – Percussion. Jim recently completed his 21st annual tour in Australia, performing for *Musica Viva In Schools* and continues to give masterclasses and clinics each year. He has also performed with the "Lights" New Music Ensemble, the *Adelaide Wind Orchestra*, *R@taque Percussion Duo*, the *Adelaide Percussion Quartet*, and occasionally with the *State Theatre Company of SA* and the *Melbourne Philharmonic Orchestra*. Since 1988, Jim has held positions working with individuals and ensembles in thirteen schools and universities, written two books on drumming technique and is currently working on the development of marimba/vibraphone video tutorials for the *Percussion KEYS* website where he also delivers a series of critiques of YouTube video performances each month.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

- 2019
  - Humboldt Music Festival
  - Weyburn Music Festival
- 2018
  - Biggar & District Music Festival
  - Meadow Lake & District Music Festival
- 2017
  - Kindersley & District Music Festival
  - Saskatoon Music Festival



## Adria McCulloch

Regina

### Voice, Musical Theatre, Speech Arts

Critically acclaimed soprano, Adria McCulloch holds a Master of Music degree from the University of Maryland Opera Studio and a Bachelor of Music Performance degree from the University of Regina. She has performed on concert and operatic stages across North America including Kennedy Center and Lincoln Center and has recorded for NAXOS. As the Musical Director and performer of *My Virtual Dream*, Adria regularly collaborates with artists and scientists to create exciting new works fusing art, entertainment and research. Ms. McCulloch teaches professional and amateur singers and actors, lecturers, teachers and CEOs across the country and presents vocal masterclasses in Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

- 2019
  - Mainline & District Music Festival
  - Rosetown & District Music Festival
- 2018
  - Kipling & District Music Festival
  - Potashville Music Festival
- 2017
  - Lafleche & District Music Festival



## Joy McFarlane-Burton

Saskatoon

### Voice, Musical Theatre

Joy McFarlane-Burton of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan holds a Royal Conservatory of Music Associate Diploma in Singing Performance, and studied Vocal Pedagogy at the University of Saskatchewan with the late Professor Dorothy Howard. She is a Registered Music Teacher (SRMTA-CFMTA), serving on the SRMTA Board for two terms. Joy has held memberships in the Canadian Music Festival Adjudicators' Association and NATS. An enthusiastic teacher, choral director, adjudicator, coach, clinician, Ms. McFarlane-Burton has enjoyed working with mainly young, developing singers from across west central Saskatchewan in her private Voice/Musical Theatre studio for over 40 years. Her students have been frequent RCM medalists, scholarship and award winners, and enjoy music careers across Canada.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

- 2019
  - Kipling & District Music Festival
  - Prince Albert Music Festival
  - Quill Plains Music Festival
- 2018
  - Regina Music Festival
  - Rosetown & District Music Festival
  - Unity Music Festival
- 2017
  - Humboldt Music Festival
  - Moose Jaw Music Festival
  - Nipawin Music Festival
  - Prairie Sunset & District Music Festival

2016  
Lloydminster & District Kiwanis Music Festival  
Swift Current & District Music Festival  
Yorkton Music Festival

2015  
Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival  
Kindersley & District Music Festival  
Mainline & District Music Festival  
Redvers & District Music Festival  
Twin Rivers Music Festival



## David L. McIntyre

Regina

### Piano, Choral, Organ

For 40 years David L. McIntyre has been making music in Regina, as a pianist, organist, conductor and composer. His long association with the Regina Symphony Orchestra included a 3 year composer residency and witnessed the creation of his first Symphony, Piano Concerto, Violin Concerto and several orchestral overtures. His commissioned piano pieces for the Eckhardt-Gramatté (2004) and Montreal International (2011) competition continue to draw world-wide attention. His finely nuanced vocal, choral, organ, piano, instrumental and chamber works are published through Roy Street Music and included in the syllabi of several Conservatory and Festivals. David continues to perform and fulfill public and private commissions for artists and musical organizations from across Canada. He loves birding, architecture, literature, gardening and cooking.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
Outlook & District Music Festival  
2017  
Borderland Music Festival  
2015  
Watrous & District Music Festival



## Daryl McKinnon

Regina

### Band, Choir

Mr. McKinnon has been teaching guitar, Vocal Jazz, Chamber Choir, Choral music, yearly musicals, Concert Band, Jazz Band and small ensemble band since 1982. He holds a B. Mus. Ed. from the University of Regina, a Diploma of Fine Arts (wind ensemble repertoire) from the University of Calgary, and he has also taken after-degree courses in conducting from the University of Alberta. Mr. McKinnon has participated in many professional development opportunities, including several years at the Canadian Rocky Mountain Music Festival at Banff in the teacher development program. Mr. McKinnon has served on several boards in the arts, including SMEA, SBA, SMFA, SCF, and the Moose Jaw Kinsmen International Band and Choral Festival.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018  
Qu'Appelle Valley Music Festival  
2017  
Nipawin Music Festival



## Scott McKnight

Saskatoon

### Strings

Cellist Scott McKnight is an active performer in Saskatoon, playing as a member of the Saskatoon Symphony, Elixir Ensemble, and Prairie Virtuosi. In addition to performing he maintains a private studio, teaches with the Saskatoon Suzuki String Program and co-directs Sistema Saskatoon. Scott holds a master of music degree in cello performance (University of Ottawa), a bachelor of music in cello performance and a chamber diploma (Wilfrid Laurier University).

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
Prince Albert Music Festival



## Greg McLean

Swift Current

### Brass, Woodwinds, Percussion, Band

Greg McLean is a freelance musician and conductor. He most recently served an interim term as Director of Bands at the University of Regina following 35 years as a high school instrumental music director, the last 21 years of which were spent at the Swift Current Comprehensive High School in Swift Current, SK. Mr. McLean is currently the Artistic Director and lead trumpet of the Swift Current Jazz Orchestra and also the Co-Director of the Swift Current Oratorio Choir. He is a full-time faculty member of the Prairieland Summer Jazz Camp in Regina and has been guest conductor and brass coach at Saskatchewan summer band camps for over twenty-five years. Mr. McLean is frequently invited to adjudicate at festivals across Canada, to conduct workshops and reading sessions, and to direct honour groups. Mr. McLean's studies include a Bachelor of Music (Brandon University), a Graduate Diploma in conducting and wind repertoire (University of Calgary), and a Master of Music in conducting (University of Manitoba). In 2001 he received the "Paul Harris Fellowship" from the Rotary Club for outstanding leadership and community work with young people and in 2006 was the recipient of the "Outstanding Achievement Award" presented by the Saskatchewan Music Educator's Association.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

- 2018
  - Estevan & District Music Festival
  - Yorkton Music Festival
- 2017
  - Biggar & District Music Festival
  - Potashville Music Festival
  - Prince Albert Music Festival
- 2016
  - Maple Creek & District Music Festival
- 2015
  - Watrous & District Music Festival



## Marcia McLean

Swift Current

### Choir, Voice

Marcia McLean is currently the artistic director of the Swift Current Oratorio Choir and an adult chamber choir, Prairie Spirit. She teaches private voice lessons, gives choral workshops and adjudicates. Now retired, Mrs. McLean was Director of Choral Music at the Swift Current Comprehensive High School where she conducted an 80-voice concert choir, a vocal jazz ensemble and the Comprehensive Chamber Singers. She was the founding director of the Swift Current Children's Choir and conducted the choir for twelve years. Marcia served on the Board of SCF, including President and serves on the board of the Swift Current Music Festival. She has been guest conductor and vocal coach at SCF's choir camps. As well, she has conducted the U of R's summer choir camp for children. Mrs. McLean received her B.Mus. at Brandon University.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

- 2019
  - Kindersley & District Music Festival
  - Lafleche & District Music Festival
- 2018
  - Estevan & District Music Festival
  - Prince Albert Music Festival
- 2017
  - Assiniboia Music Festival
  - Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival
- 2016
  - Biggar & District Music Festival
  - Eston Music Festival
  - Maple Creek & District Music Festival
  - Rosetown & District Music Festival
  - Shaunavon & District Music Festival
- 2015
  - Central Sask Music Festival
  - Prairie Sunset & District Music Festival



## Dawn McLean Belyk

Saskatoon

### Concert Band, Jazz Band, Brass

Dawn McLean Belyk is currently the Bass Trombonist with the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra, the Saskatoon Jazz Orchestra, the University of Saskatchewan Brass Quintet and the Saskatchewan Brass Quintet. She also teaches Low Brass at the University of Saskatchewan, both undergrad and grad students. Active as a Low Brass Specialist, she has a growing studio at home, and teaches clinics throughout the province. Dawn has adjudicated bands in Alberta and Saskatchewan and has received the Dwaine Nelson Award for Teaching Excellence at the U of S, the Saskatoon Preschool Foundation Champion of Children Award in 2009, and in 2013 she received the Saskatchewan Band Association Distinguished Band Director Award.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Saskatoon Music Festival

2018

Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival

2017

Moose Jaw Music Festival



## Brett Mitchell

Caronport

### Voice, Musical Theatre, Choir

Brett Everett Mitchell holds a Masters Degree in Music in classical voice performance from the University of Montana. He currently works as a voice teacher and instructor at Briercrest College. He conducts the mass choir and teaches musicianship, musical theatre, acting, and private voice lessons. He also directs the Briercrest Conservatory for the Performing Arts Musical Theatre program, mentoring and teaching young performers. Brett is proud to be involved in the arts in Saskatchewan. He is heavily involved in Briercrest's Christmas celebration which boasts over four thousand in ticket sales every holiday season. He also plays a large role in Briercrest Summer Stage, which has been steadily growing in popularity since its inception in 2010. His directing credits include Menotti's Old Maid and the Thief for Briercrest College in 2016 and for the University of Montana's Opera Theatre in 2015. Brett strives to bring the musical arts to life in Saskatchewan and is passionate about the opportunities for excellent singing in the prairie provinces.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Lanigan & District Music Festival

Melfort Music Festival

Potashville Music Festival

2018

Watrous & District Music Festival



## Terri-Lynn Mitchell

Saskatoon

### Voice, Musical Theatre, Speech Arts, Choir, Piano

Terri-Lynn Mitchell is a soprano, artist, collaborative pianist, choir director and private voice, piano and theory teacher based in Saskatoon, SK. She has a Masters of Music in Voice Performance from the University of Ottawa, as well as an Artist Diploma in Voice Performance and a Bachelor of Music (Honours) in Voice Performance from the University of Western Ontario. Terri-Lynn also has an ARCT in Piano Performance from the Royal Conservatory of Music.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Prairie Sunset & District Music Festival

2018

Melfort Music Festival

Yorkton Music Festival

2017

Weyburn Music Festival



## Melissa Morgan

Regina

### Choir, Voice

Dr. Melissa Morgan is a choral conductor, educator and performer. Currently, she directs the choral program at the University of Regina where she also teaches courses in choral conducting and vocal diction. Her choirs have performed at the Association of Canadian Choral Communities Podium Conferences, showcase concerts at the Rocky Mountain Music Festival in Banff, the installation of the 22nd Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan ceremony and at Lincoln Center in New York City. She was also the founder and artistic director of the former ensemble, the Prairie Chamber Choir. Under her direction the Prairie Chamber Choir won second place in the National Competition for Canadian Amateur Choirs chamber choir category. Dr. Morgan is frequently asked to appear as a clinician, adjudicator and guest conductor throughout Canada.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Weyburn Music Festival

2018  
Moose Jaw Music Festival  
2017  
Carnduff & District Music Festival

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## Bob Mossing

Regina

### Band, Instruments

A member of the Order of Canada for his outstanding contributions as a music educator and leader for nearly five decades, Robert L. Mossing has guided the Regina Lions Band to critical acclaim at a local, national, and international level. Bob was an original member of the founding body of the SBA and is also a member of the Regina Harmony Lions Club and the Saskatchewan Roughrider Pep Band. He is also the founder and conductor of the Prairie Winds Senior Concert Band. Bob has recently been honored by both the Canadian Band Association and the Saskatchewan Band Association for his dedication to developing young musicians. A well-recognized and respected Saskatchewan figure, "Bob", has dedicated his life to nurturing the musical talent of over 10,000 students in his career as a Band Director. Many of his former students now participate in a number of musical groups for band alumni, and a significant number have gone on to careers in music education or entertainment fields. Others who have seen their lives enriched by an appreciation of music are now bringing their children and grandchildren to participate in the "Mossing School of Music".

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015  
Qu'Appelle Valley Music Festival

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## Gail Murray

Yellow Grass

### Piano

Gail Murray has taught private piano lessons, group music (MYC) and theory classes at Yellow Grass and Weyburn for many years. Her students participate in recitals, music festivals and exams. She is the RCM Exam co-ordinator for Weyburn Centre and is a member of SRMTA, having served on the board for 5 years. Gail accompanies vocal and instrumental competitors at the local music festival and accompanies "Variations" Community Choir, Weyburn for 15 years. Her musical duties also include playing at Yellow Grass United Lutheran Partnership Church and volunteering to play piano and organ at other events in the area. Gail and her husband have 3 grown children, 5 grandchildren and reside on a farm west of Yellow Grass. Her hobbies include camping, gardening, reading, sewing, travelling and anything "musical".

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
Swift Current & District Music Festival  
2016  
Estevan & District Music Festival

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## Ian C. Nelson

Saskatoon

### Musical Theatre, Speech Arts

Bilingual actor-director-dramaturg and award-winning playwright, Ian C. Nelson trained with Catherine Dasté in Paris and Wesley Balk (*The Complete Singer-Actor*) in Minneapolis. He has taken vocal workshops with Kristin Linklater and master classes with Jo Estill. Ian has performed over 130 roles and appeared in more than a half-dozen world première stage productions in French and English. Ian has directed opera, operetta and musical theatre productions for various companies in Montreal, Western Canada and the Yukon. He is the 2014 inductee in the Theatre Saskatchewan Hall of Fame. Ian's work has been seen literally from coast to coast in Canada as well as in France and Norway. He is one of the panelists in the Saskatchewan Musical Festival Association's "Art of Adjudicating" DVD.

Ian C. Nelson est metteur en scène, dramaturge et acteur bilingue qui a signé plus de 115 mises en scène et a interprété plus de 130 rôles. Il a fait des stages de formation professionnelle avec Catherine Dasté à Paris, Wesley Balk (auteur de *The Complete Singer-Actor*) à Minneapolis aussi bien que des classes de maître avec Kristin Linklater et Jo Estill aux États-Unis. Ian a signé des mises-en-scène d'opéras, d'opéras bouffes et de comédies musicales pour plusieurs troupes à Montréal et dans l'Ouest canadien. D'autres mises-en-scènes qu'il a signées ont été vues de la côte atlantique à la côte pacifique et au Yukon au Canada, aussi bien qu'en France et en Norvège. Ian figure dans le DVD de la Saskatchewan Musical Festival Association : "The Art of Adjudicating".

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2017  
Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival



## John Nelson

Regina

### Choir

John is associate pastor of music and seniors' ministries and seniors' ministries. He attended the U of M, receiving a BA degree and a Licentiate in Music diploma in vocal studies. While studying in Winnipeg he was a tenor soloist and chorus member with the very popular Winnipeg CBC television program, "Hymn Sing". A B.Ed. degree was completed at the U of C, along with summer studies taken at Southern Theological Seminary (Louisville, Kentucky), Briarcrest Seminary (Caronport, SK), and Carey Theological College (Vancouver, BC).

John has been privileged to sing or work with many renowned choral conductors and artists, receiving recognition for both his music ability and contributions to music. He has been very involved in the Regina community and is responsible for the development of MEET YOUR MUSICIAN, a choral workshop experience for church musicians that has gained a North American wide reputation.

John also enjoys the opportunities to act as a handbell and/or choral clinician, conductor, and adjudicator at various festivals and workshops, and has done so throughout Canada and the U.S.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016

Moose Jaw Music Festival



## Joy Nelson

Saskatoon

### Piano, Voice, School Music

Joy Nelson holds a B.Mus. in voice and piano, B.Ed. (U of R) as well as the ARCT and AMUS in piano. Joy has choir experience both as a singer and as a conductor. She has directed musicals for camps, Easter and Christmas programs. She was also vice president of the Spiritwood Music Festival. Joy has worked as a music consultant for the Yorkdale School Unit where she was in charge of the classroom music and choirs for 12 schools, plus conducted junior and intermediate bands. Mrs. Nelson is an experienced teacher, clinician, accompanist, and adjudicator, as well as an arranger and composer of music. Joy Nelson lives in Saskatoon where she teaches piano, voice and theory students in her home studio. She also enjoys doing music in several daycares through the Community Music Education Program which has moved from the U of S to the Wilton Music Academy. She and her husband, Dave, have four grown children; Mary Joy, Jonathan, Jeremy and Vanessa.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Eston Music Festival

2016

Hafford & District Music Festival

2015

Qu'Appelle Valley Music Festival



## Bob Nicholls

Regina

### Percussion, Choir, Instruments

Bob Nicholls is a long-time member of the Regina Symphony Orchestra, having played timpani and percussion. His performing has also included percussion ensembles, contemporary music ensembles, wind ensembles, and steel band. He has a long list of percussion clinics and teaching to his credit, and has had various percussion articles published. He has adjudicated percussion in music festivals in Calgary, Moose Jaw, Saskatoon and Kindersley. Mr. Nicholls received his B.Mus.Ed. Degree from the U of R. He taught elementary and high school for 31 years, mostly as a music teacher (choral, general music, guitar, and band), though he taught English and drama for his last several years. He is currently a member of the Regina Philharmonic Chorus and choral conductor of St. Paul's Anglican Cathedral Choir. As someone committed to the arts, Mr. Nicholls has been a member of many boards, including the SMEA, CMEA, Regina Symphony Orchestra Players' Association, SCF, Regina Summer Stage, and Regina Performing Arts Centre.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015

Kindersley & District Music Festival



## Bonnie Nicholson

Saskatoon

### Piano

Bonnie Nicholson is a pianist, teacher and chamber musician from Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. Her degrees include a Bachelor of Music (Performance) and a Master of Arts Degree from the University of Saskatchewan, as well as an A.R.C.T. in Piano Performance from the R.C.M. Teachers and influences are varied and include mentor Robin Harrison. Since 1985, Bonnie has served as a Sessional Lecturer in Piano, at the Department of Music, U of S, in Saskatoon. As part of her solo and teaching career, she has received the Florence Bowes Piano Pedagogy Scholarship (1993), the Dwaine Nelson Teaching Award for Excellence from the U of S Association of Student Musicians (2000) and the Sylvia Wallace Award for Sessional Teaching Excellence at the University of Saskatchewan (2004). Bonnie Nicholson appears on CD with Bass-Baritone Henri Loiselle, the Saskatoon Children's Choir, the Saskatoon Fireside Singers, trumpeter Dean McNeill's disc entitled "Melange", and saxophonist Glen Gillis' discs entitled, "SaxSpectrum" and "Saxspectrum 2". Most recently, "Les Quatre Mains 1" was released with Bonnie's long time collaborator and friend, pianist Dianne Gryba. Bonnie is a founding member of SAVP which is a Summer School for Voice and Piano held in Saskatoon in July.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Meadow Lake & District Music Festival



2017  
Lloydminster & District Kiwanis Music Festival  
2015  
Outlook & District Music Festival

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## Gloria Nickell

Rosetown

### Piano

Gloria Nickell has been actively involved in the musical life of her hometown of Rosetown as well as the province. She has devoted her energies to teaching piano and theory. She has also accompanied the community choir as well as many vocalists and instrumentalists over the years and has adjudicated several festivals in Saskatchewan and Alberta. Ms Nickell holds an Associate Diploma from the RCM. She is a member of the West Central Branch of the SRMTA and the Rosetown Music Festival Association. She served on the SMFA Board of Directors for 10 years and also served as a Director on the Board of the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals for five years. In 2016, Ms. Nickell received an Honorary Life Membership from FCMF and SMFA.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015  
Lloydminster & District Kiwanis Music Festival  
Naicam Music Festival

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## Darrin Oehlerking

Saskatoon

### Band

Dr. Darrin Oehlerking is Director of Bands and Associate Professor of Music at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, Canada, where he conducts the Wind Orchestra, and teaches courses in Conducting, Wind Literature and Music Education. Under his direction, the U of S Wind Orchestra has performed at the 2015 WASBE Conference in San Jose, and performed a European tour in 2013. He previously served as Director of Bands and Jazz at Bemidji State University in Bemidji, Minnesota, and as Music Coordinator for the Louis Riel School Division in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Dr. Oehlerking earned his DMA in Wind Conducting at The University of Iowa, where he studied with Dr. Myron Welch. He earned his Masters in Music Performance with an emphasis in Conducting, as well as separate Bachelors degrees in Music and Education from the University of Manitoba. Dr. Oehlerking is the President of the Canadian Band Association and a Past President of the Saskatchewan Band Association. He is also a member of several other professional organizations, including the College Band Directors National Association, WASBE and Pi Kappa Lambda. He has served as an adjudicator, guest conductor, clinician and conference presenter in Canada, the United States, England, and Germany. He is currently on sabbatical, conducting research on the history of the bands of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, as well as the wind band works of Canadian composer Charles O'Neill.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
Moose Jaw Music Festival  
2018  
Saskatoon Music Festival  
2017  
Meadow Lake & District Music Festival

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## Oxana Ossiptchouk

Saskatoon

### Strings

Oxana Ossiptchouk was educated in North Ossetiya, Russia, where she received a Master's degree at the Sergey Rachmaninov State Conservatory in Rostov-on-Don in Violin Solo Performance, Orchestral Performance and Chamber Music. She was the winner of several competitions in Russia, performing the Mendelssohn Concerto with the North Ossetiya Republic Symphony Orchestra, and the Brahms violin concerto with the Rostov-on-Don Philharmonic Orchestra. In Canada, Oxana won the Saskatchewan Concerto Competition and performed the Szymanowsky Concerto with the Saskatoon and Regina Symphonies. She has also been an orchestral member of the Timmins and Regina Symphonies, and is presently Principal Second Violinist of the Saskatoon Symphony and performs with the Saskatoon Symphony Chamber Players and Elixir. She is the founder and Director of the Saskatoon Conservatory of Music.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018  
Melfort Music Festival  
Sask Valley Music Festival



**Voice, Musical Theatre, Choir, Speech Arts**

Mezzo-Soprano Janice Paterson is a voice teacher in Saskatoon. Her degrees include a Bachelor of Music (Performance) and a Master of Music (Performance) from the University of Saskatchewan, and an Opera Diploma from the University of Toronto. Janice currently teaches voice at the University of Saskatchewan and maintains a large private voice studio. As a soloist, she has performed with the Canadian Opera Company, Opera Buffa (Toronto), Co-Opera, Prairie Opera, T.O.T.O.S., Saskatoon Opera, and the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra. She is also a co-founder and teacher at the Summer Academy for Voice and Piano in Saskatoon. Janice Paterson was a finalist at the National level of the Canadian Music Competition, was a runner-up in both the NATS competition and the Metropolitan Opera Council Regional Auditions, and was the Vocal Category and Grand Award winner at the National Music Festival. She has performed in masterclasses with Marlena Malas, Warren Jones, Edith Pergola, Mignon Dunn, Alexander Browning, and Jane Manning. Recent vocal study has been with Senora Svetlana Paoletti in Arrezo, Italy.

