



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS REFLECTION



# **MESSAGE FROM REG MILLEY**

**BOARD CHAIR** 

Music is an essential element of any celebration, so it comes as no surprise that Canada has come alive with music to commemorate our nation's sesquicentennial year. Right here in Edmonton, over 20,000 people poured into the Alberta Legislature Grounds for our free Symphony in the City festival in June, which featured a wide array of local artists representing Canadian musical culture. The festival brought us closer to fulfilling our mission to build relevance with Edmonton's diverse population and demonstrated the prominent role that a thriving artistic community plays in our city's identity.

The 2016/17 season was certainly one to celebrate, as we anticipated the beginning of a new artistic direction and model for the ESO. Bill Eddins completed his tenure as Music Director, and was honoured with the title of Music Director Emeritus in recognition of his remarkable contributions over the past twelve years. Bill has an extraordinary ability to put across his passion for music, and we are eternally grateful for the infectious enthusiasm with which he introduced audiences to a wide variety of music, the verve and musicianship he brought to every concert he led, and the artistic heights to which he brought our orchestra – none greater than at their first international performance. at Carnegie Hall.

We have much to look forward to in the future artistic direction of our orchestra. In October 2016, Alexander Prior was announced as the ESO's new Chief Conductor, starting in the 2017/2018 season, and the community celebrated at his sold-out Masters series performance featuring Canadian pianist Charles Richard-Hamelin. Edmonton-born violinist Andrew Wan was announced as the ESO's first Artistic Partner - the initial step in a new artistic model that focuses on sustained collaboration between our orchestra and renowned artists from around the world.

We continue to update our facility to meet the standards of contemporary concert-goers while honouring the legacy of those who built it twenty years ago. To kick off the season, the first phase of an archival photo gallery was unveiled in the backstage hallway, highlighting significant moments in the history of our orchestra and our concert hall as well as stories of the individual people behind these achievements. To better communicate with our patrons, tube televisions in the lobby were replaced with digital signage that engages visitors to our facility with customizable content.

I wish to acknowledge the members of the Board of Directors who have served with me this season. Special mention must be made of Jim Carter, my predecessor as Board Chair, for his 9 years of tireless efforts on the Board – and we are grateful to be able to rely on his expertise and wisdom as he continues his work with the Concert Hall Foundation. A thank you must also go out to Candace Chu, our student intern on the Board, for her guidance in creating our new Young Leadership Council. I also extend my gratitude to past Board Chair, Steven LePoole, who resigned from his position as Chair of the Winspear Completion Committee this season. His dedication remains an inspiration as we continue to work toward realizing Dr. Francis Winspear's vision of a true centre for music.

The ESO | Winspear Centre is sincerely grateful to all levels of government, as they support the creative growth of communities across Canada. We also express our gratitude to the many businesses and individuals who provide financial support and to our dedicated volunteers who contribute their time to all areas of the organization. Finally, I extend my thanks to Annemarie Petrov and her team for their creative energy and to the musicians of the ESO for another inspiring season of live orchestral music. With no shortage of reasons to celebrate, the 2016/2017 season has set us up for success in the years ahead.

Reg Milley Chair, Board of Directors

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REFLECTIONS



### **MESSAGE FROM ANNEMARIE PETROV** CFO

The Winspear Centre was created by our community to bring people together in the shared joy of music. We who are entrusted with its mission believe that music is a part of who we are as people, and that through music we feel more deeply, we are enriched, and more connected to each other. Music lives inside us all, and when we experience live music together, we are as a community made stronger.

I am proud of what the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra (ESO) & Winspear Centre accomplish together. Each season, we delight audiences with concerts featuring artists from a wide range of musical genres and styles. From orchestral performances of the music of Mozart to The Music of Star Wars, to popular folk artists Basia Bulat and James Vincent McMorrow, to a diverse array of local emerging artists, the Winspear Centre brings more and more people inside its doors each year to perform on our stage and to hear their favourite artists in our renowned acoustic hall.

This year, through the continuing expansion of the Tommy Banks Centre for Musical Creativity, we realized several long-time dreams. We launched our new Music Box Babies program for children ages 0-4, taking the first step towards filling a gap in our community for early music education. For the first time since the launch of our YONA-Sistema program four years ago, all 75 students performed together as a complete orchestra of strings, percussion, winds, and brass. Inspired by our work with New Pathways for the Arts, we focused on building relationships with the Indigenous community at Alexander First Nation through Sharing Concerts at the reserve, and with the Buchanan Centre for Parkinson's through the launch of the Parkinson's Jam Sessions program. We continue to dream big with plans for the Winspear Completion Project, which will ensure that even more Edmontonians have access to their community music centre.

Our sincere gratitude extends to the three orders of government who support us every year through the Edmonton Arts Council and the City of Edmonton, Alberta Foundation for the Arts and Government of Alberta, and Canada Council for the Arts and Canadian Heritage. We are also thankful for contributions from foundations and support from our dedicated partners in the business and arts communities. Above all, we want to thank our patrons and donors, who share their appreciation for live music and support our growth by purchasing tickets and by giving generous personal donations.

I extend my thanks to Bill Eddins my colleague and friend who, over the past twelve years, has brought the ESO to a new level of artistic excellence and community engagement. He has been generous in sharing his talent, love of music, and has truly left a mark on our orchestra and our city. I also wish to extend my thanks to all of the musicians, staff, and volunteers who drive this organization forward with their creative enthusiasm and dedication. I am privileged to work with a committed Leadership team and Board of Directors, whose wide-ranging expertise and innovative thinking keeps us moving in new and exciting directions. Together, we ensure that everyone has access to those wonderful and magical musical experiences that remind us of who we are and what we share with each other.

