

Summertime hits a high note at The Conservatory

Summer is an exciting time at The Conservatory. While most of Mount Royal College is on hiatus, The Conservatory picks up the beat offering camps for band, jazz and strings. For the first time ever **Kodály** is

running a summer camp. Students (5-13 years) will explore music notation, choral singing and traditional dance through songs and games that were popular a generation ago and have now been all but forgotten. And the **Summer Jazz Workshop** goes into full swing in August thanks to a generous donation by **The Breeze 103.1 FM**.

Even more than usual, throughout the summer months The Conservatory's halls are filled with performing artists, teachers and students, from as far away as China, Poland, and England. Students come to Calgary not only to refine their skills and learn from the masters, but to perform before live audiences. This year **Morningside Music Bridge** is adding students from Russia to its international roster. The **International Organ Summer School** and **Shakespeare in the Park** are The Conservatory's other two summer attractions that provide big entertainment for small pockets.

Looking back at the academic year, The Conservatory has had its share of victories, challenges and changes. Budgetary constraints have been on the minds of most administrators at the College throughout the year. It's been no different at The Conservatory. In fact, last September **Paul Dornian** (Director of The Conservatory) went back to school for an MBA to help him tackle the books. He's returning in the fall and we're hoping he'll have morphed into a financial wizard.

In Dornian's place, **Sheldon Nadler** has been diligently dealing with the accounting challenges making sure that The Conservatory never jeopardizes its standard of excellence. His long score of duties has led him to take charge of this year's **Feast of Sound and Song** — The

Conservatory's premier fundraising event. This year it takes place on Sunday, October 17th. The monies raised at the dinner and silent auction go directly toward student scholarships, bringing in master

musicians to teach students, and buying musical instruments. With tight budgets, the support of Conservatory friends is more important than ever.

There were many high notes this past year for Conservatory programs and instructors. For starters, The Conservatory entered into a formal partnership with the **Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra**. This makes a lot of sense because the list of CPO players currently on faculty at MRC is extensive. In addition, our students have begun to perform with the CPO on a more regular basis. In

the future, The Conservatory is hoping to organize more events



Members of the CYO and CPO in rehearsal on stage at the Jack Singer Concert Hall. Vanessa Goymour photo.

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with the CPO to take advantage of the College's new **TransCanada Amphitheatre**.

On another note, the **Calgary Youth Orchestra**, which trains at the College under **Edmond Agopian**, went on tour to New Zealand and released its first CD. The CYO also performed on numerous occasions with both the Philharmonic and The Conservatory's stellar choral groups. These groups, conducted by **David Ferguson** and **Anita Perlau**, delighted hundreds of people over the course of the year with such performances as

In Remembrance, *Christmas in Song* and *Carmina Burana* (jointly performed by **Kantorei** and the **Youth Choir**).

Performance is an important part of The Conservatory's mission. One way the faculty gauge how well they do as teachers is by the success of their students at the **Kiwanis Festival**. This year Conservatory students (speech and music) took home first prizes in almost half of the classes run at the 2004 Kiwanis Festival. The chamber strings ensembles (**Ben Neumann**, **Jeff Plotnick**, **Brigit Knecht**) and the woodwind quintet (**Jocelyn Colquhoun**) made top honours as well.

There were new teaching techniques added to The Conservatory's offerings this past year. The **Suzuki Piano Program** (**Merlin Thompson**) paved the way by introducing videoconferencing as a long distance learning opportunity. Meanwhile the **Speech Program** (**Jennifer Orr**) launched classes offsite. The arrangement with the Montessori School in Bowness was very successful and classes will be offered there again next fall.

The **Theatre Department** (**Doug Rathbun** and **JP Fournier**) at the College also made a big contribution to The Conservatory's performance program providing a wonderful season of mostly Canadian works: *Unity (1918)* by Kevin Kerry; *The Diviners* by James Leonard; and *Village of Idiots* by John Lazarus. The students dedicated the last play to the **Beth Israel Players** in recognition of their support of scholarships to MRC theatre students. **Theatre for Young Audiences**, which puts on school productions, was highly popular this year with *A Prairie Christmas* by **Lana Skuage**, and *Betty Byleorski Finds a Home* by **Winn Bray**.



Theatre Program students Amanda Markus (left) and Kaal Cheyne, in *Unity (1918)*. Douglas Rathbun photo.

There were less happy moments as well. The Conservatory lost two great teachers in 2004. **Dr. Lise Elson**, who died at her Cape Cod home on January 11th, taught a long line of outstanding Canadian violinists during her extensive teaching career in North America. The Conservatory paid tribute to her in April when former students came from near and far to honour Elson's memory in a musical tribute.

More recently **Leona Paterson** passed away on April 4. She not only founded the speech arts and drama department at the College in 1944, but

had been teaching speech and voice in the country for 50 years (see page 8). The Conservatory is working on organizing a tribute for Paterson in the fall.

Looking ahead to September, for the first time The Conservatory will be offering a **Music and Movement** class for children with special needs, ages 3-6. For 30 minutes a week students will learn simple rhythms, stories and songs. It's designed to stimulate physical and aural awareness in a nurturing environment. The instructor, **Holger Mauthe**, comes to us with extensive experience in Orff training and has taught a variety of children's classes in Europe.