**Recent Festivals Adjudicated:**

2019

Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival

2017

Biggar &amp; District Music Festival

**Band, Woodwind, Brass, Percussion**

Larry Pearen, a graduate of the University of Saskatchewan and University of Regina is the founding director of both the Yorkton Community Concert and ALL THAT JAZZ Big Bands. A clinician, adjudicator, and educator, Mr. Pearen was responsible for all bands at the Yorkton Regional High School until his retirement in 2003. His concert and jazz bands were award winners at local, provincial and Musicfest National Finals. His school bands have traveled extensively throughout Canada and the United States performing in the 1998 Tournament of Roses Parade, Pasadena, Disneyland, and Universal Studios California, MGM Theme Park in Las Vegas, Disney World, and Universal Studios Florida as well as in four Canadian Football League Grey Cup Pre Game and Half Time Shows. Mr. Pearen is a past president of the Canadian Band Association, the Saskatchewan Band Association, former CBA National Youth Band of Canada manager and coordinated a junior band camp for eleven years. He was awarded an Honorary Life membership in the Phi Beta Mu International Bandmasters Fraternity in Chicago and was awarded an Honorary Life Membership in the Canadian Band Association with the CBA National Music Award for his work and leadership with bands in Canada.

Larry and his wife Sonia, a retired pharmacist, have two married daughters and enjoy their five grandchildren.

**Recent Festivals Adjudicated:**

2019

Saskatoon Music Festival

**Voice, Choral, Speech Arts**

Casey Peden holds a Master of Music in Vocal Performance and a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from the University of Alberta. Her professional development continued through Tafelmusik's Baroque Summer Institute, the Early Music Vancouver Vocal Summer School and private lessons. Ms. Pedens' teachers include Linda Perillo, Harold Wiens, Ellen Hargis, and Lisa Hornung. Ms. Peden has been heard as a soloist with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, Pro Coro Canada, Madrigal Singers, Alberta College Womens Choir, Da Camera Singers, Schola Cantorum, the Dutch Renaissance Ensemble Verboden Frucht and recently with the Saskatoon Symphony Chamber Orchestra. She has been the soprano soloist in Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Mozart's *Coronation Mass*, Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Bach's *Magnificat*, *Christmas Oratorio*, and *Coffee Cantata*, Vaughn William's *Serenade to Music*, Rutter's *Requiem*, Allegri's *Miserere*, and Haydn's *Missa Sancti Nicolai*. Her most recent engagement was as the soprano soloist in Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle* with the Laurentian University Choir, under the direction of Robert Hall. In addition to her recital singing, Casey has been giving duet recitals with contralto Lisa Hornung, staying active with her studio, adjudicating, and volunteering with the Community Youth Choir in North Battleford. She is also part of the teaching team for the Summer School for the Solo Voice, a week-long summer intensive vocal camp for singers and choristers of all levels. Casey lives with her husband and two sons on the family ranch near Glaslyn, Saskatchewan.

**Recent Festivals Adjudicated:**

2019

Regina Music Festival

2018

Biggar &amp; District Music Festival

Hafford &amp; District Music Festival

2017

Melfort Music Festival

Saskatoon Music Festival

2016

Unity Music Festival



## Naomi Piggott-Suchan

Saskatoon

### Piano

Naomi Piggott-Suchan graduated in April 2009 with honours from McGill University's Master of Accompanying program where she studied collaborative performance under Professor Michael McMahon. She has been working for the past eight years as a professional pianist for McGill University's Voice Department, where she coached graduate and undergraduate vocalists in opera and Lieder repertoire, singing diction, musical style, languages (French, English, German and Italian), and ensemble. Ms. Suchan was also a frequent recitalist at McGill and throughout the Montreal area. In May 2017, Ms. Suchan relocated to Saskatoon, SK with her husband Paul and their daughter, Evelyn, where she continues her collaborative work at the University of Saskatchewan and teaches privately. Upcoming performances in Saskatoon include the 2017/2018 Baroque Series with the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra and numerous collaborative recitals.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Eston Music Festival

2018

Gravelbourg & District Bilingual Music Festival



## Kevin Power

Saskatoon

### Musical Theatre

Kevin Power has received critical acclaim as a singer/actor from the Times of London to the Globe and Mail and Opera Canada. For decades he has appeared as a character actor on stage, television, and movies - most recently in the 2017 movie "Incident in a Ghost Land", for the big screen in Canada, the US, and Europe. Stage credits include *M. André*, The Phantom of the Opera (Original Canadian Cast); *Tiny Tim*, Urinetown: the Musical (Original Canadian Cast), *Thenardier*, Les Misérables; *Rooster*, Annie; *Cogsworth*, Disney's Beauty & the Beast; and dozens more. He has appeared in concert with some of Canada's finest orchestras, and toured his self-produced show jazz show throughout Canada. He has originated several roles for the Canadian Operetta Company, The Banff Centre, and Welsh National Opera. He has appeared in lead and principal roles with film studios such as Lifetime Network, Lionsgate studios, the Syfy network, CBC, Bravo and the USA. Kevin can be seen in the first season of the smash television hit "Suits", and commercial work. Kevin is creative producer and host of the podcast series "SaskScapes", available on iTunes (and all podcasting apps) and featured on CBC's national radio and Radio Saskatchewan. [www.kevinpower.net](http://www.kevinpower.net)

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival

Saskatoon Music Festival



## Mark Preece

Regina

### Band, Brass, Woodwind

Mark Preece is Principal Tuba and Librarian of the Regina Symphony Orchestra. He has a BMus and a MMus in tuba performance, and has studied with renowned tubists Roger Bobo, Patrick Sheridan, Sam Pilafian, and John Griffiths. As an orchestral musician, Mark has also performed with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, the Alberta Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Metamorphosis Symphony. His career has led him to performances in the United States, France, Germany, Belgium, The Netherlands, and Japan. Mark is an adjudicator for wind instruments and bands with the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association. He is a member of the International Tuba & Euphonium Association and the Major Orchestras Librarian Association. Mark is also an active music arranger. He has written many arrangements for brass band, orchestral brass, various brass ensembles in addition to pieces for solo tuba and tuba quartet. His music has been performed and recorded worldwide, including performances by Big Sky Brass, The Regina Symphony Orchestra, and The Fairey Band of Great Britain. His music is self published and is available from him directly, the Score Exchange and Cimarron Music Press. Mark began playing the Tuba at age 12 in the Salvation Army Church. He works as a clinician throughout Saskatchewan, and has taught brass to students of all ages. He teaches Tuba & Euphonium at Regina's Conservatory for the Performing Arts and the University of Regina.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Potashville Music Festival

2018

Redvers & District Music Festival

2017

Parkland & District Music Festival

Watrous & District Music Festival

2016

Kipling & District Music Festival

Qu'Appelle Valley Music Festival

2015

Melfort Music Festival



## Lana Ramsay

Regina

### Piano

Born in Watson, Saskatchewan, Lana Ramsay grew up surrounded by music – saxophone, guitar, accordion and piano played by her father and singing by her mother. She began piano lessons at an early age with the Ursuline Sisters. Her love of music led her to piano studies with Lyell Gustin and Robin Harrison in Saskatoon, then in Lawrence, Kansas, where she participated in master classes with American pianist, Leon Fleischer. While in Lawrence, she was introduced to the Suzuki Piano Method where she received teacher training. After graduating with a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance, she returned to Saskatchewan and made her home in Regina with her husband, Doug, and eventually 4 children, who all studied piano and branched into other instruments. For over 30 years, Lana has taught Suzuki and traditional piano. She is a frequent clinician at the Calgary and Edmonton Suzuki Workshops, and adjudicates for the Sask. Music Festival Association. She currently teaches at the Conservatory for Performing Arts in Regina. She is passionate in her love for children and in her belief from Dr. Suzuki that “all children can learn to play well if given the right conditions”. She understands both the importance of music education in children’s lives and the practical challenges faced by parents.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

- 2019  
Lloydminster & District Kiwanis Music Festival
- 2018  
Swift Current & District Music Festival
- 2016  
Lafleche & District Music Festival
- 2015  
Borderland Music Festival



## Shawna Ramsay

North Battleford

### Voice, Choral, Speech Arts

Shawna Ramsay received her Bachelor’s Degree in Vocal Performance from the University of Regina, where she was the recipient of numerous awards including: Alice Mary Goodfellow Scholarship for voice, Liedfeld Music Scholarship, Luther Student Residence Scholarship, and the Music Department General Entrance Scholarship. She was a member of the University of Regina’s Chamber Singers as well as a featured soloist in their performance of Mendelssohn’s *Hear my Prayer/O For the Wings of a Dove*. Most recently Shawna sang Messiah in the first ever auditioned Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra Chorus. Mrs. Ramsay’s solo performing credits include: Suzanna in *The Marriage of Figaro*, Gabriel in *The Creation* by Haydn, Miss Sweetsong in Mozart’s *Impresario*, and Gretel in Humperdinck’s *Hansel and Gretel*. She also collaborated with pianists from the University of Regina to contribute to the performance of Schubert’s *Die Schone Mullerin*. Shawna continues her studies with Lisa Hornung as well as her professional development in intensive programs such as Summer School for the Solo Voice. Shawna maintains a private studio in North Battleford, Saskatchewan, where she lives with her husband Lincoln and two daughters, Aria and Nola.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

- 2019  
Hafford & District Music Festival
- 2017  
Twin Rivers Music Festival
- 2015  
Melfort Music Festival



## Gillian Rice

Canora

### Piano

**Gillian Rice (Leson)** was born and raised in small town Saskatchewan. She began piano and voice lessons at a young age with private music teachers. She has had various influences during her musical studies including Dawn Hrykiw, Jean Laube, Carla Plosz, Diana Woolrich, Janice Elliot Denike, Thelma Gillis and Michelle Rivers. She has entered many music competitions at local music festivals in the Parkland, Yorkton and Saskatoon regions and has won numerous awards. In the Spring of 2011 Gillian received her Bachelor of Music from the University of Saskatchewan. While at University under the instruction of Professor Kathleen Solose, Gillian performed with chamber ensembles, choirs, duos, and as a soloist. Today she is the owner/operator of Eighty-Eight Keys Music Studio where she teaches private piano and voice lessons. In 2014 she continued her education when she attended the Vancouver International Song Institute. While in Vancouver she had the pleasure of working with many fine musicians such as Rena Sharon, Laura Loewen, Terence Dawson, Cameron Stowe, Darryl Edwards, and Michael McMahon. Gillian’s newest passion since the birth of her first child has become early childhood music. Gillian continues to spread her love of music where it all began for her, in her hometown of Canora, Saskatchewan.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

- 2018  
Last Mountain & District Music Festival



## Sharon Rodney

Martensville

### Piano, Voice

Sharon was born and raised in Yorkton, SK, and her first teachers were Rosalie Calver and Jean Laube. After receiving her ARCT (Associateship with Royal Conservatory of Toronto) in piano performance in 1988, she went on to receive her LTCL (Licentiate with Trinity College, London, England) under the direction of Robin Harrison. She has had a very successful piano and voice studio in Humboldt and area since 1993, and many of her students have gone on to win Provincial awards and to careers in music. She is an active collaborative pianist for both professional musicians as well as students. She has given a great deal of her time to the Marysburg community both as the collaborative pianist for the Marysburg Festival of the Arts concert series as well as their annual Christmas concert. She is very active in church music, in local choirs and as an adjudicator. Her latest interest is in composing, especially Christian music. She has 3 adult daughters who are all very musical and her greatest joy is spending time with them. She moved to Martensville in 2018 where she is establishing a new studio.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Assiniboia Music Festival  
Central Sask Music Festival  
Moose Jaw Music Festival

2018

Potashville Music Festival  
Qu'Appelle Valley Music Festival  
Sask Valley Music Festival  
Yorkton Music Festival

2017

Meadow Lake & District Music Festival  
Moosomin & District Music Festival  
Parkland & District Music Festival  
Prince Albert Music Festival

2016

Biggar & District Music Festival  
Last Mountain & District Music Festival  
Swift Current & District Music Festival  
Twin Rivers Music Festival

2015

Nipawin Music Festival



## Lore Ruschiesky

Regina

### Piano

Lore Ruschiesky began her piano studies in Eston, Saskatchewan. She later studied with Dorothy Bee for her Teacher's Associate in Piano and received her Associate in Piano Performance while studying in Ottawa. She has continued to pursue further studies in music in piano pedagogy as well as general music studies at the conservatory and university level. She has had the privilege of attending professional development conferences provincially, nationally and internationally on a regular basis. Lore has adjudicated extensively in her home province for SMFA and Contemporary Showcase as well as in Alberta. She examines across Canada for Conservatory Canada. Lore has also worked as an accompanist and as a workshop clinician. She maintains a full studio in Regina teaching all levels of piano and theory. Since 2011 Lore has been the Artistic Director of the Cecilian Chamber Series in Regina, a series that features chamber music concerts presented by world-class artists.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Hafford & District Music Festival  
Moosomin & District Music Festival

2018

Lafleche & District Music Festival  
Outlook & District Music Festival

2017

Estevan & District Music Festival

2016

Swift Current & District Music Festival

2015

Last Mountain & District Music Festival  
Melfort Music Festival



## Robyn Rutherford

Unity

### Piano

Robyn Rutherford began her musical training at an early age in Unity. She studied with various teachers and completed an Associateship in Piano Teaching from the Royal Conservatory of Music while studying with Doris Green (piano) and Blanche McDonald (theory). Robyn is a member of the Sask. Registered Music Teachers' Association and an active member of the Battlefords Branch. She is also very involved with the Unity Music Festival having served as President and Entry Secretary. Robyn also enjoyed serving on the SMFA Provincial Board for 3 years. Robyn has also accompanied many students for festival and exams and also plays for various churches in her community. She continues to live in Unity and teaches piano and theory.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Biggar & District Music Festival

2016

Hafford & District Music Festival



## Jeri Ryba

Moose Jaw

### Voice, Musical Theatre

Jeri holds a Bachelor of Education in Music from the University of Lethbridge and an ARCT Performers Diploma in Voice from the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto. Jeri's students have been Provincial Festival Winners and have competed at the Canadian National Music Festival in Musical Theatre. Former students have found success on the musical theatre stage in Toronto and Australia and in opera in Europe and Canada. Jeri is also employed in Moose Jaw as a substitute teacher focusing mainly in music and EAL. Jeri is currently President of the Moose Jaw Music Festival and on the Board of Directors for the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Biggar & District Music Festival

Last Mountain & District Music Festival

2018

Carnduff & District Music Festival

Central Sask Music Festival

Lanigan & District Music Festival

2017

Moosomin & District Music Festival

2016

Mainline & District Music Festival

2015

Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival

Estevan & District Music Festival

Weyburn Music Festival



## Kim Salkeld

Saskatoon

### Concert Band, Jazz Band, Winds

Kim Salkeld has been a professional musician for over 40 years, 25 of which were spent as a keyboardist, arranger, and educator with the Canadian Forces Music Branch. As a member of the CF, he wrote and performed music for numerous military, government, and public functions throughout North America and Europe. Since returning home to Saskatoon in 2012, Kim has been an active freelance musician performing with and writing for a wide variety of ensembles, including the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra, the Saskatoon Jazz Orchestra, and numerous small rock, pop, jazz, and country groups at venues across the province.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Mainline & District Music Festival



## Joan Savage

Saskatoon

### Strings

Joan Savage returned home to Saskatoon after earning degrees in violin performance at Peabody Conservatory (B.Mus.) and San Francisco Conservatory (M.Mus.). She is a violinist in the Saskatoon Symphony, Starry Nights Chamber Musicians, co-directs and performs with Prairie Virtuosi and with BeMUSed, an inventive ensemble that blends music with literature. Highlights of her active chamber music and freelance career include CBC broadcasts of chamber music performances, performing in the 2007 Junos and in the Centennial Orchestra for Queen Elizabeth II. Joan teaches violin to a large studio of students, from beginner to advanced levels.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Lloydminster & District Kiwanis Music Festival

2017

Prince Albert Music Festival

2016  
Nipawin Music Festival  
2015  
Lloydminster & District Kiwanis Music Festival  
Melfort Music Festival

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## Lynette Sawatsky

Saskatoon

### Piano

Lynette Sawatsky was born in Langham, Saskatchewan, and began her musical training at the age of four, being part of the first group of students at Yamaha Music Studios in Saskatoon. She completed her performer's A.R.C.T. in piano while in high school. She holds a Bachelor of Education (elementary) from the University of Saskatchewan. Lynette teaches both group and private lessons and has worked as a music specialist in the public school system. She conducts student and teacher workshops across Canada and has adjudicated at music festivals in B.C., Alberta, and Saskatchewan. Lynette currently directs a group of enthusiastic youngsters from core neighbourhoods during a weekly lunch hour choir program in her community. She believes that music is a gift that brings joy and enriches lives. Lynette's piano compositions have been selected as festival test pieces in Ontario, New Brunswick, and Saskatchewan and have recently been added to Conservatory Canada's syllabus. Her elementary collection, Waddle & Quack, is on Music for Young Children's supplemental list. Lynette's music has been described as "charming", "lyrical", and "pedagogically sound." Lynette has an active piano studio in Saskatoon. She and her husband have four adult children. In her leisure time, she enjoys spending time with her family, drinking coffee with friends, and going for long walks along the beautiful South Saskatchewan River.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
La Ronge & District Music Festival  
Twin Rivers Music Festival  
2018  
Nipawin Music Festival  
Regina Music Festival  
2017  
Biggar & District Music Festival  
Hafford & District Music Festival  
Quill Plains Music Festival  
2016  
Kipling & District Music Festival  
Meadow Lake & District Music Festival  
Sask Valley Music Festival  
2015  
Weyburn Music Festival

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## Ben Schenstead

Saskatoon

### Guitar

Ben Schenstead specializes in fingerstyle and classical guitar, and Latin jazz. Ben Schenstead taught guitar for many years in Saskatoon and has entertained at countless special events. He has two classical guitar albums, Sunburst, nominated for a Prairie Music Award, and Spirit of the Guitar which features solo guitar and string orchestra. Ben has appeared on national television (CTV) and his music has been featured on CBC radio. In addition to solo guitar performances, Ben has collaborated with other musicians in duos, trios, and bands of various styles. Selected pieces from Ben's solo guitar repertoire is available for viewing on his website, benschenstead.com.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018  
Nipawin Music Festival  
Quill Plains Music Festival  
2016  
Saskatoon Music Festival

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## Claire Seibold

Rosetown

### Piano

Claire Seibold is piano and theory teacher, accompanist and adjudicator living in Rosetown, Saskatchewan where she farms with her husband. While studying at the University of Saskatchewan with Robin Harrison, she obtained a Bachelor of Music in Performance. She furthered her piano pedagogy training with Shelia Shinkewski and received an ARCT Teacher's diploma from the Royal Conservatory of Music. Claire is a member of the Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers' Association, West Central Branch and has held several leadership positions within her branch as well as with the Rosetown Music Festival Association. Claire serves as organist at St. Andrew's Anglican Church.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
Swift Current & District Music Festival  
2015  
Twin Rivers Music Festival



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## Janis Smith

Regina

### Piano

Janis Smith began her musical training with the Sisters of St. Ursuline in Engelfeld, SK, and received her Associateship in Piano Teaching from the RCM and her Licentiate in Piano Teaching from Trinity College of London under the tutelage of Jean Harach. She began teaching in 1982 and joined the faculty at the Conservatory of Performing Arts, U of R in 1990, serving for several years as Head of the Piano Department. Janis has served on the executive of the Regina Musical Club, Art School Sask and on the Board for OSAC. She is a member-at-large of the SRMTA. She has judged competitions for Regina Musical Club, sat on the OSAC selection committee, and has also been a member of the Music Selection Committee for the Provincial Syllabus of the SMFA. Janis continues to live and teach in Regina.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

- 2019
  - Shaunavon & District Music Festival
- 2018
  - Moosomin & District Music Festival
- 2017
  - Assiniboia Music Festival
- 2016
  - Melfort Music Festival
  - Outlook & District Music Festival
  - Quill Plains Music Festival
- 2015
  - Lafleche & District Music Festival
  - Mainline & District Music Festival
  - Swift Current & District Music Festival



