



Photo by Dale MacMillan **BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Left to Right: Joanna Ciapka-Sangster, David Yee, Lewis Nakatsui, Sam Jenkins, Ronda Metszies, Oryssia Lennie, Craig McDougall, Peggy Garritty, Sheryl Bowhay, Rick Dowell, Mark Moran, Kathryn Macintosh, Kevin Zentner, Maureen McCaw



Photo by Leroy Schulz

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REFLECTIONS



MESSAGE FROM PEGGY GARRITTY
Board Chair

During the 2018/2019 season, the Government of Alberta reaffirmed their endorsement for the Winspear Project, building on the initial financial support from the City of Edmonton. and subsequent to the end of this fiscal year, financial support from the Government of Canada, fulfilling the commitment from all three orders of government to our amazing project. Through this support, we are now better positioned to serve Albertans in a profound new way through the power of music and sound. Next steps for the project are well underway, and we wait with anticipation for this dream to come to fruition. The plans include several community spaces for music exploration, so that everyone, whatever age or ability, can interact with music in ways that are most meaningful to them.

The Project's capital campaign is off to a tremendous start, reminding us how important the Winspear Centre and the planned completion are to the Edmonton community, and we anticipate that this momentum of support will continue. Today the Winspear Centre serves over 250,000 patrons each year, and with the completion we estimate that that number will double.

The education programs of the Tommy Banks Centre for Musical Creativity are growing and serving more members of the community. We had 345 schools attend Education Concerts this past year and held 10 weeks of Sound School, where we guided and inspired students in their exploration of sound and musical discovery.

2018/2019 marked the second season for Chief Conductor, Alexander Prior, who created many memorable music experiences for our audiences, including performances of the music of Bruckner, as well as the world premiere of Mr. Prior's arrangement of Schubert's *Die Winterreise*. There was also a special focus on Sibelius, through the first ever Sibelius Music Festival in Edmonton. This winter festival introduced Edmontonians to numerous works from this beloved Finnish composer. In addition, the festival activities in the lobby gave the event a special ambience: we had costumes, folk art, dance, song, and other traditional artists present, celebrating the merger of culture, art, and music.

For the past four years we have had students from the University of Alberta School of Business serve as interns on the FWCM | ESS Board of Directors. These students offer valuable perspectives that help our organization stay relevant to the

community; each year they work on a project related to an aspect of our organization. A special thank you goes out to our fourth Board student intern, Kevin Zentner who worked on a demographic research project for the Winspear Centre this past year.

I wish to acknowledge the members of the Board of Directors who have served with me this season. We bid farewell to three members of our Board, Mary Persson, Treasurer, and ESO musicians Joanna Ciapka-Sangster and Kathy Macintosh, whose contributions have been invaluable.

The ESO & Winspear Centre is sincerely grateful to all levels of government, as they support the creative growth of communities. We also express our gratitude to the many businesses and individuals who provide financial support, and to our dedicated volunteers who contribute their time and talents to all areas of the organization. Finally, I extend my thanks to Annemarie Petrov and her team for their hard work, and to the musicians of the ESO (Edmonton Symphony Orchestra) for another inspiring season of live orchestral music. With no shortage of reasons to celebrate, the 2018/2019 season has set us up for success in the years ahead.

Peggy Garritty Chair, Board of Directors

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REFLECTIONS



MESSAGE FROM ANNEMARIE PETROV President & CEO

At the heart of our organization, we fulfill the human need to make and share music. We see Edmonton as the place for music, a place where arts and creativity thrive, and a place where everyone is given the opportunity to explore music on their own terms. The soul of our organization is the community, and our resident ensemble, the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra. These intrepid musicians, amateur and professional alike, reflect to us daily through their art, the importance of music, and what it means to be human.

The 2018-2019 season celebrated a variety of genres, from the works of Brahms, Elgar, and Stravinsky, to the poetry of Rupi Kaur, a film screening of *Equus — Story of the Horse*, to a concert with renowned French-Canadian singer Cœur de pirate, to a diverse array of local emerging artists including nêhiyawak and Kay & Martinez. The amount of music that filled this building was tremendous, with over 170 musical performances — each one inspiring and connecting the people of Edmonton in different ways.