The last bit of news to share is that we're making changes to *Conservatory Notes*. Starting in September we will focus our efforts on providing up-to-date news stories and details about events online on a regular basis. The Conservatory website (www.mtroyal.ca/conservatory) is a great communications tool that's also cost effective. For those of you who have recently visited the site, you'll have noticed a new service for students, faculty and staff at the College called "Instruments for Sale". As well, starting in September, we will be dedicating a new section of the website to Conservatory alumni. There have been thousands of students who have gone through our music, theatre and speech arts programs over the years but until now we've never had a system in place to help us keep in touch.

Until the fall, may your summer days and evenings be filled with great music, speech and theatre. And thank you to our staff, faculty, students and parents, for all your hard work and support this past year.

Silvana Saccomani, Editor

Staccato: quick notes, news and Conservatory events

Fall Registration... for Conservatory classes and private lessons begins on June 15 and the deadline is August 31. Please call 440-6821 to register by phone. Details regarding web registration, methods of payment and Conservatory hours can be found at: <http://www.mtroyal.ca/conservatory/registration.htm>

Nota Bene: A \$15 penalty for late registration will be applied after the August 31 deadline.

It's Simple! The Conservatory at your fingertips... Starting in the fall, **The Academy of Music** will begin using the **Blackboard** system as its primary communications tool. In a bold move to help conserve paper, the Academy will use Blackboard to post student schedules, handbooks, music education web links, program announcements, music competitions information and more. Call **Rodd Bauman** for more information at 440-6832.

Beethoven in the Badlands... and go, Flames, go!



Conservatory faculty and Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra members **Robert McCosh** (left), **Michael Eastep**, **David Sussman**, **Michael Hope** and **Linda Brown** show their true colours during *Beethoven In The Badlands*. The CPO played to rave reviews at this now-annual event held in Drumheller last May. **Stuart Gradon**, photographer. Photo reprinted courtesy of *The Calgary Herald*.

Victory Sounds for the Flames... Trumpet instructor **Linda Brown** is sure her bugle calls during NHL playoffs helped the Flames. But another of our instructors, **Gianetta Baril**, insists it was the ascending scale of the harp that inspired the team to new found heights of glory.

When first place means going to Italy... Saxophone instructor, **Michael Ibrahim** won the North American Saxophone Alliance Classical Artist Competition in Greensboro, North Carolina, and that means he's going on tour to Italy in July as part of the Faenza International Saxophone Festival. Complimenti Michele!!!

Springtime Serenade... was the theme for the 7th Annual Calgary Horticultural Society's garden show in April. The Conservatory serenaded crowds on the opening night; it was **Sheldon Nadler's** (The Conservatory's Acting Director) nimble fingers on the violin not his green thumb that inspired gardeners to get planting.

Preparing for battle... After a private lesson in sword fighting from **JP Fournier**, College President **David Marshall** unveiled his newly acquired skill at the recent *Pearls of Wisdom* fundraising event. His challenger **Karlo Farkas** was in fine form having just completed his theatre diploma.



JP Fournier, swordsman extraordinaire.

Combo to Go... Our very own **Greg Rumpel** (guitar and accordion) and **John Hyde** (bass) are members of Calgary's newest klezmer group, **KlezMerovitz**. In April they performed for CBC's lunchtime concert series at the Epcor Centre; the performance was later broadcast on CBC Radio Two's *Our Music*. The group's first CD is now out.

Call Greg at 284-5210 for more information.

Hu Bo... a Morningside Music Bridge alumnus, recently performed in Beijing at a dinner hosted by the Canadian ambassador to China. The evening was held for Alberta born **William Thorsell**, former Editor-in-Chief for the Toronto *Globe and Mail* and current President and CEO of the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto.

Opening your homes... Morningside Music Bridge is looking for host families to billet exceptional young music students (age 12 to 18). The program will take place at Mount Royal College from July 5 to 30, 2004.

Staccato... *continued from page 3*

Students arrive in Calgary on July 4 and leave on July 31. Contact **Maimie De Silva**, Morningside Music Bridge Coordinator, at 1-866-742-4519, or e-mail: mdesilva@mtroyal.ca



It's never too early to beat the drum for the Calgary Flames! Patti Frizzel (rear) with a group of "Flame-atic" fans during her Music With Your Baby class.

And the silver medal goes to... Michael Wong for completing Grade 4 piano from the Royal Conservatory of Music. Michael studies with **Peter Rudzik**.

Members of The Conservatory's speech faculty brought their expertise to many communities as adjudicators this spring: **Susan Duska** went to Kamloops, **Jim Dobbin** to Burns Lake, **Kristina Hoiles** to High River, **Jennifer Orr** to Courtenay, **Grant Paterson** to Red Deer, and **Juleta Severson-Baker** to Barrhead. Grant Paterson travels to Cape Breton in June to examine for RCM Examinations. Meanwhile, Jennifer Orr stays closer to home, examining in Red Deer and Medicine Hat.

Also down south... Susana Singer adjudicated the Kiwanis music festival in Lethbridge. One of her students, **Jesselyn Friley**, received first place and a scholarship in the Romantic Grade 7 class during the Calgary Kiwanis Festival.

Centre stage... that's where students from The Conservatory were in June for the Alberta Provincial Music Festival. Look for the results on our website, www.mtroyal.ca/conservatory.

Applause Festival... is a non-competitive speech and drama festival for elementary schools, and was held at the Leacock Theatre on May 19th and 20th. The event is presented by Calgary Public and Calgary

Catholic schools, and was, once again, hosted by the **Speech Arts and Drama Program** of The Conservatory. School groups performed readers' theatre and choral speech throughout the two day event. Participants were also treated to performances by Conservatory speech students, as well as a professional performance artist.

