



Festival Focus

SMFA Provincial Office



Established in 1908

May 2011

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"Classical Competitive Festivals"

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President's Message

Joy McFarlane-Burton



As the 49 District Music Festivals of 2011 are concluding across our Province we are once again thankful for the competitors, collaborative artists, teachers, and volunteers that have shared their talents and time in their communities. We will recall memorable performances that have moved and inspired us, and appreciate the work and skill that it takes to bring those performances to the stage.

We can now look forward to the Provincial Finals in Moose Jaw, June 3-5, 2011. This is our chance to hear those competitors who have been recommended from the District Festivals by the Adjudicators. The deadline for Provincial Finals entries is May 15. A schedule will be posted on our web-site www.smfa.ca. The Provincial Level of National Competition will be held on Friday, June 3. It will be exciting to hear those who would represent Saskatchewan at the National Music Festival in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, August 11-13, 2011.

The Provincial Board of Directors of the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association (SMFA) encourages at least one delegate from each District Festival to attend the Saskatchewan Music Conference in Regina on November 3-5, 2011.

Entry Deadline for the SMFA Concerto Competition is October 15. The Competition will be held in Saskatoon on November 19-20, 2011.

I would also remind those who wish to make requests for changes or additions to the 2013-2015 SMFA Syllabus that the deadline is May 31, 2011. All requests are to be sent to Theresa Brost, Syllabus Chair, tebrost@xplornet.com.

We are also thrilled with the support for the SMFA Travel Lottery. Many District Festivals have requested more tickets to sell. Please see the SMFA web-site for further information on this Fundraiser.

Many of us met in Regina on April 17 to attend the *Celebration of Life of Mossie Hancock*, an amazing volunteer and builder of the SMFA. Mossie, along with her husband Gordon, contributed to the SMFA in many ways too numerous to mention in this brief message.

Mossie lived the Mission of the SMFA:

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

Thank you Mossie Hancock!

I invite you to keep informed about the activities of the SMFA through our web-site www.smfa.ca, and also consider becoming a Fan on Facebook.

We gratefully acknowledge the continued support of Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture, and Recreation, The Saskatchewan Arts Board, and SaskCulture Inc.

Have a wonderful summer!





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Provincial Finals Competition – Moose Jaw, SK

The Saskatchewan Music Festival Association (SMFA), established in 1908, invites you to attend the Annual Provincial Finals Competitions and the Saskatchewan level of National Music Festival Competitions, June 3, 4, & 5, 2011 in Moose Jaw, SK. Admission is \$5.00 per day for all venues.

Beginning on Friday, June 3, at 1:00 p.m. in the Mae Wilson Auditorium (Cultural Centre), our best senior musicians will vie for the opportunity to represent the province at the National Music Festival (to be held in Antigonish, NS, August 11-13, 2011). Judges from across Canada will name the winners of each of the eligible categories, including previously recorded choral entries for advancement to the national level.

On Saturday, June 4, almost 300 performances by winners in all disciplines from Saskatchewan's 49 District Music Festivals will be heard. Provincial Competitions will be held in various venues.

Sunday, June 6, judges will hear the two best senior competitors from each discipline, chosen from the performances heard the previous day, in the Grand Awards Competitions starting at 1:00 p.m in Zion United Church.

Prizes of over \$18,000 will be dispersed during the weekend competitions, the most prestigious of which is the **Sister Geraldine Boyle Memorial Gold Award of \$1,000** for the most outstanding performance of the afternoon and **The Wallis Memorial Silver Award of \$750** for the runner-up. The **winner of the Regan Grant Memorial Musical Theatre Competition** will also be heard in performance. Prejudged-recorded choral winners will be announced during the Grand Awards Competitions. Choirs from across Saskatchewan have competed in the following categories: Saskatchewan Choral Federation Scholarship, Roy Aikenhead Memorial Scholarship and Kiwanis Club of Regina Gallagher Memorial Choral Scholarship.