## Rudolf Sternadel

Regina

### Strings

Born in Prague, Czech Republic, Rudolf Sternadel started violin lessons at the age of five. In 1980 he moved to Canada, where he began lessons under Professor David Zafer, completing his Bachelor of Music at the University of Toronto in 1991. He then enrolled at the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague, where he studied violin with Professor Václav Snítal and chamber music with Professor Lubomír Kostecký of the Smetana Quartet. During his stay in Europe, Rudolf also toured Germany and Italy as a member of the RIAS Jugendorchester, Berlin and participated in several chamber music seminars. Upon returning to Canada, he enrolled at the University of Toronto, completing his Master of Music degree in September 1994 under the tutelage of Professor Lorand Fenyves. Until October of 2000, he was involved in numerous freelance and chamber music activities in Toronto and Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario. Upon moving to Regina in 2000, Rudolf was the head of the Child/Parent String Program for 15 years and is currently instructor of violin and viola at the Conservatory of Performing Arts, University of Regina. He is member of the Regina Symphony, Amati String Quartet, per Sonatori Baroque Ensemble and is the Assistant Music Director / Librarian for the South Saskatchewan Youth Orchestra.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

- 2018
  - Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival
- 2017
  - Nipawin Music Festival
- 2015
  - Moose Jaw Music Festival



## Kathy Stokes

Yorkton

### Choral, Speech Arts

Kathy Stokes holds a B. Ed (Music and Early Childhood Education) from the University of Regina. Active as a soloist, teacher, voice coach, choral director, adjudicator, clinician and music advocate, she has served as President of the Saskatchewan Choral Federation, President of the Potashville Music Festival, Arts Education Teacher Leader for the Saskatchewan Ministry of Learning Curriculum Renewal and Performing Arts Coordinator for the Esterhazy and District Arts Council. Her award winning choirs and choral speech groups have been recognized locally, provincially, nationally and internationally. In 2007, under her direction, Esterhazy High School Jr. Choir, 'Swing Soleil' performed at UNISONG and on Parliament Hill during Canada Day celebrations in Ottawa. In 2015, she directed Regina's Youth Barbershop Chorus 'Harmony 2 Go' at the International Youth Chorus Competition in New Orleans. Her most recent international project was promoting Canadian choral music and collaborating with Marijke Roos and the award winning Bloemhof Girls' Choir in Stellenbosch, South Africa. In 2015, Kathy was nominated for a YWCA Women of Distinction Award for her commitment to promoting the Arts in Saskatchewan. She presently serves as Past President of the Saskatchewan Choral Federation.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

- 2018
  - Swift Current & District Music Festival
- 2017
  - Potashville Music Festival





## Laurel Teichroeb

Yorkton

### Piano

Laurel Teichroeb studied piano with the late Jean Laube. She received her Associateship, Teachers diploma, with the RCM and continued further musical studies in electronic and pipe organ. Laurel also received certification in Kindermusik at the U of C. Most recently she completed a Licentiate diploma in Piano Pedagogy with CNCM and is beginning work on a Fellowship. Laurel is past president of the Yorkton branch of the SRMTA where she has served in every capacity on the executive. She is an active examiner for CNCM and adjudicates for festivals around the province and Manitoba.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival  
Rosetown & District Music Festival

2018

Prince Albert Music Festival  
Saskatoon Music Festival

2017

Lanigan & District Music Festival  
Potashville Music Festival  
Vanguard & District Music Festival

2016

Humboldt Music Festival  
Watrous & District Music Festival

2015

Kipling & District Music Festival  
Redvers & District Music Festival



## Mark Turner

Saskatoon

### Piano

Pianist Mark Turner is the Executive Director of the Saskatoon Symphony. He holds an ARCT in Performance and an Honours Licentiate in Recital Performance from London College. His career includes work as teacher and coach, music director, curator, producer, radio host, consultant, and adjudicator.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Shurniak Concerto Competition

2018

Lloydminster & District Kiwanis Music Festival

2017

Moose Jaw Music Festival

2015

Shurniak Concerto Competition



## Brian Unverricht

Saskatoon

### Band, Instruments, Buitar

Brian Unverricht recently retired after nearly 40 years as a music educator and conductor in Canada, Australia, and Germany, where he taught instrumental, choral, and jazz students from grade seven through university level, as well as classroom music. He now pursues his love of music education as an adjudicator of bands and instruments in Saskatchewan and western Canada, a leader of numerous workshops and clinics, and a guest conductor for Honour groups. As a performer he currently performs, arranges, and conducts music in a variety of genres around Saskatoon and district that include the Saskatoon Symphony, Parkland Brass, jazz groups, and the Saskatoon Klezmer band (which he leads).

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Melfort Music Festival

2017

Prince Albert Music Festival

2016

Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival  
Twin Rivers Music Festival

2015

Saskatoon Music Festival



## Janine Wainess

Swift Current

### Instrumental, Vocal, Band, Choral

Janine Wainess comes from Swift Current, Saskatchewan where she has been programming and running the Swift Current Comprehensive High School Instrumental Music program since 2014. Ms. Wainess has attended festivals in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba receiving superior performance ratings and awards of performance excellence with her ensembles. Ms. Wainess is an active member of the music community in Swift Current where she sings with the Swift Current Oratorio Choir, Prairie Spirit Chamber Singers and is a member of the Swift Current Jazz Orchestra. Prior to moving to Swift Current, Ms. Wainess programmed and ran the Brandon East Side Band Instrumental Music Program for 10 years working with beginning band students in the city of Brandon, Manitoba. She grew up in a small town in rural Manitoba and was always very active in the music community. Ms. Wainess went Brandon University where she received a Bachelor of Music degree with a concentration in Voice in 1999. She then travelled to Kaohsiung, Taiwan for two years to teach English as a Second Language. Upon her return to Canada in 2001 she enrolled in the Bachelor of Education AD program at Brandon University where she graduated in 2004. Ms. Wainess completed her Master of Education Degree in Curriculum Studies focusing in Instrumental Music Education in August, 2014 from Acadia University in Wolfville, NS. Her passion and desire to be a lifelong learner continues to fuel her desire to be the best teacher she can be. Ms. Wainess continues to learn as much as she can to benefit her students and keep her life in the classroom interesting.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Maple Creek & District Music Festival



## Heather Godden Waldner

Warman

### Piano, Brass

Studying with Dr. Lyell Gustin in Saskatoon, Heather Godden Waldner received her Associate from the Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto and her Licentiate from Trinity College of Music, London, England. Heather is a Registered Music Teacher, an examiner for the Royal Conservatory of Music, a festival adjudicator and workshop clinician. Under the name of Heather Godden Laliberte she has composed and published a number of works for piano and voice through Godden Publications. Ms Waldner has led workshops on the Art of Practising, Examination & Festival Preparation and numerous theory topics. She has performed as an accompanist for a wide variety of events including ballet exams, and over the years has held a number of church organist/music director positions. She currently resides in Warman, SK, where she teaches piano, trombone, and all levels and subjects of music theory, and plays lead trombone in the Saskatoon Concert Band.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Biggar & District Music Festival

2017

Qu'Appelle Valley Music Festival

2016

Lanigan & District Music Festival

2015

Prince Albert Music Festival

## Audrey Watson

Rosthern

### Piano

Audrey Watson was born in Saskatoon and raised in Vonda, SK. She received most of her early musical education with Thomas Day. She returned to music studies as an adult, first with Janet Caldwell in Meadow Lake, and then after moving to Rosthern, she returned to the studio of Thomas Day. She received her Associate diploma (Teacher's) while studying with Sheila Shinkewski. In 2002 Audrey was awarded the Dorothy Bee Memorial Scholarship from the Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers' Association. In 2010 Audrey returned to studies with Kathleen Lohrenz Gable, focusing on pedagogy and repertoire. Audrey is active in the Saskatchewan Valley Music Festival, having completed two terms as President. She is a member of the Saskatoon Branch of the Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers' Association (SRMTA). She also served on the provincial board of SRMTA completing a term as provincial president. Audrey maintains an active studio in Rosthern where she teaches piano and theory. She is pianist/organist and co-music director at her church. She is married to George and they have three grown children.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Yorkton Music Festival

2018

Estevan & District Music Festival

2017

Watrous & District Music Festival

2016

Moose Jaw Music Festival

2015

Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival

Meadow Lake & District Music Festival



## Britney Wendel

Caronport

### Piano

Britney completed her ARCT in Piano Performance with the RCM in 2012, receiving a grade of 90%, and subsequently the provincial medal and the Gustin House/Trounce Heritage Committee Inc. Award. In 2015, she graduated from Briercrest College with a Bachelor of Arts in Music and a Minor in Theology at the top of her program and in the top three of her graduating class. She enjoyed giving solo piano recitals in advance of her ARCT exam and in 2010 to receive the Helen Davidson Award in Weyburn, her hometown. She actively composes, performs, and competes, most recently advancing to the SMFA Provincial Finals in 2017. Britney has many fond memories of her years in bands and choirs, and of her vocal studies and theatre performances at Briercrest, for which she taught dance for 3 years after graduating. Currently in her fourth year of teaching private piano lessons in Caronport and Moose Jaw, she celebrates the growth of her studio and of her bright students! Her passion is helping young musicians understand the history, theory, and technique behind the music while invigorating their pursuit of excellence in the arts and in life. She and her husband reside in Caronport where they are blessed to chase after their energetic baby boy.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Vanguard & District Music Festival



## Stewart Wilkinson

Regina

### Choral, Voice

Mr. Wilkinson received his BA and BEd (music majors) from the University of Saskatchewan, and his MMus (choral conducting) from the University of Regina. As chair of the Fine Arts Department at Campbell Collegiate, Regina, his choirs enjoyed international acclaim, with workshops and performances in Seoul, South Korea, the People's Republic of China, the International Jazz Educators Association conference in San Antonio, Texas, and the Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland. In the fall of 1999 Mr. Wilkinson moved to Austin, Texas, where he served for twelve years as choral director at St. Stephen's Episcopal School. While there, he organized performance tours to New York City, San Francisco, Washington, D.C., Banff, Taiwan, Germany, the Netherlands, Hungary, Austria, the Czech Republic, and China. Personal honors include the first-ever Downbeat Magazine Award for excellence in music education in 1990, the Saskatchewan Choral Federation's 1992 Pro Musica Award, and the Saskatchewan Music Educators Association's 1993 Outstanding Achievement Award. In 2004 Mr. Wilkinson received an award of merit from the Association of Canadian Choral Conductors in recognition of his 25 years of service to choral music in Canada. Most recently Mr. Wilkinson served for two years as the director of the newly established Saskatchewan Youth Choir.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Outlook & District Music Festival

2018

Swift Current & District Music Festival

2017

Maple Creek & District Music Festival

2016

Nipawin Music Festival



## Wingtak Nova Wong

Saskatoon

### Strings

Nova Wong has collaborated with many of the best musicians in Canada, U.S. and Hong Kong. Performances include her Sask Arts Board-funded recital series in 2013, faculty chamber concert in Universidade de Sao Jose (Macau), and other chamber music performances in Saskatchewan and Ontario. Ms. Wong's education includes B.A. at the Chinese University Hong Kong, Pro.Diploma at the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, and M.Mus. in violin performance from the Indiana University. Her principle teachers are Mark Kaplan, Chee-Yun Kim, and Michael Ma. Nova Wong is a devoted baroque violinist. In addition to teaching at her private music studio, Ms Wong also enjoys accompanying on the piano, and coaching her church's choir which is at the Saskatoon Chinese Christian Church.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival

2018

Prince Albert Music Festival

2017

Sask Valley Music Festival



## Melissa Wood

Caronport

### Voice, Musical Theatre, Speech Arts, Choral

Originally from Manitoba, mezzo-soprano Melissa Wood has called Saskatchewan home for the past eighteen years. A graduate of Briercrest College, Melissa received her B.A. in Music Performance: Voice under the tutelage of Dr. Ron de Jager. Since graduating, Melissa's passion has been to teach and perform. She has starred in numerous productions encompassing musical theatre to opera. Some of her more recent performances include, Ruth in *Pirates of Penzance*, the Duchess in *The Gondoliers*, Miss Todd in *Old Maid and the Thief*, and Golde in *Fiddler on the Roof*, The Mother Abbess in *Sound of Music* and Marilla in *Anne of Green Gables*. In 2013 Melissa had the privilege of studying under acclaimed mezzo-soprano Paula Rockwell in Wolfville, Nova Scotia. While studying in Nova Scotia, she was featured as a guest soloist at Wolfville Baptist Church's Lenten Concert Series. Melissa has taught at Briercrest College in Caronport, SK for the past 14 years. She is currently completing her Master of Music degree at the University of Regina studying under Dr. Helen Pridmore. Her final Graduate recital features the music of Canadian composers such as Beckwith, Somers, Ford, Greer, Archer and Forsyth. She is the proud mother of three young children, Isabel, Hannah and Felix, who enjoy music just as much as she does.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

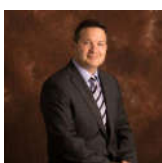
Shaunavon & District Music Festival

2018

Mainline & District Music Festival

2017

Borderland Music Festival



## Mark Zawerucha

Yorkton

### Band instruments

Mr. Mark Zawerucha received his degree in instrumental music education from the University of Mary, Bismarck, ND. While in university, Mark performed with many groups including the Concert Band, Choir, Jazz Band, Vocal Jazz and Steel Drum Band. In 1997, Mark accepted a teaching position with the Yorkton Public School Division where he taught elementary and high school instrumental music for 19 years. During that time, Mr. Zawerucha's groups performed at many high calibre events including the 1998 Rose Bowl Parade, Live with Country superstar Shania Twain in 2003, Montreux Jazz Festival in 2003, two Walt Disney World Performances, numerous CFL halftime shows, Grey Cup Parades and festivals. In June 2016, Mark retired from teaching to pursue a career in real estate, a long time passion of his. He still maintains an active private lesson studio, performance schedule and adjudication calendar.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Parkland & District Music Festival



## Heather Bedford-Clooney

Edmonton

### Voice, Speech Arts, Musical Theatre, Choir

Heather Bedford-Clooney has a B.Mus.Ed, ARCT (voice), ATCL, and a Licentiate in Speech and Drama. She has maintained a voice studio in Edmonton for 35 years and has had students compete at the local, provincial, and national level of the festival movement. Mrs. Bedford-Clooney has adjudicated both local and provincial music festivals in B.C., Alberta, Ontario, and Sask. She is the Artistic Director of the Edmonton Columbian Choirs, and conducts Chanteuses as well as the Festival Singers of Sherwood Park.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015

Moose Jaw Music Festival



## Esther Bing

Calgary

### Piano

Esther Bing is an Off-Campus Piano Instructor for the Conservatory at *Mount Royal University* (Calgary), and a Piano Examiner with *The Royal Conservatory of Music*. She received a Bachelor Degree in Piano Performance from the *University of British Columbia*, and Master Degree in Piano Performance from *The Boston Conservatory*. Notable accomplishments include: a full scholarship to *The Boston Conservatory (TBC)* from winning the *Open Scholarship Competition*; Winner, *TBC's Piano Honours Competition*; Runner-up and Finalist at the *UBC Concerto Competition*, and *Richmond Gateway Competition*, respectfully; First Prize (silver medal) from the *Regina Conservatory of Music*, and First Prize in the *Regina Kiwanis Festival's Open Scholarship Competition*. Ms. Bing was the Orchestral Pianist for both *The Boston Conservatory*, and *UBC* orchestras and has performed with CPO & ESO musicians at the *Columbia Valley Chamber Music Festival*, the *Instrumental Society of Calgary*, and other concerts. She has also served as President and Vice President of the *Piano Diploma Association (Calgary)*, and was a Piano Instructor at the *Calgary Arts Summer School* for many years.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2017

Provincial Festival



## Christine Bootland

Medicine Hat

### Strings

Calgary native Christine Bootland began her studies with Fay Johnson and later at the Mount Royal College Academy of Music with John Kadz. She completed a Bachelor of Music Performance degree at the University of British Columbia under the direction of Eric Wilson and later participated in the Masters Program at the University of Toronto under the tutelage of Shauna Rolston. Christine is an active extra performer with the Lethbridge and Red Deer Symphonies as well as the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra. She has toured Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia as a member of the Armadillo String Quartet of Canada and enjoys doing educational outreach performance programs within the community. Christine has adjudicated all over Alberta and BC and her students have won numerous awards at all levels. Her philosophy is to help create future generations of music lovers of all styles whether they be professionals, amateurs or concert goers. Christine has been on the faculty at Medicine Hat College as cello instructor, ensemble coach, Academy Instructor and conductor and program coordinator for both the Community and Junior Orchestras since 2001. In 2010 she was pleased to be invited to become a cello instructor at the University of Lethbridge Conservatory of Music. Her recent passion is co-ordinating and teaching the Bring Back the Music program at two public schools in Medicine Hat, a strings and guitar program for grades 4-6.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Regina Music Festival

2017

Provincial Festival



## Jennifer Bossé

Edmonton

### Piano

Jennifer Bossé is a native Albertan. She acquired a B.Mus. at the U of A and an Assoc. of Music in Piano Performance from the Western Board of Music. She has enjoyed an active musical career, teaching piano, adjudicating, accompanying string players and vocalists, and serving in music ministry at her church. Her students have been the recipients of many awards, both in piano examinations and festivals.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015

Lloydminster & District Kiwanis Music Festival



## Renée Brad

Edmonton

### Voice, Musical Theatre

Canadian mezzo-soprano Renée Brad has performed throughout Canada and in New York. She created and performed her cabaret *Motherhood: The Second Oldest Profession* for the Golden Apple Theatre Company. Renee attended Opera Nuova and has maintained a lasting relationship with the program, singing The Witch in *Hansel and Gretel*, The Mother in *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, and Carlotta in *Phantom*. For Edmonton Opera she performed Cousin Hebe in *HMS Pinafore*, Kate in *Pirates of Penzance*, Annina in *La Traviata*, Berta in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* and the Dama/Hexe in *Macbeth*. Other roles include Tisbe in *La Cenerentola*, Berta in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, and Mercedes in *Carmen*. Favorite theatre roles include Rose in *The Secret Garden*, Meg Page in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, Katisha in *The Mikado*, Amy in *Company*, and Ella in *Bells are Ringing*. With orchestra, Renée has sung Karl Jenkin's *Stabat Mater*, Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass* and *Paukenmesse*, Mozart's *Coronation Mass* and *Requiem*, Bach's *Weihnachts Oratorium* and *Johannes Passion*, Vivaldi's *Magnificat* and *Gloria*, Handel's *Messiah*, and Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony*. Renée's recording of Elizabeth Raum's *How Bodies Leave Ecstatic Marks* with the Contrasts Trio for the CMC Centrediscs label won a 2008 Western Canadian Music Award. A member of CAEA and NATS, Renée teaches voice in the Theatre Arts Department at MacEwan University, maintains an active private studio, and is in demand as an adjudicator and clinician.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Provincial Festival

2017

Regina Music Festival



## Karen Charlton

Calgary

### Voice

Karen Charlton has been featured on CBC radio and has appeared as a soprano soloist with the Saskatoon Symphony many times. She is a strong supporter of new music and Canadian composers. In the summer of 2014, Karen performed a set of pieces with pianist and composer Geoffrey Pratley - a long time collaborative pianist with Dame Janet Baker. Karen is currently pursuing a passion for teaching clinics, workshops, and masterclasses that center around the language of teaching and learning. She loves to adjudicate and work with students of singing - always creating an atmosphere of festival rather than competition.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016

Estevan & District Music Festival

Kindersley & District Music Festival

2015

Humboldt Music Festival

Last Mountain & District Music Festival

Naicam Music Festival

Rosetown & District Music Festival



## Rob Curtis

Edmonton

### Choir

Rob Curtis received his Doctor of Music in 2015 from the University of Alberta, where he conducts the University of Alberta Concert Choir, a 40-voice ensemble consisted of students from across the University. Rob also conducts Edmonton's i Coristi Chamber Choir, one of Canada's leading amateur choral ensembles, and is a core member of Pro Coro Canada, Edmonton's professional choir. In addition to his work with these ensembles, he has conducted a wide variety of ensembles of all ages and experience levels, and is in great demand as an engaging and dynamic teacher and adjudicator. Rob's doctoral research focused on the choral works of Canadian composer Malcolm Forsyth, specifically from the point of view of ideas of place and space that are present in his work. His other research interests include acoustics and the science behind choral singing, as well as spatial elements in performance.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016

Regina Music Festival





## Elaine Dunbar

Edmonton

### Voice, Musical Theatre, Piano

Elaine Dunbar is a teacher and performer of music and theatre with over 30 years of experience. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree in piano performance from the University of Alberta; an ARCT in singing performance from the Royal Conservatory (RCM); a BFA in theatre acting from Ryerson University in Toronto; and has studied music theatre at the Banff Centre. She is a member of the RCM College of Examiners and of the Canadian Actors' Equity Association. Elaine lives in Edmonton, where she teaches privately; is music director at Grace United church; conducts Edmonton's Young Columbian Choir, and the teen choir "Vocal Motion"; is vocal coach/pianist/ show-band leader for 2 high-school musical theatre programs in Sherwood Park; and is co-founder of "Dramatic Learning", a company that brings musical theatre into schools through artist- in residence programs. Elaine has performed on stages throughout Canada. Her varied theatre credits range from playing Queen Hermione in Shakespeare's "The Winter's Tale" to country pianist Mr. Floyd Cramer in "Patsy Cline: Sweet Dreams Fantasy Tour". She performed 2 seasons with Pro Coro choir, and was a member of the "Good Spirit" trio who performed at Edmonton's Winspear in honour of the mayor's birthday in 2010. Elaine is privileged and grateful for the fine teachers she has had throughout her life including Edward Lincoln and Ernesto Lejano (piano); Sandra Gavinchuk, Jean Letourneau, David Astor, Peggy Redmond (voice); Walter Kaasa, Kelly Handerek, Robert Seale, and Peter Hinton (acting).