Strummin' along... **Brad Mahon** was a guest at the Guitar Institute of Technology in Hollywood in February. There he interviewed faculty and staff regarding their programs. In March Brad presented results from his fieldwork in California at the 2004 International Symposium on the Guitar (University of Guelph), and in May he appeared at the Canadian University Music Society's annual conference (University of Lethbridge).

Ottawa bound... that's the direction cellists, **Sonjoy Athparia**, **Jane Chan**, and violinists, **Nikki Chooi** and **Meghan Nenniger**, are headed in June for a summer workshop at the National Arts Centre. None other than violin virtuoso **Pinchas Zukerman**, Music Director, National Arts Centre Orchestra, will be their music master. After Ottawa, **Karen Kang** and **Emily Nenniger** head to Salsburg, Austria, where they've won the Strauss Foundation Scholarship to study at the famous Mozarteum. The scholarships cover all their expenses.

In demand... that's **Kathy Dornian** who's had a busy semester: she examined in Victoria in January where she also judged the Madeleine Till Scholarship Competition; in the spring she adjudicated in both Olds and Grand Prairie; and in June, she's off to Toronto to examine. Kathy's very proud of her piano students who performed exceedingly well at the 2004 Kiwanis Festival.

High notes... **Zaafir Kherani** has chosen to attend Princeton University next year, having also been accepted at Harvard, Yale and Stanford. He will be pursuing studies in both music and the sciences. For eight years Zaafir has come to The Conservatory to study piano with **Ruth Mossop** and voice with **Winston Noren**. In May, Zaafir played a piano recital made up of pieces that he prepared for his ARCT examination in June. Ruth says, "Key to Zaafir's nature are his soulful connection to music, his intuitive understanding of its universal messages and his gift to communicate meaningfully through his chosen instruments of voice and piano. His artistry is profound."

The twelfth annual Piano Faculty Professional Development Workshop was held in April (organized by **Ruth Mossop**). This year the visiting clinician was **Jacques Després** from the University of Alberta. As always, it was a great opportunity to perform for each other, engage in stimulating discussion and learn from one another. Clinicians in the past have been **Marek Jablonski**, **Stéphane Lemelin**, **Isobel Rolston**, **Janet Scott-Hoytt**, **Glen Montgomery** and **Nelita True**.

Master organizer... Congratulations to **Mike Schuett** for successfully organizing the first ever masterclass given in Canada by world renowned percussionist **Evelyn Glennie**. She not only taught Conservatory students, but played with the CPO for the Abilities Society fundraiser.

Another reason to be proud... **Lana Henschell** won the Eckhardt-Gramatte competition this past May in Brandon. Lana was born and raised in Calgary, and has been a long-time student of **Marilyn Engle**. Lana participated in The Conservatory's Academy program as a student and currently works in the program as an accompanist. Lana is graduating this spring with her M.Mus. from the University of Calgary.



Dr. Peter Jancewicz, Co-ordinator, Piano.

More than tickling the ivories... **Peter Jancewicz** judged the Wallace and Gustin Piano Competitions in Saskatoon at the end of May. In addition, his new suite of piano pieces from Alfred, *Sketches of Canada*, is scheduled for publication in June. It includes four pieces at the Grade 5-8 level. The titles are *Mist in Algonquin Park*, *Fisherman's Shanty*, *Prairie Hymn*, and *Carnaval de Quebec*. Finally, his CD, *Oh Evergreens*, recorded in collaboration with poet **Elly van Mourik**, will be in

production shortly and is scheduled for release early in the fall.

Plans finalized... **Alexandra Eastley** (bassoon) is a former student of **Michael Hope**, and a former member of both the Academy (1999) and the CYO. Alex has recently completed studies with **Bernard Garfield** (principal bassoon, Philadelphia Orchestra) at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. She is currently auditioning in England, and is planning to pursue graduate studies at McGill University in the fall.

All the stops... Organ master **Neil Cockburn** never stops working. This year Neil played various concerts in September, October, February, April and June. Students in the Mount Royal College Organ Academy performed in November (**Shauna Murdock**) and in December (**Jim Picken**); and guests played in January (**Rico Contenti**, Eastman School of Music, Rochester NY), March (**Gary Tong**, formerly Mount Royal College Organ Academy, recently graduated from the University of Alberta with a Master's degree in Organ Performance) and May (**Kevin Dill**, University of Alberta). After the summer organ workshops which Neil is organizing, he's off to England and Sweden again for work.

Katherine Schantz, a violin student of **Fiona Carnie**, won the Eileen Hooper medal and a scholarship for her performance in String Solo – Canadian Composers at the Kiwanis Music Festival.

Pinning him down... You can't actually. That's because **John Kadz** keeps up a rigorous teaching pace. After having had a wonderful stint of teaching in music schools in Beijing last fall, John went to the Glenn Gould School in Toronto in May. This was his third invitation to teach there. He also did his usual stint adjudicating in Victoria and Nelson.

From the studio of Allen Reiser... **Albert Nguyen** was one of only four pianists chosen to perform in the Calgary Kiwanis "Stars of the Festival Concert". **Sarah Aleem** and **Jani Parsons** (who come from Cranbrook to Calgary for lessons) were selected as Intermediate and Senior Representatives to the BC Provincial Festival.

