

MRC Actively Pursues Degree Granting Authority

Citing the growing demand for post-secondary education, shortfalls in degree production, and changes in demographics and population growth, College president Tom Wood outlined Mount Royal's plans to become a full undergraduate degree granting institution within ten years, in an informal address to Conservatory staff on September 17.

The number one priority for students today, said Wood, is to acquire the higher levels of skill requirements and credentials needed for jobs and the pursuit of successful careers.

"No MBA, no BMW," Wood quipped. But while, historically, Canada did a good job of educating an elite, "the nature of the economy now is that we must educate a much broader spectrum of the population," he said, at the same time that this province lags in its ability to do so.

In the document, *Profile of Alberta's Adult Learning: A Context for Discussion*, Alberta Learning revealed that our province produces neither enough undergraduate degrees nor enough doctorates. And even though Calgary may boast the best-educated citizenry in Canada, the proportion of doctorates and baccalaureates in our population is a result of an in-migration of education from outside the province to fuel a petroleum and high-tech business sector, and not a consequence of Alberta's current education system.

"Alberta is 19 per cent below the national average for the production of baccalaureates," said Wood. This ranks us eighth out of the ten provinces in university graduates (per 100,000 20-29 year population).

Yet when Mount Royal College first received approval from the Province in 1994 to grant degrees, Alberta's universities were adamantly opposed to this move into their turf — going as far as refusing to meet with College administrators to discuss the planned degree-granting mechanisms. The province capitulated to this opposition by restricting college degree-granting authority solely to applied degrees, Wood said, in effect "legislating College curriculum."

"Students are being penalized," Wood explained, as these three-year applied degrees are not treated with the same respect as the four-year university "foundation" degrees when it comes to post-graduate opportunities. "It is time to take applied degrees out of legislation and let us do what we need to do to serve students better."

"Quality is and should remain the primary concern of all post secondary institutions," he added.

Now, almost a decade later, this appears finally to be the case. The same universities' position on College degree-granting authority "has

gone 180 degrees, from adamantly negative to positive", Wood said, primarily due to their response to the degrees shortfalls defined by Alberta Learning. The University of Calgary has shifted its focus from a broad range of undergraduate programs to four core academic domains, to increased research and to increased production of graduate degrees. The University of Alberta has adopted similar strategies, and both institutions have, or plan to, cap undergraduate enrollment. Consequently, there will be an even greater shortage of Alberta university-generated undergraduate degrees.

"This will lead to more pressure on other educational facilities to make up the demand," Wood said. And if you couple that demand with Calgary's phenomenal population growth, that pressure will be intense.

"Calgary constitutes the most rapidly growing population in Canada," Wood explained. From 1998 to 2001, applications to degree-level programs in Calgary increased over 80 per cent. With an expected growth in the 15 to 34 year-old sector—the very demographic most in demand of post-secondary education services—of nearly 14 per cent between now and the year 2007, he feels that Mount Royal College is perfectly positioned to step up to that pressure and must pursue full degree-granting status now.

Following its current physical expansion program, MRC will have a 40 per cent higher student capacity. It will have the physical resources to fill the void, it has the track record in educational excellence and innovation which will make its new degrees meaningful to students, educators and employers alike, and it is cost effective.

continued next page

In This Issue

- 2** *And the winner is... !
Conservatory CD award nominee*
- 3** *Notes, news and updates*
- 5** *MRC's 'secret' recording industry*
- 6** *Raves for Organ Summer School*
- 7** *Mark your calendar...*
- 8** *Summer programs a success*

MRC pursues full degree-granting status... *continued from page 1*

Wood explained that the College's present degree program is already a fusion of practical and theoretical learning. "Liberal education requirements are built in," he said. "No other college requires arts and science components in applied degrees."

And contrary to popular perceptions, more education means less expense, not more.

"For every year of school you have... lifetime earnings increase by 16 per cent," said Wood. Furthermore, he explained, the higher the education level, the lower are social costs in terms of health care spending, cost of crime and welfare costs. "That's proven; that's a fact," he said.

And the winner is... !