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016

Saskatoon Music Festival



## Lauren Eselson

Calgary

### Woodwinds, Instruments, Band

Lauren Eselson is an Instructor of Flute at Mount Royal University Conservatory. She is a regular extra musician in the flute section of the Calgary Philharmonic. During the seasons of 2003-2006 she was Acting Assistant Principal Flute with the orchestra. Ms. Eselson has also performed with the National Ballet Orchestra, Royal Winnipeg Ballet Orchestra, Calgary Bach Society, Kensington Sinfonia, Chicago Civic Orchestra, the American Wind Symphony, and in pit orchestras for Theater Calgary and Broadway touring productions. She has appeared as a concerto soloist with the Calgary Philharmonic, Calgary Bach Society, Kensington Sinfonia and the Calgary Chamber Ensemble, and has been recorded in recital by CBC Radio. At Mount Royal University Conservatory, Ms. Eselson is also the Woodwind coordinator for the well-known Academy program for gifted young musicians. She is a Woodwind-Brass examiner for the Royal Conservatory of Music and is in demand as an adjudicator across Canada. Ms. Eselson holds a Bachelor of Music from the Cleveland Institute, and a Master of Music from Northwestern University. Her principal teachers were Walfrid Kujala, Maurice Sharp, Jim Walker, Claude Monteux and Geoffrey Gilbert.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Provincial Festival

2015

Saskatoon Music Festival



## Frank Ho

Edmonton

### Strings

Violinist FRANK HO enjoys a multi-faceted career as a chamber musician, soloist, and pedagogue. He holds Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees from the University of Alberta, as well as a Certificate in Performance and a Master of Music degree from Yale University. Born in Hong Kong, Mr. Ho arrived in Canada at the age of five. His principal teachers were Evan Verchomin and James Keene (Alberta College Conservatory in Edmonton); Sidney Harth and Erick Friedman (Yale School of Music); and Yfrah Neaman (Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London, England). He has participated in masterclasses with distinguished artists such as Franco Gulli, Steven Stryk, Gyorgy Pauk, and Jaap Schroder. His performing career as soloist and chamber musician has taken him across three continents. Highlights include concerts at prestigious venues such as the Royal Festival Hall and the Purcell Room in London; Weill Recital Hall, Alice Tully Hall, and Merkin Hall in New York City; and numerous campuses and concert series in western Canada. Many of his concerts have been featured on the CBC. Mr. Ho was the director of the Strathcona Conservatory of Music in Edmonton from 2005 to 2010, where he also maintained a private studio. He is currently a faculty member of the Alberta College Conservatory of Music at MacEwan University, as well as a much sought-after private instructor. His students have been prizewinners in local, provincial, and national competitions in Canada, and many have been accepted to institutions such as the McGill Schulich School of Music, the University of Victoria, the University of Alberta, and the University of Ottawa. Mr. Ho is an active adjudicator at music festivals across the country and has been a member of the College of Examiners for the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto since 2006. Mr. Ho makes his home in Edmonton with his wife and three children.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016

Provincial Festival



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## Gareth Jones

Calgary

### Brass, Band

Gareth Jones is an Adjunct Professor at the University of Calgary where he is the director of the University's Wind Ensemble and the Symphonic Band as well as being the Instructor of Trumpet. He is also the Director of the Alberta Winds, Calgary's professional wind ensemble. In 2014 he was named the conductor of the National Youth Band of Canada. He was Assistant Principal Trumpet with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra from 1992 to 2007 and continues to play with the CPO whenever his conducting schedule allows. . Mr. Jones's musical activities are greatly varied. He has appeared as guest conductor and clinician with over three hundred orchestras and wind ensembles, been featured on Juno nominated blues CDs, appeared on CBC radio as a soloist and chamber musician, been a guest lecturer with the National Youth Orchestra of Canada, been an adjudicator at music festivals across Canada, as well as conducting honour bands across Canada and was a reviewer for the recently updated Royal Conservatory of Music trumpet syllabus. Gareth Jones is a Yamaha artist.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Saskatoon Music Festival

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## Alison Kilgannon

Sherwood Park

### Piano



Originally from Edson, Alberta, pianist Alison Kilgannon has performed in North America as well as in Spain, France, Switzerland, Holland, Germany, and Ecuador. She has appeared with the Orquesta Santa Cecilia Cullera, the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, and the Edmonton Senior Youth Orchestra. Her playing has been described as "suave and spirited... solid and self-assured" (Hinton Voice, William van Geest). She holds a doctorate degree in piano performance from the University of Montreal where she studied under Dr. Jean Saulnier. Currently based in Alberta where she holds a position as Assistant Professor at Burman University, Alison remains active as a soloist, collaborative artist, and adjudicator while still finding time to enjoy hiking in the Rocky Mountains.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2017

Prairie Sunset & District Music Festival

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## Rick Lett

Medicine Hat

### Band (and Band instruments), Guitar



Rick Lett is originally from North Battleford, Sask. He obtained a B. Mus/ Mus Ed. and a B.Ed. from the University of Saskatchewan. He spent 11 years with the Saskatoon Symphony, toured and recorded with the NewWest Brass Quintet, and attended Master classes with Dennis Miller, Abe Torchinsky, and others. He has taught at the U of S, in public schools from grades 4 to 12, and at Medicine Hat College, where he teaches brass and jazz improvisation. He performs regularly on Tuba and jazz guitar and bass, both as a soloist, and in a variety of ensembles.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival

2018

Swift Current & District Music Festival

2016

Moose Jaw Music Festival

Rosetown & District Music Festival

Saskatoon Music Festival

2015

Kindersley & District Music Festival

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## Shee Ling

Medicine Hat

### Strings, Piano

Shee, a native of Malaysia, began his piano studies and received his LRSM (London) in piano performance. After finishing his piano studies he switched to violin at the age of 14 under the tutelage of Ho Boon Thiam in Singapore. Upon graduating from high school, he moved to United States and continued his violin studies with Dr. Tony Brandolino and Phyllis Skoldberg and later received his B.Mus, and M.Mus in violin performance. While in States working on his violin studies, he also a well sought out accompanist. In 2005, Shee got invited to participate in GMMF (South Korea) festival and studied with some of the most well known violin teachers from Julliard, Indiana, Northwestern and Paris Conservatory. He was awarded an outstanding senior performer in his undergraduate study and also the National Scholars Honor Society award. As a music educator, Shee has taught at Lucky Music School, Schumann Music Center, and SRJK(C) Foon Yew No.4 elementary school in Malaysia. Shee also an accomplished orchestral player, having plays in many orchestra in States and Canada such as Dubuque Symphony Orchestra, Quad Cities Symphony Orchestra, National Repertory Orchestra (Sub) and TMF Orchestra (Sub), Lethbridge Symphony and Symphony of the Kootenay. In 2008, Shee moved to Canada and began his teaching career as a violin and viola instructor at the Medicine Hat College.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Maple Creek & District Music Festival

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## Kim Mattice Wanat

Edmonton

### Voice, Musical Theatre

Kim Mattice Wanat is a performer, teacher and director. She founded Opera NUOVA in 1998 and has acted as the Artistic and Managing Director since its inception. She has produced and directed several of Opera NUOVA's productions including Smetana's The Bartered Bride, Offenbach's La Périchole, Britten's A Midsummer Night's Dream, the Canadian Première of Mark Adamo's Little Women and all of NUOVA's school touring productions, most notably, a Canada Council commissioned opera written by NUOVA alumnus Isaiah Bell entitled The Lives of Lesser Things. She has taught at the UAlberta in the Drama Department for 27 years and is presently pursuing a graduate degree in Directing. She regularly works as a clinician for voice and choral teachers and as a musical director for musical theatre productions. Her commitment to sharing her expertise with young singers, actors, teachers and choral directors has earned her extensive recognition including Global Edmonton Television's Woman of Vision Award, The City of Edmonton's Salute to Excellence in the Arts Award and The YWCA's Woman of Distinction in Arts and Culture Award. She has written and published a vocal pedagogy book entitled, Unleashing the Expressive Resonant Voice.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Regina Music Festival

2015

Saskatoon Music Festival



## Maria Medlow

Calgary

### Violin, Piano

Originally from Argentina, Maria grew up playing the violin and piano. Upon moving to Canada, she was accepted at the Senior Academy at Mount Royal Conservatory and studied with prominent teachers including Lise Elson, Cenek Vbra and John Lowry. Maria completed her ARCT certification in both violin and piano and moved to complete her music performance studies at the University of Calgary under the direction of Edmond Agopian. Maria is currently an active member of the Calgary Musicians Association and is also the Registration Chair for the Cochrane Youth Talent Festival and is a member of the Board of Directors for the Alberta Music Education Foundation. She has performed and recorded solo and chamber concerts with members of the Calgary Opera, Calgary Cowtown Opera, Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, Red Deer Symphony, Metropolitan Opera of New York, Rocky Mountain Symphony Orchestra, Cirque De Soleil and played alongside Michael Buble for his 2014 Canada Tour. She was invited to record for the Canadian Country Music Awards and was featured in the CBC Television special for the CCMA awards. Maria runs a thriving private studio in Calgary. Her students have been finalists in the Canadian Music Competition, placed in provincials at the Kiwanis Music Festival, and won medals and scholarships for RCM exams. She has prepared her students for successful admission to classical string programs throughout North America. Maria continues her active role as a teacher, adjudicator and performer hosting and playing numerous concerts and fundraisers in support of different charities. Maria resides in Calgary with her husband and 6 year old son Lucas.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Saskatoon Music Festival



## Janet Nichol

Edmonton

### Musical Theatre, Voice, Choir, Speech Arts

Janet Nichol is an established vocal teacher, clinician and performer. She obtained a Music Degree in Voice from the University of Alberta and then continued her studies in New York, Ohio and Salzburg. In 2012, Ms. Nichol retired from Grant MacEwan University in Edmonton, where she was an instructor for 28 years in the Music program and 21 years in the Theatre Arts program. She was the Vocal Director for more than 50 musical productions and taught individual voice lessons and performance classes in both programs. Ms. Nichol served on the National Board of The National Association of Teachers of Singing and she was the Vocal Advisor with the Edmonton Kiwanis Music Festival Board. Janet has given master classes and lectures and has adjudicated at numerous music festivals and competitions in Alberta, British Columbia and Saskatchewan. Since 2015, she has been a vocal instructor for the St Albert Children's Theatre Musical Theatre Intensive Program, and in 2018 she joined the artistic staff of the St Albert Children's Theatre for their main stage productions. Janet maintains a private voice studio and performs in the genres of musical theatre, opera, and jazz/pop music.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival

2018

Lloydminster & District Kiwanis Music Festival

2017

Saskatoon Music Festival

2015

Regina Music Festival



## Winston Noren

Calgary

### Voice

Winston Noren has been active as a teacher, conductor and soloist for 37 years. Since 1981, he has been a faculty member of the Mount Royal University Conservatory where he currently has a studio of 35 students. Several of his former students have gone on to have successful careers throughout Canada, the US and Europe. Mr. Noren continues to give numerous masterclasses and workshops and is frequently engaged as an adjudicator for regional and provincial festivals across Canada. As a soloist, Mr. Noren, a baritone, performed frequently throughout the Calgary area. As well, he was conductor and music director for numerous choirs including the Alberta Centennial Choir and the Anglican Cathedral Church of the Redeemer. He is a Past President of the Calgary Chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing and remains very active as a senior examiner for the Royal Conservatory of Music.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Moose Jaw Music Festival

2016

Regina Music Festival



## Janna Olson

Edmonton

### Piano

Originally from Three Hills, Alberta, Janna Olson holds degrees in church music and piano performance and a Masters in Piano Performance and Pedagogy from the University of Alberta where she studied with Janet Scott-Hoyt. She is also certified in Piano and Early Childhood Music with the Gordon Institute for Music Learning. Performing, adjudicating, and giving workshops have provided diverse opportunities for her to share her love of music in Canada, the United States and Europe. Janna currently resides in Edmonton teaching privately and as a sessional instructor at The King's University. She is on the faculty of the Gordon Institute for Music Learning and is passionate about connecting piano pedagogy with recent research on how the musical mind works. She enjoys playing chamber music and frequently performs piano duet and duo repertoire as well as performances with string players. An outdoors enthusiast Janna spends time hiking, skiing, running and occasionally playing hockey.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Saskatoon Music Festival



## Eila Peterson

Edmonton

### Woodwinds, Brass, Percussion

Dr. Eila Peterson teaches Music Theory and Aural Skills courses at The King's University. She is recognized nationally as an expert in Aural Skills education utilizing Kodály methodology, and also has a strong background in wind instrument pedagogy and conducting. Eila has adjudicated band and instrumental classes in music festivals in four provinces to date. She holds B.Mus. and B.Ed. degrees from The University of Western Ontario, an M.Mus. from The University of Calgary, and a Ph.D. in music education from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. She has also earned an Associateship Diploma in clarinet performance. She plays woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments, focusing mainly on clarinet and trombone. Eila taught school band for 6 years before becoming a university instructor. She is currently one of the conductors for Festival City Winds Music Society, a community band program in Edmonton, and is also a member of the brass quintet "Five of a Kind." She also teaches privately, composes and arranges music for band, and has served as a clinician at local, provincial, national, and international events.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Saskatoon Music Festival



## Jeffrey Plotnick

Calgary

### Strings

A native of Dayton, Ohio, Mr. Plotnick recently retired after completing his thirtieth season as Principal Second Violin with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra. After graduating from the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music, Mr. Plotnick performed with orchestras in Cincinnati, Ohio, Louisville, Kentucky, and Caracas, Venezuela before assuming his position in Calgary. In addition to performing in the Calgary Philharmonic, Mr. Plotnick also served as concertmaster of the Calgary Bach Society and the Calgary Festival Chorus Orchestras. He often appeared as violin soloist with the Calgary Philharmonic as well as the Calgary Bach Society, and has been heard in frequent performances as a solo and chamber recitalist. In October of 1998, Mr. Plotnick participated in a cultural mission to Kazakhstan, which included solo performances for its President. Mr. Plotnick has been a member of the faculties of the University of Calgary, Mt. Royal College and the Amici String program in Calgary, and was the founding director and conductor of Mt. Royal's Intermediate String Orchestra. In addition, he has been a faculty member of the Banff International Youth Orchestra Festival, the Valhalla, Nelson and Strings and Keys summer music institutes, and has appeared as guest artist and clinician at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. He is currently in demand as an engaging and enthusiastic string adjudicator at numerous music festivals as well.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016

Provincial Festival



## Karl Schwonik

Calgary

### Band, Percussion

Yamaha Drum Artist and legally blind drummer Karl Schwonik grew up on a farm near Gwynne, AB where he was exposed to countless musical situations ranging from polka to jazz. Fresh out of high school, Schwonik embarked on a tour with 2-time Canadian Country Music Award Nominee Heather-Dawn. This was followed by an invitation to study at the Banff Centre where Schwonik was the youngest participant ever in the long-term career residency program. Still in his 20's, Schwonik has an extremely busy schedule; he has completed over 25 substantial tours throughout North America as a leader. In 2008, Schwonik founded the Wetaskiwin Jazz Society which strives to build awareness for the arts in the Central Alberta region with its three main programs: a summer Jazz Camp, Jazz-in-Schools and community concerts. In 2011, Schwonik joined the Board of Directors for the Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA). In demand internationally as a guest artist and instructor, Schwonik has taught students of all ages at over 200 educational institutions. He regularly lectures on a broad range of topics in jazz, music business, and artists coping with disabilities.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016

Swift Current & District Music Festival

2015

Lloydminster & District Kiwanis Music Festival



## Sylvia Shadick-Taylor

Edmonton

### Piano

Pianist Sylvia Shadick-Taylor is a superb soloist and chamber musician who has toured in Europe, Asia and North America. Her highly expressive performances reflect an intense exploration of composers' artistic visions. Sylvia lives in Edmonton and is active as a freelance pianist, teacher, clinician and vocal coach.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Provincial Festival

2015

Prairie Sunset & District Music Festival

Unity Music Festival



## Derek Stoll

Calgary

### Piano, Brass, Instruments

Derek Stoll obtained a Bachelor of Music degree in Composition from the University of Calgary. He has composed works for concert band, jazz band, small ensembles and solo instruments. Mr. Stoll has traveled extensively with show bands throughout Canada, the US and Japan. He studied jazz and brass performance at the Banff Centre. He has taught science and music in the BC school system, and was the Director of Musicamrose (Alberta Summer Music Workshop Association) from 1989 to 1995. He has recently lectured at Boston University, and is a consultant for Conservatory Canada's new Contemporary idioms syllabus. He teaches jazz piano at Mount Royal College in Calgary and is currently active as a clinician, adjudicator, and composer. He is active in Alberta's music scene, and is a Board Member of the Calgary Arts Summer School, Calgary Musicians Association, and the Classic Aircraft Collection and Restoration Society. He is a co-founder of Alberta Musician Development Workshops.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Regina Music Festival

2017

Saskatoon Music Festival



## Elizabeth Turnbull

Edmonton

### Voice

Elizabeth Turnbull's many and varied credits include appearances with major orchestras and opera companies across North America. Her roles range from the Baroque to the Romantic to the Modern and New. Concert experience has included the oratorios of Bach, Handel, Mendelssohn and Saint Saëns, the symphonies of Beethoven and Mahler, the songs of Brahms, Mahler, Tchaikovsky, Mussorgsky and Rachmaninov, as well as numerous new music compositions. Many of her Canadian performances have been heard across the country on CBC's Saturday Afternoon at the Opera. Ms. Turnbull is the Voice Area Coordinator at the U of A's Department of Music, where she has been teaching voice for three years.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015

Regina Music Festival



## Bradley van Middelkoop

### Choir, School Music

Medicine Hat

Bradley van Middelkoop has been pivotal in Medicine Hat's choral music scene since 2008 when he became the conductor of the various ensembles at Medicine Hat College's Conservatory of Music. He is the founder of local choirs *Vita Communi* and *Sine Nomine* and is a full-time Junior High School Choral, Band, and Musical Theatre teacher at St. Mary's School. Bradley is continuously busy with his school and community ensembles performing locally, provincially, nationally, and internationally. Recently, the MHC Girls' Choir competed and won the Ihlombe South African Choral Festival, 2016 and has just returned from the Europa Cantat in Estonia in July 2018. Bradley graduated with his Bachelor of Arts in Music with High Distinction from the Concordia University College of Alberta in 2005, received the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada scholarship, and completed his Masters in Choral Conducting from the University of Calgary in 2007. Bradley completed his Bachelor of Education with Distinction from the joint Medicine Hat College and University of Alberta program in 2012 and is currently a student in the Doctor of Education in Learning Sciences at the University of Calgary.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Moose Jaw Music Festival

2015

Swift Current & District Music Festival



## Mark Ward

### Brass

Medicine Hat

Mark Ward has degrees from the University of Western Ontario and the University of Lethbridge and a Master's Degree in trumpet performance from the University of Victoria where he studied trumpet, conducting and music education. He has participated in workshops and brass master classes with world renowned teachers including Arnold Jacobs, Vincent Chicowitz and more recently with Malcolm McNabb and Dr. Gillian McKay. Mr. Ward recently retired from teaching secondary school music in British Columbia and Alberta after 32 years. He has served on the board of directors of the British Columbia Band Association and the Alberta Band Association including a term as President. He is a member of Phi Beta Mu, an international fraternity of bandmasters. Mr. Ward continues an active performance career as a singer and trumpet player in styles ranging from classical symphonic to jazz and rhythm and blues and has adjudicated at music festivals across Alberta. This year he was appointed Brass instructor at the Medicine Hat College conservatory and the full time conductor of the Lethbridge Gold community band. He sees community and school music in every form as a critical part of Canadian heritage and culture and is very proud to be part of the strong musical community in Southern Alberta.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Saskatoon Music Festival



## Marliss Weber

### Musical Theatre, Speech Arts

Edmonton

Marliss Weber is a busy director, performer, consultant and workshop clinician based in Edmonton, AB. She has 25 years of experience as a Voice, Speech and Musical Theatre instructor, most recently at the Alberta College Conservatory in Edmonton. Marliss specializes in Musical Theatre, dialect work and vocal care. She is also an active adjudicator in Speech Arts and Musical Theatre categories, having adjudicated at more than 100 festivals across Canada. She holds degrees in Communications, English, Theatre Studies and Performance, and Speech Arts. Along with her husband, she is also a filmmaker, having recently produced the award-winning webseries *Necessary Evil*, which you can watch on TELUS Optik TV, and an internet near you.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Saskatoon Music Festival

2017

Regina Music Festival



## Diana Wiens

Edmonton

### Piano

Diana Wiens was born in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Music studies, which began at the age of seven, included piano instruction with Dr. Lyell Gustin of Saskatoon. Upon completing her Associate Degree in Piano Performance with the Royal Conservatory of Music, and graduating from the University of Saskatchewan, she taught elementary and junior high for three years before pursuing further music studies in Europe. During her five years in Germany, she studied, performed widely, and for the last two years instructed piano at the Nordwestdeutsche Musik -Akademie and at the University of Bielefeld. In 1974, she returned to Canada to accept a position on Music Faculty at the University of Guelph, Ontario. Here, she and her husband initiated the first applied music courses in piano and voice, both of which continue to be offered today. Since 1975 they have lived in Edmonton. From 1988 – 2009, Diana Wiens was Adjunct Professor in the Music Department at Taylor University College in Edmonton; for 8 of those years she co-chaired the Department. She is in demand as an adjudicator and workshop clinician across Canada. Recent festivals include the Kiwanis Music Festival of Greater Toronto, Whitehorse Rotary Festival, and Provincial Music Festival final competitions in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Diana Wiens has conducted elementary and junior high school choirs, church choirs, and college choirs. In the spring of 2007 she became interim director of the Edmonton Children's Choir. Her performances with them included an appearance at the Pacific Rim Festival in Hawaii.