Delighting crowds... **The Mount Royal Children's Choir** (under the direction of **Anita Perlau**) performed in May for family and friends at the Scarboro United for the "De Colores" concert. The Choir, together with the children's choirs of Glenbrook and William Reid elementary schools, celebrated world music. The highlight of the afternoon was the performance of the Children's Choir on African Djembe nut drums.

Spring Song... a celebration of fine music was held also held in May. In this performance the **Children's Choir** was joined by the **Mount Royal Youth Choir** (under the direction of **David Ferguson**) and the **Mount Royal Chamber Strings** (under the direction of **Ben Neumann**). The Children's Choir was thrilled to perform three pieces with the orchestra including *Come Enjoy God's Festive Springtime* by Telemann.

Choir auditions... As the choristers look forward to a well deserved break, the Directors are busy scheduling auditions for next season. The **Children's Choir** is open to boys and girls aged 7 to 14. The **Youth Choir** is a mixed chorus for young adults from age 15. **Kantorei**, the adult ensemble, is also holding auditions.

Auditions take place into June, late August and early September. To book an audition or for more information, please contact our General Manager, **Edith Pritchard**, at 440-6769 or epritchard@mtroyal.ca

Impressive playing... 16 year old **Patrick Staples** (Academy double bassist) has won a position as the youngest member of the bass section in this summer's National Youth Orchestra. The program consists of a three week training session at the University of Victoria campus, followed by a tour across Canada.

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Conservatory Students Receive Top Awards at the Kiwanis Festival

A strong contingent of MRC students headed up to Edmonton in June for the annual provincial music festival. To get there, they had to perform extremely well in the recent 2004 Calgary Kiwanis Festival. And perform well they did: Conservatory students took home first prizes in almost 50% of the Kiwanis classes won this year.

In fact, Mount Royal College students won the festival's two most prestigious awards including the Rose



Yue Chu (left) with Tema Blackstone and Hung-Kuan Chen.

Bowl and the Mozart Competition. In the Mozart competition, **Nikki Chooi** (violin) won the \$2,000 scholarship, and Conservatory alumnus, **Sabrina Poon** (piano) walked away with the \$1,500 prize.

But the festival's top honours went to **Yue Chu**. The twenty-year-old pianist competed against 10,000 other amateur musicians to win the Rose Bowl title as this year's most outstanding performer, as well as the \$5,000 Rose Bowl scholarship.

Chu credits his music instructors — **Hung-Kuan Chen**, Artist in Residence at The Conservatory and **Tema Blackstone**, Advisor for Piano in the Diploma program at MRC — for his accomplishments. "They have different approaches to teaching and they've passed along their individual strengths, which have made me far more creative in my thinking and work habits around music."

Chen says that from the first moment he met Chu at the 2000 Morningside Music Bridge program, he was impressed with his raw talent. "He was at the tender age that is the most crucial in the development of a musician; the musical, philosophical and esthetics foundations are laid at this time."

Kung and Blackstone both felt a deep sense of obligation to invite Chu to Calgary to study with them. In fact, they went further than issuing a simple invitation. They approached The Connection — a group of music lovers in Calgary — to make it possible to sponsor Chu in 2001.

It's a sponsorship that no one regrets, especially Chu. He auditioned for the New England Conservatory in Boston just days before the Kiwanis festival.

According to Chen, teachers there were not only impressed with him but compared Chu to the young van Cliburn and gave him the highest marks of all pianists that auditioned.

The Conservatory extends its congratulations to all our students who performed so well at this year's Kiwanis Festival. (Names submitted by individuals.)

Abbey Curzon	Joshua Sung Park
Albert Nguyen	Kalana Kariyawasam
Alex Bian	Karen Kang
Alex Birnie	Katherine Lee
Allison Wong	Katherine Schantz
Angela Nguyen	Kevin Jacyna
Ben Plotnick	Kevin Kang
Bethany Pollock	Kieran X. Courtright
Bianca Courtright	Laura Jacyna
Brian Jenkins	Lauren Patton
Caren Abramoff	Leya Rennert-May
Carissa Ockey	Liz Morrison
Carl Lundgren	Madison Pachkowski
Caroline Becq	Maria van der Sloot
Caroline Ewen	Marina Krickler
Cathleen Thomson	Matthew Jefferson
Charlotte Ford	Matthew Lonson
Chelsea Smith	Meghan Nenniger
Christopher J. Wong	Michael Pachkowski
Cordelia Paw	Michael Schuck
Daniel Mills	Michael van der Sloot
Danielle Sinclair	Michelle Chow
Diana Robertson	Mingkyu Jung
Diana Robinson	Mitchell Sinclair
Dionaea Trio	Monica Tolosa
Elizabeth Macleod	Mount Royal College Chamber
Elizabeth Park	Strings
Emma Quail	(B. Neumann)
Ephraim Olson	Mount Royal College Intermediate
Erika Dort	Strings
Erin MacLean	(J. Plotnick)
Evan Morrow	Mount Royal College Junior
Hannah Park	Strings
Heather Baker	(B. Knecht)
Heathir Darnel-Kadonaga	Mount Royal College Pre-Chamber
Holly Forbes	A Strings
James Aditi Amin	(B. Neumann)
Jan Lisiecki	Mount Royal College Pre-Chamber
Jane Chan	B Strings
Jeremy Carver	(B. Neumann)
Jessie Kim	Mount Royal Senior Academy
Joelle Dudelzak	Woodwind Quintet
Johanne Young	(J. Colquhoun)
John Young	Natalie Fagnan
Jonathan Dornian	Nicole Hulme
Joseph Horchower	Nikki Chooi
Joshua Dyckerhoff	Patrick Dornian

Music bonds adoptive parents and kids

A Calgary mother believes that a children's music class is helping her adopted baby communicate.