Building relationships within our community, with our colleagues, and especially with our patrons continues to be our focus, and a pillar of our strategic plan. Through the offerings of The Tommy Banks Centre, we inspire creativity, broaden the imagination, and connect people to people. Every year, we reach new members of our

community as we expand to truly offer something for everyone. Our patrons are our partners, our investors, and most importantly, our friends. In 2018/2019 we joined the ranks of fellow arts organizations by introducing dynamic pricing, strengthening our sustainability. It also served as the foundation for the 2019/2020 subscription renewal campaign, building stronger relationships with our patrons. These changes have also created more community, with patrons sitting closer to one another, greater intimacy, and an enhanced concert experience.

Two seasons ago, we experienced our first deficit in many years, and while the extent of the challenge caught us off guard, we recognised that this was our new reality until the downtown construction surrounding the building subsides, the Stanley Milner Library opens after their magnificent renovation, and the Valley Line LRT is operational in two more years. Our financials for the 2018/2019 year reflect a second loss on operations. We are able to offset the loss through a transfer of savings from our sustainability funds, ongoing cost-saving efficiencies, and special fundraising efforts. These challenges to the Arts District organizations are not insignificant, and we are addressing them stoically, recognizing that one day in the future we will all benefit from these improvements to transportation and cultural infrastructure. In the meantime, we are immensely grateful to all Edmontonians who continue to support the downtown arts groups through thick and thin as we weather these challenging times.

Construction for the Winspear Project has begun, with the remediation of contaminated soil where the parking lot on 97th street was located. Prior to construction of the Winspear Centre starting in 1995, the land was once home to the downtown Edmonton Police Station. A few months ago, in the process of excavation for soil remediation, 16 old horse shoes where uncovered – fun fact. The expanded facility will open in 2022, the 25th birthday of the Winspear Centre and 70th birthday of our orchestra. Once the LRT, Library, and Winspear Project are completed, we look forward to the renewed excitement and energy that will embrace the Arts District.

Each year we receive generous support from the three levels of Government through the Edmonton Arts Council and the City of Edmonton, Alberta Foundation for the Arts and the Government of Alberta, and Canada Council for the Arts and Canadian Heritage — and to them we give our heartfelt gratitude. Contributions from

foundations and support from our dedicated partners in the business and arts communities are also received with sincere thanks. Our patrons, who share their love of live music by attending our concerts and support our growth through personal donations, are especially crucial, and we are deeply grateful for their support.

I am fortunate to work with an extraordinary group of musicians, staff, and volunteers who work so hard to deliver on our purpose, and I thank them from my heart for their dedication and collaboration. I am fortunate to work with a highly engaged and committed Board of Directors, under the leadership of Peggy Garritty. Peggy hands the reigns to a new board chair at the AGM. and I thank her for all that she has done over the past two years. It is also a joy to work alongside such innovative and dedicated colleagues – in particular I wish to acknowledge Alexander Prior, Robert Uchida, Alison Kenny-Gardhouse, Rob McAlear, Terry Wickham, Alyssa Paterson, Joyce LaBriola, Brian Alquire, Barb Wilkes, and Nadja Merali – and it's hard to stop there.

Thank you all. Music reminds us of who we are, where we have come from, and gives meaning to our lives. You all help to create life changing musical experiences each and every day.

Annemarie Petrov
Chief Executive Officer

CHIEF CONDUCTOR REFLECTIONS



MESSAGE FROM ALEXANDER PRIOR Chief Conductor

Throughout the 2018/2019 season, the ESO had a lot of success in finding and bringing new, unique colours to the forefront of our performances, doing so in a uniform way: the entire orchestra as one. It says a lot about where we are as an orchestra that we had the power and skill to play a behemoth like Bruckner's 9th Symphony as well as we did. The orchestra played at an outstanding level, producing a dark and rich, emotionally evocative sound. It also says a lot about our audiences that they could go on said journey with us and be such a supportive audience on that epic journey of loneliness, aspiration, despair, and hope.