Judges for the weekend competitions are: **Senior Piano:** Michael Oike, Winnipeg, MB; **Intermediate Piano:** Diana Wiens, Edmonton, AB; **Senior Voice:** Karen Jensen, Winnipeg, MB; **Strings:** Preston Hawes, Burtonsville, MD; **Percussion/Brass/Woodwinds:** William Gordon, Brandon, MB; **Intermediate Voice/Speech Arts/Musical Theatre:** David Playfair, Brandon, MB and **Choral Judge** Karen Hudson, Lethbridge, AB.

The Saskatchewan Music Festival Association acknowledges corporate sponsorship from **SaskTel, SaskEnergy, and PotashCorp**, and the continuing support of the **Sask Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture & Recreation, SaskCulture, Sask Arts Board and individual donors. Visit our website at www.smfa.ca.**

"To promote excellence in music and speech arts by providing performance and educational opportunities through competitive music festivals in the Province of Saskatchewan."



Preparation for Culture Days 2011 in Saskatchewan underway

On Monday May 9, 2011, plans for Culture Days were launched in Saskatchewan and three other provinces as part of a nation-wide media announcement. This will be the second year Saskatchewan has participated in this pan-Canadian event held in late September to increase the awareness, accessibility, participation and engagement of Canadians in cultural activities in their communities.



As part of the Culture Days Launch, Honourable Bill Hutchinson, Saskatchewan Minister of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport, announced that the Government of Saskatchewan has proclaimed the week of September 26 – October 2, 2011 as Culture Days in Saskatchewan.

"Culture Days is a great way to celebrate Saskatchewan culture here at home and share it with the rest of Canada," Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport Minister Bill Hutchinson said. "Culture is central to our creativity and identity, essential to our individual and community quality of life and a valued and integral component of a vibrant and growing economy."

Culture Days, as a Canada-wide celebration, represents the largest-ever collective public participation campaign undertaken by the arts and cultural community in this country.





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A Remembrance of Mossie Hancock

submitted by Joy McFarlane-Burton

On Sunday, April 17, 2011 a group of representatives of the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association (SMFA) attended a *Celebration of the Life of Mossie Hancock* at the Hotel Saskatchewan in the Blue Lounge. It was a wonderful afternoon of shared memories and tributes to a multi-talented woman. Doris Covey-Lazecki and Lillian Mitchell shared their memories of Mossie and her husband Gordon and their work with the SMFA.

The SMFA system we enjoy today has been greatly influenced by the support we received from Mossie Hancock and her husband Gordon. They were indeed Builders of this Association over the past several decades, volunteering countless hours for the promotion, governance, and development of the SMFA.

The Hancocks were both very fine musicians and shared their love of music across this Province and in all Canadian Provinces as Adjudicators.

Mrs. Hancock was also a fine writer. In her Introduction to the History of the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals "The Road to Excellence" she writes:

"Here we share ideas, look at common problems and try to help each other to remain strong, enthusiastic and growing in our service to music within our communities, while we continue our administration of the National Festival."

In 1997 Mossie compiled the "Speech Arts Resource Manual" for the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association. This was a huge undertaking and thanks to Mossie's diligent work we are enjoying an increase in the number of students entering in Speech Arts classes at both the District and Provincial levels of competition. I am fortunate to have my copy of this book signed by Mossie. It says: "For Joy – use, enjoy, and remember – Mossie Hancock"

The SMFA Board of Directors, along with her many friends, remember Mossie as having lived an interesting and successful life. These words of Will Rogers may describe Mossie's dedication to the SMFA:

"If you want to be successful, it's just this simple. Know what you are doing, Love what you are doing, And believe in what you are doing."



Memories of Mossie Hancock

Submitted by Marshall Whelan

Marshall Whelan is from Saskatoon, the son of John and Lorna Whelan, who were long-time supporters of the festival and best friends with Mossie and Gordon Hancock.

"BE INTERESTING; BE INTERESTED"

It was mid 1971 when as a teenager, I first met Mossie Hancock and her larger than life husband Gordon. My parents had spent the summer touring Europe with the Hancocks, and I quickly developed a high regard for this very friendly, articulate and intelligent couple from Regina. Whenever they came to Saskatoon, usually for Mossie's reviews of symphony concerts for CBC Radio or in Gordon's case, to oversee the music festival, the Whelans and Hancocks enjoyed time spent. After Gordon retired, the Hancocks travelled with, and often stayed with my parents whenever they came to Saskatoon. My wife Linda and I were probably the last friends to see Gordon alive when he left to take Mossie to another CBC interview; we were the first to greet a shattered Mossie when my parents picked her up after his massive fatal heart attack. Linda gathered a visibly smaller Mossie into her arms and told her gently "You are family; you are not alone...."

