

Focus on FESTIVALS

Volume 36, Issue 1

Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals Newsletter

September 2014



Team Manitoba at the 2014 National Music Festival: (L to R) Nolan Powell - Classical Guitar; Kathryn Patrick - Vocal (Soprano); Albert Chen - Piano; David Liam Roberts - Strings (Cello); Miles Thomsen - Brass (Trumpet); Jaena Kim - Woodwinds (Flute)

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2013-2014

MEMBER FESTIVALS:

Birdtail River Fine Arts Festival
Boissevain Festival of the Arts
Brandon Festival of the Arts
Carberry Music & Arts Festival
Deloraine Border Festival
Evergreen Festival of the Arts
Gladstone Music & Arts Festival
Meridian Arts Festival
Morden Festival of the Arts
Mountain Music Festival
Mountain Poetry & Drama Festival
Neepawa & District Fine Arts Festival
North Western Marquette Festival
Pembina Valley Music Festival
Prairie Sounds Festival
Red River Valley Festival of the Arts
Rock Lake Festival of the Arts
Rockwood Festival of the Arts
Rolling River Festival of the Arts
Selkirk & District Piano Festival
Southeastern Manitoba Festival
Swan Valley Fine Arts Festival
Tempo Festival of the Arts
The Pas Music & Fine Arts Festival
Thompson Festival of the Arts
Tiger Hills Festival of the Arts
Virden Music & Arts Festival
Winkler Festival of the Arts
Winnipeg Music Festival

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Team Manitoba at the 2014 National Music Festival (L to R):
Miles Thomsen, Joanne Thiessen (accompanist), Nolan Powell,
David Liam Roberts, Albert Chen, Jaena Kim and Kathryn Patrick.

About the Festival Movement

The arts give youth and other participants an outlet for creation and self-expression. Participation in the arts allows for learning and skill development as well as the improvement of self-confidence, self-discipline, and work ethic applicable to all areas of life. The Manitoba festival movement provides a three-tiered structure for progress in the arts. Based on their performances, selected participants may progress from local, to provincial, to national festival level.

About Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals

Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals (AMAF) is a non-profit, charitable organization and provincial body representing the movement of amateur community arts festivals across the province. AMAF was incorporated in 1977. Its purpose is to promote and encourage participation in, growth and development of, and appreciation for the creative and performing arts in partnership with local festivals. AMAF believes every individual should have the opportunity to participate in arts activities at any level, to develop an appreciation for the arts, to experience personal growth, and to enrich their skills. AMAF believes that the arts should be an integral part of every person's life and that festivals should be a positive developmental experience.

Whether used as an exposure technique or as a developmental tool, festivals are a doorway to the future, helping to create the next generation of artists and audiences. Manitoba festivals have aided in the development of such accomplished artists as Tracy Dahl, Fred Penner, James Ehnes, Nikki Einfeld, Chantal Kreviazuk and Loreena McKennitt. AMAF provides a route for the most outstanding young musicians to progress from local, to provincial, to national festival level.

AMAF currently has 29 affiliated community festivals which are integral to the culture of their communities. These festivals are run throughout the fall, winter, and spring in Manitoba. Local festivals are often the highest profile arts activities in the cultural life of communities, and each has its own unique flavor which reflects this culture. These festivals also preserve Manitoba's cultural heritage, offering classes in various ethnic art forms. The festivals feature participants which represent more than 200 communities across the province. On average, 95 percent of festival participants are youth under age 18. In the 2013-2014 festival year, local festivals in Manitoba totaled nearly 75,000 participants and audience members combined.

AMAF provides services to its community festivals and its participants through the production of its syllabus and festival resources; hosting its annual Provincial Music and Arts Festival; maintenance of its music and speech arts library; facilitation of workshops; facilitation of its Manitoba Composition Competition, and facilitation of its adjudicator training program.

From local to provincial to national level, festivals allow amateur participants to experience:

Growth – an avenue of education and enriched skill development through professional critique from nationally recognized adjudicators; opportunity to pace development against that of peers

Exposure – an avenue to showcase their abilities through performance

Contribution – an opportunity to contribute to their community's culture and represent their communities at a provincial or national level

Well-Being – an opportunity for participants and audiences alike to develop an appreciation for the arts and benefit from its therapeutic qualities that enhance human well-being

AMAF thanks the participants, parents, teachers, accompanists, adjudicators, donors, sponsors, venue hosts, and VOLUNTEERS that contribute and make the Manitoba festival movement possible!