Our assistant conductor auditions were a special time for me, because it wasn't ten years ago that I was the assistant conductor auditioning and being hired, and it was interesting to this time be doing the hiring. We can all be proud of how the auditions were run: we all did everything possible to put candidates at ease and to make it about enjoying some music-making together. With such a wonderfully diverse and talented pool of applicants, it was a tough choice, but my goodness did we hire an outstanding individual. Cosette Justo Valdés has already gone above and beyond what an assistant does - dedicating herself to the job and orchestra, bringing the most amazing positivity to all she touches, and enthusing our YONA kids and ESO players alike with her sincere passion for music and warm attitude. She is an extraordinary asset to the ESO and Edmonton, and I know she will flourish to be a world-known conductor. I am proud that we can be part of her journey.

Our 2019 Sibelius festival was a unique series of concerts, and felt very much like a dream come true. I'm so grateful to have had the opportunity to share this music, which means the world to me, with my dear orchestra and audience. Sibelius's music, though it evokes classical simplicity and clarity in so many ways, is fiendishly difficult to play in a way that sounds relaxed and centered. The orchestra not only nailed the works, but grew into the world of Sibelius with each concert. The orchestra played the last two works Sibelius wrote — *Tapiola* and *The Tempest* — with such tenderness and profound humanism that I was truly transported to another world, with shivers down my spine and my eyes far from dry.

I was certainly excited by the amount of Canadian music that was performed during the season. It's an important part of our mandate and mission, as someone has to provide the platforms for composers to hear their works in real life if they are at the beginning of their career, such as our wonderful annual Young Composer Project, and champion the newly-forged masterpieces of this country. Very memorable for me was the short work we played by Nicole Lizée, who I think is one of the great Canadian composers, and indeed one of the great composers of our time. Our audience is always so enthusiastic about and supportive of this mission: it's wonderful!

Finally, I'd like to extend my congratulations to Ewald Cheung (First Violin), Meran Currie-Roberts (Cello), and Max Cardilli (Assistant Principal Bass) on being offered tenure during the 2018/2019 season. My sincerest thanks also go out to Annemarie Petrov, the Board of Directors, and each and every person who graces the Winspear Centre with their presence: you are the reason that music comes to life here, and are the reason we are able to continue to change lives through the power of music.

Alexander Prior Chief Conductor

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EDMONTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA 2018/2019

CHIEF CONDUCTOR

Alexander Prior

ASSITANT CONDUCTOR, COMMUNITY AMBASSADOR

Cosette Justo Valdés

VIOLIN I

Robert Uchida, Concertmaster
The John & Barbara Poole Family
Concertmaster Chair

Eric Buchmann Associate Concertmaster Virginie Gagné, Assistant Concertmaster

Broderyck Olson Richard Caldwell (5) Joanna Ciapka-Sangster

Susan Flook Laura Veeze Anna Kozak

Aiyana Anderson-Howatt

Neda Yamach Ewald Cheung

Dianne New (1)

VIOLIN II

Sarah Kim (2) Heather Bergen Pauline Bronstein (5) Zoë Sellers Robert Hryciw Tatiana Warszynski Murray Vaasjo

VIOLA

Stefan Jungkind (3) Ethan Filner (2) Clayton Leung Rhonda Henshaw Kerry Kavalo

CELLO

Rafael Hoekman (1)

The Stuart & Winona Davis Principal Cello Chair JunKyu Park (2)

Ronda Metszies Gillian Caldwell (5) Meran Currie-Roberts

Derek Gomez Victor Pipkin

BASS

Jan Urke (1)
Max Cardilli (2)
Janice Quinn
Andrew Lawrence
Rob Aldridge

FLUTE

Elizabeth Koch (1) Stephanie Morin (2)

OBOE

Lidia Khaner (1)
Paul Schieman (2)
The Steven & Day LePoole
Assistant Principal Oboe Chair

CLARINET

Julianne Scott (1)
David Quinn (2)

BASSOON

William Harrison (1) (5) Matthew Howatt (3) Edith Stacey (2)

HORN

Allene Hackleman (1) Megan Evans (2) Gerald Onciul (2) Donald Plumb (2)

TRUMPET

Robin Doyon (1) Frédéric Payant (2)

TROMBONE

John McPherson (1) Kathryn Macintosh (2)

BASS TROMBONE

Christopher Taylor (1)

TUB/

Scott Whetham (1)

TIMPANI

Barry Nemish (1)

PERCUSSION

Brian Jones (1)