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Before I speak about Mossie, I feel obliged to speak about Gordon, a man who taught me three important lessons that I have never forgot:

1. VAT 69: "the Pope's telephone number", as Gordon termed it. He gave me an enduring love for good Scotch.
2. The art and craft of being a host: always "work a room", ensuring that you greet and have a chance to talk with everybody, establishing a connection with each person. If possible, say farewell to each and all.
3. Be on the lookout for that one special person who could be your life's partner. Gordon gave me the "thumbs up" for my own wife, Linda.

"LIVE LIFE WITH PASSION"

Anyone who knew or worked with Mossie recognized immediately that she was a person who was intensely passionate about life, and consequently observed its practise with a critical eye. Her gift for analysis and her critical thinking skills could leave one with the impression that there were few subjects about which she did not have strong opinions. She loved to debate: if you chose to take up THAT sword with her, you'd better have brought along your shield as well, for you needed to be prepared for a true contest of thrust and parry in wills, wits and words. It might get heated, and it was always spirited. But there were never hard feelings.

She took that gift of analysis and critical thinking into her adjudications at festivals. Privately, she would remark how pleased she was that someone had cared enough to "play with passion"; that the performance had been "interesting" because, as she put it, that person "had been interested". She could not and, thus would not, tolerate indifference.

To our family, she was a surrogate "Grand Aunt", musically coaching us whenever she visited. She did it for me when I was a teenager competing in festivals, and she continued to do it when our children became actively involved in music. In effect, we received the benefit of free adjudications. There was always "what/how you did at this spot was good *because*", liberally salted with "now see if you can improve here." In my case, as I got older, I was generally asked to play it again, as the 'adjudications' became more precise and constructive.

As many of you know, she was instrumental in the introduction and development of the Speech Arts portion of the Festival. My own family discovered her talent for that genre when our eldest son was participating in his elementary school's mandatory poetry recitation day. Then aged 8 at most, he wasn't particularly keen. However, we found an A. A. Milne poem entitled "*Disobedience*". It was about a three year old boy who got lost, but who believed sincerely that it wasn't HE who was lost, but rather his mother. Our son had dutifully memorized the poem, but it was Mossie who fired him up. "*Say it as if you mean it!*" she instructed. "*Be interested and be interesting!*" If memory serves me correctly, I think he won the contest for his age bracket with a surprisingly animated effort.

For me, Mossie was a coach and mentor, as well as a friend and adopted family member. She coached me in my brief stint as a CBC reviewer, where everything I wrote and how I said it was scrutinized analytically whenever I asked for the feedback.

She introduced me to excellent mystery/crime fiction, a passion that is mine to this day. I must have been reading something sufficiently low enough in her estimation, because one day she simply handed me Josephine Tey's superb *DAUGHTER OF TIME*, with the terse statement: "Don't waste your time on bad writers."

My best enduring memory of Mossie's last years was her extraordinary mind still functioning, even as ill health was inevitably affecting her. Visiting her in the nursing home, we were stunned to hear of the incredible volume of books she read. I had previously loaned her a set of novels, and she had finished them months ago. Yet, she remembered details about them like it was yesterday. Questions and comments rained down on me. And then, to our amazement, she picked up the conversation exactly where we had left off months ago. It was about our children, their careers and spouses: to her, it was about 'her' family too, about whom she obviously felt very passionately.

Mossie was a remarkable person, who truly lived life in the credo of ***"BE INTERESTING; BE INTERESTED."*** AND ***"LIVE LIFE WITH PASSION"***.