It's official — Prairie Music Week just confirmed what we've known all along — Conservatory music CDs are **hot stuff!**

The Conservatory's 2001 *Morningside Music Bridge at Mount Royal College* recording, was nominated for a "Wheatie" in the category of *Outstanding Classical Recording*, by Prairie

Music Week (organized by the Prairie Music Alliance, a partnership between the Manitoba Audio Recording Industry Association, the Saskatchewan Recording Industry Association and the Alberta Recording Industry Association).

The awards ceremony was held September 29 in Winnipeg. The gala event, hosted by Tom Jackson and featuring performers such as James Keeleghan and The Wyrd Sisters, was broadcast live on CBC Radio Two. Gwen Hoebig, Morningside Music Bridge's Artistic Co-Director, and pianist David Moroz, long-time Morningside Music Bridge faculty member, attended on behalf of The Conservatory.

A compilation of highlights from the 5th annual Music Bridge summer program, this CD features an astounding collection of performances by student participants, including Wang Yujia, Yao Shanshan, Chen Xi, and Arnold Choi—all major international award-winning musicians. Moreover, the recording is technically excellent, thanks to Conservatory recording and editing guru, John Abram.

This two-disk set is available online from MRCBookStore, www.mtroyal.ca/bookstore. Sample tracks? Visit www.mtroyal.ca/conservatory/mmb_highlights.htm.

— David Soltess

The cost to the Province of educating students at Mount Royal is less than two-thirds that of educating them through the U of C. While the College will actively pursue an increased share of government funding, it already "takes the taxpayer's dollar and blows it into a much larger bubble," Wood said, describing the blend of corporate partnering, fund raising initiatives and other mechanisms by which Mount Royal College stretches a \$43 million government contribution into a \$100 million plus annual operating budget.

Given the demand, the College's resources and its current philosophy, it seems only natural that Mount Royal evolve into an undergraduate degree-granting institution.

Asked how such an evolution would affect the College's existing certificate and diploma programs or whether faculties would need to be restructured to more closely match university structures, Wood replied that while he suspects some diploma programs may turn into applied degree programs, most programs would be unchanged. As to restructuring, Wood was adamant.

"It is not in our interests to be a slavish imitation of the University of Calgary," he said. "We wish to differentiate ourselves. We should seek new ways to do things and should differentiate by curriculum, delivery and a variety of other ways.

"The College has a reputation for offering a powerful blend of theoretical and practical learning. That is a competitive advantage for us—the universities are beginning to emulate that. The need to imitate the traditional university is not there; on the contrary, we should offer a first rate—not a second choice—alternative for students."

Nor did Wood see any conflict between possible increased demands for undergraduate resources and the demands of credit-free or continuing education programs.

"Demand for credit-free education is rising," Wood said, underscoring the importance of the credit-free instructional arm to the College as both a revenue generator and for maintaining utilization rates. "The College is not just a credit institution—we currently have a blend of credit and credit-free programs.

"Credit or credit-free status means little to the people who, for example, send their children to speech and music classes. We already have a combination of full- and part-time credit students: children, international students and continuing education students. We will need to resolve facilities issues, but we already do that—that is an internal issue that we can manage. The only difference between credit and credit-free status is that one is funded by government while the other is not.

"Ask people buying that program if they care that it is non credit — no they don't!"

— David Soltess

Staccato: quick notes, news and Conservatory updates



Photo courtesy of The Calgary Herald.

Double bass instructor **Sheila Garrett** was a guest performer with the Beau Quartet in their final concert of the season, June 2002. In July, she played with other members of the CPO for the “heavy horse” show at the Stampede.

Sheila was a guest member of the Indiana University Summer Festival Orchestra and also played for the Calgary International Organ Festival in August.

In September, as part of the CPO’s community outreach program, she performed in Saint Saëns’ *Carnival of the Animals* at the Calgary Zoo, where she had the amazing experience of being photographed “up close and personal” with the double bass’s zoological counterpart—Kamala the elephant!

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Hot Stuff!! It’s off to the World Chili Championship Cookoff in Reno, Nevada, October 3-7, for **Joy Bilozir** and her husband, Randy. The Bilozirs have qualified to cook *chili verde* at the World Championships and will be competing for \$5,000 USD. Good Luck Joy (and save us a sample)!

