

Kelowna Kiwanis Festival 2017 Adjudicators

We are pleased welcome and introduce our adjudicators for our 2017 Festival!

Concert Band Festival

Dr. Gerald King



“Conductors/Teachers must be thoughtful leaders who guide each individual and ensemble to reach their own best creative potential.”

Dr. King is Professor of Music at the University of Victoria where he is the Head of Music Education, Graduate Wind Conducting, and serves as the conductor of the UVIC Wind Symphony.

From 2004-2012 he served as Director of the School of Music. Among his many achievements as Director, with his leadership and guidance the University of Victoria School of Music was awarded the designation as Canada's first and only All-Steinway School.

Internationally recognized as one of Canada's most respected conductors, adjudicators, educators and keynote speakers, Dr. King is the recipient of numerous honors and awards, including the *Order of the Phoenix* by the Western International Band Clinic where he has made 7 separate conducting appearances; election into Phi Beta Mu; election into the American Bandmasters Association (2003) when he served as guest conductor of the United States Army Band (Pershing's Own) from Washington, DC; recipient of the British Columbia Music Educators' *Honorary Life Award* "in recognition of a lifetime of commitment of time, talent, and energies to music education in British Columbia;" and, in September 2015 he was inducted as an Honorary Member of the Naden Band of the Royal Canadian Navy "for fostering tremendous goodwill towards the band, heightened morale and esprit de corps, and providing an exceptional liaison between the military and the public."

Dr. King's background is varied. Although he is primarily recognized as a conductor of Wind Bands, he is equally comfortable conducting Orchestras and Choirs. He is a former student of internationally renowned conductor, Maestro Kazuyoshi Akiyama with whom he studied the Saito Conducting Technique. His professional career has taken him throughout Canada, the United States, Great Britain, Denmark, Sweden, Holland, Germany, Italy, France, Spain, Japan, Mexico, Hong Kong, Australia, and Switzerland. Dr. King's conducting appearances with Regional, National, International Honor, and Professional Ensembles have been praised for performance quality, artistry, and creativity. Throughout his career he has been a champion of new music, premiering over 30 compositions. As well, he has worked with over 50 guest artists. In addition to conducting, Dr. King has many years of performing experience as a professional clarinetist having performed with numerous ensembles, including the La Scala Opera of Milan, Italy during their Canadian tour. Most recently, during July 2013 he performed with the New Edmonton Wind Sinfonia on their concert tour of Europe—he previously toured with them in 2000 and 2004.

In addition to his passion for making music he is also widely recognized as an expert for his ability to link theory and practice in the field of teaching and learning. Among his many recordings and publications is a chapter in the book, *Creativity and Music Education* written by seventeen authors from the United States, Canada, Israel, Australia, Great Britain, Spain, and Scotland. The book includes a forward by noted author on Creativity, Mihalyi Csikszentmihalyi. Dr. King has also completed a well-received DVD—*The Craft of Conducting*.

Dr. King is in great demand as a conductor, adjudicator, clinician, and keynote speaker. Over the past 25 years he has worked with over 10,000 ensembles and soloists representing more than 500,000 musicians. Dr. King is a Yamaha Artist Educator/Conductor.

**String Festival
Chamber Group and Orchestra Festival**

Rachel Kristenson



Rachel Kristenson is passionate about telling stories through music. She began violin at the age of 5 in Camrose, Alberta and continued through to gain her Bachelors and Masters degrees in Violin Performance from the Cleveland Institute of Music in Cleveland, Ohio. Rachel also received a Masters degree in Suzuki Pedagogy. She studied with Bill Preucil (concertmaster of the Cleveland Orchestra and the soloist on the Suzuki violin audio discs), David Russell, Teri Einfeldt, and Michele George.

Mrs. Kristenson played with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra and founded and taught at the Rocky Mountain Suzuki School in Calgary. She also founded and was first violinist of the Lily String Quartet in Calgary, which worked with the Juilliard, St. Lawrence, & Schoenberg string quartets among others. She also toured Eastern Canada with the quartet in 2012 playing 15 concerts in 16 days.

Rachel has also subbed with the Winnipeg Orchestra, Symphony Nova Scotia, Symphony New Brunswick, and the Fairbanks (Alaska) Symphony. She now plays with the Kamloops Symphony and will be playing several times this season as guest concertmaster with the OSO.

She is married to a fire-fighting pilot and they have 5 children ages 9 to infant. She teaches the oldest child viola & the next two violin and also homeschools them all. Rachel is honoured to be invited here and celebrate the gift of music!