Ellen Kraminsky adopted her son, **Gabriel**, 2½, from Russia when he was nine months old. He had never played with other children, she says. Nor had he ever been around English speakers, and his developmental skills lagged behind those of other children his age.

But Kraminsky wasn't fazed. Within a few months, she signed him up for the Music With Your Baby class at Mount Royal College.

"The class really helped him socialize," says Kraminsky.

"At first, when we started the class, he was very withdrawn and would not interact with people.

"But now he's taking a genuine joy in it."

Each 45-minute class runs once a week for 17 weeks. There is a maximum of eight children per class, and each child must attend with a parent or caregiver. Children and caregivers also perform in a concert, which takes place partway through each term.

Children range in age from four weeks to four years old in the Mount Royal courses, which take place twice a year in both the fall and winter terms, says instructor **Sarina Rudzik**.

Rudzik, who holds a degree in music and early childhood education from Denmark's prestigious Dalcroze Institute of Eurythmics, says she's seen the popularity of the classes soar since she began teaching in the early 1990s. At that time, she says, there were perhaps a dozen children that attended. Now more than 200 children are registered.

Each class begins with a greeting song. Children then shake each other's hands. Next, they explore different instruments (drums, triangles, egg shakers), traditional songs (*The Muffin Man*, *Ring Around the Rosie*, etc.) and nursery rhymes (*Pussycat, Pussycat, Patty Cake*, etc.). At various points, they jump up and down, dance, explore various rhythms and practice counting in the languages of the class participants.

"It's both social development and motor skills that they're learning," says Rudzik. "It's nice to come to class and see the progress."



Kiwanis winners... *continued*

Patrick Li	Shanelle Sinclair	Victoria Cynthia
Patrick Staples	Sonjoy Athparia	Lee
Patrick Steeves	Stephania Romaniuk	Virginia Lew
Paul A. J. van der Sloot	Stephen Fong	Vivian Lau
Quan Zhou	Tanis Laatsch	Willem Stam
Rachel Wilson	Taryn Fulkerson	Yegee Lee
Rufan Tan	Thomas Quail	Yina Tong
Sarah Baek	Tie Dan Yao	Yue Chu
Seirin Goldade	Timothy Steeves	Zachary Kung
Seth Drabinsky	Trina Chan	



Two-year old Gabriel Kraminsky enjoys attending Music With Your Baby classes with his Mom, Ellen. Stuart Gradon photo, courtesy of The Calgary Herald.

It's not the first time that Kraminsky has explored music with an adopted child.

She first began taking the Mount Royal courses five years ago, after adopting a daughter, Mikaela, 7, from Romania. After seeing how much the classes helped her daughter, she didn't hesitate to take her son.

Since then, Kraminsky and her children have taken a variety of

children's courses throughout the city, including Gymboree, swimming lessons and Kindermusik, a similar program to the Mount Royal music classes.

Her reasons for signing up for the Mount Royal classes were many:

"First, to get out of the house and meet other people with children that age," she says with a laugh.

Kraminsky, who has a background in child psychology, also wanted to explore the connection between music and learning. She notes numerous studies have shown the positive effects of music training on children's cognitive development.

Plus, she wanted her children to have a chance to learn how to play with other children, she says.

"It's a tremendous way and a beautiful way to socialize," she says.

"It gave my kids a key opportunity to watch how other children are."

After more than a year and a half in the program, Gabriel still has language problems, says Kraminsky. But he's starting to talk more and more — progress that she attributes partly to music.

"If you came and watched the class, you wouldn't be able to pick him out of the crowd," she says.

"He functions pretty much as any other two-year-old does."

Shelley Boettcher. Reprinted courtesy of The Calgary Herald.

Renowned instructor remembered

The influence of **Leona Paterson** can be felt right across the country in the way thousands of her former students communicate every day.

Paterson, who died on April 4 at the age of 91, founded the speech arts and drama department at Mount Royal College in 1944.

She was passionate about teaching people to speak properly and be able to communicate in public.

"English sounded like a wonderful language in her mouth," said **Grant Reddick**, a local actor and former professor at the University of Calgary who was a student, colleague and longtime friend of Paterson.

"I learned an enormous amount from her, she had a huge influence. She carried the teaching of speech and voice work in the country for 50 years."

Paterson was born in Calgary on Dec. 22, 1912, to German immigrants Otto and Mathilda Flegal. Otto worked as an engineer for Canadian Pacific Railway and his locomotive is now displayed at the entrance to Heritage Park.

Paterson's interest in speech arts began when her parents spent 25 cents an hour on elocution lessons to help her overcome shyness.

Raised in Calgary, she attended the University of California in Los Angeles and received her associate diploma in speech arts at the Royal Conservatory in Toronto.

Paterson was also an actress, appearing in one of **Betty Mitchell's** first productions in Calgary in the early 1930s and later performing in a plays staged by Mitchell's Workshop 14 theatre group in the late 1950s.

"She was very active in the early cultural life of Calgary and Alberta," said **Grant Paterson**, her only son. "She brought speech arts to Western Canada."

The speech arts and drama department at Mount Royal College was the first of its kind west of Toronto when it was created and was helmed by Paterson until 1972. She retired in 1977 after a stint as director of the Mount Royal College Conservatory.