HARP

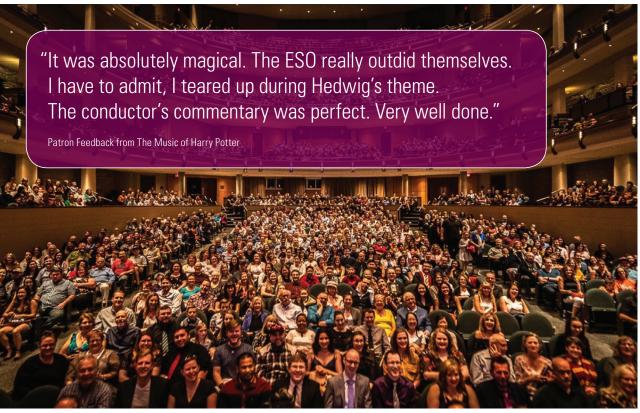
Nora Bumanis (1)

- (1) Principal
- (2) Assistant Principal
- (3) Acting Principal
- (4) Acting Assistant Principal
- (5) On Leave

LAUREATE & EMERITUS ARTISTS

William Eddins, Music Director Emeritus
Uri Mayer, Conductor Laureate
Charles Hudelson, Principal Clarinet Emeritus
Alvin Lowrey, Principal Trumpet Emeritus

ESO HIGHLIGHTS PATRON ATTENDANCE



Audience of The Music of Harry Potter (Photo by Leroy Schulz)

CONCERT	SERIES	DATES	ATTENDANCE
Hollywood Hits	Symphony Under The Sky	September 1, 2018	2,156
The Music of Harry Potter	[Specials]	June 22, 2019	1,725
A Tribute to The Beatles	ESO Rocks	October 10, 2018	1,647
A Lightly Classical Christmas	Lighter Classics	December 20, 2018	1,544
A Very Merry Pops	Pops Saturday	December 22, 2018	1,539
A Very Merry Pops	Pops Friday	December 21, 2018	1,531
Vivaldi's Four Seasons	Sunday Showcase	May 5, 2019	1,526
Beethoven, Mozart, & Schubert	Traditional Classics	January 24, 2019	1,410
A Very Merry Pops	Pops Matinées	December 23, 2018	1,316
Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff, Rimsky-Korsakov	Masters Encore	June 15, 2019	1,291
Beethoven & Beer	Perfect Pairings	March 29, 2019	1,247
Meet the Orchestra	Symphony For Kids	November 24, 2018	1,151
Elgar's Violin Concerto	Masters Applause	January 26, 2019	1,126
Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff, Rimsky-Korsakov	Friday Masters	June 14, 2019	1,089

ESO HIGHLIGHTS MUSICIANS' PERSPECTIVES







Photo by Dale MacMillan



BRIAN JONES

PRINCIPAL PERCUSSION

Playing Bruckner's 9th Symphony during the first Masters concert was the highlight of my 2018/2019 season. The musical depth that Alex Prior brought to the piece really made it a very special experience for me

The Sibelius Festival was another highlight for me, especially being able to play the 4th Symphony and The Tempest. Sharing these pieces with our incredible audience was an extremely memorable moment.

As a percussionist, I really enjoyed the Ben Hur movie with Stewart Copeland, drummer for the rock band. The Police.

ROBERT UCHIDA

CONCERTMASTER

Firstly, on November 6, 2018 we had Assistant Conductor auditions and we found Cosette. Her immediate chemistry with the orchestra and passion for music were evident and I believe the orchestra was especially moved by her conducting of Brahms. Since, she has been a wonderful collaborator and an inspiring presence.

In March, the wonderful English violinist Tasmin Little played Szymanowski's Violin Concerto No. 2 with the ESO. I love her sound, vibrato, and approach to musicmaking. It was truly inspiring to hear her navigate that concerto.

In February, Vern Griffiths from the Vancouver Symphony performed his "Wall-to-Wall Percussion" Education concert. Conducted by our Chief Conductor Alex Prior, I found this concert very inspiring. Vern communicated enthusiasm and love for music to thousands of children. I feel that the Education initiatives of the ESO are vital to the community and love it when you can feel that they've had an impact on our youth!