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Proud to be part SMFA



Dr. M. K. Pishay-Floyd

Sometime ago I wrote the following to the SMFA Provincial Office after adjudicating the music festivals at Cupar and Hudson Bay, SK:

"SMFA does more - ultimately - of lasting benefit for musical culture in Saskatchewan than any other institution. It is the musical grassroots in almost every community, a life-line to Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, et al, and it lifts everyone up! I am proud to be a part of it."

I firmly believe this to be true. At the moment I am in Vienna, having today been honoured at Doblinger Baroque Salon with the release of a new CD containing 2 of my works, a CD that has been produced by ORF, the Austrian equivalent of CBC.

This recognition of my work as a composer is, of course, a major milestone in my career as a composer; needless to say, I am very happy about this.

Nevertheless, I say with utter sincerity that it is no more important to me than adjudicating music festivals, especially in rural centres in Saskatchewan. Why? I gave the essence of my reasons in the statement of mine I quoted above, but I will elaborate.

My wife, Annette, and I have both adjudicated music festivals for about the past 30 years. In the music festivals we indeed touch base with "the grass roots." We both especially like to adjudicate in Saskatchewan's smaller communities because we feel our particular musical skill-sets can make the maximum contribution to these communities. Other adjudicators, such as our friend and colleague, Robin Harrison, bring their more specialized skill-sets to larger centres with maximum impact.

SMFA does, in general, an excellent job of allocating their adjudicators to communities. There is almost always a good match-up of adjudicator and community. In the smaller communities I prefer and request, I am consistently impressed by the high percentage of participation.

For example, in tiny Vanguard, population circa 100, last year, there were 175 entries! In Cupar this year, at the Qu'Appelle Valley Music Festival, I heard 221 entries in a 5-day period, and the following week in Hudson Bay, Saskatchewan I also heard a large number of entries.

In Cupar, I was particularly impressed by the relatively new and growing band program and the level of their participation; in Hudson Bay, I was impressed by some outstanding choral speaking at the high school, and the enthusiasm of the children. Cupar also produces an astoundingly consistently high level of piano playing, and I heard one piano duet by elementary-age children that knocked my ears off!

Last year in Vanguard I was, as always (my third time there) treated to an incredibly high level of musical theatre, with a strong input from next-door Pambrun, home of a Bible college.

I recall a garage mechanic in Elrose who had encouraged his son to enter that year's festival as a trumpet soloist and sought my advice on his future as a possible music major, and two cowboys in La Fleche, one 76 and still riding the range, the other the world roping champion that year, who had in common a deep commitment to their children and or grandchildren learning and performing Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, et al. at the music festival. Parents, grandparents, and music festival volunteers I have encountered include everyone from such mechanics and cowboys to farmers, both grain and cattle, hardware merchants, restaurant owners, teachers, preachers, private music teachers, people who run seed-cleaning operations, plumbers, electricians, firefighters, RCMP or other police officers, and more than one town mayor or other administrator.

The larger communities such as Saskatoon, Regina, Moose Jaw, Prince Albert, and so forth have many sources of and resources for, music. For most of the smaller communities, however, the music festival is THE big musical focus, and it IS a focus! In Biggar, Carnduff, Coronach, Cupar, Elrose, Estevan, Eston, Grenfell, Hafford, Hudson Bay, La Fleche, Leader, Maple Creek, Radisson, Rosetown, Shaunavon, Spiritwood, Unity, Vanguard, Wynyard, all among the many communities in which I've adjudicated in Saskatchewan, almost every youngster in town and the



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surrounding areas is in the festival, everyone for sure does have a relative in the festival, and everyone in town and all the lands around knows about it. It is the main event in town when it is on, and attendance at such festivals tends to be high. It reaches everyone in these rural communities.

In all these places there are outstanding performers to be discovered, and others just to be encouraged. There are gifted composers in some of these areas ranging from a well-known piano teacher who composes fantastic works in one town to a highly-gifted young teenager in another who has Beethoven-like improvisational skills sustained by phenomenal technique. There was a largely self-taught (with the help of the internet) female tuba player in a small southwestern Saskatchewan town whom the local music festival encouraged. She is now a tuba major in a Canadian university. Another young lady produced the most beautiful lyrical sound I have ever heard on -- a baritone sax! The music festivals have encouraged all of these, coached all of these, empowered them, and bring all of this together each year in dozens of locales around the province year after year.