Currently, Diana Wiens is conductor of the Te Deum Singers, a community choir in Edmonton, Alberta.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Saskatoon Music Festival

2015

Regina Music Festival



## Adele Wilding

Medicine Hat

### Voice

Born in England and raised in Manitoba, Adele Marina Wilding enjoys a busy career as a vocalist, composer, and music educator. Having studied classical piano, voice, choral singing and theory during her formative years, Adele embarked on a dual career as a performer and music educator for 20 years in her native United Kingdom. Among her various qualifications, Adele holds an MA in Music Education (Institute of Education, University of London) and a Diploma in Jazz and Popular Music Studies (Goldsmiths College, University of London). She has performed in the UK and Western Canada, and her recordings and original songs have earned her excellent reviews and radio airplay/appearances internationally. As an instrumental composer - arranger, Adele has had several of her works performed by the acclaimed Red Note Ensemble, a professional, contemporary classical ensemble based in Edinburgh, Scotland. Teaching and artist development are two of Adele's passions. Adele was appointed as a Voice Instructor to the Medicine Hat College Conservatory of Music and Dance in September 2012. Her busy studio consists of both aspiring and professional singers, as well as directing and co-directing various ensemble classes. Adele also organizes and directs student recitals, including an annual Artist Showcase for her advanced singers.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015

Maple Creek & District Music Festival



## Justine Wilks

Medicine Hat

### Voice

Justine is a graduate of the University of Toronto with a Masters of Music in Voice Performance specializing in Vocal Pedagogy (2010) and a Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance from the University of Toronto (2008). She also has a Diploma in Music Performance from Cambrian College (2005). Justine is a frequent recitalist and oratorio performer. Recent notable performances include Canada 150 concert at Classiqu'Arts SD&G in St. Raphael's ON, soprano soloist for Handel's Messiah with the MHC Adult choir & Orchestra, a recital with Natalia Peric and Ken Murdoch for the Magic of Music Masterclass Series, a recital with cellist Thérèse Motard and pianist Laurie Altman at Festival Alexandria and the premier of Five Shakespeare Songs, written by Canadian composer Colin Eatock, at the Richard Bradshaw Amphitheater in Toronto, ON. Oratorio roles include Vivaldi's Gloria, Vivaldi's Magnificat, Handel's Messiah, Charpentier's Messe de minuit pour Noël and Fauré's Requiem. Opera roles include Nella in Puccini's Gianni Schicchi, with the Centre for Opera Studies in Sulmona, Italy and the role of Bastienne in Mozart's Bastien und Bastienne, with the Franco-American Vocal Academy in Salzburg, Austria. Justine has also studied at the Vancouver International Song Institute and the Lied Austria program in Leibnitz, Austria. Justine is not only a passionate performer but also an enthusiastic voice teacher and adjudicator. She is on faculty at the Medicine Hat College Conservatory of Music and Dance.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Maple Creek & District Music Festival





## David Wilson

Edmonton

### Voice, Musical Theatre, Speech Arts, Choral

David Wilson (BMus, Mmus) is a Singer, award-winning Conductor, Voice Teacher, Senior Yoga Instructor/Teacher Trainer and Breath Therapist, and the founder and principal of The Wilson Method for Voice. He is recognized across Canada as the leading authority on the use of Yoga, Functional Vocal Work, Core Empowerment and Breath Therapy to aid healthy singing and speaking techniques. He has served as Artistic Director/Conductor of Edmonton Recorder Orchestra (six years), Calgary Renaissance Singers & Players (ten years), Debut Opera Society (three seasons) and is the founding conductor of SPIRITUS Chamber Choir winning the 1999 International Contemporary A cappella Recording Award for their CD 'Crossing Bridges'. David currently holds voice area teaching positions with Edmonton Musical Theatre, University of Alberta, Cowtown Opera Summer Academy and MacEwan University. At his Edmonton teaching studio David offers professional voice lessons, while also travelling across Canada leading over 20 workshops every year to singers, actors, teachers and professionals on vocal power, emotional and creative freedom, anxiety and asthma relief, respiratory health, core stability and empowerment, somatic movement and public speaking. He has created his Wilson Method Breath Balls and User Manual to assist singers, actors and professional speakers in finding their full vocal potential, and is currently working on his DVD/book: The Wilson Method for Voice.

w: [www.the-wilson-method.com](http://www.the-wilson-method.com)

w: [www.body-breath-voice.com](http://www.body-breath-voice.com)

FB/IG: thewilsonmethod

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2017

Saskatoon Music Festival



## Alicia Woynarski

Airdrie

### Voice, Musical Theatre

Alicia Woynarski's warm voice and compelling stage presence have captivated audiences nationally and abroad. She holds a Master's Degree in Vocal Performance from the University of British Columbia and a Bachelor's of Music from Western University. On stages across Canada she has performed the opera roles of Third Lady (The Magic Flute), Hansel (Hansel and Gretel), Carmen and Mercedes (Carmen), and Cherubino (The Marriage of Figaro); with companies including Manitoba and Saskatoon Opera, Calgary Concert Opera, Little Opera on the Prairie, and Vancouver Island Opera. In Europe she has sung the roles: Dorabella, Berta, and Third Lady. Mrs. Woynarski has been teaching voice for the past 8 years beginning at the Conservatory in Regina and now at her voice studio in Airdrie, as an Alberta registered music teacher.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Lafleche & District Music Festival

2017

Central Sask Music Festival

Yorkton Music Festival

2015

Swift Current & District Music Festival



## Alan Young

Lethbridge

### Piano, Pipe Organ

Born in Belfast, N. Ireland, Alan Young had his musical education at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music, Glasgow; the Royal Academy of Music, London and the London Opera Centre, training as Opera Coach and Conductor. Since 1985 Alan has been Director of Music at St. Augustine's Anglican Church in Lethbridge, AB, having responsibility for 2 vocal and 2 bell choirs and the large pipe organ in the Sanctuary. In addition he has held part-time posts at the University, the Community College and the Symphony Association. Currently Alan Young divides his time between the church responsibilities, teaching a large class of piano, organ and theory students and adjudicating throughout Western Canada. He has been a member of the College of Examiners of the RCM since 1990.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015

Sand Hills Music Festival



## Thomas Yu

Calgary

### Piano

Thomas Yu is one of the most recognized amateur musicians in the world. He has redefined what it means to be an amateur pianist, having performed with the BBC Orchestra of Wales, Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, and Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra. He has appeared as a guest soloist at Berliner Philharmonie, Carnegie Hall, Munich Gasteig, BBC Hoddinott Hall, Théâtre du Châtelet in Paris, Symphony Hall in Chicago, Hakuju Hall in Tokyo, as well as Roy Thomson Hall, National Arts Centre and Glenn Gould Studio in Canada. He continues to delight audiences across four continents while maintaining a full-time career as a periodontist.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Provincial Festival





## Valdine Anderson

Winnipeg

### Senior Voice

Canadian soprano Valdine Anderson is renowned throughout the world for the wide range of her operatic and concert repertoire. She is on the voice faculty at the Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music, U of M, directs the choral music program at Balmoral Hall School in Winnipeg and is the conductor of Esprit de Choeur Women's Choir.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015

Provincial Festival



## Cameron Baggins

Dugald

### Violin, Fiddle

Cameron Baggins began teaching in the Suzuki program at the U of M. Teaching at the Brandon University led to organizing fiddle classes and establishing a performance group in Brandon, The Fantasy Fiddlers. Meanwhile back in Winnipeg he organized young players from all over the city to form the Forty Fiddling Fanatics, which studied and performed together at conventions or events such as the Festival du Voyageur, and warm up acts to performers such as Natalie McMaster. He began Fiddling instruction in two schools in Barrows and Duck Bay, and due to high interest, expansion followed rapidly. Cameron left the Universities at that point to teach full-time for Frontier School Division, flying to locations each week and also supporting a growing staff of like-minded fiddle instructors. Currently the program employs 10 instructors working in over 30 communities, using similar repertoire and approaches, reaching approximately 2,000 students on a regular basis. While Cameron performs occasionally on the fiddle, violin, cello, and the uilleann pipes, he is better known for directing these various students in workshops and performances.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015

Prince Albert Music Festival



## Melissa Ballard

Brandon

### Percussion, Piano, Band, Instrumental, General

Melissa Ballard, percussionist and pianist, completed a degree in Music Education from Brandon University in 2014. She now teaches in Brandon School Division as well as through the Eckhardt-Gramatté Conservatory of Music. Along with her teaching positions she continues to perform as a percussionist with a variety of ensembles and work with percussionists of all ages as a clinician. Melissa also recently taught percussion and band at the Vernon Army Cadet Training Summer Training Centre in British Columbia. She continues to pursue professional development opportunities including TEMPO and Orff Certification. She is also proud to have been able to present *Developing the Total Percussionist* at TEMPO and then have a version of the presentation published in Canadian Winds. In July 2017 Melissa was able to perform two pieces by Canadian composers as world premieres at the Casalmaggiore International Music Festival in Italy. Past performances include the National Youth Band of Canada, the Dark Music Days Festival in Iceland, Okanagan Military Tattoo, solo recitals and collaborations with Winnipeg Harpist Samantha Ballard.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Estevan & District Music Festival

2018

Carnduff & District Music Festival



## Janet Brenneman

Winnipeg

### Choir

Dr. Janet Brenneman is Associate Professor of Music, Dean of the School of Music, and Associate Dean of Faculty at Canadian Mennonite University where she teaches undergraduate courses in choral music education and conducts CMU Singers and the CMU Women's Chorus. Originally from Ontario, Janet earned a PhD in Music Education from Michigan State University where her dissertation focused on the topic of gender issues and women choral conductors. Janet has studied conducting with Doreen Rao, Elmer Iseler, and Charles Smith. She is currently the conductor of Renaissance Voices, the Mennonite Festival Chorus and the Faith and Life Women's Chorus. Janet has worked in educational and community settings with choirs of all ages. She enjoys her work as an adjudicator, workshop presenter, and guest conductor. Janet and her husband John Balsillie are the proud parents of two teenage daughters, Lydia and Naomi.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2017

Regina Music Festival



## Claudette Caron

Winnipeg

### Piano

Claudette Caron is devoted to teaching a varied class of piano students with a special emphasis on ensemble playing. Her students have consistently won awards at the local and provincial levels and have distinguished themselves as scholarship recipients in music programs in Canada and the USA. As a solo pianist Claudette Caron has presented recitals at Brandon University, the University of Manitoba, and the University of Winnipeg, as well as for the St. Matthews Cathedral Te Deum Series. She pursued her interest in chamber music in the Ford/Caron flute and piano duo with flautist Robert Ford from 1989 to 2010. She has premiered several works by Western Canadian composer David Dahlgren. Claudette Caron is a member of the Canadian Adjudicators' Association, and the Royal Conservatory of Music College of Examiners. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Performance from the University of Manitoba, and a Licentiate Performer's Diploma (LTCL) from the Trinity College of Music, London. She now makes her home in Winnipeg.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

- 2019
  - Regina Music Festival
- 2017
  - Saskatoon Music Festival
- 2016
  - Yorkton Music Festival



## Minna Rose Chung

Winnipeg

### Strings, Chamber Music (with or without piano)

Korean-American cellist Minna Rose Chung joined the University of Manitoba Desautels Faculty of Music as Professor of Cello in 2008 and is the Director of Project Rio, a multi-collaborative program that supports the Rio International Cello Encounter through master classes and faculty performances in Brazil. As the 2014 award recipient for the University of Manitoba's Rh Award for Outstanding Contributions to Scholarship and Research in Creative Works, Minna Rose is a co-author of a **critically acclaimed cello method publication, "CelloMind"** with Distinguished Cello Professor Hans Jorgen Jensen of Northwestern University's Bienen School of Music. Aside from teaching and publications, Minna Rose tours internationally as a soloist and chamber musician, sharing the stage with some of the world's most prominent, versatile, and exciting performers. Upon her arrival to Canada, Minna Rose was quickly reviewed as "a bright light on the Winnipeg music scene, her intelligent musicality and rich resonance a wonderful addition to any ensemble" (Winnipeg Free Press). As an avid chamber musician, Minna Rose made her Carnegie Hall debut in 2007 as a founding member with her New York ensemble, the Pangea String Quartet. In 2015, Minna Rose will present a lecture recital and performance tour with the Nacka Duo and Desautels Trio for the World Piano Conference in Serbia as well as performances in the UK and Sweden. Minna Rose maintains a summer schedule as returning guest artist/chamber musician to several international music festivals, including the historic Meadowmount School of Music in upstate New York. During her concert performances in Brazil, she also dedicates her time to teach master classes for the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro and the Fukuda Conservatory of Music in São Paulo, Brazil. Minna Rose earned her Bachelor of Music in Cello performance at Oberlin Conservatory with Norman Fischer and Peter Rejto; a Masters degree at Northwestern University with Hans J. Jensen; and her Doctor of Musical Arts at SUNY Stony Brook University with world-renowned soloist, Colin Carr.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

- 2017
  - Regina Music Festival



## Andrée Dagenais

Brandon

### Choir, Vocal Ensembles, Speech Arts

Andrée Dagenais, an associate professor at Brandon University (BU), has been the director of choral studies since 2000. Her BU Chorale has performed at the Winnipeg New Music Festival and with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra on a number of occasions. Under her direction the BU Chorale was selected to perform at the national conference hosted by Choral Canada in 2016. Her choir has also performed in various venues in Canada, Europe, Cuba and Brazil. As a guest conductor, Andrée has performed at the Choralies Internationales in Edmonton, with the Ensemble vocal de l'Université de Poitiers in France, and in Brazil and Estonia. In Manitoba, Andrée conducted the Provincial Women's Voices Honour Choir and also at the International Music Camp. She returns regularly to Québec to guest conduct. She has led choral workshops in France, Venezuela, Western and Eastern Canada and in Mexico last November. Andrée is an associate researcher for the Conseil National de Recherche Scientifique at the Centre de Musique Baroque de Versailles. She is currently working on a critical edition of Pierre Robert's grands motets. She holds a doctorate degree from the University of Iowa.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

- 2019
  - Carnduff & District Music Festival
  - Gravelbourg & District Bilingual Music Festival
- 2018
  - Regina Music Festival
- 2015
  - Gravelbourg & District Bilingual Music Festival



## Eleanor Epp

Minnedosa

### Piano, Organ, Keyboard

Eleanor Epp is a pianist, theory and music history teacher, accompanist and adjudicator. She holds diplomas in Piano Performance and Piano Teacher from the Royal Conservatory of Toronto which she completed after graduating as a Registered Nurse and having a family of four young children??. She currently teaches all levels of piano and theory in the Minnedosa area as well as the E-Gre Conservatory at Brandon University. She has adjudicated festivals in many Saskatchewan communities for the past 25 years and recently moved to Manitoba where she is a member of the Manitoba Registered Music Teachers Assoc and Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
Estevan & District Music Festival

2018  
Humboldt Music Festival

2017  
Lloydminster & District Kiwanis Music Festival  
Redvers & District Music Festival

2016  
Qu'Appelle Valley Music Festival

2015  
Parkland & District Music Festival  
Potashville Music Festival



## Cheryl Ferguson

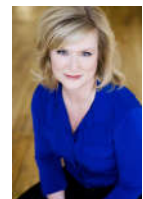
Winnipeg

### Band, Instruments

Cheryl Ferguson received a Bachelor of Arts in Music Performance (French horn) and a Bachelor of Science in Music Education from the University of Mary (Bismarck, ND). She has also done graduate work at Southern Oregon University, and has earned a Master in Curriculum Studies (Music Education) at Acadia University (Nova Scotia). Cheryl has taught music at every level, including K-6 general music classes, nine years running junior high band programs, and has been in her current position as Director of Bands at Fort Richmond Collegiate since 2006. She has also been the Director of Concert Band at Canadian Mennonite University since 2017. In 2013, Cheryl received the Manitoba Band Association Award of Distinction recognizing an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to music education in Manitoba. In 2014, she received the I. Keith Mann Outstanding Band Director Award, national recognition given to one band director in Canada per year. Additionally, she was awarded the Fort Richmond MLA Community Hero Award in 2018 for her service to youth in the community. In 2016, Cheryl was invited to record a TED Talk on Motivating People toward Excellence. She is active as a clinician and guest conductor at festivals, Honour Bands and band camps across Canada.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015  
Saskatoon Music Festival



## Donna Fletcher

Winnipeg

### Musical Theatre, Voice, Speech Arts

Donna received her early training in Winnipeg and earned a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from the University of Manitoba, a diploma in Music Theatre from The Banff Centre for the Arts, and a Master of Music in Vocal Performance from The University of Toronto. She has performed with the Winnipeg Symphony; the Florida Orchestra, and the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra and was featured on the CBC Radio's *Saturday Afternoon at the Opera*. As an actor, Donna has been acclaimed in principle roles from east to west with the Charlottetown Festival, Drayton Festival, Rainbow Stage, Theatre Calgary, Stage West Calgary, the National Arts Centre, Manitoba Opera, MTC, PTE, MTYP, the Belfry Theatre and Persephone Theatre. Recent performing credits include *Sister Act* and *Buddy Holly* (Rainbow Stage) and *A Little Night Music* and *Follies* (Dry Cold Productions). As a director Donna has helmed productions of *Brundibar* for the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra, the Rainbow Stage/WSO concert presentation of *South Pacific*, *Carousel* for NUOVA, *The Sound of Music* for Opera on the Avalon, *The Bridges of Madison County*, *The Addams Family* and *A Man of No Importance* for Dry Cold Productions and conceived the WSO presentation of *Send in the Clowns: The Music of Stephen Sondheim* where she took the stage with TONY Award winner Len Cariou. This season, Donna will direct *Into the Woods* for Opera on the Avalon. In July of 2012 she was inducted into the Rainbow Stage Wall of Fame and directed their acclaimed production of *Annie*. Always seeking new challenges, Donna co-created *Dry Cold Productions* which is celebrating its 18th season with a coproduction of the Manitoba Premiere of *Falsettos* with Winnipeg Jewish Theatre. Donna is a Faculty member of the NUOVA Opera and Musical Theatre Training Programme, a Sessional Voice and Musical Theatre Instructor at the University Of Manitoba Desautels Faculty of Music as well as the University of Winnipeg Theatre Department.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018  
Provincial Festival

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## Naomi Forman

Brandon



### Voice, Musical Theatre, Speech Arts

A member of the voice faculty at Brandon University since 2006, Naomi Forman adjudicates at music and speech arts festivals across Canada including the 2014 Ontario Provincial Music Finals (Voice). She holds a B.Mus. from the U of M and an M.Mus. from Boston University, with additional training at Opera NUOVA and the Banff Centre.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016

Carnduff & District Music Festival

2015

Potashville Music Festival

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## Richard Gillis

Winnipeg



### Brass, Band, Instruments, Jazz Band

Richard Gillis studied trumpet at The University of Saskatchewan (B.Mus.), The Banff Centre (Canadian Brass), and The University of Michigan (M.Mus.; DMA), as well as privately with Armando Ghitalla, Vincent Cichowicz and James Stamp. After graduating from the University of Saskatchewan, Richard performed, toured and recorded with the Saskatoon-based NewWest Brass Quintet. While working on his DMA Richard had the opportunity to be a part of the University of Michigan faculty brass quintet, with Armando Ghitalla. Dr. Gillis is currently brass chair at the University of Manitoba, and is artistic director of the Winnipeg Jazz Orchestra, which he co-founded in 1997. Richard performs and records (8 CDs) with Icelandic guitarist Björn Thoroddsen, and together have received three recognitions from the Icelandic Music Awards. Richard has recorded 19 albums as a leader and sideman; his most recent projects include Devotion, a collection of original solo and chamber pieces for trumpet, and Suite 150: A Big Band Portrait, an eleven movement WJO recording commissioned from composers across Canada.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016

Potashville Music Festival

Yorkton Music Festival

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## Jon-Tomas Godin

Brandon



### Piano

Originally from Northern Ontario, Jon-Tomas Godin has had a varied career path leading up to his appointment as Assistant Professor in Music Theory at Brandon University. He holds a B.Mus. from the University of Ottawa, an MA from McGill, and was in the Ph.D. program in musicology at Université de Montréal under the supervision of François de Médicis, where he has had the opportunity to accumulate a good deal of classroom experience.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015

Gravelbourg & District Bilingual Music Festival

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## William Gordon

Brandon



### Brass, Percussion

William Gordon was educated at the Royal College of Music in London, England, where he received the ARCM Diploma in Performance. He was appointed Principal Horn of the Ulster Orchestra, Belfast at the age of 20 and performed extensively with the major orchestras of London. Since coming to Canada he has performed for CBC radio, the CBC Winnipeg Symphony and the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Gordon has served as President of the Manitoba Music Educators Association and is well known throughout the province as an adjudicator, clinician, conductor and examiner. He recently retired from the School of Music at Brandon University after more than forty years of teaching at Brandon University.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2017

Provincial Festival

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## Sarah Hall

Brandon

### Voice, Speech Arts, Choir

As both a soloist and chamber musician, Sarah Hall appears regularly with Polycoro, one of Canada's premier chamber choirs, as well as Canzona (Winnipeg), and the Brandon Chamber Players. She has also sung internationally, most notably at Il Festival dei Due Mondi (Spoleto, Italy), Boston Cecelia, The Cantata Singers and Ensemble (Boston), and The Bridge Ensemble (Philadelphia). Recent solo appearances include Messiah with Canzona and the Winnipeg Symphony, Oleska Lozowchuk's Waters of Rest with Polycoro (broadcast by CBC), and the world premiere of Ken Nichols' Letters from Home at the Clear Lake Chamber Music Festival. An Assistant Professor of Music at Brandon University, Sarah teaches voice, diction, and vocal chamber music. In addition to her work at the University, Sarah appears regularly as an adjudicator and clinician for voice, speech arts and choir. Sarah is delighted to work with students of all ages and abilities to help them grow as performers! Sarah is also a busy mom of Sophie (11) and Rose (6) and wife to drummer, Eric Platz, also a professor at Brandon University.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Saskatoon Music Festival

2017

Estevan & District Music Festival



## Allen Harrington

Winnipeg

### Woodwinds, Instruments

Allen Harrington is an Assistant Professor at the U of M Faculty of Music where he teaches saxophone, bassoon, and chamber music. A native of Saskatoon, he holds degrees from the U of S (B.Mus.) and Northwestern University (M.Mus.). He maintains a busy schedule outside his University teaching career as a soloist, orchestral and chamber musician, and adjudicator. Allen plays second bassoon with the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra and is a regular extra with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016

Provincial Festival

## Nancy Hennen

Brandon

### Woodwinds

Nancy Hennen holds degrees in music from Mount Allison, McGill, and McMaster Universities. She has performed with Symphony Hamilton and the orchestras of Niagara, Windsor, and Thunder Bay. She is an active chamber musician, appearing with organizations such as the Brandon Chamber Players and the Clear Lake Chamber Music Festival in Manitoba, and New Music North and Consortium Aurora Borealis in Thunder Bay. Nancy is trained as a Suzuki Flute instructor, and has taught at the Great Lakes Flute Centre and Hillfield-Strathallan College as well as at Brock and Lakehead Universities. She has acted as a woodwind adjudicator for various festivals in Ontario and Manitoba. Nancy has a strong interest in historically informed performance, and plays Baroque flute as well as modern flute. Her influential teachers include Carolyn Christie, Louis Moyses, and Claire Guimond. She is currently the flute instructor at Brandon University, and an active clinician in southwestern Manitoba.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016

Estevan & District Music Festival



## Loren Hiebert

Altona

### Piano

Ever since he was a quiet little boy growing up in rural Kansas, Loren has felt a close connection to music. The folks in church always sang in four-part harmony, and there was southern gospel music on the record player. A most significant part of Loren's musical development was his uncle and piano teacher, Glenn Loewen. Since 1980, Loren has been sharing that rich musical relationship with 60-70 piano students a year. Drawing on his active professional life as a performer, recording artist, collaborator, and adjudicator, he has been eager to bring his students into that world of vibrant creative experience. Loren has been the accompanist for many individuals and groups. They have included opera singers Andriana Chuchman, Robyn Driedger Klassen, Victor Engbrecht, Philip Ens and Jerome Hines. He has performed and recorded extensively with violinist Rosemary Siemens. Loren improvised the accompaniments on Canzona's three CD recordings of German hymns. He currently accompanies the Southern Manitoba Choral Society, the Faith and Life Male Choir, and the Central Manitoba Youth Choir.