Annemarie Petrov Chief Executive Officer

# MUSIC DIRECTOR

# REFLECTIONS



# **MESSAGE FROM BILL EDDINS**

### **MUSIC DIRECTOR**

It's been my pleasure as Music Director to introduce our orchestra to new audiences and those audiences to great music. I've had the privilege of conducting our great orchestra in Jasper, Fort McMurray, and even the famed Carnegie Hall. We've performed alongside world-renowned artists like Yo-Yo Ma, Renée Fleming, Dmitri Hvorostovsky, and Joshua Bell. And we've performed some of my favourite music, such as Stravinsky's original *The Rite of Spring* and Bartók's pantomime ballet *The Miraculous Mandarin*. It's amazing to think of everything that we've accomplished together over the past 12 years.

The 2016/2017 season was packed full of even more exciting performances. We brought double the free live music to the community with two Symphony in the City festivals with ATB. In September 2016, the festival returned to Churchill Square for two performances of *Disney in Concert*. Despite the cold temperatures and rain, your ESO musicians rallied to bring the performance off and approximately 14,000 people over two nights — equipped with rain gear, blankets, and even a few tents — gathered to experience live orchestral music in Edmonton's downtown core. Now that's what I call dedication. Our second Symphony in the City festival in June 2017 brought the community together during Canada's sesquicentennial year, with over 20,000 people filling the Alberta Legislature Grounds to celebrate Canadian music and culture with the ESO and a diverse array of special quests.

But let's not forget everything else that happened in between. We joined forces with some remarkable and eclectic guest soloists, from Latvian accordionist Ksenija Sidorova, to Canadian alternative rock artist Joel Plaskett, to renowned organist Paul Jacobs on the Winspear's stunning Davis Concert Organ. Musicians from within the orchestra also had a chance to shine during the *Fifteen Soloists* concert in April, which featured fifteen ESO musicians performing their favourite solo showpieces, accompanied by their own orchestra. Principal Trombone John McPherson took a leave from the orchestra to fill the position of Composer-in-Residence, presenting his new work, *Triune*, on the Masters series in January. We also said goodbye this season.

Violist Andrew Bacon, a member of the ESO since 1990 and an active member of several musicians' organizations and committees, retired after the 2016/17 season, and we thank him for his years of dedication and leadership.

Programming for the Live at the Winspear series showcases a wide range of international and local artists that appeal to broad audiences. The popular British folk rock band, Passenger, sold out within minutes and we partnered with the Edmonton Music Awards for a second year, giving seven local artists and bands the chance to perform inside our world-renowned acoustic hall.

We also learned how passionate Edmontonians are about their movies. In the middle of December, to coincide with the release of the eighth Star Wars film, the ESO presented a sold-out concert of The Music of Star Wars, featuring music from all of the previous seven movies. Building on the popularity of this concert, four performances of The Music of Harry Potter were added to the season — all of which were given to sold-out audiences.

The season — and my tenure as Music Director — came to an end with Orff's majestic *Carmina Burana*. There's nothing quite like that full orchestra sound and a 200-voice choir for a send-off. My thanks go out to my talented colleagues in the orchestra — both past and present — for their unflagging creative energy, to Annemarie Petrov and the rest of the staff for their tireless support, and to the Board of Directors for their leadership, friendship and vision. Of course, this isn't goodbye and I look forward to collaborating with this orchestra for years to come.

Bill Eddins

Music Director Emeritus

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Edmonton Symphony Orchestra | Winspear Centre 9720 102 Ave Edmonton, AB T5J 4B2 www.winspearcentre.com e-mail: info@winspearcentre.com Wow, what a great program that we enjoyed tonight with the ESO. Showcasing the artists from our own Orchestra was absolutely fantastic! Man, do we have the talent! It was awesome! Thank you for a great evening.

~ Donna Daly, ESO Lighter Classics Patron (Fifteen Soloists)



# EDMONTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

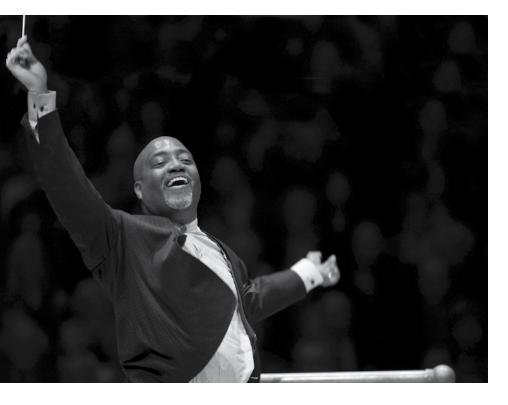
The ESO is justifiably proud of its musicians, and each season, we demonstrate not only their skill as an ensemble, but highlight many of its individual members. From a dazzling Lighter Classics concert that spotlighted solos from no less than 15 separate musicians, to substantial concertante performances throughout 2016/17, we are pleased that 20 ESO musicians (over a third of the orchestra) were featured as soloists. The number of solo works presented by these musicians has more than doubled over the past three years. These performances celebrate the remarkable talent of our orchestra, and are favourites among our patrons.