"She was a very, very gracious lady," said Reddick.

Sean Myers. Reprinted with the permission of The Calgary Herald.



Staccato... *continued from page 5*



Piano Con Brio was just one of five artistic presentations which made up *Marching To A Different Beat*, a brilliant evening in support of the **Suzuki Piano Pedagogy Program**. Other events included Japanese floral artist **Keiko Otsuki**, **Theatre of the Living**

Statues, performances by a traditional Chinese orchestra, the **Pro Arts Men's Chorus** directed by **Winston Noren**, modern dancers and art installation by **Geoff MacKay** and **Derek Stefanuk**.

Arnie Choi is the only cellist accepted at the Colburn School, which is part of the new Disney performing arts complex in downtown Los Angeles. He will receive full scholarship, room and board, and a living allowance while studying with renowned cellist **Ron Leonard**. Choi was also accepted at Yale and the Cleveland Institute of Music.

Robert Rosen is currently working on a commission for **Ensemble Resonance**, which will be presented in the group's upcoming performance season. As well, Rosen is involved in a collaborative project with Kokoro Dance of Vancouver and Silesian Dance of Warsaw, Poland both premiering in 2005.

Scoring a nomination... **John Abram** (Technology Co-ordinator at The Conservatory) was nominated for an Alberta Motion Picture Industry Award under Best Original music score dramatic for *A Problem With Fear*.

C3 Concerto Competition... Congratulations to this year's winners: **Sonjoy Athparia**, *Concerto Bb Major*, Boccherini (cello); **Jan Lisiecki**, *Concerto C Major, K 415*, Mozart (piano); **Emily Westell**, *Concerto D Major, op. 35*, Tchaikovsky (violin); **Kun Yao**, *Hungarian Fantasia, S. 123*, Liszt (piano).

Good work on the part of the runners up: **Katie Lonson** (cello); **Daniel Murdock** (piano); **Nadia Sparrow** (flute); **Willem Stam** (piano and cello); **Cordelia Paw** (violin); **Trina Chan** (violin); and **Patrick Staples** (double bass).

Serving The Conservatory... The following were recognized recently at the College's Employee awards ceremonies for their outstanding contributions and length of service here. 10 Years: **Edmond Agopian**, **Vicky Goodfellow-Duke**, **Elizabeth Johnson**, and **Grant Paterson**; 15 years: **Robert Day**, **Nicholas Pulos** and **Douglas Rathbun**; 20 years: **Garry DeBoeck**, **Eric Friedenberg** and **John Hyde**.

Conservatory Portraits...

The Conservatory runs like a fine-tuned instrument thanks to about 165 faculty and 35 staff. They work quietly and diligently behind the scenes making sure The Conservatory stays on track as a centre of excellence. Starting in September watch for updates on our Conservatory website.



Holger Mauthe

Instructor, Music with Your Baby and Music for Children with Special Needs



Holger Mauthe

Holger Mauthe was born and raised near Augsburg, Germany and studied in the Orff Institute at the University Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria. He worked as a freelance teacher for creative music and movement in Turku, Finland, before moving to Calgary last January with his family. Hockey fans know that Calgary netminder Miikka Kiprusoff hails from Turku. Classical music fans, however, know about the Turku Conservatory, where Holger taught children from 2-15 years

of age, as well as pre-professional music and dance. Holger has also given workshops for kindergarten, music and dance teachers in Russia, Sweden and Finland.

What I love most about teaching is... the contact and exchange with my students. The energy I receive from the students when they enjoy their music class is tremendous.

What frustrates me most about teaching is... the feeling that my work is never done. There are so many areas where I still can and should develop my skills as a teacher and motivator.

My mentor is/was... There is a long list of people and teachers, who have inspired me and continue to encourage me to give my best and respect my students as individuals: Susanne Rebholz, Ulrike Jungmaier, Peter Cubasch, Shirley Salmon, Soili Perkiö, as well as my parents.

May favourite place in the world to vacation is... Portugal because for starters, it's beautiful and cheap. It also has an amazing history, great beaches, romantic architecture, good food and I love the people there.

Another passion of mine is... biking and singing in the choir. I'm currently singing with the Calgary Men's Chorus.

My favorite book and author are... Miland Kundera, Ingrid Noll, Erich Kästner. Of those three Kästner has to be my favourite.

The warmth with which he creates his characters and his ability to describe the scenes and atmosphere with few perfectly chosen words is quite remarkable.

If I suddenly had some free time I would... spend it playing with our 4 year-old son, Noah.

My biggest accomplishment is... my family.

The best kept secret about me is... It wouldn't be much of a secret if I would tell you, would it?



David Soltess

Position: Graphic Designer

David Soltess is a Calgary-born freelance commercial artist who provides contract design services to The Conservatory. David has been kicking around the print and design industry since the late 70's and can still say things like "waxer", "PMT", "paste-up", and "galleys" when he isn't hitching up his pants and mumbling something about "when I was your age..."



David Soltess

I've been at The Conservatory... since 1995? If I really want to know, I go down to the Department of Theatre, Speech and Music Performance and count all the posters on the walls.

If I had another job to do for only one day I would... work on a fishing trawler.

The strangest job I've ever had... was collecting blast debris after the CIL explosives plant disaster in Calgary.

If I suddenly had the day off I would... probably just end up having to drive one of my daughters somewhere.

I have a background in... just about everything. Ask my kids... Really! Just ask them.

I'm passionate about... fishing, hunting (especially whitetail deer) and environmental issues.

