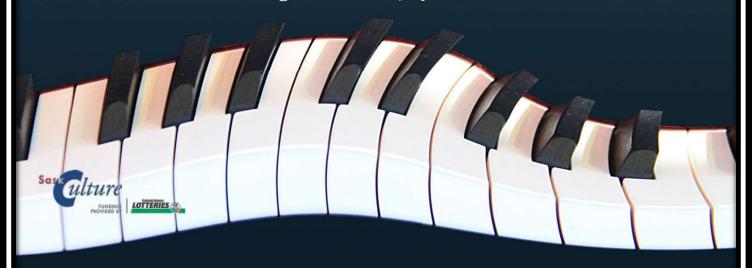


ANNUAL REPORT

2017

August 1, 2016 - July 31, 2017



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REPRESENTATIVES BY APPOINTMENT

Saskatchewan Band Association Saskatchewan Choral Federation Saskatchewan Music Educators Association Saskatchewan Orchestral Association Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers' Association

SMFA PROVINCIAL OFFICE

PO Box 37005 (4623 Albert Street), Regina, SK S4S 7K3
Phone: (306) 757-1722 Toll Free: 1-888-892-9929 Fax: (306) 347-7789
sask.music.festival@sasktel.net
www.smfa.ca

Executive Director
Carol Donhauser

Program Coordinator & Adjudicator Liaison Karen Klassen Administrative Assistant Nancy Toppings



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Board of Directors

President	Karen Unger
First Vice President	Sherry Sproule
Second Vice President	Wendy Thienes
Past President	Karen MacCallum
Director	Kelly Stein
Director	Tammy Villeneuve
Director	Kari Mitchell
Director	Bonnie Nicholson
Director	Michael Lyngstad



Vision

Enhancing lives through an appreciation for music.

Mission

Promoting excellence in music and speech through competitions, performance, and educational opportunities for the people of Saskatchewan.

Values

Life-long learning

Keeping people involved throughout their lifetime

Collaboration

- Working together
- Patrons, teachers, performers, educators, volunteers

Inclusiveness

Opportunities for all

Excellence

• High standards

Leadership with integrity

- Honesty
- Accountability
- Visionary





History of the SMFA



The Saskatchewan Music Festival Association (SMFA) is one of the province's oldest organizations and has profoundly influenced all music in Saskatchewan. We have an enviable system that exists in this country, thanks to Governor General Earl Grey. In addition to football, he had the arts on his mind. Following a concert which was part of the inauguration ceremonies of Alberta, he proposed that a Canada-wide festival should be established for drama and music. Later, he sent letters to the Lieutenant-Governors of each province and asked for their support. Alberta and Saskatchewan were the only two provinces to respond. Because competitive music festivals have enjoyed such a long history in Saskatchewan, we tend to think that knowledge of the benefits of this system is widespread. Certainly the descendants of the first festival supporters know why they invest thousands of hours preparing for their annual local festivals.

The mandate of the SMFA has continued for nearly 110 years, and for many children, music festival is their introduction to music and the performing arts. Music training exposes children to the incomparable. Music not

only provides enjoyment, but also a means of self-expression. Studying music is an interesting way to learn the value of practice discipline, and in the case of a band, orchestra or choir, the elements of collaboration. In the festival scenario, the competitive aspect allows students to set and attain goals, to learn stage deportment, to listen, to win or lose graciously and to become good audience members.

The SMFA has contributed greatly to the cultural life of our province by providing performance platforms in communities all across Saskatchewan. Performers in our 47 Member Saskatchewan Music Festivals also have access to a Provincial Syllabus, Provincial Finals and the National Music Festival. Serious musicians performing at an advanced level have additional opportunities to enter the Shurniak Concerto Competition or the Wallis Opera Competition, held in alternate years and in co-operation with the Regina and Saskatoon Symphony Orchestras.

SMFA is deeply grateful for continuing support from the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture & Recreation administered by SaskCulture Inc. Thanks to this generous financial support, and that of our many sponsors and volunteers, the music festival system continues to thrive at the District, Provincial, and National levels.



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 47 annual festivals across the province, therefore the impact that is created in all these 47 festivals and surrounding areas is significant.

These communities have embraced the festival concept because it provides:

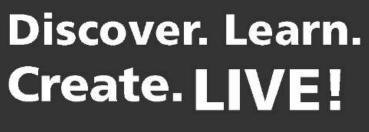
- an element of educational growth as well as entertainment that brings their community together
- the opportunity for communities to acknowledge and support the success and endeavours of their young people
- encouragement for students to set goals and showcase their abilities while receiving constructive 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 selfdiscipline 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 *enhancing lives through an appreciation for music*.

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.





To find out about cultural activities, benefits, cultural funding programs, professional development opportunities, resources and more, visit www.saskculture.sk.ca or call (306) 780-9284.

Cultural Activity

Built heritage Playwrigh Elocution Anti-racism Av Theatre Archaeology Multi Ethno-culture Filmmaking





CULTURE BUILDS COMMUNITY



President's Report

"Music is a higher revelation than all wisdom and philosophy. Music is the electrical soil in which the spirit lives, thinks, and invents" – Ludwig von Beethoven, 1770-1827

"Music is probably the only real magic I have encountered in my life. There's not some trick involved with it. It's pure and it's real. It moves, it heals, it communicates and does all these incredible things" – Tom Petty, 1950-2017.



The vision of the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association is "Enhancing lives through an appreciation for music". The above quotes by two well-known musicians, one classical and one contemporary, support the idea that music enriches life. I'm passionate about this idea and honored to be able to serve on a board that has this vision. The programs we run, the decisions we make, and the goals we set, are driven by our belief that what we do has meaning and that lives are enhanced because of it.

Our 2016 Annual Fall Conference and AGM was held in Swift Current, October 28 and 29. After several years of holding the conference in conjunction with the larger Saskatchewan Music Conference, this year marked a return to holding the conference on our own. Bonnie Nicholson and Michael Lyngstad were elected to the Board of Directors for three-year terms.

An Adjudicator Boot camp was held at University of Regina, facilitated by Cherith Alexander, on February 11th, 2017. The 29 attendees, who ranged from aspiring to highly experienced adjudicators, gained valuable insight and practical advice.

The 32nd SMFA Concerto Competition was held in Regina on February 25, with twelve competitors taking part. The winner was pianist Godwin Friesen. We are grateful for the generous support of our event sponsor Mr. William Shurniak, and to the Regina and Saskatoon Symphony Orchestras

for the performance opportunities, they provide to the winner.

Our 2017 Festival Season was another success. Forty-seven District Festivals were held across the province. The SMFA Provincial Finals were held in Saskatoon at the University of Saskatchewan in June. The judges heard over 260 performances by competitors from all across our province. The Grand Award winner was soprano Emma Johnson.

Saskatchewan Representatives to the 2017 National Music Festival in Ottawa represented Saskatchewan well with their fine performances and exemplary team spirit. Congratulations to our Saskatchewan award winners: Cole Knutson, 2nd place in woodwinds; Joanne Peng, 3rd place in strings; Campbell Collegiate Chamber Choir directed by Russ and Deidre Baird, 1st place in School Choir 19 years and under.

The Saskatchewan delegates to the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals AGM were Carol Donhauser, Sherry Sproule (also acting as Designate for the Saskatchewan team), Wendy Thienes, and myself. We are also privileged to have two of our SMFA Past Presidents serving on the National Board: Joy McFarlane-Burton as President and Karen MacCallum as our Saskatchewan representative.

It is always nice to have opportunities to connect with our District Festivals. Our board members try to make some personal contact through the year, often through emails but sometimes also



with a visit to the final program or special celebrations. In September, our Board had the opportunity to have a meet and greet session with members from the Prince Albert Kiwanis Music Festival.

Recent years have seen the cultural make-up of our province becoming ever more diverse. To help ensure that we are meeting the needs of our changing demographics, SMFA has recently completed a new Strategic Plan focused on diversity. We look forward to sharing this with our members and helping District Festivals adopt similar plans to ensure our relevance to people from all backgrounds and cultures.

It is a pleasure and honour to serve with the SMFA Board of Directors. This group of enthusiastic, devoted volunteers works hard for the organization regarding policies, procedures, and our many programs.

Carol Donhauser, our Executive Director, has been serving the SMFA for almost fifteen years. The value of her professionalism, expertise, and commitment to our organization cannot be overstated. Thank you, Carol, many times over! Thank you also to Nancy Toppings, Administrative Assistant, and Karen Klassen, Adjudicator Liaison and Program Coordinator,

for your diligent work in the office, at events, and with our district festivals. We are fortunate to have such dedicated and proficient staff!

The Saskatchewan Music Festival Association gratefully acknowledges funding received from SaskCulture Inc. and the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation. We appreciate all the donors and patrons of the District, Provincial, and National Music Festivals. Your continued support is integral to the continuation of our competitions and programs, and to encouraging our young musicians to attain the high standards of performance that they do.

Finally, my thanks to the many volunteers who serve the SMFA across all levels of competition. Your generosity and commitment are what keep us strong and vibrant. Thank you so much for sharing in our vision of enhancing lives through an appreciation for music!

Respectfully submitted, Karen Unger





Executive Director's Report

Diversity was the theme that was prevalent throughout this past year. Organizations that emphasize inclusion and diversity's importance are poised to succeed in the long-term. Demographics in Saskatchewan are changing. In order to keep our festivals thriving, we must keep them relevant by making diversity a priority.



We started out our festival year with a Strategic Planning session, focussing on diversity, with Flo Frank. SMFA can attribute our longevity to our diversity; diverse in genres and disciplines of music, age and race of participants, and locations of our volunteer-run festivals across the province.

SMFA's revenue stream is also diverse. While significant funding is received from the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation administered

by SaskCulture, we also receive revenues from a grant from artsVest Saskatchewan, donations from award donors, and sponsorships from SaskEnergy and SaskTel The ongoing support we receive from member affiliation dues, Mr.

William Shurniak, and the Wallis/Goodfellow Trust, round out our listing of diverse revenue streams.

Cultural diversity is important because our workplaces and schools increasingly consist of various cultural, racial, and ethnic groups as more newcomers move into Saskatchewan. We can learn from one another, but first we must have a level of understanding about each other in order to facilitate collaboration and cooperation. I would strongly encourage each of our member festivals to have a good hard look as to how diversity can be encouraged and embraced in your community and festivals.

Saskatchewan has always been a diverse province, and it is more important, than ever before, that SMFA use this diversity to ensure our programs stay relevant.

As we celebrate our longevity due to our diversity and our strong dedicated network of volunteers, I would like to thank my diversely talented office staff. Nancy Toppings, Administrative Assistant, for her terrific writing skills, tactful responses to emails and gentle prodding for festival reports. Karen Klassen, Adjudicator Liaison/Program Coordinator, whose technical ability and organizational skills push us forward into becoming more efficient and on track with our timelines.

The SMFA Board of Directors, also diverse with their personalities and skills, ensure the future of the SMFA through their leadership. I am so fortunate to work for a group of people that support me in every aspect as we move towards delivering the mission and mandate of the SMFA.

"Diversity is the one true thing we all have in common. Celebrate it every day."

Respectfully submitted by Carol Donhauser







2016 SMFA Fall Conference

Members of the SMFA gathered in Swift Current on October 28 & 29, 2016 for the Annual Conference and AGM. The theme of the conference was "Classical Connections". After several years of holding the conference in conjunction with the larger Saskatchewan Music Conference, a return to our more intimate conference setting made this an appropriate theme.



Best Program Award Regina Music Festival

Delegates were greeted by board and staff, with registration beginning on Friday evening at the Days Inn. The first session opened on Friday evening with Harvey Linnen, as he cultivated common ground throughout the group by having each delegate share their roles in their local festival and existing knowledge of governance. He clarified the job and purpose of our District Festival Boards committees and how governance works on both levels to improve each Festival's effectiveness, District efficiency

and sustainability. A President's
Reception followed with an ice-breaker
to further connect delegates. Michael
Eckert-Lyngstad provided entertainment
on his guitar and lute, while delegates and

board members mingled.

Saturday began with a continental breakfast and a time of networking. The second session had Sherry Sproule, 2nd Vice-President, report on Diversification. Two weeks earlier, the SMFA Board walked through the first steps of a Diversification Strategy sponsored SaskCulture, Inc. Sherry reported on the process, emphasizing this as an opportunity for SMFA to reach out to, and include, our newcomers and Aboriginal people in our programming. There exists a tremendous opportunity for growth in our programs, in so doing. Dean Kush, bringing greetings from SaskCulture, also spoke to the value and opportunities of diversity from the SaskCulture perspective.

Wendy Thienes, Director, educated the members on artsVest, a sponsorship training and matching incentive program which assists arts organizations in developing new and mutually beneficial partnerships with local businesses, and how it can also expand and improve our programming through financial assistance.

The SMFA Annual General Meeting followed. Nancy Toppings, President, chaired with 21 out of 47 festivals represented. Tammy Villeneuve, Director, lead in singing O Canada, accompanied by Kari Mitchell, Director. The 2015 - 2016 Annual Report was presented and Karen Unger, 1st Vice-President, presented the financial statements. Michael Lyngstad brought greetings on behalf of the Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers' Association. The Best Program Award for 2016 was presented to Regina Music Festival.

Michael Eckert-Lyngstad from Swift Current Music Festival and Bonnie Nicholson from Saskatoon Music Festival were elected by acclamation as new Directors serving 3-year terms.

Karen Unger took the floor to thank retiring board member Robin Swales for his service as Director. She expressed our appreciation to Sandra Kerr, who has resigned from her position as Administrative Assistant and Adjudicator Liaison, and thanked Sandra for her years of service to the Association. Karen explained the hiring process that subsequently took place and announced two changes in office staff: Karen Klassen has been hired as Adjudicator Liaison and Program Coordinator.



Nancy Toppings has been hired as Administrative Assistant and resigns from the SMFA Board effective immediately. Karen MacCallum has agreed to remain on the Board as Past President for the following two years. Karen thanked Nancy for her eight years of service on the Board.

The 2016-2017 Provincial Board was introduced as follows: President:

Karen Unger (Spalding) 1st Vice-President:

Sherry Sproule (Lafleche)

2nd Vice-President:

Wendy Thienes (Shaunavon)

Past President:

Karen MacCallum (Swift Current) Directors – Kelly Stein (Simpson), Tammy Villeneuve (Meadow Lake), Kari Mitchell (Oxbow), Bonnie Nicholson (Saskatoon), Michael Lyngstad (Swift Current)

Delegates and honored guests at the Volunteer Luncheon heard Dr. Craig Menzies deliver the keynote address on volunteerism. Dr. Menzies is an active volunteer in the City of Swift Current, with a strong family connection to the music festival movement. He spoke passionately about the benefits of volunteering, not only to the cause served, but also experienced by giving freely of one's time.

The following people were nominated by their District Festivals and recognized with SMFA Volunteer Awards: Robert Blair (Saskatoon); Linda Burch (Shaunavon); Allison Holser and Lesa Seipp (Estevan); Tami Wall (Swift Current).

Honorary Life Memberships were presented to Gloria Nickell, Rosetown & Joanne Messer, Tisdale, in recognition of their years of service at the District, Provincial and National levels of music festival. Wonderful entertainment for the Volunteer Luncheon was provided by the Swift

Current Jazz Orchestra, directed by Greg McLean.

Session #3 was presented by Greg and Marcia McLean, giving a festival perspective from an adjudicator's point of view. For the most part, they were both very appreciative of how they have been received and cared for by festivals in their history of a combined forty years of adjudicating. Practical suggestions were given and questions from festivals were answered.

The final session of the day saw delegates split into small groups for festival roundtables. Scenarios were enthusiastically discussed and shared. A Trade Fair and Silent Auction was held throughout the weekend.

Many thanks to Karen MacCallum and the Swift Current committee for organizing a wonderful conference weekend. The 2017 Conference and AGM will be held Oct 27-28, at Manitou Springs Resort, Manitou Beach.



Left to right: Nancy Toppings, Gloria Nickell (Honorary Life Member), Karen Unger, Joanne Messer (Honorary Life Member, Karen MacCallum









2016 AGM Minutes

Saskatchewan Music Festival Association, Annual General Meeting October 29, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 10:20 a.m. by President Nancy Toppings.

Tammy Villeneuve, accompanied by Kari Mitchell led the singing of O Canada. This was followed by a moment of silence in memory of volunteers and committee members who have passed away.

Nancy Toppings introduced the current Board members, Executive Director, Carol Donhauser and Adjudicator Liaison, Karen Klassen.

Nancy Toppings appointed Wendy Thienes as recording secretary.

Motion: to accept the agenda as circulated Karen MacCallum/Carmen Ledding CARRIED

The roll call was conducted by Karen MacCallum. Representatives from the following District Festivals were present: Assiniboia, Battlefords, Biggar, Borderland, Carnduff, Eston, Humboldt, Kindersley, Lafleche, Maple Creek, Meadow Lake, Regina, Rosetown, Sask Valley, Saskatoon, Shaunavon, Swift Current, Twin Rivers, Vanguard, Watrous.

