



*Classical Competitive Festivals*

## ANNUAL REPORT

# 2015

August 1, 2014 - July 31, 2015

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Saskatchewan Music Educators Association  
Saskatchewan Orchestral Association  
Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers' Association

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**Executive Director**  
Carol Donhauser

**Administrative Assistant  
& Adjudicator Liaison**  
Sandra Kerr



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# Board of Directors

President.....	Nancy Toppings
First Vice President .....	Karen Unger
Second Vice President .....	Sherry Sproule
Past President .....	Karen MacCallum
Director .....	Donna Kreiser
Director .....	Sandra Senga
Director .....	Robin Swales
Director .....	Wendy Thienes
Director .....	Kelly Stein
Director (ad-hoc) .....	Joy McFarlane-Burton



## Mission Statement

The purpose and objective of the Provincial Association is to promote excellence in music and speech arts by providing performance and educational opportunities through competitive music festivals in the Province of Saskatchewan.

## Vision

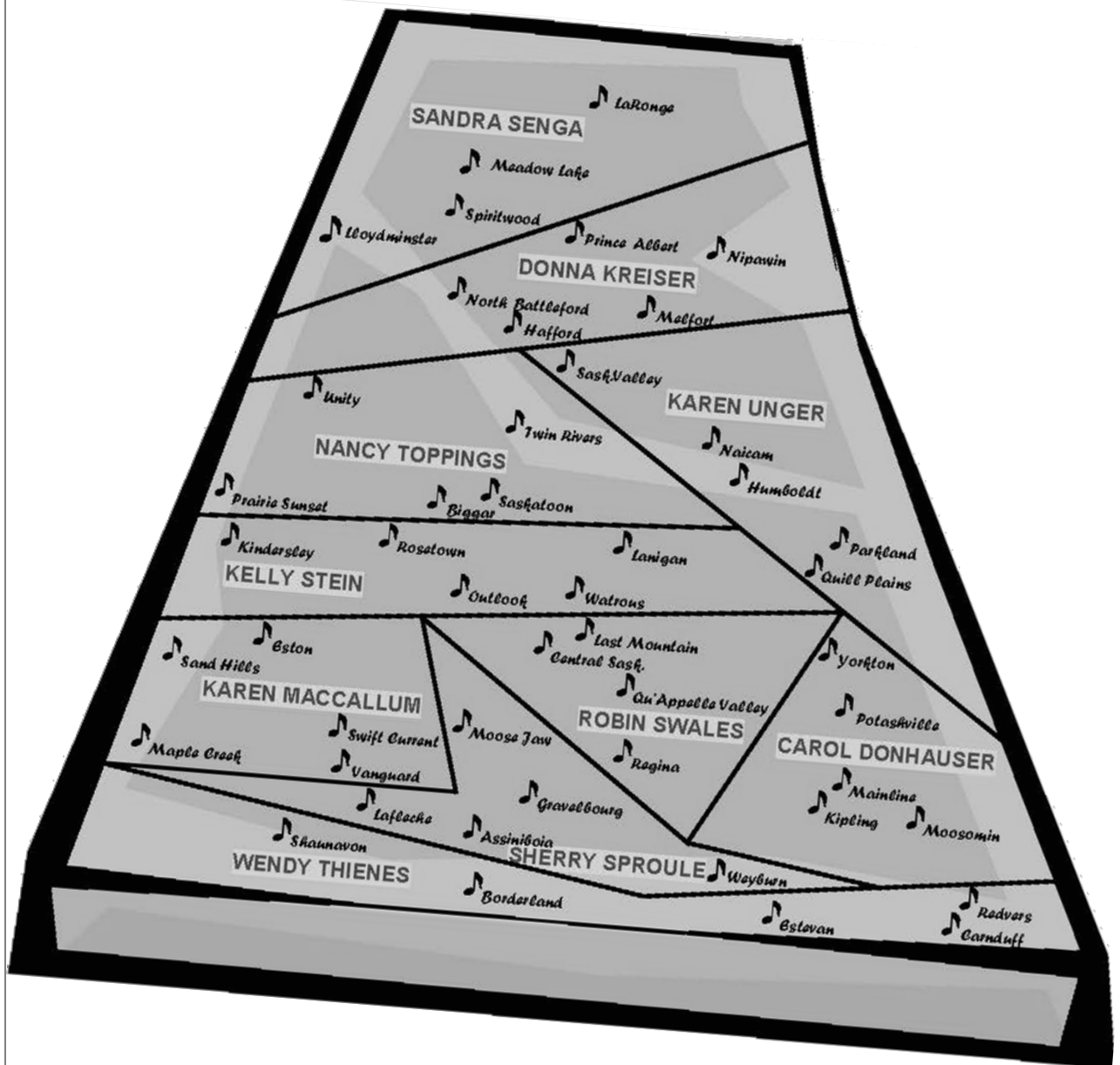
A world that appreciates music; providing excellence in music and speech arts, performance and educational opportunities for students and teachers; producing well-rounded individuals with positive life and performance skills.







## Board of Directors Liaison Map







## Cultural Impact Statement

*In 1905, Saskatchewan became a province. Since 1908, the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association (SMFA) has grown with our province, always in step, always in tune. The SMFA reaches out to people of all ages and all backgrounds across the province of Saskatchewan. The Saskatchewan structures and programs have been modelled throughout Canada.*

Our mandate, which is *"to promote excellence in music and speech arts by providing performance and educational opportunities through competitive festivals,"* requires us to work closely with the many people who come together to keep the festival movement in Saskatchewan alive and well. These people include music and speech students, teachers, parents, volunteers, donors and audiences. There are 48 annual festivals across the province, therefore the impact that is created in all these 48 festivals and surrounding areas is significant.

These communities have embraced the festival concept because it provides:

- an element of educational growth as well as entertainment that brings their community together
- the opportunity for communities to acknowledge and support the success and endeavours of their young people
- encouragement for students to set goals and showcase their abilities while receiving constructive adjudication from professional musicians
- local volunteers an opportunity to be involved with young people in their community in a positive way
- participating students with the performance opportunity to develop confidence and self-discipline while demonstrating positive role models for their peers

Since its early days, the Association has provided competitive and non-competitive classes for not only solo and individual competitors, but for community and schools in choruses, bands and orchestras. SMFA's continued expansion encouraged the formation of other provincial music organizations. Saskatchewan was not only the first to form a Provincial Music Festival Association, but also the first to use a common syllabus for all its member festivals. The use of the common syllabus assures that a high standard is maintained.

SMFA partners with the other music organizations across Saskatchewan to ensure that the programs we develop are relevant to the needs of our young people. Accessibility to programs and recognizing changing demographic circumstances within the province is a high priority. The broad-based volunteer component of SMFA allows the organization to operate at the grass roots level thereby closely monitoring these changes and adapting to them. Every attempt is made to ensure that the experience attained by participants is beneficial and works in concert with the SMFA vision which is *to develop individuals with positive life and performance skills.*

SMFA believes that the need for a culturally aware society is of increasing importance given the pressures exerted upon us by the rapid, electronic environment in which we live. Our organization is committed to cultivating that awareness by providing information, education, opportunity and a clear vision of the role we play in this task.



## President's Report

*From the establishment of the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association (SMFA) in 1908, the mandate has been to provide young Saskatchewan musicians with opportunities to perform and compete with their peers and be adjudicated by professional musicians. We are deeply grateful for the thousands of volunteers who support our 48 District Music Festivals.*



Nancy Toppings,  
President

The 2014 SMFA Annual Fall Conference and AGM took place within the Saskatchewan Music Conference in November. Wendy Thienes and Kelly Stein were elected to the Board of Directors for three-year terms. Joy McFarlane-Burton was appointed as Ad Hoc member for a one-year term.

The Shurniak Concerto Competition was held at the University of Saskatchewan in February, with 13 competitors. Congratulations to William Boan, violinist, who captured first prize. The SMFA wishes to acknowledge the generous support of Mr. William Shurniak, as well as the Regina and Saskatoon Symphony Orchestras for providing performance opportunities for the winner of this prestigious competition.

The SMFA takes great pride in our network of District Festivals which, after more than 100 years, still provides the richest learning experience for young musicians and families, teachers and schools, volunteers and communities. District Festivals were held in 48 communities from February to May. Thank you to the local volunteers and sponsors who make their Festivals possible and to the adjudicators who travel the province sharing their knowledge and expertise.

Provincial Finals were held in Saskatoon at the University of Saskatchewan, where judges heard almost 300 entries by competitors from 29 District Festivals. The Grand Award winner was Bryan Allen, percussion. We appreciate the support of

the Saskatoon volunteers who have helped ensure a smooth-running Provincial Finals for the past four consecutive years.

Saskatchewan representatives to the 2015 National Music Festival achieved their most impressive showing in history. Congratulations to Godwin Friesen (1<sup>st</sup> place in Piano) and Bryan Allen (1<sup>st</sup> place in Percussion). For a complete listing of the Saskatchewan Team and their achievements, please refer to the Nationals Report on page 62.

Saskatchewan delegates to the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals (FCMF) AGM were Carol Donhauser, Karen MacCallum, Sherry Sproule and Nancy Toppings. We are pleased to announce that Joy McFarlane-Burton was elected Vice-President of FCMF, and Karen MacCallum was elected as a Director for a two-year term. Gloria Nickell, a Past-President of SMFA, has retired from the FCMF Board, and we thank her for her years of service on both the Provincial and National Boards.

We are pleased to present the 2016-2018 SMFA Syllabus, and I congratulate Karen Unger, Syllabus Chair, and her committee on the tremendous job in producing this document. The changes in this new syllabus reflect a concerted effort by our Board to grow and change with the needs of our member Festivals and changing demographics, and every decision was reached with a great deal of thought and deliberation. Many thanks go to the selectors and proof-



readers, and to Dianne Swanson and Darren Schwartz for their valued contributions.

Promotion of Speech Arts is ongoing with SMFA-sponsored workshops, facilitated by Heather Macnab, in the communities of Assiniboia, Estevan, Unity and Meadow Lake in 2015. The workshops are made possible through a grant from Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund, and more communities will receive this opportunity in the coming year.

Words cannot adequately express our appreciation for the extraordinary commitment by Executive Director, Carol Donhauser. Countless hours have been invested in typesetting the syllabus, working with partners in the Music Alliance, contributing to the Summer Music Camps...all in addition to the day-to-day operations of the SMFA. Carol always delivers, and always with grace and a smile. Thank you to Sandra Kerr, Administrative Assistant and Adjudicator Liaison, for her roles, in keeping the SMFA ship on course, and for her efficiency in the office and support to our District Festivals.

SMFA gratefully acknowledges funding received from the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation administered by SaskCulture. We also appreciate the generous support of SaskTel, SaskEnergy, PotashCorp, the University of Saskatchewan, Yamaha Piano, Business for the Arts, Mr. Lube Regina, as well as the many scholarship donors, service clubs and patrons at both the District and Provincial level.

Thank you to retiring board member Donna Kreiser, and to Sandra Senga who has served two terms as Director of the SMFA. Your support and friendship is so greatly appreciated. Deepest appreciation is extended to Joy McFarlane-Burton, and we wish her well in her role as Vice-President of the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals.

I wish to personally thank all the members of the SMFA Board of Directors for their support this year. You are a tremendous group of strong, intelligent, passionate and hard-working people, and I feel privileged to know you.

The heroes of this organization are the volunteers at the District Festival level; our statistics tell us that 2,434 people invested almost 40,000 volunteer hours to make the Festivals of 2015 a reality in your own communities. That is amazing! I am inspired by your dedication, and I am honoured to serve as your President. I would like to close with this quote by John Denver, which seems appropriate for this time and place.

*"Music does bring people together.  
It allows us to experience the same emotions.  
People everywhere are the same in heart and spirit.  
No matter what language we speak, what color we are,  
the form of our politics or the expression of  
our love and our faith,  
music proves: We are the same."*

*Respectfully, Nancy Toppings*



## Executive Director's Report

*SMFA is committed to promoting excellence in music and speech through competitions, performance, and educational opportunities for the people of Saskatchewan.*



Carol Donhauser,  
Executive Director

An organization's mission statement is a way of summing up your non-profit to the outside world. In many ways, a mission statement is a kind of PR move: a way to position your organization as memorable and unique. SMFA is a unique volunteer-based organization and we have been working hard, over the past 107 years, to make it memorable.

Music is a big part of our lives. Whether it's the music that we listen to on the way to work, while we workout, or the music we hear in a symphony or film, it can bring up our moods, tell us a story or even bring us down. Music has touched cultures all over the world since very early times in human history. How fortunate we are, to be able to bring something so meaningful to people across the Province.

Our organization remains volunteer-driven at the grass root level. The benefit of a grass root organization is that it provides a first-hand understanding of the needs in the community. Saskatchewan has experienced an economic boom for several years which saw the population in Saskatchewan grow and change as well as the need for our cultural programs to do the same. We are an organization that can easily adapt to change and can attribute this adaptability to our longevity.

SMFA has not been without its struggles, with volunteers and funding. Many non-profit

volunteer organizations have difficulty finding volunteers and the necessary funding to run their programs in order to deliver their mission. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the thousands of volunteers who work on behalf of the SMFA. Thank you for putting your heart and soul into delivering the mission and the vision of our founders.

Another important element in our ability to deliver our mission, besides volunteers, is funding. As we continue to grow and change in this Association, one thing that does not change is the tremendous financial support we receive year after year. Without the financial assistance from our many donors, sponsors and substantial grant from the Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture & Recreation administered by SaskCulture, our programs would not be possible. Thank you to our financial supporters! Your insight into the importance of our programs is appreciated.

As we look back at the successes of this past year and look forward to the next festival season, I would like to bid Naicam Music Festival a fond farewell and thank the community and volunteers for a great 50 years. I would also like to thank the SMFA Board of Directors and Sandra Kerr for their support. We are fortunate to have a wonderful team of people who all work very hard to deliver the SMFA mission.

*Respectfully submitted by Carol Donhauser*



**Saskatchewan  
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Teachers'  
Association**

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the musicians  
of tomorrow!***

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## 2014 Saskatchewan Music Conference

*Our sixth annual Saskatchewan Music Conference was held at the Saskatoon Inn, November 14-15. "Music for For All, Live It, Love It, and Learn It" was the theme of this event, a joint partnership between the Saskatchewan Choral Federation (SCF), the Saskatchewan Band Association (SBA), the Saskatchewan Music Educators Association (SMEA), the Saskatchewan Orchestral Association (SOA), and the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association (SMFA). Members of each organization had an opportunity to participate in a variety of relevant workshops provided during this event.*



The Awards Banquet was held on Friday evening, emceed by Amber Grant and Chad Huel from SBA. Greetings were extended on behalf SaskCulture from James Winkel, Vice President.

Individuals were honoured by their respective organizations for their contributions and achievement. Karen MacCallum, President of the SMFA honoured the following with SMFA Volunteer Recognition Awards: Esther Bangsund (Estevan Music Festival), Stacy Grunert (Estevan Music Festival), Leigh McIntyre (Kindersley Music Festival), Brenda Nightingale (Meadow Lake Music Festival), Terri Prete (Meadow Lake Music Festival), Maren Hantke (Melfort Music Festival), Jane Graf (Naicam Music Festival), Karen Unger (Naicam Music Festival), Gayle Brown (Rosetown Music Festival), Helen Few (Saskatoon Music Festival), Faye Anderson (Shaunavon Music Festival), Judy Tamke (Watrous Music Festival), Karen Muir (Yorkton

Music Festival), and Sandra Baron (Yorkton Music Festival).

The SMFA provided workshops on Friday and Saturday specific to the organization. Our first presenter, on behalf of the SMFA, was Glen Gillis. His session focused on adjudication. Glen took us through some practical information each adjudicator should consider before, during, and after the adjudication process. Glen shared some of his own experiences as well some of the experiences he has observed throughout his years.

Saturday was a full day for the SMFA, starting with the SMFA Networking session. We had some time together to meet and greet the people from each district while sharing a continental breakfast.

Larry Johnson was the first presenter on the agenda for Saturday and was a return presenter from the previous year. Larry designed and operates the Music Festival Organizer (MFO) which has a built-in online registration component. There were a handful of festivals that used this program last year and this session was dedicated to sharing their experiences. Although there were some learning curves, and a few kinks to work out, the overall consensus was positive. As more and more festivals start using the MFO, it will be easier to pool our resources for ongoing training and knowledge of the software. We hope to be able to use it to our advantage by reducing volunteer time and easier accessibility to our programs for our users.



The keynote speaker for the Conference this year was Tom Allen, host of the CBC Radio program 'Shift'. Mr. Allen, a musician, broadcaster, author, and concert host, spoke about the power of music and showed us clips from a documentary of which he was a part. He also gave us a brief but powerful demonstration on what television, movies, and life in general would be like without music. Tom Allen can be found on YouTube. It was an honor to hear him speak live.

The SMFA Annual General Meeting was chaired by President Karen MacCallum with 22 out of 48 District Festivals represented. The 2013-2014 Annual Report was presented and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President Nancy Toppings gave a clear and concise presentation of the financial statements. Leander Dueck, Beyond Wealth, reported briefly on the performance of the SMFA Investment Fund over the past year.

The attendance of Honorary Life Members, Doris Covey Lazecki, Penny Joynt, and Janet McGonigle, were acknowledged.

Carol Donhauser, Executive Director, presented the 2015 Directory information (with Syllabus changes). She explained that this year, the Directory will only contain the "Regulation and Scholarship" Information and will be renamed accordingly. The festival contact information will be updated and maintained on the SMFA website ([www.smfa.ca](http://www.smfa.ca)) on each individual festival page. She also reminded everyone, that this is the last year of the 3-year Syllabus. The 2016-2018 Syllabus is coming along nicely and will be available for purchase by late summer of 2015.

A motion was passed to increase the adjudicator fees from \$300 to \$350 and travel compensation rates for adjudicators, board, and staff from 40¢/km to 42¢/km, effective 2015/2016 operating year (August 1, 2015 to July 31, 2016). Please note that his motion will

be in effect for the 2016 Festival year, so plan accordingly.

Anita Kuntz made a brief presentation on 'scholarships and fundraising'. She pointed out the importance of keeping individual District Festivals financially viable so in turn they can be a part of the larger festival organization. Supporting young people in the arts is a great investment for both community and province.

Laureen Kells, President of the Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers Association brought greetings as a Representative Organization of the SMFA. She noted how closely the two organizations work together and thanked the volunteers of the SMFA who work tirelessly to provide SRMTA members' students the educational performance opportunity through competitive music festivals.







The winner of the Best Program Award for 2014 was presented to Unity Music Festival. They received a \$50 cheque.

Karen MacCallum thanked the outgoing board of directors, Joy McFarlane-Burton and Anita Kuntz, and presented them with parting gifts. A very special welcome was extended to the newly elected board members - Kelly Stein from Simpson and Wendy Thienes from Shaunavon.



(l to r) Joy McFarlane-Burton,  
Karen MacCallum, & Anita Kuntz

The afternoon session began with educator Lisa Packet who shared her knowledge of Speech Arts and how to revive it in our schools. As a parent, school teacher, and performer herself, she reminded us of the importance of the 'art' of speaking which is a lifelong skill every single one of us will use throughout our lives.

Joy McFarlane-Burton spoke to us about the National Musical Theatre Class and how that affects us at the Local and Provincial level. Since Musical Theatre is now a National Class, it is a separate discipline from voice. That means, in order to enter the Provincial Musical Theatre class, competition in both Musical Theatre Classes at the Local level is required in order to qualify for a recommendation. It is possible to be recommended for one or both of those classes at the Provincial level. There was ongoing discussion on what is acceptable for props, speaking, and song choices.

District Festivals are also reminded that the National Class is a separate competition from the Provincial classes. The National Class must be entered at the District Festival in order to proceed on to Provincial Competition and National Competition (please refer to the FCMF Syllabus found at [www.fcmf.org](http://www.fcmf.org)).

Our last session of the day was a 'Question and Answer' session led by board members Karen Unger and Nancy Toppings. Each table was given a quiz with questions and examples of situations encountered at the District Festivals in regard to rules, classes, and disciplines. Delegates were then encouraged to find the 'rule' in the directory or syllabus, in an attempt to become more familiar with those books. This proved to be very valuable as we all learned where to find answers when we are not sure!

The final item on the agenda was outgoing President Karen MacCallum's presentation of the gavel to our incoming President, Nancy Toppings. We look forward to working with Nancy as she takes this leadership role.

Once again we need to remind each of the District Festivals of the importance to have representation at the annual meeting. This is where your voice can be heard and you can be part of the decisions we need to make year after year. We hope that your festival will make this a priority in 2015.

The 2014-2015 Provincial Board is:  
President – Nancy Toppings (Kipling)  
1st Vice-President – Karen Unger (Spalding)  
2nd Vice-President – Sherry Sproule (Lafleche)  
Past President – Karen MacCallum (Swift Current), Ad Hoc Member – Joy McFarlane-Burton (Saskatoon), Directors – Sandra Senga (Meadow Lake), Donna Kreiser (Prince Albert), Robin Swales (Regina), Wendy Thienes (Shaunavon), and Kelly Stein (Simpson).