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 On September 28, 2002, a concert in the Leacock Theatre, sponsored by the Hungarian Cultural Society, featured **Csaba Nagy**, guest artist from Hungary, playing the taragato, an old double reed wind instrument. Also featured on the program were cellist **Arnold Choi**, violinist **Shanshan Yao**, pianist **Chu Yue**, and accompanist **Kathy Dornian**.

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No Waiting around... **Janice Waite** traveled to Saskatoon in June to examine for the Royal Conservatory of Music. In July, she spent three weeks as a collaborative pianist at the Banff Centre, performing in the Banff Arts Festival with Dr. George Brough, Richard Killmer, oboe professor at Eastman and Yale, and several young professionals from Canada, USA and France.

The musical highlight of the summer was the chance to perform with the renowned percussion ensemble NEXUS during the Royal Bank International Organ Festival held in Calgary August 7 – 17.

Upcoming performances this fall include continuing keyboard work with Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra and a chamber music recital with the

chamber ensemble AUBADE on November 17 with MRC colleagues Edmond Agopian and Beth Root Sandvoss.

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Bells are ringing... Wedding bells were a-ringing for **Ralf Buschmeyer** last July 7. Congratulations to Ralph and Maureen (née Fisher) on this happy occasion.

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Welcome aboard, Anne... **Anne Gardner** is joining the teaching team in the Kodály Musicianship program as a permanent instructor this year. In addition to teaching Saturdays at the College, Anne will be offering Kodály classes on Tuesdays in the South East community of Deer Run.

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Calgary CANTAI connection... As a part of the second CANTAI (Canada Taiwan) Music Festival held in Taipei, Ensemble Resonance—Calgary’s contemporary music ensemble—was invited this August for two and a half weeks to teach, conduct master classes, adjudicate a chamber music competition and perform several concerts (including one in the grand Chiang Kai Shek National Concert Hall). This year, *ER* was represented by **Stan Climie** (clarinet and bass clarinet), **Edmond Agopian** (violin), **Robert J. Rosen** (composer in residence), **Michelle Todd** (soprano), and **Colleen Athparia** (piano and harpsichord).

After the CANTAI Festival, Colleen and her husband proceeded to the island of Bali, Indonesia—a paradise where art, music and spirituality are part of the colourfully alive everyday life. Coincidentally, she found that cellist friend, Robin Clavreul, from Paris was also there at that time and so met again after 10 years. Robin is part-time resident conductor of the Surabaya Symphony Orchestra in the second largest city on Java Island. Colleen and Robin performed a full concert for cello and piano there on September 3, sponsored by SSO. Overall it was a very enjoyable and rewarding summer of art and fun for Colleen and her colleagues.

Meanwhile, **Robert Rosen**, guest composer with *ER* at the CANTAI Music Festival, will release his newest work, *Whispers of Water*, on CD this fall. The recording features James Campbell on clarinet and MRC alumni, **Parmela Attariwala**, on viola. Ms Attariwala will also be performing Rosen’s composition, *LA*, for violin, tabla and electronics, on her upcoming tour in India.

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And in her spare time... Branch Cello instructor **Dorothy Bishop** had a busy summer with CD projects. Together with Joan Kent (cellist in CPO), she recorded *Bachelli*, music by Bach, arranged for two cellos. Dorothy wrote the arrangements, some with jazz/bluegrass variations. She also wrote and played the cello parts for eight of the songs in a CD called *Ani Maayim (I Believe)* by cantor Rebecca Levant, and she improvised cello parts for two songs for a CD-in-the-making by singer Crystal Plamondon.

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 Alfred Publishing has released **Peter Jancewicz’s** *Haydn’s Halloween Surprise*, a new sheet music solo arrangement of the theme from Haydn’s

Staccato: quick notes, news and Conservatory updates continued from page 3

Surprise Symphony at the Grade 1-2 level. In addition, Jancewicz's piece, *Kaleidoscope Toccata*, also published by Alfred, has been chosen by The Minnesota Music Teachers Association as a piece for their 2003 State Contest.

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Heitman a hit... Regional Band conductor **Pat Heitman** served as an adjudicator for the Calgary International Band Festival in March. She was also a guest conductor for two band workshops held at the college in April and May.