Karen MacCallum noted that there are two 3year Board positions to be filled. Two nominations have been made: Bonnie Nicholson (Saskatoon) and Michael Lyngstad (Swift Current). Karen called for further nominations from the floor. None were forthcoming.

The minutes of the 2015 AGM as recorded in the Annual Report were presented.

Motion: that the minutes be approved as circulated

Carmen Ledding/Linda Swab CARRIED

Business Arising

Karen Unger presented the auditor's report as printed on p.67 of the Annual Report.

Motion: to accept the auditor's report Karen Unger/Kelly Stein CARRIED

Motion: to appoint Marcia Herback as Auditor for the 2016-2017 fiscal year Sandra Senga/Joanne Meszaros CARRIED

Total Assets for 2015 --- \$617,133 Total Liabilities --- \$120,259 Net Assets --- \$496,874

Karen MacCallum made the second call for nominations from the floor. None were received.

Nancy Toppings presented an overview of the 2016 Annual Reports. She also gave a brief report on Nationals stating that Saskatchewan had the largest team ever to go to National Festival.

Correction: SaskValley entries 216

Motion: to adopt annual report as corrected. David Sproule/Dianne Moss CARRIED

Motion: to ratify the motions of the board from the past fiscal year.

Carmen Ledding/Heather Macnab

CARRIED



New Business

The 2017 Shurniak Concerto Competition will be held on February 25 on the University of Regina Campus. Judges will be Elizabeth Raum, Gordon Gerrard, Darren Lowe.

The 2017 Provincial Finals will be held in Regina on June 2-4 in Saskatoon at the U of S Campus.

The 2017 FCMF Conference/AGM/National Music Festival will be in Ottawa from August 7-12.

Dean Kush brought greetings from SaskCulture, encouraging the promotion of purchasing lottery tickets to maintain a healthy Lotteries Trust Fund. Greetings from the SRMTA were brought to the assembly by Michael Lyngstad.

Carol Donhauser presented information on Member Funding. Nine festivals applied for \$10,000 of available funding for this year's funding deadline of October 15, 2016. Parameters for criteria will be revised and clarified for the next application deadline of October 15, 2017.

Greetings from Jerry Lonsbury, President of FCMF are included on page 2 of the Annual Report. Joy McFarlane Burton of Saskatoon is the current Vice-President of FCMF and Karen MacCallum of Swift Current is a Director.

Karen MacCallum made the third and last call for nominations from the floor. There were none.

Motion: to close nominations Tammy Villeneuve/Robin Swales CARRIED

Motion: to elect by acclamation Michael Lyngstad and Bonnie Nicholson Marg Andres/Sherry Sproule CARRIED Michael Lyngstad and Bonnie Nicholson were declared elected by acclamation. Following their election, Michael & Bonnie introduced themselves and outlined their involvement with their local festivals.

Nancy introduced the new Board. The President's gavel was passed from outgoing President Nancy Toppings to incoming President Karen Unger. First Vice President Sherry Sproule, Second Vice President Wendy Thienes, Kelly Stein, Kari Mitchell, Tammy Villeneuve, Bonnie Nicholson and Michael Lyngstad.

Karen Unger provided an office update; two new positions have been hired. Adjudicator Liaison/Program Coordinator is Karen Klassen and Administrative Assistant is Nancy Toppings. Nancy will be resigning from her board role effective today. Karen MacCallum will remain in the role of Past President for two more years.

Karen Unger extended our sincere gratitude to former Admin Assistant/Adjudicator Liaison Sandra Kerr for her years of service. Karen also extended appreciation to Carol Donhauser for her extraordinary, continued commitment to the organization.

Karen Unger thanked outgoing Board members: Robin Swales for his service over the past three years; Nancy Toppings for her service over the past eight years.

Carol Donhauser presented the Best Program Award (\$50) to the Regina Music Festival. The program fulfilled all the criteria which include having the SMFA logo on the front cover and including all the mandatory advertisements and logos.

Nancy Topping adjourned the meeting at 11:10 am.



Adjudicator Liaison Report

In 2017, 160 assignments were contracted to musicians from six different provinces to judge our District Festivals, the Shurniak Concerto Competition and Provincial Finals competitions.

Hiring for the 2017 season began in earnest when I began the position of Adjudicator Liaison in August 2016. What a challenge it seemed . . . a big puzzle to put together – but without a picture of the end result to base it on! However, the pieces soon started falling into place. It was great to get in contact with familiar colleagues as well as getting to know so many new ones from Saskatchewan and other provinces. There is so much talent and enthusiasm among these adjudicators!

Adjudicators appreciate being contacted early to enable them to fit our festivals into their busy schedules. So it is very helpful when festivals submit their 'Time-Frame form' in a timely fashion in order for this lengthy process to begin. Adjudicator hiring was complete by the end of the calendar year. Frequent communications follow, both with festivals and adjudicators, to receive and supply information – thank you for your cooperation in keeping the SMFA office 'in the loop'.

One of my tasks was to organize adjudicator training sessions with the plan of continuing these on a yearly basis. Cherith Alexander was approached regarding providing a workshop and this workshop turned into our first annual 'Adjudicator Bootcamp' held at the University of Regina in February. It attracted the notice of 54 adjudicators from around the province, 29 of whom attended - including experienced and inexperienced adjudicators. In addition to being the inspiring person that she is, Cherith provided comprehensive notes to the attendees and we continued their use in two training 'webinars' with small groups of adjudicators who were unable to attend Bootcamp, but were either adjudicating Saskatchewan. Several also took advantage of

the opportunity to do a 'shadow' assignment with an experienced adjudicator. A number of new adjudicators followed one or more of these training opportunities with their first adjudicating assignment during the spring – all did a wonderful job, with great first evaluations – and many expressed just how valuable the training was for them.

This fall we have been experiencing a high volume in applications from within our province and without. As a result, we've worked on improving our Adjudicator Application/Information Form with the hope that it will allow us to be more aware of what sorts of training may need to take place as well as learning the capabilities of each of these adjudicators. It is now online at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Adjudicator-Application.

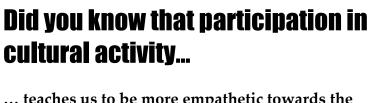
For those festivals who want a more active role in choosing their adjudicators, an Adjudicator Directory can be found online at http://smfa.ca/guides-order-forms/. This document is organized by province and includes a short biography of each adjudicator as well as their Saskatchewan assignments within the past five years.

I've enjoyed the opportunity to be in touch with colleagues around the province – both the adjudicators and the volunteers who run the District Festivals. Thank you for your dedication, commitment to and support of the youth in our province!

Respectfully submitted by Karen Klassen







- ... teaches us to be more empathetic towards the people of other cultures.
- ...enhances teamwork skills, self-discipline and perseverance.
- ...encourages pro-social behaviours.
- ...builds self-esteem and self-confidence.

Children who participate in organized activities outside of school, such as sports, music, the arts or clubs, tend to have higher self-esteem, interact better with friends and perform somewhat better in school.

Culturally-based programs in areas of art, drama music and dance provide a different, but equally important, means of building skills in creative thinking, decision-making and problem-solving. They foster social skills including co-operative work, negotiation, conflict resolution and tolerance for difference, as well as personal skills such as individual responsibility, perseverance, self-management and integrity.





Shurniak Concerto Competition

The Saskatchewan Music Festival Association (SMFA), Karen Unger, President is pleased to announce that the 32nd SMFA Concerto Competition was won by Saskatoon pianist Godwin Friesen, with his performance of Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3 in C minor, Op. 37. He was accompanied by Bonnie Nicholson. Godwin 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.

The white snow glistened in the morning rays. As normal as things appeared, it was anything but normal for the twelve musicians who would compete at the Shurniak Concerto Competition at Riddell Centre Theatre, University of Regina.

Rebecca Weger, violinist from Regina placed second and Sophie McBean, pianist from Saskatoon placed third. The competition was judged by Thomas Cosbey (Concertmaster of the Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra and winner of the 2000 Shurniak Concerto Competition), Thunder Bay; Elizabeth Raum (composer and oboist, formerly of Regina), Toronto; and Gordon Gerrard (Music Director of the Regina Symphony Orchestra), Regina.

Competitors, and their collaborative artists, in this event were:

Bradley Little, piano (Cherith Alexander)
Joanne Peng, violin (Natalia Chabukiani)
Charlee Wielgoz, cello (Cherith Alexander)
Rebecca Weger, violin (Cherith Alexander)
Christopher Kostyshyn, bassoon
(Cherith Alexander)

(Cherith Alexander)

Fraser Krips, percussion (Matthew Praksas) Thomas Hu, piano (Bonnie Nicholson) Dominic Ghiglione, trombone

(Ionnifor Crossford)

(Jennifer Crawford)

Eric Bews, piano (Kathleen Solose)

Sophie McBean, piano (Bonnie Nicholson)

Cole Knutson, alto saxophone, (Dianne Gryba)

Godwin Friesen, piano (Bonnie Nicholson)

Godwin Friesen began playing piano at age seven and quickly realized his love for performance and composing. He placed first in piano at the 2015 National Music Festival, received the National Senior Mary Gardiner Award the same year, and has been named top pianist in the Saskatchewan Music Festival Provincial Finals for the past two seasons.

In 2016, Godwin presented a Bach concerto with the Amati Quartet, a solo recital in the Lyell Gustin House, and Saint-Saëns' Carnival of the Animals with pianist Thomas Yu and the SSO in their Firebird concert. He has performed regularly with the Caspian Trio and the Friesen Family Band. Godwin is currently in his second year at the Glenn Gould School of Music, studying on full scholarship with John O'Conor.

Event Sponsor: Mr. William Shurniak Special Acknowledgement: Brent Ghiglione, U of R Music Department





47 District Music Festivals

In addition to 47 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	Redvers
The Battlefords	Lloydminster	Regina
Biggar	Mainline	Rosetown
Borderland	Maple Creek	Sand Hills
Carnduff	Meadow Lake	Sask Valley
Central Sask	Melfort	Saskatoon
Estevan	Moose Jaw	Shaunavon
Eston	Moosomin	Spiritwood
Gravelbourg	Nipawin	Swift Current
Hafford	Outlook	Twin Rivers
Humboldt	Parkland	Unity
Kindersley	Potashville	Vanguard
Kipling	Prairie Sunset	Watrous
La Ronge	Prince Albert	Weyburn
Lafleche	Qu'Appelle Valley	Yorkton
Lanigan	Quill Plains	



District Festival Reports



Assiniboia Music Festival April 23 - 24, 2017 NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Entries: 78

Adjudicators: Janis Smith (Piano), Marcia McLean (Voice)



Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival April 2 - 9, 2017

The 86th consecutive Battlefords Music Festival was held April 2 – 9, with the Gala concert of award winners on Wednesday, April 12.

The festival began with vocal and choir classes, which were adjudicated by Marcia McLean. Choral groups and some solo entries were heard in the sanctuary of the church on Sunday, April 2, and the rest of the classes were held in Logie Hall on Monday, April 3. There were 76 entries in solo vocal, and 6 choral entries, with 4 cancellations.

Musical theatre and speech arts participants performed on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 4 and 5 in Logie Hall. The adjudicator was Ian C. Nelson. There were 42 musical theatre entries, which included 2 groups, 5 duets and 1 trio. Mr. Nelson heard 21 speech arts entries, all solos.

Wayne Toews was the band/instrumental adjudicator. 21 bands entered the festival, some performing at the North Battleford Comprehensive High School, and others at the Kinsmen Band Hall. There were 27 solos and small ensembles. String players were also heard by Wayne Toews. There were 23 entries. The students performed in the sanctuary of Third Avenue United Church.

Piano participants were adjudicated by Lynn Ewing. She heard 131 entries, including 6 duets and 3 concerti.

Total number of entries was 347, which was about the same as the 2016 festival. Admission to all the sessions was by donation. Programs were sold for \$8, and water for \$1.

The gala concert on April 12 at the Dekker Centre was an excellent evening showcasing fine performances. A rehearsal was held for the students in the afternoon between 2:30 and 5:30, which was helpful to everyone. Tickets for the gala were \$10.

The following students were recommended to provincial level, and provincial/national level of competition:

- Jordyn Nachtegaele: Intermediate Musical Theatre Up-tempo & Intermediate Voice
- Nicole Klippenstein: Senior Voice Oratorio, Operatic, French Art Song, Vocal Concert Group Grade B & Canadian Vocal
- Kamala: Open Choral & Children/Youth Choral
- Katrina MacKinnon: Senior Piano Beethoven & 20th, 21st Century/Canadian
- Emily Jung: Intermediate Piano Haydn/Mozart,Recital & 20th, 21st Century/Canadian
- Micah Carter: Intermediate
 Woodwind
- Zaide Masich: Intermediate Viola, Cello, Double Bass
- Jeanny Jung: Intermediate Violin
- Cole Knutson: Provincial level of National competition in Woodwind Solo



Award donors provided over \$7000 in scholarships to the students.

Once again, the festival was a worthwhile and rewarding event.

Respectfully submitted, Dianne Gryba, President, BKMF Association



Biggar Music Festival March 6 - 11, 2017

Biggar & District Music Festival held another successful festival according to comments from students, parents, teachers and adjudicators. This was our 89th annual festival. Our festival included two days of piano, one day of instrumental and one day of vocal. A very enjoyable Performer's Evening was held on Saturday with presentation of awards. The rose bowls were presented to Ekaterina Ilyasov in piano, Emily Goring in instrumental and Cierra Rorick in vocal. Emily was also recommended to Provincials in woodwinds (clarinet). Thank you to all of our scholarship and award donors.

This year we had a total of 129 entries including 2 band entries, and 4 classroom entries in vocal. These were adjudicated by Lynette Sawatsky (piano), Janice Paterson (vocal) and Greg McLean (instrumental). One evening, Ms. Sawatsky worked with students in a composer workshop, and during the instrumental sessions, Mr. McLean conducted workshops with the bands. These were very well received by the students and their teachers.

Our Annual Meeting was very well attended and for the first time in several years, we have a full complement of executive and directors. A big thank you to everyone who allowed their names to stand for the various positions.

Two of our dedicated festival executive, Joanne Meszaros and Doreen Gaudet will be attending the Annual SMFA Conference and will be accepting their volunteer award. Thanks to both of you for your years of support for our Association.

2017 will close with the annual Carol Festival the first week of December. This is a fundraiser for our spring festival.







Borderland Music Festival (Coronach) April 9 - 12, 2017

The Borderland Music Festival was held in Coronach at the Coronach Alliance Church.

Melissa Wood from Caronport adjudicated the Vocal/Speech Arts, filling in at the last minute for another adjudicator who was sick. Composer and pianist, David L. McIntyre was the adjudicator for our piano students. We appreciate the time and encouraging remarks shared with our 131 entries.

We had an awesome response from our donors, who sponsored scholarships and awards for our participants. We are very thankful for their support.

Our festival ended with an evening of "Festival of Stars" with award recipients performing to a full house attendance.

We want to thank all our volunteers who help make our festival a success. Our committee this year was: Angela Gent (President), Brandy Schnell (Corresponding Secretary), Desiray Buckler (Entry Secretary), Roxanne Willford (Treasurer), Shelly Rousseau (Trophies & Scholarships), Gil Trithardt (Member at large).



Carnduff & District Music and Arts Festival

March 12 - 17, 2017

The Carnduff & District Music and Arts Festival was held March 12-17, 2017. We hosted at two venues - the Carnduff Legion and Oxbow Prairie Horizon School. We started this year with the Strawberry Tea on March 4. We had 28 performers at the Strawberry Tea and 328 entries for the Music & Arts Festival. Our theme this year was Magical Moments.

The Strawberry Tea is an opportunity for anyone (not just limited to entrants in festival) to have the opportunity to perform at the Legion Hall prior to festival and work out some of those pre-festival jitters.

The mandate of the Art Contest was to promote the arts area of the Festival. The artwork had to reflect the theme, incorporate art elements of rhythm, balance, contrast and movement, and be original and creative. We had 206 entries in the contest, with 17 award recipients from K-12. Awards for this were valued at \$350.00.

We had four adjudicators this year, Janet Gieck for Piano, Aaron Wilson for Band/Instrumental, Marla Winters for Strings/Guitar and Melissa Morgan for Musical Theatre/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 50 scholarships/awards to our participants, with the monetary value being \$2290. 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 20, 2017. We had 27 of the recipients perform at the concert and presented the remaining 23 awards.

A big thank you to the hardworking committee who ensure that the festival runs smoothly and continues to operate in our community. Our 2017 festival was a great success!







Central Sask Music Festival (Davidson) March 27 - 28, 2017

Our 2017 Music Festival proved to be another viable undertaking due in part to the participation of the Davidson school in preparing students for our Speech Arts Classes which were well performed and entertaining. Piano classes have remained stable with a lesser number of entries in voice, guitar and strings. We feel we can host a festival if we have enough entries for a two-day event. Our 137 entries met this requirement. We were also pleased that school group participation increased by a modest number. This provides a means for many children to participate in the festival who would not otherwise do so.

We are always so fortunate to have input and encouragement from very capable adjudicators. This year Adrianne Bank and Alicia Woynarski provided valuable feedback to our students while at the same time emphasizing the value and fun of festival participation. It is always good to hear laughter when performance stress is sometimes an over-riding factor. Many thanks to our adjudicators for creating that environment.