ALLENE HACKLEMAN

PRINCIPAL HORN

Performing Sibelius's Finlandia in February during the Sibelius Festival with the chorus singing from the aisles of the main floor of the hall was simply breathtaking.

The Ravel, Shostakovich & Stravinsky concert in January with Jean-Marie Zeitouni conducting was definitely a highlight for me. The repertoire on the concert, the soloists, and the whole week was absolutely outstanding and uplifting.

I loved playing Schumann's Rhenish Symphony with José Luis Gómez conducting back in November. The energy in the hall was astounding!

MAX **CARDILLI**

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL **DOUBLE BASS**

Overall, the Sibelius Festival was an amazing experience, but in particular, playing Sibelius's 2nd Symphony was extremely powerful. The festival was an incredible way to share Sibelius's music, and I hope the audience enjoyed listening as much as we enjoyed playing.

Hearing Simone Porter play Prokofiev's Violin Concerto No. 1 was so amazing, and that paired with the orchestra presenting Schoenberg's arrangement of Brahms's Piano Quartet in the same concert was incredible.

Playing Vaughan Williams 3rd Symphony with Jayce Ogren was fantastic, as was hearing Joyce Yang playing Beethoven's 1st Piano Concerto. This program also featured The Isle Is Full of Noises, an interesting Canadian composition by Christos Hatzis, which really stood out for me.

RETIRING MUSICIANS



RICHARD & GILLIAN CALDWELL Photo by Carmyn Effa

The following article appeared in *Signature* Issue 8 (May | June 2019):

It doesn't happen often (thank goodness), but every once in a while, a generational shift occurs in organizations with the long history of, for example, the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra. Between last season and the current one, seven musicians and approximately 274 years of experience will have said goodbye to an orchestra and a community that has benefited from their artistry and expertise.

One of them, cellist Gillian Caldwell, finds it hard

to believe the time has come. "The orchestra was full of baby boomers!" she says of how it was when she started. "And now here we are, old enough to retire. The decades flew by as did millions and millions of notes — most of them correct..."

Assistant Principal Flute Shelley Younge remembers how her inspiration came from an ESO musician. "It all started when the ESO visited Ponoka to play a concert and also visit the school band program. Principal Flute in the orchestra was Harlan Green, and we were allowed to sit beside 'our instrument' in a rehearsal. Wow, it blew my

mind to sit so close to such a great player, and see and hear all that music so close all around me. What an experience! That was it. I was entranced. I was committed. I had the dream — had been bitten by the bug. I wanted to play in an orchestra."

And so she did, the year after Gillian. William Harrison, Principal Bassoon, had started in 1976. Pauline Bronstein began her tenure in 1980. Richard Caldwell had joined the ESO in 1973, and has had an impact on Edmonton's music scene beyond the ESO. "One of the viola players, the late David Rhein, set us up by hiring us to play in his

1973						
	1976					
	1977					
	1978					
		1980				
			1983			
					1996	

string quartet," says Richard of meeting Gillian. "I used to terrify her when I drove us up Grierson Hill in the wintertime in my Pinto with the failing brakes! She married me anyway in 1980."

"I met (former ESO Music Director) Pierre
Hétu when he was conducting the Kalamazoo
Symphony which I played in as a graduate
student; he had just been hired as Music Director
of the Edmonton Symphony and suggested that
I move to Edmonton to join the orchestra. That
was back in 1973," Richard recalls. "It's difficult to
sum up a 45 year career as an orchestral violinist
because there have been so very many memorable
artists and concerts."

These long-serving ESO musicians came from Woodstock (New Brunswick) and Ponoka, they came from Ann Arbor (Michigan) and Poland. And they all played their part in making the orchestra better than it was when they arrived. And some of them arrived in pretty unusual ways.

"I was a rock bass player," says John Taylor, who helped pay for his double bass studies at the University of Toronto by playing bass in rock bands at night. "I didn't start classical studies until I was 18. My first professional orchestra gig was subbing with the TSO in 1979. Got the ESO gig in 1983."

Any time the orchestra needed stand-up jazz bass, or electric bass from among the orchestra, it was John who fit the bill perfectly. Edmonton's jazz scene has benefited from the hundreds of shows John Taylor has played. And that points to one of the great benefits of the many talented musicians that make up a symphony orchestra. Their expertise and their passion for music ripples out into the community in many diverse ways and draws the circle of musical connection wider and wider.