In addition to a university music degree, Loren holds Royal Conservatory of Music ARCT diplomas in piano performance and piano teaching. He remains a long-time member of the piano faculty at the International Music Camp. In 2012 Loren received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee medal for his work with youth choirs, music within the community, and private music instruction. In 2018 he was recognized as a Teacher of Distinction by the Royal Conservatory of Music. Loren and his wife Lori live in Altona.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Redvers & District Music Festival

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## Tannis Hofer

Deloraine

### Piano

Tannis was born and raised near Deloraine, MB. She grew up on a farm and was part of a musical family. She began piano lessons at the age of five, studied the tenor sax in band and took violin lessons in her high school years. After studying psychology for a year at Brandon University, Tannis switched gears and entered the School of Music there and studied piano with Sister Joan Miller and Robert Richardson. She graduated with a Bachelor of Music (Honours) in 1999. After marrying her high school sweetheart in 2000, Tannis returned to Deloraine. After training to become a Music For Young Children teacher, Tannis offered this internationally acclaimed piano program to the southwest corner of the province and has been teaching it for eighteen years. Tannis enjoys teaching students of all levels and loves visiting festivals as an adjudicator to encourage budding musicians. She is also the pianist for her church as well as a Sunday school teacher and a Registered Music Teacher. Tannis resides on her home farmstead near Deloraine with her farmer hubby and her four children: Jonathan, Jackson, Melody and Joy.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Kipling & District Music Festival

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## Everett Hopfner

Brandon

### Piano

Canadian pianist Everett Hopfner is a proud native of Ste. Rose du Lac, Manitoba, celebrated for his passionate and inventive performances of contemporary music. From interactive Fluxus installations to spirited "one-man shows" incorporating electronic media, improvisation, movement and speech, Everett channels his diverse talents and creative interests into unique, multi-disciplinary performances. His love for collaboration and communication leads Everett frequently to chamber music and larger ensemble settings. Everett manages an international profile: he has toured across Canada as a winner of the Eckhardt-Gramatté National Music Competition and throughout Germany as a keyboardist of the Junge Deutsche Philharmonie. He is a longtime performer at the Casalmaggiore International Music Festival in Italy. Everett Hopfner maintains a teaching studio at the Eckhardt-Gramatté Conservatory of Music and is a sessional instructor for piano and collaborative piano at Brandon University. He holds degrees from Brandon University, HfMDK Frankfurt and Musikhochschule Stuttgart. Everett is grateful for career assistance from the Manitoba Arts Council and from numerous friends and supporters. [everetthopfner.com]

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Quill Plains Music Festival

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## Monica Huisman

Winnipeg

### Voice

Soprano Monica Huisman has delighted audiences internationally both on the operatic as well as concert stages. She is on Faculty at the Faculty of Music at the U of M. She is in demand both as a voice teacher and clinician. Skilled in the Czech language, Ms. Huisman enjoys both singing in the language and introducing young singers to this vast and wonderful repertoire. Many of her students have gone onto careers both as singers and teachers. Ms. Huisman has a B.Ed. from the U of M and an Opera Diploma from the U of T. Her mentors are Mary Morrison and Nelly Miriciou, both inspiring teachers, performers and musicians.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Saskatoon Music Festival

2016

Regina Music Festival

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## David Klassen

Steinbach

### Vocal, Musical Theatre

Noted for his "rich baritone", David Klassen holds a Master of Music degree from the University of Minnesota and a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Manitoba. Mr. Klassen's versatility as a performer has brought him to the stage in New York, Minnesota, throughout the Canadian Prairies and beyond. Mr. Klassen has been engaged as a soloist by the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Saskatoon Opera, and the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra singing for a Canada Day audience of thirty thousand. In addition to his solo performance career, he has conducted numerous choirs ranging from grade 5 to adult in church, school and community settings. Currently residing in Manitoba with his wife and two children, Mr. Klassen maintains a busy schedule performing and teaching. He holds positions on the voice faculties at the University of Manitoba, Providence University College, and Canadian Mennonite University where he also directs the Opera Workshop.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Regina Music Festival

Saskatoon Music Festival

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## Bill Kristjanson Band

Winnipeg

Bill Kristjanson was most recently a Band Director at Vincent Massey Collegiate in Winnipeg. He has served as a Divisional Music Consultant, and has taught music education courses at the University of Manitoba. Previously during his tenure at Glenlawn Collegiate, the bands earned many honours. Notably, the Jazz Band performed at the International Association of Jazz Educators Conference 1992, and the Wind Ensemble presented sessions on at the British Columbia Music Educators Association Conference. Bill has served as an adjudicator throughout western Canada and has conducted the Manitoba Provincial Junior High and Intermediate Honour Bands and at the International Music Camp. Bill is the recipient of the "D.W. Penner Award for Exceptional Service in Education", the University of Manitoba "Excellence in Music Education Award", the Manitoba Band Association "Award of Distinction", the University of Manitoba "Teacher's Recognition Award", "Manitoba Jazz Educator of the Year Award." Bill believes, to paraphrase Dr. Frank Bencriscutto, that the destiny of music education is to teach us to love music, not merely as an amusement, but for its ennobling energy, for its power to make us better by arousing in one a perception of that which is good, just, and beautiful.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2017

Saskatoon Music Festival



## Paul Moen Band

Winnipeg

Paul Moen is active as a clinician and adjudicator in Manitoba. He retired from full-time teaching at Garden Valley Collegiate in Winkler, Manitoba in 2010. His teaching career has spanned all age levels from grade 5 through 12. His undergraduate degree in music education is from Northern State University in Aberdeen, South Dakota and his M.Mus. degree in clarinet performance is from the College-Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati. Paul has served on the board of the Manitoba Band Association and was president of the Southern Manitoba Concert Series. Paul greatly appreciates working with young people as they strive to grow musically and stretch themselves to pursue excellence. His favorite motto for life and for inspiring students is "Success is not something to wait for; it is something to work for." Paul strongly believes that quality music programs can greatly help young people down the pathway of success.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015

Saskatoon Music Festival



## David Moroz Piano

Winnipeg

A graduate of the Juilliard School, Winnipeg-born pianist David Moroz enjoys a career as one of Canada's most versatile artists. As a soloist he has performed in every major Canadian city, and as a collaborative artist he appears regularly in recital with Canada's most distinguished musicians. Twice nominated for Manitoba's Artist of the Year, he is a frequent guest of CBC Radio and is a veteran performer at Canada's most important music festivals. David Moroz was awarded a Doctor of Music degree from the University of Montréal, and holds both Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from the celebrated Juilliard School in New York City. A gifted and dedicated teacher, he was the lead piano instructor at The Banff Centre's Special Studies for Young Musicians, and in 2000 began his long association with The Morningside Music Bridge as coordinator of the Piano Faculty. He presently heads the Piano Department at the University of Manitoba's Desautels Faculty of Music, where he teaches piano, piano repertoire and chamber music. David Moroz has been Artistic Director of The Winnipeg Chamber Music Society since 1987. Most recently, he was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal by the Government of Canada, in recognition of his contribution to the Arts.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2017

Regina Music Festival



## Nancy Nowosad Piano, Organ, Woodwinds, Brass

Winnipeg

Nancy Nowosad received her musical training in Saskatchewan and holds an Associateship Diploma in Piano Performance from the Royal Conservatory of Music and a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from the University of Regina. Her teachers have included Dorothy Bee and Dr. Lyell Gustin. She also studied both saxophone and flute, and has been involved in a wide variety of bands and ensembles as a performer, clinician, and conductor. Nancy has enjoyed a diverse musical career, combining private teaching with performing, accompanying, adjudicating, and various organist and choir director positions across Canada and while living in Germany and England. She now lives in Winnipeg, where she maintains a busy schedule as a teacher of piano, saxophone and theory, as well as a workshop/masterclass clinician, adjudicator, and Royal Conservatory of Music examiner. She is an active accompanist and organist, and plays keyboard in a 17 piece "big band". Nancy conducts the Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals' Adjudicator Training course and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Winnipeg Music Festival. She has held various Executive positions with the Manitoba Registered Music Teachers' Association and is a member of the Canadian Music Festival Adjudicators' Association and the Royal Canadian College of Organists.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015

Carnduff & District Music Festival  
Saskatoon Music Festival





## Michael Oike

Winnipeg

### Piano

MICHAEL OIKE maintains a busy and fulfilling musical life in his hometown of Winnipeg, Manitoba. He began his piano studies there with Alice Nakauchi and Sydney McInnis, and with Boris Lysenko at the Royal Conservatory of Music and University of Toronto where he was awarded the Forsythe Award as the outstanding graduating pianist. Michael was very fortunate to have worked with the renowned pedagogue Jeaneane Dowis, covering both the solo and piano chamber repertoire at her New York City studio and twice as a fellowship recipient at the Waterloo Festival held at Princeton University. Michael has a special affinity towards the vocal art song field and has worked with the highly regarded vocal pianists Rudolf Jansen and Martin Isepp.

Michael currently maintains a private piano teaching studio at the Manitoba Conservatory of Music and Arts (MCMA), conducts workshops and master classes, and is heard in performances of chamber music and as vocal/instrumental accompanist. For over twenty-five years, Michael has adjudicated at music festivals provincially and nationally across Canada, where he greatly enjoys working with students of all levels. Away from his music, Michael enjoys golfing, curling, downhill skiing, NFL football, and is continually tinkering to make the perfect butter tart, blueberry or apple pie and refine his sushi making skills.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Provincial Festival

2015

Yorkton Music Festival



## Oleg Pokhanovski

Winnipeg

### Strings, Piano

Oleg Pokhanovski is active as a chamber musician and has appeared in the International Virtuosi Series in Germany, Domaine Forget in Quebec, Centara New Music, Agassiz Summer Chamber Music, Orford and Pender Harbour Music festivals in Canada. He is a Founder and Artistic Director of the "Oleg and Friends" concert series in Winnipeg. Pokhanovski is also a very accomplished pianist. He has been performing both violin and piano concertos with symphony orchestras in the same concert, as well as playing very challenging works on both instruments in his recitals in Canada, US and Europe. Dr. Pokhanovski is also in much demand as a pedagogue and presently holds the position of Professor of Violin at the U of M, having previously held the same position at the Lake State Superior University in Michigan.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016

Saskatoon Music Festival



## Catherine Robbins

Winnipeg

### Choir, Voice

Catherine Robbins is a dynamic music educator known especially for her work in vocal techniques and choral pedagogy. She is in demand as a presenter, clinician, and adjudicator at workshops and festivals in both vocal and choral fields, and keeps a busy schedule as a guest conductor of youth choirs of all ages across Canada. Dr. Robbins is currently Assistant Professor of Choral Studies and Music Education at the University of Manitoba Desautels Faculty of Music. She teaches courses in conducting, choral techniques, vocal techniques, and choral repertoire. She directs the University of Manitoba Concert Choir and serves as co-director of *fikamusik* Summer Choral Conducting Intensive for music educators and community conductors. Dr. Robbins is known for her work in applications of anatomical awareness, neurofascial and somatic approaches to conducting and singing. She has presented at national and international symposiums in the areas of music education and choral techniques. She publishes a regular focus column on vocal techniques in *Anacrusis: The Journal of Choral Canada*. Catherine specializes in pedagogy for developing voices, vocal and conductor health, and life history research for music educators.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Saskatoon Music Festival

2016

Provincial Festival



## Daniel Scholz

Winnipeg

### Strings

Originally from Regina, Daniel studied at the University of Regina, McGill University and at the University of British Columbia. He was a prize winner at the Lionel Tertis Viola Competition, the most prestigious event of its kind, held on the Isle of Mann. Daniel is the Principal Viola of the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra and the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra, and is a member of the Winnipeg Chamber Music Society, and the Rembrandt String Quartet. As a solo artist, Daniel has performed with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra, Musickbarock, the Okanagan Symphony and the Vancouver Chamber Players. Daniel has also toured Europe with the Nordic Symphony of Tallinn, Estonia as Guest Principal Viola. Daniel is an instructor at the Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music at the University of Manitoba as well as the conductor of the Winnipeg Youth Symphony Orchestra. Daniel also adjudicates for many of Canada's major music festivals. He has performed and taught at many of Canada's major festivals and is a faculty member of the National Youth Orchestra of Canada, Rosamunde Summer Academy in Winnipeg and the Amici Summer Strings in Calgary. Daniel was also invited to perform and teach in Perth, Australia by the Australian String Teachers Association and the West Australian and New Zealand Viola Society. Daniel plays on a contemporary viola made by Garth Lee of Winnipeg.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Provincial Festival

2016

Regina Music Festival



## Margot Sim

Winnipeg

### Voice

Winnipeg born soprano Margot Sim enjoys multi-tasking as a teacher, adjudicator, conductor, and clinician. She holds a Licentiate diploma in Voice from the Western Board of Music and Associate Performance diplomas (ARCT) in Voice, Piano and Organ from the RCM. Margot received her BA in English Literature and her Diploma in Operatic Performance (with distinction) from the U of T. She has worked with the Canadian Opera Company, the Canadian Opera Company Children's Chorus, the Toronto Gilbert and Sullivan Society, the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, and the Winnipeg Mennonite Theatre. Margot is a member of the Manitoba Registered Music Teachers' Association (MRMTA), the Canadian Actors' Equity Association, and NATS. Margot has taught voice at the Canadian Mennonite University for over 25 years. She teaches voice and Introduction to Musical Theatre at Linden Christian School (Grades 1-12). Margot loves to encourage performers of all ages and levels of ability.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016

Saskatoon Music Festival



## Marena Smith

Winnipeg

### Strings

Marena Smith, a native of Calgary, AB, holds a B.Ed. degree from the U of C and an ARCT Performance Degree from the RCM. She was a music specialist with the Winnipeg School Division and she has been a faculty member of the Preparatory Studies at the U of M as well as teaching at C.M. University and in her home. For six seasons Ms. Smith was conductor of the Winnipeg Youth Concert Orchestra. She has been a member of the College of Examiners for the RCM since 1984 and travels extensively on their behalf. Ms. Smith is an adjudicator who has participated in local festivals, Provincial Concerto Competitions and Provincial Festival Finals from Vancouver to St. Johns, Newfoundland.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2017

Saskatoon Music Festival



## Victoria Sparks

Brandon

### Percussion

Victoria Sparks holds a bachelor of Music and Education from the U of M, where her teachers included Jauvon Gilliam and Rob Gardner. She graduated from Butler University completing a Masters in Percussion Performance. Sparks currently teaches percussion techniques, directs the percussion ensemble, and runs a private studio at Brandon University. She also runs the percussion studio at the U of M and directs their percussion ensemble, as well as teaching at the Canadian Mennonite University. Sparks performs regularly with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra, the Brandon Chamber Players, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet and the Groundswell New Music Series. Victoria has worked with wind, brass, and percussion players in the Pembina Trails School Division and the River East Transcona School Division as a music educator at the middle and high school levels. She has coached mixed chamber ensembles at Brandon University and adjudicated solo and ensemble players at the Saskatoon Music Festival, the Manitoba Band Association Level One Festival and the Regina Music Festival.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2017

Redvers & District Music Festival

2016

Regina Music Festival



## Phyllis Thomson

Winnipeg

### Voice

Phyllis Thomson has studied piano, violin, and voice. Her vocal teachers included Doris Mills Lewis, Gladys Whitehead and Dr. Victor Martens. She holds a B.Sc, B.Ed, and M.Ed from the U of M. She was a member of the U of M's Consort of Ancient Instruments and toured Canada, United States, Europe and Great Britain with the group, including the Aldburgh Festival in England and the National Arts Center in Ottawa. Ms. Thomson has been guest soloist with orchestras in Winnipeg, Calgary, Saskatoon, and Vancouver and has given recitals in various cities in western Canada. She has presented vocal workshops and adjudicates vocal, speech and choral classes at music festivals across Canada and has an active vocal studio. Ms. Thomson is currently a Board member of the Canadian Music Centre and is a member of the Manitoba Registered Music Teachers' Association, NATS, AMAF, and the Canadian Music Festival Adjudicators Association.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015  
Saskatoon Music Festival

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## Andrew Wahl

Winnipeg

### Band, Woodwinds

H. Andrew Wahl is pleased to be invited to this year's festival. Mr. Wahl holds Bachelor's Degrees in both composition and music education, as well as a Master's Degree in instrumental conducting. He has taught public school music in Manitoba since 2000. He has been a clarinetist with the Regina Symphony Orchestra and the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra as well as having served as Concert Master/Principal Clarinet of the Winnipeg Wind Ensemble. Mr. Wahl has taught band in Winnipeg since 2003 and has been a long time adjudicator for the Manitoba Band Association Level 1 Band Festival as well as a guest conductor for numerous school divisions' Honour Band projects as well as the MBA Provincial Junior Honour Band. Mr. Wahl has served as Conductor of the MBA Elmwood Summer Band Camp since 2013.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2017  
Estevan & District Music Festival  
Kipling & District Music Festival  
2016  
Saskatoon Music Festival

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## Aaron Wilson

Brandon

### Brass, Woodwinds, Percussion

Originally from the United States, Dr. Aaron Wilson joined the faculty at Brandon University's School of Music as the Assistant Professor of Low Brass in 2014. Wilson keeps a busy and varied performance schedule through solo, ensemble, and performance art appearances. Some of his most notable recent performances include a collaboration with Indigenous performance artist, Peter Morin, at the Savvy Contemporary Gallery in Berlin, the commission and performance of a new solo trombone work by Manitoban composer, Kenley Kristofferson, at the 2018 International Trombone Festival in Iowa City, and a featured artist performance with the Brass Band Posaunenchor Wädenswil in Switzerland. While abroad, Wilson signed on as a performance artist with the Willson Band Instrument Company. In addition to playing the trombone, he became an inaugural member of the International Tuba Quartet, a euphonium and tuba group consisting of musicians from Canada and the United States. Lastly, he has made numerous appearances with several professional ensembles including the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, the Regina Symphony Orchestra, the Winnipeg Jazz Orchestra, the Brandon Chamber Players, and the Market Street Brass.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019  
Prince Albert Music Festival  
2018  
Kipling & District Music Festival  
Potashville Music Festival  
Regina Music Festival  
2017  
Carnduff & District Music Festival  
Estevan & District Music Festival  
2016  
Mainline & District Music Festival  
Redvers & District Music Festival  
Yorkton Music Festival



## Marla Winters

Alexander

### Violin, Fiddle, Chamber Ensembles

Marla grew up in the rural area of Grand Valley and specializes in teaching the Suzuki Method. She currently teaches violin in the Suzuki Talent Education Program at the Eckhardt Gramatté Conservatory, Brandon University. She holds a Bachelor of Music from Brandon University. She is currently the director of the Brandon Suzuki Talent Education Program. She frequently adjudicates at string festivals across the prairie provinces and beyond. She is dedicated to creativity, change and musical outreach. She appreciates how music develops fine character and brings about a life long journey of growth and enjoyment.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Kipling & District Music Festival