For the first time in many years, we will have a student perform at the provincial festival competition. Geena Heinrich will be entered in the Musical Theatre, 17 years and under class. Our wish for her is to have a great experience and enjoy hearing other performers at her level of competition. In our small festival she is the lone participant in this class.

Because of our healthy financial position, we are able to offer bursaries to four students from our festival who wish to pursue further training in summer music camps. We are very excited about their opportunities and feel very privileged to be able to offer financial support.

Our festival has suffered the loss of three music teachers in recent years so we feel very fortunate that others have stepped in and we can continue to offer the festival experience to our students. It creates optimism for the future.

Nancy Wilkins, President, CSMF



Estevan & District Music Festival March 19 - 31, 2017

Speech/Vocal: March 29—April 1

We welcomed back Sarah Hall from Brandon, adjudicator for both speech and vocal. She was very pleased to see strong speech and vocal entries from our community.

Band: March 27-28

Andrew Wahl, Winnipeg, adjudicated for 2 days in the woodwind and strings disciplines. Aaron Wilson, Brandon, adjudicated for 2 days in brass, percussion and band disciplines. This is the seventh year that we have moved the adjudicator to the different elementary schools to hear 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. Students and teachers were very pleased with both adjudicators. They had different styles but were both very effective in encouraging the students. We would welcome them back anytime.

Piano: March 19-25

We welcomed back Lore Ruschiensky, Regina, for 7 days of adjudicating both junior and senior piano. It was a very full schedule and her expertise kept everyone on schedule.



We accepted almost 90% online entries, which lessens the work of our volunteers. Total entries were about the same this year (678) compared to 2016. Scholarships were a bit down from last year however, Friends of the Festival was slightly up.

This year, we took the plunge and did NOT print a program. It was available online through the smfa.ca website. There were fewer than five comments about no printed program. Everyone was able to view the program online in mid-February, approximately 3 weeks earlier than if we had a printed program. Programs were printed for the adjudicators, secretaries and SMFA. However, these were done on a printer and not taken to a professional printer. Single day copies of the programs were available for \$1 at piano and vocal/speech venues. It was easier to sell these than a program book for \$10.

There were four students recommended to provincials: Abbie Brokenshire and Levi Stepp in Musical Theatre, Hunter Ruel in Woodwinds, and Max Hiske in Percussion. Max placed first in his Provincial Class.

Max Hiske was the recipient of the Murray GM multiple disciplines award.

SMFA Volunteer Nominees for 2016 were Lesa Seipp and Allison Holzer. A dinner was held in their honor in November 2016.

Three awards/highlight shows were presented, each 50 - 75 minutes long. THIS WAS PERFECT. Many performances took place, and students were with their peers in their own discipline. Certificate and cheque management was simplified.



Eston Music Festival

April 10 - 12, 2017

The Eston Music Festival was held April 10-12, 2017. Due to the condition of the festival piano, we had a change in venue. We are now able to play and listen to a 10-year-old grand piano! We do miss the McLean Chapel; it has been the festival home for many years, but the opportunity to use the newer grand won us over. The festival committee extends a huge than you to the Eston College for always accommodating us.

We held the vocal and piano sessions at Sacred Heart Catholic Church and thank them for allowing the festival to be held in their sanctuary. Speech arts were held at Eston Composite School and this worked very well. New this year were Grades 1 through 6 all saying two poems. With funding from the SMFA, we held a speech arts workshop, led by Heather Macnab. On March 16th, she came to Eston Composite School and spent time working with each grade, 1 to 6. The teacher and student feedback was very positive, with everyone gaining valuable information. The only drawback with holding speech arts at school was that we lost a lot of our audience!

Our Final Concert was held again at the Full Gospel Church. It holds a large crowd and has an excellent sound system so we can hear every word spoken and note sung.

A downside to this year's festival was our entry total; we were down quite a few entries at 139. We knew this was going to be the case, as we had a very musical family not able to come to our festival and two competitors who graduated.

Our adjudicator was Anna Bekolay from Saskatoon, for all three days and all disciplines. We thoroughly enjoyed her! She was very knowledgeable and had a great rapport with the



participants. Congratulations to Samantha Andrew, who was recommended to provincials in voice.

Our Carol Festival was held December 14, 2016. We had a beautiful program with two choirs, vocal, piano and hand bells. Thanks to all who participated or came to listen!

We raffled a quilt for Mother's Day, to help us financially. Thank you to Rae Baumgartner who made and donated a beautiful quilt!

The festival committee would like to extend a huge thank you to our loyal volunteers and scholarship donors. There would not be a music festival without you!



Gravelbourg & District Bilingual Music Festival

March 20 - 25, 2017

Great year and an early festival that I feel ran smoothly – except for the printing of certificates. Total entries: 221. Great final show (March 25) and my jokes were very appreciated!

Adjudicators were Allison Luff (Piano) and Dominic Gregorio (Voice & Speech Arts).

Why a music festival? It gives kids goals to shoot for. Why take lessons if the only audience is a parent? You get lessons in sports and end the season with playoffs and finals. The same applies for music.

Special thanks to committee members: Genelle, Heather, Michelle, Elyett, Lorna, Eunice, and Leanne who carries a huge responsibility as Scholarship Convener and Entry Secretary.

Welcome to new members. Hopefully, parents of younger children will join the committee. Recruitment is always important; maybe a personal letter to prospective parents might be a great recruitment tool.

We have one of the best halls for a music festival. Imagine festival without the Church of Christ building! We are blessed by their generosity and support.

Paul Boisvert, President



Hafford & District Music Festival March 20 - 22, 2017

This year our festival was held in the Hafford Central School. We had 2 full days of piano with 115 entries, which was the same as last year. We have many young players, and they benefitted greatly from the knowledge of adjudicator Lynette Sawatsky. The last day was filled with songs, poems and one class choir. Our adjudicator, Anna Bekolay, gave our performers a lot of encouragement. We had 38 entries on that day, fewer than last year.

Our final program on March 24 was a tribute to all the hard work the students put into their music. They were recognized for their efforts with trophies and scholarships donated by the community. The night was well attended and enjoyed by all.

Earlier in the year we held a Speech Arts workshop at the Hafford School with Heather Macnab, clinician. She was inspirational and sparked the interest of many of the children. I am sure that is why we had more entries in Speech Arts.

Our festival and workshops could not happen without the work of our volunteers. Our numbers have dwindled over the years, but we



are hopeful that the next year will bring us new members as the number of young and new students increase. We would also like to acknowledge and thank all the community members and organizations who have donated scholarships, trophies and monetary support in the form of sponsorships. This helps so much with encouraging our students to keep playing and improving their skills. When the love of music begins in youth, it continues forever.



Humboldt Music Festival April 24 - May 8, 2017

This year the Humboldt and District Music festival celebrated its 80th Anniversary. The festival ran from April 24th and concluded on May 8th with our final concert. We held this year's festival at several venues. The Band, Strings, and Guitar portion was held at St. Augustine School in Humboldt. Our Piano, Vocal, Speech Arts, and Musical Theatre section was held in Jerome Assembly at St. Peter's Abbey in Muenster. This year, our final concert was held in the Westminster United Church in Humboldt.

We received excellent adjudication from Kathleen Lohrenz-Gable for our piano portion, Janie Fries for our Band/Strings/Guitar section, and Joy McFarlane-Burton concluded our festival with Vocal, Choir and Musical Theatre. We had 398 entries among 283 participants. We had 38 committed volunteers at the door, and as adjudicator secretary. We have an enthusiastic board led by our president Patti Durand. This year we generously gave out

48 scholarships totalling \$4050 to the talented musicians in our community.

One of the many highlights of our final concert was the attendance of Alice Ramsay. She was 11 years old at the first Humboldt and District Music festival 80 years ago.

We would especially like to thank our Beethoven Sponsors (donations over \$500) – The Good Neighbour Store, Conexus Credit Union, The Royal Bank, and Golden West Radio 107.5 Bolt FM in addition to our many other faithful sponsors through the region. A job well done by all involved!

Kristin Farquharson & Karen Kolkman, HMFA Coordinators



Kindersley & District Music Festival March 13 - 23, 2017

We kicked off our year on December 4th with our annual Carol Festival, again a great evening of Christmas music, a great kick off to the Christmas season and a major fundraiser for our Festival.

Our Festival was held March 13-17 for Vocal, Musical Theater, Speech Arts & Piano, and March 20-23 for Percussion, Bands, Strings & Instrumental. Total entries were 338. Adjudicators were Lisa Hornung (Vocal, Musical Theatre & Speech Arts); Peggy L'Hoir (Piano); Jim McCarthy (Percussion); Gene Aulinger (Bands, Strings & Instrumental.) All our adjudicators all had great comments for our students. I'm sure a lot of our piano students will always remember the difference in dynamic levels after being literally under the grand piano while Peggy played! We ended our Festival with a great Stars of the Festival Concert & cupcakes.

We were very pleased to have 7 students in 11 classes recommended to Provincials!



Big thank you to all our program ad sponsors, scholarship sponsors, and Friends of the Festival sponsors! The great program we have here would not be possible without the help of all these donors.

It has been said it takes a village to raise a child, and it also takes a village to put on a Music Festival! A big thank you to our 2016/2017 committee, and to all the volunteers who helped with the sessions during the week. Thanks to teachers and accompanists for all their hard work. Thanks to our venues: St. Paul's United Church, Norman Ritchie Community Center (Town of Kindersley) & Eatonia United Church.



Kipling & District Music Festival March 27 - April 1, 2017

Kipling & District Music Festival was held from March 27 to April 1. We were pleased to see a 25% increase in entries this year, in almost all disciplines but notably in speech arts and classroom choral speech.

Our adjudicators were Laureen Kells (Piano and Violin/Fiddling), Ron de Jager (Voice, Musical Theatre and Speech Arts), and Andrew Wahl (Band). A total of 206 entries covered four days. Revenue was \$6590.80, expenses \$6924.16, with a net loss of \$333.36. Business sponsors were down this year, and we will expand our search for business sponsorship in more surrounding communities, as we are drawing from many more communities than in recent years.

Tobin Fox was our district winner, in Senior Speech Arts and Senior Brass.

Nobody from our board was able to attend the SMFA Fall Conference in Swift Current.

We are very thankful for the local sponsorship, especially in a tighter economy. Over 50

businesses sponsored our festival this year. 62 of the 64 awards were given out, and scholarship funding was \$1655.00 for 2017. Our evening awards concert was held on April 1.



La Ronge & District Music Festival April 3 - 7, 2017

The 29th Annual La Ronge and Area Music Festival was held from April 3 - 7, 2017. The 209 entries included a real variety of categories: classical piano, arranged piano, orchestral piano, guitar, group instrumental, choral singing, vocal solo, vocal duet, musical theatre, and speech arts.

With such a diversity of performances, adjudicator Gaye-Lynn Kern had to draw on her varied background to provide meaningful feedback to the participants and their teachers. There were 17 teachers with students in the festival this year. While some have a significant number of students, others have only one or two. Seven of those teachers are students, themselves.

The Outstanding Performances Concert featured 29 performances. There were 41 scholarships presented, including an SMFA Saskatchewan Composer's Scholarship. The total value of the scholarships was \$3000. This was made possible through the generous financial and in-kind support of organizations, local businesses, and individuals. As well, the festival was the beneficiary of donations in memory of two strong music supporters, Carol Boyes and Trudy Duncan.

This year, the Festival Committee lost two of its long-time teachers to retirement, however the strength of the committee is that, in addition to teachers, it includes dedicated parents and members of the community. Many others volunteer as name announcers during festival week, itself. We look forward to next year!





Lafleche & District Music Festival April 2 - 8, 2017

Our 51st annual Lafleche and District Music Festival was held April 2nd to the 7th with the Final Concert on Saturday, April 8th in the evening. The week began with Adria McCulloch adjudicating 132 entries which included 2 choirs, 48 musical theatre performances and 21 speech arts entries. This was Adria's very first experience at adjudicating and she 'knocked it out of the park'. Adria's humorous and engaging style kept everyone relaxed and entertained as she effectively taught our young performers, and teachers as well, using hands-on master class style methods.

We are pleased to note the year-over-year increases in speech arts entries since LDMF and the four schools in our district hosted Heather Macnab and her speech arts workshop in November of 2013. Lafleche Central School has led the way, with other schools now following, with an enthusiastic speech arts focus leading up to our festival week. It was very rewarding to have one of our experienced speech arts performers, Kayla Huyghebaert, recommended to compete in the Provincial Music Festival. Two of our singers, Kassidy Silbernagel and Sienna Auger, performed at Provincials and reported a rewarding and enjoyable experience.

Midway through the week our piano performers took to the stage with Audrey Falk Jansen adjudicating 130 entries. Audrey's experience at adjudicating proved invaluable as she expertly taught and demonstrated, giving our young performers tools to improve with. Audrey graciously acted as one of our judges in the PRC.

The Pillay Ramlakhan Competition was intended to be a special evening to highlight our 50th Anniversary last year. The competition was very successful and thanks to Dr. Pillay and Dr. Ramlakhan we were able to run the PRC again this year, with additional help from the TD

Bank. On Friday evening, April 7th, eight solo performers selected by the adjudicators competed head to head for \$500.00 in prize money. The entertaining evening began with opening remarks from our MLA, the Hon. Dave Marit, who congratulated our volunteer committee for their good and valuable work throughout the district. Judges for the PRC were Audrey Falk Jansen and Brett Mitchell.

Thanks go out to all of the program sponsors, scholarship funders, competition sponsors and volunteers. Each year seems to bring new challenges. Special thanks to our Board of Directors for their diligent and impartial efforts to ensure that Lafleche and District Music Festival continues to provide our youth with an opportunity to participate with others in seeking a high level in arts and music. We continue to have 13 directors hailing from all over the district: Wood Mountain, Fir Mountain, Glentworth, McCord, Ferland, Mankota, Hazenmore, Kincaid, Meyronne, Woodrow, Lafleche and Melaval.

Respectfully submitted, David Sproule, President







Lanigan Music Festival April 24 - May 5, 2017

The 41st Annual Lanigan and District Music Festival was held on April 24th and 25th (Vocal, Musical Theatre, Choral and Speech Arts) and May 1st to 3rd (Piano). The adjudicators this year were Louella Friesen (Vocal) and Laurel Teichroeb (Piano). There were 80 entrants in the festival, all under the age of 19. Total entries were 255, including 5 speech arts, 5 choral, 50 vocal, 36 musical theatre, and 159 piano.

Some highlights of the festival included duets in every discipline, a piano trio by three little girls dressed in matching clothes, a total of approximately 400 audience members over the course of the festival and final program, delicious snacks and treats served during coffee breaks, and, of course, the excellent adjudication and teaching provided by Louella and Laurel that included group singing, marching, dancing, and piano improv!

Congratulations to Jocelyn Kohl who was recommended to provincials this year!

The final concert was held on May 5th. A large audience was in attendance to hear an outstanding selection of performers, and 62 awards totaling \$3085 were presented.

The Lanigan and District Music Festival gratefully acknowledges all our generous supporters, including a long list of scholarship and trophy contributors, and the following sponsors: Cheerful Mission Circle, Village of Drake, Drake Meat Processors (Bronze sponsors); Pound-Maker Agventures, St. Mary's Catholic Women's League, Lanigan Agencies (Silver sponsors); Eva Elke / Al Shumaker, Humboldt Co-op, Lanigan Advisor,

PotashCorp Lanigan Division (Platinum sponsors).

We are also very thankful for the 30 volunteers who helped make our 2017 festival a success.

Lanigan and District's executive officers are Nata Kline (President), Angel Liebrecht (Entry Secretary), Laura Melin (Corresponding Secretary), and Heidi Craig (Treasurer). Committee members are Cindy Riemer (Patrons and Donors), Sherri Pederson (Awards), Nata Kline and Angel Liebrecht (Program), and Linda Liebrecht (Refreshments).

Respectfully submitted by Laura Melin



Last Mountain District Music Festival (Southey) April 3 - 5, 2017

This year the community of Southey completed their two-year cycle of hosting the Last Mountain District Music Festival. From April 3-5, 2017 we enjoyed listening to the talented youth from the communities of Southey, Strasbourg, Earl Grey and Raymore. The festival concluded with a concert on April 10th showcasing the talents of many of our award and scholarship recipients.

We had the pleasure of working with two fine adjudicators; Valerie Hall for voice, musical theater and choir while Allison Luff adjudicated piano, guitar, brass and band. We appreciated the gifts and talents of both these musicians as they instructed and guided our students. Both adjudicators were easy to work with, accommodated our needs and provided constructive feedback and encouragement.

We were pleased that one of our pianists, Courtney Decker was recommended to



Provincials this year. She is a dedicated, talented musician and a regular participant in our festivals. We are very grateful to all the teachers in our district who share their time and talent as well as encourage our youth.

Although our festival is becoming smaller we were happy to see 9 new entrants this year among our total of 136 entries. Our categories included vocal, musical theatre, piano, guitar, and brass as well as three school groups. We awarded 79 scholarships totally \$1,630.