ESO MUSICIAN ROSTER			
NAME	POSITION	JOINED	
Robert Uchida	Concertmaster	2013	
Eric Buchmann	Associate Concertmaster	2006	
Virginie Gagné	Assistant Concertmaster	2006	
Aiyana Anderson-Howatt	Violin I	2001	
Anna Kozak	Violin I	2001	
Broderyck Olson	Violin I	1961	
Joanna Ciapka-Sangster	Violin I	1994	
Neda Yamach Richard Caldwell	Violin I Violin I	2011 1973	
Laura Veeze	Violin I	2014	
Dianne New	Principal Violin II	1980	
Susan Flook	Violin II	1987	
Heather Bergen	Violin II	2001	
Murray Vaasjo	Violin II	1992	
Pauline Bronstein	Violin II	1979	
Robert Hryciw	Violin II	1975	
Tatiana Warszynski	Violin II	1984	
Zoë Sellers	Violin II	1985	
Stefan Jungkind	Principal Viola	1986	
Charles Pilon	Assistant Principal Viola	2005	
Andrew Bacon	Viola	1990	
Kerry Kavalo	Viola	2016	
Clayton Leung Rhonda Henshaw	Viola Viola	2013 2002	
Rafael Hoekman	Principal Cello	2015	
Brian Yoon	Assistant Principal Cello	2017	
Ronda Metszies	Acting Assistant Principal Cello	2004	
Derek Gomez	Cello	1983	
Gillian Caldwell	Cello	1977	
Victor Pipkin	Cello	1991	
Jan Urke	Principal Bass	1980	
John Taylor	Assistant Principal Bass	1983	
Janice Quinn	Bass	1995	
Max Cardilli	Bass	2016	
Rob Aldridge Elizabeth Koch	Bass Principal Flute	2008 1987	
Shelley Younge	Assistant Principal Flute	1978	
Lidia Khaner	Principal Oboe (on leave)	1996	
Suzanne Lemieux	Guest Principal Oboe	2016	
Paul Schieman	Assistant Principal Oboe	1979	
Julianne Scott	Principal Clarinet	2009	
David Quinn	Assistant Principal Clarinet	1989	
William Harrison	Principal Bassoon	1976	
Matthew Howatt	Guest Principal Bassoon	2015	
Edith Stacey	Assistant Principal Bassoon	1996	
Allene Hackleman	Principal Horn	2004	
Donald Plumb	Assistant Principal Horn	1973	
Gerald Onciul	Assistant Principal Horn	1977	
Megan Evans Robin Doyon	Assistant Principal Horn Principal Trumpet	2008	
Frédéric Payant	Assistant Principal Trumpet	2008	
John McPherson	Principal Trombone (on leave)	1979	
Erik Hongisto	Guest Principal Trombone	2016	
Kathryn Macintosh	Assistant Principal Trombone	1983	
Chris Taylor	Principal Bass Trombone	1975	
Scott Whetham	Principal Tuba	1984	
Barry Nemish	Principal Timpani	1974	
Brian Jones	Principal Percussion	1968–71/75	
Nora Bumanis	Principal Harp	1980	

# BILL EDDINS

# CELEBRATING 12 YEARS



### MEMORABLE MOMENTS IN BILL'S TENURE:

**2007** – Performed Brahms *Piano Trio in B Major, Op.8* with Yo-Yo Ma and Martin Riseley on the 10th anniversary of the opening of the Winspear Centre

**2008** – Conducted a sold-out gala performance with soprano Renée Fleming

**2010** – Conducted two concerts with Procol Harum 40 years after the legendary first encounter between the orchestra and the band

**2012** – Conducted the ESO in its international debut at Carnegie Hall for the *Spring for Music Festival*, with over 1,000 Edmonton hometown fans in the audience.

 Conducted the ESO with guest jazz artist Ellis Hall for the orchestra's first concert in Fort McMurray in over two decades

**2013** – Conducted the first Edmonton performances of the original version of Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring*.

– Conducted a sold-out gala performance with violinist Joshua Bell

**2015** – Conducted a semi-staged performance of Bartók's pantomime ballet, *The Miraculous Mandarin* 

**2016** – Conducted performances of Corigliano's *Pied Piper Fantasy*, featuring dozens of young Edmonton musicians

**2017** – Conducted his final program as ESO Music Director, featuring Orff's majestic *Carmina Burana* 



At the end of the 2016/2017 season, Bill Eddins' 12-year tenure as ESO Music Director came to an end. He became the ESO's first Music Director Emeritus — an honour that celebrates the significant impact he has had on our orchestra, our audiences, and on the broader community.

Bill made his ESO debut on May 14, 2004, performing Stravinsky's *Jeux de Cartes* (*Card Game*). He was announced as Music Director on January 19, 2005 and conducted his first concert in that role on June 14 that same year.

Over his 12 years as Music Director, Bill conducted 252 programs (or 342 concerts). He was the first ESO Music Director to appear as either conductor or piano soloist on every ESO series, including Symphony Under the Sky and our Education concerts. He introduced audiences to an extensive variety of composers and music, including ESO premieres on virtually every Masters Series program. In addition to the Winspear Centre, Bill conducted the ESO at City Hall, the Arden Theatre in St. Albert, the Vic Juba Auditorium in Lloydminster, the Red Deer College Arts Centre, on a basketball court in Fort McMurray, on a curling rink in Edson, on a field at the Ukrainian Cultural Village, on a golf course in Jasper, and, of course, at Carnegie Hall on May 12, 2012 – the orchestra's first ever performance outside of Canada.



Bill Eddins and the ESO are joined by Joshua Bell for a sold-out Gala concert in September 2013.



Bill Eddins conducts the ESO with Canadian trumpeter Jens Lindemann at Carnegie Hall in May 2012.



Bill Eddins interacts with the audience during a Late Night performance in October 2015. These informal concerts, starting at 9:30pm on Friday evenings, launched in 2011.