"Bravo!" to Pat and her **Regional Senior Honour Band** as well. They performed at the National MusicFest Competition held this year in Calgary, May 15 -19, and received gold ratings from all their adjudicators for their festival performance. **Sebastian Cox**, euphonium, received an honours plaque for his outstanding contribution to this ensemble.

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Tic.Toc... On October 3rd, **John Abram** presented a solo performance at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria as part of the Tic.Toc International Festival of New Performance (<http://tictocfestival.org/home/home.html>). The performance included pre-recorded, live and processed sound from various proximate and far-off locales as well as works for bass recorder and computer.

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Ralph Maier and **Brad Mahon** will be joined by Andrew Nugara and Jim Schmidt as the Calgary Guitar Quartet plays a concert at the Leacock Theatre on Sunday, November 10 at 3 p.m.

Recently, Brad Mahon's article, *Tempo markings in Leo Brouwer's 20 Estudios Sencillos*, was accepted for publication by Soundboard, the journal of the Guitar Foundation of America.

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 Congratulations to our Academy Graduates who won auditions last Spring, for the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra: **Sophie Dansereau**, Assistant Principal/Contra Bassoon (1 year); **Julia Lockhart**, Second Bassoon.

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Voiceovers... Instructor Elaine Case reports that **Natalie Fagan**, a Diploma Voice student and Vocal Studies participant, was first runner up and winner of a \$1000.00 Scholarship in the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede Youth Talent Contest. (First place went to a private student of Elaine Case.)

Kim Davis and **Chandra Southgate**, who graduated from the Diploma Program this year, both received their ARCT with distinction (90% or higher). Kim will continue her studies in MusicTherapy. Chandra participated in a new opera workshop program with Tracy Dahl in Winnipeg in August. She continues her studies at University of Manitoba in Winnipeg.

Ainsley Soutiere, former Vocal Studies student, is now studying at Julliard School of Music, one of only two Canadians admitted to this school. **Leah Field**, Vocal Studies participant, is studying at UBC—one of only seven

admitted to the Opera Program there. **Sarah Kerbes**, Vocal Studies participant and daughter of Hal Kerbes, Vocal Studies Sessional coach, is studying at University of Victoria. **Sylvia Szadovszki**, former Vocal Studies student, will continue her studies at Manhattan School of Music in New York City. **Andrea Carswell**, Vocal Studies student, will be studying Singing at McGill University.

(On a personal note, Elaine Case spent a week in Paris this summer. She spent "an inspiring evening" hearing a rocking Gospel and Spiritual concert sung by five singers from the Congo.)

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Kiwanis kudos... **Robert Bryant**, double bass, earned first class honours on his Grade VII in June. At the 2002 Kiwanis he received four first place certificates (two in Chamber, two in Solo). Robert also advanced to the provincial finals of the CMC this year.

After receiving a grade of 90% on his Grade IX in January, **Patrick Staples** won three first place Kiwanis certificates and advanced to National Finals in Ottawa for the CMC. He placed fourth in a field of eight string players in the 14 and under class. Patrick was also one of only three bassists selected to study with bass virtuoso Edgar Meyer, as a scholarship student at the Banff Centre this summer.

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On a related note... Academy alumnus, bassist **Jeff White**, was the Principal Bass with the National Youth Orchestra for their summer 2002 tour to Asia. A graduate of Indiana University, Jeff continued his studies at the Glenn Gould Conservatory. And **Jani Parsons**, a piano student who travels from Cranbrook bi-weekly to study with Conservatory Branch Instructor, Allen Reiser, was runner-up in the Senior Piano category of the 2002 British Columbia music festival.

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Erratum... In the Summer 2002 edition of the *NOTES*, it was erroneously reported that **D. J. Calhoun**, a scholarship winner at Kiwanis Music Festival this year, was a student of W. Noren. Darrell has studied under **Elaine Case** for a number of years. We sincerely apologize to Elaine and Darrell for our error.

Honens International Piano Competition

The Fourth Honens International Piano Competition will take place in Calgary, October 23 – November 7, 2003.

The competition now moves from a four-year to a three-year cycle, and reflects a greater emphasis on chamber music than in the past. While pianists will still perform solo recitals, pianists invited to move on to the quarter finals and semifinals will perform music for cello and piano, and with a singer.