MESSAGE FROM THE AMAF PRESIDENT



The 2013-2014 Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals (AMAF) year is very quickly coming to a close. We have faced challenges and continued to see music flourish in Manitoba.

Brandon was the host city to our 2014 Provincial Music and Arts Festival, where competitors from the province met to share their talents and compete for placement on Team Manitoba at the National Music Festival in Kelowna. Manitobans can be proud of the wonderful representation at this event in seven categories.

My sincere congratulations are extended to all competitors and award winners as well as my thanks to AMAF staff Danica Loewen for her role as designate to support Manitoba's competitors throughout the National Music Festival.

An invitation is extended to attend the Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals AGM with a goal of keeping a vibrant organization in place to further the musical experiences available to young people in our province.

*Judy Urbonas
AMAF President*

Annual General Meeting

Notice of Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals
Annual General Meeting:

**Saturday, October 4, 2014
1 p.m.**

**Grace Bible Church
366 Oakwood Ave. Winnipeg, MB**

All member festivals, individual members, and those
interested are welcome to attend

2014 Provincial Music and Arts Festival Results

The annual AMAF Provincial Music and Arts Festival was a successful event held in two components in 2014; National classes held in Winnipeg April 27 & 29 at the Canadian Mennonite University and Fort Garry United Church, and all other classes and workshops held May 23-25 at the Brandon University.

24 of 29 AMAF member festivals were represented by participants, further representing 67 different communities throughout Manitoba!

AMAF is pleased to continue to offer the Provincial Music and Arts Festival, allowing local member festival representatives further performance experiences and the opportunity for continued skill development, all while competing with others from across the province for scholarships. The Provincial Music and Arts Festival also serves as a qualifier for the National Music Festival.

NATIONAL CLASSES

National Vocal

Kathryn Patrick (Soprano) – Winnipeg Music Festival

National Piano

Albert Chen – Winnipeg Music Festival

Alternate: Luis Ramirez – Brandon Festival of the Arts

National Strings

David Liam Roberts (Cello) – Winnipeg Music Festival

Alternate: Hannah Humphries (Violin) – Winnipeg Music Festival

National Classical Guitar

Nolan Powell – Winnipeg Music Festival

Alternate: Alex Tyborowski – Winnipeg Music Festival

National Woodwinds

Jaena Kim (Flute) – Winnipeg Music Festival

National Brass

Miles Thomsen (Trumpet) – Winnipeg Music Festival

Alternate: Daniel Lehmann (Trumpet) – Winnipeg Music Festival

National Choral Class 100 – Honourable Barbara A. Hagerman

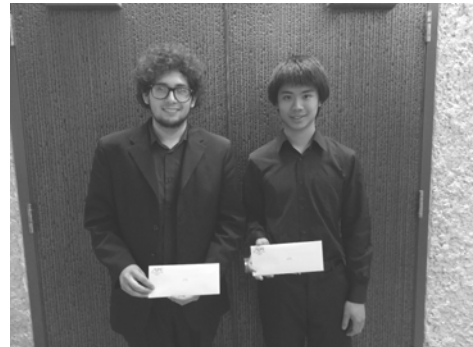
Neepawa & Area Community Choir – Neepawa and District Fine Arts Festival

National Choral Class 103 – Paul J. Bourret

Maples Collegiate Chamber Choir – Winnipeg Music Festival

National Choral Class 105 – Dr. & Mrs. J.F.K. English

Pembina Trails Voices – Chorale – Winnipeg Music Festival



Luis Ramirez and Albert Chen



David Liam Roberts

Manitoba Composition Competition

The following submitted entries with results announced at the 2014 Provincial Music and Arts Festival:

Brycen Reimer (Virden, MB) - Award Winner (Piano): "Escape from Jabba's Palace"

Liam Rice (Portage la Prairie, MB) - Award Winner (Piano): "An Adventure of Galactic Proportions"

Lauren Chabot (Cartier, MB) - Honourable Mention (Piano): "Big Green Alien"

Leah Chabot (Cartier, MB) - Honourable Mention (Piano): "Double Rainbow"

JUNIOR, INTERMEDIATE, ADVANCED, SENIOR CLASSES

Junior Canadian Composers

- 1st Place: Ari Hooker (Piano) – Southeastern Manitoba Festival
Virden Music and Arts Festival Scholarship
- 2nd Place: Joshua Dyck (Piano) – Red River Festival of the Arts
Lions Club of Winnipeg Scholarship
- 3rd Place: Georg Neuhofer (Piano) – North Western Marquette Festival
Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals Scholarship
Julian Liu (Piano) – Winnipeg Music Festival
S.C. Eckhardt-Gramatté Scholarship
(most outstanding performance of a Manitoba composer's work)



"Thank you so much for the scholarship! I enjoyed participating in the Provincials. I learned a lot from the experiences!"