# ESO PERFORMANCE

# ENGAGEMENT

# **BLOCKBUSTER CONCERTS**

With the highest attendance in 2016/2017, these ten concerts cover a wide range of our programming, including several Robbins Pops and Masters programs, *Christmas at the Winspear* performances, an ESO Rocks concert, and two programs of movie music. The sold-out performances of *The Music of Star Wars* and *The Music of Harry Potter* were particular successes this year, bringing many new patrons into our hall to experience live orchestral music. Overall, ESO concerts continue to be well-attended, reaching an average of 80.6% of our capacity.



CONCERT	DATE	ATTENDANCE
Chopin Piano Concerto No. 2	Oct. 29, 2016	1816
The Music of Star Wars	Dec. 13, 2016	1770
A Lightly Classical Christmas	Dec. 22, 2016	1749
We Wish You a Merry Christmas	Dec. 16 - 18, 2016	1723
Hollywood in Outer Space	January 20 + 21, 2017	1712
Rock Icons	March 3 + 4, 2017	1705
The Music of Queen	March 24 + 25, 2017	1703
The Best is Yet to Come	June 2 + 3, 2017	1686
Carmina Burana	June 17, 2017	1705
The Music of Harry Potter	June 23 + 24, 2017	1820

# **JORDAN TAKES THE STAGE**

Our patrons were deeply affected by the story of 9-year-old Jordan Cartwright who, having been diagnosed with Stage 4 leukemia, fulfilled his dream to conduct an orchestra when he led the ESO in a moving performance of "O Canada" at our Candy Cane Family Christmas concert on December 19th. His story was shared widely across social media platforms and made local, national, and even international news.







# ESO CELEBRATES

# CANADA 150

The ESO's 2016/2017 season celebrated Canada's 150th from start to finish, featuring many great Canadian artists, orchestral compositions by Canadian composers, and guest appearances from local arts and community partners representing Canada's cultural diversity.

The season kicked off with Symphony Under the Sky in Hawrelak Park — a reflection of the season ahead with an evening of Simon & Garfunkel songs, a masterful performance of Mendelssohn's *Violin Concerto in E minor* by concertmaster Robert Uchida, a night of Hollywood hits with Edmontonian vocalist Tyler Hamilton, the Edmonton Youth Choir, and the Ukrainian Male Chorus of Edmonton, and culminating with Sunday's *Heritage Celebration*. Featuring Vinok Worldance, fiddler Calvin Vollrath, the Métis Child and Family Jiggers, the Edmonton & District Pipe Band, and a new composition by the ESO's Young Composer, Michael Nunes, this final program celebrated the diversity of Edmonton's communities.

The season came to an exciting close on June 25 with a second Symphony in the City festival honouring Canada's sesquicentennial at the Alberta Legislature Grounds. This celebration included two mainstage concerts, produced by Lucas Waldin, and an active Family Funzone, which introduced many new and diverse community partners to our organization. The afternoon concert featured the ESO in collaboration with Running Thunder First Nations dancers, Armond Duck Chief, Tommy Banks, Mallory Chipman, and the Ukrainian Shumka Dancers. Several orchestral works were enhanced with video and images from the National Film Board, including a version of the popular "Log Driver's Waltz." The evening concert highlighted talented artists from within our community, including Tim Hus, Bill Bourne, Boogie Patrol, and Nuela Charles.

### A YEAR OF CANADIAN HIGHLIGHTS

- **62** Canadian Guest Soloists & Conductors
- 21 Local Arts & Community Performance Partners
- 42 Canadian Works for Orchestra





#### **SOLOISTS AND CONDUCTORS**

Curtis Appleton, banjo Armond Duck Chief, guitar and voice Tommy Banks, piano Gianetta Baril, harp Andréanne Brisson Paquin, soprano Eric Buchmann, violin Nora Bumanis, harp Mallory Chipman, vocalist Andriana Chuchman, soprano Marie Coetzee, cello Cathy Derkach, vocalist Robin Doyon, trumpet Jack Forestier, violin Virginie Gagné, violin Daniel Gervais, fiddle Allene Hackleman, horn Andrew Haji, tenor Tyler Hamilton, vocalist Justin Hickmott, tuba Rafael Hoekman, cello Erik Hongisto, trombone Matthew Howatt, bassoon Adam Johnson, conductor Elizabeth Koch, flute Adrian LaChance, Cree drummer André Laplante, piano Suzanne Lemieux, oboe Clayton Leung, viola Jonathan Love, vocalist Mathieu Lussier, conductor Adam Luther, tenor

Kathryn Macintosh, trombone Gavin MacKenzie, vocalist Valérie Milot, harp Michael Nyby, baritone Daniel Okulitch, bass-baritone Frédéric Payant, trumpet Clinton Pelletier, guitar PJ Perry, saxophone Victor Pipkin, cello Joel Plaskett, vocalist/guitar Platypus Theatre Charles Richard-Hamelin, piano Lauren Segal, mezzo-soprano Geoffrey Sirett, baritone Whitney Leigh Sloan, soprano Jeremy Spurgeon, organ John Tessier, tenor Alain Trudel, conductor Robert Uchida, violin Laura Veeze, violin Calvin Vollrath, fiddle Lucas Waldin, conductor Andrew Wan, violin Carol Welsman, piano/vocalist Ariana Whitlow, vocalist Katherine Whyte, soprano Jim Witter & Band Jacqueline Woodley, soprano Neda Yamach, violin Brian Yoon, cello Jean-Marie Zeitouni, conductor

#### **LOCAL PERFORMING ENSEMBLES**

Bel Canto & Vox Hominis Cantilon Chamber Chorus Da Camera Singers Edmonton & District Pipe Band Edmonton School of Ballet Edmonton Youth and Children's Choirs Firefly Theatre & Circus **Greenwood Singers** Hot Club Edmonton Knock School of Irish Dance Kokopelli and Òran La Bruyère Orchestra of YONA-Sistema Métis Child & Family Jiggers Pro Coro Canada Richard Eaton Singers Running Thunder First Nations Dancers Sugar Swing Dance Club Ukrainian Male Chorus of Edmonton Ukrainian Shumka Dancers University of Alberta Faculty of **Education Handbell Ringers** Vinok Worldance

# ESO CELEBRATES

# CANADA 15

**August 26-28, 2016** – Symphony Under the Sky features many Canadian artists and local performance ensembles, coming to a close with a rousing Heritage Celebration.