Deadline for applications to be submitted is October 25, 2002. For information and interviews call Jayme Friedt at 403-245-8401, or e-mail jayme@prairiedogcom.com

EMI... Sony... The Conservatory? MRC's 'secret' recording industry

Few people beyond our walls may know it, but over the past five years, The Conservatory has produced as many CD recordings as an up-and-coming recording studio. Now, with a nomination for **Outstanding Classical Recording** in the 2002 Prairie Music Week awards, we feel the secret is out and that Conservatory recordings will be making a bigger splash—who knows? one day they may even be sitting in an HMV rack next to EMI and Sony Classic recordings.

Sound Stream became The Conservatory's first 'commercial-quality' compact disc when it was produced in 1996 as a showcase demonstration piece for



Conservatory programs. This collection of 12 pieces, ranging from Scarlatti to jazz to electro-acoustic composition, was created as a primer of Conservatory instructional success. Since then, The Conservatory has recorded more than a dozen CDs for

internal or promotional purposes. Recorded, mixed, designed, produced and packaged by The Conservatory, these recordings often rival 'the best of the best' in commercial recording. They are a credit not only to the talented performers featured, but to the wizardry of the technical staff here

at The Conservatory as well.

Morningside Music Bridge at Mount Royal College is currently completing its sixth in a series of double-disk CD sets of performance highlights

which began with the inaugural workshop in 1997 — this time from the 2002 summer workshop. The youth, vigor and phenomenal talent of the young performers (some as young as 12) captured on these recordings make these sets showcase examples of Conservatory excellence.

Many of the performers recorded in this series have gone on to award-winning international success, including Calgary's own Arnold Choi (2001 l'Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal Concerto Competition winner), Wang Yujia (2002 Warsaw International Chopin Conference invitee, 2000 Seiler Competition winner, and 2001 winner of both the Canadian National Music Festival, Piano Division, and the Aspen Competition), Ning Feng (2000 Emily Anderson Prize winner, Royal Philharmonic Society, and finalist in the 2001 Queen Elizabeth

Competition, Brussels), Chen Xi (2nd prize winner, 2002 Tchaikovsky Competition, Moscow), Wang Xiao Han (3rd prize winner, Munich International Competition, and finalist in the 2001 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, Fort Worth, Texas), and Ni Tao (1999 winner of the Boston Symphony Orchestra Competition and 2000 winner of the Johansen International String Competition, Cello Division, Washington, DC).

Originally intended as mementos for participants and sponsors, and promotional pieces for The Conservatory, the quality of these CDs quickly made them flagship promotional pieces for the College proper, and they were eagerly sought to promote College, as well as Conservatory, program quality. The 2002 Morningside Music Bridge highlights CD is expected to be released in December, 2002, and will again be available for purchase.



Kantorei, The Conservatory's adult choir, is preparing a new CD for release in 2003, to be recorded in two sessions this fall, and one session in May. A companion CD to Kantorei's *Canadian Choral Gems*, which was released in the Spring of 2001, this new seasonal recording (tentatively titled *Christmas Joys*) will feature a mix

of the pieces Kantorei has presented at past "Christmas in Song" concerts, as well as new material.

Recorded at Calgary's prestigious Jack Singer Concert Hall, Epcor Centre for the Performing Arts, *Canadian Choral Gems* was a popular success. Nearly two-thirds of the original pressing has been sold, according to Choir Director David Ferguson. This CD is still available from The Conservatory

Other memento recordings include the **Mount Royal Youth Choir's In Concert** (1993), featuring selections submitted for National Music Festival and CBC National Choral Competitions, and *Twentieth Anniversary Concert*, a 2001 recording marking the retirement of David Ferguson after twenty years as Youth Choir director. The performing choir, composed of current as well as alumni members of the Youth Choir, premiered *How Sweet and Fair* — a new work commissioned from Vancouver composer Stephen Chatman especially for the Choir's twentieth anniversary. Under conductor Nick Pulos, the **Intermediate Strings Orchestra** produced *20th Century Works for String Orchestra* in 1998, and the **Conservatory Strings Orchestra** recorded *Live! The Conservatory Strings*, in 2000.