The music festivals remind everyone in all these communities how vital good music is to a vibrant community life, and between the volunteers who put them together, the local parents whose children enter them, the children themselves, certainly the teachers, and of course, the good folks in Regina at SMFA "central" who coordinate all the materials, festivals, and adjudicators, they get everyone involved!

For me, one performance that sums up what the whole thing is about took place at Vanguard (the last time I adjudicated there) at the final concert, when, to an absolutely packed house which at least doubled the population of Vanguard, the 93 year old former mayor of Vanguard accompanied a 4-year old prodigy singing and dancing and acting her little way through "The Good Ship Lollipop" in a stunning, show-stopper performance. It brought the audience to their feet and a tear to more than one eye. It just doesn't get any better in my books, not even in Vienna!

This is my take, my sketch, of what the SMFA brings to Saskatchewan. I hope this makes clear why "I am proud to be a part of it!"




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Tickets \$10.00 each

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Highlights from 2011 District Festivals

Kipling & District Music Festival

All across the province, festival volunteers are responding to a similar challenge: ***How do we keep our festivals alive and thriving in these rapidly changing times?*** In this issue of Festival Focus, we would like to tell you about three festivals and their success stories in the area of speech arts and school music.

In the fall of 2010, **Kipling & District Music Festival** targeted speech arts as an area for potential growth. Choral speech entries had been absent from the festival for several years and entries to solo speech arts had sadly dwindled to a few each year. The committee approached Grade 2 teacher, Mrs. Mona Lynn Stender, and asked if she would consider running a noon-hour poetry club for students in Grades 1-3. She agreed, and the "Speak Out!" poetry club was born. Interested students met with Mrs. Stender over the noon hour and poetry was selected for choral speaking, as well as poems for each student wishing to enter solos. The festival association assisted by paying entry fees for soloists in the inaugural year. Practice began in earnest, resulting in some fine performances at this year's music festival! The "Speak Out!" Group earned marks of 88 & 90 and were invited back to perform *Caleb's Desk is a Mess* to a large and appreciative audience at the final awards concert. Entries in speech arts increased from 3 entries in 2010 to 20 entries in 2011. Now that the seed has been planted, we hope to see continued growth and are looking forward to speech arts once again being an integral part of the Kipling Festival. Special thanks to Mrs. Stender for sharing her time and her love of poetry with the students – hope to see you all again next year!

Submitted by Nancy Toppings



"Speak Out!" Poetry Club members pose for a photo with their teacher, Mona Lynn Stender, following their performance in Choral Speech at the Kipling & District Music Festival. Interested students from Kipling School Grades 2 & 3 participated in the poetry club.



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Meadow Lake & District Music Festival can attribute much of its success to some very hard-working volunteers.

Sandra Senga writes:

"If you are looking for ideas to increase entries to your festival, especially in vocal or speech, you may want to consider turning to the schools in your area.

After the festival a few years ago, a teacher at one of the elementary schools proposed the idea of a *Music Festival Club* to a colleague. Since then, a second elementary school has embraced the idea and the Junior High has implemented a similar concept. Without these efforts at the schools, our vocal (solo/duet) entries this year would have been 20 instead of 84.

The clubs do not run all year long! Since our festival is traditionally in March, the clubs begin right after the Christmas break and go until the festival is over.

After the music is chosen (with great input from the teacher) students are provided with a CD to practice at home. Regular practice times are also scheduled at school both with the teacher(s) and using the computer labs. Here all the students can practice their own song. Although the room gets quite noisy, each student is practicing with ear phones and can have an effective practice.

Although this is done through the schools here, this service can be provided by any type of group - a church youth group for example, or an interested adult that provides this service to a small group of children in their own home.

As with any project there is a time commitment, but when it is done only for 3-4 months, it is not such a daunting task. All the work gives many rewards!! It rewards the young performers who otherwise may not have had the opportunity to perform. It rewards the people who worked with the youngsters by seeing how they have grown as a performer and a person. It rewards your festival because it was able to grow with their hard work. And finally it rewards your community at large because a young person is growing in confidence which will in turn grow into your future leaders.