*Submitted by, Anita Kuntz*



# 2014 AGM Minutes

**Saskatchewan Music Festival Association  
Annual General Meeting  
November 15, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 pm by President Karen MacCallum.

'O Canada was sung, led by Joy McFarlane-Burton, accompanied by Karen Unger. A moment of silence was observed in memory of all those who have been an integral part of our music festival journey.

Karen MacCallum introduced the SMFA office staff, Carol Donhauser and Sandra Kerr and current Board members.

Karen MacCallum appointed Donna Kreiser as recording secretary.

***Motion: Cheryl Leptich/Janet McGonigle to accept the agenda as circulated. CARRIED***

Joy McFarlane-Burton conducted the roll call of District Festivals. Representatives from the following districts were present: Biggar, Carnduff, Estevan, Humboldt, Kindersley, Kipling, Lafleche, Maple Creek, Meadow Lake, Naicam, Prince Albert, Quill Plains, Regina, Rosetown, Sask. Valley, Saskatoon, Shaunavon, Swift Current, Twin Rivers, Unity, Watrous, and Yorkton.

Joy McFarlane-Burton reported for the Nominating committee that Sherry Sproule has been selected as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President and there are two Board member positions to be filled. Two nominations have come forward. They are

Wendy Thienes from Shaunavon and District and Kelly Stein from Watrous and District. Joy made the first call for nominations from the floor.

The minutes of the 2013 AGM as recorded in the circulated Annual Report were read by those members present and declared approved by the President.

## **BUSINESS ARISING**

Nancy Toppings introduced Leander Dueck, the founder and manager of Beyond Wealth, which manages the SMFA Trust Funds and various other non-profit organizations. Leander Dueck stated that they are the custodians of the portfolio, working towards the preservation of the capital and minimizing the down risk. He reported that the portfolio is doing extremely well and exceeded the TSX by 3% last year. Leander Dueck recommended that the portfolio be rebalanced in the next 60 days to protect its diversification.

Nancy Toppings referred to the Audited Financial Statement found in the 2014 Annual Report on pages 61-75. She stated that the SMFA was successful in maintaining a balanced budget and that \$10,000 was transferred to a reserve fund for unexpected cash flow shortages.

Total Assets for 2014 = \$633,709 Total Liabilities = \$147,230, Net Assets = \$486,479



***MOTION: Nancy Toppings/Linda Alberts to adopt the Auditor's Report as printed. CARRIED***

***MOTION: Anita Kuntz/Robin Swales to appoint Marcia Herback as Auditor for the 2014-2015 fiscal year. CARRIED***

***MOTION: Sandra Senga/Robyn Rutherford to rescind the motion relating to changing the SMFA year-end from July 31 to August 31 effective 2012-2013 operating year. CARRIED***

Nancy Toppings referred to the SMA Summer Music Camp report, provided encouragement and an invitation to become a "Festival Friend" and acknowledged the generous support of the Sponsors of SMFA.

Nancy Toppings also noted that if a local festival district is not registered as a non-profit, it is important that this be done.

Joy McFarlane-Burton made the 2<sup>nd</sup> call for nominations from the floor.

Karen MacCallum presented an overview of the 2014 Annual Report.

***MOTION: Doris Lazecki/Ruth Warkentin to adopt the Annual Reports. CARRIED***

***MOTION: Linda Alberts/Claire Seibold to ratify the motions of the board from the past fiscal year. CARRIED***

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

2015 Shurniak Concerto Competition will be held on February 21-22, 2015, in Saskatoon at the Quance Theatre at the University of Saskatchewan. The judges will be Jasper Wood

(violinist, teaching at UBC), Karen Finnsson (Woodwinds, Professor at the University of Regina), and Mark Turner (Executive Director of the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra).

2015 Provincial Finals Competition will be held June 5-7, in Saskatoon at the University of Saskatchewan.

Carol Donhauser made reference to the Syllabus and Directory Changes and Corrections that were distributed. These changes would be beneficial to be included in the adjudicator's briefing. Carol Donhauser also noted that the Directory will no longer include the local festival information, this will be found on-line. Also, this is the last year of the current 2013-2015 Syllabus.

***MOTION: Robin Swales/Diane Swanson to increase the adjudicator daily rate from \$300 to \$350, effective the 2015/2016 operating year. CARRIED***

***MOTION: Sherri Singer/Linda Alberts to increase travel compensation for adjudicators, board, and staff from \$.40/km to \$.42/km, effective 2015/2106 operating year. CARRIED***

Anita Kuntz spoke to the need to fundraise to make our local festivals viable and to look into the possibility of raising entry fees. Scholarships are also important at the local level and how, with simply approaching people regarding scholarships, you may find they do want to donate. In return you need to acknowledge them as they wish, and have recipients send them thank you notes. Anita also suggested that locals or regions could entertain the idea of providing a provincial scholarship.



Laureen Kells, President, brought greetings from the Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers' Association (SRMTA).

Joy McFarlane-Burton made the 3<sup>rd</sup> call for nominations from the floor. There were none. Joy declared, "If not, nominations are closed." Joy declared the election by acclamation of both nominees, Wendy Thienes and Kelly Stein.

Wendy Thienes outlined her involvement locally in the Shaunavon area which highlights children, community, and culture. Kelly Stein outlined her involvement locally in the Watrous area which involves Music for Young Children and teaching piano.

Sandra Kerr presented the Best Program Award to the Unity Music Festival. Sandra

noted that it fulfilled the criteria of having the SMFA logo on the front cover and the program had included all the mandatory advertisements and logos.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Acknowledgements were given by Karen MacCallum to the staff of SMFA, Carol Donhauser and Sandra Kerr for all their tireless and amazing work for the SMFA.

Retiring Board members, Anita Kuntz and Joy McFarlane-Burton were thanked for their contributions to the SMFA and parting gifts were presented.

Karen MacCallum adjourned the meeting at 1:20 p.m.

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Please Play Responsibly



## Saskatchewan Music Alliance



This past year saw continued collaboration among the five Eligible Cultural Organizations (ECOs) – Saskatchewan Band Association (SBA), Saskatchewan Choral Federation (SCF), Saskatchewan Music Educators Association (SMEA), Saskatchewan Music Festival Association (SMFA) and Saskatchewan Orchestral Association (SOA). While the formation of a formal structure had hit a standstill, the five groups operated, on partnership projects, as the Saskatchewan Music Alliance (SMA).

In August, SaskCulture presented a proposed framework for an amalgamated Provincial Music Organization which envisioned the advantages of a single organization with a broad music mandate. SaskCulture recognized that making such a change would have many challenges, but firmly believe the potential for strength and growth of the programs and services currently being provided by the five music organizations, as well as new opportunities, would be worth the effort of making such a change.

SaskCulture also believe that the potential of a larger organization with a broader mandate and more diverse skillsets at both the staff and volunteer level is something that could potentially see a more versatile, responsive and far reaching music organization, one that builds on the strengths and history of the five organizations and creates tremendous community impact throughout the province. SaskCulture's volunteers and staff understand the concerns of the five organizations in regard

to such a change. The five organizations run very good programs and have a strong history of community volunteer engagement.

SMFA Executive, along with board members and staff from the other music ECOs, met with SaskCulture representatives on October 14 and 15, along with the SaskCulture appointed mediators. The meeting allowed everyone to share perspectives of the events, over the last number of years, involving the SaskCulture funding review, the Sask. Music Alliance Proposal for a Federated model, and the proposed amalgamation framework presented by SaskCulture.

The SMFA Board of Directors have concerns that the framework proposed by SaskCulture will not meet the needs of our unique, diverse members and provide the same level of programming to the residents of this Province that has been provided through SMFA. There has been no evidence to indicate that our organization provides similar representation, mandate, governance, or programs and services, to any other music organization. In fact, there is ample evidence to support that SMFA's distinctive programming is complementary to that which is already being produced. The representatives of SaskCulture were very understanding and supportive of the SMFA Board of Director's decision to opt out of the exploration of creating a large music organization. We look forward to continuing to collaborate with other music groups to meet the needs of the province's community and building upon our rich music heritage.



## Adjudicator Liaison Report

*In 2015, almost 170 assignments were contracted to musicians from 5 different provinces and 1 state to judge our District Festivals, the Shurniak Concerto Competition, and Provincial Finals competitions.*

Hiring for the 2015 season began in July 2014 for the festivals that had submitted their Adjudicator Time-Frame forms. Many of our adjudicators appreciate being contacted early to enable them to fit us in to their busy schedules. It is most helpful for festivals to submit a “wish list” with their Time-Frame form, as it provides a concrete starting point for the lengthy process. Adjudicator hiring was complete by the end of the calendar year, though there were some minor changes, as there always are, due to changes in session dates or other unexpected circumstances. This is followed by frequent communications with each festival and adjudicator, both receiving and supplying information. Thank you to the festivals for their cooperation in keeping the Provincial Office ‘in the loop’.

We continue to add new adjudicators to our roster. For those who reside in the province, we try to send a few new people each year on a “training session” to observe an experienced adjudicator at work, at a nearby festival. Plans are also underway to hold an adjudicator session at the Saskatchewan Music Conference in November. For those who reside outside of Saskatchewan, hiring is mostly limited to experienced adjudicators. Of course, there are still copies of *The Art of Adjudicating* available for purchase to anyone interested!

Some District Festivals are experiencing a decrease in entries in some disciplines making it less cost effective – in the current format – to have one adjudicator for each discipline. As a result, the more versatile adjudicators are sought because they can judge more than one discipline. While this arrangement can be a viable solution, we are not always able to accommodate all such festivals. This is a less than ideal situation for students who may want more detailed comments, for example on their technique. In order to hire an adjudicator who specializes in a discipline, perhaps festivals can begin to consider other options, such as including a workshop or masterclass for participants and teachers as part of the festival experience. Whether this is funded by a sponsor(s), extra participants’ fees, or by some other means, it could augment the existing music festival format and enhance the educational aspect of music festival for the student (and teacher).

As always, the hundreds of volunteers who are the mainstay of Music Festivals in our province are greatly appreciated for their dedication, commitment to and support of the youth in their community!





## Shurniak Concerto Competition

*The Saskatchewan Music Festival Association (SMFA) hosted the 31<sup>st</sup> Shurniak Concerto Competition in co-operation with the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra (SSO) and the Regina Symphony Orchestra (RSO), and sponsored by Mr. William Shurniak of Assiniboia. The competition was held in Quance Theatre, U of S in Saskatoon on Saturday, February 21.*



William Boan  
2015 Shurniak Concerto  
Competition Winner

The illustrious judges were Jasper Wood, Associate Professor of violin and chamber music at the University of British Columbia; Karen Finnsson, Associate Professor of Music and Head of the Department of Music at the University of Regina; and Mark Turner, Executive Director of the Saskatoon Symphony.

Thirteen competitors entered this year: Sofia Mycyk, piano, Saskatoon (Bonnie Nicholson); Kevin Chen, violin, Saskatoon (Yuli Chen); Godwin Friesen, piano, Saskatoon (Bonnie Nicholson); Rebecca Weger, violin, Regina (Cherith Alexander); Megan Bauman, alto saxophone, Saskatoon (Bonnie Nicholson); Hans Deason, violoncello, Saskatoon (Bonnie Nicholson); Nickolas Whitelaw, trumpet, Saskatoon (Chris Kelly); Sophie McBean, piano, Saskatoon (Bonnie Nicholson); Simone Ma, violin, Regina (Cherith Alexander); Brendan Catalano, alto saxophone, Saskatoon (Jaya Hoy); William Boan, violin, Saskatoon (Bonnie Nicholson); Eunhyun (David) Kim, piano, Regina (Kathleen Lohrenz Gable); Charlee Weilgoz violin, Regina (Bev Dyck).

From this incredible group, three winners were chosen: 1<sup>st</sup> Place - William Boan; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Godwin Friesen; and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Sophie McBean.

William, with collaborative artist Bonnie Nicholson, performed Shostakovich's Violin Concerto No. 1 in A minor, Op. 7. He received the first prize of \$2,000 and the opportunity to be a featured soloist in an upcoming season with the Regina Symphony Orchestra and the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra.

William is an accomplished musician with extensive training in solo, chamber, and orchestral violin performance. He became the Assistant Concertmaster of the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra at the age of seventeen. He has been Concertmaster of the Saskatoon Youth Orchestra and Saskatchewan Provincial Honour Orchestra for three years. In summer 2014, William attended the Meadowmount Summer Music Institute, New York, where he studied with Sally Thomas, violin professor at Juilliard, and Ivan Ženaty, violin professor at the Cleveland Institute of Music.

For three years William has been the provincial champion for Senior strings and has placed third in the Provincial Music Festival's Grand Awards Competition. William was the 2013 winner of the Kinsmen Competition, Saskatoon's most prestigious competition. He currently studies violin at the University of Saskatchewan, in the studio of Robert Klose.

For the Concerto Competition, thanks to the University of Saskatchewan, William played a Nicolo Amati violin, made in 1637. He is the first ever student at the university to be given the opportunity to perform on the beautiful instrument.

Congratulations to our winners and all the other competitors for an impressive day!

*Submitted by Kelly Stein*





## 48 District Music Festivals

*In addition to 48 annual district music festivals, SMFA provides: a provincial Syllabus, entrance to Annual Provincial/Provincial Level of National Competitions; participation at the Federation of Canadian Music Festival National competition, Opera and Concerto Competitions and coordinates hiring and scheduling of adjudicators. SMFA also provides workshops, fosters recognition of volunteers, organizes provincial archives and maintains a provincial website.*

Assiniboia	Last Mountain	Quill Plains
The Battlefords	Lloydminster	Redvers
Biggar	Mainline	Regina
Borderland	Maple Creek	Rosetown
Carnduff	Meadow Lake	Sand Hills
Central Sask	Melfort	Sask Valley
Estevan	Moose Jaw	Saskatoon
Eston	Moosomin	Shaunavon
Gravelbourg	Naicam	Spiritwood
Hafford	Nipawin	Swift Current
Humboldt	Outlook	Twin Rivers
Kindersley	Parkland	Unity
Kipling	Potashville	Vanguard
La Ronge	Prairie Sunset	Watrous
Lafleche	Prince Albert	Weyburn
Lanigan	Qu'Appelle Valley	Yorkton



## District Festival Reports

### Assiniboia Music Festival March 29 - April 1, 2015

Our small but sweet festival ran from Sunday, March 29, 2015 to Wednesday, April 1, 2015. We ran our entire band and band instrument sessions on the Sunday and the rest of the days were devoted to piano, voice, and musical theatre. This was our first time beginning a festival on Sunday and likely we will continue with this new tradition as it makes it easier for some of our competitors to attend. It also streamlined our set up procedure. We wrapped our week up with the Stars of the Festival performance on Thursday night. This perhaps had fewer attendees than usual as we were competing with the beginning of the Easter break, however, it was a successful event topped off with our now traditional ice cream sundae social.

Our able adjudicators were Lenora Bells and Carol Konecsni-Christie and both of these adjudicators gave incredible feedback to the performers. We consider ourselves extremely fortunate to have had two such amazing adjudicators in one year. One of the highlights from the piano session was when the youngest performers were invited to look inside the grand piano and crawl under it to see and hear what it can do!

Our numbers were slightly up for piano and voice. We had a fair number of competitors recommended to provincials for our small festival. We have large numbers of beginning piano students but our numbers fall off drastically after students have been taking

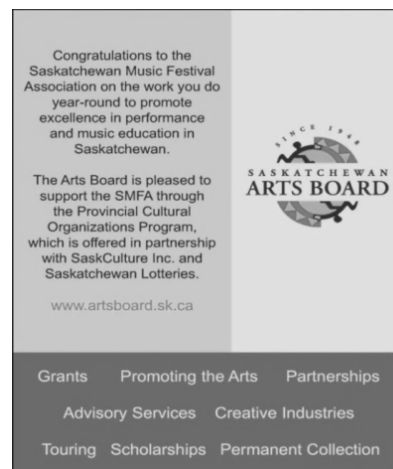
lessons for a few years. Our advanced students, however, are all amazing!

Although we encountered some difficult financial circumstances this year, our committee rose to the challenge and held a very successful steak night at 121 Steakhouse in Assiniboia. We also are grateful to our community who supported the steak night to help us get our feet back on the ground.

We had one delegate signed up to attend the conference but because of illness she could not attend. Hopefully, we will have better success in the coming year.

Our committee members are Karen Meagher, Karen Reisner, Gail Mergen, Suzanne Waiting, Heather Giraudier, Tara Pedersen, Marianne Bouvier, and our silent non-attending technology genius Chad Giraudier. These hardworking people make our festival come to life each year.

*Respectfully submitted Karen Meagher*





## **Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival** **March 16 - 27, 2015**

The 84<sup>th</sup> consecutive Battlefords Music Festival was held March 16-27, 2015.

Piano competitors were adjudicated by Audrey Watson. There were three days of sessions heard at Third Avenue United Church, where students enjoyed playing the refurbished Yamaha grand piano, owned by the festival committee.

Bands, instrumental solos, and ensembles were heard at the United Church, and at the North Battleford Comprehensive Collegiate. Terry Heckman adjudicated these entries. The bands performing featured students from grades 4 to 12.

Anna Marie Bekolay heard the string entries, which included some fiddle and guitar classes. Musical theatre performers were adjudicated by Joy McFarlane-Burton, and Jeri Ryba heard the vocal and choral participants. This all took place at Third Avenue United Church. We enjoyed an impromptu hour of visiting when the electricity went off during an evening vocal session!

As well as individual verse performances, our speech arts sessions featured many classroom choral speaking entries. We were glad to have parents attend, making large and supportive audiences. Doug Riley was our adjudicator.

In total, there were close to 400 festival entries. Our revenues were \$28,898.88, and our expenses were \$27,955.88 for a surplus of about \$943.00 for the year ended June 30, 2015.

We were excited to hold the 2015 festival gala concert at the Dekker Centre for the Performing Arts. This is the first time we have used the beautiful new theatre for a festival event. We were able to make a profit of about \$400 that evening, and more than \$7000 was awarded in scholarships. District winners were Tricia Florence, Nicole Klippenstein, voice;

Amanda Thompson, Ericka Revet, musical theatre; Katrina MacKinnon, Khrystia MacKinnon, Zavienne Kowalczyk, piano; Kamala Youth Choir, choral; Jeanny Jung, Zaide Masich, strings.

The 2015 committee included mostly new members. Those volunteering their time and skills were Kelly Day, Kelly Waters, Keri Payne, Chandra Kosolofski, Jaki Esquirol, Elaine Poirier, Karen Caldwell, Karen Ulmer, Lorenzo Bacchetto and June Newsham. The executive members were Jaylyn Lawrence, treasurer, Jana Friedenstab, secretary, Marusia Kobrynsky, vice president, and Dianne Gryba president. Melissa Hutchison took on the task of updating our entry process to an online, digital format. We will take all entries electronically in 2016. Jaki Esquirol is our representative at the SMFA annual meeting.

In 2015, the Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival received generous support in the amount of \$3000 from its major sponsor, the Kiwanis Club of the Battlefords. This fall, we were pleased to accept a donation of \$7500 from the Jim Pattison Broadcasting Group in support of future events.

*Respectfully submitted, Dianne Gryba, President*



## **Biggar Music Festival** **March 9 - 12, 2015**

**Entries:** 119

**Adjudicators:** Kathy Gable, Heather Macnab  
The BMFA was a success in 2015. Our spring festival saw our piano entries in Junior (33) and Intermediate (49) levels staying on par with the year before. Our vocal entries were down to 29. We are hopeful this number will come up again in 2016. There were no instrumental entries again this year. 35 scholarships were given out. There were no provincial recommendations in 2015.

*Submitted by Susan Lehnert*





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### **Borderland Music Festival (Bengough) March 22 - 25, 2015**

The Borderland Music Festival was held in Bengough, at Knox United Church March 23-25.

On Monday, we were so fortunate to have Allison Arends from Toronto to adjudicate our voice entries. She was a breath of fresh air, and so much fun for the students! She ended with a workshop on Monday evening!

On Tuesday and Wednesday we had Lana Ramsay from Grand Coulee to adjudicate piano. Unfortunately, we had bad weather on Tuesday morning. Lana was very accommodating to start a little later as students travelled a far distance to Bengough for festival. We again benefitted from Lana's piano adjudications.

Although our entries were down slightly in voice, we had a very successful festival. We had 97 entries altogether.

We ended festival with a wonderful Awards Evening. Thank you to the Borderland board of directors for 2 successful festivals in Bengough. Joy White from Pangman was our President and entry secretary, Lisa Knudsen was the corresponding & recording secretary, Brenda Brandt was the treasurer, and Donna Morris & Dorothea Trithardt were members. The hours and days and weeks that were put into festival were tremendous! Sincere thanks to the board! We so appreciated all our volunteers that helped before & during festival. Thank you to SMFA for all you do for all our festivals.