**November 5, 2016** - The Symphony for Kids series begins with Canadian Road Trip - a musical journey across our great country, featuring Cree drummer Adrian LaChance, the Métis Child & Family Jiggers, and the La Bruyère Orchestra of YONA-Sistema, conducted by Lucas Waldin.

January 15, 2017 - Canadian tuba player Justin Hickmott performs Victor Davies' Concerto for Tubameister on the Sunday Showcase series.

January 23, 2017 - Canadian songwriter Joel Plaskett joins the ESO for a special concert.

January 27-28, 2017 - Composerin-Residence John McPherson's Triune (Grief / Peace / Liberation) receives its premiere on the Masters series.

April 1, 2017 – Symphony for Kids brings back the popular production of How the Gimquat Found Her Song, in collaboration with Canada's Platypus Theatre Company.

May 1-3 & 5, 2017 - Students at Division 1 Education concerts take a musical journey across Canada with music by Malcolm Forsyth, Milton Barnes, and Robert Rival, alongside quest performers Running Thunder First Nations Dancers, Métis Child Jiggers, Knock School of Irish Dance, and Daniel Gervais (fiddle).

October 6, 2016 - ESO Principal Harp Nora Bumanis and Canadian guest harpist Gianetta Baril perform Mozetich's The passion of the angels – A concertant for two harps & orchestra on the Lighter Classics

October 29, 2016 - Canadian pianist Charles Richard-Hamelin is featured on the Masters series, performing Chopin's Piano Concerto No. 2.

series.

December 9-11, 2016 - The annual tradition of Handel's Messiah continues with a full cast of Canadian vocalists and two local choruses.

**December 19-20, 2016** - Many local faces grace the stage for Candy Cane Family Christmas, including that of young Jordan Cartwright, whose dream to conduct an orchestra is fulfilled as he leads the ESO in "O Canada."

February 11, 2017 - Late Canadian composer Jacques Hétu's Symphony No. 5 is stunningly paired with Gabriel Fauré's Requiem on the Masters series.

February 13-15, 2017 - Students at Division 2 Education concerts are taken on a musical journey across Canada, with performances of music by John Estacio, Robert Rival, and Milton Barnes and guest performers Running Thunder First Nations Dancers, Métis Child Jiggers, and Calvin Vollrath (fiddle).

June 16-17, 2017 - The closing Masters performance of the season features Orff's majestic Carmina Burana, programmed alongside Robert Rival's Northwest Passage Variations and a new trumpet concert by John Estacio, performed by ESO Principal Trumpet Robin Doyon.

June 25, 2017 - The ESO season comes to a close with a celebration of Canada's 150th at the Alberta Legislature Grounds.

#### **CANADIAN COMPOSITIONS**

Armond Duck Chief – "The One" Armond Duck Chief – "Laid It All on the Line" Milton Barnes - Barn Dance Glenn Buhr - Akasha

Howard Cable – The Banks of Newfoundland Howard Cable – Newfoundland Rhapsody

Malcolm Forsyth – Atayoskewin Maxime Goulet – Citius, altius, fortius! Wade Hemsworth – Log Driver's Waltz

Jacques Hétu – Légendes, Opus 76 Jacques Hétu – Symphony No. 5, Opus 81 Calixa Lavallée – O Canada A Gordon Lightfoot Medley

Jeffrey McCune – Aquamarine John McPherson – Triune (Grief / Peace / Liberation) Marjan Mozetich – The passion of angels – A concertant

for two harps and orchestra Jordan Nobles - Flame

Michael Nunes - Egyptian Dreams and March (World

Premiere – 2016 Young Composer Project)
Clermont Pépin – Variations symphoniques

Song Selections by Joel Plaskett Erica Procunier – DAM! The Story of Kit the Beaver Eldon Rathburn - The Railrodder

Victor Davies – Concerto for Tubameister John Estacio – A Farmer's Symphony John Estacio – King Arthur's Camelot: Suite John Estacio – Spring's Promise: Orchestral Fanfare John Estacio – Trumpet Concerto John Estacio – Wondrous Light

~ C. Leavitt, Education Concert Attendee

We came for the Canadian Road trip this morning and all of us were so moved by how amazing the show was. The music was exceptional, Lucas was so animated that his love of music was very evident.

Robert Rival – The Great Northern Diver Robert Rival – Northwest Passage Variations

lan Tyson – Four Strong Winds Gilles Vigneault - Fantasie sur "Mon Pays"

> Bravo to whoever is responsible for today's excellent program! It was such a good mix of drama, story and music. The best performance we have seen in the series for kids. Music across Canada was also a good program. With performances like this - it will soon be hard to get tickets! Well done and thanks for such an enjoyable day for us and our three grandchildren.