- Georg Neuhofer

Intermediate Canadian Composers

- 1st Place: Elena Howard-Scott (Vocal) – Winnipeg Music Festival
Rolling River Festival of the Arts Scholarship
- 2nd Place: Jennifer Arcand (Flute) – Winnipeg Music Festival
Hurton Family Scholarship
- 3rd Place: Heejae Kim (Piano) – Brandon Festival of the Arts
Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals Scholarship
Tristan Klassen (Vocal) – Pembina Valley Music Festival
S.C. Eckhardt-Gramatté Scholarship (most outstanding performance of a Manitoba composer's work)



Elena Howard-Scott



Viola Zhou

Advanced Canadian Composers

- 1st Place: Viola Zhou (Piano) – Winnipeg Music Festival
Rock Lake Festival of the Arts Scholarship
- 2nd Place: Jordan Martens (Piano) – Southeastern Manitoba Festival
Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals Scholarship

Senior Canadian Composers

- 1st Place: Luis Ramirez (Piano) – Brandon Festival of the Arts
Dr. Lorne Watson Memorial Scholarship

Junior W.A. Mozart

- 1st Place: Julian Liu (Piano) – Winnipeg Music Festival
Raleigh Family Scholarship



Intermediate W.A. Mozart

- 1st Place: Catherine Dong (Piano) – Winnipeg Music Festival
Raleigh Family Scholarship

Advanced W.A. Mozart

- 1st Place: Holly Smith (Piano) – Southeastern Manitoba Festival
Raleigh Family Scholarship

Senior W.A. Mozart

- 1st Place: Elyse Loewen (Violin) – Morden Festival of the Arts
Raleigh Family Scholarship

"It was a big honour and encouragement to me to be the recipient of the 1st Place scholarship. I really enjoyed the trip and performance in Brandon. I am very excited and grateful for receiving the scholarship. I will keep my passion and hard work. Thanks again!"

- Julian Liu

Junior Woodwinds

1st Place: Dmytriy Tymtsiv (Saxophone) – Winnipeg Music Festival
Lions Club of Winnipeg Scholarship

Intermediate Woodwinds

1st Place: Jennifer Arcand (Flute) – Winnipeg Music Festival
Ernest Jones Scholarship

Advanced Woodwinds

1st Place: Benjamin Liu (Saxophone) – Winnipeg Music Festival
Manitoba Band Associated Scholarship



Dmytriy Tymtsiv

Advanced Brass

1st Place: Samuel Hughes – Winnipeg Music Festival
Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals Scholarship

Senior Chamber Group

1st Place: Lord of the Strings Trio (Strings) – Winnipeg Music Festival
Lions Club of Winnipeg Scholarship



Cindy Cui

Junior Strings

1st Place: Cindy Cui (Violin) – Winnipeg Music Festival
Gordon K. Braybrook Scholarship
2nd Place: Priscilla Lee (Cello) – Brandon Festival of the Arts
Elizabeth Lupton Scholarship

Intermediate Strings

1st Place: Samuel Nadurak (Cello) – Winnipeg Music Festival
Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals Scholarship
2nd Place: James Bergen (Violin) – Morden Festival of the Arts
Morden Festival of the Arts Scholarship

Advanced Strings

1st Place: Emily Rekrut-Pressey (Viola) – Winnipeg Music Festival
Tiger Hills Festival of the Arts Scholarship

Senior Strings

1st Place: David Liam Roberts (Cello) – Winnipeg Music Festival
Vi Streuber Memorial Scholarship
2nd Place: Maria Cherwick (Violin) – Brandon Festival of the Arts
Elizabeth Lupton Scholarship