I'm most proud of having accomplished... I don't know if I can say "accomplished", because that infers some success. But I'm proud of all the work I've done on fisheries and water protection issues in Alberta over the past two decades, even if I have a flat spot on my skull from banging my head against brick walls and can cause my wife's eyes to glaze over by merely muttering "water withdrawals". Being presented with Trout Unlimited Canada's 1997 *Bow River Conservation Award*

Sound and fury...



Mount Royal College's **Shakespeare In The Park** hits the stage again this summer, starting **July 2nd** and running until **August 22** at Prince's Island Park. From its first performances in 1987, Shakespeare In The Park has established a tradition of providing accessible, top-quality entertainment for Calgary audiences. It is committed to presenting the Bard's classics in an informal outdoor setting, simulating the immediacy and exuberance of performances in Shakespeare's own era, and making it Calgary's *real* public theatre. All plays are selected with family audiences in mind. Shakespeare In The Park attracts people of all ages and from all walks of life, and for some, Shakespeare In the Park is their first encounter with live theatre.

This year's performances include ***Julius Caesar***, ***The Taming of the Shrew***, ***The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)*** (in conjunction with Lunchbox Theatre), and ***Do You Bite Your Thumb at Me, Sir? (Shakespeare's greatest fights)***. SITP also will be presenting special performances July 23, 24 & 25 during this year's Calgary Folk Festival.

Strut your stuff down to our performance site. Suggested admission price is \$10 per audience member.

For complete information and performance details, visit: www.mtroyal.ca/shakespeare-in-the-park

Conservatory Portraits... *continued from page 9*

was particularly rewarding — even more so because I'd worked with Bob Paget (who the award is now named after), in a lawsuit against the Province over Bow River water diversions. Bob died of pancreatic cancer while the suit was in progress, but he was an incredible person who financed and vigorously pursued this suit until his death — and who set up a trust to ensure its successful completion after he was gone. I learned a lot about passion from Bob, but I learned a lot more about courage from him.



A whole lot of fish and chips on the hoof... hold the potatoes.

The best vacation I had... the next one.

The best kept secret about me... Yeah, right!

“For a’That and a’That”... Farewell to the following

It's hard for us to say goodbye to the many talented students who have now finished their studies at The Conservatory. **Collette Aldridge, Alex Birnie, Carolyn Blackwell, Yue Chu, Natalie Fagnan, Stephen Fong, Serin Goldade, Joseph Horchower, Cameron Jenkins, Karen Kang, Leticia Kulchetscki, Matthew Lonson, Erin MacLean, Valentin Mansurov, Steven Morton, Ephraim Olson, Elizabeth Park, Sonia Shklarov, Chelsea Smith, Nadia Sparrow and John Young** are all moving on to what will surely be bright, challenging and exciting futures.

Good luck in the 'real' world, but be sure to keep in touch!

Remember that starting in September, The Conservatory website will have a new section devoted to you, our alumni.

It's being designed to help you keep in touch with us and one another. As well, the site will explain the benefits and services for Conservatory alumni.

Mark Your Calendar...

Morningside Music Bridge, July 5 - 30

MORNINGSIDE MUSIC BRIDGE ALUMNI CONCERT

Sunday, July 11, 7 pm. Leacock Theatre, Mount Royal College.

Featuring Chen Xi, violinist from Shen Yang, and Ni Tao, cellist from Shanghai, China.

THE DÍAZ STRING TRIO

Tuesday, July 13, 7 pm. Leacock Theatre, Mount Royal College

One of the USA's most dynamic professional string trios, comprised of Andrés Cardénes, violin; Roberto Díaz, viola; and Andrés Díaz, cello.

WILANÓW STRING QUARTET

Saturday, July 17, 7 pm. Leacock Theatre, Mount Royal College

Audiences will be enchanted with Poland's premier quartet, comprised of Tadeusz Gadzina, violin; Pawel Losakiewicz, violin; Ryszard Duz, viola; and Marian Wasiólka, cello.

HOEBIG / MOROZ TRIO

Saturday, July 24, 7 pm. Leacock Theatre, Mount Royal College

One of Canada's most distinguished chamber music ensembles, with Desmond Hoebig, cello; Gwen Hoebig, violin; and David Moroz, piano.

Above concerts are ticketed events: \$12 Adult; \$8 Student/Senior.

Special Offer: purchase tickets to all four concerts for the price of three; \$36 adult, \$24 student/senior.

GALA STUDENT SHOWCASE CONCERT

Thursday, July 29, 7 pm. Max Bell Theatre, Epcor Centre for Performing Arts. \$12 adult; \$8 student/senior. Call Ticket Master, 299-8888

STUDENT CONCERT SERIES (free admission)

Concerto Competition Finals

Friday, July 9 at 7 pm in the Leacock Theatre, Mount Royal College

Chamber Music Concert

Tuesday, July 27, 7 pm. Leacock Theatre, Mount Royal College

Student Recitals, Leacock Theatre, Mount Royal College:

Friday, July 16, 2 pm & 7 pm

Friday, July 23, 2 pm & 7 pm

Wednesday, July 28, 4 pm

Friday, July 30, 1 pm & 3:30 pm

Summer String Academy, July 12 - 23

Summer String Academy gives serious young string players an opportunity to work intensely in an enjoyable summer environment, free from pressures of school and other year long activities. The full day program is designed to enhance the abilities and knowledge of the participants through the joy of working together, and to motivate students through their participation in extracurricular activities.