> > - Dawn Cacka. Symphony for Kids Patron (How the Gimquat Found Her Song)

# BANKS CENTRE

# GROWTH

# **BANKS CENTRE GROWTH**

2016/2017 was a year of experimentation and growth for the Tommy Banks Centre for Musical Creativity. We explored music's role in health and well-being during the five-week pilot of our Parkinson's Jam Sessions program in partnership with the Buchanan Centre. We continued to build our relationship with the Alexander First Nation community, inviting their classes to the Winspear Centre for Science of Sound and visiting the Kipohtakaw Education Centre for two **Sharing Concerts. Programming at the Winspear** Centre grew with Music Box Babies, providing new opportunities for musical play for children ages 0-4. The success of these new initiatives, combined with the continuing popularity of our established programs, reminds us of the value of the work that we do - inspiring creativity, broadening the imagination, and connecting people to people. Every year, we reach new members of our community as we expand the Banks Centre to truly offer something for everyone.

> ~ Alison Kenny-Gardhouse, Director of Musical Creativity

	2017-15	2015-16	2016-17
	2014 15	2013 10	2010 17
NUMBER OF ADULT PROGRAMS	7	7	10
NUMBER OF YOUTH PROGRAMS	14	15	16
TOTAL PROGRAMS	21	22	26
NUMBER OF ADULTS SERVED	3,275	4,277	5,166
NUMBER OF YOUTH SERVED	24,713	28,345	32,933
TOTAL SERVED	27,988	32,622	38,099
	•		

# **TOMMY BANKS CENTRE FOR MUSICAL CREATIVITY**

RUSTY MUSICIANS: SUMMER CAMP
WEE ONES AT THE WINSPEAR YONA EXPLORERS
SCIENCE OF SOUND MUSICIANS IN THE MAKING
OPEN DRESS REHEARSALS IT ALL STARTS WITH ME
ADOPT-A-PLAYER AFTERTHOUGHTS/ENCORES
INTERPRETIVE TOURS INSTRUMENT PETTING ZOO
CONDUCTING YOUR BUSINESS MUSIC BOX BABIES
RUSTY MUSICIANS: B-SIDES PRELUDES DAYCAMPS
EDUCATION CONCERTS UPBEAT! YONA-SISTEMA
YOUNG COMPOSER PROJECT MASTERCLASSES
SCIENCE OF SOUND SOUND SCHOOL

# BANKS CENTRE

# PROGRAMS

### SENSATIONAL STRINGS DAYCAMP

In July 2016, the Winspear Centre offered its very first Sensational Strings summer daycamp. Seventeen children aged 6-12 joined us for a full week of interactive musical fun, as they learned to play the ukulele and the harpsicle (a tiny version of a harp). They also learned songs and dances from different cultures, made their own percussion instruments, and performed not only for their families at the end of the week, but also for the public as part of the Winspear Summer Patio Series. As we expand our Banks Centre programming into the summer months, these daycamps are one of our many new initiatives that offer opportunities for children to experience music through hands-on interaction.













# **MUSIC BOX BABIES**

The Music Box Babies program was piloted in February 2017 and was an immediate success. Led by early childhood music educator expert, Angela Elster, nearly 40 babies/toddlers (ages 0-12 months, 12-24 months, and 24-36 months) and their caregivers enjoyed five sessions of singing, dancing, and music-making. The pilot sessions also included a professional development opportunity, during which teachers shadowed the class to learn valuable tips and tricks for working with this age group.

Demand for Music Box Babies was so high that the Musical Creativity department immediately set to work on organizing another set of sessions, which were held in May and June. Two of the three sessions were over-subscribed, affirming that this program fills a significant need in our community. The next set of sessions will run in Winter 2018.

# YONA-SISTEMA:

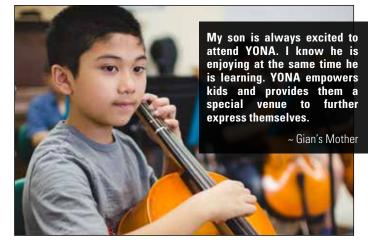
# YEAR FOUR

## YEAR FOUR AT A GLANCE

2016/2017 was another year of growth for the Youth Orchestra of Northern Alberta Sistema (YONA-Sistema). The program expanded from 54 to 75 students, serving St. Teresa of Calcutta and St. Alphonsus Catholic Schools and Delton and Victoria Public Schools. Woodwind (flute and clarinet) and brass (trombone and horn) instruments were added to the orchestra and eight part-time Teaching Artists were engaged to provide instruction in these instruments as well as on violin, viola, cello, double bass, and percussion.

Throughout the year, students engaged in a variety of activities. The curriculum is designed to help students grow as musicians through group instrument instruction, Orff classes, choral sessions, and musicianship training, but also to build valuable social skills, healthy habits, and citizenship behaviours. They receive a nutritious snack each day and spend time engaged in movement activities, outdoor play, and physical exercise. Other supplementary activities included special workshops, sessions with ESO Ambassadors, and creative activities such as expressive arts and bucket drumming.

Several major changes were implemented during Year Four. Academic Time was re-structured as Violin Teaching Artist Nathan Chan took on the additional role of Academic Liaison, coordinating learning activities and communicating with classroom teachers about academic concerns. Option classes were also implemented to address parents' concerns that YONA-Sistema was cutting into their family time. Students could go home early on Friday or participate in extra classes in creative movement, advanced expressive arts, samba ensemble, musical theatre, song-writing, chamber music, or leadership. These option classes are valuable opportunities for students to interact with their peers and explore new creative avenues.



For Year Five, another twenty students will join the program. This year brings an additional challenge and opportunity with the initiation of the junior high level of the program, as twenty students who have been with us since YONA-Sistema's first years graduate to junior high and spread out to various schools throughout the city. These students will stay involved in the program for a minimum of three days per week, mentoring their younger classmates and continuing to develop proficiency on their instruments.