Choral Festival

Sandra Meister



During her career Sandra Meister has remained at the forefront of music education in Canada. Her unique ability to inspire and encourage musicians of all ages keeps her in great demand as a clinician, adjudicator, and guest conductor throughout North America. For twenty years, Sandra led Die Meistersinger Children's Choir as they captured many top awards in international festivals and represented Canada at such major events as the International Society for Music Education in Helsinki, Finland, the International Festival of Youth and Music in Vienna, Austria and the highly successful World of Children's Choirs 2001.

Sandra is the recipient of many awards including the Governor General's Award for outstanding service to arts and culture in Canada, the Prince George Rotary Citizenship Award, the BC

Choral Federation's Willan Award and the BC Music Educators' Association Professional Educator Award.

Sandra serves as a faculty member of the British Columbia Choral Federation's Choral Directorship Program. In her nearly twenty years as a school principal, Sandra's leadership has been the driving force behind the implementation of many innovative programs including BC's first Bilingual Mandarin School. Sandra serves as a member of several boards and committees including the Vancouver Symphony's Education Advisory Committee. She holds degrees from Simon Fraser University and the University of Oregon. She is currently Principal and Music Teacher of Alderson School in Coquitlam.

Piano Festival

Susan de Burgh



Susan de Burgh began her piano studies on Salt Spring Island with Doris Crofton. She was awarded a scholarship to the Victoria Conservatory of Music, where she studied for many years with Dr Robin Wood. Summer studies included the Dartington School of Music in England, and work in Minnesota with Frank Mannheimer, the long time assistant to Tobias Matthay. A winner of the BC Provincial Open Piano competition as a teenager, Susan has adjudicated about forty festivals in western Canada including the Provincial Finals of Alberta and Manitoba. Susan has taught at the Victoria Conservatory of Music in the community school, in the VCM's post secondary program with Camosun College, in England, and in her private home studio. Many of her students have teaching and performing careers. She has had a long association with summer schools, and is currently the Artistic Director of the Victoria Conservatory of Music Piano Academy, held during the first two weeks of July. Susan enjoys teaching pedagogy ; with her former pedagogy teaching partner, Dr Michael Redshaw, two of her piano students won the

gold medal for the highest mark in Royal Conservatory of Music pedagogy examinations in British Columbia.

Susan is a senior examiner for the Royal Conservatory of Music, hearing students from Honolulu to Whitehorse and across Canada. She has given many workshops for Registered Music Teacher organizations, the Frederick Harris Music Company, and the Royal Conservatory Examination Department.

Susan has had several works written for her, and she has had a long interest in Canadian composition. With the Sidney Classical Orchestra, she has performed about twenty concerti: highlights include the Bach Brandenburg Fifth, D Minor, and F Minor concerti, Beethoven Third Concerto, numerous Mozart works, both solo and two piano, and Saint Saens Carnival of the Animals. With the Victoria Symphony, she has been the orchestral soloist in Respigi's Pines of Rome and Fountains of Rome, and recently performed in Bartok's The Miraculous Mandarin and Lutoslawski's Concerto for Orchestra.

Susan has also given many chamber music and solo recitals, and accompanied all instruments, choirs, and vocalists.

She is an Associate of the Royal Conservatory of Music, a Licentiate of the Western Board of Music, and a Licentiate of the London College of Music, England.

Classical Voice Festival

Elizabeth Turnbull



Elizabeth Turnbull has been hailed by the critics as ‘a revelation’, with ‘controlled passion, acute timing and glistening presence’.

Her many and varied credits include appearances with major orchestras and opera companies across North America (Victoria, Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, Winnipeg, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec, New York, Florida, Chicago, Dallas and San Francisco).

Her roles range from the baroque (‘Juno’ in *Semele*), to the romantic (*Carmen*), modern (‘Augusta Tabor’ in the Canadian premiere of *The Ballad of Baby Doe*) and new (creating the role of ‘Maria Picariello’ in *Filumena*). Concert experience has included the oratorios of Bach, Bruckner, Handel, Mendelssohn, Saint Saens and Vivaldi, the symphonies of Beethoven and Mahler, the songs of Brahms, Mahler, Tchaikovsky, Mussorgsky and Rachmaninov, as well as numerous new music compositions.