As with every successful community event we relied heavily on our local volunteers giving us a total of 340 volunteer hours throughout the year. We truly appreciate this dedication and commitment to our youth and our festival. Our community support also was evident in the 472 people who attended the festival throughout the week and the large audience who enjoyed our final concert on the Sunday evening at Emmanuel Lutheran Church.

We look forward to next year's festival hosted by the community of Raymore.

Respectfully submitted, Danna Armstrong



Lloydminster Kiwanis Music Festival April 24 - May 5, 2017

2017 was a successful year for the Kiwanis Lloydminster & District Music Festival. We have settled very comfortably into our second year in our new main venue of Grace United Church. We would like to thank them for their wonderful hospitality and cooperation.

Our entries this year saw a slight increase at 780. It's always a challenge to keep numbers strong with so many other activities for children to choose from. For next year I am hoping to pay a visit to the schools in Lloydminster and

encourage more choir directors to think about entering. We had one choir of 175 voices from an elementary school perform. A bit of a logistics challenge, but great to see.

A special thank you to all our local music teachers who value what Music Festval provides their students and encourages their students to take part.

This year we tried something new for organizing our volunteers. We set up "Signup" online. Although it takes quite a bit of time to initially get things set up, the way it works is amazing, and at a glance you can keep track of how the spots are filling up and it is always current. Once it is set up, updating for next year will be much simpler. We were fortunate to be able to fill all our spots and the feedback we got from our volunteers was very positive. I would highly recommend other festivals look into using this.

We, along with most volunteer organizations are always looking for new people with fresh ideas to join our committee. Interested people are always welcome.

Submitted by Kerry Taylor



Mainline Music Festival (Indian Head) March 19 - 23, 2017

This year, the Mainline Music Festival was held in the town of Indian Head. We had entries in the disciplines of Speech Arts, Vocal, Musical Theatre, Band and Band Solos, Strings and Piano. Our adjudicators were Helen Pridmore, David Dick and Corinne Groff from Regina, and they provided positive, insightful feedback to all participants. The town of Indian Head provides the use of the Memorial Hall facility at no cost. The Festival Finale occurred on Wednesday, March 29th at 6pm. Scholarship winners were asked to participate and receive



their awards at the Festival Finale. Two participants were recommended to and participated at the Provincial Music Festival. Entry numbers were similar in all disciplines (162 in total) except band which had a major decline.

The Grenfell Mainline Music Festival informed us on April 27th 2017 that they would no longer be able to run the Mainline Music Festival. We were contacted in May by a few people in Wolseley to see if they could organize the Mainline Music Festival in Wolseley for 2018. At our AGM we discussed the location of Mainline Festival in 2018 and 2019 and a possible link with Wolseley. After some discussion Wolseley committed to running the 2018 Festival under the umbrella of the Mainline Music Festival. The follow motion was made and approved: To provide resources but not financial help with conducting the Mainline Festival in Wolseley in 2018. The President, Treasurer and Entry Secretary will be from Indian Head Festival Committee for the 2018 festival.



Maple Creek & District Music Festival

April 3 - 6, 2017 NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Entries: 117

Adjudicators: Adrianne Bank (Piano & Strings), Stewart Wilkinson (Voice, Musical Theatre & Speech Arts), Bill Wahl (Band & Instrumental)



Meadow Lake & District Music Festival

April 3 - 11, 2017

This year our festival was held in a split weekand-a-half, rather than one week, which was successful. We will likely continue this type of scheduling in the future.

We had the pleasure of two adjudicators: Sharon Gerspacher for both Piano and Vocal entries and Darren Oehlerking for the Band and Instrumental entries. Out total number of entries was 218, an increase of 16 from last year. This year the largest increase was in instrumental classes.

Our financial results will have a profit of \$1000.00 as both the entry fees and local donations had increased.

Two committee members attended the SMFA Fall Conference: Sandra Senga, along with Tammy Villeneuve who also serves on the SMFA Board of Directors.

Our festival organization does not hold any fundraising events. We are grateful for donations from the community and surrounding area and recognize the donors in our Festival Program under categories. This year saw the highest total in donations received. The Competition Awards Night was previously held on a Friday evening, but this year we changed to Wednesday and it was a full house with ice cream treats served afterward, so the date change did not make a difference.

As this was the 39th Meadow Lake and District Music Festival we are looking forward to next year's celebration with a large formal event to highlight our history of showcasing the music talent in our area.





Melfort Music Festival March 5 - 14, 2017

The 89th annual Melfort Music Festival ran from March 5 – 14. Our Festival Highlights Program saw 33 performers involved in solos to quintets take part on stage at the Kerry Vickar Centre on March 17, 2017. SMFA President, Karen Unger, welcomed the audience before the program began. Dainties and refreshments were served after the awards presentation. Thanks to the generosity of businesses, donors, sponsors and local supporters, we were able to hand out awards and scholarships totalling over \$4300.

This year we had a total of 373 entries with participants in 6 disciplines. Our festival decreased by 70 entries from last year, partly due to a large number of senior students in piano and voice who graduated in 2016.

Our adjudicators were Caroline Konecsni-Christie (Piano), Wayne Toews (Strings), Glen Gillis (Band), and Casey Peden (Voice, Musical Theatre and Speech Arts).

The overall winners for 2017 were:

Band – Ashton Bourgeois Piano – Graydon Eskowich Strings – Angela Hoffman Vocal – Kadence Ilnisky

This year's winner of our Sefton Memorial Competition was pianist Graydon Eskowich.

Congratulations to Shawn McAdam, who was invited by adjudicator Wayne Toews to attend the Thomastik-Infeld Canadian String Orchestra in Niagara, Ontario. Shawn attended in May and said "It was absolutely amazing to be surrounded by so much music and play in a full string orchestra for the first time in my life...the experience inspired some intense practice this summer..."In June, we sent 4 competitors to Provincials: Ashton Bourgeois

(Percussion); Graydon Eskowich (Piano); Tiana Hawreschuk (Piano); and Jason Xie (Piano).

Our committee members included Barb Deck, Lacey Freedman, Dawne Glanville, Maren Hantke, Pam Kellington, Rebecca Miller, Victoria Riley, Deanna Sorsdahl, John Tatarynovich, and Tena Wiemken.



Moose Jaw Music Festival March 27 - 28 & April 1 - 9, 2017

The 2017 Moose Jaw Music Festival was held April 1-9, with choral on March 27 & 28. Adjudicators at this year's festival were Joy McFarlane-Burton – vocal and musical theatre; Dominic Gregorio – choral; Mark Turner – piano; Maria Guidos-Albert – strings; and Dawn McLean Belyk – band. There were a total of 425 entries across the disciplines.

New this year: we moved to online volunteer registration using signup.com. A total of 37 volunteers put in over 250 hours of volunteer time to help our festival run smoothly. Also new this year was a concert on May 13 to fundraise for the festival and to give the district winners an opportunity to polish up their performances in advance of the Provincial Music Festival in June.

The Moose Jaw Music Festival Committee extends its appreciation to the generous sponsors, donors and volunteers who help to make our festival a success each year, and to all participating teachers, students and parents for supporting music and the arts in Moose Jaw and surrounding communities.





Moosomin & District Music Festival March 13 - 23, 2017

The Moosomin & District Music Festival had a very successful year. The Piano and String section of the festival was held at the Baptist Church with 10 sessions and Sharon Gerspacher of Watson as Adjudicator. Vocal, Musical Theatre and Speech Arts were held at Bethel United Church with 10 sessions and Jeri Ryba of Moose Jaw as adjudicator. 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.

Overall festival entries were down slightly this year. Piano and Strings totalled 213, Vocal entries - 53, Musical Theatre - 64 and Speech Arts 51 for a total of 381. Attendance at festival sessions was average over all. Participants were from the Rocanville, Moosomin, Welwyn, and Wawota area. Bethel United Church was the location for the Adjudicators Choice Showcase on March 26. The showcase featured performers that were chosen by the adjudicators for their audience appeal. A total of 55 awards were given out totalling \$2225 (not including two camp awards). Participation awards were handed out to one student for 10 consecutive years entering the festival and to eight students for 5 consecutive years of involvement. This year we were very proud to send Olivia Kelly to Provincials in Speech Arts and Musical Theatre Up-tempo and Musical Theatre Ballad.

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

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 2018 music festival.

Respectfully submitted, Alice Abrahamson, Secretary



Nipawin Music Festival March 20 - 28, 2017

This year Nipawin hosted its 76th Music Festival, running from March 20th to 28th. Our participants came from Nipawin, as well as the surrounding communities of Carrot River and Tisdale. We had a drop in participation from last year - 67 students took part, compared to 92 students in 2016; 295 total entries. We had 9 school groups participate from Wagner Elementary and Central Park Elementary, along with 3 preschool groups. Our piano and strings entries were consistent with last year's numbers. However, vocal and band and guitar all saw a major decrease in participation. The result was an overall decline from the previous year. The challenge seems to be encouraging students to continue pursuing their music studies once they reach their senior years in school.

We started off our festival with two days (March 20 – 21) of strings selections, adjudicated by Rudy Sternadel. Joy McFarlane-Burton adjudicated the singing and speech arts for three days, March 21st to 23rd. Once again, we enjoyed two evenings of musical theatre. We had Daryl McKinnon for the guitar, woodwinds and brass selections on Thursday, March 23rd. We finished up the festival with two days of piano (March 24 - 25), adjudicated by Shirley England. 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 2017 season with our final concert on Tuesday, March 28th, where we heard highlights from the week. Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, fifty seven awards were handed out - \$4245 in scholarships and trophies. Once again, we could not have had 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 are committed to promoting excellence in music for the upcoming 2018 season.



Outlook & District Music Festival March 27 - 30, 2017

Three busy days of performances at the Outlook and District Music Festival featured 135 entries (103 piano, 19 vocal, 4 choral and 9 speech arts) and concluded with a well-attended Finale Program of over 200 people on April 2. All sessions, as well as our final program, were held at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church – a wonderful venue for both performers and the audience.

The Festival Committee thanks Dr. Katherine Dowling (piano) and Dr. Dominic Gregorio (speech arts, vocal and choral) for their excellent feedback to all the competitors. They shared their considerable musical knowledge and expertise in ways that all competitors, regardless of age, could understand. Both adjudicators spent substantial time delivering mini-workshops with individuals and groups of students, even including the audience in some cases! All of their positive comments will encourage our students to improve as musicians and help to develop their confidence.

The Outlook and Music Festival Committee is very grateful for the generous support of businesses, organizations and community-minded individuals for their ongoing support of the Festival. \$4690 was distributed at our Finale concert in the form of 80 scholarships and awards. Many businesses also support our festival by providing advertising, publicity and printing our program.

Thank you to all our volunteers who make the Festival run smoothly and also, to the music teachers who recognize and nurture the talents of our local students.



Parkland Music Festival (Preeceville) March 26 - 31, 2017

We had another successful festival this year in Preeceville and Sturgis from March 26 to 31. We host festival here every second year with Canora hosting in the alternate years. This year we had 221 entries (almost a 20% increase over our entry total the last time we hosted!)

We had a wonderful variety of entries which included 2 piano trios and 6 piano duets. Kennedy Kosheluk was awarded three piano recommendations to provincial competition; what a treat to listen to her performances! Three classrooms of speech arts came from Preeceville School and one choral classroom group from Canora. Bussing from an hour away in Kamsack were 7 classrooms of xylophone ensembles. Bands from both Kamsack and our local bands participated. We even were treated to a fun percussion entry by bucket drummers from Sturgis. committee Our always really appreciates the school, teachers administrators who make these group entries possible as we recognize the cost and effort expended to allow these entries to participate.

Twelve of our sessions were hosted in Trinity United Church in Preeceville where there is a



lovely grand piano and large platform for class performances. Two of the instrumental sessions were held in Grace United Church where the hall serves as a warm up room. Then we moved over to the high school gymnasium in Sturgis for the band portion. Our final concert was back at the Trinity United Church in Preeceville where 210 people enjoyed a concert with the presentation of awards integrated with the performances. What a treat for everyone! Lots of compliments were received for the great organization, as well as the performances.

Our adjudicators noted that we may be the only festival to serve coffee and cookies mid-way through each session. It means canvassing for about 110 dozen cookies and kitchen workers for each session but we find it adds so much to our festival. Children have told their parents that they were looking forward to festival because they would get to visit with their "festival friends". It is important for children involved in the arts to connect with other children involved in the arts. This time for connecting would likely not happen if we didn't break during the sessions. It ensures our adjudicators get a scheduled break as well!

Our committee is strong with a variety of strengths and interests. We make a purposeful effort to learn about each other's jobs on the committee so that should one of us not be able to fulfill our role, another member can pick up our job. We live in a wonderful community where businesses and individuals are generous with their donations of patron and scholarship monies, and we have a wealth of volunteers which make for a wonderfully well supported festival. Our adjudicators were Sharon Gerspacher (piano), Mark Preece (band and instrumental) and Allison Arends (vocal and speech arts). All were so knowledgeable and so personable in sharing their knowledge.

We are all relieved to be winding down but we look back with great satisfaction on another very successful music festival in Preeceville.

Submitted by Anna Russell



Potashville Music Festival (Churchbridge) March 13 - 21, 2017

The 48th Potashville Festival was held in Churchbridge, with the Band sessions on March 13 and 14, Voice on March 16 and Piano on March 20 and 21. We were pleased to have Greg McLean as our band adjudicator, Laurel Teichroeb for piano, and Kathy Stokes for voice. We very much appreciated these adjudicators, as they were very encouraging to the students and included many teaching suggestions in their adjudications. Our festival had entries from Esterhazy, Churchbridge, Langenburg and Stockholm. Total entries were down to 137 this year. Band entries remain about the same, but piano was down a little and voice entries were down significantly. This will be an area where we will try to encourage more entries.

We are fortunate to have some generous supporters of the festival, who allow us to offer over \$4000 in scholarships. We are very thankful to all who donate towards our awards, as are the students who make good use of these scholarships for lessons or music camps. We are also thankful to those who volunteer to work at the festival, as adjudicator secretaries, or at the door. Many of these volunteers are retired people whose children were involved in festival years ago. It is so nice that they still see the importance of the festival and are willing to give their time to help it continue. A huge thank you has to be given to the committee members who give many hours to ensure that the festival runs



smoothly and to the teachers who prepare their students for the festival. They are all appreciated!

Thank you to the students who participated in the festival and to those who performed and received awards at the final concert. Congratulations to our district winners: Devynn McIntyre in piano and the Esterhazy High School Senior Choir in voice.

Good luck to Esterhazy, as they host the Potashville Festival next year.

Submitted by Shannon McIntyre President of the Potashville Music Festival



Prairie Sunset Music Festival (Macklin) April 24 - 26, 2017

Our festival was held in Macklin April 24-26, 2017. We had 3 adjudicators: Piano, Alison Kilgannon; Vocal and Speech Arts, JoyMcFarlane-Burton; and for Band, Gene Aulinger.

The entries were down from previous years with Vocal/Speech at 53, Piano at 50 and Band at 14.

Our Revenue came in at \$15,134.62; this included the account balance carry over from Prairie Sunset Music Festival – Luseland of \$5400. Our expense total was \$7,312.80, leaving us with a closing account balance of \$7,951.82, which in part will be passed on to next year's festival held in Kerrobert, SK.

Our committee consisted of Maureen Stang - President, Krista Brost & Christine Stang - Entry Secretary, Jackie Golden - Secretary, Rena Gartner - Treasurer and two members at large, Carolyn Sieben and Karen Stang.

Our Festival of the Stars was held the evening of April 28, 2017. Thirty-two scholarships were received by students, with a total of \$2590 in scholarship money.

We had many donors, consisting of various local and surrounding area businesses. We were very grateful for our brand new local hotel, the Prairie Moon Inn & Suites. They provided our adjudicators with rooms and continental breakfast, all at no cost to our committee. They really showed us the generosity of small town support. We are extremely grateful for all the generous donations we received.

Thank you to the many volunteers who gave their time to our festival. It could not be a success without them.



Prince Albert Kiwanis Music Festival March 6 - 30, 2017 Entries: 418

This was a year of transition for our festival. We appointed Lesley Larrea as the new President, retaining Sasha Sukkhu as Past President. I started as the new Coordinator in January, replacing Linda after years of service. Monica Svendson became our new Secretary. Also sitting on our committee this year: Colleen Bowen (Piano Coordinator), Lorna Gibson (Piano Scholarships), Karen Langlois (Vocal Coordinator), Donna Kreiser (Vocal Scholarships), Kayleigh Skomoroski (Instrumental, Band & Strings Coordinator), Debbie McPherson (Instrumental & Band Scholarships), Fran Atkinson (Treasurer), Charity Dmytriuk (Patrons), Tracy Feher (Advertising and Sponsorship) and Karen Bell as our Kiwanis Club representative. This was Lorna Gibson's last year of service and we thank her for her many years of participation. Her



knowledge and experience have been invaluable to our committee.

For registration this season, we used manual registration. We rented a room at our local library and had everyone submit paper registration forms that day; coordinators from each disciplines assisted in completing forms and collecting money. The coordinators then sorted registrations and compiled them into a schedule for the program. Our reasoning for manual registration was the multiple problems found in the past using the Music Festival Organizer program. We would like to return to an online registration option, something that will be investigated for the next year.