2018

Regina Music Festival

2017

Carnduff & District Music Festival



## Catherine Wood

Brandon

### Woodwinds

Clarinetist **Catherine Wood** has established herself internationally as a performer, educator, and advocate of Canadian music. She has been featured as a guest artist at many festivals including the International Clarinet Association ClarinetFests and the Nuna Iceland Canada Art Convergence. An enthusiast of new music, Wood has commissioned and premiered numerous works at festivals that celebrate new music, including the Winnipeg New Music Festival and Iceland's Dark Music Days. A proponent of the piccolo clarinets, Catherine has commissioned works for both E-Flat and D clarinets. She has performed piccolo clarinet recitals across the globe. A sought-after clinician and adjudicator, Dr. Wood has worked extensively with students in Canada and has served on international competition juries. She has judged several ICA Young Artist Competitions and was invited to China in 2011 to adjudicate the inaugural International Mozart Clarinet Competition at the Beijing Central Conservatory of Music (where she heard seventy performances of the Mozart Clarinet Concerto in one day!). Dr. Wood performs with the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra and is on faculty at Brandon University. She serves as the Continental Chair of North America for the International Clarinet Association. She is a Buffet Crampon performing artist.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Provincial Festival



## Leanne Zacharias

Brandon

### Strings

Celloist Leanne Zacharias is an interdisciplinary artist known for unique collaborations across genres and geographies. These include her performance project Music for Spaces, recently presented in the Canadian Museum of Human Rights, Listening Booth: solo recitals for solo audience member presented by the Agassiz Chamber Music Festival and SappyFest (Sackville, NB), Sounding the Wake of a Glacier, a Canada150 commission, CityWide: 50 simultaneous recitals presented by the International Cello Festival of Canada, the Portal Zero installation presented by the Winnipeg Symphony's New Music Festival and Sonus Loci: a sound installation on ice, selected by Winnipeg's Warming Huts Competition. She performs widely and appears on many recordings, with her first solo album to be released this year. An energetic educator, Leanne has been on faculty at Brandon University's School of Music since 2008 and serves on the Board of the Manitoba Arts Council. She adjudicates across Canada and has taught at the Domaine Forget International Academy, Rosamunde Summer Academy, Prairie Cello Institute and Cadenza Music Week. She co-directs A Wild Studio (Canadian National Parks), Hybrid Intensive in San Francisco and Wheat City Nuit Blanche. Her unique solo album featuring contemporary repertoire in intimate architectural sites across the prairies will be released this year.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015

Saskatoon Music Festival



## Alan Crane

Vancouver

### Piano

Alan Crane holds a Bachelor of Music (University of Western Ontario) and a Master of Music in Piano Performance (University of British Columbia). For nearly 40 years he has been teaching a full class of students ranging from young beginners to pre-professional young musicians to adults. Many of Mr. Crane's students have gone on to pursue careers in music. In addition to being on the faculty of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra School of Music, where he served a term as Chair of the Piano Department, Mr. Crane teaches part-time at the Langley Community Music School, where he was for many years Coordinator of the Piano Program. As well as teaching, Alan Crane is an active performer. He is a founding director and pianist with the popular Vancouver concert series West Coast Chamber Music, is a sought after accompanist and has presented solo recitals in Canada and the UK. He is also active as a festival adjudicator across western Canada and is a member of the College of Examiners of the Royal Conservatory of Music.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Saskatoon Music Festival



## Robyn Driedger Klassen

Burnaby

### Voice

Described in the London Times as "outstanding in her impassioned embodiment of the drama", Robyn Driedger-Klassen has been seen on many recital, concert and opera stages. Known particularly for her zeal for contemporary music, she performs and premieres many fascinating works by contemporary composers. Performances from the last year include a recital with Vancouver's Music on Main; Schubert's *Der Hirt auf dem Felsen* with the VSO Chamber Music Series; the premiere of a song cycle entitled *Midnight Watch* by Leslie Uyeda with pianist, Terence Dawson for the VSO New Music Festival; the VSO Pops Valentine's concerts; VSO New Music Series performances of works by Kati Agocs, Emily Doolittle and Jocelyn Morlock; and soprano soloist for Mahler's 8th Symphony. Robyn is Head of Voice at the Vancouver Academy of Music. She lives with her husband and two vocal critics under the age of seven and is an expert at avoiding Lego underfoot.*ng*.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Regina Music Festival

2016

Wallis Memorial Opera Competition



## Corey Hamm

Richmond

### Piano

Pianist Corey Hamm is establishing a unique musical profile performing widely in North America and in Asia as both soloist and chamber musician. Corey Hamm has commissioned, premiered and recorded over two hundred works by composers from all over the world. These commissions have been for solo piano, various chamber music formations as well as concerti. Corey Hamm was soloist in the World Premiere of Jordan Nobles' Piano Concerto with Bramwell Tovey and the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra. He gave the World Premiere of Howard Bashaw's Concerto for Two Pianos and Percussion with conductor Grzegorz Nowak and the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, and has recently performed Ravel's Piano Concerto for the Left Hand, Faure's *Fantasie*, and Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*. Dr. Hamm is Associate Professor of Piano at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, where he was awarded the prestigious Killam Teaching Award. He is on the Piano Faculty of the Summer Institute for Contemporary Performance Practice (SICPP) at NEC in Boston. His beloved teachers include Lydia Artymiw, Marek Jablonski, Stéphane Lemelin, Ernesto Lejano, and Thelma Johannes O'Neill.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2017

Provincial Festival



## Sonia Lee

Vancouver

### Piano

Dr. Sonia Lee is an award-winning Canadian keyboardist, composer, scholar, educator, and arts advocate. As an artist and speaker she has appeared in more than eighteen countries on four continents. Her performances have been praised by critics as "masterly" (*Aliénor News & Notes*) and "full of elegance and expression" (*Cleveland Classical*). She is a laureate of the Mae & Irving Jurrow International Harpsichord Competition, the Montréal Baroque Galaxie-CBC Rising Star Competition, the Canadian Music Competitions, and the American Musical Instrument Society William E. Gribbons Award. She holds advanced degrees in music from McGill University and the University of Illinois. Visit [www.sonialeemusic.com](http://www.sonialeemusic.com).

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016

Regina Music Festival



## Elizabeth Lupton

Penticton

### Strings, Fiddle, Piano

Elizabeth Lupton holds B.Mus. and M.Mus. degrees in violin performance, studying with the esteemed Canadian violinist Francis Eugene Chaplin. An alumnus of National Youth Orchestra and 2nd-place Prize Winner at the National Festival of Music, Elizabeth began her professional career with the Overijssels Philharmonisch Orkest, Netherlands. Currently Assistant Principal Second Violin with the Okanagan Symphony Orchestra, Elizabeth has been a performer, music teacher, adjudicator and examiner, and arts administrator for over three decades. In 2014 she was awarded Arts Educator of the Year for the Okanagan Valley. Elizabeth also performs with Concertante Chamber Players and Baroque and Beyond and enjoys teaching violin, viola, piano and chamber music at her home studio in Penticton.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015

Provincial Festival



## Sharon Stanis

Victoria

### Strings, Guitar

Sharon Stanis has a multi-faceted career as a chamber musician, soloist, and educator. As Artist-in-Residence, Sharon is a full time faculty member at the School of Music, University of Victoria, where she teaches violin and coaches chamber music. Sharon has gained a reputation as a dedicated and enthusiastic teacher; her experience as an active performer informs her abilities as a teacher to fully prepare her students for successful careers. Her students have established themselves as professional orchestral and chamber musicians, soloists, musicologists and music teachers. Sharon is in demand as an adjudicator at festivals across Canada and gives master classes throughout North America and Europe.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Provincial Festival





### **Hilary Apfelstadt**

**Toronto**

#### **Choir**

Dr. Hilary Apfelstadt is Professor and Director of Choral Activities at the U of T where she conducts MacMillan Singers, the Women's Chamber Choir, and teaches choral literature and conducting at the graduate and undergraduate levels. In 2013, she was named winner of the first Faculty of Music Teaching Excellence Award. She also conducts the Exultate Chamber Singers of Toronto.

#### **Recent Festivals Adjudicated:**

2015

Regina Music Festival

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### **Allison Cecilia Arends**

**Toronto**

#### **Voice, Musical Theatre, Speech Arts**

Soprano Allison Arends is a graduate of Calgary Opera's Emerging Artist Program, and received her M.Mus. at the U of T Opera School and her B.Mus. in Voice Performance at the University of Victoria. Allison has taught private voice and theory for over fifteen years and takes a great deal of joy in imparting her musical knowledge to students from various musical backgrounds of all age groups. Her students have been accepted into many prestigious programs. She has conducted public masterclasses, educational workshops, and vocal/choral clinics around the country and is a member of the Ontario Registered Music Teachers' Association, National Association of Teachers of Singing, and the Canadian Music Festival Adjudicators' Association. A Royal Conservatory of Music Certified Teacher, Allison is also a member of the College of Examiners.

#### **Recent Festivals Adjudicated:**

2019

Lloydminster & District Kiwanis Music Festival

2018

Outlook & District Music Festival

Saskatoon Music Festival

2017

Parkland & District Music Festival

Redvers & District Music Festival

Shaunavon & District Music Festival

Watrous & District Music Festival

2016

Regina Music Festival

2015

Borderland Music Festival

Moosomin & District Music Festival

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### **Marie Baron**

**Milton**

#### **Musical Theatre, Speech Arts**

After training at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto and the University of Toronto's Opera Department, Ms. Baron began her stage career performing with the Canadian Opera Company. After transitioning to Music Theatre, she went on to star in both musicals and plays in theatres across Canada, the United States, London's West End and on Broadway. As an educator, Ms. Baron was the Head of the Vocal Discipline in the Music Theatre-Performance Program at Sheridan College for 15 years. Currently, she adjudicates Music Theatre in festivals across Canada, conducts Music Theatre Performance Workshops and Master Classes and works with theatre artists in her Toronto studio.

#### **Recent Festivals Adjudicated:**

2017

Provincial Festival

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## Sophie Bouffard

### Voice

Dr. Bouffard received her vocal training at Laval University in the studios of Michel Ducharme and Marie-Danielle Parent, and also in Belgium in the class of the world-renowned singer-pedagogue Loh Siew-Tuan. She is the Director of the Institut français at the U of R. Aside from her work as an administrator and as a professional soprano she maintains an active career as a musicologist. Dr. Bouffard's current research focuses on Canadian music, issues of identity, especially relating to western and northern Canada, as well as the role of arts and culture in community development, namely in minority settings.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016

Gravelbourg & District Bilingual Music Festival

Potashville Music Festival

2015

Yorkton Music Festival



## Barbara Collier

Stratford

### Senior Voice

Soprano Barbara Collier studied singing in London, Salzburg, Cologne and Budapest after graduating from the University of Toronto. She has been acclaimed internationally for her operatic, oratorio and concert appearances in Europe, England, the United States and Canada. Barbara toured extensively with the Canadian Opera Company, as well as performing in the Toronto season. She has sung with the major opera companies and symphonies in Canada as well as performing solo recitals and with other artists such as Mark DuBois, Mark Pedrotti and the late John Arpin. Her repertoire ranges from the heroines of Mozart, Verdi and Puccini to Ivor Novello, Victor Herbert, George Gershwin, World War II hits and Victorian parlour songs. A member of NATS, Barbara has a successful voice studio in Stratford, Ontario. She is also in demand as an adjudicator and clinician.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2017

Regina Music Festival



## Catherine Cosbey

### Strings

Canadian violinist Catherine Cosbey is a founding member of the critically acclaimed Linden String Quartet. She has appeared on stage all over the United States, Canada, and in Europe, Mexico, and Asia with such artists as Peter Frankl, Richard Stoltzman, Jeffrey Kahane, Jason Vieaux, Peter Salaff, the Tokyo Quartet, Donald Weilerstein, Zuill Bailey, and James Dunham. She is the winner of the 2010 Victor Elmehah Concert Artist Guild Competition and the grand prize-winner at the 2009 Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition. She holds degrees from the Glenn Gould School of the Royal Conservatory of Music under the tutelage of Erika Raum and the Cleveland Institute of Music where she studied with the eminent Paul Kantor, and she was in the graduate Quartet-in-Residence at Yale University. Ms. Cosbey studied secondary piano at CIM with Judson Billings. Additionally, she has coached pianists in chamber music settings at numerous institutions, including Yale University.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016

Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival

Maple Creek & District Music Festival

Moose Jaw Music Festival



## Caron Daley

Toronto

### Choir

Caron Daley serves as the Artistic Director of the Mississauga Children's Choir, the Associate Conductor of the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir, and a Lecturer in Music Education at the U of T. She holds a D.M.A in Choral Conducting from the U of T and prior degrees in choral conducting, vocal pedagogy and music education. In 2013, Caron founded the Halifax Summer Choral Conducting Symposium, an annual conductor education program. In her free musical time, Caron is active as a soprano, Dalcroze Eurhythmics educator, and researcher in the field of choral/conductor pedagogy.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015

Provincial Festival



## Michael Esch

Markham

### Piano

A featured pianist for the 2015 RCME Piano Syllabus CD set, Michael Esch holds a Doctorate of Musical Arts degree in Piano Performance from Rice University where his teachers included Robert Roux and Jon Kimura Parker. Other major influences include his first teacher, Rosemary Collins, and master classes with Lazar Berman, Emanuel Ax and Anton Kuerti. Dr. Esch has been featured in numerous recitals throughout Canada including at the Glenn Gould Studio for the CBC, and for the Canadian University Music Society. He has also appeared in concert throughout Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, the United States and Germany, as well as various centers in the far east. He has performed with numerous orchestras in Canada, and has collaborated with a number of acclaimed artists including the Belgian violinist Michael Guttman and the eminent violist, Rivka Golani, as well as the Canadian Sinfonietta Chamber Players. Michael has enjoyed grant support from the Chalmers Foundation, and is a multiple grant recipient from the Canada Council for the Arts. A sought after adjudicator in Canada, Michael has adjudicated festivals at the Provincial level in Ontario for the O.M.F.A., ORMTA, NSMFA, PABC, as well as the Canadian Music Competition 50th Anniversary National Tour and the Glenn Gould School Concerto Competition, among many others. He is a senior examiner for RCM examinations and is a masterclass clinician for the Taylor Young Artist Performance Academy/RCM. Dr. Esch has taught at Wilfrid Laurier University and has served on staff at the Glenn Gould School/RCM since 2007. In September of 2010 Michael and his wife opened the Esch Music Academy in Markham Ontario. His students have distinguished themselves as major prize winners in festivals at the Provincial, National and International levels, as orchestral soloists with orchestras in Canada and Europe, and on RCM exams including a National Gold Medal recipient for the Licentiate Diploma level.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016

Provincial Festival



## Mary Lou Fallis

Toronto

### Musical Theatre, Voice

Mary Lou Fallis holds a unique position in the music scene as "Canada's foremost musical comedienne." Known to thousands of viewers and listeners across the country for the Bravo! television series *Bathroom Divas*, her CBC Radio series *Diva Diaries*, and to hundreds of theatre-goers for her *Primadonna* series of one-woman shows, Ms. Fallis in her inimitable way, has re-invented the classical music comedy genre. Ms. Fallis combines her performing with private teaching in Toronto and is in demand as an adjudicator and clinician. Ms. Fallis was recently appointed as a member of the Order of Canada for services to music in Canada.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016

Provincial Festival



## Joseph Ferretti

Toronto

### Piano

Joseph Ferretti has performed in Europe, Canada, and the USA as soloist and collaborative artist, and has taught piano at Wilfrid Laurier University since 2003. In addition, he has served for six years as a Staff Accompanist for the Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Arts, and as Faculty in the Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp. Joseph is active across Canada as a festival and competition adjudicator, and as a senior examiner for the RCME. He has presented workshops and lecture recitals for such institutions as The Glenn Gould School, Mt. Allison University, and the CFMTA National Convention. Joseph also continues to serve as a project Teacher Advisor and workshop presenter for the online Music Tool Suite. Dr. Ferretti received his B.Mus. in Piano Performance from University of Colorado Boulder, and received his Masters and Doctoral degrees in Piano Performance from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015

Provincial Festival



## Guy Few

Kitchener

### Brass, Piano

Guy Few's instrumental versatility and fearless interpretations have been noted by the international press, "outrageous...simply phenomenal" (*Le Devoir*, Montreal) and "sheer brilliance" (L.A. Times). He has performed with many Canadian and US symphonies as both trumpet and piano soloist, remains a committed chamber artist in ensembles Bellows and Brass, Few and Fewer and Project Aria, and has been a guest at many summer festivals including The Festival of the Sound, Ottawa International Chamber Music Festival, Oregon Bach Festival Tanglewood, Takefu International Music Festival and The Elora Festival. A prolific recording artist, Guy has released CDs on numerous labels including S.N.E., Arsiv Classics, CBC Musica Viva, CBC SM5000, Naxos, MSR Classics and the Hänssler Classics labels. Recording awards include a JUNO nomination, (CCP/Paetkau/MSR), a Grammy for Penderecki Credo (OBF principal trumpet/Rilling/Hänssler), and Best Classical Orchestral Album from Just Plain Folks Music Awards (guy and nadina/TCO/Kevin Mallon/MSR). Guy has appeared on CBC-TV, CTV, BRAVO, TV5 and European television broadcasts and is heard regularly on Classical 96.3, CBC Radio, and NPR. He is a sessional lecturer at Wilfrid Laurier University where he coaches chamber music, facilitates the Wilfrid Laurier Brass Ensemble and teaches trumpet. Guy Few is a Yamaha artist.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Saskatoon Music Festival

2016

Saskatoon Music Festival



## Martha Gregory

Pickering

### Strings, Chamber, Piano, Voice, Musical Theatre

Martha Gregory was born in Rochester, New York where she studied violin, piano, and voice at the Hochstein School of Music, The Eastman School of Music, and Roberts Wesleyan College. Her string studies involved classical and Suzuki methods. After moving to Canada in 1974, she established a private studio in Pickering that she still maintains. She currently performs with the Ontario Philharmonic Orchestra and is principal violinist with the Hamstrings of Durham Trio. She has been an active freelance performer in classical voice, music theatre, violin, and piano. Martha has been involved with music festivals for the last 25 years and has been Executive Director of the Pickering GTA Music Festival for 12 years.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015

Regina Music Festival



## Sonia Klimasko

Toronto

### Strings

Sonia Klimasko began her study of the violin at the age of 4. She has devoted the past 40 years of her life to performing, teaching and sharing her love and knowledge of music with audiences, children and aspiring violinists across Canada, the United States, Europe and Mexico. For the past 40 years, she has played first violin with the National Ballet of Canada Orchestra. Sonia Klimasko has held the positions of string instructor at the Bishop Strachan School and Cardinal Carter Academy for the Arts as well as string consultant with the York Region Board of Education. Ms Klimasko is a graduate of the University of Toronto, holding a degree in Performance.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Saskatoon Music Festival



## Susan Lee

Ancaster

### Piano

Susan holds a B.Mus. (McMaster) and an M.Mus. (McGill). She has performed all across Canada and parts of the US. She has been teaching piano for the past 25 years, working with all levels of students as well as all ages. Susan is in demand as a music festival adjudicator and has traveled across Canada encouraging and helping young musicians. She has also recently become a member of the College of Examiners for the RCM.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015

Saskatoon Music Festival



## Henry Meredith

Arva

### Band, Brass, Instruments

Henry Meredith has enjoyed an active international career as performer, teacher, conductor, adjudicator, lecturer, historian, and clinician. He holds three degrees from the Indiana University School of Music, plus a doctorate from the University of Northern Colorado. At the University of Western Ontario, Meredith has taught instrumental music education, conducting, brass performance and pedagogy, music history, and music appreciation, and he has directed bands, brass choirs, jazz ensembles, and historical groups.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015

Provincial Festival

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## Ryan Purchase

Ottawa



### Brass, Band

Ryan Purchase is a freelance trombonist currently residing in Ottawa, Ontario. Orchestrally-trained, he now focuses his musical energy primarily on klezmer and free improvisation. After completing a Master's degree in Performance at the University of Toronto and touring Canada and Japan with the National Youth Orchestra, Ryan went on to study on scholarship at the Klezkanada Summer Music Workshops for many years, eventually teaching an improvising ensemble there. He also studied improvised, klezmer, gypsy, and German folk musics in Weimar, Germany, through Yiddish Summer Weimar. He is the former Personnel Manager for the National Arts Centre and Vancouver Symphony Orchestras. Prior to this, Ryan received his musical education in Regina, Saskatchewan, through the Regina Lions Band, Campbell Collegiate High School bands, South Saskatchewan Youth Orchestra, and the University of Regina, where he studied with Richard Raum. He was Assistant Principal Trombone in the Regina Symphony Orchestra until 1999. Ryan is the recipient of many awards and scholarships, including grants from the Canada Council, Saskatchewan Arts Board, and Alberta Foundation for the Arts. He has appeared on over 20 recordings as both a performer and composer, including his 45-minute improvised chamber music suite, "Morphology of a Lover." He lives in Ottawa with his wife and their two children, their cats, and a lot of books. He performs regularly with brass-funk band The Bank Street Bonbons, and is writing a strange little young adult fantasy novel. He listens to too many podcasts and plays too much Dungeons & Dragons.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Saskatoon Music Festival