Ms. Turnbull's discography includes 3 CDs with Toronto's Bach Consort, two recordings with the Ukrainian Art Song Project (songs of Lysenko and Stepovyi), as well as a self-produced disc of Irish and Scottish Songs, entitled 'The Meeting of the Waters'. Many of her Canadian operatic performances have been heard across the country on CBC's 'Saturday Afternoon at the Opera'.

2017 performances include her premiere in the role of 'Klytemnestra' in *Elektra* (Edmonton Opera), and reprising the role of 'Maria Picariello' for Calgary Opera's remount of *Filumena*. Recent roles have included the creation of 'Elizabeth' in the premiere of John Estacio and Robert Chafe's *Ours* (Opera on the Avalon), 'Anna Kennedy' in *Maria Stuarda* and 'The Page' in *Salome* (both for Edmonton Opera), 'Lyubija' in the European and Canadian tours of *Svadba*, 'Zita' in *Gianni Schicchi* (Calgary Opera), 'Olga' in *Eugene Onegin* (Opera Lyra Ottawa), and 'Emilia' in *Otello* (Dallas, Edmonton). Concert performances have included Verdi's *Requiem* (Edmonton), *Das Lied von der Erde* (Edmonton, Victoria and London), Mozart's *Requiem* (Vancouver), *Messiah* (National Arts Center, Ottawa) and Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* (Edmonton).

Ms. Turnbull is an instructor of voice in addition to being director of Opera Workshop at the University of Alberta's Department of Music, where she has been teaching for eight years. She is in demand as a vocal pedagogue at summer vocal programs (Opera on the Avalon, NUOVA and the Cowtown Opera Summer Academy) and has been a vocal clinician at numerous universities and schools for both solo and ensemble singing, as well as an adjudicator at music festivals across the country.

Musical Theatre Festival

Amelia Sirianni



Amelia Sirianni

Originally from Vernon, BC, Amelia spent the last decade working as a professional music theatre actor in Toronto. She received her formal professional training at the Randolph Academy for the Performing Arts and has since had the privilege of performing on stages across North America as well as in film and television. Favourite roles include Deedee Doodle in “The Doodlebops Live” national tours, Strawberry Shortcake in “Strawberry Shortcake and Friends” North American tours, and Widget in the runaway Fringe and Next Stage Festival hit “The Tiki Bikini Beach Paradise Party A-G-Go”. Globe & Mail critic J. Kelly Nestruck singled out her “Muumuu-clad Widget” as a favourite performance. For the last 3 years Amelia has also been teaching Music Together to hundreds of families in Toronto and, most recently, Vernon. It has been some of the most rewarding work she has done to date and she loves giving back to her community through early childhood music education. Amelia moved back to the Okanagan with her son and husband this past year and is so thrilled to be back in such a thriving and supportive arts community.

Popular Voice Festival

Darby Mills



Born in Vernon, British Columbia, Mills began singing back-up vocals for Canadian bands in the late 1970s, most notably the British Columbia-based band Steelback.

After signing on with the Headpins in 1981, the group began a three-album run at the top of the Canadian charts. Their debut album "Turn It Loud", quickly went platinum and topped the charts for six weeks. It spawned the hit single "Don't It Make Ya Feel". Their follow-up, "Line of Fire", produced the hits "Celebration" and "Just One More Time". The Headpins toured Europe and North America while opening for bands such as KISS, Whitesnake, ZZ Top and Aerosmith, among others.

Mills released her debut solo LP, *Never Look Back*, backed by the Unsung Heroes.

She returned to re-form the Headpins with Bernie Aubin and Ab Bryant a year or so later, without guitarist Brian MacLeod. In 2005, Mills was nominated for a star on Canada's Walk of Fame.

Dance Festival (Ballet/Modern)

Katie Rivière



Katie Rivière originates from North Vancouver, B.C., and received her dance training across Canada and the USA. In her career she has performed and worked with VL projects, Donna Redlick, Harbour Dance Centre, Polonez Dance Society, SFU School for the Contemporary Arts and was a guest choreographer, with Carol Coulson, for the Vancouver Olympics Opening Ceremonies. Katie holds Associate and Licentiate designations in Contemporary/Modern/Ballet with the CSC and CDTA organizations.

Dance Festival (Stage)

Shawna Parry



Shawna Parry is an accomplished dancer, singer, actor, instructor and choreographer/director based out of beautiful Vancouver, British Columbia. 30 years ago she began her early dance studies in Jazz, Tap, Ballet, Lyrical, Hip Hop and Musical Theatre with the Fay Gleeson Dance Centre in Thunder Bay, Ontario. She then went on to further intensive training in Modern with SFU University, Tap and Clown with the Vancouver Tap Dance Society, and all disciplines at Harbour Dance Centre. Falling in love with Musical Theatre, Shawna now makes that her specialty while still being immersed in all worlds of dance through her students and choreography.