Leading off our festival was our Piano week, with adjudicators Adrianne Bank and Sharon Gerspacher. District winners were Kai Finnestad and Cory Krawec. Second was Vocal, with adjudication by Karen Frandsen. Blessed Marie Chamber Choir was declared a district winner. Following this was Strings adjudicated by Joan Savage, Instrumentals adjudicated by Brian Unverricht, and Band adjudicated by Greg McLean. There were no district winners from these disciplines.

We are fortunate to have so many people in our community contribute for scholarships. Our scholarships run anywhere from \$25.00 to \$500.00, with the average scholarship around \$50.00. This year we presented over \$10,000 in scholarships. We appreciate the opportunity to give the participants these awards.

Our dates are set for next year: Vocal March 2-3, Piano March 4-8, Strings March 14-15, Instrumentals March 14-16, and Band March 26-29. Since next year marks our 70th Festival Anniversary, we are planning a Gala Concert for May 24, 2018 at the E. A. Rawlinson Centre. We hope this will be a good opportunity for the community to come out and support our

participants and sponsors, and for us to gain a bit more community recognition.



Qu'Appelle Valley Festival (Balcarres) April 24 - 28, 2017

The 60th Qu'Appelle Valley Music Festival was held from April 24-28 in the beautiful new Balcarres Town Hall in Balcarres. We were pleased to have with us Heather Godden Waldner, and Scott Adelman as our piano and band adjudicators, respectively.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, many up and coming pianists played for Heather Godden Waldner. There were a total of 92 piano entries. We are proud to announce that 3 of our pianists moved on to represent our district at the provincial level; Ameer Abusada, Rene Czemeres and Enid Huang.

On Thursday, a number of band students performed for Scott Adelman. He was treated to performances by the Prairie Valley Central Band and the Prairie Valley North Band, as well as many solos and duets. There was 1 classroom music entry, 1 classroom choral speech entry, 8 band entries, 9 solo instrumental entries, and 3 instrumental duet entries.

Our festival had a large number of volunteers and sponsors that helped us host the festival and provide us with funds to offer scholarships, awards, and trophies to our performers. We awarded 34 scholarships/awards/trophies to our participants. We wish to thank all of our sponsors and volunteers for their past and continued support in making the Qu'Appelle Valley Music Festival a success.



Our awards concert was held in the afternoon on April 30, 2017 at the Balcarres Town Hall with many of our recipients performing their award-winning pieces for friends and family in attendance.

We are hoping to continue to support the Qu'Appelle Music Festival next year on April 9-13, 2018, as it moves to another community in the scenic Qu'Appelle Valley area.





Quill Plains Music Festival (Foam Lake) April 23 - 28, 2017

The Quill Plains Music Festival was held in Foam Lake on Sunday, April 23 to Friday, April 28. We had 3 adjudicators: Helen Pridmore was our vocal/choral and speech arts adjudicator; Lynette Sawatsky was the piano adjudicator and Kevin Ackerman for band and strings. All three of our adjudicators were very positive and a real encouragement to all the participants.

This year we decided not to do any major fundraising. However, we had a silver collection at coffee breaks and the final concert, and we also asked local residents and businesses for donations or to help volunteer through a flyer that was distributed through the schools. Instead of fundraising we offered everyone attending the festival performances a chance to win an adult and child gift basket. Thank you to the Foam Lake Vet Clinic for the donation of the items for each gift basket!

Our major donors this year were the Foam Lake Arts Council, the Gospel Fellowship Church, Saskatchewan Lotteries, Willy's Tavern, Kevin Ackerman and Sacred Heart - UCWL. Thank you to the Foam Lake Co-op and Christ The King CWL ladies for their generosity in donating cookies for all of our breaks for the week. Also thank you to the Gospel Fellowship Church, the Foam Lake Community Hall and the Foam Lake Composite High School for the use of their facilities. Thank you to Foam Lake Subway for providing coupons to all festival participants. Thank you also to Driftwood Alley for the donation of the centerpieces. They were so beautiful! We are very grateful for all of the community and business support.

We had a total of 418 music entries and 38 speech arts entries with 53 awards being handed out totaling \$2790 in scholarships. Thank you for the continued support from our sponsors!



Our district winners for 2017 were Tayler Johnston, Carson Froehlich, Lauren Luciuk & Emma Burns.

On Friday, April 28 the final concert took place at the Foam Lake Gospel Fellowship Church. There was a full crowd of participants, family members and community folks in attendance. Kathy Fedusiak did a great job emceeing the event. In between acknowledging the award winners, the crowd was entertained by selections from all disciplines of the festival: piano, speech arts, vocal, duets, strings, trio, etc. It was a great evening to end a fabulous week!

To help with this festival we had over 30 volunteers who put in nearly 300 hours. A huge thank you to everyone that helped to make this festival a huge success!



Redvers & District Music Festival March 27 - April 4, 2017

The 2017 Redvers & District Music Festival was held March 27 – April 4 at the Redvers Knox United Church and the Redvers School Gym, with 116 entries in Band, Piano, Vocal & Speech Arts. Our adjudicators were Eleanor Epp (Piano), Allison Arends (Vocal/Speech) and Victoria Sparks (Band).

Our final program was held at the Knox United Church and showcased many talented performers who entertained a full crowd. Trophies and scholarships were handed out to many deserving students. We would like to congratulate our District Winner in Woodwind, Ethan Dyck, from Carlyle.

We would like to thank our committee members & volunteers (past & present) for their hard work and time in putting on another successful festival. We couldn't do it without you. Thank you to the Knox United Church and the Redvers School for the use of their facilities. Thank you to our sponsors and those who donated to the

festival. And thank you to the students, teachers & parents for their time and dedication.



Regina Music Festival April 10 - 13, April 29 - May 7

It goes without saying that the 2016/17 Regina Music Festival (RMF) was a success. The volunteers from the board, and the volunteers at the site, rose to the occasion and helped to produce and operate the festival with a minimum of issues. I sincerely thank all them. Our production manager worked many hours overseeing all aspects of the festival from registration to scheduling to program printing and all on-site requirements. I extend a huge thank-you to Karen Klassen whose festival knowledge and computer expertise is invaluable to the operation of the festival.

RMF received 1140 entries in 2016/17. The festival was comprised of four days of musical theatre, 2 days of choral competitions, an afternoon of organ competition and a full week at Luther College of piano, string, vocal, percussion, brass and woodwind competitions. The festival culminated with the Intermediate Kinsmen and Senior Lions Competitions. One week later, the RMF celebrated with the Regina musical community at a diverse recital of RMF scholarship winners. It is important to note that RMF (thanks to its many donors) awards over 100 scholarships totaling over \$26,000.

The music festival is held to celebrate music. Our goal is to educate and encourage students in their lifelong journey in music. RMF offers an opportunity to enhance performance skills in our young people. Therefore I would be remiss not to list *a few* of our outstanding students.

The William Cornish Grand Award winner is vocalist, Emma Johnson. The other first place winners at the Senior Lions Competition are Shantelle Mayo, Dominic Ghiglione and



Rebecca Weger. First place winners of the Intermediate Kinsmen Competitions are Vlad Kosheliev, Vanessa Hu, Jonathon Craig Penner and Kieran Kasha.

Many RMF competitors proceeded to the next level of competition. I would like to recognize those students and groups who won awards at the provincial level: Luther College Senior Choir, Campbell Collegiate Chamber Choir, Kaitlyn Kasha, Emma Johnson, Joshua Hendriksen, Keiran Kasha, Chantelle Mayo, Mark Ancheta, Kara Seno, Charlee Wielgoz, Eleanor Hector, Jonathon Craig Penner, Madison Engen, Gillian Engen, Dominic Ghiglione and Ryan Ramsay.

RMF competitors who represented Saskatchewan at the National level: Joshua Hendricksen, Dominic Ghiglione and the Campbell Collegiate Choir.

During the last 4 years, the Regina Board has achieved the goal of modernizing the RMF. RMF is now able to host a professional website, offer online registration and communicate with both students and teachers online. RMF has changed the production manager position from a volunteer position to a paid position, a change that greatly enhances our ability to produce the festival in the future.

Submitted by Dianne Swanson, President



Rosetown Music Festival March 19 - April 1, 2017

The Rosetown & District Music Festival is proud to have held another successful festival - a strong 88-year tradition! It continues to provide musical education and entertainment to our community and our hope is that it will continue for many more years in the future!

Our festival was held on March 19 to April 1st, 2017 and included 16 sessions with a total of 263

entries. These entries were comprised of piano, vocal, speech arts, choral and instrumental. We are happy to report that our number of entries has increased again and hope to see this trend continue. The adjudicators, Gaye-Lynn Kern (Vocal), Will Martin (Instrumental) and Cherith Alexander (Piano) provided the students with positive encouragement and constructive guidance to help them continue down their musical path.

The Final Concert, showcasing the award winners from our two-week festival, was held on March 30th and was enjoyed by all. As with last year, we held this on a weekday and found that more of our participants were able to attend and they performed to a full theatre.

We are very fortunate that our community, families and businesses, continue to generously support our festival. This year we had \$4 045.00 provided in scholarships and 50 awards! Our most coveted scholarship, which we have presented for three years now, is donated by a local family for \$500 a year to continue for 17 more 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. Our winner this year was Mason Clarke who had over 130 hours of volunteering! What a great way to encourage community involvement in our youth!!

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

- Daniel Jimenez Intermediate Piano Chopin & 20th, 21st Century Canadian
- Mason Clarke Musical Theatre Solo, Ballad, 17 years & under
- Rosetown Girls Choir Girls Chorus, 19 years & under

We obviously have very talented musicians in our community and Provincials is a great experience for them!

We also award three Anniversary Trophies each year, one for each discipline. Our winners this year were:



Johanna Wiebe for Instrumental, Brenna Dolan for Vocal, and Natalie Reed for Piano. We are very proud of each of these girls!



Sand Hills Music Festival April 24 - 25, 2017

The Sand Hills Music Festival is proud to have held another successful festival after having no festival the previous year, as we were unable to fill executive positions. With the help of new committee members stepping forward to take on executive positions, as well as countless volunteer hours, we held a two day-festival with 81 entries on April 24-25, at Leader Community Hall.

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 28 scholarships totaling approximately \$3000.

We were fortunate to have Mr. Chris Kelly to adjudicate at our Festival this year. Our aspiring performers and musicians benefited from Mr. Kelly'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.



Sask Valley Music Festival (Waldheim) March 18 - 26, 2017

2017 Sask Valley Music Festival took place at Zoar Mennonite Church in Waldheim from March 18-24 with our Awards Concert on Sunday evening March 26.

When it came to our programming meeting soon after the close of entries, we were dealing with a total of 276 entries, up from 216 in 2016. What a wonderful problem to have!!! Since our adjudicator time requests were based on the stable entries of previous years, it was totally insufficient. Fortunately, all our adjudicators were flexible and able to change dates and some add sessions for us. We attribute this increase in entries mainly to piano where both previously-involved and new teachers entered students.

Our adjudicators Nova Wong (strings), Gaye-Lynn Kern (vocal, musical theatre, choral and speech) and Wes Froese (piano) set a wonderful welcoming, relaxed tone for our sessions. They were extremely encouraging and even fun, perhaps to the point of being less critical with their comments than some teachers would have preferred. Our major awards went to Kaitlyn Janzen (piano), Alyssa Dueck (voice) and Claire Heinrichs (strings). District winners recommended to Provincial Competition included Alyssa Dueck, Claire Heinrichs, Hannah Marple, Vesley Ho, Liam Buhler, Jay Vellacott, RJC Chorale and RJC Concert Choir.

Our Awards Concert again proved to be a varied feast of sound and sight for the 200 who attended. We distributed \$3310 in scholarship monies. At our AGM we gave \$100 to each of three applicants to help with summer music school plans. Total attendance for the week was approximately 1100. Had Wayne Toews been our string adjudicator for 2017, he would have been pleased to see 36 in the audience to enjoy the afternoon, rather than the mere 15 of 2016.



Patricia Keefe (treasurer) and Linda Swab (president) were able to attend the SMFA conference in Swift Current, enjoying both the socializing and learning.

We are grateful to the SMFA for organization skills and adjudicator arrangements, along with their recruitment of major sponsors. We are also grateful to our faithful local donors and supporters for scholarship and operating money. Their generosity means that our only need for fundraising is to canvas our local businesses yearly to renew their support.

Submitted by Linda Swab, President



Saskatoon Music Festival March 21 - April 6; May 1 - 7, 2017

Entries: 1,323

The Saskatoon Music Festival ran five distinct sessions for the festival this year. The first session was a morning session, March 15th, for the Heart of the City Piano Program. In all, 27 participants were heard over the course of 4 hours. A highlight for these children was the donation of 32 bagged lunches by a member of our Saskatoon committee – they were an absolute hit with the children. Our adjudicator, Gaye-Lynn Kern also had fun with the children making the session most enjoyable and educational.

The second session was Schools. This was organized by Gary Loy with assistance from Terry Clark. The School section ran for three days, March 21st, 22nd, and 23rd. One adjudicator was hired (Lenora Bells) and heard 21 choral groups, 2 hand bell choirs and 2 recorder ensembles. Eight trophies were presented.

The next session was held March 27th to the 31st. This was the band section and was organized by Mike Kurpjuweit. During this week three adjudicators were hired, one for

Grade 6 bands (Bill Kristjanson), one for Grade 7/8 bands (Bill Wahl) and another adjudicator for high school and jazz bands (Jane Saunders). One hundred and seven bands were heard throughout the week. Fifteen trophies were presented. The Cathedral of the Holy Family on Nelson Road hosted the week-long event and supplied all of the greeters and volunteers for the band sessions. The Cathedral were wonderful ambassadors to over 2700 students that came through their doors during the week. It should also be noted that St. John's Music supplied a repair table for the week long Band festival. If anyone needed a quick repair they did it free of charge for the participants. St. John's also provided the percussion equipment required for the event at no charge. We cannot thank the Cathedral and St. John's Music enough for the support they provided this past year.

The musical theatre sessions took place April 3rd - 6th. Adjudicated by Janet Nichol, 153 entries were received. With the help of Terry Ross, the Kiwanis Club of Saskatoon booked the Lighthouse Church Victory (formerly Persephone Theatre) for the music theatre competition and paid for the venue rental along with the grand piano rental and moving expenses. They also provided all the staffing for door people at the church. The Kiwanis are on board for the next year and many more to come. This is yet another example of community support for the SMFC.

Finally, the general session followed, May 1st – 7th. Our sincere thanks to the University of Saskatchewan for allowing us to use the Education facilities for this week. We had, 285 vocal entries, 559 piano entries, 102 string entries, 7 guitar entries, 31 woodwind entries, 21 brass entries, and 5 percussion entries. Scholarships totaling \$20,530.00 were given out 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 52nd anniversary. The evening had 2 instrumental competitors, 2 vocal competitors, 2 string 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 \$1200.00 each, second place winners \$600.00 each, and third place \$400.00.

2017 also marked a new year of sponsorships for the Saskatoon Music Festival. Our continued sponsors included the Kiwanis Club of Saskatoon, University of Saskatchewan, Cathedral of the Holy Family, McClure United Church, and the Saskatoon Public School Board. New sponsorships this year were Globe Printers, Rotary Club of Saskatoon Meewasin, the Saskatoon Community Foundation and artsVest.

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 efficiently.

Respectfully submitted, Darren Schwartz, Executive Director



Shaunavon & District Music Festival April 3 - 6, 2017

The 2016 festival included participants from Admiral, Bracken, Claydon, Climax, Eastend, Frontier, Gull Lake, Val Marie and Shaunavon, showcasing the musical talent of 53 competitors performing 118 selections. 14 of these pupils were new participants! The performances included vocal and speech art students, 4 school choirs and choral groups, and many piano students. 6 vocal/speech arts/school group sessions and 4 piano sessions were held during the 4-day festival.

For many years now, Centre Street United Church was the main venue for our sessions and we are very grateful that they welcome us back year after year. For the first time, Christ the King School Gym was the venue for our school groups, which worked quite nicely. Our final concert was held on the evening of Thursday, April 6th with highlight performances from the week. Mrs. Joe-Ann Ruetz was named as Honorary Patron for 2017 and thanked for her many, many years of dedication to our Festival. Joe-Ann continues to sit on our executive as Treasurer.

Advertisements for the Festival were conducted in a radio interview on our local radio, and in print with our local newspapers and school newsletters with social media also helping in advertising this year's festival. Programs were available in Eastend, Frontier, and Shaunavon prior to the festival, as well as at the festival venues.

We welcomed Allison Arends as our vocal adjudicator and Carol Konecsni-Christie as our piano adjudicator. Bothe were a wonderful fit and we look forward to their return in years to come. Under the direction of our adjudicators, our Scholarship Committee awarded 33 scholarships to children ages 9 & up, totalling \$3200, including \$400 to school groups.

We continue to use Larry Johnson's festival software program and are very pleased with the ease of organization and planning it has given us.

As we enter our 2018 Festival season, we have some new interest in executive roles and some new members interested in joining our board. We are very thankful for our steadfast group of ladies who keep our festival alive! Without their many years of dedication, our festival would not be what it is today.