The community of Moosomin truly has something to boast about when it comes to speech arts! When asked to share their secrets, Alice Abramson contributed the following:

"The **Moosomin & District Music Festival** is proud to see a steady rise in the number of students entering the Speech Arts Section of the festival each year. We attribute this to the work of Tannis McFarlane-Kelly and several teachers at the local elementary school who encourage students to learn poetry and enter festival. We send out a short note through the schools to every student in our area in early January. This not only makes the students aware of the Festival, but also their parents. Students can enter a wide range of classes from solo poetry to storytelling, solo scenes and public speaking as well. *Partner Poetry is fairly unique and popular here.* Poems for two voices are chosen and then performed by students who normally are shy about getting up on stage alone. There are other students who just enjoy the opportunity to recite poetry in a whole new and fun way.

This year we had three completely full sessions of just Speech Arts alone. It is very encouraging and with the enthusiasm and energies of all the teachers and students, we can see this discipline becoming very popular."

So....kudos to Moosomin, Meadow Lake and Kipling for your creativity! We would love to share stories from other district festivals. Please send yours to board members: Nancy Toppings (toppings@sasktel.net) or Sandra Senga (sandra.senga@nwsd.ca).



For information on SMFA events throughout the year, visit our website at www.smfa.ca



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Meadow Lake & District Music Festival Honours Founding Member

The Meadow Lake & District Music Festival honoured Janet Caldwell at the Awards Program held on March 30, 2009. She received a much deserved standing ovation from the large crowd which was in attendance.

Janet was one of the founding members of our local music festival. Janet, along with a small group of friends, began planning our first festival in the fall of 1978. The first festival was held April 9 – 11, 1979.

Over the years Janet has served on many committees for our local festival. She also sat on the SMFA provincial board. She has now “retired” from committee work, but is still a very integral part of our festival with the piano students she enters each year.



At the 2009 Awards Program, Janet was presented the SMFA Centennial Trophy. Added to the trophy was the inscription: ***For continued dedication to the Meadow Lake & District Music Festival.***

Janet was very gracious in her acceptance of this small token of appreciation. She spoke of the importance of music in a child's development. She also acknowledged her colleagues in music, both private teachers and those in the school system, and encouraged the audience to thank them all for their work.

Thank you Janet for helping to get us started along the Music Festival road. Congratulations on your career as a successful piano teacher and your continued dedication to your students!



In Memoriam – Jean Martin

February 1, 1916 ~ May 5, 2011



Jean Martin passed away peacefully at St. Paul's Hospital on Thursday, May 5, 2011 at the age of 95 years. A Private Family Memorial Service will be held at a later date. Jean was born in Saskatoon on February 1, 1916. Jean had a great love of music and drama which she used in educating and adjudicating students in voice and the performing arts. She was predeceased by her husband Rev. Allan Martin, her parents Walter and Betty Harrington, brother Dr. Bob (Betty) Harrington and sister Marilou (Roy) Will. Jean is survived by her two daughters Diane (Doug) Tegart of Australia and Darcy (Jeff) Avery of North Dakota; grandchildren and great grandchildren; sisters Frances Morrison of Saskatoon and Phyllis (Grant) McOrmond of Victoria, BC; numerous nieces and nephews; as well as her God daughter Joan Hugg who was very instrumental in Jean's care. Jean will be fondly remembered and sadly missed by all who knew her.

Jean served on the SMFA Provincial Board of Directors and President for a two-year term (1974 & 1975) and was an SMFA Honorary Life Member.



SMFA Concerto Competition

The 29th Saskatchewan Music Festival Association (SMFA) Concerto Competition will be held in Saskatoon November 19 & 20, 2011 in Quance Theatre, University of Saskatchewan. The first place winner receives a \$2,000 scholarship and has the opportunity to appear as a guest artist with the RSO and the SSO. Second-place and third-place scholarships of \$750 and \$500 respectively are also awarded.

The competition is open to non-professional musicians, between 14 and 30 years of age who live or study in the Province of Saskatchewan (OR if studying outside of the province have competed in a Saskatchewan Music Festival within the preceding five years) and have previously competed in the National class or a senior class in the same discipline of a district festival. Visit www.smfa.ca for more details.