As well as the new Music Bridge highlight set, The Conservatory's **Calgary Youth Orchestra**, under the baton of its new conductor, Edmond Agopian, plans to record and release its first CD in 2003.

— David Soltess



The Mount Royal College Foundation Board invites you to celebrate the 10th anniversary of *A Feast of Sound and Song*

Sunday, October 20, 2002

Reception and Silent Auction
5:00 p.m.
Dinner and Performances
6:30 p.m.

\$125 per person

Hyatt Regency Calgary Downtown
Imperial Ballroom
700 Centre Street South

Cocktail Attire

For individual tickets or table reservations, call Cindy Rajotte at 240-6004 or e-mail crajotte@mtroyal.ca.

IN MEMORIAM:

Dorothy Louise (Swetnam) Hare passed away June 8, 2002, at the Beverley Nursing Home in Calgary.

Dorothy and her husband, Clayton, taught at MRC for 10 years from 1945, before they moved to the USA to continue their musical careers.

Masterclass Schedule: Piano Academy Program

Monday, October 21: Sr. Natalie Pepin (Montreal)

Monday, October 28: David Moroz (Winnipeg)

Monday, November 18: Katherine Chi (Canada)

First-prize Winner, 2000 Honens International Piano Competition

All classes 4 pm – 7 pm Leacock Theatre, MRC

All students and teachers are welcome to audit any of the classes. Biographies, repertoire schedules, and a complete timetable (including any changes in location) can be found posted on the Academy bulletin board in The Conservatory.

For further information, contact Sharon Krause van der Sloot, 249-2924, or e-mail Sharon@vdsventures.com

Raves for Organ Summer School

"Overall, the course was absolutely fantastic, not to mention the festival and competition which followed it. For any other students wishing to further their organ studies, I would have no hesitation in giving the Mount Royal College Organ Academy International Summer School my highest recommendation."

So writes Oliver Brett of England, who attended this summer's Mount Royal College Organ Academy International Summer School (held July 21 - 30, 2002).

The summer school dates had been chosen to allow students to remain in Calgary to witness the 2002 Royal Bank Calgary International Organ Festival and Competition.

Under the artistic direction of international organ virtuoso Simon Preston, this year's Summer School offered for the first time the opportunity to perform Baroque organ concertos with live string accompaniment, thanks to a collaborative link with The Conservatory's Morningside Music Bridge at Mount Royal College, which was ongoing simultaneously (see related story on page 8).

Eight students participated in this year's International Summer School: three Canadians (one from Edmonton, one from Prince Edward Island and one from Vancouver, but currently studying in Cincinnati), two students from the United States, two from England, and one from Korea.

They enjoyed daily lessons and classes with faculty members Simon Preston (England), David Higgs (USA, Eastman School of Music), Sarah Baldock (England, Sub-Organist Winchester Cathedral) and Neil Cockburn (Head of Organ Studies, MRC Organ Academy). The daily practice sessions took place in various venues around the city, including Wyatt Recital Hall at MRC, the EPCOR Centre for the Performing Arts' Jack Singer Concert Hall, Christ Church, Elbow Park, and the newly-renovated organs at the Cathedral Church of the Redeemer and Grace Presbyterian Church.

Two faculty concert performances enhanced the instruction. David Higgs played an 'Organ à la Carte' recital at the Jack Singer Concert Hall, EPCOR Centre for the Performing Arts, and Neil Cockburn performed in the 'Music at Noon' series in the Cathedral Church of the Redeemer.

The students themselves were given two performing opportunities—the first of which, in Wyatt Recital Hall, granted the students the unique opportunity of performing with the Morningside Music Bridge students. The second concert was at the Jack Singer Concert Hall, EPCOR Centre for the Performing Arts, during which five students performed solo organ works to a noon-hour audience of several hundred during the TriumphEnt Foundation's concert series, 'Organ à la Carte'.

—Neil Cockburn

Mark your calendar...

October

Tuesday, October 15 — “Mount Royal Sings”

The Mount Royal Children's Choir will be hosting various CBE choirs in the Leacock Theatre, MRC, in a presentation and mass choir concert. The concert is open to the public. For concert, contact the MRCA office at 240-6769.