Yours in Music, Nicole Bateman, President





Spiritwood & District Music Festival April 10 - 11, 2017

Our Festival was held on Monday, April 10 and Tuesday morning, April 11.

We had 89 entries, and our adjudicator was Mr. Wes Froese from Saskatoon. The participants and families enjoyed and learned from him.

This was our 26th annual festival, and three ladies have been part of the festival since it started. We thank Mrs. Marjorie Klassen, Mrs. Carolyn Voss and Mrs. Kathleen Gatzke for all the hours of volunteerism.

Our competition Awards Concert was held on Wednesday evening, April 12th and the *Outstanding Performer of the Festival* was Danae Davidson receiving the Lions Club Plaque and a \$100 scholarship sponsored by Hujber's Market on Main





Swift Current Music Festival March 7 - 22, 2017

The Music Festival was held March 7-22, 2017. Our adjudicators were Peter England - Band, Strings and Guitar; Gaye-Lynn Kern - Voice and Musical Theatre; Corinne Groff - Piano; Heather Macnab - School Music, Speech Arts, and Choral. Our entries, 253, were lower than in previous years. Recommended to Provincial Finals Competition were the SCCHS Chamber Singers and Prairie Spirit Choir in Choral, Presley Reddekopp in Piano, Sarah Elezaby in Voice, Jesse Koethler and Dawnella Rude in Musical Theatre, and Anthony Merkel in Brass. Prairie Spirit Choir won the Saskatchewan Choral Federation Open Choral Scholarship.

Our festival committee was comprised of fourteen devoted volunteers throughout the year. We convened only a few meetings and did a great deal of business by email and text. The SMFA website and our local website were great sources of information to everyone involved. Actual sessions were covered by another 29 volunteers thanks to our volunteer coordinator. The fund raising committee did such an excellent job that we finished the year in the black. Great venues included St. Olaf Lutheran Church, the Art Gallery of Swift Current and four public schools.

The Xtravaganza Concert and Awards Night showcased twelve musical selections previously performed at the festival, interspersed with 79 Scholarships totalling over six thousand dollars. Our community is very supportive of the music festival and the Kiwanis Club is our largest scholarship donor. One way to get a great audience for this event is to invite a public school choir to perform. The Ecole Centennial Stars Choir, under the direction of Amy Collins, delighted everyone with a very entertaining rendition of the Mexican Folk Song, "Don Gato".



A special highlight for this year was hosting the SMFA Conference and AGM in October, 2016. Our conference delegates were Michael Lyngstad and Nicole Eckert. Michael was elected to the SMFA Board of Directors.

A huge thank you goes to our funders both locally and provincially, the staff in the provincial office, teachers, parents, competitors and all the wonderful volunteers that give so willingly of their time to ensure that the Music Festival continues.

Submitted by Karen MacCallum, President



Twin Rivers Music Festival (Dalmeny)

March 27 - 31, 2017

Twin Rivers Music Festival held our 16th annual festival March 27-31. The awards concert concluded the festival on Sunday, April 2. Thanks to the Dalmeny Bible Church and Dalmeny Community Church for hosting us again this year.

We had outstanding adjudicators throughout the week. We began the week with Tanya Derksen adjudicating the Junior Piano students. Gene Aulinger gave adjudication for the Band and Instrumental segments of the festival. Shawna Ramsay adjudicated Speech Arts, Vocal, Choral and Musical Theatre. And Carol Konecsni-Christie ended our week with Senior Piano. We are so thankful for all our local volunteers who again gave so willingly of their time. They are so important in the running of a successful festival.

We had a total of 340 entries this year, which was up slightly from last year. The instrumental segment saw the largest increase due to Warman and Martensville schools running band programs. We had 8 bands competing at the festival with approximately 500 participants in those bands.

The final concert showcased a variety of musicians that performed throughout the week of festival competition. We were pleased to hand out 59 awards with a total scholarship amount of \$3930.00. Congratulations to our Outstanding Junior Performer, Levi Balzer; our Piano Rose Bowl winner, Connor Elias; and our Instrumental Rose Bowl Winner, Rochelle Wright. We were pleased to announce that Jaclyn Froese, Amy Hildebrandt, Sophia James-Cavan and Alayna Moxness will be representing Twin Rivers at the provincial finals.

As you all know, a festival doesn't just happen. A huge thank you to our dedicated festival committee members: Marg Andres, Doreen Benson, Val Redekop, Pat Schultz, Bev Verrault, Diana Mark, Bobby Mark, Joan Krohn and Faith Friesen.

Elaine Kimpinski, President



Unity Music Festival April 3 - 9, 2017

Our 2016-2017 got off to a great start with our annual Carol Festival. We decided to change the date until later in December (18th) and that turned out to be a wise decision for we had over 250 in attendance (had to quickly make more programs to look after everyone!)

Our Music Festival was held April 3-6 with our Final Performances held Sunday, April 9th. We had a total of 327 entries which included among other things 146 Piano, 114 Vocal and 47 Musical Theatre. Our students did not disappoint us with their talented and well prepared selections. Our adjudicators were Laureen Kells (Jr. and Sr. Piano) who was willing to come with only a few weeks' notice as the adjudicator originally booked for us was not able to attend because of health reasons. Anna Bekolay looked after Voice, Musical Theatre, Schools and Band. We appreciated how they both encouraged the students and helped them to want to continue in music.



Our Most Outstanding Piano Performer was Susannah Ulrich and the Most Outstanding Vocal Performer was Madison Gilbert.

Those recommended to Provincials were all in Musical Theatre:

- Kyra Huber (Ballad, 17 yrs and under) and (Up Tempo, 17 yrs. and under);
- Rachel Cey (Ballad, Senior)
 {Alternate-Jolene Gruber};
- Jolene Gruber (Up-Tempo, Senior) {Alternate- Rachel Cey}

We are thankful for the sponsors and patrons that have helped us throughout the years. We do see a trend where organizations are having to fold as the older membership can no longer continue.

We try to encourage each of the scholarship/award winners to write a thank you note to their donor. An example that was received: "Every year I strive to improve as a student, through hard work and determination. It's these festivals that allow me to see my progress and I would like to thank you for making the festival possible." (That just kind of makes it all worthwhile doesn't it?)

The Town of Unity has an annual event called "Celebrate Unity" at which time businesses and organizations are honored. This year we were nominated to be honored for celebrating 90 years in 2016. Three of our veteran committee members were especially honored and we were presented with funds for our scholarships.

We also honor a Volunteer of the Year on a more local level. This year we honored Shauna Hammer who served on our committee for a few years as Treasurer. She came on board when the bookkeeping was evolving and she made it her mission to see that we were doing everything correctly. As a committee we greatly appreciated the diligence and time she spent in upgrading our system.



Vanguard Music Festival

April 4 - 7, 2017

The Vanguard & District Music Festival continues to provide musical entertainment to our community. We celebrated our 52nd year of our festival and hope to see it continue.

Our festival was held April 4 - April 6 and included sessions with a total of 94 entries. The entries were comprised of instrumental, piano, vocal, speech arts, musical theatre, and ensemble. Our adjudicator was Laurel Teichroeb from Yorkton, who provided the students with encouraging and constructive guidance to help them continue further down their musical path.

Our Concert & Awards Night was held Friday, April 7 and it showcased our award winners. It was a musically entertaining evening.

We are very thankful that our community, families and businesses continue to generously support our local festival. Our festival would not be able to continue without your support.

The following students were recommended to Provincials: Presley Reddekopp, and Millar College Chorale.

This year we had 19 volunteers with a total of 400 hours of their time devoted to our organization in preparation and during our festival.

Our 2017 - 2018 Executive is: Karen Reddekopp, President & Entry Secretary; Treasurer, Colleen Gerbrandt; and Corresponding Secretary, Dana Petersen

Respectfully submitted by Dana Petersen





Watrous & District Music Festival April 10 - 13, 2017

Our 49th annual Watrous and District Music Festival was held on April 10 - 12, 2017 with the final concert taking place on Thursday, April 13. Our final concert was a community favorite and is always well attended.

We had one full day of voice, a full day of piano and a morning session for our bands. The number of entries was down this year with a total of 115. Despite our lower number of entries, the quality of our performers was nothing short of awesome. Our adjudicators were Audrey Watson (Piano), Allison Arends (Voice), and Mark Preece (Band).

We had a supportive group of volunteers to work the door, adjudicator table and music table. We also had a supportive group of parents, grandparents, teachers and music fans to cheer on the performers. Our volunteer efforts include our annual pancake breakfast that is held each year in July.

Kelly Stein attended the annual SMFA conference this year and has arranged to bring the conference to Watrous this fall. We are proud of all her efforts within our festival as well as within SMFA.

We have also had a very loyal group of sponsors who have donated year after year to our festival. It would not happen without their support. Next year we are looking to expand and reach out to some of the surrounding communities for some support as well.

Next year marks the 50th anniversary of the Watrous and District Music Festival so plans are underway to ensure it is celebrated and enjoyed by all performers, teachers, volunteers and community members, both past and present.







Weyburn Rotary Music Festival

March 6 - 17, 2017

This was Weyburn's 59th year for Music Festival. The piano portion was March 16-17, with vocal March 13-15 and band March 10-11. Our piano adjudicator was Heather Blakley, vocal was Terry-Lynn Mitchell and band was Janie Fries.

The piano entries this year totalled 209. The entries for vocal came to 102 and band had 43 entries.

Weyburn is very fortunate to have the Rotary Club as a sponsor of our festival.

Our Stars of the Festival evening was held on March 22. There was \$6975 in cash awards given out along with trophies. As usual, our Stars evening was very well attended.

We had three piano students recommended on to provincials – Shayne Frederick, Tylan Charlton and Morgan Sidloski. There was one student for band, Emily Richards, and two for vocal, Mikaila Mahnke and Ensley Akins.

> Submitted by Brenda Milatz, Corresponding Secretary





Yorkton Music Festival March 27 – April 9, 2017

The Yorkton Music Festival was held March 27-April 9, 2017 this year. We had a total of 386 entries perform in Choral, Vocal, Musical Theatre, Band and Piano sessions.

We enjoyed an increase in choral entries, enough for two sessions which were held at St. Andrew's United Church (new venue for choral). The acoustics in the church contributed to the beauty of the performances and we look forward to future choral performance at this new venue.

Thanks to all our adjudicators including; Heather Blakley (Piano), Alicia Woynarski, (Vocal, musical Theatre & Choral), Glen Gillis (Bands, Strings, Woodwinds, Instrumental Ensembles, Brass & Percussion) who inspired our participants.

Congratulations to those competitors were recommended to provincial competition: Yorkton Regional High School Concert Choir, Yorkton Community Choir, Rebecca Spilchak (Musical Theatre), Ashley Smith (Musical Theatre), Kennedy Kosheluk (Piano), and Chelte Young (Piano).

Many scholarships and medals were awarded and many plaques and trophies were presented April 9 at our Hi-Lites Concert. We give many thanks to all our generous scholarship and awards donors.

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 their valuable support.

Submitted by Tonia Vermette, President



District Festival Statistics

	2017	2016	2015	2014	Solo	Num.	Awards			
Member Festival	Entries	Entries	Entries	Entries	Fees	Adj	Amount	Vol.	Audience	Budget
Assiniboia	78	92	150	122	15	2	1,800	19	138	*5,200
Battlefords	347	350	383	447	13	4	8,500	43	1190	*26,900
Biggar	120	127	119	149	14	3	2,800	25	247	8,400
Borderland	129	146	97	115	15	2	1,800	32	762	*7,200
Carnduff	328	311	281	315	12	4	2,620	75	600	15,000
Central Sask	140	149	109	120	5	2	1,345	12	872	*8,200
Estevan	633	643	597	605	15	4	10,718	40	2050	27,300
Eston	139	190	163	166	15	1	2,000	25	200	6,200
Gravelbourg	223	215	180	179	12	2	1,700	37	449	5,800
Hafford	153	172	174	143	12	2	2,815	33	250	7,400
Humboldt	396	428	486	479	18	3	4,050	44	727	19,800
Kindersley	338	367	377	428	15	4	5,130	31	860	16,700
Kipling	206	164	192	169	10	3	1,655	107	1200	8,300
La Ronge	209	213	163	137	15	1	3,000	19	1078	9,300
Lafleche	265	269	304	300	15	2	4,150	29	700	14,400
Lanigan	261	284	209	213	8	2	3,085	30	400	8,200
Last Mountain	134	165	140	170	10	2	1,630	13	472	*5,300
Lloydminster	780	726	785	829	18	4	7,015	67	800	27,300
Mainline	162	220	218	153	17.50	3	1,280	7	444	*5,200
Maple Creek	117	121	94	108	11	3	1,640	29	224	5,800
Meadow Lake	218	202	160	260	15	2	2,510	35	767	9,400
Melfort	372	432	403	426	13	4	4,545	63	914	16,300
Moose Jaw		516	605	558	18	5	9,425	37	1,265	*28,800
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Moosomin	384 0	397 0	367	344	0	0	2,225 0	34 0	225	*14,000 0
Naicam Nipawin		354	204 255	196 298	14	4	4,095	59	0 510	*13,400
	295	148	186	192	10	2		28	518	
Outlook	135						4,690			8,300
Parkland	221	219	195	222	11	3	2,450	72	1,204	8,700
Potashville	137	166	175	232	12	3	4,100	32	410	8,100
Prairie Sunset	98	92	140	140	15	3	2,590	7	278	7,400
Prince Albert	416	494	525	587	20	6	10,850	40	654	21,400
Qu'Appelle Valley	114	94	160	158	10	2	1,300	21	360	6,200
Quill Plains	460	424	410	394	10	3	2,790	26	1,200	14,000
Redvers	116	105	107	259	10	3	1,600	32	559	5,700
Regina	1,147	1,195	1,105	1,220	26	10	26,900	101	1,360	*91,000
Rosetown	263	247	234	218	12	3	4,045	80	1,745	*9,500
Sand Hills	81	0	110	139	10	1	2,230	27	302	5,700
Sask Valley	276	214	217	202	14	3	3,310	31	1,120	*11,400
Saskatoon	1,323	1,482	1,560	1,687	28	13	20,530	107	3,125	88,000
Shaunavon	114	175	170	219	10	2	3,200	69	490	9,300
Spiritwood	84	93	75	80	12	1	1,445	18	593	4,100
Swift Current	256	291	358	303	15	4	6,810	25	906	*20,300
Twin Rivers	344	338	305	282	12	4	3,930	33	1,910	14,000
Unity	327	343	329	363	15	2	3,675	31	1,200	13,500
Vanguard	84	110	76	71	5	1	625	12	374	3,400
Watrous	124	189	196	235	16	3	2,050	19	291	9,800
Weyburn	351	417	434	454	13	3	6,975	33	900	16,800
Yorkton	388	473	565	581	14	3	5,690	79	1,470	23,000
Total	13,772	14,562	14,847	15,667		148	\$213,318	1,868	38,313	



Member Funding

The Saskatchewan Music Festival Association (SMFA) Member Funding Program is designed to provide financial assistance to Affiliated Member Festivals.

This grant program, administered through the Provincial Office, provides support to the Association's mission and current programming of the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association. Funds may only be used for the eligible activities outlined in your application. Funds may not be transferred to other activities or organizations and unused funds must be returned to SMFA.

Examples of projects for which member funding is intended, include the following:

- Festival Promotional Workshops
- Speech Arts Workshops
- Program Enhancement (website development, software/hardware purchase)
- Professional Training (board governance, minute taking, software training, etc.)
- Adjudicator Fees/Travel Assistance
- Expenses for SMFA Annual Music Conference

The following affiliated festivals received funding from this grant:

Kipling Music Festival	Printer Hardware and Ink Financial Aid Request	\$ 500
Carnduff Music Festival	SMFA Conference & AGM	350
Saskatoon Music Festival	Adjudicator Financial Assistance	3,000
Humboldt Music Festival	Band Adjudication Costs for HMF 2017	800
Eston Music Festival	Speech Arts Workshop	700
Hafford Music Festival	Speech Arts Workshop	700
Weyburn Music Festival	2016-2017 Festival (Operating revenue)	2,000
Lafleche Music Festival	Computer purchase, adjudicator & Conference	1,100
	<u>_</u>	\$ 9,500



Testimonial

"...the Festival has taught me skills that are at the foundation of everything I do" **Sophie McBean**, Saskatchewan Representative in Piano at the 2017 National Music Festival



Photo credit: Stephen Nicholson

The first time I ever performed in front of an audience was in Quance Theatre. I was a very nervous five-year-old singing "Lonely Goatherd" from The Sound of Music. Little did I know that I would be performing on that stage (and many others) at the Saskatoon Music Festival for the next sixteen years of my life. Throughout this span my love for music would be created and shared through voice, piano, and violin. For my family, the music festival was the highlight of our year. Between my two older sisters, my younger brother, and myself, our calendar usually had about 40 music festival classes on it.