As a performer Shawna has played “Adelaide” in Guys and Dolls, “Annette” in God of Carnage, which was chosen to represent North Vancouver at the Theatre BC Zone Festival, “Nickie” in Sweet Charity, “Connie” in A Chorus Line (here in Kelowna!), “Suzy Snowflake” at Van Dusen Festival of Lights, danced with the Famous Players cover band, and most recently went on a cross-Canada tour with a live stage version of Nickelodeon’s Bubble Guppies, playing “Oona”. Her favourite role to date is “Anybodys” in West Side Story with Vancouver Opera, where she felt blessed to be performing Jerome Robbins original choreography, was critically acclaimed as a ‘stand-out’, and also acted as the company female swing. She has danced in numerous ensemble roles in musicals as well as industrials for private and corporate events.

As a choreographer/director Shawna has thoroughly enjoyed being creative with many other artists, students, and directors. She has choreographed A Chorus Line, Legally Blonde, Spelling Bee, Chicago, Thoroughly Modern Millie, Cabaret, Cinderella, Joseph and The Amazing..., Grease, Little Shop of Horrors, five seasons of The Yellowpoint Christmas Spectacular on Vancouver Island, and Vancouver Film School’s short films Persephone and Etéreo, to name a few! She has had the honour of assisting Mr. Jeff Hyslop and Ms. Shelley Stewart Hunt several times, including a production of Disney’s High School Musical as well as assistant choreographing and swinging the Olympic WinterSports Showcase in the City of West Vancouver for the 2010 Olympics. She has directed Honk! The Musical and Dear Edwina for The Chilliwack School of Performing Arts, as well as Peter Pan Junior for the Richmond Academy of Dance.

Besides performing and choreographing, Shawna loves to coach and mentor her own students passing on her passion and expertise. Students of hers have received professional roles such as “Jane” in Mary Poppins with the Arts Club Theatre Company and “Amaryllis” in The Music Man with The Richmond Gateway Theatre. She has twice been a judge for Youth Talent Search BC, adjudicator for Capilano University, and production preview advisor for several productions at Studio 58/Langara College. She has been a sessional instructor for many schools and companies including The Arts Club Intensive, School Creative, Place des Arts, while remaining on the faculty for Dancin’ Stars and the Richmond Academy of Dance where she sets choreography for competition and special events.

Knowing what goes on both behind the scenes and on stage, Shawna wishes all of the dancers today the best of luck, and is thrilled to be here witnessing their dedication, skill and passion!

Brass and Woodwinds Composition

Michael Perkins



Michael has been a music educator and professional musician for over 40 years who has recently retired from teaching but continues to be an active performer and clinician. He is a past coordinator of the Vancouver Kiwanis Jazz Festival, the B.C. Interior Jazz Festival and was actively involved with founding multiple community music ensembles, including the Night Owl Orchestra in Kelowna and the SeaTSky Big Band in Squamish. Michael currently freelances with the Kamloops Symphony, the Okanagan Symphony and various Jazz groups around the province.

Speech Festival

Ruth Daniell



Ruth Daniell is an award-winning writer, book editor, performer, and speech arts teacher. For many years she taught in Vancouver at the Bolton Academy of Spoken Arts, the largest speech arts school in western Canada. In addition to teaching practical and theory classes to students in grades K-12, Ms. Daniell also worked as the curriculum designer for the school, a role she now continues from her new home in Kelowna. Passionate about literature, performance, and creativity, Ms. Daniell has performed speech arts from the age of seven and holds two diplomas in speech arts performance, an ATCL from Trinity College London and an ARCT from the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto. She also holds a BA (Honours) in English literature and writing from the University of Victoria and an MFA in creative writing from the University of British Columbia. Her writing has been published in numerous journals across North America and elsewhere, including Arc Poetry Magazine, Grain, Room Magazine, Contemporary Verse 2, and online at CBC as the winner of their 2014 “Shakespeare Selfie” competition. More recently, she was awarded first prize in the 2016 Nick Blatchford Occasional Verse Contest with The New Quarterly. In addition to teaching her own students to write and perform with confidence, Ms. Daniell maintains a regular creative practice and is currently at work on a new collection of poems.