*Submitted by Dorothea Trithardt*

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### **Carnduff & District Music and Arts Festival March 8 - 12, 2015**

Carnduff and District Music and Arts Festival was held March 8 - 12, 2015. We hosted at two venues - the Carnduff Legion and Oxbow Prairie Horizon School. We started this year with the Strawberry Tea on February 28. We had 23 performers at the Strawberry Tea and 282 entries (113 competitors) for the Music & Arts Festival. Our theme this year was "Music Warms The Heart".

We had three adjudicators this year, Nancy Nowosad for Piano, David Dick for Band/Instrumental, and Douglas Riley for Vocal/Speech Arts. We appreciated the time they took to come and be at our festival and the insight they provided to our competitors.

Our festival has a great number of patrons and sponsors that help us offer scholarships and awards to many of our performers. We offered 55 scholarships/awards to our participants. We wish to thank all of our sponsors and patrons for their continued support in making Carnduff and District Music and Arts festival the success that it is. We also wish to thank the many volunteers for their time and support to help make the Music Festival a success.

Our highlights concert was held on March 16, 2015 with most of our recipients performing the pieces that they won awards for. It was a magically musical evening that was enjoyed by all.

A big thank you goes to the hardworking committee who ensure that the festival runs smoothly and continues to operate in our community. Our 2015 festival was a great success!



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## Central Sask Music Festival

(Davidson)

March 23 - 24, 2015

It is always with some trepidation that we tally our music festival entry numbers in early February (total 109). Once again, we were delighted to find that we had maintained, what we consider to be, a minimal number of entries to present a viable festival. As anticipated, the loss of a major piano teacher in spring 2014 did produce a huge decline in our piano entries. Our records show that piano entries are half of those in 2012 - alarming to say the least. However, a new piano teacher has come on stream and she has decided that her students will be ready to participate in the 2016 festival - a lesson in not to panic. A modest increase across the board in other categories sustained our 2015 numbers and makes us eternally grateful for the ongoing support of teachers, students, and parents.

Once again our adjudicators, Marcia Mclean and Carol Konecsni-Christie, provided the constructive feedback and encouragement to our students to ensure a non-threatening environment for the somewhat stressful experience of public performance. The music teachers, parents, and audience also gain a great deal of insight from adjudicator comments.

We had a season of loss, not only in piano entries but in personnel as well. A faithful, long-term executive member, Fran Stone, succumbed to cancer in August 2014. We were also dismayed to learn that our piano tuner of many years, Gary Wagner, passed away suddenly in 2014. He was a great conversationalist and was looking forward to retirement.

However, there is good news in our financial situation as we continue to enjoy a healthy bank account thanks to our many supporters. It would be much more difficult to maintain our very faithful executive if the responsibilities included fundraising activities. We look forward to the 2016 festival with confidence that our entry numbers will be maintained and perhaps grow!

*Nancy Wilkins, President, CSMF*

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## Estevan & District Music Festival

March 12 - March 27, 2015

Speech/Vocal: Jeri Ryba from Moose Jaw was our adjudicator for both speech and vocal this year. She was very pleased to see the large number of speech entries. I believe there was an increase of speech entries this year directly related to the speech workshops held in January at all the elementary schools. Our thanks go to SMFA for providing these workshops. We also hired the services of France Roy, Forget, to adjudicate the French entries on the afternoon of March 17.

Band: Gene Aulinger, North Battleford, adjudicated for 3 days in the woodwind, strings, and junior band disciplines. Peter England, Saskatoon, adjudicated for 2 days in brass, percussion and Senior band disciplines. This is the fifth year that we have moved the adjudicator to the different elementary schools to hear small ensembles and junior bands. This works very well for our festival and causes less disruption to the high school and junior students who play in their own schools. Piano: Heather Blakley, Saskatoon, was here for 6 days adjudicating both junior and Senior piano. It was a very full schedule but she was able to be close on time for most sessions.

Entries were up this year from last by approximately 100. We received more than 75% of the entries online and expect more next year. Providing a link to our program on the SMFA website has decreased the number of programs needed as many parents and teachers print only the pages they need.

Scholarships totalled \$11,140 and we had 9 trophies/plaques and 2 gift certificates. Friends of the Festival donations totalled \$3725. We also presented medals to all participants 7 and under. This is loved by all students and parents of little ones.

Our Festival had a small profit this year and we do not expect to raise entry fees next year.

Thanks to each and every one of our committee members for all their dedicated work throughout the year. Much gratitude goes to all our returning and new volunteers during the Festival.





## **Eston Music Festival**

**March 30 - April 2, 2015**

The Eston Music Festival took place March 30 - April 2, 2015. We are so fortunate to have terrific venues to hold our festival. The McLean Chapel holds all of our sessions and the Full Gospel Church is the venue for our final concert. We are able to video the final concert and play it for our seniors at the Jubilee Lodge and we are also able to run it on our local TV channel for all Eston residents to view.

Our entries for 2015 were as follows: piano 56 entries - 4 sessions; vocal 57 entries - 3 sessions; speech arts 43 entries - 2 sessions; instrumental (guitar/violin) 7 entries - with piano session. The total was 161, down just a bit from our 2014 total of 165.

Our adjudicators were awesome! Lisa Hornung from North Battleford adjudicated our voice and speech arts. Laureen Kells from Tuffnell looked after our piano and instruments.

Our Carol Festival took place December 10, 2014. We had 2 choirs, 2 speech arts, 1 guitar, 2 piano, and 12 vocal selections. We begin with a scripture reading and have a congregational hymn in the program. It is always a lovely evening.

I would like to thank all of our long-time volunteers and scholarship donors for their continued commitment to our festival. Thank you to our participants; without you there wouldn't be a festival! Thanks to the festival committee for their gift of time and being so good to work with. We look forward to another year.



## **Gravelbourg & District Bilingual Music Festival**

**April 20 - 23, 2015**

The 2015 Gravelbourg & District Bilingual Music Festival was held from April 20 - 23 at the Church of Christ in Gravelbourg. We were pleased to have with us Jon-Tomas Godin and Andrée Dagenais as our adjudicators this year.

We had 186 entries from Piano, Vocal, Choral, Guitar, Percussion, Woodwinds, Band, and English and French Speech Arts. District winners were Amandine Boisvert, Piano; Kayla Jacobs, Piano and Vocal; and Bradyn Giraudier, Piano and Percussion.

Current committee members are: Paul Boisvert - President, Leanne Mann- Entry Secretary, Tracey Lagasse- Corresponding Secretary, Genelle Hoag - Vice President, Elyett Boisvert- School Liaison, Lorna Bell - Volunteer Coordinator, Eunice Neubeker - Treasurer

We were fortunate to have sponsorship this year from Innovation Credit Union, Southland Co-Op, TD Canada Trust, and our local Canada Post outlet. Individuals also supported us by becoming Festival Patrons and by supporting the 50/50 and Raffle Basket draws.

We are looking forward to the 2016 performances, which will be held from April 11-14 with the "Gravelbourg Grammys" to be held on April 16.

*Submitted by Tracey Lagasse  
Corresponding Secretary*



### **Hafford & District Music Festival** **March 23 - 26, 2015**

Hafford was fortunate once again to hold a successful music festival. It was our 52<sup>nd</sup> festival. The Hafford School was our venue again this year and we are very glad for their support of this event. Piano started on March 23 and we had 111 entries, which is up from past years. The performers were adjudicated by Lynn Ewing. Voice started on Wednesday the 25 and numbers were down slightly with 53 entrants and 3 schools participating. They were adjudicated by Garry Gable. We had one performer, Kacy Tkachuk advance to Provincials. We are fortunate to have a small number of volunteers who have been very dedicated to this festival and it was well organized. The festival has many supporters who donate scholarships and trophies so our final night is always a pleasure to attend. There are many talented performers and we are glad they are able to perform in our festival.



### **Humboldt Music Festival** **April 20 - May 5, 2015**

The Humboldt Music Festival held its 78<sup>th</sup> annual festival from April 20 to May 5, 2015, with a total of 482 entries! Piano was first, then voice, and ending with bands. Our adjudicators were great, bringing a positive to our festival once again, along with a relaxed and exciting feel to all sessions.

For the second year Humboldt Music Festival used all on-line entries which, once again, proved to be a very smooth process.

The 2015 festival awarded approximately 63 scholarships with a total value of close to \$2,800 to 61 students.

This year we moved the piano and vocal sessions out of Humboldt to Muenster at the Jerome Assembly Hall out at St. Peter's Abbey – a very nice change with many positive comments about the location and atmosphere. Our piano adjudicator even took advantage of the accommodations and meals right at the Abbey: a real retreat feeling.

The final concert was held on Thursday, May 7 at 7:00 pm out at Marysburg Assumption church with about an hour concert showcasing some of the award winners and handing out of all awards.

Once again another successful music festival is in the books and plans for the next year are underway.



### **Kindersley & District Music Festival** **March 9 - 19, 2015**

We kicked off our year on December 7 with our annual Carol Festival, again a great evening of Christmas music, a great kick off to the Christmas season & a major fundraiser for our Festival.

Our Festival was held March 9-13 with Vocal, Musical Theatre, Speech Arts, and Piano sessions, and March 16 - 19 for Percussion, Bands, Strings, and Instrumental. Our adjudicators were Joy McFarlane-Burton (Vocal, Musical Theatre, and Speech Arts); Janet Gieck (Piano); Robert Nicholls (Percussion); and Rick Lett (Bands, Strings & Instrumental). All of our adjudicators had great comments for our students! We started and ended our Festival with dessert – we started with Musical Theatre and cheesecake and ended with our Stars of the Festival Concert and cake.

We were very pleased to have 9 students in 15 classes recommended to Provincials! We held a Provincial evening in May as a fundraiser to help offset their costs in attending Provincials as well as giving them another chance to perform before Provincials. We had some of







our teachers also perform. It was a well-attended fun evening!

We revised our "Friends of the Festival" program this year to include Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, and Friends categories for the different donation amounts. In addition, featured in our program, the higher categories had a session or day sponsored by them and a "Sponsor Board" was displayed at each venue. This worked well since at least one company wanted to be above one of their competitors next year!

A big "thank you" goes to our 2014/2015 committee and to all the volunteers who helped with the sessions during the week. Thanks to the teachers and accompanists for all their hard work. Thanks to our venues, St. Paul's United Church, Norman Ritchie Community Center (Town of Kindersley), and Eatonia United Church.

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### **Kipling & District Music Festival** **April 20 - 23, 2015**

2015 Kipling and District Festival was held April 20 - 23, 2015. We have seen a decrease in our entries over the past five years so our Executive is working towards increasing and sustaining our Festival.

This past year saw a variety of entries including piano, vocal solos, choral groups and our band instruments including 3 band entries from our School division. The community still has tremendous support for this worthwhile event. We do have a younger age demographic for our piano and voice. We still have a Community Choir which adds to our Festival. We enjoyed a performance by two of our piano teachers - a duet which was entertaining and encouraging. One of our band entries was a Native American Flute - made by the mother of the student who entered.

We end our week of Festival with an awards program where we showcase the talent from the week. It is well attended and for some the highlight of the week's work.

We look forward to 2016 and another successful Festival.

*Marjorie Bates, President*

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### **La Ronge & District Music Festival** **March 23 - 26, 2015**

The 27<sup>th</sup> annual La Ronge and Area Music Festival was held from March 23 - 27, 2015. Entries consisted of piano (orchestral and classical), vocal, and musical theatre performances. While most were individual performances, there were several duets, as well. Overall, there were about 20 more entries this year compared to the previous year.

Adjudicator Wes Froese provided valuable comments to the participants, encouraging them and giving suggestions for improvement. He also took time to play several pieces on the piano before many of the adjudicated sessions. This was appreciated by the audience and served to show the students what a professional musician sounds like. He encouraged participants to keep their pieces "in their back pocket" and not to stop playing them once Festival is over.

The Festival enjoyed excellent sponsorship support from the community and 33 scholarships were awarded at the concluding "Outstanding Performances Concert" showcasing the variety of young musical talent in the community. There was also good attendance at the sessions and the final concert, even though there were a number of competing events in the community that week.



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### **Lafleche & District Music Festival** **March 22 - 28, 2015**

The 49<sup>th</sup> annual Lafleche and District Music Festival was held March 22 to the 28 with the Final Concert on Sunday, March 29 at 3:00 pm. Dominic Gregorio adjudicated 137 vocal entries which included 2 choirs, 45 musical theatre performances, and 22 speech arts entries. Janis Smith adjudicated 165 piano entries.

LDMF continues to reap benefits from the speech arts workshop, featuring Heather Macnab, offered in our four local schools two years ago. Speech Arts entries have increased from 3 in 2013, to 12 in 2014, to 22 in 2015. Once again we must recognize Lafleche School for their terrific 'in school' speech arts program.

It is always a feather in our hat when our competitors are recommended by the adjudicators to perform in the Provincial Music Festival. This year, three from LDMF advanced, namely, Amandine Boisvert in piano, and Kayla Jacobs and Kassidy Silbernagel in voice. For several years now LDMF has provided modest scholarships to students attending music camps and this year we added provincial competitors to our scholarship list.

Our 11-member committee hails from all over the district: Wood Mountain, Fir Mountain, Glentworth, McCord, Ferland, Mankota, Kincaid, Meyronne, Woodrow, Lafleche, Gravelbourg, and Melaval. Businesses and individuals from all areas generously provide 16 medallions and 55 scholarships totalling \$3,200.

*Respectfully submitted, David Sproule, President*

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### **Lanigan Music Festival** **April 20 - 23, 2015**

The 39<sup>th</sup> annual Lanigan & District Music Festival was held from April 20 to April 23, 2015. The adjudicators were Adrienne Bank (piano) and Garry Gable (vocal). There were 134 entries for piano and 76 for vocal.

Tatum Wildeman was a district winner this year.

A final concert was held in the evening on April 23rd with highlights from the week's performances, followed by the presentation of awards.

Supporters of the 2015 festival, for which we are very grateful, were: Bronze: Cheerful Mission Circle, Village of Drake, and Drake Meat Processors. Silver: Pound-Maker Agventures, St. Mary's Catholic Women's League, Lanigan Agencies, and Humboldt Co-op. Platinum: Eva Elke / Al Shumaker, PotashCorp Lanigan Division, and Lanigan Advisor.

Revenues were \$5444.42 and expenses were \$5620.43 for a net deficit of \$176.01.

Executive officers are Nata Kline (president), Laura Melin (corresponding secretary), Angel Liebrecht (entry secretary), and Heidi Craig (treasurer). Committee members are Sheri Pederson (awards), Cindy Reimer (patrons and donors), Nata Kline and Angel Liebrecht (program), and Linda Liebrecht (refreshments).

No delegates attended last year's SMFA Conference.

*Submitted by Laura Melin*



### **Last Mountain District Music Festival (Earl Grey)**

**April 13 - 14, 2015**

The community of Earl Grey was very lucky to be the host town for the Last Mountain District Music Festival's 51<sup>st</sup> year. We have learned so much about the festival in our committee's 2 years. Communities that actively take part in this festival include Strasbourg, Southey, Earl Grey and Raymore with a wealth of talent coming from all of these communities. Our festival was held the week of April 12 - 18 inclusive with an Awards Night being held on Friday, April 18.

This year's festival was held in Earl Grey at Christ Lutheran Church. Our participants totaled 38. We also had mixed chorus and wind ensemble that has not been included in the participant total: in all they would have totaled 48 participants alone. The break down for our festival is as follows:

- Total # of entries was 140
- Piano was 75 entries
- Voice was 42 entries
- Musical Theatre was 8 entries
- Wind ensemble/band was 3 entries
- Brass was 4 entries
- Poetry was 4 entries
- Mixed chorus was 4 entries
- 74 Scholarships awarded totaling \$1535
- \$500 worth of trophies awarded, a total of 13 trophies awarded
- 4 Travelling Plaques awarded

We had an amazing week of performances in all of these disciplines. The talent is tremendous for such a small town festival! Also, from this festival we have 2 individuals that need to be mentioned: Nolan Fuller who was recommended to provincials for his trumpet performance, and to Hannah Macomber for her voice performance. Congratulation to both of these talented performers!

This year we had the privilege of having 2 very talented adjudicators join us for the week: Lore Ruschiansky and Karen Charlton. Both of these

adjudicators had a very outstanding list of accomplishments to their names. I know our participants took a wealth of information away with them. We enjoyed having both of these lovely women spend a little bit of time with us.

As our committee enters the final months of our town hosting and planning for the festival, we would just like to say a huge "Thank-You" to all that have volunteered their time to the festival. We need to thank SMFA, for all of the guidance and planning of this festival, Mr. Lube in Regina for becoming a sponsor of the music festival, to Sask Lotteries on their financial contribution to the Festival, and also to Prairie Central for the Sask Lotteries grant. Also to all of our ongoing supporters who donate so generously year after year to the scholarships. Without all of our sponsors we would not be able to continue on with the festival.

As the 51<sup>st</sup> year comes to an end we would just like to take this opportunity to let everyone know that the Last Mountain District Music Festival will be hosted in Southey in 2016. It will run from the week of April 3 - 9 inclusive. Please join us for a week of music!

*Sincerely, Sheryl Scherle and  
Jen Schmidt Co-Presidents*

### **Lloydminster Kiwanis Music Festival April 20 - May 1, 2015**

Kiwanis Lloydminster and District Festival enjoyed another very successful year in 2015.

Every year it seems to getting harder and harder to find dedicated people willing to give their time and talent to helping our festival, but this year we were successful in getting the work done. With some new faces and new ideas, we met our goal, a successful festival. I can't thank our committee and the volunteers enough. Without them, we could not have a festival.

Our entry numbers are staying quite consistent from year to year. We are seeing a real lively interest in Musical Theatre.



We were again fortunate to have number of our students recommended to Provincial Competition. Josh Sandercock was a Provincial Winner in Percussion.

2015 was the first year we used the Music Festival Organizer computer program and found it to be a great program. Thanks so much to our dedicated computer person for getting the kinks worked out for us. In 2016 we will have online registration only. It is so much easier and faster than transferring the data from hard copies.

We are proud of what we have accomplished this past year and we are always looking for ways to cut down on the work load for our volunteers, and would really love to find new faces to join us.

*Submitted by Kerry Taylor, President*



## Mainline Music Festival

(Indian Head)

**April 13 - 17, 2015**

This year the Mainline Music Festival was held in the town of Indian Head. The festival committee had a good year with some new challenges. The chart below shows how our entries have changed over the last 3 festivals in Indian Head. This year we were not prepared for the increase in the Band entries and thankfully our adjudicator agreed to have us schedule them all on the one day that we had allotted.

	2011	2013	2015
Vocal *	63	45	45
Band **	5	21	70
Piano	91	122	108

\* Vocal entries includes choirs and speech arts

\*\* Band entries includes solos duos and School Bands

The pre-scheduling of how many days to have an adjudicator was a little more difficult as we did not know there would be an increase in entries.

The Festival had a great final program with many different scholarship recipients from

Band, Vocal, and Piano. The scholarship recipients agreed to perform, which created some very well-polished music that was a pleasure to listen to.

The 2016 Mainline Music Festival will be held in Grenfell. We are looking forward to the next Mainline Music Festival in Indian Head in 2017.



## Maple Creek & District Music Festival

**March 16 - 18, 2015**

**Maple Creek & District Music Festival held its 30<sup>th</sup> annual event from March 16-20, 2015.**

The sessions were held at the Maple Creek United Church and at the Maple Creek Composite School. The program indicates 86 entries including solos, four school bands, five school classes, one vocal ensemble, and musical theatre performances, in 81 classes. Twenty-six individual participants performed, several in multiple disciplines.

Two adjudicators presided over seven sessions of piano, strings, voice, speech arts, woodwind, brass, and band ensemble classes. Janet Gieck of Saskatoon looked after two piano sessions and took lots of time to talk with each competitor. She was very encouraging. Adele Wilding, from Medicine Hat, adjudicated voice, speech arts, and band over two days. She worked with each competitor and group, suggesting ways to improve and complementing their performances. She spent about three quarters of an hour with each band at the school, getting them to work on various passages.

To help us celebrate 30 years of festival, we invited former members of the festival committee to the Finales where they were introduced and thanked for their hard work in previous years. Several of them helped present the festival awards and will appear in the



photographs taken during the various presentations. There are only two charter committee members left from 30 years ago and one will be retiring before next season.

\$1900.00 for twenty-eight scholarships was presented at the Festival Finales to individuals and ensembles. Each year we conduct a program cover competition in the district schools. This year Kyra Anton, of Fox Valley and Joel Graves, of Maple Creek, shared the prize for their entries illustrating our 30<sup>th</sup> year.

Rachel Kay was our district winner in Woodwind competition. She will be joined at Provincials by Chelsea Cox who was recommended for Senior Vocal Concert Group, Senior Operatic and Senior Speech Arts.

The Finale evening concluded with a reception for the participants and the audience. The hall was decorated with a pearl theme to commemorate 30 years of festival in Maple Creek. There were roses in wine glasses, strings of pearls and large flower arrangements to complement the plates of cupcakes iced in pearl colours. Many hands helped with clean-up and we were all done shortly after 10 p.m.