Sunday, October 20 — Feast of Sound and Song

The Mount Royal College Foundation Board invites you to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Feast of Sound and Song. Cocktail attire. 5:00 pm: Reception & Silent Auction; 6:30 pm: Dinner & Performances. Imperial Ballroom, Hyatt Regency Calgary Downtown. \$125 per person. Call Cindy Rajotte, 240-6004, or e-mail crajotte@mtroyal.ca.

November

Sunday, November 3 — Calgary Youth Orchestra in Concert

Edmond Agopian, conductor.
Performing: Shostakovich “*Gadfly Suite*” & *Symphony No. 5*.
8:00 pm. Leacock Theatre, MRC.
Tickets available at the door. \$15 adults, \$10 students/seniors.

Saturday, November 9 — “Rejoice!”

The Mount Royal Youth Choir and the Mount Royal Children's Choir present a choral concert entitled “Rejoice!” at the Rosza Centre, University of Calgary. This concert will highlight what each of these Mount Royal choirs is capable of. It is sure to delight the senses and tickle our musical appetites while helping us to Rejoice!

Sunday, November 10 — Calgary Guitar Quartet

Ralph Maier, Brad Mahon, Andrew Nugara and Jim Schmidt in concert.
3:00 pm. Leacock Theatre. Tickets at the door. Information: 240-6017.

Monday, November 11 — Lest We Forget

The Mount Royal Youth Choir will again participate in the Remembrance Day Ceremonies at the Jubilee Auditorium, a yearly event in the MRYC concert schedule. Come and partake in the ceremonies and remember with the sounds of the Mount Royal Youth Choir. Information: 240-6769

November 21-23 & 26-30 — Goodnight Desdemona...

MRC Theatre Arts Program's first winter production for the 2002/03 season, directed by Martin Fishman. *Goodnight Desdemona* is a wild and fantastical farce that includes cross-dressing (by both genders), swordplay, mistaken identities, and a wise Fool. For information, call 240-6139. Tickets: \$15 adults, \$10 students/seniors. Call 240-7770. 8:00 pm. Nickle Theatre, MRC.

Friday, November 30 — CBC Knox United Carol Festival

The Mount Royal Choirs will be participating in this Calgary choral showcase highlight. The concerts are well attended and seating is limited. Concerts are replayed on CBC radio, so listen for Mount Royal's contribution. Concert details and tickets are available by calling Knox United Church, 269-8382.

December

Monday, December 2 — “Christmas In Song”

The massed Mount Royal Choirs and the Calgary Youth Orchestra present this annual Christmas Concert at the Jack Singer Concert Hall. Tickets: \$15 adults, \$10 students/seniors, available at the door or from TicketMaster (777-0000). Call 240-6769 for more information.

Wednesday, December 4, and Thursday, December 5 — Calgary Fiddlers Fantasia

with special guests The Bow Valley Fiddlers.
7:30 pm, Leacock Theatre, MRC.
Call 257-4666 for tickets.

Sunday, December 8 — Speech Arts Recital Series & Concert

Speech Arts & Drama Program presentations:
Recital Series, 1:30 pm and 3:00 pm;
Christmas Concert, with The Talk Show Players, time TBA.
Nickle Theatre, MRC.
Call 240-6981 for more information.

Friday, December 13 — Airdrie Festival Of Lights

The Mount Royal Children's Choir will participate again this year in the Airdrie Festival of Lights celebration. Come and listen to our choristers sing the joys of Christmas in Airdrie. Concert information: 240-6769.

Saturday, December 14 — The Mount Royal Junior Children's Choir At Heritage Park

The Mount Royal Junior Children's Choir will be singing carols at Heritage Park this Christmas season. Come out and support our young singers and help them to celebrate Christmas the old fashioned way. Concert information: 240-6769.

Ongoing

Tuesday Recital Series

On the first Tuesday each month, classical students in the Music Performance Diploma Program perform works of the great composers. October 1, November 5 and December 3, 2002.
Noon – 1 pm, Leacock Theatre, MRC — Free

Wednesdays: Jazz at Noon

On the first Wednesday of each month, Jazz Diploma students perform standards from the American Songbook as well as exciting new compositions in quintet and sextet settings. Come see the future professionals in the music industry while it is still a bargain. Dates: October 2, November 6 and December 4, 2002.
Noon – 1 pm, Leacock Theatre Foyer, MRC — Free

Thursday Noon Hour Organ Recitals

On the first Thursday each month, Neil Cockburn, Head of Organ Studies at Mount Royal Conservatory, students of Mount Royal Organ Academy and guest recitalists showcase the versatility of the organ. October 3, November 7 and December 5, 2002.
12:10 – 12:55 pm, Wyatt Hall (F123), MRC — Free

Summer programs success stories...