2015

Saskatoon Music Festival

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## Erika Raum

Toronto



### Strings, Piano

Known for her "lively temperament, energetic individuality and warm and communicative tone" (Muzsika, Budapest), violinist Erika Raum continues developing a following here in her native country and internationally. Playing professionally since the age of twelve, Ms. Raum quickly rose through the ranks by taking first place at the 1992 Joseph Szigeti International Violin Competition in Budapest as well as the award for best interpretation of a Mozart concerto. She has returned on many occasions to perform in Hungary, Portugal, Sweden, Austria, Germany, England, Italy and France. She has appeared as guest artist with orchestras including the Budapest Radio Orchestra, the Szombathely Symphony Orchestra, the Austro-Hungarian Orchestra, and the Franz Liszt Chamber Orchestra. A distinguished musician abroad, Erika also performs frequently throughout her homeland with orchestral appearances in cities such as Toronto, Calgary, Vancouver, Ottawa, Victoria, Halifax, Laval and Edmonton. Both a recitalist and chamber musician, some of her recent international highlights include the Beethoven Festival in Warsaw, the BargeMusic Festival in New York, and the Seattle Chamber Music Festival and most recently, the Festival Pablo Casals de Prades, France and the Clondeboy Festival, Ireland. Past invitations include the Budapest Spring Festival, Szombathely Festival in Hungary, Carnegie Hall as well as the Caramoor and Prussia Cove festivals. Her performances are often heard on an array of radio networks like CBC across Canada and the NPR in the USA. Erika is a graduate of the University of Toronto where she studied with the late Professor Lorand Fenyves and was awarded the prestigious Eaton Scholarship upon her graduation. She is also a recipient of The Canada Council for the Arts - Career Development Grant. Ms. Raum is currently on the faculties of The Glenn Gould School of The Royal Conservatory and the University of Toronto. She lives in Toronto with her husband, distinguished Canadian composer, Omar Daniel, their daughter Roslein, and triplets Eero, Oskar, and Roxanne.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Regina Music Festival

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## Rachel Rensink-Hoff

St. Catherines



### Choir

Dr. Rachel Rensink-Hoff is Director of Choral Activities and Assistant Professor of Music Education at Brock University and Artistic Director of the Niagara-based Avanti Chamber Singers. Former conductor of the McMaster University Choir and founder of the McMaster Women's Choir, Rachel presently serves as Vice-President of Programming for Choral Canada. She is the 2014 winner of the prestigious Leslie Bell Prize for Choral Conducting awarded by the Ontario Arts Council and in 2015, her McMaster Women's Choir was awarded first prize in the National Choral Competition for Amateur Choirs of the CBC and Choral Canada. That same year she was nominated for the Excellence in Teaching Award at McMaster University. Rachel works frequently as guest conductor, adjudicator, conference presenter and workshop clinician. Recent engagements include a session on Canadian and American women choral composers at the 2017 national conference of the American Choral Directors' Association in Minneapolis, Minnesota and a presentation on Canadian choral music at the 2017 World Symposium on Choral Music in Barcelona, Spain. She was also conductor of the 2017 Nova Scotia Provincial Youth Choir.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Provincial Festival



## Catherine Robbin

Tottenham

### Voice

One of Canada's best known mezzo-sopranos, Catherine Robbin earned an international reputation during her 30-year career as a performing and recording artist. She is much sought after to adjudicate and conduct masterclasses in art song and lieder performance at festivals and music schools in Canada and the U.S. She is a member of NATS and serves as president of the Canadian Aldeburgh Foundation, an organization that supports Canadians studying and performing in the Britten-Pears Young Artists program in the U.K. Professor Robbin joined the faculty in York University's Music Department in 2002 and retired from her public performance career the following year to dedicate herself full-time to teaching. She directs York's classical vocal studies program.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015

Saskatoon Music Festival



## Jane Saunders

Thunder Bay

### Band, Jazz Band

Dr. Jane Saunders is Arts Chair and Head of Music at Hammarskjold High School in Thunder Bay, Ontario, where she teaches band, strings and jazz band. Over her 28 year teaching career, Jane has participated in local, provincial, and national level music festivals with many of her students. Jane completed her music education studies at The University of Western Ontario (H.B. Mus.Ed. 1988), The University of Windsor (B.Ed. 1989), The University of Minnesota (MA. 1994) and Lakehead University (Ph.D. 2004). Over her career, Jane has enjoyed a wide variety of musical activities with her students. Though the focus on her classroom teaching has been band and orchestra, Jane has directed Broadway musicals, choirs, jazz bands, and guitar classes, and has also instructed "music teacher students" at the University of Minnesota and Lakehead University.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2017

Saskatoon Music Festival



## Laurel Swinden

Cambridge

### Woodwinds

Canadian flutist Laurel Swinden enjoys a multi-faceted career as a recitalist, orchestral musician, pedagogue, clinician and music scholar. Dr. Swinden teaches flute at Wilfrid Laurier University, the University of Guelph and the Laurier Conservatory and worldwide on the roster of Play-With-A-Pro. She has given masterclasses and adjudicated at festivals across Canada and in the United States, China and South America. Performances have been broadcast on NPR, regional radio and her recordings can be heard on CBC's streaming audio and Naxos. Laurel earned a DMA in Flute Performance as a Fellowship recipient at the University of Toronto, where she studied with Nora Schulman and traverso with Alison Melville. [www.laurelswinden.com](http://www.laurelswinden.com)

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Shurniak Concerto Competition



## Mark Thompson

Ancaster

### Band, Woodwinds, Instruments

Clarinetist and saxophonist Mark Thompson studied at the U of T, Indiana University, and The Mannes College of Music in New York. In 1994, he became the first Canadian clarinetist to win first prize in the Artists' International Competition, subsequently giving his New York debut at Weill recital hall at Carnegie Hall. Since then, he has enjoyed a diverse musical career spanning from recording for the CBC and BBC to being heard on various jingles and the Disney Channel. Since 1996, he has been Artistic Director of Clearly Classic Concerts in Dundas, Ontario in the capacity as performer and developer of numerous projects, including the ensemble 'Twist!'. The Clearly Classic Education programs that he founded have brought classical and jazz music to many children in the greater Toronto area. He is in demand throughout North America as a clinician and adjudicator, including the Glenn Gould Professional School. In the United States he is a woodwind examiner for Carnegie Hall's 'The Achievement Program' (TAP) and is also a member of the College of Examiners for the Royal Conservatory in Toronto, examining all woodwind, brass and percussion instruments.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016

Saskatoon Music Festival

2015

Regina Music Festival



**Piano**

Originally from Ottawa, Fiona Jane Wood is a Toronto based pianist who is in demand both as a solo and collaborative artist. Ms. Wood champions both the standard and contemporary repertoire and has premiered several solo and chamber works across Canada. She holds an ARCT from the Royal Conservatory of Music, and was awarded several scholarships in her post-secondary education. Ms. Wood holds degrees from McGill University, University of Toronto and the Glenn Gould School in both Piano Performance and Pedagogy. Ms. Wood has studied at the Banff School of Fine Arts, the Orford Arts Centre and the Adamant School. Principal teachers include Sandra Webster, Tom Plaunt and Marietta Orlov. Ms. Wood has performed in master classes for celebrated musicians that include André Laplante, Angela Hewitt, Jane Coop, John Perry and Marc Durand. She has recently given recitals at the McMichael Gallery of Ontario, Gallery 345, The Canadian Music Centre, the Richard Bradshaw Amphitheatre at the Canadian Opera Company, and the Arts and Letters club of Toronto. She is member of TENT ensemble which performs both standard and contemporary music. In spring of 2013, TENT was invited to perform in the Toronto Music Gallery series entitled "Emergents", which features new and exciting artists. The chamber group recently made their NYC debut. Ms. Wood combines her love of performing with teaching and is a member of the college of examiners for the Royal Conservatory of Music. She is also a frequent adjudicator across North America in all levels of piano. She lives with her husband, her four year old son and her English spring spaniel named Clarence in the colourful Toronto neighbourhood called Cabbagetown.

**Recent Festivals Adjudicated:**

2016

Provincial Festival

## Joanne Kolomyjec

Point Claire

### Senior Voice

Artistry of the highest order and inspired portrayals have secured soprano Joanne Kolomyjec an enviable reputation in the world of opera. In recent years her highly acclaimed performances of Tatiana in Eugene Onegin, the title roles in Tosca and Jenufa, and Marguerite in Faust, Donna Elvira in Don Giovanni and Magda Sorel in The Consul have thrilled audiences and critics alike in Canada, USA and Great Britain. A graduate with distinction of the University of Toronto's Opera School and of its Bachelor of Music in Performance, Ms. Kolomyjec went on to be a winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Competition (1983). She has been hailed as a stylish and elegant Mozartean, and has portrayed the Countess and Susanna in Le Nozze di Figaro, as well as Donna Elvira and Donna Anna in Don Giovanni, and Fiordiligi in Così fan Tutti. Other prominent roles include Violetta in La Traviata, Mimi in La Bohème, Agathe in Der Freischütz, Micaela in Carmen, Madame Lidoine and Blanche in Les Dialogues des Carmélites, Lia in L'Enfant Prodigue, Rosalinda in Die Fledermaus and Anna Glawari in The Merry Widow, Alice Ford in Verdi's masterpiece Falstaff, and her first venture into Wagner with Freia in Das Rheingold. Ms. Kolomyjec has sung with all the major opera companies in Canada, and in the US with Santa Fe Opera, Florentine Opera, Portland Opera, Utah Opera, Arizona Opera. Ms. Kolomyjec was on faculty at Memorial University of Newfoundland and at the University of Ottawa in Ontario. She is presently in her 14th year on the voice faculty at the Schulich School of Music, McGill University in Montreal Quebec, where she was presented with the 2013/2014 Teacher of the Year Award. As well Ms. Kolomyjec has presented many master classes at music faculties across Canada, has been on the voice faculty and audition panel for Opera NUOVA in the summers and been a jurist on panels for a number of competitions, including Jeunesse Musicale, Ontario Arts Council, National Music Competition and the Canadian Music Competition, as well as for the Juno awards and Canada Council grants.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2017

Provincial Festival



## Dominique Labelle

Montreal

### Vocal

Born in Montreal and trained at McGill and Boston Universities, Dominique enjoys sharing her technical and musical insights with young singers, and is Professor of Voice at the Schulich School of Music at McGill University. She has also taught master classes at The Classical Singers Convention in Boston, Harvard University, San Francisco Conservatory, Smith College, Vassar College, and the University of Massachusetts.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Wallis Memorial Opera Competition

### Stephen Runge

Sackville



#### Piano

Pianist Stephen Runge has been heard across Canada in recital, as chamber musician, and with orchestra and is in demand across the country as teacher, adjudicator, and clinician. He has also received special recognition for his frequent performances as chamber musician and art song collaborator. Born and raised in Regina, Stephen studied at the University of Victoria, The Glenn Gould School of The RCM, and was awarded a Doctorate of Music from l'Université de Montréal. Dr. Runge joined the Department of Music at Mount Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick in 2007, where he is currently Associate Professor of Piano and Director of Mount Allison Local Centre Examinations in Music.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Regina Music Festival

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### Christianne Rushton

Wolfville



#### Voice

Mezzo-soprano Christianne Rushton has delighted audiences with her engaging presence and versatility on both the operatic and concert stages. She is a past first prize winner of the Canadian Music Festival, a second prize winner of the prestigious Eckhardt-Gramatté Competition, a two-time grant recipient from the Canada Council for the Performing Arts, and a winner of the Canada Council's *Bernard Diamant Prize* in Voice. In recital, she has performed as guest artist for the Royal Society of Canada, toured with Debut Atlantic, sung at the Indian River Festival, and performed at New York's Alice Tully Hall. Christianne is Assistant Professor at Acadia University where she is head of vocal studies.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016

Provincial Festival



### Erin Bardua

Sackville

#### Vocal, Musical Theatre

Soprano Erin Bardua is a frequent concert soloist, who has performed with the Talisker Players, Nota Bene Baroque Players, Pax Christi Chorale, the Toronto Sinfonietta, the Oshawa-Durham Chorus, the Arcady Baroque Ensemble, the St. James Cathedral Choir, Capella Intima, London Pro Musica and the Menno Singers, among others. Her oratorio repertoire includes Handel's *Messiah*, *Esther* and *Judas Maccabaeus*, Zelenka's *Missa Omnium Sanctorum*, Beethoven's *Mass in C Major*, Vaughan Williams' *Hodie*, Haydn's *Creation*, Mozart's *Requiem* and *Vesperae solennes de confessore*, Bach's *Magnificat* and *Passions*, Saint-Saëns' *Christmas Oratorio*, and Vivaldi's *Gloria*. Erin is the co-founder of Essential Opera, a concert opera company performing great works in Ontario and the Atlantic. Her operatic roles with EO and other companies have included Nannetta (Verdi's *Falstaff*), Antonia and Giulietta (Offenbach's *Les contes d'Hoffmann*), numerous Mozart including Pamina (*Die Zauberflöte*), the Countess (*Le nozze di Figaro*) and Donna Anna (*Don Giovanni*), Alcina (Handel), Constanza (Haydn's *L'isola disabitata*) and Elena (Gluck's *Paride ed Elena*). Erin has also premiered leading roles in several new compositions, including *Frankenstein* by Andrew Ager, *Regina* by Elisha Denburg, *Etiquette* by Monica Pearce, and *Heather: Cindy + Mindy = BFFs 4EVER* by Christopher Thornborrow. Erin has provided dramatic coaching and stage direction for Mount Allison University's Opera Workshop and the Halifax Summer Opera Festival, where she directs *The Coronation of Poppea* for the 2018 season. She operates a private voice studio in Sackville and is a regular festival adjudicator. Erin is represented by Knowles Artists.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Provincial Festival

## Jane Leibel

St. John's



### Voice

Soprano Jane Leibel has earned praise for her “crystalline, strong soprano” (Opera Canada) “vibrant, sweet, fresh singing” (The Globe and Mail) and for her acting abilities. She holds a DMA from the University of Michigan in Voice Performance, a master’s degree from the University of North Texas State, an opera diploma from the University of Toronto, and a Bachelor of Music from the University of Regina. A dedicated and inspiring teacher, Jane has adjudicated and delivered masterclasses across Canada. Her students have been accepted for graduate studies and opera performance programs throughout North America. She is Professor of Voice and one of the founding members of the *MUN Song Academy*, a week-long summer intensive program for high school age singers; Past District Governor and President of the Canadian Atlantic Region of the National Association of Teachers of Singing; and serves on the Executive Board of The Canadian University Music Society (MusCan) and The Steering Committee for the *Singing Network*. Jane teaches studio voice and voice pedagogy.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016

Saskatoon Music Festival

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## Maureen Volk

St. John's



### Piano

Maureen Volk has performed as a recitalist, orchestral soloist and chamber musician in Canada, the United States and Europe. Recent performances include four concerts at Bargemusic in New York City with violinist Mark Peskanov and soprano Jane Leibel. She has released two CDs on the Centaur Records label, a solo CD entitled *Schubert and Debussy* (2008), and *Thomas Yee and Maureen Volk* (2010), containing music for two pianos by Canadian composers Michael Conway Baker, John Beckwith, Clifford Crawley, and Gary Kulesha. In recognition of her teaching, she received a prestigious 3M National Teaching Fellowship in 2014, the Association of Atlantic Universities’ Distinguished Teaching Award in 2011, and the President’s Award for Distinguished Teaching at Memorial University in 2008. Dr. Volk began studying piano in Saskatchewan, and received her Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Regina. With the assistance of The Canada Council, she continued her studies at The Juilliard School in New York, where she received her Master of Music degree, and at Indiana University, where she completed her doctorate. Her piano teachers include Sascha Gorodnitzki, Shigeo Neriki and Edna Golandsky. She teaches piano, piano literature, studio pedagogy, and aural skills in the School of Music at Memorial University. She was director of the School of Music from 1990-2000, and is serving as dean *pro tempore* in 2015-16.

### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016

Saskatoon Music Festival



## Bonnie Cutsforth-Huber

Hollidaysburg, PA

### Voice, Choral

Canadian contralto Bonnie Cutsforth-Huber is active in oratorio, cantata, and operatic circuits, having appeared as soloist with many organizations. She is an active scholar and teacher. She published book reviews and articles on vocal and operatic subjects in many scholarly journals. Ms. Cutsforth-Huber holds a B.Mus. in vocal performance from the U of S, a Master's degree in vocal performance from Southern Illinois University, and a Ph.D. in musicology from the University of Kentucky. She currently serves as assistant professor of music at Penn State Altoona.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2018

Regina Music Festival



## Samuel Deason

Evanston, Illinois

### Piano

Samuel Deason has distinguished himself as a fearless musician having made his concerto debut performing Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No.2 under Peter Oundjian as the first concerto performance in Koerner Hall in Toronto.

Recent orchestral engagements include Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No.2 with the Fort Worth Symphony orchestra under Lio Kuokman, and concerti by Liszt-Busoni, Gershwin, Khachaturian, and Shostakovich with orchestras across North America and Europe. Samuel is 2nd prize winner of the Hastings International Piano Concerto Competition, performing with the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra, and 3rd prize winner of the Kerikeri International Piano Competition in New Zealand. Recital performances include Beethoven's Diabelli Variations for the Master Piano Recital Series in Ottawa, and for the Organization of Saskatchewan Arts Councils. He has performed for the Dame Myra Hess Series in Chicago, broadcast live on WFMT 98.7fm.

Born in Saskatoon, Samuel has studied with Bonnie Nicholson, with Marc Durand at the Glenn Gould School, Menahem Pressler at Indiana University, and Boris Slutsky at the Peabody Conservatory. He is currently pursuing a Doctorate of Musical Arts degree at Northwestern University under James Giles. Samuel has twice been an adjudicator for SMFA, taught at Indiana University and Northwestern University, and has presented masterclasses at Mohawk College and BYUI.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2016

Regina Music Festival



## Sandra Joy Friesen

Northfield, MN

### Piano

Pianist Sandra Joy Friesen has developed many musical interests and has acquired a broad range of repertoire. As a music educator since 1992, Sandra Joy has balanced a career of teaching, performing, organizing festivals and concerts, and adjudicating. Investigating piano techniques, styles and aesthetics from the past century she has dedicated a large part of her career to lecture-recitals, presentations and workshops for music teacher groups and students on learning and teaching new music. Sandra Joy completed a Doctor of Music degree at the U of A. She is a member of the Alberta Registered Music Teachers Association, the Canadian Music Centre, and the Canadian New Music Network, and continues to be a committed voice for Canadian music, composers, and pedagogy of new piano music. Friesen also holds degrees from UBC (Master and B.Mus.) and Canadian Mennonite University (Bachelor of Church Music), and was recently Visiting Assistant Professor of Piano at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015

Provincial Festival



## Preston Hawes

Washington, DC

### Strings

Hailed by the European Academy of Arts and Sciences as an "electrifying and virtuosic" performer with "exquisite taste and rare talent", Canadian violinist, Dr. Preston Hawes is a laureate of the Concours de Musique Du Canada, the Andrews International Music Competitions, the Prix de Musique de Chambre à Fontainebleau, and recipient of the JC Van Hulsteyn award and Peabody Career Grant. He has been heard as a soloist in over 35 countries and in venues such as Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center, and Plovdiv Symphony Hall. Earning a Masters of Music degree and the coveted Artist Diploma at Yale University, Hawes completed his studies earning a Doctorate of Musical Arts from Peabody Institute of Music. Dr. Hawes is assistant professor of music and director of strings at Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, MD and is artistic director of the New England Symphonic Ensemble.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Shurniak Concerto Competition





## Andrew Hisey

Saint Paul, MN

### Piano

Dr. Andrew Hisey is recognized across the USA and Canada for his innovative and inspiring work teaching people to engage with and make music at the piano. He has served on the piano faculties of the Oberlin Conservatory in Ohio and St. Olaf College in Minnesota, and currently teaches at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota. He is an active soloist and collaborative performer and has been heard throughout the midwest and Canada. Dr. Hisey served as a Regional Leader for the Music Development Program and continues to serve as a senior adjudicator for RCM examinations in locations across North America.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015

Regina Music Festival



## Brad Hougham

Ithaca, NY

### Vocal

Brad Hougham, baritone, has served on the voice faculty at Ithaca College in Ithaca, New York for 12 years, where he is Associate Professor of Voice. He is an avid recitalist, opera, and concert singer, and has sung throughout Europe, Canada, and the United States. As a sought-after pedagogue, Dr. Hougham has taught master classes and lessons in Italy, Germany, Canada, England, and China. He was on the voice faculty of The Spoleto Vocal Arts Symposium for 10 summers in Spoleto, Italy. He holds degrees in singing from the University of Saskatchewan, Mannes College of Music, City University of New York and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Provincial Festival

## Jean-Marie Kent

Seattle, WA

### Choral, Vocal

Jean-Marie Kent is the director of choirs at Roosevelt High School in Seattle. She serves as department head and as leader of her professional learning community for Seattle Public Schools. Jean-Marie is also President of Elliott Bay Music Educators, a local division of the National Association of Music Educators. Jean-Marie completed her doctorate in choral conducting from the University of Washington, Seattle. She was a Huckabay Teaching Fellow and received the honor of designing a class for musicians to teach collaboration and community engagement. She was awarded the Celebrating University of Washington Women Award in 2010 for her work in building community within the UW Women's Choir. With the assistance of a Foreign Language Association Fellowship, she studied Vivaldi's original opera choruses in Torino, Italy. She was a Fellow in the Institute on the Public Humanities, which developed a multi-disciplinary cohort.

Before moving to Seattle, Jean-Marie taught music on Vancouver Island and in New York where she developed public school music programs for gifted children. She has conducted orchestras and choirs, including the University of Regina Chamber Singers, UW Women's Choir, Nanaimo Symphony Orchestra, and the Victoria Civic Orchestra. She was a professor at the University of Victoria, Nanaimo College, and University of Regina. Jean-Marie graduated from O'Neill High School and then went on to the University of Regina where she studied piano with Bill Moore, voice with Lynn Channing, and conducting with Kathryn Laurin.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2019

Provincial Festival



## Michael Kim

Minneapolis, MN

### Piano

Dr. Michael Kim maintains a multi-faceted career as an academic administrator, professor, and concert artist. He holds the DMA degree from the Juilliard School and has performed widely as concerto soloist, recitalist, and collaborative artist. Dr. Kim was appointed Director and Professor at the University of Minnesota School of Music in 2015.

#### Recent Festivals Adjudicated:

2015

Saskatoon Music Festival