Junior Piano

- 1st Place: Julia Son – Gladstone Festival of the Arts
Carberry Music and Arts Festival Scholarship
- 2nd Place: Ari Hooker – Southeastern Manitoba Festival
Morden Festival of the Arts Scholarship
- 3rd Place: Kevin Li – Winnipeg Music Festival
North Western Marquette Festival Scholarship

Ari Hooker



Intermediate Piano

- 1st Place: Amy Kong – Winnipeg Music Festival
Meridian Arts Festival Scholarship
- 2nd Place: Gavin Leduchowski – Rockwood Festival of the Arts
Rock Lake Festival of the Arts Scholarship
- 3rd Place: Callum Goulet-Kilgour – Winnipeg Music Festival
Winnipeg Music Festival Scholarship
- Azaria Neuschwander – Gladstone Music and Arts Festival
Jean & Lorne Chapple Scholarship (most outstanding performance of a J.S. Bach work)



Azaria Neuschwander

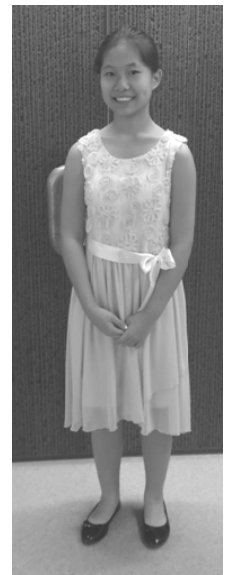
Advanced Piano

- 1st Place: Sarah Pu – Winnipeg Music Festival
James McFee Memorial Scholarship
- 2nd Place: Justin Lin – Winnipeg Music Festival
Manitoba Registered Music Teachers' Association Scholarship
- 3rd Place: Brittany Sawatzky – Gladstone Music and Arts Festival
Winnipeg Music Festival Scholarship

Senior Piano

- 1st Place: Albert Chen – Winnipeg Music Festival
Edith Munroe Scholarship
- 2nd Place: Luis Ramirez – Brandon Festival of the Arts
Edith Munroe Scholarship

Sarah Pu



Junior Vocal

- 1st Place: Mieke Uhryniuk-Smith – Rolling River Festival of the Arts
Brandon Festival of the Arts Scholarship
- 2nd Place: Sarah Luby – Winnipeg Music Festival
Rolling River Festival of the Arts Scholarship

Intermediate Vocal

- 1st Place: Elena Howard-Scott – Winnipeg Music Festival
Mercier Family Scholarship
- 2nd Place: Cody Ziegler – North Western Marquette Festival
Mercier Family Scholarship
- 3rd Place: Maria Golas – Evergreen Festival of the Arts
Mercier Family Scholarship

Advanced Vocal

- 1st Place: Ben Kroeker – Winnipeg Music Festival
Shirley Penner Scholarship
- 2nd Place: Jacinta Van Den Bussche – Brandon Festival of the Arts
Shirley Penner Scholarship



Ben Kroeker

Senior Vocal

- 1st Place: Aliah Nelson – Brandon Festival of the Arts
Manitoba Registered Music Teachers' Association Scholarship



Aliah Nelson

Junior Classical Guitar

- 1st Place: Dylan Thomas – Winnipeg Music Festival
Lions Club of Winnipeg Scholarship

Intermediate Classical Guitar

- 1st Place: Thomas Manuel – Winnipeg Music Festival
Winnipeg Music Festival Scholarship

Advanced Classical Guitar

- 1st Place: Steven Hees – Winnipeg Music Festival
Lions Club of Winnipeg Scholarship



Steven Hees

Senior Classical Guitar

- 1st Place: Alex Tyborowski – Winnipeg Music Festival
Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals Scholarship

Poetry and Prose Grade 7-9

- 1st Place: Ayla Hamilton – North Western Marquette Festival
Thorleifson Family Scholarship
2nd Place: Sonya Strocen – Gladstone Music and Arts Festival
Hurton Family Scholarship
3rd Place: Will Sharpe – Pembina Valley Music Festival
North Western Marquette Festival Scholarship

Poetry and Prose Grade 10-12

- 1st Place: Joey Simms – Brandon Festival of the Arts
Colin Mailer Memorial Scholarship
2nd Place: Rose Sanders – Pembina Valley Music Festival
Lions Club of Winnipeg Scholarship