The sixth annual **Morningside Music Bridge at Mount Royal College** wrapped up August 2, 2002. This year, 58 young musicians from China, Canada and other parts of the globe were involved in this intensive, varied program under the direction of an outstanding international faculty. Visiting artists the **Diaz String Trio**, pianists **Angela Cheng** and **Alvin Chow** (on faculty at Oberlin College), and Polish pianist **Krzysztof Jablonski** (now on staff at The Conservatory), joined MMB 'regulars' Gwen Hoebig, David Moroz, Desmond Hoebig, Steven Dann, Edmond Agopian and Nick Pulos as part of this year's faculty. As well, five faculty members attended from China to observe or teach in this year's program.

Chen Xi, a participant from the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing and, most recently, second place winner at the 2002 Tchaikovsky Competition held this June in Moscow, provided a memorable highlight, delighting audiences with a Chinese piece composed by visiting faculty member Professor Zhao Wei.

Faculty, staff and host families continue to contribute to this program's success. Twenty-two host families contributed to the cultural component by billeting 38 students. Students participated in recreational and education day trips that included rafting down the Bow River, and visits to the Royal Tyrrell Museum in Drumheller and to the beautiful Rocky Mountains.

Another great summer has gone, but we look forward to seeing you at next year's Morningside Music Bridge (to be held July 7 – August 1, 2003). For details visit www.mtroyal.ca/conservatory/musicbridge.htm or e-mail Maimie De Silva, Program Coordinator, at mdesilva@mtroyal.ca.

— *Maimie De Silva*

The 2002 season of **Shakespeare in the Park** saw this popular summer College program celebrate in two ways — with its 15th Anniversary as Calgary's *public* theatre, and with its most successful season to date! This year, SITP played to over 40,000 people and the company recorded a 70% increase in on-site donations.

As well, SITP strutted its hour upon the noontime stage for the first time with its production of *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare*

(Abridged). The venture was so successful a hold over show had to be added. SITP also visited Banff, playing at the Banff Summer Arts Festival. Its productions of *The Merchant of Venice* and *Twelfth Night* played to 80% capacity at the Centre.

The outreach program, **Shakespeare in the City**, visited a record number of locations including the Kerby Centre, The Children's Hospital, the Mustard Seed and the Calgary Women's Shelter.

Plans are already under way for the 2003 season, which will open July 3 and run until August 24.

— *Martin Fishman*

Having made history last summer by hosting Canada's first ever **Pipe Organ Encounter** (POE), Mount Royal College Organ Academy was proud to host its second POE this August. For teenagers with keyboard experience, but with little or no experience of the pipe organ, this highly successful organ summer camp was a partnership between MRC Organ Academy, the Calgary Centre of Royal Canadian College of Organists and the Calgary Society of Organists.

Eleven students, ages 11 to 22, attended the five-day camp with faculty members Neil Cockburn (Head of Organ Studies MRC Organ Academy), Douglas Hales (Director of Music, St. David's United Church, Calgary), Valerie Hall (Regional Director Royal Canadian College of Organists, Prairies Region), Margie Newman (Director of Music, Christ Church, Elbow Park, Calgary) and Jim Picken (Organist, Knox Presbyterian Church, Calgary).

Highlights of POE were daily lessons, workshops and practice sessions, an organ recital by Valerie Hall at MRC's Wyatt Hall, a recital of organ music with African drums at the Jack Singer Concert Hall given by Neil Cockburn and local African drumming group, the Djem Babes, and the opportunity for all students to perform in a closing recital. In addition, each student had at least one opportunity to try their hands at the keyboard of the magnificent Carthy Organ at the EPCOR Centre for the Performing Arts' Jack Singer Concert Hall.

— *Neil Cockburn*

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