The music festival has been invaluable to my musical growth over the years. As a youngster, my musical studies were centred on working toward the festival

each year. It provided me the drive to (somewhat)

consistently practice—of course an absolute necessity for improvement. As I grew older, the music festival's role for me shifted slightly, as it became more of an outlet to share my love for music. Specifically over the last four years while I have been enrolled in university, without the music festival it would have been very difficult to find opportunities to perform.

In addition to playing a role in my musical development, my experiences in festival have shaped me into the person I am today. The festival has taught me valuable skills: the capacity for perseverance; the courage to come to terms with nervousness and perform; the ability to accept loss. Furthermore, these skills I've learned are surprisingly basic—as they've translated into so many other areas of my life, it seems the festival has taught me skills that are at the foundation of everything I do. On top of all this, the music festival has been where I have made some of my dearest lifelong relationships. The Saskatoon Music Festival played a pivotal part in my growing up, and I know it has done the same for others. While my days as a participant are nearly over, I will always be a true believer in, and supporter of, the festival system.



Testimonial

Cole Knutson, Saskatchewan Representative in Woodwinds and 2nd place winner at the 2017 National Music Festival

I started piano at the age of 12 and saxophone at the age of 13, later compared to almost all of my colleagues. I was born and raised in North Battleford and participated in the Battlefords Kiwanis Music Festival.

Growing up as a musician, the influence of music festival was huge. In Saskatchewan, we are lucky to have amazing educators, volunteers, communities, both artistic and otherwise. All of these people, in addition to supportive parents, enable us to have a truly festive festival. Festivals in Saskatchewan feature artwork of children, and the atmosphere always encourages celebration of art and music.

The Battlefords District Kiwanis Music Festival captures the essence of what it means to celebrate music. This enabled me to have a very positive outlook on performing and competing while growing up. I never looked at festival as a competition, rather, I saw it as an opportunity to prepare and refine a piece of music, and to experiment with performing on stage. One of the best ways to learn how to perform is to go out and do it, and although we can have much mental preparation and support from others, ultimately it is only theoretical until we are provided an opportunity to test what we have learned. I have learned much about who I am as a person by performing at my local Festival.

Battlefords Kiwanis Festival is a great stepping stone to other forms of performance and competition. In the five years that I entered festival as a youth, I entered around 100 pieces with an average of 20 pieces per year between saxophone and piano. That's at least 100 times that I had to get up on stage and perform after preparing for months. This enabled me to be less nervous and more vulnerable. This summer, I performed at Carnegie Hall on saxophone, and I performed as a pianist with an opera singer at a concert house in Vienna, for an audience of 4000 people. Although there is a big physical difference between Carnegie Hall, a Konzerthaus in Vienna, and the stages at the Battlefords Festival, the process of performing is exactly the same. There is more pressure in the bigger spaces, but the excitement of performing never changes. Every audience member deserves to hear the best quality performance, whether in a small town or in a huge hall; this is just one of the many values that I learned while performing at Festival.

This is my fourth and final year of my Bachelor's Degree in Saxophone Performance. My end goals as a musician are to be a professional collaborator as a pianist, primarily working with singers, to be a performer on saxophone, and an educator. Following graduate studies, I hope to complete a diploma in Saxophone at the Paris Conservatory, and after that I wish to return home to Saskatchewan to teach for a few years in addition to travelling, touring, and performing.





Provincial Finals Report

The Provincial Finals Competition Experience, submitted by Karen MacCallum
The 2017 Provincial Finals Competition and the Saskatchewan Level of National Music Festival competitions were held June 2, 3, & 4 in Saskatoon at the University of Saskatchewan.



This competition is the culmination of the District Festival Competitions in our province for many competitors. After seemingly endless hours of practise, getting a recommendation from the adjudicator to proceed to Provincial Finals is a monumental task. The application process is followed by more practise and selecting performance attire, while waiting for the big weekend. Next, one needs to navigate through the program, the buildings, the rooms, finding parking, finding practise rooms, finding Tim Horton's, finding necessary facilities! other

experience is not for the timid or fainthearted. It takes courage and resolution, confidence and boldness, not to mention the mental, physical, and emotional support of many people. A big thank you goes to teachers, students, parents, and communities across our province that continue to "take a hand, open a mind, touch a heart, and shape the future" by supporting these young, developing musicians.

If you have been to this event, you know that it is a flurry of activity in every venue. This is only what is visible at the time and does not account for the planning and execution of many tasks that takes place prior to the day. A short list would include securing venues, hiring judges, attain funding for scholarships from sponsors and donors, preparation of schedules, printing programs, catering, and Board meetings. The Provincial Level of the National Competition, which is in and of itself a separate competition, is held in conjunction with the Provincial Finals Competition.

The 2017 Provincial Competition was held in Saskatoon on the beautiful U of S campus in the Education Building and Convocation Hall, June 2, 3, and 4, Friday to Sunday. Starting with fifteen entries in the Nationals Competition, the winners were Joshua Hendricksen, Voice; Sophie McBean, Piano; Joanne Peng, Strings; Cole Knutson, Woodwind; Dominic Ghiglione, Brass; Louren Sazon, Musical Theatre; Trio Rustico (Danielle Guina, Charlee Wielgoz & Josias Sanchez), Chamber. These talented nine young musicians, with Team Saskatchewan pride, proceeded to the National Competition in Ottawa. Choirs are judged from recorded entries, and Campbell Collegiate Chamber Choir (Russ & Diedre Baird, conductors) advanced to the National level in the Paul J. Bourret Choral Competition.

The PFC program listed forty-nine classes, including every discipline, with 265 entries. Winners from the Grand Awards Competition were:

Saskatchewan Music Educators' Association (SMEA) Guitar Award - \$500

- Carson Froehlich (Quill Plains)
 Estevan Music Festival Musical Theatre Award
 \$400
- Siarra Riehl (Saskatoon) Brost Family Woodwinds Award - \$400
- Madison Engen (Regina) Guy Few Brass Award - \$500
- Silas Friesen (Saskatoon)

Heather Laxdal Memorial Vocal Award - \$400

• Emma Johnson (Regina)

Fred S. Mendel Memorial String Award - \$400

Joanne Z. Peng (Moose Jaw)



Anna Klassen Memorial Piano Award -\$400

• Sophie McBean (Saskatoon) Alfred S. Uy Memorial Speech Arts Award -

No entries

Saskatchewan Band Association (SBA) Percussion Award - \$400

• No entries

Blanche Squires Memorial Bronze Award & Trophy - \$500

• Sophie McBean (Saskatoon)

Wallis Memorial Silver Award & Trophy-\$750

• Joanne Z. Peng (Moose Jaw)

Sister Boyle Gold Award of \$1,000 & Trophy to the most outstanding competitor of the Grand Awards

• Emma Johnson (Regina)

Judging all these competitors were: Marie Baron (Musical Theatre, Speech Arts, Intermediate Voice), Esther Bing (Intermediate Piano), Christine Bootland (Strings, Guitar), William Gordon (Brass, Woodwind), Corey Hamm (Senior Piano), Joanne Kolomyjec (Senior Voice), and Joel Tranquilla (Choral). Judges coming to Saskatchewan always comment on the wonderful talents of the musicians and how the festival is so well organized and runs so smoothly.

The following were declared Provincial winners in their classes:

Mary Anderson Memorial Choral Scholarship - \$500

Luther College Senior Choir (Melissa Morgan, conductor) Regina

Saskatchewan Choral Federation Scholarship - \$300

• Prairie Spirit Chamber Singers (Marcia McLean, conductor) Swift Current

Betty Tydeman Memorial Choral (runner up) Scholarship - \$200

 Yorkton Community Choir (Laurene Jemieff, conductor) Kiwanis Club of Regina Gallagher Memorial Choral Scholarship - \$500

• Campbell Collegiate Chamber Choir (Russ & Diedre Baird, conductors) Regina

Goodfellow Memorial Senior Grade A Female Voice - \$400

• Kaitlyn Kasha (Regina)

Goodfellow Memorial Senior Grade A Male Voice - \$400

• Jordan Dornn (Saskatoon)

Goodfellow Memorial Senior Grade B Female Voice - \$400

• Olivia Guselle (Saskatoon)

Thomas & Don Hatton Memorial Senior Grade B Male Voice - \$400

• Jayden Burrows (Saskatoon)

Covey Intermediate Female Voice - \$300

• Annika Tupper (Saskatoon)

A.L.'s Music Intermediate Male Voice - \$300

• Zachariah May (Moose Jaw)

Goodfellow Memorial Senior Oratorio – \$400

• Emma Johnson (Regina)

Goodfellow Memorial Senior Operatic - \$400

• Joshua Hendricksen (Regina)

Goodfellow Memorial Senior French Art Song -\$400

• Emma Johnson (Regina)

Heather Laxdal Memorial Lieder Voice - \$200 & Whelan Lieder Piano - \$200

• No entries

Goodfellow Memorial Senior Grade A Concert Group - \$400

• Gabriel Benesh (Saskatoon)

Nancy & Alastair Todd Memorial Senior Grade B Concert Group - \$300

• Brianna Penner (Saskatoon)

Regina Music Festival Intermediate Vocal Concert Group - \$300

• Kieran Kasha (Regina)

Summer School for the Solo Voice Senior Canadian Vocal Music - \$400

• Joshua Hendricksen (Regina)

Arlene Stuart Memorial Senior Bach - \$400

• Shantelle Mayo (Regina)



June Barber Intermediate Bach - \$300

• Kennedy Kosheluk (Parkland)

Wallis Memorial Senior Beethoven - \$400

• Sophie McBean (Saskatoon)

Daryl Cooper Intermediate Beethoven - \$300

• Ameer Abusada (Qu'Appelle Valley) Shirley Andrist Senior Haydn & Mozart - \$400.

• Mark Ancheta (Regina)

Frances England & Hugheen Ferguson Memorial Intermediate Haydn & Mozart - \$300

• Kara-Marice Seno (Regina)

Sask. Registered Music Teacher's Assoc. (SRMTA) Senior Romantic - \$400

• Chantelle Hardes (Lloydminster)

Music for Young Children Sask. Teachers' Association Trust Senior Chopin - \$400

• Thomas Hu (Saskatoon)

Gordon & Mossie Hancock Intermediate Chopin - \$300

• Daniel Jimenez (Rosetown)

MYCTA Inc. Senior French Music - \$400

• Matthew Praksas (Saskatoon)

Jackson Memorial Intermediate Piano - \$300

• Ameer Abusada (Qu'Appelle Valley)

Gale Glenn Memorial Senior 20th & 21st Century/Canadian - \$400

• Sophie McBean (Saskatoon)

Frostad Piano Intermediate 20th or 21st Century/Canadian Music - \$300

Xiaotong Wang (Saskatoon)

Gloria Nickell Intermediate Piano (most outstanding Intermediate piano competitor) - \$400

• Xiaotong Wang (Saskatoon)

John's Music (Moose Jaw) Intermediate Piano (runner-up) - \$200

• Kara-Marice Seno (Regina)

Senior String Concert Scholarship - \$400

• Joanne Z. Peng (Moose Jaw)

Clare K. Mendel Memorial Senior Violin - \$400

• Joanne Z. Peng (Moose Jaw)

Blanche Squires Senior Viola/Cello/Double Bass Recital - \$400

• Charlee Wielgoz (Regina)

Robert C. Mitchell Memorial Intermediate Violin - \$300

• Eleanor Hector (Regina)

Johanna Mitchell Memorial Intermediate Viola/Cello/Double Bass - \$300

• Jonathan Craig Penner (Regina)

Senior Classical Guitar - \$400

• Carson Froehlich (Quill Plains)

Stein Farms Ltd. Intermediate Classical Guitar -

• Brianna Ai (Saskatoon)

Long & McQuade Senior Woodwind Recital -

• Carl Hofmeister (Saskatoon)

Saskatchewan Band Association Senior Woodwind Concert - \$400

• Madison Engen (Regina)

Intermediate Woodwind - \$300

• Kara Daviduik (Saskatoon)

Senior Brass Recital - \$400

• Dominic Ghiglione (Regina)

Saskatchewan Band Association Senior Brass Concert-\$400

• Silas Friesen (Saskatoon)

Colin Grunert Memorial Intermediate Brass - \$300

• Gillian Engen (Regina)

Senior Percussion - \$400

• No entries

Maple Creek Music Festival Intermediate Percussion - \$300

• Maxim Hiske (Estevan)

Ursan Family Senior Musical Theatre Ballad -

Ryan Ramsay (Regina)

Regan Grant Memorial Intermediate Musical Theatre Ballad - \$300

• Jayden Burrows (Saskatoon)

Joy McFarlane-Burton Senior Musical Theatre Up-Tempo - \$400

Ryan Ramsay (Regina)

Sandra Ryba Intermediate Musical Theatre Up-Tempo - \$300

• Louren Sazon (Moose Jaw)

L.I. Bryson Memorial Senior Speech Arts - \$400

No entries

Intermediate Speech Arts - \$300

Patrick Benoit (Lloydminster)





2017 Provincial Grand Awards (left to right): Emma Johnson, Voice & 1st place Grand Award; Madison Engen, Woodwind; Sophie McBean, Piano & 3rd place Grand Award; Carson Froehlich, Guitar; Silas Friesen, Brass; Siarra Riehl, Musical Theatre; Joanne Peng, Strings & 2nd place Grand Award.



Provincial Final Supporters

PROVINCIAL FINAL DONORS AND SPONSORS

Goodfellow Memorial Trust Edna Covey Estevan Music Festival Frostad Piano Service Hancock Memorial Trust Heather Macnab

Long & McQuade Margaret Hatton Melissa Ong Moose Jaw Music Festival Music for Young Children (SK) Trust Wallis Memorial Trust Music for Young Children Inc. Order of the Eastern Star (SK) Prairie Mines - Estevan Regina Music Festival Robert Ursan

Rose Schmalz
Ross Ulmer and Karen Ast
Sask. Band Association
Sask. Choral Federation
Sask. Music Educators' Assoc.
Sask. Orchestral Assoc. Bursary
Sask. Registered Music
Teachers Assoc.
SMFA Board & Staff
Shirley Andriet Shirley Andrist

W. Craig Ferguson Yamaha Piano Centre Yorkton Music Festival









Joanne Messer

John's Music (Moose Jaw)

Joy McFarlane-Burton









National Music Festival

*Reporting on the 2016 National Music Festival to align with year ending July 31, 2017. The 2016 National Music Festival was held Aug 9 – 13 in Edmonton, AB, at McEwan University and McDougall United Church.

The week kicked off on Tuesday, with a competitor briefing and introduction of each province's team. Saskatchewan competitors entered the auditorium sporting their Team Sask bunny hugs and carrying Saskatchewan flags. Designates Sherry Sproule and Karen Unger proudly introduced the Saskatchewan team:

- BEAM Quartet (Brendan Catalano, Eric Wong, Anna Wheeler, Megan Bauman), Chamber
- William Boan, Strings (Violin), accompanied by Bonnie Nicholson
- Stephen Davis, Classical Guitar, accompanied by Paul Zhao
- Åbby Fuller, Brass (Trumpet), accompanied by Maria Fuller
- Jake Heisler, Musical Theatre, accompanied by Jeri Ryba
 Navesca, Viscour, Woodswind, (Claritest)
- Vanessa Klassen, Woodwind (Clarinet), accompanied by Wayne Gibson
- Fraser Krips, Percussion
- Spencer McKnight, Voice (Tenor), accompanied by Mark Turner
- Ğloria Yu, Piano, accompanied by Kathleen Solose

Saskatchewan also had two choral entries (judged by recording): *AVE* (directed by Melissa Morgan) and *Campbell Spirit Choir* (directed by Russ Baird).

In addition to Sherry and Karen, Saskatchewan delegates included Nancy Toppings and Carol Donhauser, as well as our National Board members Karen MacCallum and Joy McFarlane-Burton. We were joined later in the week by Gloria Nickell, Past President of SMFA and former FCMF Board member.

Following the briefing, everyone was treated to an ice cream social and opportunity to build their own sundaes with a wide variety of delicious toppings.

Wednesday was the day for official rehearsals. This was an opportunity for competitors to do a sound check in their performance venue.

Our Saskatchewan team attended many of each others' rehearsals, which allowed opportunity to work out some pre-

performance jitters and receive some valuable feedback and encouragement.

Competitions were held on Thursday and Friday. These were days of superb music, and we are so proud of each of our competitors! The Saskatchewan team demonstrated great support in attending as many of each others' performances as possible.

Once the competitions were over, it was time to relax and have some fun! Competitors and delegates attended a 60's themed dinner and dance. Everyone had a great time, especially the Saskatchewan delegates who came as the Beatles and won the prize for best costume! The entire Saskatchewan contingent put on great displays of dancing and comradeship!

Saturday was the final day. After a full morning of master-classes, followed by announcements of first place winners for the Grand Awards Competition, the Saskatchewan team went out for lunch at State and Main and enjoyed the chance to eat together and socialize after a busy week.

Saturday evening, everyone dressed in their finest for the Grand Awards concert and awards presentations. We congratulate the 1st Place and 2nd Place Grand Award winners, Jaeden Izik-Dzurko (piano) and Alan Liu (classical guitar), respectively, both from British Columbia.