We are extremely gratified by how our community has rallied around this remarkable group of young people. Support for the YONA-Sistema program remains strong, whether it's the generous support of the La Bruyère Fund, or the donations made throughout the year at yona-sistema. com. We know that the seeds we have planted will blossom for years to come.





The first time I ever went to the Winspear Centre was when I was in Grade 2 because we had a field trip to see the YONA students. I saw the people that were playing violin, and some of them were my friends, so I was like 'I want to be in this program too!' Without music, my life would not be how it is right now, because now I love playing cello, and I feel comfortable going to YONA every day after school, and I feel safe here, and I love it!

~ Teamir, 3rd Year YONA Student

Thank you to YONA-Sistema's founding donors and supporters, whose early financial contributions supported growth and sustainability during our pilot years and beyond.

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# NEW PATHWAYS

# FOR THE ARTS

## **NEW PATHWAYS OVERVIEW**

During the past several years, the ESO & Winspear has taken part in EmcArts' New Pathways for the Arts program, which helps organizations develop dexterity for adaptive change. We were fortunate to be selected as one of the three Edmontonarea organizations to participate in the final Incubating Innovation phase.

Several musicians, staff members, and board members attended an intensive retreat in June 2016, during which they identified three areas of focus for our organization:

- 1. Internal collaboration between staff musicians, and board members
- 2. Relationships with Indigenous Communities
- 3. Music's role in health and wellness

From there, several 'small experiments with radical intent' were constructed as we explored our complex challenge to connect people to people through music.



# PARKINSON'S JAM SESSIONS

In partnership with the Buchanan Centre, we launched a five-week pilot program that paired individuals with Parkinson's disease with ESO musicians who helped them reconnect with their instruments. Sessions included physical music warm-ups and improvisation, followed by one-on-one mentoring, and concluding with group "jam sessions." The program was well-received by participants and will run again in 2018.

It built a sense of community and gave me back my confidence as a musician. I haven't played the flute in over 40 years and I couldn't believe I was able to get a sound out of it again.

~ Alison Wood, Program Participant



# SHARING CONCERTS AT ALEXANDER FIRST NATION

Scott Whetham shows off his tuba to a group of excited students at Kipohtakaw Education Centre at Alexander First Nation, following a successful Sharing Concert featuring the WindRose Trio, an ESO brass quintet, and Alexander First Nation's drum circle. Students from Alexander First Nation also visited the Winspear Centre for a full-day Science of Sound program.



### YOUNG LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Following a competitive interview process, 12 young adults (ages 18-29) were selected to form the ESO's inaugural Young Leadership Council (YLC). Members of the YLC came together for the first time prior to *The Music of Harry Potter Concert* on June 23 and we look forward to getting to know them even better throughout the 2017/2018 season!

# WINSPEAR FACILITY UPGRADES

## WINSPEAR COMPLETION PROJECT

The Completion Project Committee remained hard at work throughout the 2016/2017 season. Following a global scan of performance venue design architects, Andrew Bromberg of Aedus a world-wide design consortium headquartered in Hong Kong – was engaged to lead the design of the new performance and public spaces. In February, key members of the project team embarked on a ten-day tour of performance venues across Europe to experience some of the innovative ways that these facilities inspire creativity and welcome the public inside.

The Provincial Budget announcement in March saw the Winspear Completion Project once again placed on the approved, but unfunded, list of capital project priorities. Subsequent discussions with both Provincial and Federal funders and representatives remained positive, and we were encouraged to continue to pursue the project. A Reimagining Work Group of board members, staff, and musicians came together to contemplate solutions to our most urgent needs - the creation of additional multi-purpose spaces for Musical Creativity programming and the public's lack of access to our facility beyond concert hours. These ideas are being amalgamated into a Winspear Renewal Project plan, which addresses how our current facility could be updated to serve our needs until the Completion Project moves ahead.



In September 2016, the ESO & Winspear Centre unveiled a new archival photo gallery. Funded in partnership with the Edmonton Heritage Council, twentyfive photos representing important people and memorable moments in the history of both organizations were selected to bring life to the walls in our backstage hallway. These photos follow the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra over time, from its beginnings in 1923 to the crowds of people who packed into Churchill Square for Symphony in the City in 2014. They also tell stories of our concert hall – of the community members who worked tirelessly to build this remarkable landmark and of the many world-class artists who have graced its stage. Taken as a whole, these photos offer a glance into the interconnected histories of our two organizations, which will become richer and fuller as the gallery expands into the future.



# LIVE AT THE WINSPEAR

### **PURPOSE OF LIVE AT THE WINSPEAR**

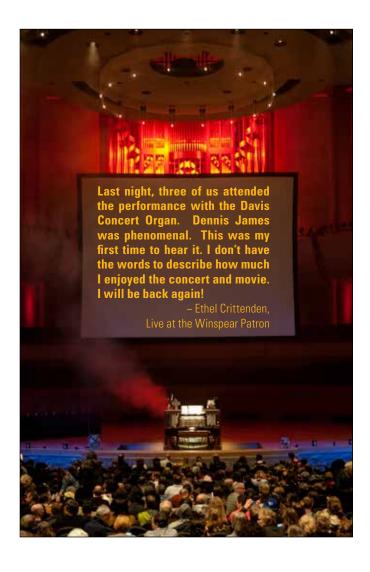
- To deliver exceptional singer and songwriter performances to our audience
- To provide a platform for upcoming artists
- To put a spotlight on Canadian talent