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2011 Saskatchewan Music Conference

"More Than Music"

November 3-5, 2011 - Regina Travelodge



Photos courtesy of www.dreamstime.com, Microsoft Office and the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association.



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SASKATCHEWAN Choir CAMPS

Presented by:
Saskatchewan Choral Federation



TEEN RETREAT

August 14 – 20, 2011

Ages 13-18

Briercrest College, Caronport, SK

\$550 Registration Fee

- Develop your vocal skills.
- Sing a wide variety of choral music from Mozart to Moraz, Bach to Bieber.
- Experience the joy of singing in a great ensemble.
- Do you play an instrument? Bring it along and we'll see if we can fit it into the week's activities!
- Take part in great activities – water volleyball, karaoke, a variety show, fire pit sing-along and more.
- Free time for socializing and meeting new people!
- Includes choral instruction & 'choralography', a final concert for friends and family, group activities throughout the week, accommodations & meals.



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Monday to Friday program

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- Includes choral instruction & 'choralography', great local activities and a final concert for friends and family.

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From the Provincial Office



Here we are at the end of another successful festival season with Provincial Finals around the corner. Please submit your year-end reports (People/Stats, Money Forms, Adjudicator Evaluations, Adjudicator Time-Frame Forms, Directory Information and Annual Report) to the provincial office as soon as possible after your year-end meeting. Copies of these reporting forms can be found on the SMFA website at www.smfa.ca.

As announced at the November AGM, we have been searching for affordable liability coverage for SMFA District Festivals. We have finalized the SMFA's liability policy which, for an additional \$490 per year, will provide \$3,000,000 in liability coverage to SMFA's 49 District Festivals (effective April 1). The additional premium will be covered by the SMFA Provincial Office and will not be passed on to the District Festivals as indicated in November. A certificate stating proof of coverage is available from our office.

Another issue discussed at the AGM was the invoicing of Affiliation dues. Affiliation invoices have, in the past, been sent to local Festivals in November. This has proven to be a major issue for rotating festivals that do not share the same set of financial books. Furthermore, this expense should be recognized in the same fiscal year that the entry fees are collected. As reported in the December 2010 newsletter, in order to have this payable off the books in the same fiscal year that the entry fees are collected, invoices must be issued earlier. Please note that affiliation invoices will be issued in May starting this year (before May 30, 2011) based on the same year's festival entries and payable by June 30 as per motion made by the SMFA Board of Directors. We realize that this could prove to be a financial hardship for some festivals and we ask that you contact our office to implement a pay arrangement if necessary.

Last month was National Volunteer Week. For over 100 years, SMFA has been supported by a large group of volunteers. On behalf of the SMFA Board of Directors, a heartfelt thank-you is extended to those dedicated individuals who make music festival in their community an important part of life in Saskatchewan.

May is "Leave a Legacy" month. The majority of planned gifts to charities are in the form of bequests – charitable gifts created in Wills. Bequests reflect personal values and beliefs uniquely important to an individual. Lawyers, accountants, or financial planners can assist in making a provision in a will for both loved ones and charitable organizations. SMFA is very fortunate to be one of the many charities that have been left bequests by people who believe in our programs and want to "leave a legacy". Please contact our office for information on ways that you can leave your footprint.



LEAVE A LEGACY™

Culture Days are scheduled for **September 30, October 1 & 2**. We are hoping that you will consider participating. It can be as simple as joining in with your community celebrations by setting up a table or booth to promote music festival or asking your local bank if your committee could hand out promotional items on Saturday afternoon. This is a perfect opportunity to Celebrate the Arts! Each festival will receive an SMFA promotional kit early in September so please plan to participate during one of these days (September 30, October 1 & 2). Watch for more details coming soon!

We wish everyone a safe, enjoyable summer.

Carol Donhauser, Executive Director

REMINDER: Requests for changes or additions to the 2013-2015 SMFA Syllabus will be accepted until May 31, 2011. Requests may be sent to Theresa Brost, Syllabus Chair at tebrost@xplornet.com