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

We are becoming concerned about the dramatic drop in entries over the last five years. Donations are also down slightly, probably due to the current economic climate. There are not as many young people in the area and we have to compete with many other activities for youth in the schools and community. There are not as many teachers in our area as we used to have and some have fewer students. We are hoping that if we persevere, things will turn around in the future.

We will be preparing in the coming year for our 31<sup>st</sup> festival of the recent era, to be held near the end of March of 2016.

*Irene Ahmer (Archivist) for:  
Kerry Currie (Corresponding Secretary)*



## **Meadow Lake & District Music Festival**

**April 20 - 24, 2015**

This year our festival was held April 20 to April 24 with the big news that there was a major drop in entries. The total number of entries was 100 – with a drop of 76 in Voice and 28 in Piano – but the good news was there was an increase of 6 entries in Band classes and also 10 in the Instrumental classes. There were only 4 entries in Chorus but none in Speech Arts compared to last year when we had 14 entries in that category.

The reason for the decline in Vocal entries was because there are not as many teachers involved because of retirement, but we are hopeful for some interest from newcomers to our city. The talent is here and our festival organization would like to showcase it to the public. Entries range from one to two hours driving time so we are excited to have them attend our festival each year. The decline in entries did make it easier for venues as only two were used this year thus impacting our expenses.

Our adjudicators did a terrific job. They were Peter England for Band, Louella Friesen for Voice and Audrey Watson for Piano.

Our Awards Night was held the following week on Monday evening with a program of about one hour with entertainment and presentations. This year our scholarships totaled \$2925, a small increase of \$75 from last year. The evening was also a time to enjoy donated ice cream treats and visiting.

Our dedicated small group of ten committee members, which also involves one male, is what our organization can be proud of as we start planning our 38<sup>th</sup> festival for 2016.





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## Melfort Music Festival

March 8 - 17, 2015

The 87<sup>th</sup> annual Melfort Music Festival ran from March 8-18, with our Festival Highlights program on March 20. This year we had a total of 402 entries with participants in six disciplines. Our adjudicators were Lore Ruschiensky (Piano), Shawna Ramsay (Voice, Musical Theatre and Speech Arts), Joan Savage (Strings), and Mark Preece (Band).

The overall winners for 2015 were: Piano - Jason Xie; Vocal - Lynda Millette; Strings - Anna Edwards; and Band - Ashton Bourgeois. This year's winner of the Sefton Memorial Competition was April Anderson. The post-secondary award for our Melfort Music Festival Scholarship went to Chantelle Froc.

Our committee members include Barb Deck, Dawne Glanville, Maren Hantke, Pam Kellington, Victoria Riley, Deanna Sorsdahl, John Tatarynovich, and Tena Wiemken. Maren Hantke attended the 2014 fall conference and was recognized for her 20+ years of volunteering with the Melfort Music Festival.

Thanks to the generosity of our Donors and Sponsors, we were able to hand out awards and scholarships totalling \$4470.

*Submitted by Dawne Glanville*

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## Moose Jaw Music Festival

March 23 - April 23, 2015

Greetings from the Moose Jaw Music Festival! We had a very successful festival this past April. Special thanks to the committee and all the volunteers. We gained new members to our committee as well as new volunteers to help out during the weeks of the festival. It's always exciting to see new faces. Also thanks to our fabulous adjudicators: Chris Kelly, Kathleen Lohrenz Gable, Gene Aulinger, Rudy Sternadel, and Heather Bedford-Clooney.

We have continued to increase in entries each year in the vocal portion of the festival. We are also strong on band solo and band entries. We would love to see our piano section increase as well as strings. Our choral portion for many years now is in a non-competitive, workshop format at the request of the teachers. We hold this on a separate week. It culminates in a concert of all the participating choirs. We thank Robbie Bedford-Beesley for her years of dedication in organizing the concert and entries for the choirs. Robbie and her family have now moved to Winnipeg and we will miss her very much!

We have already started meetings, plans etc. for the 2016 festival. I am pleased to work with such a great committee of hard working members. Best of luck to all festivals in the upcoming season!

*Submitted by Jeri Ryba, President*





### **Moosomin & District Music Festival March 9 - 19, 2015**

The Moosomin & District Music Festival had another successful year. The Piano and String sections of the festival were held at Baptist Church with 9 sessions. Voice and Speech Arts were held at Bethel United Church with 9 sessions. Adjudicators were Adrienne Bank of Saskatoon and Allison Arends of Toronto. Both adjudicators gave positive, encouraging and helpful comments which were interesting to the audience as well as students and teachers. We appreciate the knowledge shared with us.

Festival entries were up slightly in all disciplines. Piano, which included 15 instrumental entries, totalled 200, Vocal entries were 107, and Speech Arts were 56 for a total of 363. Attendance at festival sessions was average over all. Participants were from the Rocanville, Moosomin, Welwyn, and Wawota area. The Baptist Church was the location for the Adjudicators Choice Showcase on March 22. The showcase featured performers who were chosen by the adjudicators for their audience appeal. A total of 53 awards was given out totalling \$2295. Nine students were recognized with a participation award for 5 consecutive years of involvement. This year we were very proud to send two students to Provincials – Olivia Kelly in Vocal and Speech Arts, and Trevor Poole in Vocal.

Advertising of Festival events is done in the local World-Spectator, Community Calendar, and posters placed throughout town. Festival programs are available for sale in both Moosomin and Rocanville.

**Celebration of our 50<sup>th</sup> Consecutive Music Festival was held on October 3,** and included a variety concert featuring both former and present festival entrants. Former members who worked on festivals were acknowledged as well. The evening concluded with lunch, visiting, and sharing of memories.

As with all organizations, we value the work of our volunteers. We welcome any community-minded persons interested in being involved with organizing or working at the festival. Thank you to our sponsors, volunteers, parents, teachers, and performers, whose dedication to music and participation in the festival made it a success. We look forward to listening to the talented students who enter our 2016 music festival.

*Respectfully submitted, Alice Abrahamson,  
Secretary*

### **Naicam Music Festival April 12 - 17, 2015**

**The 50<sup>th</sup> and final Naicam Music Festival ran from April 12 to April 17.** The very difficult decision to end our festival was made because of several issues including: a declining number of students, a declining number of music teachers who may retire in coming years, the need for expansion of competition for piano students (most of whom have the same teacher), and the planned retirement of some of our committee heads. Our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary was a perfect time to celebrate our last festival.

We had a total of 55 entrants, with 204 entries in vocal, musical theatre, speech arts, strings, and woodwinds. We were very pleased to see an increase in strings and woodwinds this year, as we had no overlap with another festival. All performances were held in the Naicam Town Hall which was decorated specially to reflect the celebration, including 3 collages of photos from previous festivals. We had 14 first-time performers and again noted the number of boys participating. As usual, everyone enjoyed the snacks and drinks which were provided by volunteers for each session.

Adjudicators this year were Karen Charlton, Lauren Kells, Gloria Nickell; they made comments about the calibre of the musicians.





We were very grateful that Gloria was able to come at the last minute.

Patron donations from businesses and individual donations in the Naicam area and surrounding communities brought in \$2267, in addition to \$3160 given in scholarships.

Extra touches to celebrate this final festival included free admission to sessions and the final program, door prizes at each session and the final program, scarves with musical notes for each participant and committee member, anniversary pens, and special decorations.

There was a celebratory atmosphere at the Final Program at the Town Hall. Recommendations were announced for six different participants to go to the provincials, a record for us – strings, woodwinds (flute), and four in voice, two of these in musical theatre. We were pleased that Carol Donhauser (Executive Director) and Board member Joy McFarlane-Burton from the SMFA were able to join us, presenting a bouquet of roses. We paid tribute to two of the founding members of the Naicam Music Festival who were present - May Davis and Vi Cann. People lingered after the very enjoyable program, enjoying the special huge cake made with the shape and colours of a piano. Many participants and parents expressed sorrow that this was the last festival.

It was bittersweet for us as a committee. We wanted to end on a strong note and we felt we ended in a very positive manner. The committee enjoyed a meal out together after the post-festival meeting.

*Submitted by Ruth Warkentin, Recording Secretary*

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### **Nipawin Music Festival** **March 18 - 23, 2015**

This year Nipawin hosted its 74<sup>th</sup> Music Festival, running from March 18 to 25. Our participants came not only from Nipawin, but also the surrounding communities of Carrot River, Melfort and Tisdale. We had 72 students take part, as well as several classrooms from Wagner Elementary and Central Park Elementary. Michele Hupaelo of Saskatoon adjudicated the singing and speech arts on March 18 and 19. As in other years, the “musical theatre” session was delightful for the audience. We welcomed back Wayne Toews (Saskatoon) as the strings adjudicator for the afternoon of March 19. Kevin Ackerman (Watrous) was with us for the guitar, woodwinds, and brass selections on Friday, March 20. We finished up the festival with three days of piano (March 21 to 23), adjudicated by Sharon Gerspacher of Watson. We appreciated the dedication and input from each of the adjudicators. Participants were not only instructed in how to excel, but also encouraged to keep on enjoying their musical interests. We finished off the 2015 season with our final concert on Wednesday, March 25, where we heard highlights from the week.

Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors fifty-one awards were handed out - \$3785 in scholarships and trophies. Once again, we could not have had such a successful year without the hard work of teachers, students, and parents, as well as the support of the community through hosting, volunteering and sponsoring the various sessions. We look forward to another exciting year in 2016.





### **Outlook & District Music Festival March 23 - 27, 2015**

Four busy days of performances at the Outlook and District Music Festival featured 187 piano, vocal, speech arts and choral entries, and concluded with a well-attended Finale Program on March 29.

The Festival Committee thanks Bonnie Nicholson (piano) and Sarah Gregory Clark (voice) for their welcome, encouraging, and helpful feedback to Outlook and District competitors. Drawing on their talents and experience, the two adjudicators focused their positive comments on assisting the performers to develop confidence and to improve as musicians.

Overall entries were down slightly from 2014, with 119 piano, 63 vocal, two speech arts, two string entries, and one choral performance.

Music Festival Week concluded when 150 family and community members attended the Finale Concert where \$4,600 was distributed in the form of 80 scholarships and awards. As always, the Outlook and District Musical Festival Committee is grateful for the generous support of businesses, organizations and community-minded individuals for their ongoing support.

Congratulations are extended to District winners in Vocal classes: Courtney Clark, Katelyn Hicks and Olivia Wight.

A thank you, as well, to the music teachers who recognize and nurture the talents of local students.



### **Parkland Music Festival (Preeceville/Sturgis) March 8 - 13, 2015**

Our festival in Parkland is shared by alternating years between Canora and Preeceville-Sturgis with separate committees in each community. The 2015 festival was organized and held in Preeceville and Sturgis. Our committee met 7 times with 8-10 members at each meeting. In addition the Program Committee and the Scholarship/Donor Committee spent many hours on their specific tasks.

Our festival was held March 8 to the 13 with the final concert on Sunday afternoon March 15. Our festival started with piano Sunday afternoon March 8 running to March 10 in the Trinity United Church in Preeceville where we are fortunate to enjoy the use of the grand piano. The band and instrumental portion started Wednesday morning in the Grace United Church in Sturgis for solos and ensembles and then moved to the school gymnasium mid-afternoon for 6 school band entries. The next morning we were back in Preeceville for guitar and 7 school classroom entries which included several Orff ensembles, a unique type of rhythm performance which many of us had never experienced before. (We managed to accommodate all the classrooms in a quite well-organized fashion including providing cookies and juice!) The afternoon finished with solos, duets, and instrumentals in brass, woodwind, and violin. Friday was a full day of vocal/speech arts competition, including 3 classrooms in the morning and 4 in the afternoon, and vocal entries including musical theatre which are always crowd pleasers. We had only a few speech arts entries this year but were so fortunate that we had gentleman who farms in the area enter two pieces by Robert Service. One poem called "Bessie's Boil" had us in tears of laughter and the other, "Only a Boche", tears of sadness as he told of the sorrows of war.



We enjoyed and appreciated all of our adjudicators: Eleanor Epp (piano) from Minnedosa; Peter England (Band) from Saskatoon; and Sarah Clark Gregory (vocal/speech arts) from Watrous. All were so helpful and encouraging to the students. They were so accommodating to schedules that had to take into consideration school bussing needs and to individual scheduling changes which our festival committee feels are important. We also had Sharon Gerspacher from Watson shadowing Eleanor for two days of piano competition. We hope Sharon can return as an adjudicator in the near future.

One of the huge challenges we faced this year was the overlap of our festival with a series of school track meets and ski trips that involved different days for each of the schools in the Parkland area. Scheduling of the festival was extremely difficult but we managed to make it possible for most children to participate in both. We are fortunate to be a small enough festival to be able to recognize the importance of children being able to lead well rounded lives excelling in many different skills.

We are so thankful for the community we function in – our venues give us priority for our festival dates, the financial support always comes through for us in the end and we have wonderful volunteers with 50 people helping during the week of festival. The final concert is always one of the great rewards for our volunteer hours. Traditionally it has been a concert followed by the presentation of awards and scholarships but this year we integrated the two. It was a lot of work to prepare but it ran smoothly and was much more enjoyable. The festival as a whole was well received by all.

## **Potashville Music Festival**

**(Esterhazy)**

**March 17 - 25, 2015**

Congratulations to the performers, families, community, and committee members for another highly successful Potashville Music Festival. We had 175 entries encompassing the disciplines of band, piano, voice, and musical theater. We appreciate the dedication of all our competitors and hope to see them return in the coming years.

Our very talented adjudicators were Dr. David Dick for Band, Mrs. Eleanor Epp for Piano, and Ms. Naomi Forman for Voice and Speech Arts. All three of our adjudicators were very positive and a real encouragement to all the students. They showed them how to embrace music and improve on their performances and skills. A few highlights from our festival included the impromptu trombone performance by Dr. Dick during the band sessions. As well, Ms. Forman started her first morning of adjudicating with a super warm up of vocal techniques. This put the students at ease and was appreciated by all attending

Our Final Concert and Awards Gala was held on the afternoon of Sunday, March 29 and as well attended by the community. With the support of local individuals, businesses, and sponsors we gave out approximately 100 awards worth over \$ 4,000. We would like to thank our sponsors who contribute year after year. Their commitment is very beneficial to our festival and to all of our participants. Our District winners were Devynn McIntyre in Saxophone and Piano, and the Esterhazy High School Senior Choir in Vocal.

A big thank you to the Potashville Festival committee for all their hard work to ensure the festival runs smoothly and continues to operate as a tradition here in the Potashville community. The organization and support provided from the SMFA office throughout the year is also greatly appreciated. We look forward to a successful 2016 season!

*Submitted by Kathy Stokes - PMFA President*





## Prairie Sunset Music Festival

(Kerrobert)

March 16 - 17, 2015

This year was the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, having begun in 1965! The first festival was held in Luseland and eventually grew to rotate between four towns by 1983. Now it includes Macklin, Kerrobert, and Luseland. We gave each competitor a monogrammed bag for this special year.

Entry numbers have seen better days; they were down to 110 this year. Band has been phased out in all of the schools, so we only had a few string entries in that discipline. Piano entries were way down, with the oldest student entered in the 14 years and under classes. Kerrobert and Luseland schools delighted the audience with very well practiced choral speeches, and some amazing stories and poems were recited by three sisters from Macklin. One competitor was a district winner.

Our piano adjudicator was Sylvia Shadick-Taylor from Edmonton. She had a real way with the children and we highly recommend her for adjudication! She was a pleasure to work with.

Marcia McLean, Swift Current adjudicated speech arts, vocal, and band. She also was well-liked by the competitors and did well at taking on the string instruments when we had to cancel band adjudication due to lack of entries.

This year we had a difficult time finding enough people for an executive, but thankfully a couple of new people stepped up to the plate and we were able to get through with a skeleton crew! Chandra Schraefel was president, Judy Simonson, corresponding secretary, and Tajia Sopp, treasurer. Special thanks to Sheri Thiessen, entry secretary, who did most of the legwork while she desperately tried to find someone to fill the positions!

We held the Festival of Stars on Wednesday evening and had a huge turnout this year! Thanks to all the parents who came out to support their kids. We would like to thank all the volunteers, competitors, parents and teachers who made this year's festival a success!



## Prince Albert Kiwanis Music Festival

February 25 - March 23, 2015

Applause and accolades to the community of Prince Albert, SMFA, the participants, volunteers, patrons, advertisers, board members, parents and students in 2015 for supporting a successful 67<sup>th</sup> music festival. We accommodated 525 entries, 26 of those being bands. Almost \$8,600 was handed out in scholarships to our local students, thanks to the continued support of our local donors.

Congratulations to our 7 district winners who represented us in 11 provincial classes: Yun Huang, St. Mary High School Glee Club, Sophia Wallace, Jordan Feher, Joy Beam, Rebecca Grimwood, and Scott Gauthier.

Adjudicators – 6 adjudicators were hired and our festival ran for 18 days. Strings – Cameron Baggins, Vocal – Lisa Hornung, Jr/Int Piano – Heather Godden Waldner, Sr. Piano – Carol Konecsni-Christie, Band – Lenora Bells, Instrumental – Troy Linsley.

Thank you to the 2015 Music Festival Committee

President: Sasha Sukkhu, Past President: Sheila Holash, Secretary: Candace Bernier, Treasurer: Kelly Ewson-Lefevre, Coordinator: Linda Alberts, Patron and Advertising: Tracy Feher, Vocal Chair: Karen Langlois, Vocal Scholarships: Donna Kreiser, Strings Committee: Dean Bernier, Kerri English, Tammy Siemens Strings Scholarships: Garry Zuck, Piano Chair: Colleen Bowen, Piano Scholarship: Lorna Gibson, Band/Instrumental: Samantha Stewart, Kayleigh Skomorowsk Band/Instrumental Scholarships: Debbie McPherson, Kiwanis Club: Karen Bell, Garth Beddome, Roger St Pierre.

Jelly Beans continue to be a trade mark expected by returning contestants, teachers, and community members.



## **Qu'Appelle Valley Festival (Balcarres)**

**March 16 - 20**

\*No report submitted

**Entries:** 160

**Adjudicators:** Joy Nelson (Piano and Voice)  
and Bob Mossing (Band and Instruments)



## **Quill Plains Music Festival (Kelvington)**

**April 19 - 24, 2015**

The Quill Plains Music Festival was held in Kelvington on Sunday April 19 to Friday April 24. We had three adjudicators: Wayne Toews for band/strings/guitar; Allison Luff for Junior and Senior Piano; and Dianne Gryba for Vocal, Choral, and Speech Arts.

There were 400 entries and we awarded scholarships totaling \$2885 plus 2 SOA memberships as follows:

Piano: 156 entries with 22 awards; Vocal: 139 entries with 17 awards; Speech Arts: 28 entries with 3 awards; Band and Strings: 77 entries with 12 awards; General Awards: 2 awards

Our district winners for 2015 were Tayler Johnston and Emily Lamers.

Our theme for this festival was "Music Fills the Heart". There were painted scrolls throughout the venue with different sayings on them. Surrounding the piano was a tall green curtain with added fabric layers to give a royal and calming feeling. Two long sheets with music notes were placed at the back of the venue. A quilt and wall hanging was displayed as well. These were part of our raffle that was drawn for at the end of the final concert.

During the week we allowed extra time for the Band adjudicator to work with all participants. This was very enjoyable to watch and hear besides being extremely educational for our festival participants.

Our fundraising events included: hosting a Twin Kennedy concert; a Quilt Raffle; two Co-op BBQs; a Silver collection at coffee breaks and the final concert; and asking local residents and businesses for their support in helping us purchase a new Essex upright piano, in addition to asking for scholarship donations. Our major donors were Kelvington United Church, the Rec Board, and North Country Woman. East Central Co-op, Accent Credit Union, and Apex Ag and Truck Ltd. paid for the printing of the programs. We are grateful for the community and business support.

Before the sessions and at breaks and lunch there was a slide show. This had a list of volunteers, final concert information, cookie donors, program sponsors, plus other sponsors including Sask Power, Sask Lotteries, etc.

On Sunday April 26 at 2:00 pm, the Final concert took place in the Kelvington United Church. There was a full crowd of participants, family members, and community folks. Susan Lowndes expertly emceed the event. In between acknowledging the scholarship winners, the crowd was entertained by selections from all aspects of the festival, vocal, strings, duets, piano, speech arts, guitar, etc. It was a great afternoon!

To pull off this amazing festival we had over 40 volunteers who put in over 600 hours. A huge thank you to all those that helped make this an amazing festival!!





## Redvers & District Music Festival

April 14 - 22, 2015

Redvers & District Music Festival held another successful festival in 2015. We had a few hurdles to overcome, as we did not know if we would have a festival due to difficulty filling executive positions and finding another venue to hold the festival as the Redvers Arts Center was flooded in June 2014 and had to be closed. We filled our positions and Redvers Knox United Church allowed us to use their facility and we were a go for 2015.

Our festival dates were April 14 – 22, with entries in Piano, Vocal/Speech Arts, and Band.

Entries were way down from last year, seeing a drop in Piano & Vocal/Speech Arts with Band staying the same. We had no entries in Fiddle because the fiddle students had another commitment at that time and were unable to participate.

Our Adjudicators were Joy McFarlane-Burton (Vocal/Speech Arts), Laurel Teichroeb (Piano), and David Dick (Band).

The Final Program showcased many talented performers and we handed out many trophies and scholarships to well deserving students. We would like to congratulate our District Winner in Woodwind Jory Dyck from Carlyle. We would like to thank our committees and volunteers (past & present) for their hard work and time in putting on another successful festival. We could not have done it without them. Thank you to our sponsors and to our audience for their continued support.

## Regina Music Festival

April 16 - May 3, 2015

The 2015 Regina Music Festival was an exciting, educational, and music-filled event. The competitors of all ages benefited from the advice given by experienced adjudicators and gained confidence as musicians. Our adjudicators this year are shown in the following table:

Discipline	Adjudicator
Piano I	Diana Wiens
Piano II	Andrew Hisey
Vocal I	Dianne Gryba
Vocal II	Elizabeth Turnbull
Strings	Martha Gregory
Brass/Woodwinds	Mark Thompson
Choirs	Hilary Apfelstadt
Pipe Organ	Tom Chase
Musical Theatre	Janet Nichol
Percussion	Bob Nicholls

The Regina Music Festival gave out 157 awards in our 2015 Festival totally \$31,255. This money was generously donated by individuals and foundations that support us in awarding these scholarships every year.

Discipline	Number
Brass/ Woodwind	13
Choral	5
Musical Theatre	10
Percussion	1
Pipe Organ	2





Piano	36
Strings	13
Vocal	40
Multi-disciplinary	37

Major awards (included in the numbers above) are the Cornish Grand Award (Samantha Leech), The Lewis and Elizabeth P. Brandt Scholarship (Rebecca Weger, Simone Ma, Ben Polasek, Alaina Majewski) and the Donald and Claire Kramer Foundation Award (Joanne Peng). The Regina Music Festival also holds three separate competitions across multiple disciplines within the normal course of our events: The Jacqui and Morris Shumiatcher Scholarships, The Queen City Kinsmen Intermediate Scholarships, and the Regina Central Lions Senior Scholarships.

Grants were received from Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan as well as foundations totally \$8,500. These monies directly support the operations of the Festival. Additionally, we run a "Residential Campaign" by mail which adds to our operational donations. Entrance to all events and the final concert is by donation. The 2015 Festival itself operated at a slight loss with receipts of \$83,980 and expenditures of \$85,218 but our investments earnings this past year, brought us to a net profit of \$4,990.

The current board continues to do an amazing job of ensuring all the details of producing the festival are looked after. Putting on our annual festival is an exercise in teamwork at its best. We have 'clocked' over 3000 hours of volunteer time between Board members and the 101 volunteers who act as secretaries to the adjudicators and door monitors.

President/Chair of the Board	Dianne Swanson
Past President	Robin Swales
Vice-President	Shannon Hebert
Treasurer	Susan Gorges

Recording Secretary	Doris Lazecki
Production Manager	Vincent Houghtaling
Scholarship Committee	Rosemary Oddie
Volunteers–secretary recruitment	Darlene Jones
Volunteers–door monitors	Margaret Purse
Facilities and Equipment	Barbara Shourounis
Hospitality–adjudicator liaison	Margaret Hopkinson
Scheduling	Karen Klassen

It is noteworthy that the Regina Music Festival is developing a relationship with the Conservatory of Performing Arts and its new director Brad Mahon. The Conservatory donated the use of Darke Hall for Musical Theatre competitions. The final concert was also held at Darke Hall and was attended by 140 in the audience. The concert featured the top performers in each category (except pipe organ).

The Regina Music Festival sent 31 competitors to the Provincial Festival. Three delegates from our Board attended the SMFA Conference: Dianne Swanson, Doris Lazecki, and Robin Swales.





## **Rosetown Music Festival**

**March 9 - 21, 2015**

The Rosetown & District Music Festival continues to provide musical education and entertainment to our community. We have now celebrated 86 years of our Festival and hope to see it continue for many more years in the future!

Our festival was held on March 9 - 21, 2015 and included 15 sessions with a total of 234 entries. These entries were comprised of piano, vocal, speech arts, choral, and instrumental. We happily saw an increase with the Speech Arts entries this year and will continue to encourage this through the schools. The adjudicators, Karen Charlton (Vocal), Terry Heckman (Instrumental), and Carol Konecsni-Christie (Piano) provided the students with encouraging and constructive guidance to help them continue down their musical path.

The Final Concert, the highlight of the festival, showcasing the award winners from our two-week festival, was held on March 19th and was enjoyed by all.

We are very fortunate that our community, families and business, continue to generously support our festival. This year we had \$3945 provided in scholarships and 50 awards! We received an impressive new scholarship this year from a local family for \$500 a year to continue for 20 years. It is awarded to a student of any discipline who excels in their performance, however it also considers how much volunteering the student does in the community throughout the year. What a great way to encourage community involvement in our youth!!

We were very excited to have the following students recommended to Provincials:

Jeremie Leblanc - Int. Brass  
Colton Kidd - Int. Percussion  
Mason Clarke - Int. Musical Theatre, Ballad

Kaitlyn Seibold - Sr Musical Theatre, Up-tempo  
Kaitlyn Seibold - Sr. Musical Theatre, Ballad  
Felicia Watterodt - Sr. Speech Arts  
Natalie Reed - Int. Piano, Chopin  
Natalie Reed - Int. Piano, Haydn/Mozart  
We obviously have very talented musicians and Provincials is a great experience for them!

Our festival continues to run smoothly thanks to our hardworking and dedicated committee and our amazing volunteers that support us year after year. This year we had 60 volunteers with a total of 174 hours of their time devoted to our organization during the festival weeks.

We held our Annual Carol Festival on the first Monday in December where local choirs and soloists perform Christmas music. This event has always been tremendously enjoyed by the community and this year was no exception!

As the new President of the Rosetown and District Music Festival, I hope to be able to provide guidance to our dedicated committee to ensure that our Festival continues to provide an opportunity for our youth to continue in their love and excellence in music.

The 2015-2016 Executive is:  
Past President: Claire Seibold  
President: Cheryl Clarke  
Vice-President: Carmen Ledding  
Treasurer: Elan Kidd  
Recording Secretary: Felice Murre  
Entry Secretary: Genn Ediger  
Directors: Gloria Nickell, Cheryl Pearce & Elenore Sparks

*Respectfully Submitted by Cheryl Clarke*





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## **Sand Hills Music Festival**

**(Leader)**

**April 13 - 15, 2015**

The Sand Hills Music Festival is proud to have held another successful festival - a strong 66-year tradition. With the help of a dedicated committee and countless volunteer hours, we held an impressive three-day festival on April 13-15, at Leader Community Hall. This year's theme was "Music Makes the World Go 'Round". Music certainly abounded as we once again had an excellent range of disciplines with entries that included Piano, Violin, Voice, and a number of Speech Arts Entries. Through the generous donations of various sponsors, we were able to award close to 50 scholarships totaling approximately \$3000.

We were fortunate to have Mr. Alan Young to adjudicate at our Festival this year. Our aspiring performers and musicians benefited from Mr. Young's strong background as a music educator, vocalist, and pianist. His practical suggestions and easy manner made it an enjoyable learning experience for the students.

Thanks to the dedication and efforts of an army of volunteers, the Sand Hills Music Festival was a huge success. A special thank you is extended to the Festival Committee, community volunteers, patrons, and the adjudicator for helping make this a positive and rewarding experience for all involved.

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## **Sask Valley Music Festival**

**(Waldheim)**

**March 22 - 27, 2015**

Our Festival this year was held in Waldheim from March 22-27 with our Final Concert and Awards on Sunday March 29. We were pleased that total entries were 216 up from 202 in 2014. We appreciated our adjudicators Kim de Laforest in strings, Heather Macnab in voice, choral, and speech and Michael Langlois in piano. They chose district winners in Intermediate Strings, Intermediate Piano, Senior Piano, Senior Musical Theatre, Senior Speech Arts, as well as Choral, both Provincially and Nationally. Unfortunately not all of those were able to attend Provincial Competitions.

After a well-performed final concert, featuring a representative sample of all ages and disciplines, we awarded 46 scholarships totaling \$3010. We also assisted an interested student to attend the Summer School for the Solo Voice in North Battleford.

It seemed serendipitous this year that Speech Arts Specialist Heather Macnab came to us as we had a Senior student entered in 4 Speech classes. We have not had such in recent memory. Heather was very helpful, and we were so impressed with our experience with her that we are busy making preparations for her time in our District at the end of November arranged through the SMFA office. So far our schools are showing great interest in her Speech Arts Workshops.

Another new endeavor for our Committee this year was sponsoring a Master Class for students in our district prior to our Festival. This was held in February at The Station Arts Center. We were fortunate to obtain the services of Deborah Buck for a Saturday. Her varied talents allowed us to offer piano, voice and Musical Theater options. While we were a little disappointed in the numbers participating, it proved very beneficial to those who did. One of the participants was invited





to audition for Persephone Theatre's upcoming production of Mary Poppins in Spring 2016 and has been cast as Jane Banks.

We have such a reliable group of regular supporters in our District, that other than contacting businesses and scholarship donors yearly, we are spared much fundraising activity. Having said that, we have been gratified that newly established businesses have been quick to jump on board with funds when approached.

Last fall we were pleased that 3 new members from our Committee were able to attend Fall Conference and learn firsthand some of the functioning at Provincial level.

We are already starting to plan for Festival 2016 to be held in Rosthern, March 13-19.

*Linda Swab, President SVMFA*

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### **Saskatoon Music Festival** **March 17 - 27; April 20 - May 5, 2015**

The Saskatoon Music Festival ran five distinct sessions for the festival this year. The first session was Schools. This was organized by Gary Loy with assistance from Terry Clark. The School section ran for two days, March 17 & 18. One adjudicator was hired and heard, 14 choral groups, 4 Hand Bell choirs, 5 Recorder solo and 2 Recorder ensemble entries. Seven trophies were presented along with seven, \$100 cheques to School trophy recipients, courtesy of Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan.

The next session was held on March 23 to March 27. This was the Band section and was organized by Cody Appleton and Mike Kurpjuweit. During this week three adjudicators were hired, one for Grade 6 bands, one for Grade 7/8 bands and another adjudicator for High school and Jazz bands. One hundred and five (105) bands were heard throughout the week. Fifteen (15) trophies were presented along with fifteen, \$100 cheques to band trophy recipients, courtesy of

Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan. This year we decided to have keeper plaques made up for each Band award and have retired the large trophies which have become too cumbersome for most schools to display. This change was well received by Band directors and we plan on continuing this practice. The cost of the plaques and engraving were covered by the trophy sponsors. Finally, a huge thank you goes out to Karen MacKenzie for finding a new home for the Band competition. The Cathedral of the Holy Family on Nelson Road will be the new home for our Band section of the festival for the next five years. Karen made the initial contact with Father David Tumback and he was thrilled to see the church help with the week-long Band festival. Not only will they provide the facility for the Elementary Bands but they will also provide door people, assistants and co-ordinators to help move children from the buses, to the practice rooms to the performance rooms.

Our third session was the Heart of the City Piano Program Festival. Shirley England adjudicated this year and the Yamaha piano center presented a Keyboard to the Adjudicators Choice for Best Overall Performance. Nineteen (19) students competed at McClure United Church, who helped host the event and a number of residents that live in the care home as well as the McClure Place Tower attended the morning session.

The Musical Theatre session took place April 20 - 23. Adjudicated by Kim Mattice Wanat, 158 entries were received. With the help of Terry Ross, the Kiwanis Club of Saskatoon booked the Lighthouse Victory Church (formerly Persephone Theatre) for the Music Theatre competition and paid for the venue rental. They also provided all the staffing for door people at the church. After seeing the success of the Musical Theatre competition they offered up another \$250 in Musical Theatre Scholarships. You could say that 2015 was a year of two new relationships made with the Saskatoon Music Festival Committee. The Kiwanis are on board for the next year and many more to come. They will also provide



door people, assistants and co-ordinators to help move children from the buses, to the practice rooms to the performance rooms.

The General Session followed, April 26-May 2. We had a most memorable Sunday morning when we woke up to a late winter blizzard and over 12" of snow. Thanks to understanding teachers, parents and adjudicators, we managed to reschedule the morning classes and by Tuesday we were back on track with a regular schedule. As always, our sincere thanks to the University of Saskatchewan for allowing us to use the Education facilities for this week. We had, 365 vocal entries, 684 piano entries, 141 String entries, 6 Guitar entries, 31 Woodwind entries, 27 Brass Entries, and 15 Percussion entries. We hired 9 adjudicators to hear the above disciplines - keeping in mind that Piano is divided into three divisions and vocal is divided into two divisions. \$27,200 was given out in scholarships with all disciplines combined (including Schools, Bands and Musical Theatre). A highlight of the end of this week-long festival is the Kinsmen Competition. This is a separate competition celebrating its' 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This evening had 4 Instrumental competitors, 2 Vocal competitors and 2 Piano competitors. These final competitors were selected from a preliminary round held previously in the week. In each discipline the first place winners received \$2000 each, second place winners \$600 each, third place \$400 and fourth place \$300.

Such a large event can never happen without the dedication of many volunteers. A sincere thanks to the entry taking volunteers, the programming committee, the school and band organizers, the band venue managers, the proofreaders, the office helpers, the drivers, the adjudicator liaison, the setup and cleaning helpers, the door venue helpers, the adjudicator assistants and all the committee co-ordinators that do their jobs so well and efficient.

*Respectfully submitted, Darren Schwartz,  
Executive Director*

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### **Shaunavon & District Music Festival April 20 - 23, 2015**

The 2015 festival included participants from Admiral, Climax, Eastend, Frontier, Gull Lake, Shaunavon, and Val Marie, showcasing the musical talent from each of these communities. Forty-eight solo participants performed 173 selections. Eleven of these pupils were new participants! The performers included vocal and speech art students, four school choirs (including Frontier School's consisting of more than 60 students!), one choral group and many piano students. Six vocal/speech arts/school group sessions and five piano sessions were held during the four-day festival.

Centre Street United Church was the venue for all sessions this year. Our final concert was held on the evening of April 23. Graduating students were presented with an SMFA portfolio and tribute from their teachers. Mrs. Clara Butler was named Honorary Patron for 2015 and also shared a piano performance with us at the Final Concert. Faye Anderson was honoured for her local volunteer efforts at the SMFA Conference in November 2014.

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

Gaye Lynn Kern was our voice adjudicator and Wes Froese adjudicated piano. Under the direction of our adjudicators, our Scholarship committee awarded 39 scholarships to children ages 9 & up, totaling \$4150, including \$800 to school groups.

In 2015, we purchased Larry Johnson's festival software program and Entry Secretary Karmen McNabb worked very hard to get our entries into this system. We were very pleased with the results!

At our annual meeting in September 2015 we welcomed Nicole Bateman to the position of President. I will move to Past President and have also nearly completed my first year as a





Director on the provincial SMFA board. As we enter our 2016 Festival season, we are still in search of a Vice President but have a solid, hard-working team of passionate music-lovers to carry out our business for the year!

*Wendy Thienes, President*

### **Spiritwood & District Music Festival March 30 - 31, 2015**

\*No report submitted

Adjudicator: Chris Kelly

Number of Entries: 75



Congratulations to the following festivals celebrating "milestone" anniversaries!

Saskatoon.....	<b>85 years</b>
Mainline .....	<b>55 years</b>
Moosomin .....	<b>50 years</b>
Naicam .....	<b>50 years</b>
Prairie Sunset .....	<b>50 years</b>
Vanguard.....	<b>50 years</b>
Borderland .....	<b>40 years</b>
Outlook .....	<b>35 years</b>
Maple Creek.....	<b>30 years</b>

### **Swift Current Music Festival March 8 - 20, 2015**

The 2015 Swift Current & District Music Festival enjoyed another successful year! Newly appointed President, Andrea Neustaeter, led the executive team with a re-organization of our members into functional sub-groups: Finance, Program, and Communications. This facilitated quicker and easier decision making, and shortened meeting times. This ultimately made our Executive more responsive to changing demands.

The SC Festival ran from March 8 - 20. We hosted events in the beautiful Swift Current Art Gallery, Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, as well as various local elementary and high schools, and Wymark School. We had 372 entries across a comprehensive number of disciplines.

The final Xtravaganza Awards Ceremony was held on March 29, at Bridgeway Community Church. The MC for the evening was Ms. Kristy Sletten. We enjoyed performances in all disciplines: recorder, musical theatre, piano, choir, flute, strings ensemble, and trumpet.

We were fortunate to have many talented performers in our district this year who were promoted to the Provincial Festival: Janise Michel (vocal), Michael Aman (vocal), Mandy Friesen (musical theatre), Lauren Levorson-Wong (musical theatre), Presley Reddekopp (piano), Brennan Schommer (brass), Prairie Spirit (choral), and SCCHS Meistersingers (choral).

We are grateful to the many local sponsors whose support is always generous. In particular, we acknowledge CKWS Radio, the SC Kiwanis Club, the Kiwanis Club of Prairie Pioneers, and the Registered Music Teachers of SC for their generous support. We also thank the many provincial sponsors who continue to support local festivals.

Our adjudicators came from a diverse background, and we were generally pleased with the feedback they provided.



The adjudication team was:

- Janie Fries – Bands
- Wayne Toews – Senior Bands, Guitar and Strings
- Alicia Woynarski – Vocal/Music Theatre
- Bradley van Middelkoop – School Music Choral/Speech Arts
- Janis Smith – Elementary-Senior Piano
- Shirley England – Primary Piano

The highlight of the festival was the outstanding adjudication delivered by Mr. Wayne Toews for Strings. Mr. Toews provided insightful and thoughtful feedback for our young strings players, and the extra work he did with them was very much appreciated, and well received.

We also had a very successful city-wide poster contest for the front cover design of our local festival program book. The theme of the design was “Music for Life” and the winner was a Grade 4 student from Ecole Centennial School, Autumn Coates.

Two members of our Executive were able to attend the SMFA Conference – President Andrea Neustaeter and Scholarship Coordinator, Karen MacCallum.

Our committee this year was a talented and diverse group, who worked very hard to make this a successful event:

Andrea Neustaeter – President

Tami Wall – Past President

Chanella Holfeld – Secretary

Finance and Awards Committee: Barb Levorson, Karen MacCallum, Sherri Fahselt

Program Committee: Dawn Caswell-Falk, Sheila Paradis, Nia Iwassa; Publications and

Communications Committee: Rebecca Chilton, Marcia McLean, Terra Regier

Acknowledgement for additional assistance: Elli Friesen, Niki Olivier, Cecilia Mulhern, Dorothy Holfeld

*Submitted by Barbara Levorson*

## **Twin Rivers Music Festival**

**(Dalmeny)**

**March 23 - 28, 2015**

The 14<sup>th</sup> season of Twin Rivers Music Festival began Monday, March 23 and wrapped up on Sunday, March 28 with a competition awards concert featuring top performers. Approximately 190 people attended the final concert.

We accepted about the same number of entries this year with 153 Junior Piano entries, 81 Senior Piano, 17 instrumental, 6 vocal/speech arts and 10 musical theatre.

A huge thank you to our adjudicators for 2015: Terry Heckman (instrumental), Peggy L'Hoir (senior piano), Joy McFarlane Burton (vocal/speech arts) and Claire Seibold (junior piano).

We are grateful to our sponsors for providing about \$4,000 in available scholarships, donating food, and door prizes.

Sadly, we bid adieu to two of our committee members, Myra Zacharias our long time scholarship person, and Jessica Redekop our capable program secretary. We recognize the many hours you have given to our festival and are grateful.





## Unity Music Festival

April 20 - 23, 2015

2015 was a significant year for our Festival as we changed to on-line registering of our entries. We are very thankful to have a committee member who is "computer savvy" and she was an immense help to us and spent countless hours in making the adaptations.

A new addition for us has been a web page where a great deal of information can be found at [unitymusicfestivalassociation.weebly.com](http://unitymusicfestivalassociation.weebly.com)

Our community always looks forward to the Carol Festival that we host in December. It always is a good way to really get everyone in the Christmas mood with some of our outstanding students presenting their Christmas numbers.

Our local Volunteer of the Year was again not a committee member but someone who has played a very significant role in helping many students as Kathy Jones has been an accompanist throughout the years and continues to do so.

We were very fortunate to get a substantial donation from another family with Unity roots. This will help us with a further scholarship as well as helping to provide musical instruments in the schools – very much appreciated.

Our adjudicators for this year were Karen Langlois and Sylvia Shadick-Taylor. Their remarks were very helpful and they treated the students with utmost respect.

We had three Provincial Nominations: Iza Belle Lucenio was nominated for both Musical Theatre Solo - Ballad and Musical Theatre Solo - Up-Tempo. Also the Youth Chorus "In Harmony" which consists of the music students of Bari Bertoia, one of our local teachers. We are very proud of all of them.

All in all, 2015 was a very good festival. We are thankful for all the teachers, parents, students, and volunteers who work so hard to make it so!

## Vanguard Music Festival

April 14 - 15, 2015



The Vanguard and District 2015 Festival was held April 14 - 15 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church

in Vanguard. We had 78 entries this year, and enjoyed a good variety of piano, vocal, musical theatre, speech arts, band, and instrumental. The performers were well prepared and the quality of their performances was high. The communities represented in the festival this year were Vanguard, Pambrun, and Hodgeville. Our adjudicator was Carol Konecsni-Christie from Dysart.

Our awards night was held on April 17, and it was enjoyable to hear the best performances of the festival again. A total of \$875 in scholarships as well as numerous medals and plaques were awarded. This was an important year for the Vanguard Music Festival, as it marked our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The founder of our festival, Mrs. Dorothy Saunderson, played "O Canada" to begin our awards night (a few days before her 98<sup>th</sup> birthday)! We appreciated having Karen MacCallum in attendance and her encouraging words. We enjoyed a beautifully decorated cake and coffee after the program. We also presented several \$50 scholarships to celebrate.

Two students were recommended as district winners: Presley Reddekopp for her musical theatre and piano performances and Alyse Gerbrandt for her vocal performance. Presley Reddekopp also won the Puckett Scholarship for overall performance. As a committee, we very much appreciate everyone who gives of their time and financially to support the Vanguard Music Festival and make it a success each year.



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## Watrous & District Music Festival

March 2 - 4, 2015

The 2015 Watrous Music Festival was held Mar. 2 - 7 jointly at the Civic Center and Lutheran Church. Our adjudicators for this year were as follows: Dominic Gregorio for Voice, Greg McLean for Instrumental and David McIntyre for Piano. We had 198 entries in total: Instrumental: 31/Piano: 79 /Voice: 86. Harper Rae from Imperial was recommended in piano to Provincials.

Kelly Stein attended the SMFA Fall Conference and AGM and accepted a position on the Provincial Board as a Director.

Our committee included Kevin & Michele Ackerman, Lynn Merrifield, Kelly Stein, Melanie Mooney, Terilee Stokke, Beatrice Remlinger, Cindy McLean and Rhonda Hardy. Each summer we run a Pancake Breakfast as a fundraiser during the FUN RUN car show.

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## Weyburn Rotary Music Festival

March 2 - 13, 2015

This was Weyburn's 57<sup>th</sup> year for Music Festival. The piano portion was March 2 - 6, with vocal March 9 - 11, and band March 12 - 13. Our piano adjudicator was Lynette Sawatsky, vocal was Jeri Ryba and band was Christa MacBride. Piano entries this year totalled 232, entries for voice came to 119, and band had 83 entries. Weyburn is very fortunate to have the Rotary Club and Cenovus as sponsors.

Our Stars of the Festival evening was held on March 18. There was \$7800 in cash awards given out along with trophies. As usual, our Stars evening was very well attended.

We had four piano students recommended on to provincials: Kristen Keith, Marissa van Staveren, Mitch Bellefleur, and Ben Sidloski. There were two students recommended on to provincials for voice: Keisha Mowchenko and David Anderson; and one student, Autumn Alexander, was recommended on for flute.

*Brenda Milatz, Corresponding Secretary*

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## Yorkton Music Festival

March 9 - 25, 2015

Held March 9 - 25 this year, we had a total of 573 entries perform in Choir, Vocal, Band, and Piano sessions.

Thanks to all our adjudicators including Dr. Sophie Bouffard (Vocal & Choral), David Dick (Bands, Brass & Instrumental ensembles), Janie Fries (Woodwinds, Strings & Percussion), and Michael Oike (piano) who inspired our participants. We are especially appreciative of all the time Michael Oike dedicated to each individual student at the piano encouraging them on to greater performances.

We had nine district winners who were recommended on to provincial competition including: Reed Wishnevetski (Brass); Devynn McIntyre (Piano); Elizabeth Reid (Vocal, Musical Theatre, and Percussion); Carmen Sutsek (Musical Theatre); Madison Leister (piano); Morgan Thorley (Musical Theatre); Jessica Rohatynsky (Musical Theatre); the Yorkton Community Concert Choir (Choral); and Sacred Heart High School Choir (Choral).

Many Scholarships were awarded, and medals and many plaques and trophies were presented March 29 at our Hi-Lites Concert. We give many thanks to all our generous scholarship and award donors.

Congratulations to Karen Muir and Sandra Baron who were recipients of volunteer awards for their long time service to the Yorkton Music Festival.

A big thank-you goes out to all our patrons, committee members, and volunteers. The continued success of the Yorkton Music Festival is dependent on your valuable support.

*Tonia Vermette, President*





## 2015 District Festival

Member Festival	2015 Entries	2014 Entries	2013 Entries	Solo Fees	Adj	Awards Amount	Volunt.	Vol. Hours	Aud.	Budget
Assiniboia	150	122	130	15	2	\$2,025	15	120	394	\$6,500
Battlefords	383	447	529	13	6	16,700	32	480	1,500	31,600
Biggar	119	149	141	14	2	2,300	15	400	375	7,400
Borderland	97	115	149	12	2	1,950	27	335	520	7,500
Carnduff	281	315	265	12	3	2,325	57	550	1325	11,700
Central Sask	109	120	99	8	2	1,305	13	238	600	3,900
Estevan	597	605	632	15	5	11,540	47	571	1,004	29,200
Eston	163	166	172	15	2	1,845	24	160	300	5,900
Gravelbourg	180	179	164	12	2	925	48	600	400	5,900
Hafford	174	143	119	12	2	1,540	28	550	225	5,600
Humboldt	486	479	513	16	3	2,800	6	20	250	23,100
Kindersley	377	428	434	15	4	4,250	35	285	995	15,900
Kipling	192	169	306	10	3	1,680	45	500	400	7,200
La Ronge	163	137	121	15	1	2,500	16	359	689	9,200
Lafleche	304	300	277	10	2	3,200	22	825	678	13,900
Lanigan	209	213	192	8	2	1,660	30	100	400	5,700
Last Mountain	140	170	130	10	2	1,535	10	800	570	6,100
Lloydminster	785	829	788	15	6	7,215	92	1,200	1,000	32,000
Mainline	218	153	180	15	3	1,250	21	275	848	5,800
Maple Creek	94	108	125	11	2	1,625	51	760	239	6,900
Meadow Lake	160	260	257	14	3	2,925	23	150	600	8,600
Melfort	403	426	440	12	4	4,715	43	850	950	16,100
Moose Jaw	605	558	648	16	5	9,800	68	600	1,800	28,000
Moosomin	367	344	373	7	2	2,295	28	470	1,053	11,000
Naicam	204	196	219	12	3	3,160	51	660	650	11,000
Nipawin	255	298	293	12	4	3,760	60	900	475	13,000
Outlook	186	192	268	10	2	4,656	38	408	586	9,300
Parkland	195	222	213	12	3	2,300	69	1026	887	8,700
Potashville	175	232	225	12	3	3,950	45	1,100	403	10,900
Prairie Sunset	140	140	128	8	2	2,960	20	300	512	9,200
Prince Albert	525	587	632	15	6	8,593	52	1,309	1,793	32,500
Qu'Appelle Valley	160	158	0	10	2	1,325	9	300	300	4,800
Quill Plains	410	394	480	10	3	2,895	38	600	1,266	8,200
Redvers	107	259	329	15	3	1,880	51	1,000	363	11,800
Regina	1,105	1,220	1,339	26	9	31,255	112	3,000	3,000	91,500
Rosetown	234	218	240	10	3	3,825	60	1,000	1,247	9,900
Sand Hills	110	139	138	10	1	2,725	40	794	512	6,400
Sask Valley	217	202	224	12	3	3,010	35	1000	887	9,500
Saskatoon	1,560	1,687	1,743	25	15	27,200	111	888	2,600	83,000
Shaunavon	170	219	184	10	2	4,375	65	350	714	12,400
Spiritwood	75	80	68	10	1	1,350	31	138	408	3,800
Swift Current	358	303	507	15	6	8,275	25	1,600	1,200	21,400
Twin Rivers	305	282	328	12	4	3,405	33	350	1,031	11,100
Unity	329	363	267	10	2	3,525	77	967	1,400	13,100
Vanguard	76	71	90	5	1	875	16	315	317	3,800
Watrous	196	235	265	14	3	2,275	42	600	639	9,900
Weyburn	434	454	510	13	3	7,800	75	500	950	21,100
Yorkton	565	581	624	12	4	6,190	84	1,300	1,573	20,700
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,847</b>	<b>15,667</b>	<b>16,498</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>\$231,469</b>	<b>2,035</b>	<b>31,603</b>	<b>40,828</b>	<b>\$741,700</b>





## Testimonial



*My name is Sherry Sproule, I am 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of the SMFA. I would like to share a story that illustrates the impact that the SMFA has had on the people of Saskatchewan over our long history as an Association. Many people, across the music community in this province, would have similar stories to tell, but here is mine:*

I grew up on a ranch in the hills south of Fir Mountain, a remote area of south central Saskatchewan, 30 miles north of the US border. In the '70's, when I was a music student, our district festival was only 10 years old, but the local teachers and community knew that they had an event worth the effort. Our music festivals have always been in March and March is calving time. My mom and dad would load me in our four-wheel-drive truck, my mom often drove, and plow winter roads for 45 miles so they could give me this cultural experience. We had a rich folk music tradition in our area and you can be sure that the RSO has never been asked to give a performance at the Fir Mountain Hall. But volunteers would brave the March blizzards to work at the festival so there would be a Lafleche and District Music Festival and we could hear the solo works of Schubert and Beethoven. I learned to play works by Debussy and Chopin so I could compete at the festival, receive a constructive critique from a visiting adjudicator, and therefore prepare for a music exam. To take those music exams, I would have to travel to Regina or Moose Jaw, 2-3 hour road trips. But the Festival was mine...right here in my community.

Fast forward 40 years. Lafleche Music Festival is still alive and well. With the internet, students of classical music can access recordings of the world's top musicians. But they still yearn to and do enter the festival. Students, parents, teachers, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins are still coming out to compete, learn and listen. Community members who have been coming out for 50 years to hear live classical music are still coming out. Music parents and community members want to sit on our board, work at the door and vacuum the church at the end of the sessions.

Because our festival committee hosted a speech arts workshop in our district schools, made possible through the generous support of SaskCulture funding for new initiatives, kids who would have only ever entered the hockey rink are coming to the festival to recite a poem and are discovering a rich classical music cultural event, right in their community. We have, for many years, and continue to, advocate for music education through our grassroots.

*Continued*



What I've learned, through my experience as an SMFA Board member AND delegate to the National Music Festival, is that this is only the beginning of an amazing road of opportunity for our most dedicated musicians. The annual SMFA Provincial Finals brings together the best young musicians, in all disciplines from all 48 district festivals, for a wonderful weekend of sharing, learning and outstanding performances. Several of these musicians go on to represent Saskatchewan at the National Music Festival, and as team designate this year, I can proudly say that the dedication, talent and team spirit displayed by our young people was unsurpassed by any province. This year in Edmonton, Saskatchewan musicians earned their best showing in the history of the National Festival...and it all starts back at the local festivals like Lafleche and District Music Festival, that is right here in my community.

These kids, our festival participants, don't know how the system works. They don't know that the teachers are following a detailed Provincial Syllabus that was created by a team of 30 plus volunteers overseen by a dedicated, knowledgeable Provincial Board, working thousands of hours, and updated every three years. The kids don't know how the local volunteer Committee are guided by the festival Handbook, or that the Committee can call the Provincial office when they have a question about repertoire in a certain class, rules and regulations, or filling out their charitable return. They don't know that local volunteer Committee members are so invested in this system, that they attend the Provincial Conference/AGM to network with the other 48 District Festival committees to help them learn things that will help them run their festival, like the new classes that have been added to the Provincial Syllabus (First Nations

Drumming and Song, Multicultural Traditional Story Telling, Musical Theatre, Royal Conservatory Popular Music, Multicultural National Anthem). The music festival participants don't know that the SMFA functions, at all levels, very efficiently and effectively with minimal office staff, and a volunteer Board of Directors elected from the grassroots festivals, so that the revenues provided can be used for programming. They DO know about the support from SaskCulture and Sask Lotteries, as the logos are visible in every program, award certificate, and verbally acknowledged at every final concert program.

But we know, and many of us in the music community know, that SMFA is a well-functioning unique organization that has changed and grown as needed and therefore has worked for 107 years. What over 18,000 kids in little towns like Fir Mountain and cities like Regina and Saskatoon know is that there will be adjudicators arriving, and that they had better practice, because the community hall will be full of family, friends, and community members who come out to hear all disciplines and genres of live music....Right here...in our very own communities.



## Program Enhancement

### SMA Summer Music Camp

The SMA Summer Music Camps were a huge success again this year. Students in Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert had the opportunity to try singing, drumming, trumpet, clarinet and violin under the direction of talented clinicians from across the province.

One of the highlights this summer was watching the progress of two senior students who were attending the camp for the fourth time and hearing how much of an impact this camp has had on their lives.

This year's camp concerts were well attended by parents, friends, and representatives from the sponsorship companies. There were even some previous campers who attended the concerts to support their younger friends and siblings. This camp provided a positive experience for over a hundred students in our province and we are excited to find out how many of these students will sign up for music activities this fall, as a result of attending the SMA Summer Music Camp.

*The Music of Opportunity  
... the Sound of Potential!*

The Saskatchewan Music Alliance has offered Summer Music Camps to students with financial barriers in Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert in July 2015. These camps ran for the first time in 2012 and have continued to grow in popularity each year.





## Speech Arts Workshops

### Meadow Lake

Heather Macnab travelled from Maple Creek to Meadow Lake and spent January 26 – 30 in five schools, teaching the students about Speech Arts. She interacted with nearly 600 students from Grades 4 to 7 during her stay in our city. Her engaging style soon had even the “coolest” person taking part and learning all about the art of speech.

Through her presentation, the students and teachers learned about their voice and the importance of taking care of it. Using many techniques students, both individually and as a group, discovered the skills needed to become a speech artist.

Through her demonstrations, Heather showed everyone the types of classes that are available in the Music Festival and gave the students an idea of what Speech Arts in the Music Festival would look like. (The students’ favourite was her presentation of Little Red Riding Hood and the Wolf by Roald Dahl.)

By using excerpts from a number of poems, Heather had the students discover how meaning is given and can be changed by using different emphasis, dynamics and speeds in a piece.

Comments made by some of the participants:

- “We learned not to be afraid to stand in front of everyone and speak.” (student)
- “It was a very fun and exciting presentation and I recommend that you watch it.” (student)
- “I learned to use more expression when I act and to project my voice louder so everyone in the room can hear. I also learned to enunciate my words more clearly. When I act in front of other people I can use all of these tools to make my performance as good as it can be.” (student)
- “We have a lot of presentations in our school. It was wonderful to have this

one because it really enhances the Language Arts curriculum.” (teacher)

- “My class was the very first one that you worked with yesterday and they are still talking about it. That shows how much of an impression you made on them.” (teacher)

We have no idea if or how much impact Heather’s visit will have on the Speech Arts entries in our Festival. Regardless, her presentation was welcomed by all who attended. The students spent a fun-filled hour learning about Speech Arts and we do hope that a few of them will be inspired to join us at the Festival.

### Unity

Heather Macnab traveled to Unity on March 25th and spent the next two days interacting with many students from Unity Public School and Unity Composite High School. Students included those in grades three, four, five, six, seven, eight, and one group from grades ten, eleven and twelve. She ran engaging sessions that dealt with voice care, topic selection, and presentation choices and tips for Speech Arts. The students enjoyed her demonstrations and were excited to be able to experiment using her ideas. She also spent time giving them ideas and suggestions on the poems, in both English and French, which they were preparing for this year’s Festival. Both days were very busy and students and teachers alike enjoyed the information presented. We hope in the future this will lead to more individual entries in the Speech Arts.

*Respectfully submitted by Morag Riddell, President*



### **Assiniboia and District Music Festival**

In November 2014 The Assiniboia and District Music Festival hosted the SMFA-sponsored speech arts workshop led by Heather Macnab. Heather worked with approximately 300 students from Grades 5-12. Her presentations were dynamic and she managed to get students involved in an activity in which it is difficult for some to take a risk. She demonstrated how the voice is an instrument, how to use the voice to speak all the while involving the students in either whole group or small group activities. The workshops were a fantastic mix of information and activity. I know most students went away very enthused. Teachers were equally enthused and the teachers from both schools had been given the presentations contacted me to talk about what a fantastic opportunity that had been given to their schools. Hopefully, there will be some follow up in the next year by the schools or our local association from this wonderful presentation!

### **Estevan**

The Saskatchewan Music Festival Association sponsored a speech arts workshop in the city of Estevan on January 12-16, 2015. Clinician, Heather Macnab spent 5 days in our community and held workshops in all 6 of our elementary schools.

This interactive workshop allowed the students to experience different aspects of speech arts including solo, small group work and some full classroom exercises.

A total of 18 sessions were held. There were an overall total of 330 students and 10 teachers who were directly involved in the workshops.

In one of the schools – Ms. Macnab worked with a grade 3 classroom for the entire afternoon. At the first session they were introduced to different ways to use their voice, breathing and actions to enhance a performance. In the next session they were split into small groups and by the end of the hour, each group presented a poem/prose to the rest of the class. It was remarkable to see

how they used their own creativity as well as the tools that they learned.

The goals of the workshops were not only met but exceeded as the students and teachers were encouraged and inspired to use speech arts as a tool to increase confidence.

The teachers and students ALL expressed their gratitude for an excellent workshop that fit within the learning strategies and outcomes they are required to teach in school. Every single school would WELCOME another speech arts workshop in the future. The students not only had fun but were able to experience listening, speaking and acting in a safe and encouraging environment.

Heather Macnab is truly a specialist in her field of speech arts. She was a delight to work with. Without a doubt this workshop also increased our already strong speech art entries at our local level.

*Submitted by Anita Kuntz*





## Testimonial

Letter to SMFA Executive Director, Carol Donhauser:

I just wanted to take a moment to thank you and everyone on the SMFA committee for the incredible experience of singing with the symphony. I had so much fun and learned a lot and I know how wonderful a stepping stone it is for me to the future.

I know that everyone on the committee knows the importance of music and music education, but I would like to remind you again of the incredible joy that comes from music. There is no feeling like that of being on a stage and engaging with an audience. Just as there is no feeling like that of being joined with other musicians in a wordless and soulful exploration of the score. For these experiences, I thank you. I would absolutely not be where I am today without the experiences and opportunities that music festivals and the SMFA directly have given me.

I thank you for your hard work, and I challenge you to continue with it. The opportunities you give have lifelong implications.

In the words of Bono, "Music can change the world because it can change people." I know the absolute truth of this. Thank you for that.

*All my best, Whitney*



*Raised in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, soprano Whitney Mather has been described as a promising young soubrette with considerable poise and expressivity.*

*Whitney is studying in the Artist Diploma Program with soprano Monica Whicher at the Glenn Gould School at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, Ontario. Whitney has attended numerous summer programs for singers.*

*Whitney was the winner of the Kinsmen Competition in the voice category of the 2012 Saskatoon Music Festival and competed in the finals of the 2012 National Music Festival in Fort McMurray, AB. She was chosen as the winner of the 2013 CFMTA National Voice Competition held in Halifax, NS.*

*Whitney was named the winner of the Gordon Wallis Opera Competition in February of 2015 in which she won the opportunity to perform with the Regina and Saskatoon Symphony Orchestras as well as a \$5,000 scholarship to be used toward her opera studies.*



# Provincial Finals Report

*The 2015 Provincial Finals Competition and the Saskatchewan Level of National Music Festival competitions were held June 5, 6 & 7 in Saskatoon at the University of Saskatchewan.*

Judges for the weekend competitions were: Senior Piano, Joseph Ferretti, Toronto, ON; Intermediate Piano, Sandra Joy Friesen, Northfield, MN; Senior Voice, Valdine Anderson, Winnipeg, MB; Strings, Elizabeth Lupton, Penticton, BC; Percussion/Brass/Woodwinds, Henry Meredith, Arva, ON; Speech Arts/Musical Theatre, Kelly Handerek, Regina, SK; and Choral Judge, Caron Daley, Toronto, ON.

On Friday, June 5, Senior musicians vied for the opportunity to represent the province at the National Music Festival (to be held in Edmonton, AB, August 13-15). Previously recorded choral entries were submitted and judged. After lengthy deliberation by our judges, the following Saskatchewan musicians were chosen to represent our province:

- Voice (award sponsor Rose Schmalz)
  - **Philip Klaassen (tenor), Saskatoon**
- Piano (award sponsor Anna Klassen Endowment Fund)
  - **Godwin Friesen, Saskatoon**
- Strings (award sponsor Blanche Squires Memorial Fund)
  - **William Boan (violin), Saskatoon**
- Woodwinds (award sponsor Dr. Andrew & Mrs. Harrington)
  - **Brendan Catalano (alto saxophone), Saskatoon**
- Brass (award sponsor Ross Ulmer and Karen Ast)
  - **Abby Fuller (trumpet), Regina**
- Percussion (award sponsor St. John's Music/Yamaha)
  - **Bryan Allen, Saskatoon**
- Musical Theatre (award sponsor Sherit Coal - Estevan)
  - **Griffin Hewitt, Regina**
- Paul J. Bourret Choral Class
  - **Campbell Collegiate Chamber Choir (Deidre Baird) Regina**

Throughout the weekend, almost 300 performances by winners in all disciplines from Saskatchewan's 48 District Music Festivals were heard. On Sunday, June 7, chosen Senior competitors from each discipline competed in the Grand Awards Competitions.

Prizes of over \$25,000 were awarded during the weekend's competitions, the most prestigious being the Sister Geraldine Boyle Memorial Gold Award of \$1,000 for the most outstanding performance of the Grand Awards Competition and the Wallis Memorial Silver Award of \$750 for the runner-up. Choral winners were announced during the Grand Awards Competitions. Choirs from across Saskatchewan competed, by recording, for the Saskatchewan Choral Federation and the Kiwanis Club of Regina Gallagher Memorial Choral Scholarships.

Musical Theatre competitions for Intermediate and Senior levels, in both Ballad and Up-Tempo, were held in Convocation Hall Friday afternoon and evening. The large audiences and judge, Kelly Handerek, were appreciative of the efforts of these fine performers. With nineteen selections in each of the intermediate classes and sixteen in each of the Senior classes, there was a wide variety of performances to enjoy!

Intermediate Voice and Speech Arts competitions were also held Friday evening in Quance Theatre. Senior Voice competitions were held on Saturday in Quance Theatre with Judge Valdine Anderson offering encouraging and inspiring comments to the competitors.



Provincial Scholarship winners in Vocal, Musical Theatre and Speech Arts:

- Goodfellow Memorial Grade A Female Voice - \$400
  - **Kateryna Khartova (Saskatoon)**
- Goodfellow Memorial Grade A Male Voice - \$400
  - **Jory Litt-Jukes (Moose Jaw)**
- Heather Laxdal Memorial Grade B Female Voice - \$400
  - **Siarra Riehl (Saskatoon)**
- Covey Intermediate Female Voice - \$300
  - **Olivia Guselle (Saskatoon)**
- A.L.'s Music Intermediate Male Voice - \$300
  - **William Matthews (Regina)**
- Goodfellow Memorial Canadian Vocal Music - \$400
  - **Tricia Florence (Battlefords)**
- Goodfellow Memorial Award Senior Grade A Concert Group - \$400
  - **Tricia Florence (Battlefords)**
- Nancy & Alastair Todd Senior Grade B Concert Group - \$300
  - **Keisha Mowchenko (Weyburn)**
- Goodfellow Memorial Oratorio - \$400 & Helen Davies Sherry Memorial Trophy
  - **McKenzie Warriner (Regina)**
- Dorothy Howard Memorial French Art Song Scholarship - \$400
  - **McKenzie Warriner (Regina)**
- Goodfellow Memorial Lieder Voice - \$200
  - **Kateryna Khartova (Saskatoon)**
- Whelan Lieder Piano Scholarship - \$200
  - **Eric Bews (Saskatoon)**
- Goodfellow Memorial Operatic - \$400
  - **Kateryna Khartova (Saskatoon)**
- Ursan Family Senior Musical Theatre Ballad - \$400
  - **Griffin Hewitt (Regina)**
- Regan Grant Memorial Intermediate Musical Theatre Ballad - \$300
  - **Mayson Sonntag (Regina)**
- Joy McFarlane-Burton Senior Musical Theatre Up-Tempo - \$400
  - **Siarra Riehl (Saskatoon)**
- Sandra Ryba Intermediate Musical Theatre Up-Tempo - \$300
  - **April Anderson (Melfort)**
- L.I. Bryson Memorial Senior Speech Arts Scholarship - \$400
  - **Chelsea Cox (Maple Creek)**

Senior Piano judge, Dr. Joseph Ferretti, was pleased with the high quality of performances presented by Senior competitors and Sandra Joy Friesen provided encouragement and sound advice to the Intermediate competitors who all showed great skill and promise. Provincial Senior & Intermediate Piano Winners:

- June Barber Intermediate Bach - \$300
  - **Brett Muyres (Humboldt)**
- Daryl Cooper Intermediate Beethoven - \$300
  - **Adrianna Dolata (Qu'Appelle Valley)**
- Frances England & Hugheen Ferguson Memorial Intermediate Haydn & Mozart - \$300
  - **Jasmine Zhang (Regina)**
- Kipling & District Music Festival Intermediate Chopin - \$300
  - **Yanbing (Linda) Liu (Regina)**
- Robinson Family Intermediate 20th or 21st Century/Canadian Music - \$300
  - **Jasmine Zhang (Regina)**
- Jackson Memorial Intermediate Piano - \$300
  - **Eleanor Chen (Saskatoon)**
- Gloria Nickell Intermediate Piano (most outstanding Int. piano competitor) - \$400
  - **Jasmine Zhang (Regina)**
- Past President's Intermediate Piano (runner-up to the most outstanding Int. piano) - \$300
  - **Brett Muyres (Humboldt)**
- Arlene Stuart Memorial Senior Bach - \$400
  - **Godwin Friesen (Saskatoon)**
- Gordon C. Wallis Memorial Senior Beethoven - \$400
  - **Godwin Friesen (Saskatoon)**
- Shirley Andrist Senior Haydn & Mozart - \$400
  - **Katrina MacKinnon (Battlefords)**
- Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers' Association Senior Romantic - \$400
  - **Jared Tehse (Saskatoon)**
- Music for Young Children Sask. Teachers' Association Senior Chopin - \$400
  - **Godwin Friesen (Saskatoon)**
- MYC Sask. Teachers' Association Senior French Music - \$400
  - **Eunhyun (David) Kim (Regina)**
- Gale Glenn Memorial Senior Piano - \$400
  - **Bradley Little (Regina)**





String, Woodwind, Brass, and Percussion competitions were held on Saturday, June 6 in the Education Building. The two Intermediate string categories had a total of eleven competitors, while the two Senior string categories had seven competitors with seven District Festivals represented overall. Woodwinds and Brass each had a total of ten competitors between Intermediate and Senior categories, representing eleven District Festivals in total. The Intermediate and Senior percussion categories each had five competitors representing seven District Festivals.

Winners in the Provincial String/Woodwind/Brass/Percussion:

- Clare K. Mendel Memorial Senior Violin - \$400 & Trophy
  - o **William Boan (Saskatoon)**
- Robert C. Mitchell Memorial Intermediate Violin - \$300 & Trophy
  - o **Simone Ma (Regina)**
- Senior Viola/Cello/Double Bass - \$400
  - o **Charlee Wielgoz, cello (Regina)**
- Johanna Mitchell Memorial Intermediate Viola/Cello/Double Bass - \$300
  - o **Amos Friesen, cello (Saskatoon)**
- Saskatchewan Band Association Senior Woodwind - \$400
  - o **Brendan Catalano, alto saxophone (Saskatoon)**
- St John's/Yamaha Intermediate Woodwind - \$300
  - o **Nicole Toews, flute (Saskatoon)**
- Saskatchewan Band Association Senior Brass - \$400
  - o **Abby Fuller, trumpet (Regina)**
- Colin Grunert Memorial Intermediate Brass - \$300
  - o **Nolan Fuller, trumpet (Last Mountain)**
- Senior Percussion - \$400
  - o **Bryan Allen (Saskatoon)**
- Blanche Squires Memorial Intermediate Percussion - \$300
  - o **Josh Sandercock (Lloydminster)**

The Grand Awards Competition concluded the weekend on Sunday at 1 pm with the top two Senior Competitors, chosen by the judges, to compete for the top scholarships. A varied program was enjoyed by the audience and judges alike. Percussionist Bryan Allen's marimba performance of the first movement of *One Study, One Summary* by John Psathas garnered top honours for the Sister Boyle Gold Award.

Grand Award Recipients:

- Goodfellow Memorial Vocal Award - \$400 & Chief Justice J.T. Brown Shield
  - o **Kateryna Khartova (Saskatoon)**
- Heather Laxdal Memorial Vocal Award - \$300 & Golan E. Hoole Shield
  - o **McKenzie Warriner (Regina)**
- Estevan Music Festival Musical Theatre Award - \$400
  - o **Griffin Hewitt (Regina)**
- Maple Creek Music Festival Musical Theatre Award - \$300
  - o **Siarra Riehl (Saskatoon)**
- Saskatchewan Band Association Percussion Award - \$400
  - o **Bryan Allen (Saskatoon)**
- Blanche Squires Memorial Percussion Award - \$300
  - o **Fraser Krips (Saskatoon)**
- Brost Family Woodwinds Award - \$400
  - o **Brendan Catalano (Saskatoon)**
- Blanche Squires Memorial Woodwinds Award - \$300
  - o **Madison Engen (Regina)**
- Guy Few Brass Award - \$500
  - o **Silas Friesen (Saskatoon)**
- St John's/Yamaha Brass Award - \$300
  - o **Abby Fuller (Regina)**
- Fred S. Mendel Memorial String Award - \$400 & Trophy
  - o **Kevin Chen (Saskatoon)**
- John & Judy Hrycak String Award - \$300
  - o **William Boan (Saskatoon)**
- Anna Klassen Memorial Piano Award - \$400
  - o **Godwin Friesen (Saskatoon)**
- Gordon & Mossie Hancock Memorial Piano Award - \$300
  - o **Bradley Little (Regina)**



- Wallis Memorial Bronze Award - \$500
- **Kateryna Khartova (Saskatoon)**
- Wallis Memorial Silver Award - \$750
- **Godwin Friesen (Saskatoon)**
- Sister Boyle Gold Award of \$1,000 to the most outstanding competitor of the Grand Awards
- **Bryan Allen (Saskatoon)**

Provincial choral awards (recorded performances):

- Saskatchewan Choral Federation Scholarship - \$300
- **Conservatory Juventus Chamber Choir, (Dorianna Holowachuk, conductor) Regina Festival**
- Betty Tydeman Memorial Choral Scholarship - \$200
- **Prairie Spirit (Marcia McLean, conductor) Swift Current & District Festival**
- Kiwanis Club of Regina Gallagher Memorial Choral Scholarship - \$500
- **Campbell Collegiate Chamber Choir, (Deidre Baird, conductor) Regina Festival**

Congratulations to all of the competitors and scholarship winners. The experience of performing in a provincial event is one of the many ways that the SMFA is able to encourage and support young musicians from across the province. Thirty-two out of our 48 District Festivals had representation at Provincials this year!

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

*Submitted by Sherry Sproule*



*Bryan Allen receiving the Grand Award from donor, Joanne Messer, Tisdale*



## Provincial Final Supporters

# THANK YOU !

### PROVINCIAL FINAL DONORS AND SPONSORS

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## National Music Festival

*The Riders may not be having a stellar season, but Team Saskatchewan certainly did at the National Music Festival. In his greeting, Governor General David Johnston stated: "Music has the power to transcend all barriers, with rhythms and melodies that carry us to a thousand different places of discovery. It has that unique ability to stir within us an unimaginable range of emotions in the space of but a few notes."*

That is what every member of the Saskatchewan contingent provided in his/her quest for the top at the National Music Festival. From August 13-15, fifty-seven of Canada's best young amateur musicians, ranging in age from 12 to 28 years, gathered in the beautiful city of Edmonton to compete in nine disciplines: piano, voice, strings, classical guitar, woodwinds, brass, percussion, musical theatre, and chamber music. Competitions and master classes were held at the Alberta College Campus of MacEwen University and McDougall United Church.

Competitors and their accompanists arrived on Tuesday prior to the competition, checked in at the Chateau Lacombe and immediately began booking practice rooms in preparation for their performances. A briefing for competitors was held Tuesday evening, where information was shared regarding the competition, and competitors were introduced. Sherry Sproule, designate for Team Saskatchewan, proudly announced our team: Godwin Friesen (piano), William Boan (strings), Brendan Catalano (woodwinds) all accompanied by Bonnie Nicholson; Abby Fuller (brass) accompanied by Maria Fuller; Griffin Hewitt (musical theatre) accompanied by Robert Ursan; and Bryan Allen (percussion). Saskatchewan delegates attending along with Sherry were Carol Donhauser, Nancy Toppings, and Karen MacCallum.

Wednesday was a busy day for competitors and their assisting artists, with each competitor having a rehearsal in the official venue. Team Saskatchewan's solidarity was evident from the very beginning. They followed one another to rehearsals, offering feedback and moral

support, moving percussion equipment, and doing whatever was needed to help. That consideration, however, was not limited to our own competitors. Maria Fuller came to the rescue of two competitors from another province when she offered, with only a day to prepare, to accompany them when a replacement was needed. Not many people could learn the repertoire in a day, step confidently on the stage at Nationals and be a rock of support for the soloist – well done, Maria! She simply said, "I wanted to do it!"

Thursday and Friday were competition days, on which every competitor had a maximum of one hour to perform their program. SMFA board member, Sandra Senga, joined our delegates as we followed our competitors from venue to venue and took in as many other performances as possible. One advantage of having Nationals in a neighbouring province is that family and friends are able to attend the competition, and we were delighted to have so many come to Edmonton to support their favorite musicians.

With all competitions finished by Friday evening, competitors were treated to an evening at the West Edmonton Mall, where they could choose to blow off steam at Galaxyland or World Waterpark, or browse the mall. A pizza party followed in the basement of McDougall United Church and after a time of socializing, some very tired young people returned to the hotel.

Saturday morning was back to business, with master classes for every competitor followed by the announcement of winners. We couldn't be more proud of our two first-place winners,



Godwin Friesen in piano and Bryan Allen in percussion. They were whisked off to the Winspear for a sound check in preparation for their evening performances, while everyone else had a free afternoon to explore and get ready for the Grand Awards Concert.

All first-place winners competed for the prestigious Grand Award title and award of \$5,000 at the Francis Winspear Centre for Music on Saturday evening. The winner of the Grand Award was Angela Ryu, violinist from Alberta. A hearty congratulations to the rest of Team Saskatchewan, who ALL placed in their disciplines!

William Boan, 2<sup>nd</sup> place in strings  
Brendan Catalano, 2<sup>nd</sup> place in woodwinds  
Abby Fuller, 3<sup>rd</sup> place in brass  
Griffin Hewitt, 3<sup>rd</sup> place in musical theatre

Congratulations to Campbell Collegiate Chamber Choir, directed by Deidre Baird, 2<sup>nd</sup> place winners in the Paul J. Bourret Choral Competition. Choral entries were submitted by recording and presentations were made on Monday evening prior to the Federation Dinner.

Sherry Sproule adds from her perspective as team designate: "It was my privilege to serve

as designate for Team Saskatchewan at the 2015 National Music Festival. I wasn't sure what my role would be, but soon learned they were happy to have a pseudo music mom around to encourage, cheerlead, pick up the odd lunch or bananas. This group impressed the entire competition with their team spirit, as it is a rarity to see a team approach displayed at what is, for the most part, a solo competition. I believe that this cohesive team attitude really did tip the balance for our soloists this year. Aside from what happened around the competition, the real treat for this designate was to hear the incredible performances that our young Saskatchewan performers left on the Edmonton stages. I was inspired. Thank you."

Thank you to the Alberta Host Committee and the City of Edmonton for the kind hospitality shown to our competitors and delegates during our stay. We look forward to returning to Edmonton next August for the 2016 National Music Festival.

*Submitted by Nancy Toppings*



*Team Saskatchewan: (l to r) William Boan, Bryan Allen, Griffin Hewitt, Abby Fuller, Brendan Catalano & Godwin Friesen.*





## Federation of Canadian Music Festival (FCMF) Business Meeting Report

*The 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Federation of Canadian Music Festival Association AGM and National Music Festival Competition was hosted by Kelowna, BC, on August 11 – 13, 2014, at University of British Columbia Okanagan.*

Saskatchewan voting delegates were: Karen MacCallum, Nancy Toppings, Sherry Sproule, and Carol Donhauser.

The October 31, 2013 audited Financial Statements were presented: The operating budget showed revenues of \$266,581 and Expenses of \$239,656 with a surplus of \$26,925. The accumulated Net Loss is -\$7,429. The General Reserve fund has a total of \$67,668 and the Restricted Reserve Fund has a total of \$97,822. Operating Reserve Fund – the annual contribution of \$0.10 per entry to the annual reserve fund for 2014 took place in 2015 and totalled \$10,614.80. This amount will be show on 2015 Financial Statements.

The following is a list of relevant motions passed at the FCMF AGM.

### **NOTICE OF MOTION: DELETION OF PERCUSSION CLASSES**

[Submitted by the Executive Committee]

**The Executive Committee recommends to the AGM that percussion classes at the National Music Festival cease at the end of the 2015 Festival. Carried.**

**MOTION:** To reinstitute percussion classes as recorded competitions under processes and fees similar to recorded choral entries. Rationale: Rather than eliminate percussion entries altogether when a majority of provinces have syllabus classes in percussion, keep percussion at the national level via recorded media. Carried.

**NOTICE OF MOTION: APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE(S) TO EXAMINE VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE FEDERATION OF CANADIAN MUSIC FESTIVALS AND ITS NATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL** [Submitted by Jerry Lonsbury] THAT the Board of Directors appoint a committee or committees to examine and make recommendations on each of the following topics:

1. The goal, vision, and purpose of the Federation and its National Music Festival.
2. The organizational structure of the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals.
3. A sound financial plan that will enable the Federation to meet its future obligations

**MOTION #7:** That the Notice of Motion to appoint a committee to examine various aspects of the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals and its National Music Festival as stated above be accepted. Carried.

Committee: Jerry Lonsbury, Chair [AB], Heilwig Von Koenigsloew [BC], Carol Donhauser [SK], Judith Urbonis [MB], Pam Allen [ON], Tom Davidson [PQ], Barbara Long [NB], Heather Bedford-Clooney [Executive Director]

Elections were held with the following results all by acclamation:

President – Jerry Lonsbury  
Vice President – Joy McFarlane-Burton  
Director, 2 year term – Robin Norman  
Director, 2 year term – Karen MacCallum  
Director, 1 year term – Tom Davidson

The 2016 National Music Festival will be held August 7-13 in Edmonton, Alberta.



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UNIVERSITY OF  
SASKATCHEWAN  
College of  
Arts and Science

Department of Music  
email: [fine.arts@usask.ca](mailto:fine.arts@usask.ca)  
Phone: 306-966-6185



## Financial Report

*The Saskatchewan Music Festival Association (SMFA) is committed to financially responsible decision-making, in order to maintain a strong Festival movement and offer effective programming throughout the province.*



Karen Unger,  
Finance Chair

The Finance Committee consists of First Vice-President Karen Unger (Chair), President Nancy Toppings, Second Vice-President Sherry Sproule, Past President Karen MacCallum, and Executive Director Carol Donhauser. As members of the Finance Committee, we strive to oversee all financial matters in a manner that will promote the health and well-being of our Association and our programs. This includes preparing the annual budget as well as the budgets for specific events such as the Opera competition, Concerto competition, Provincial Finals, and Fall Conference. It involves responding to financial issues that arise, and presenting solutions to our Board.

Our financial goal is a balanced budget, and we have met that goal in the fiscal year ending July 31, 2015. For the fourth consecutive year, we have been able to transfer \$10,000 from the general fund to the reserve fund. This operating reserve will serve to stabilize our financial position by providing for unexpected cash flow shortages, expense or loss.

The SMFA investment portfolio is managed by Leander Dueck of Beyond Wealth Management in Regina. In June, Leander reported that "Since our January 30, 2015 report, the investment portfolio increased by 4.1%. During the same period, the Toronto Stock Exchange index increased by 3%. Anytime we can exceed the index it has to be considered a success." We value Leander's expertise and advice, and are working with him to balance our asset mix in a way that will help to decrease our risk during times of volatility.

On July 23, 2014, BCE announced that it would privatize Bell Aliant by acquiring the interest of Bell Aliant's public minority shareholders. In September 2014, SMFA

completed the transaction of transferring its Bell Aliant shares into BCE shares which changed the total BCE share number from 547 to 576.

SMFA is dependent on funding from the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation, and we are deeply grateful for this support. Annual Global Funding has been approved through to July 31, 2016. A second year of increased funding for Program Enhancement will enable us to offer the popular speech arts workshops into even more district festival communities. We acknowledge the support of the SaskCulture Inc., PotashCorp, SaskEnergy, SaskTel, Mr. Lube (Regina), the University of Saskatchewan Music Department, Regina Symphony Orchestra, Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra and Mr. William Shurniak. We sincerely thank our many scholarship donors and patrons, and contributors to our Festival Friends campaign. Music festivals continue to thrive in communities across this province because of your generous and ongoing support.