### 2016/2017 LIVE AT THE WINSPEAR SERIES

Winspear Summer Patio Series
Alberta Culture Days
Basia Bulat
The Hunchback of Notre Dame
James Vincent McMorrow
Passenger
Benjamin Grosvenor
Mike Farris Trio
Martin Kerr
The Head and the Heart

**Edmonton Music Awards** 

July-August, 2016 September 30 & October 1, 2016 October 7, 2016 October 31, 2016 November 21, 2016 March 23, 2017 May 5, 2017 May 23, 2017 May 24, 2017 May 29, 2017 June 29, 2017











# WINSPEAR

# COMMUNITY USE

The Winspear Centre hosted 883 events during the 2016/2017 season — that's an average of 2.4 per day! We are committed to ensuring that our hall is accessible to our whole community, welcoming young musicians such as the Edmonton Youth Orchestra and Suzuki Charter School to fill the chamber with music. Our hall is also well-suited for many non-musical events, including literary readings, comedy shows, and graduation ceremonies. Beyond the hall, the facility hosts Musical Creativity programs, rehearsals, weddings, fitness classes, business meetings, and receptions - with many of our clients returning year after year





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The Edmonton Youth Orchestra presented three concerts on the Winspear Centre stage in 2016/2017. They have been performing in our hall for over 15 years, giving numerous young orchestral musicians the opportunity to experience their sound in our world-renowned acoustic venue.

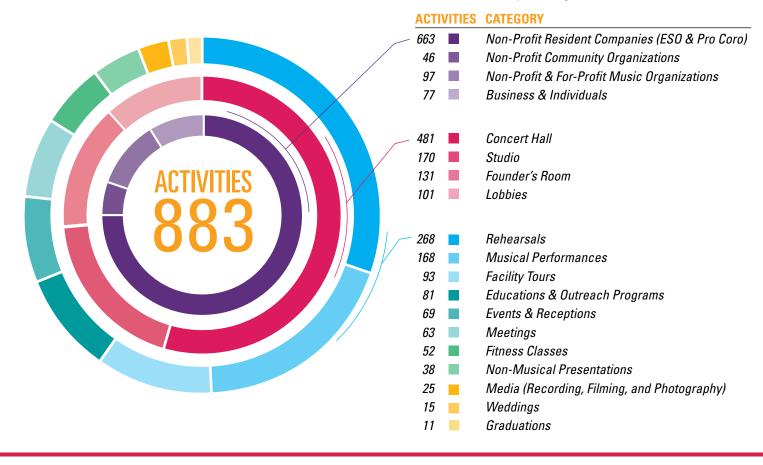


The Suzuki Charter School filled the stage at the Winspear Centre on May 18, 2017 for their annual student concert.

# WINSPEAR

# COMMUNITY USE

The Winspear Centre is a popular venue for bookings by community groups, businesses, individuals, touring artists, and more. 883 activities were held in the hall, lobbies, and studio spaces during the 2016/2017 season.





We feel very fortunate to work with such an incredible team of professionals. The staff at the Winspear Centre, from Front of House, Event Coordination and Management, to the technical team and stage crew are the best in the business! Not only do they provide us with a positive, respectful, caring, and professional environment to bring our young students, but they also anticipate our needs and help us to improve our event year to year. Performing at this world class facility, with a world class team, is the most anticipated and appreciated night of our year. Thank you to everyone for making it a magical night for us to share our gift of music!

> ~ Tim Eckert, Artistic Director, Suzuki Charter School

# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

# **COMBINED ESS & FWCM FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

	JUNE 30, 2017	JUNE 30, 2016	<b>JUNE 30, 2015</b>
Total Operating Revenue	\$15,710,204	\$14,895,125	\$13,797,547
Total Operating Expenses	\$15,495,947	\$14,821,703	\$13,787,109
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	\$214,257	\$73,422	\$10,438
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Total Assets	\$36,196,919	\$38,286,364	\$37,126,254
Total Liabilities	\$4,224,338	\$3,982,318	\$3,910,664
Net Assets	\$31,972,581	\$34,304,046	\$33,215,590
ESS and FWCM Endowment and Investments	\$4,621,691	\$6,139,998	\$8,601,791
ESCHF Endowment and Investments	\$11,423,628	\$5,981,353	\$1,962,889
Total Endowment and Investments	\$ 16,045,319	\$12,121,351	\$10,564,680
Ticket Sales	\$ 4,908,060	\$3,901,717	\$3,980,390
Number of Concerts	107	105	100
Free Tickets	19,478	17,944	14,418
Paid Tickets	127,487	126,015	125,400
Number of Tickets	146,965	143,959	136,742

For a copy of our audited financial statements, please visit http://www.winspearcentre.com/about/board-of-directors

# **SERIES ATTENDANCE AND REVENUE**

	CONCERTS	ATTENDANCE	TICKET REVENUE [\$]
Early Classics Midweek	4	4,226	136,260
Education	20	24,873	198,620
Late Night	3	2,330	30,340
Lighter Classics	6	7,883	311,100
Masters Applause	6	8,527	327,020
Masters Encore	6	8,124	334,070
Masters Friday	6	7,188	278,560
Pops Friday	7	10,851	542,600
Pops Saturday	7	11,134	578,440
Specials	22	33,768	1,445,510
Sunday Showcase	4	4,594	140,290
Symphony for Kids	4	5,703	103,160
Symphony Under the Sky	4	8,869	261,300
Live at The Winspear	8	8,896	220,790
Total	107	146,966	4,908,060



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Thank you to the following individuals who play an invaluable role in bringing music to life for our community through their annual gifts. Donors who gave between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017 are recognized in these pages for their support.

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† Orchestra Circle gifts completely or partially endowed in perpetuity

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