Students will be involved in technique classes, masterclasses and

ensembles every day. An accompanist will be available for rehearsals and all students will be assigned to an appropriate ensemble and/or orchestra.

A program for younger students, ages 5 - 7, with 1 to 2 years playing experience will run for two hours per day and will include technique, note reading skills, and ensemble work in a fun-oriented environment. This class will perform in the Friday afternoon recitals. Students in this age group with sufficient experience are also welcome in the full program.

Fees: Full Program \$450 (2 Weeks); \$250 (1 Week)

Ages 5-7, 2-Hour Program \$260 (2 Weeks); \$140 (1 Week)

Application deadline, June 15. For more information, call 440-6832.



NEW! Organ Academy International Summer School

Beginners' Summer School, July 22 - 25

This offers the perfect opportunity for young piano players ages 12-22 to start learning the organ. No previous experience of the organ is necessary, but we recommend students be at an intermediate stage on the piano. Individual lessons and group classes will be offered, introducing the basics of good technique. Includes a one-hour private lesson each day, practice time each day, classes and workshops, concerts and fun events — including the opportunity to explore a pipe organ from the inside on a good old-fashioned organ crawl!

Fee: \$300. Application deadline, June 30. For information call 440-7769.



Organ Academy International Summer School

Advanced July 25 - August 3

The International Summer School is unique in its superb faculty-to-student ratio of approximately one to four. Instruction is in small groups and individual lessons. A performance opportunity in one of our closing concerts is guaranteed for every accepted student.

Each student will participate in lessons and classes. Ample daily practice time is arranged in advance. This allows students to work on issues raised at the instruction sessions, and to return the following day having digested the advice. The result is an unrivalled dialogue between faculty and students, through which genuine progress is achieved.

Fee: \$660. Application deadline, June 30. For full information, visit www.mtroyal.ca/conservatory/intsumschool.htm



Calgary Suzuki Piano Summer Institute, August 1 - 6

Calgary Teen Piano Camp, August 2 - 6, 2004

SAA-approved teacher development programs, student programs, honours recitals, special events and more... for full details visit www.mtroyal.ca/conservatory/sum_suzuki.htm.

Mark Your Calendar... *continued from page 11*

Registration deadline, June 1, 2004. Late registrations accepted if space permits, and are subject to a \$25 late registration fee. For more information, call The Conservatory at 440-6821.



Summer Jazz Workshop, August 1 - 6

Focusing on improvisation and performance skills, this intensive workshop is designed to enhance the understanding and appreciation of jazz styles, practices and history. The workshop is geared to jazz students of piano, bass, guitar, voice, drums, trombone, trumpet and saxophone, aged 13 and older. This year's special guest instructor is Juno award winning jazz trombonist, **Hugh Fraser**.

Fee: \$153. Registration deadline, June 1, 2004. Late registrations accepted only if space permits, and are subject to a \$25 late registration fee. For more information, call The Conservatory at 440-6821.

Vocal Jazz Ensemble Workshop, August 2 - 5

Presented by **Viviane Cardinal** and special guest **Hugh Fraser**, in conjunction with the Summer Jazz Workshop. The vocal workshop will focus on an instrumental approach to ensemble singing in a fun and easy atmosphere. Other areas covered will be vocal technique and discovering your real voice through improvisation.

Fee: \$153. For more information, call The Conservatory at 440-6821.



Kodály Workshop, August 9 - 13

An exciting music camp for children ages 5-12, specially designed to provide enrichment for current students of The Mount Royal College Conservatory's Kodály Program and the Mount Royal Children's Choir, and to serve as a fun-filled introduction to Kodály principles for students new to The Conservatory's programs. Students will explore musical notation, choral singing and traditional dance through the best choral repertoire and authentic children's games and dances from around the world. In addition to excellent music instruction, students will be lead

through recreation and art projects by fully certified Alberta teachers.

Fee: \$175. For more information, call The Conservatory at 440-6821.



Saxophone Camp, August 9 - 14

A unique opportunity for saxophone players from across Alberta to improve their technique and expand their experience in all styles of saxophone performance. This intensive, week-long camp is designed to expose participants to a variety of saxophone performance styles and ensembles, while addressing specific student interests through private instruction, assisted practice sessions and ensemble playing.

Fee: \$275. For more information, call The Conservatory at 440-6821.



Headstart to Band Workshop and Intermediate Band Workshop, August 23 - 27

The Headstart Program is for students who are starting band in school, or who are starting private lessons in the fall of 2004. The Intermediate Band Program is for students with at least one year experience in a junior high school band or private instruction. Instruction available in flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, euphonium, tuba and percussion. Classes run from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm Monday through Friday. A final concert will be held at 4:00 pm, Friday, August 27, for parents and friends.

Fee: \$170. Registration must be received by June 30, 2004. For more information on either band program, call The Conservatory at 440-6821.

Feast of Sound and Song, Sunday, Oct. 17

Palomino Room, Round up Centre. An evening of fine food, fabulous entertainment and a silent auction. Monies raised support The Conservatory's Academy program. Contact Silvana Saccomani about buying tickets or getting involved: 440-6710.

The Mount Royal College Conservatory
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This will be the final "in print" version of *Conservatory Notes*. Beginning this September, The Conservatory will launch a new website to help students, former students and friends keep in touch, and keep up to date with events at The Conservatory. For more information, contact Silvana Saccomani, ssaccomani@mtroyal.ca, (403) 440-6710.

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