I wish to thank the Finance committee, and all Board members, for their dedication and diligent work on behalf of the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association and its membership. I am incredibly grateful to our Executive Director Carol Donhauser, whose superb preparation and planning are invaluable to the efficiency of our Finance committee! We continue to operate from a position of financial strength, and we look forward to another successful festival season in 2016!

*Respectfully submitted, Karen Unger,  
Finance Chair*





# Audited Financial Statement

SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JULY 31, 2015

MARCIA HERBACK  
*Chartered Accountant  
Professional Corporation*



## MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

To the Members of  
Saskatchewan Music Festival Association

Management has responsibility for preparing the accompanying financial statements and ensuring that all information on any related reports is consistent with the financial statements. This responsibility includes selecting appropriate accounting policies and making objective judgements and estimates in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

In discharging its responsibilities for the integrity and fairness of the financial statements and for the accounting systems from which they are derived, management maintains the necessary system of internal controls designed to provide assurance that transactions are authorized, assets are safeguarded, and proper records maintained.

Ultimate responsibility for financial statements to members lies with the Board of Directors.

Marcia Herback Chartered Accountant Professional Corporation, an independent firm, has been appointed by the members to audit the financial statements and report to them; their report follows. The independent auditor has full and free access to the Board and management to discuss their audit findings as to the integrity of the organization's financial reporting and the adequacy of the system of internal controls.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Finance Chair

November 3, 2015  
Regina, Saskatchewan



MARCIA HERBACK  
Chartered Accountant  
Professional Corporation

2168 Smith Street Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 2P2  
Telephone: (306) 522-3311 Facsimile: (306) 522-3312  
Email: mherbackca@sasktel.net

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of  
Saskatchewan Music Festival Association

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of Saskatchewan Music Festival Association, which comprise the statement of financial position as at July 31, 2015, and the statements of operation, change in net assets and cash flow statement for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

##### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

##### Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my qualified audit opinion.

##### Basis for Qualified Opinion

In common with many non-profit organizations, Saskatchewan Music Festival Association derives part of its revenue from the general public, the completeness and classification of which are not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly my verification of these transactions was limited to accounting for the amounts recorded in the records of the organization and I was not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to the revenues, statement of operations, assets and net assets.

##### Qualified Opinion

In my opinion, except for the effects, if any, of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Saskatchewan Music Festival Association as at July 31, 2015 and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Regina, Saskatchewan  
November 3, 2015

  
Marcia Herback  
CPA, CA





**SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**AS AT JULY 31, 2015**  
(with comparative figures for 2014)

	2015	2014
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash (Note 3)	\$ 67,568	\$ 116,702
Cash segregated for future expenditures	19,442	47,637
Investment	40,091	-
Investment segregated for future expenditures	10,034	-
Accounts receivable	20,233	24,295
Inventory	5,643	6,591
Prepaid expenses	<u>8,078</u>	<u>8,722</u>
	171,089	203,947
<b>Tangible capital assets (Note 4)</b>	14,776	15,056
<b>Assets held in trust (Note 5)</b>	420,660	414,707
<b>Investments segregated for future expenditures (Note 6)</b>	<u>30,120</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>\$ 636,645</u>	<u>\$ 633,710</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 55,079	\$ 68,317
Deferred revenue (Note 7)	<u>67,236</u>	<u>75,623</u>
	122,315	143,940
<b>Long-term liabilities</b>		
Funds held in trust (Note 8)	<u>3,291</u>	<u>3,291</u>
	<u>125,606</u>	<u>147,231</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Net assets invested in capital assets	14,776	15,056
Net assets designated for future expenditures	59,596	47,637
Restricted net assets	420,660	414,706
Unrestricted net assets	<u>16,007</u>	<u>9,080</u>
	511,039	486,479
	<u>\$ 636,645</u>	<u>\$ 633,710</u>

See accompanying notes

Approved on Behalf of the Board

 Director  
 Director

MARCIA HERBACK  
Chartered Accountant  
Professional Corporation



**SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION**  
**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JULY 31, 2015**  
(with comparative figures for 2014)

	2015	2014
<b>Revenue</b>		
Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund	\$ 182,000	\$ 167,900
Self-generated revenue (Schedule 1)	<u>150,395</u>	<u>195,521</u>
	<u>332,395</u>	<u>363,421</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Administration (Schedule 2)	143,249	145,206
Amortization	2,164	2,183
Corporate (Schedule 3)	9,823	11,419
Program (Schedule 4)	112,866	102,170
Public relations (Schedule 5)	2,670	2,624
Travel and meeting (Schedule 6)	37,063	35,378
Loss on disposal of obsolete equipment	<u>-</u>	<u>3,425</u>
	<u>307,835</u>	<u>302,405</u>
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures before other income</b>	24,560	61,016
<b>Other income</b>		
Saskatchewan Music Alliance Summer Camp (Note 9), (Schedule 7)	<u>-</u>	<u>(387)</u>
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures</b>	<u>\$ 24,560</u>	<u>\$ 60,629</u>

See accompanying notes

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Chartered Accountant  
Professional Corporation



**SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION**  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JULY 31, 2015**  
 (with comparative figures for 2014)

	Invested in Tangible Capital Assets	Designated for Future Expenditures	Restricted Net Assets	Unrestricted Net Assets	2015	2014
<b>Net Assets</b>						
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 15,056	47,637	414,706	9,080	\$ 486,479	\$ 425,850
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures	-	1,959	16,474	6,127	24,560	60,629
Additions to tangible capital assets	1,884	-	-	(1,884)	-	-
Amortization of capital assets	(2,164)	-	-	2,164	-	-
Transfers	-	10,000	(10,520)	520	-	-
Balance, end of year	<u>\$ 14,776</u>	<u>59,596</u>	<u>420,660</u>	<u>16,007</u>	<u>\$ 511,039</u>	<u>\$ 486,479</u>

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 Chartered Accountant  
 Professional Corporation



**SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JULY 31, 2015**  
**(with comparative figures for 2014)**

	2015	2014
<b>Operating activities</b>		
Excess of revenues over expenditures unrestricted net assets	\$ 24,560	\$ 60,629
Items not involving an outlay (receipt) of cash		
Amortization	2,164	2,183
Loss on disposal of equipment	-	3,425
	<u>26,724</u>	<u>66,237</u>
Net change in non-cash operating working capital balances		
Investment	(40,091)	-
Investment segregated for future expenditures	(10,034)	-
Accounts receivable	4,062	23,341
Inventory	948	579
Prepaid expenses	644	(2,976)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(13,238)	11,656
Deferred revenue	(8,387)	(82,564)
Cash provided by (used in) operating activities	<u>(39,372)</u>	<u>16,273</u>
<b>Investing activities</b>		
Addition to investments segregated for future expenditures	(30,120)	-
Additions to assets held in trust	(5,953)	(49,600)
Additions to tangible capital assets	(1,884)	(5,125)
Cash used in investing activities	<u>(37,957)</u>	<u>(54,725)</u>
<b>Decrease in cash</b>	<u>(77,329)</u>	<u>(38,452)</u>
<b>Cash position, beginning of year</b>	<u>164,339</u>	<u>202,791</u>
<b>Cash position, end of year</b>	<u>\$ 87,010</u>	<u>\$ 164,339</u>
<b>Cash consists of:</b>		
Cash	\$ 67,568	\$ 116,702
Cash segregated for future expenditures	19,442	47,637
	<u>\$ 87,010</u>	<u>\$ 164,339</u>

See accompanying notes

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**SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JULY 31, 2015**

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**1. Status and nature of activities**

Saskatchewan Music Festival Association is incorporated under the Non-Profit Corporations Act of Saskatchewan. Under present legislation, no income taxes are payable on the reported income of such operations. The purpose of Saskatchewan Music Festival Association is to provide a classical, competitive music festival system of the highest standard at the local, provincial and national levels.

**2. Summary of significant accounting policies**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations and include the following significant accounting policies:

Inventory

Inventory is valued at the lower of cost and net realizable value.

Tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets are recorded at cost. Amortization is provided on a diminishing balance method over the assets' estimated useful lives as follows:

Equipment	10 %
Furniture and fixtures	10 %
Leaseholds	5 years

Full amortization is recorded in the year of purchase.

Revenue recognition

Grants from Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation are received out of the net proceeds of lottery ticket sales in Saskatchewan. These grants have been recorded as revenue by Saskatchewan Music Festival Association as approved by Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation. Accordingly, amounts received that relate to the next fiscal period are shown as deferred revenue.

Financial instruments

The Saskatchewan Music Festival Association initially measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value. It subsequently measures all its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost.

Financial assets subsequently measured at amortized cost include cash, investments and accounts receivable. Financial liabilities subsequently measured at amortized cost include accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

Management estimates

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amount of revenues and expenditures during the reporting period. By their nature, these estimates are subject to measurement uncertainty and the effect on the financial statements of changes in such estimates in future periods could be significant.

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**SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JULY 31, 2015**

**3. Cash**

	2015	2014
Anna Klassen scholarship	\$ 15,945	\$ 14,403
Betty Tydeman scholarship	2,314	2,514
Frances England scholarship	3,300	3,600
Ken Lee scholarship	7,500	7,500
Mossie Hancock scholarship	3,800	4,100
Ross Ulmer scholarship	6,500	7,000
Scholarship savings unallocated interest	126	90
Total scholarship savings account	39,485	39,207
Bank account - general	27,706	76,313
Bank account - travel lottery	-	572
Bank account - Saskatchewan Music Alliance	-	32
PayPal	377	578
Total cash	<u>\$ 67,568</u>	<u>\$ 116,702</u>

**4. Tangible capital assets**

	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	2015 Net Book Value	2014 Net Book Value
Equipment	\$ 6,916	1,595	\$ 5,321	\$ 5,053
Furniture and fixtures	7,779	2,080	5,699	6,333
Leasehold improvements	5,836	2,080	3,756	3,670
	<u>\$ 20,531</u>	<u>5,755</u>	<u>\$ 14,776</u>	<u>\$ 15,056</u>

**5. Assets held in trust**

	2015	2014
Great West Life portfolio	\$ 389,654	\$ 386,267
BCE Inc. (576 shares)	31,006	27,111
Bell Aliant Inc. (43 shares)	-	1,329
Total investment	<u>\$ 420,660</u>	<u>\$ 414,707</u>

Investments are recorded at fair value.

The Association administers these funds held in trust in accordance with the conditions established by the donors for the purpose of funding various programs and scholarships.

**6. Investments**

Investments consist of the following term deposits:

- \$10,037 - 2 year, annual interest rate of 1.36%, matures April 24, 2017
- \$20,083 - 3 year, annual interest rate of 1.55%, matures April 24, 2018

**7. Deferred revenue**

Funding received relating to specific projects has been deferred and will be recognized as revenue in the year the related project or event occurs.

	2015	2014
Affiliation fees	\$ 67,236	\$ 70,623
Concerto donation for 2015 event	-	5,000
	<u>\$ 67,236</u>	<u>\$ 75,623</u>

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Professional Corporation



**SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JULY 31, 2015**

**8. Funds held in trust**

Per the Association's by-laws in the event that a District Festival Association ceases operation or becomes inactive for a period of two consecutive years or more, all funds of that District Festival Association are to be transferred to the Provincial Association and be held in trust for a period of five years. If the District Festival Association is not reinstated within the five year period then the funds become the funds of the Provincial Association.

**9. 2013 SMA Summer Music Camp Program**

Saskatchewan Music Festival Association, Saskatchewan Band Association, Saskatchewan Music Educators Association, Saskatchewan Orchestral Association and the Saskatchewan Choral Federation entered into an agreement to administer a Summer camp music program. Saskatchewan Music Festival Association was the administrator of this program. See schedule 7 for a breakdown of revenue and expenses.

Saskatchewan Music Festival Association was not the administrator for the 2014 SMA Summer Music Camp.

**10. Lease commitment**

A lease agreement exists with Niesner Properties Inc. for the premises known as 4623 Albert Street in Regina, Saskatchewan. A 5 year term commenced December 1, 2012 requiring a base monthly rent of \$900 plus GST. This agreement expires November 2017. The Association is also responsible for their portion of property taxes and operating costs.

A lease agreements exists with Pitney Bowes for a postage machine. A five year term commenced April 2011 requiring monthly payments of \$78 plus taxes.

**11. Economic dependence**

The Saskatchewan Music Festival Association receives significant revenue in grants from Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation. As a result, the Association is dependent upon the continuance of these grants to maintain operations at their current level.

**12. Financial instruments**

Saskatchewan Music Festival Association is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments. The following analysis provides a measure of the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association's exposure and concentrations at July 31, 2015:

Credit risk

Credit risk arises from the potential that a party may default on their financial obligations, or if there is a concentration of financial obligations which have similar economic characteristics that could be similarly affected by changes in economic conditions, such that the organization could incur a financial loss. The Association is exposed to credit risk with respect to cash, investments and accounts receivable. The Association manages its credit risk by placing cash and investments with major financial institutions. Credit risk for accounts receivable is managed by the credit quality and diverse debtor base and creating an allowance for bad debts where applicable. There has been no change from credit risk exposure from 2014.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Association may not be able to meet a demand for cash or fund its obligations as they come due or not being able to liquidate assets in a timely manner at a reasonable price. The Association is exposed to liquidity risk with respect to its investments and accounts payable but manages its liquidity risk by holding assets that can be readily converted into cash. There has been no change from liquidity risk exposure from 2014.

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SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JULY 31, 2015

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**11. Financial instruments (continued)**

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is a type of market risk that refers to the risk that the fair value of financial instruments or future cash flows associated with the instruments will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. The Association is exposed to interest rate risk with respect to its cash and investments and its effect on interest income. Fluctuations in interest rates do not have a significant effect on cash and investments due to the fact that interest income is not a major percentage of total revenue. There has been no change from interest risk exposure from 2014.

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**SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION  
SCHEDULES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JULY 31, 2015  
(with comparative figures for 2014)**

	2015	2014
<b>Self-generated revenue</b>		<b>Schedule 1</b>
Affiliation fees	\$ 57,217	\$ 58,679
Concerto revenue	15,073	-
Corporate sponsorships	16,750	13,500
Festival unit stationary	946	1,336
Fundraising and donations	4,705	190
Interest	-	1,406
Interest income (loss) - restricted	14,074	13,667
Investment income - unrealized	6,238	59,782
Interest - future expenditures	1,958	35
Miscellaneous	289	120
Nationals	-	500
Opera competition	-	668
Program enhancement revenue	-	6,000
Provincial finals	16,125	15,317
Provincial scholarships	16,100	19,430
Sale of promotional items	451	832
Syllabus and directory	469	880
Travel lottery revenue	-	3,179
	<u>\$ 150,395</u>	<u>\$ 195,521</u>



**SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION  
SCHEDULES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JULY 31, 2015  
(with comparative figures for 2014)**

	2015	2014
<b>Administration expenditures</b>		<b>Schedule 2</b>
Archival work	\$ 861	\$ 2,415
Bookkeeping	1,235	1,273
Delivery	847	742
Equipment rental and supplies	1,678	1,901
Miscellaneous	146	598
Newsletter	464	262
Postage	2,340	2,248
Rent	18,225	18,147
Salaries and benefits	112,979	112,470
Telephone	2,803	2,929
Utilities and maintenance	1,671	2,221
	<u>\$ 143,249</u>	<u>\$ 145,206</u>
<b>Corporate expenditures</b>		<b>Schedule 3</b>
Audit	\$ 3,848	\$ 4,763
Bank charges	239	511
Insurance	1,908	1,225
Investment management fees - restricted	3,747	4,225
Membership	81	695
	<u>\$ 9,823</u>	<u>\$ 11,419</u>
<b>Program expenditures</b>		<b>Schedule 4</b>
Adjudicators training	\$ 471	\$ 178
Bad debts	-	255
Concerto competition	11,782	-
Festival unit financial assistance	136	791
Festival unit supplies	13,996	10,313
Opera competition	5,000	15,722
Program enhancement	4,800	10,156
Provincial finals expense	27,907	28,388
Provincial finals scholarship	23,230	24,750
Provincial office supplies	11,828	9,786
Speech arts	11,236	-
Syllabus/directory	2,480	1,831
	<u>\$ 112,866</u>	<u>\$ 102,170</u>
<b>Public relations expenditures</b>		<b>Schedule 5</b>
Advertising	\$ 1,315	\$ 1,269
Annual report	1,355	1,355
	<u>\$ 2,670</u>	<u>\$ 2,624</u>

MARCIA HERBACK  
Chartered Accountant  
Professional Corporation

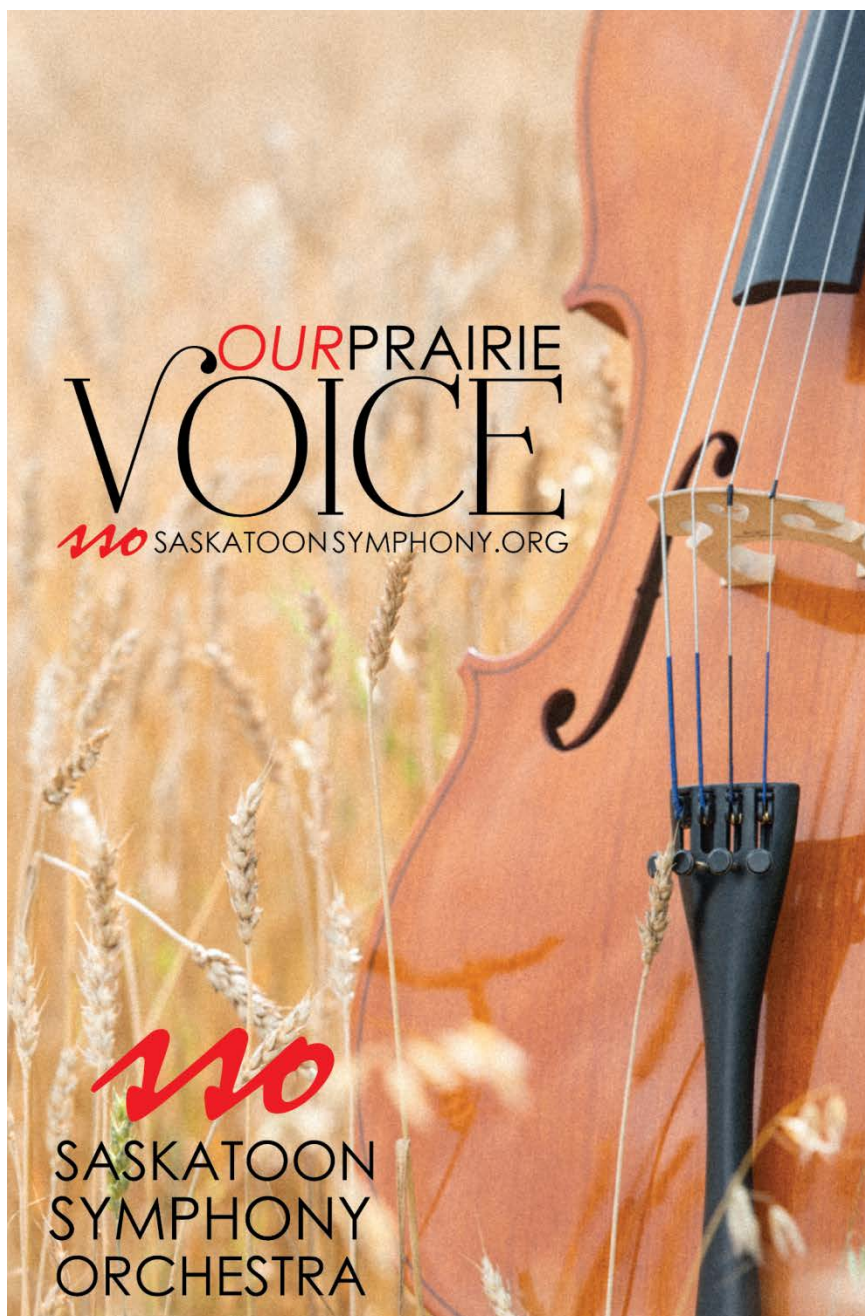


**SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION  
SCHEDULES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JULY 31, 2015  
(with comparative figures for 2014)**

	2015	2014
<b>Travel and meeting expenditures</b>		
SMFA conference charges	\$ 8,894	Schedule 6 \$ 10,395
SMFA directors travel	9,800	10,673
Festival visiting	772	2,031
Executive directors travel	4,684	3,050
Delegates to Federation conference	5,472	6,489
National competitors and accompanists	7,441	2,740
	<u>\$ 37,063</u>	<u>\$ 35,378</u>
<b>SMA Summer Music Camp</b>		
<b>Revenue</b>		
Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund	\$ -	Schedule 7 \$ 52,500
Corporate sponsorships	-	19,600
	<u>-</u>	<u>72,100</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Administration	-	3,000
Program expense	-	18,344
Promotion	-	201
Return of funds	-	387
Staff	-	43,947
	<u>-</u>	<u>65,879</u>
	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 6,221</u>



*Notes:*







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Saskatchewan Music Festival participants!



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