Wyatt Baloun

Public Speaking Grade 7-9

- 1st Place: Wyatt Baloun – Pembina Valley Music Festival
Evergreen Festival of the Arts Scholarship
2nd Place: Tessa Lupkowski – Prairie Sounds Festival
Pembina Valley Music Festival Scholarship
3rd Place: Jessica Goethals – Deloraine Border Festival
Dr. Mary Neill Adjudicator's Scholarship

Public Speaking Grade 10-12

- 1st Place: Chloe Hayward – Virden Music and Arts Festival
Larry Moore Scholarship



Chloe Hayward

Junior Musical Theatre

- 1st Place: Sarah Luby – Winnipeg Music Festival
The Pas Music and Fine Arts Festival Scholarship
- 2nd Place: Alenna Mark – Winnipeg Music Festival
Swan Valley Fine Arts Festival Scholarship
Hailey Thiessen – Southeastern Manitoba Festival
Adjudicator's Honourable Mention
Brianna Hildebrand – Red River Valley Festival of the Arts
Adjudicator's Honourable Mention

Intermediate Musical Theatre

- 1st Place: Cody Ziegler – North Western Marquette Festival
Rockwood Festival of the Arts Scholarship
- 2nd Place: Shania Thiessen – Southeastern Manitoba Festival
Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals Scholarship

Advanced Musical Theatre

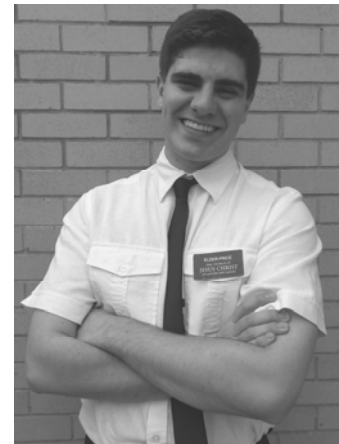
- 1st Place: Robert Piché – Winnipeg Music Festival
Deloraine Border Festival Scholarship
- 2nd Place: Elliot Lazar – Winnipeg Music Festival
Forman Honda Scholarship

Senior Musical Theatre

- 1st Place: Jana Dutkiewicz – The Pas Music and Fine Arts Festival
Lions Club of Winnipeg Scholarship



Cody Ziegler



Robert Piché



Jana Dutkiewicz

"I had the honour of competing at Provincials in the Canadian Composers category. It was a great experience and the adjudicators had helpful encouragement and suggestions."

- Tristan Klassen

"I had a great experience on my first Provincial Music and Arts Festival and it meant a lot to me...I was very encouraged to keep practicing the piano hard and playing beautiful music!"

- Heejae Kim

AMAF thanks its wonderful adjudicators for providing their services and expertise at the 2014 Provincial Music and Arts Festival:

Derek Morphy, Marena Smith, Loren Hiebert, Julian Pellicano - **National Classes**
Mel Braun - **Vocal/Choral**, Patrick Carrabré - **Composition/Workshop**, Naomi Forman - **Musical Theatre/Workshop**, James Hickerson - **Classical Guitar**, Eleanore McLeod - **Senior Piano**, Mary Neill - **Speech Arts/Workshop**, Leana Rutt - **Chamber Groups/Strings**, Peter Stoll - **Woodwinds/Brass**, Kerrine Wilson - **Junior Piano**

Team Manitoba does province proud at 2014 National Music Festival

With assistance from Manitoba Arts Council, AMAF was thrilled to send a an exceptional team to the 2014 National Music Festival held August 14-16, 2014 in beautiful Kelowna, BC. All events took place at the University of British Columbia Okanagan Campus, with the Grand Award Concert held at the Rotary Centre for the Arts.

Team Manitoba was represented by the following individuals:

Vocal: Kathryn Patrick, age 27 (Soprano) – Winnipeg Music Festival

Piano: Albert Chen, age 15 – Winnipeg Music Festival

Strings: David Liam Roberts, age 14 (Cello) – Winnipeg Music Festival

Classical Guitar: Nolan Powell, age 19 – Winnipeg Music Festival

Woodwinds: Jaena Kim, age 17 (Flute) – Winnipeg Music Festival

Brass: Miles Thomsen, age 21 (Trumpet) – Winnipeg Music Festival

These young performers are some of the Manitoba festival movement's most outstanding musicians; young emerging artists performing at near-professional calibre. Each participant first qualified from a local festival to AMAF's Provincial Music and Arts Festival where, upon winning his or her National level class, was selected to Team Manitoba. Each participant on Team Manitoba then competed against other outstanding classical musicians from across the country at the National Music Festival.

Manitoba was also represented by the following choirs (via audio recordings):

National Choral Class 100 – Honourable Barbara A. Hagerman:

Neepawa & Area Community Choir – Neepawa and District Fine Arts Festival

National Choral Class 103 – Paul J. Bourret:

Maples Collegiate Chamber Choir – Winnipeg Music Festival

National Choral Class 105 – Dr. & Mrs. J.F.K. English:

Pembina Trails Voices – Chorale – Winnipeg Music Festival



Vocal: Kathryn Patrick



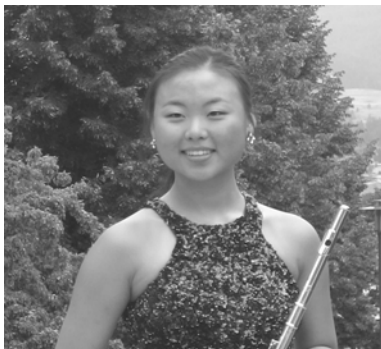
Piano: Albert Chen



Strings: David Liam Roberts



Classical Guitar: Nolan Powell



Woodwinds: Jaena Kim



Brass: Miles Thomsen

**AMAF is very pleased to announce Team Manitoba's excellent results
at the 2014 National Music Festival:**

1st Place, Brass:

Miles Thomsen, age 21 (Trumpet)

2nd Place, Classical Guitar:

Nolan Powell, age 19

Special Award in Strings

(comparable to Honourable Mention)

David Liam Roberts, age 14 (Cello)

Spirit Award (comparable to Congeniality award)

Woodwinds: Jaena Kim, age 17 (Flute)

**AMAF extends congratulations to all of
Team Manitoba!** These talented, hardworking
competitors performed beautifully and
represented the province exceptionally well.

Full results from the 2014 National Music Festival can
be viewed when available at www.fcmf.org.



Nolan Powell during official rehearsal



Miles Thomson accepts 1st Place Award in Brass
from The Honourable Judith Guichon, Lieutenant
Governor of British Columbia (R)



Kathryn Patrick and Team Manitoba
accompanist Joanne Thiessen



At the Gala Concert (L to R):
Danica Loewen (AMAF staff), Joanne Thiessen
(accompanist), Judy Urbonas (AMAF President),
Jaena Kim, Miles Thomsen, David Liam Roberts,
Nolan Powell, Kathryn Patrick and Albert Chen

Behind the Scholarships: Evergreen Festival of the Arts

A history on the Johannes Palsson and Lilja Martin Scholarships, currently offered by AMAF member festival Evergreen Festival of the Arts

Johannes Palsson 1914 – 1970 and Lilja Palsson Martin (1915 – 2007)

Johannes (Joe) Palsson and his sister Lilja Martin were born in the “New Iceland” community of Geysir, the two eldest of five children of Icelandic immigrants. The need for entertainment gave people of that time a strong desire for learning music, and talents were most often developed in the home. It was not long before their parents recognized the musical gifts of their children.

Johannes began studying violin at the age of 12 and was greatly admired for his mature interpretation. The story is told that on the day he received his first violin, he was able to play a popular waltz by the time the day was done. He had the most incredible ear and had the gift of “perfect pitch”. He was a man who had a real passion for music. At age 10, Lilja began piano lessons, She won two Silver medals during her early years as a piano student, and a Gold medal (national) and scholarship in the finals in AMM.

After approximately one year of lessons, Lilja and Johannes had become a brother/sister team in music. Together, first as students and amateurs, they played solos and duets at numerous public gatherings. Later, as accomplished musicians, they taught music in their communities; trained adult and children’s choirs and entertained at countless community functions.

Both Johannes and Lilja studied with various teachers in the Interlake and in Winnipeg. At this time the Depression era or the “dirty thirties” was making survival difficult for many and so any extras such as music lessons were a burden. But the family persevered and sometimes “paid” for lessons with farm produce and homespun mitts.

Both Johannes and Lilja received their ARCT, (Associate of the Royal Conservatory of Toronto) Johannes completed his ATCM violin performers exam in 1935 with First Class Honors. They shared a teaching studio in Winnipeg for a time. Johannes had aspirations to be a concert violinist but that dream was not to be, as the war broke out and he had to go home to look after the farm while his brothers enlisted in the forces. In the 1930’s and early 40s the Palsson Orchestra, made up of the five siblings, joined by two of their cousins played the dance music of the day.

Both Johannes and Lilja were teachers whose dedication was reflected in their students’ accomplishments. Excellent results by their students in music exams and festivals included several silver medals awarded to Johannes’ students for outstanding performance. He taught violin and music theory locally and tuned all the pianos in the area. He directed choirs as well, both children and adults.

In 1950 there was a recording made of The New Iceland Choral Society choir that Joe directed and Lilja accompanied which entertained at the 75th anniversary of the Icelandic Festival. After Joe’s death in 1970, these 78s were re-recorded onto an LP. The funds received from the sale of these records were used to establish The Johannes Palsson Memorial Music Scholarship. In 2002, CD’s were pressed from the original 78’s to preserve this very important part of our local musical history and all proceeds of the sales of these CD’s were added to the fund.

Joe and Lilja would be so pleased to know how their gifts have been of some assistance to the many recipients of the scholarship fund through the years. President of the Evergreen Festival of the Arts Arline Collins has noted that it indeed has helped many young persons continue to realize their musical dreams and the festival has been able to offer these scholarships for many years now. One recent recipient is Deena Grier, at the Boston Conservatory studying for her Masters and Doctorate in Collaborative Piano (story on page 15). Johannes Palsson would have been 100 years old this year.

Submitted by Rosalind Vigfusson

The Joys of Teaching Music: Student Deena Grier

As a teacher we often wonder what use our students make of the things we teach them. They come to us small, eager and full of excitement to learn. Sometimes the road to learning a new skill can be daunting but many persevere and go on to great things.

Deena Grier, from Riverton, came to me (Carol Gudmundson) as a 6 year old wanting to learn to play the piano. She went home from school one day and announced to her mother that she was going to take piano lessons from her music teacher at the school (that was me). They moved her great-grandmother Eleanor's piano into their home and it was where Deena practised for many years until they moved in a Grand Piano when she reached Grade 9 in her lessons.

When she was 9 years old I took her to her first symphony concert in Winnipeg and she fell in love with the classics. We had season tickets for the symphony for the next 8 years and in between we went to the ballet and the opera—she remembers the first opera Turandot. She was a regular participant from the age of 6, in the Evergreen Festival of the Arts, winning scholarships and the Kiwanis Trophy for best performance.

At age 14 she continued her studies with Caron Whitlaw-Hiebert of Winnipeg after which she entered the University of Manitoba. She received her ARCT in piano performance from the Royal Conservatory of Music. Deena graduated with a Bachelor's of Music degree from the University of Manitoba's Desautels Faculty of Music in 2008.

Her interest was piqued by the field of collaborative piano following an invitation to perform with the University of Manitoba's Opera Workshop as an undergraduate. Since her venture into collaborative piano—studying with Drs Laura Loewen and Judy Kehler-Siebert. Deena has worked with a number of instrumentalists and singers, in both solo recital and ensemble performances. Following her Post-Baccalaureate degree, Deena began work at the U of M as a vocal coach; her involvement with the Desautels Faculty of Music as an accompanist, rehearsal pianist, and stage manager was extended to working with solo performers and choirs across Winnipeg.

Deena is continuing her studies (Sept. 2013) at the Boston Conservatory in Massachusetts as a graduate student in the Masters of Collaborative Piano program, eventually working her way to a Doctorate.

Submitted by Carol Gudmundson

You've practiced well, you've performed wonderfully, now...

Share the Sound!

*Join a vibrant community of music educators for exciting workshops
at the*

The Music Teacher

Training Institute

**Attract more students to your studio
Watch your students excel
Add this professional education to your resume
Meet new friends who share your passion**

A new series of one-day seminars covers a wide range of topics designed to inspire and energize your teaching! It will also prepare you for the RCM Piano Pedagogy Exams. Each seminar includes **all** the **materials and books** you need plus **lunch** and **coffee breaks**. Just bring a pencil!

**For more info and to register: Instructor Eleanore McLeod
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e-mail: eleanore.mcleod@gmail.com**

Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals participates in JUNO Week



Former and current AMAF member festival participants listen to presentation from JUNO nominees

This past spring Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals (AMAF) capitalized on the rarity that is the JUNO Awards held in Winnipeg—and offered festival participants the chance to be involved in JUNO Week, the lead-up to the big event.

The JUNO Awards recognize Canadian musicians and artists in a variety of genres and aspects of music. Many Manitobans have been nominees or recipients of various JUNO awards in the past and 2014 was no exception. Violinist James Ehnes, former festival participant and Brandon, Manitoba resident, won a JUNO for both Classical Album of the Year: Solo or

Ensemble for “Prokofiev Complete Works for Violin” and Classical Album of the Year: Large Ensemble or Soloist(s) with Large Group Ensemble for “Britten & Shostakovich: Violin Concerti”.

Partnering with Manitoba Music, AMAF set up a free Meet & Greet event with several Manitoban JUNO nominees: Erin Propp (Vocal Jazz Album of the Year for “Courage, My Love”); Little Miss Higgins and The Winnipeg Five (Roots & Traditional Album of the Year: Group for “Bison Ranch Recording Sessions”); and the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra (Classical Album of the Year: Vocal or Choral Performance with Isabel Bayrakdarian for “Ravel, Sayat-Nova & Kradjian: Troubadour & the Nightingale”). This was an opportunity exclusive to festival participants and was held March 25, 2014 at the West End Cultural Centre in Winnipeg. The JUNO nominees offered a presentation and Q & A, allowing participants to receive education and insight into success, music production, and various music genres differing from their own studies. The event was well-attended by participants from 4 different AMAF member festivals.

PHYLLIS THOMSON

B.Ed. M.Ed.

**Teacher of Singing
Adjudicator - Clinician**

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Telephone (204) 453-5035

The 2014 National Music Festival — Competitors' View:



Beautiful University of BC
Okanagan Campus, Kelowna

"The 2014 National Music Festival was one of the best musical experiences this summer! It was great to be able to hear some of the best musical talents that Canada had, I really enjoyed their performances. Also, the adjudicator was extremely helpful, she gave all of us a new perspective of music and allowed us to look even deeper into what music has to offer... Overall, I had a fantastic experience!"

- Albert Chen, Piano



Jaena Kim

"It's unlike anything at the local level, these musicians from all across Canada are amazing. I learn from all of them, from their talents. It gives you a lot of encouragement and wanting to practice more and get better."

- David Liam Roberts, Strings (Special Award, Strings)

"I made a lot of friends this year...It was great environment this year. It is definitely a time-intensive process, but at the local festival there isn't the same type of talent level that there is provincially and on the national stage. It's a big eye-opener."

- Jaena Kim, Woodwinds (Spirit Award)

"Just to be part of your team, showing up together and doing so well, it's a great time and the competition is quite high...It keeps you motivated to keep going. I did the best I had ever done at a competition like that."

- Nolan Powell (2nd Place Award, Classical Guitar)

(With files from <http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/our-communities/lance/Masterful-musicians-represent-Manitoba-well-273577251.html>)



Nolan Powell with his
network of family support
in attendance!



**SAVE THE DATE: ADJUDICATOR DEVELOPMENT
and TRAINING SESSIONS
November 7-8, 2014**

Already an adjudicator listed with Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals (AMAF)?

Plan to attend the Adjudicator Development session on **November 7, 2014** for learning opportunities and to keep up-to-date.

Interested in becoming an adjudicator listed with AMAF? Looking to receive information on how to best adjudicate at local Manitoba festivals? Looking to advertise your adjudicating services?

Consider inquiring about the Adjudicator Training session to be held **November 7 - 8, 2014.**

Further info and registration forms will be released once available. Please contact the AMAF office for further details and to declare your interest if you are not yet a listed adjudicator!

Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals
79C St. Anne's Road
Winnipeg, MB R2M 2Y6
Phone: (204) 231-4507 Fax: (204) 231-4510
Email: amaf@mts.net Website: www.amaf.mb.ca

Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals (AMAF) programs and operations rely in part on generous donations, supporting memberships, and sponsorship.

Please consider supporting AMAF and the festival movement by getting involved today! AMAF can be contacted at the details below.

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Melissa Ballard, Vincent Baribeau, Remi Brengman, Barb Brown, Pam Elliott, Verna Keeler, Joanne Mercier, Marc Mercier, Morna-June Morrow, Lynn Richard, Harvey Sawatzky, Margaret Sawatzky and Judy Urbonas.

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