Our Saskatchewan award winners were:

- Fraser Krips, 1st Place in Percussion Abby Fuller, 2nd in Brass and winner of the Special Brass Award
- Spencer McKnight, 3rd in Voice and winner of the Special Prize in Voice
- Jake Heisler, Special Prize in Musical Theatre
- Campbell Spirit Choir of Regina (directed by Russ Baird), 2nd in the Richard W Cooke Choral Competition
- Brendan Catalano and Abby Fuller Spirit Awards

It was a wonderful week filled with excellent music, fine friends, and lasting memories. Huge thanks to the FCMF Executive and

Alberta Host Committee for another great National Music Festival! As we said our goodbyes, many were already talking about returning again next year for the 2017 National Music Festival in our nation's capital, Ottawa!

Submitted by Karen Unger and Sherry Sproule







Federation of Canadian Music Festival (FCMF) Business Meeting Report

*Reporting on the 2016 National Music Festival to align with year ending July 31, 2017.

The 67th Annual Federation of Canadian Music Festival Association AGM was held Edmonton, AB, on August 9-10, 2016, at the Chateau Lacombe Hotel Meeting room.

Jerry Lonsbury, President called the AGM to order at 9:06 am on Tuesday, August 9, 2016. It was noted that Marilyn Wiwarchuk, sitting FCMF Past President, passed away February 1, 2016 Delegates miss her presence.

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

The October 31, 2015 audited Financial Statements were presented: The operating budget showed revenues of \$241,962 and Expenses of \$230,888 with a surplus of \$11,074. The General Reserve fund has a total of \$78,742 and the Restricted Reserve Fund has a total of \$97,822.

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

In order to simplify the choral submission process, MP3 or MP4 formats of recordings and a copy of the scores will be uploaded into a specially designated Drop box folder. If preferred, the files can be emailed from locals to provincials, and from provincials to national Executive Director. Include a copy of the receipt for downloaded music.

MOTION: That FCMF adopt the Ontario model for choral submission by MP3 as described above. Robin Norman/Pam Allen. Carried.

MOTION: That the competitor entry fee be raised from \$175 to \$200. This will include a complimentary MP3 file of their performance. Robin Norman/Sue Reedman, Carried.

MOTION: That the (FCMF) Conference Registration fee be raised from \$175 to \$200. Robin Norman/Lynn Van Zanten. Carried.

MOTION: That the Notice of Motion to raise affiliation fees by \$0.75 as presented above be accepted. Norma Jean Atkinson/RJ Chambers. Defeated.

The affiliation fees remain at \$0.90 per entry for the 2017 budget.

NOTICE OF MOTION: SYLLABUS PERCUSSION REQUIREMENTS

[Submitted by Carol Donhauser for Syllabus Committee]

Provincial Festival

Competitors must perform two selections. (delete the requirement for multi-movement as percussion repertoire is limited and is restricting percussionists from entering)

- One work for Keyboard Percussion (eg. marimba, vibraphone, xylophone)
- 2. One work for Timpani or Multipercussion or Snare Drum



Competitors must perform three selections, works must include: (1) Keyboard percussion, (2) Timpani, and (3) Multi-percussion or Snare Drum.

- 1. One work for Keyboard Percussion (eg. marimba, vibraphone, xylophone)
- 2. One work for Timpani or Multipercussion or Snare Drum
- 3. One own choice

For multi-instrument works and snare drum, memorization is encouraged but not required. All other works must be memorized.

MOTION: To accept the Notice of Motion regarding Percussion classes. Robin Norman/Sherry Sproule.

MOTION: that the requirements (in Musical Theatre) be changed to read, "... in any published key [no transposition] of a staged musical and be gender identification appropriate. ..." Students would need to be consistent in their gender identification through all their performances. Robin Norman/Sue Belleperche. Carried.

MOTION: To accept in principle the proposal of new governance model of the Board of Governors submitted DaCapo Committee, with the understanding they will address the required changes in By-Laws and submit quarterly reports to Executive Director to distribute to Provincial Administrators and 2016 delegates. Barbara Long/Sue Reedman Carried.

The 2017 National Music Festival will be held August 6-12 [Sunday – Saturday] in Ottawa, Ontario.

After three calls for nominations from the floor for each position, nominations were closed with the following results:

- Treasurer, 2-year term Leslie Walters by acclamation
- Director, 2-year term Tom Davidson by acclamation







Saskatchewan Lotteries is the fundraiser for over 12,000 sport, culture and recreation groups. These groups provide opportunities for people to participate in activities in every Saskatchewan community. Get involved today!

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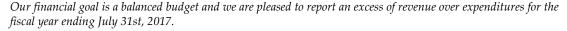








Financial Report





The Saskatchewan Music Festival Association is committed to making sound financial decisions in order to ensure the support and the enhancement of the music festival movement across Saskatchewan. The Finance Committee consists of First Vice-President Sherry Sproule (Chair), President Karen Unger, Second Vice-President Wendy Thienes, Past-President Karen MacCallum, and Executive Director Carol Donhauser.

Our financial goal is a balanced budget and we are pleased to report an excess of revenue over expenditures for the fiscal year ending July 31st, 2017. We have a motion on the books that reads as follows: 'If there is more than \$10,000 surplus at year-end, to transfer \$10,000 to the reserve fund.' (Good governance is to have 1 year's operating funds in reserve.)

We began building the Reserve Fund in 2017 and its present balance is \$74,950. So although we are significantly short of the goal of having one years operating funds in reserve, we are determined to build it to that level in order to provide a financial safety net for the SMFA. In balance with building the Reserve Fund, we are conscious of making financial decisions that will aid our member festivals in times of need. We also recognize the importance of being able to help festivals with projects or initiatives that will help them to maintain or grow. In 2016 we piloted the Member Funding initiative and are pleased to report that a total amount of \$9500 was approved and distributed among several (seven) festivals. We were able to offer the Member Funding initiative again this year and those applications have been adjudicated. As shown in our self-generated revenue report we continue to manage resources, run successful competitions and fundraise so that we have the resources to be good financial stewards of our long-standing, successful organization.

In order to maintain operations at the current level, SMFA is dependent on funding from the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation. Our Annual Global Funding application functions in a three-year cycle ending July, 2019. We are deeply grateful for this support from SaskCulture Inc. We acknowledge the support of SaskEnergy, Sasktel, the University of Saskatchewan Music Department, the University of Regina Music Department, Regina and Saskatoon Symphony Orchestras, and Mr. William Shurniak. We are grateful for the support and training through artsVest Saskatchewan. We sincerely thank our many scholarship donors and patrons. Your generosity ensures that our music festivals continue to be classical music beacons across this province.

The SMFA investment portfolio is currently managed by Leander Dueck of Beyond Wealth Management of Regina. In his year-end report, to us, Leander comments, '..we can report that the rate of exchange has been .48% or approximately 1/2% (since February 2017). During the same period the Toronto Stock Exchange Index decreased by .15%. Admittedly a 1/2% return rate is nothing to get excited about but when put in perspective we are pleased that the return exceeded the broad Canadian index with much less volatility.' SMFA also holds 576 BCE shares, which have been steadily gaining.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, I would like to thank the District Festivals and the Provincial Board for their confidence in our ability to make the decisions and form the policies necessary to manage the resources of the SMFA.

Respectfully, Sherry Sproule, Finance Chair



Audited Financial Statement

SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION $\label{eq:financial} \textbf{FINANCIAL STATEMENTS}$ JULY 31, 2017



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

October 23, 2017 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, 2017, 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 linancial 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, 2017 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 October 23, 2017 Janua Herback
Marcia Herback



SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT JULY 31, 2017

(with comparative figures for 2016)

	2017	2016
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash (Note 3)	\$ 144,458	\$ 43,215
Cash segregated for future expenditures	19,449	9,445
Investment segregated for future expenditures	51,226	10,173
Accounts receivable	26,701	20,058
Inventory	15,535	20,097
Prepaid expenses	13,847	4,413
	271,216	107,401
Tangible capital assets (Note 4)	15,166	17,185
Assets held in trust (Note 5)	416,982	411,899
Investments segregated for future expenditures		
(Note 6)	41,003	80,648
	\$ 744,367	\$ 617,13
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 51,787	\$ 48,227
Deferred revenue (Note 7)	158,931	66,572
	210,718	114,799
Long-term liabilities		
Funds held in trust (Note 8)	10.384	5.460
	221,102	120,259
NET ASSETS		
Net assets invested in capital assets	15,166	17,185
Net assets designated for future expenditures	74,950	61,926
Restricted net assets	416,982	411,899
Unrestricted net assets	16,167	5,864
	523.265	496.874
	\$ 744,367	\$ 617,133

Approved on Behalf of the Board

Director

Director



SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JULY 31, 2017 (with comparative figures for 2016)

	2017	2016		
Revenue				
Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund	\$ 185,000	\$ 185,000		
Self-generated revenue (Schedule 1)	140,553	124.074		
	325,553	309,074		
Expenditures				
Administration (Schedule 2)	136,837	150,479		
Amortization	2,019	2,327		
Corporate (Schedule 3)	9,648	8,916		
Fundraising	-	211		
Program (Schedule 4)	101,095	112,985		
Public relations (Schedule 5)	6,211	9,009		
Travel and meeting (Schedule 6)	43,352	39,312		
	299,162	323,239		
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures	\$ 26,391	<u>\$ (14,165)</u>		

See accompanying notes



SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JULY 31, 2017 (with comparative figures for 2016)

	in	nvested Tangible Capital Assets	Designated for Future Expenditures	Restricted Net Assets	Unrestricted Net Assets		2017		2016
Net Assets									
Balance, beginning of year	S	17,185	61,926	411,899	5,864	\$	496,874	\$	511,039
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures		-	3,024	16,333	7,034		26,391		(14,165)
Additions to tangible capital assets		-	-	-)-		-		u
Amortization of capital assets		(2,019)	-	-	2,019		-		-
Transfers			10.000	(11.250)	1,250			_	
Balance, end of year	\$	15,166	74.950	416,982	16,167	<u>s</u>	523,265	\$	496,874



SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JULY 31, 2017 (with comparative figures for 2016)

2017 2016 Operating activities Excess of revenues over expenditures unrestricted net assets \$ 26,391 (14,165)Items not involving an outlay (receipt) of cash 2,327 2,019 Amortization (11,838) 28,410 Net change in non-cash operating working capital balances Investment 40,091 Investment segregated for future (41,053)expenditures (139)Accounts receivable (6,643)175 Inventory 4,562 (14,454)Prepaid expenses (9,434)3,665 Accounts payable and accrued liabilities 3,560 (6,853)Deferred revenue 92,359 (664)Funds held in trust 4.924 2,169 Cash provided by operating activities 76.685 12,152 Investing activities Addition to investments segregated for future expenditures 39,645 (50,528)Additions to assets held in trust (5,083)8,762 Additions to tangible capital assets (4.736)Cash provided by (used in) investing activities 34,562 (46.502) Increase (decrease) in cash 111,247 (34,350)Cash position, beginning of year 52,660 87,010 Cash position, end of year 163,907 52,660 Cash consists of: 144,458 43,215 Cash segregated for future expenditures 19,449 9,445 163,907 52,660

See accompanying notes



SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JULY 31, 2017

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 Leaseholds 10 % 5 years

Full amortization is recorded in the year of purchase.

Revenue recognition

The Association follows the deferral method of accounting.

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 Recreations. Accordingly, amounts received that relate to the next fiscal period are shown as deferred revenue.

Other revenue is recognized in the period in which the income is earned.

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.



SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JULY 31, 2017

3.	Cash			
		2017		2016
	Anna Klassen scholarship	\$ 18,973	S	17,528
	Betty Tydeman scholarship	1,914		2,114
	Frances England scholarship	2,700		3,000
	Ken Lee scholarship	4,000		5,500
	Mossie Hancock scholarship	3,200		3,500
	MYC scholarship	1,348		1,748
	Ross Ulmer scholarship	5,500		6,000
	Scholarship savings unallocated interest	162		144
	Total scholarship savings account	37,797	1	39,534
	Bank account - general	105,688		2,830
	PayPal	973		851
	Total cash	\$ 144,458	\$	43,215

4. Tangible capital assets

	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	N	2017 let Book Value	 2016 Net Book Value
Equipment Furniture and fixtures	\$ 11,651 7,779	3,505 3,163	\$	8,146 4,616	\$ 9,051 5,129
Leasehold improvements	 5,836	3,432	11-3-22	2,404	3,129
	\$ 25,266	10,100	\$	15,166	\$ 17,185

5. Assets held in trust

NAMES OF THE OWNERS OF THE OWN	201/	2016
Great West Life portfolio	\$ 383,274	\$ 375,882
BCE Inc. (576 shares)	33,708	36,017
Total investment	\$ 416,982	\$ 411,899

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. <u>Iuvestments</u>
 Investments consist of the following term deposits:
 \$10,316 39 month, annual interest rate of 1.5%, matures July 24, 2020
 \$30,687 5 year, annual interest rate of 1.8%, matures April 24, 2021

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.

	2017			2016		
Affiliation fees	\$	62,414	\$	61,572		
Nationals reimbursements		4,017		-		
Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund		92,500				
Concerto donation for 2017 event	1,000	-		5,000		
	\$	158,931	\$	66,572		



SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JULY 31, 2017

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. 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.

10. 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.

11. 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, 2017:

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 2016.

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 2016.

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 2016.



SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION SCHEDULES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JULY 31, 2017

(with comparative figures for 2016)

		2017		2016
Self-generate	d revenue			Schedule 1
Affiliation fees	\$	50,053	\$	52,162
Concerto revenue		11,211		-
Conference		2,303		500
Corporate sponsorships		8,200		12,500
Festival unit stationary		1,174		845
Fundraising and donations		7,225		170
Investment income (loss) - restricted		8,156		99,414
Investment income - unrealized		11,672		(91,178)
Interest - future expenditures		3,024		2,330
Miscellaneous		9		1,030
Opera competition		_		773
Provincial finals		15,576		18,582
Provincial scholarships		20,550		18,497
Sale of promotional items		740		1,409
Syllabus and directory	200000	660		7,040
	\$	140,553	S	124,074



SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION SCHEDULES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JULY 31, 2017 (with comparative figures for 2016)

		2017		2016
Administration	expenditures			Schedule 2
Bookkeeping	\$	721	\$	866
Delivery		702		1,462
Equipment rental and supplies		160		4,375
Miscellaneous		532		648
Newsletter		344		430
Postage		2,309		2,164
Rent		16,680		17,199
Salaries and benefits		109,842		118,111
Telephone		2,649		3,170
Utilities and maintenance		2,898		2,054
	\$	136,837	\$	150,479
Corporate exp	penditures			Schedule 3
Audit	\$	3,548	\$	3,548
Bank charges		280		78
Insurance		2,233		2,160
Investment management fees - restricted		3,412		2,730
Membership		175		400
	\$	9,648	\$	8,916
Program exp	enditures			Schedule 4
Adjudicators training	\$	2,101	\$	Schedule 4
Concerto competition	.Φ	10,043	Ф	-
Festival unit financial assistance		8,700		3,529
Festival unit supplies		8,822		12,884
Opera competition		4,102		
Program enhancement		4,700		9,082
Provincial finals expense		27,032		4,600
Provincial finals scholarship		23,750		32,217
Provincial office supplies		10,623		19,550
Speech arts		1,222		15,400 11,503
Syllabus/directory		1,444		4,220
-,	\$	101,095	\$	112,985
Public relations of Advertising				Schedule 5
	\$	4,447	\$	7,465
A name 1		1 454		1,499
		1,454		-,
Annual report Promotional video	\$	310 6,211	\$	9,009



SASKATCHEWAN MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION SCHEDULES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JULY 31, 2017

(with comparative figures for 2016)

		2017	2016
Travel and meeting	expenditures		Schedule 6
SMFA conference charges	\$	7,574	\$ 11,082
SMFA directors travel		13,818	9,520
Festival visiting		373	520
Executive directors travel		5,214	4,317
Delegates to Federation conference		6,359	6,828
National competitors and accompanists	0.000.000.000	10,014	7,045
400 90 300	\$	43,352	\$ 39,312



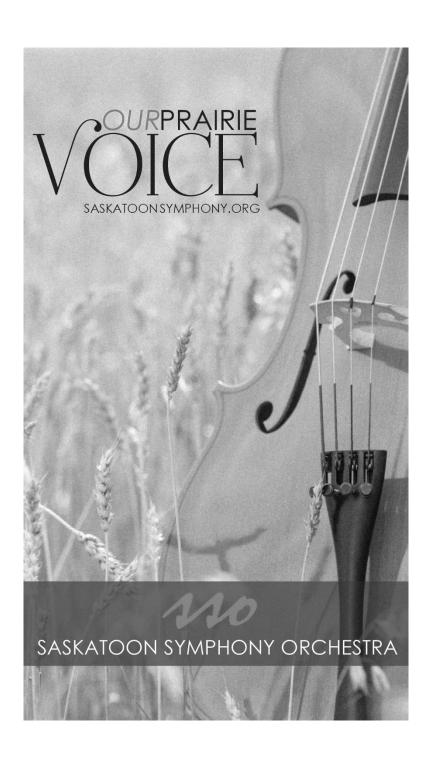
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Notes: