



Focus on

FESTIVALS

Volume 36, Issue 2

Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals Newsletter

Fall 2014



AMAF Board of Directors member Margaret Sawatzky (L) presents Frances Funk (R) with Honorary Membership in recognition of her contribution to the Manitoba festival movement

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| President | William Gordon |
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2014-2015

MEMBER FESTIVALS:

Birdtail River Fine Arts Festival
Boissevain Festival of the Arts
Brandon Festival of the Arts
Deloraine Border Festival
Evergreen Festival of the Arts
Gladstone Music & Arts Festival
Meridian Arts Festival
Morden Festival of the Arts
Mountain Music Festival
Neepawa & District Fine Arts Festival
Northern Lights Festival of the Arts
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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MESSAGE FROM THE AMAF PRESIDENT



On behalf of the Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals (AMAF) Board of Directors and Staff, welcome to the Fall newsletter.

The Annual General Meeting of AMAF was held on October 4th, 2014 at Grace Bible Church. Trumpeter Miles Thomsen, the first place winner in the Brass Class at the National Music Festival, was the guest performer.

I would like to thank outgoing AMAF Board members Arline Collins and David Klassen for their work, as well as that of Claire DuBois who has agreed to continue as our Board Treasurer until December 31st, 2014.

AMAF looks forward to serving the needs of the Manitoba festival community and is always very interested in learning of your festival experiences, news articles etc.

AMAF wishes all festivals continued success in the coming year.

William Gordon
AMAF President

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 and then 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 entered in advanced levels to progress from local, to provincial and then to national festival participation.

AMAF currently has 28 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 representing 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 hosted 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!**

2014 Annual General Meeting

The 2014 Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals (AMAF) Annual General Meeting was held October 4, 2014 at Grace Bible Church in Winnipeg. Thank you to all who attended!

Highlights included:

Guest Speaker Frances Funk

Award Presentations: AMAF Honorary Membership presented to Frances Funk in recognition of her long-time role in and impact on the Manitoba festival movement
2014 Federation of Canadian Music Festivals Volunteer Award presented to Verna Keeler of the Deloraine Border Festival

Election of 2014-2015 AMAF Board of Directors

Performance by Miles Thomsen, 2014 National Music Festival 1st Place Winner in Brass

2014-2015 Board of Directors

AMAF is pleased to announce its 2014-2015 Board of Directors as elected at the 2014 Annual General Meeting:

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Past President | Judy Urbonas (Winnipeg, MB) |
| President | William Gordon (Brandon, MB) |
| Vice President | Pam Elliott (Russell, MB) |
| Secretary | Judith Oatway (Winnipeg, MB) |
| Treasurer | Claire DuBois (Winnipeg, MB) |
| Director | Margaret Sawatzky (Portage la Prairie, MB) |
| Director | Catherine Wood (Brandon, MB) |



AMAF Past President Judy Urbonas (L) presenting Verna Keeler's 2014 Federation of Canadian Music Festivals Volunteer Award. The award was accepted on Verna's behalf by Lynn Richard (R)

The AMAF Board and staff look forward to serving the organization in its 2014-2015 year and extends a special welcome to new member festival, Northern Lights Festival of the Arts!



Miles Thomsen performs at the 2014 AMAF AGM

Silent Auction Winners:

"Musical Interlude" - Muriel Smith, Evergreen Festival of the Arts
"Halloween Delight" - Julianna Enns
"Two for Tea" - Lynn Richard, Deloraine Border Festival
"Comforts of Home" - Margaret Sawatzky
"Sow and Ye Shall Reap" - Val Dornn, Rolling River Festival of the Arts
"Come On Over for Coffee" - Claire DuBois
"The Game's On" - William Gordon
"Come On Over" - Pam Elliott

Congratulations to all prize winners and thank you for your support!

Festival Fever

What do festivals mean to you?

"I really enjoy participating in the festival because it is a good opportunity to gain performance experience, confidence, and skills in a very nurturing environment. I have learned a lot in the past 6 years of doing festival. One of the more recent things I learnt (and really had fun with) was how to sing in a Scottish accent. I have many good memories from festival, and to pick a favourite would be difficult. One of them for sure would be watching and performing in the Musical Theatre class at the Provincial Music and Arts Festival in Brandon this past season."

- Marisa Wiebe, Morden Festival of the Arts

How have festivals enriched your life? What is your favourite festival experience?

Let AMAF know at (204) 231-4507 or amaf@mts.net!



Did You Know?



Ileana Montalbetti

In honour of the opening of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights, Manitoba Opera presented the Beethoven's opera *Fidelio* in November. The cast featured former Manitoba festival participant soprano Ileana Montalbetti in the role of Leonora.

Ileana represented Manitoba at the 2005 National Music Festival, where she placed first in the Voice category.

Chantal Kreviazuk

This November, former festival participant Chantal Kreviazuk was featured in a live performance on the televised *Saturday Night Live*. Chantal performed with hip hop artist Jay Rock on his track "Pay For It". The performance, aired on November 15, 2014, also included hip hop superstar Kendrick Lamar.

Chantal is a multi-platinum record-selling adult contemporary artist and former Winnipeg Music Festival W.H. Anderson Memorial Trophy winner, which she won in 1988 for best performance by a vocalist age 16 years and under.

Adjudicator Development and Training Program

Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals (AMAF) was pleased to host a successful 2014 edition of its Adjudicator Development and Training Program. The Adjudicator Development session, held November 7, 2014 in Winnipeg, served as both a refresher and an interactive period. The Friday evening session, open to both listed adjudicators and to those participating in the Training session the following day, had 20 attendees.

“I look forward to this meeting every year—and getting to know colleagues” said one participant. Another noted ***“I learned much and also enjoyed the evening... the attendees added their experiences and made it very relevant”***.

The Adjudicator Training session, held November 7-8, 2014 in Winnipeg, included 5 promising and enthusiastic new trainees. Once their training requirements are completed, AMAF looks forward to adding these knowledgeable music and arts professionals to its listed adjudicators.

“An excellent learning session. I appreciated that we were encouraged to grow and be creative! ...It was very energizing. I have definitely been given the tools to go out and develop my skills for adjudicating.”

“...Informative, educational, and encouraging.”

AMAF thanks all attendees and its wonderful facilitators for these sessions, Nancy Nowosad and Marlene Pauls Laucht.



Nancy Nowosad



Marlene Pauls Laucht

NOTICES

The 43rd annual AMAF Provincial Music and Arts Festival will be held May 22-24, 2015 at Canadian Mennonite University in Winnipeg, MB.

In addition to the festival classes, there are several workshops in Composition, Speech Arts and Musical Theatre, that are open to all!

New Provincial Syllabus Edition

The current (2010) Provincial Syllabus is undergoing a thorough review in anticipation of launching a new edition. The Syllabus Committee, consisting of accredited music and arts professionals in various disciplines from throughout the province, is gathering information from festivals and colleagues as part of the review process. The Committee is chaired by AMAF Coordinator Joanne Mercier.

Festivals are invited, if they have not already done so, to send to the AMAF office an electronic copy of their 2014 program and their most recent addendum. This will allow the Committee to view which classes from the current Provincial Syllabus are being entered, as well as which additional classes are being added at the local festival level that other festivals might consider offering.

The target date when the new 2015 edition of the Provincial Syllabus is expected to be available is at the Provincial Music and Arts Festival in May 2015. The new edition will be ready for use in the 2015-2016 festival season.

Office Hours

The AMAF office is open Monday - Friday from 9:30 am to 4 pm.

The office will be closed during the holiday season from December 25th through January 2nd - re-opening Monday, January 5th.

**THE AMAF BOARD AND STAFF WISH
YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY
NEW YEAR!**



AMAF invites you to develop your composition skills!

Entry form available on reverse or download at www.amaf.mb.ca



2015 MANITOBA COMPOSITION COMPETITION

**This competition is for
Students of Composition**

Submissions must be finished work, in a format suitable for distribution.

Compositions will be chosen on the basis of artistic merit, suitability for festival performance, and pedagogical principles.

Entry forms can be found at:
www.amaf.mb.ca

Each composition will receive a written adjudication. All participants are invited to a workshop at the **2015 Provincial Music & Arts Festival, where winners will also be announced.**

Please direct inquiries and entries to:
Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals
79C St. Anne's Rd
Winnipeg, MB R2M 2Y6

Phone: (204) 231-4507
Fax: (204) 231-4510
Email: amaf@mts.net
Website: www.amaf.mb.ca

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION:
APRIL 1, 2015**

APPLICATION MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY COMPOSITION AND \$40 ENTRY FEE



PROVINCIAL MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL
 Canadian Mennonite University (South Campus)
 600 Shaftesbury Blvd., Winnipeg, MB
 May 22-24, 2015

For Office Use only:
☐ Paid
 Date of Receipt:

2015 MANITOBA COMPOSITION COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

DUE: APRIL 1, 2015

2015 MANITOBA COMPOSITION COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

This competition is for **Students of Composition**.

Return completed form with non-refundable entry fee of \$40.00 and a copy of your composition to the address at the bottom of this form by April 1st, 2015. Make cheques payable to Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals (AMAF). A separate entry form and fee is required for each composition submitted.

Submissions must be finished work, in a format suitable for distribution. Compositions will be chosen on the basis of artistic merit, suitability for festival performance, and pedagogical principles. Please indicate the appropriate festival class on your submission.

All participants will be notified of the results and are invited to participate in a workshop at the 2015 Provincial Music & Arts Festival.

| | | |
|------------|--------------|-------------|
| Name: | | Birth Date: |
| Address: | | |
| City/Town: | Postal Code: | Telephone: |
| Email: | | |

| | | |
|-----------------|--------|------------|
| Teacher's Name: | | Telephone: |
| Address: | | City/Town: |
| Postal Code: | Email: | |

Please select the appropriate discipline:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Solo Voice any voice type | <input type="checkbox"/> Solo Piano |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Solo Strings any string instrument | <input type="checkbox"/> Solo Classical Guitar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Solo Woodwinds any woodwind instrument | <input type="checkbox"/> Solo Brass any brass instrument |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Solo Percussion any percussion instrument | <input type="checkbox"/> Chamber Group any combination of a minimum of three to a maximum of six recognized orchestral instruments including harp, guitar, and/or percussion, with or without piano and/or one voice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Choral unison or polyphonic; for male, female or mixed chorus | |

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Title of Composition: | Instrument/Voice Type: |
|-----------------------|------------------------|

This signature certifies that, should my composition be selected, Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals has permission to publish my composition in an AMAF Manitoba Composition Book. I understand that I will not receive any financial compensation related to the distribution and any sales of this book.

Signature of Composer or Parent/Guardian (if composer is under 18 years of age)

Date

Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals
 79C St. Anne's Rd, Winnipeg, MB R2M 2Y6
 Telephone: (204) 231-4507 Fax: (204) 231-4510 Email: amaf@mts.net

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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:

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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

All monies are payable to Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals.
All memberships and donations \$10.00 and over are tax receipt eligible.

As 2014 comes to a close, AMAF wishes to thank the generous corporate donors, sponsors, funders, and foundation supporters from the past year:



IN RECOGNITION OF OUR SUPPORTERS

Associated Manitoba Arts Festivals thanks its generous supporters -

Listings reflect September 1, 2014 to time of printing:

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Heritage, Sport and
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**Coming soon - contact
AMAF for information
and to donate!**

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* deceased

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Betty Bond
Barbara Brown
Claudia Campbell
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Lydia Enns
Frances Funk
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S. Borga Jakobson
Nora Kirk
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Larry Moore
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