Lidia Khaner, for example, came from Poland's

Sinfonia Varsovia to Edmonton, becoming the ESO Principal Oboe in 1996. But as she steps away from the ESO, the next chapter in her music-making life will feature her new musical passion – conducting.

"That's been a recent thing," Lidia says. "It started, actually, with coaching chamber ensembles at the University of Alberta. I wanted to pursue conducting because of two things: one is the educational aspect, because I think a conductor has that role. And the other is stepping back from just one instrument, and getting to a next level of musicianship."

Lidia's orchestra, the Chamber Orchestra of Edmonton, is finishing its second season this year, and you can learn more at chamber orchestra of edmonton.ca.

Looking back on two, three, or four decades of experience and memories makes pulling out a highlight or two from among a host of memories a pretty daunting task, but the ESO's 2012 debut at Carnegie Hall came up more than once. As did the 1997 move to the Winspear Centre. "We have the best concert hall in the country," John Taylor states unequivocally.

"To hear ourselves in Winspear was an entirely new experience," Shelley Younge says. "I could hear every note everyone played. We could play in tune and know it was working! I heard lines from symphonies that I had played many many times — in which I had never really been able to hear myself. It opened up an entirely new appreciation for the whole process and musical experience. It was more than I had ever dreamed of to play in such a beautiful hall. To this day I still marvel at the sound."

Many people will likely not be surprised by one of Gillian Caldwell's fondest memories. "My happiest and most fun memories have always involved my

stand-partner of about 10 years, Ronda Metszies," she says. "Together we laughed and cried and sometimes we laughed until we cried. Those of you who have attended Symphony Under the Sky will no doubt remember the costumes we cobbled together for the Saturday night movie concerts. We had such fun plotting and planning and making hats and masks and capes and big hairy feet and claws — one year for *Beauty and the Beast* we had toxic smelling wigs. I was the Beast and nearly passed out from the fumes. I have learned that it is not impossible to read the music through the full helmet of a Storm Trooper."

It's difficult to sum up a 45-year career as an orchestral violinist because there have been so very many memorable artists and concerts," Richard Caldwell concedes. "Among my favourite times were when I did a comedy routine with Phyllis Diller and many years later, I did a short dance routine with Bill Eddins onstage during the Pointer Sisters' show. In between there were countless serious concerts with artists such as David Oistrakh, Mstislav Rostropovich, and Joshua Bell. I loved playing the Pops too and truly can boast that I have played with Ray Charles and Aretha Franklin and Harry Belafonte just to name a few."

Shelley Younge sums up her time in the orchestra beautifully. "What a rush to sit in the middle of all that music — the best seat in the house, for all those years," she says. "To be so close to all those great musicians and meet soloists from all over the world! And it was great to be able to meet and talk to our audience members as well, and share in their experience listening."

2019

THE ORCHESTRA SAYS GOODBYE TO: RICHARD CALDWELL Violin I (joined 1973)

WILLIAM HARRISON Principal Bassoon (joined 1976)

GILLIAN CALDWELL Cello (joined 1977)

SHELLEY YOUNGE Assistant Principal Flute (joined 1978)

PAULINE BRONSTEIN Violin II (joined 1980)

JOHN TAYLOR Double Bass (joined 1983)

LIDIA KHANER Principal Oboe (joined 1996)

WINSPEAR & THE COMMUNITY



RUPI KAUR - DECEMBER 10, 2018



CHRIS HADFIELD - APRIL 30, 2019



CRESCENDO - MAY 4, 2019

EQUUS FILM SCREENING

Date: September 17, 2018

Not only was the music for this film recorded live here at the Winspear Centre, but a sneak preview of the film itself was presented during this exciting event. In the film, anthropologist Niobe Thompson takes audiences on a journey into the fascinating and unexpected world of horses.

CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY

Date: October 11, 2018

In October of 2019, the Winspear Centre partnered with the Institute for Canadian Citizens to provide a Citizenship ceremony for new Canadians. This event was monumental to every individual involved, and was a beautiful occasion to mark an extremely meaningful moment.

FLUTE CLINIC

Date: October 27, 2018

When flutist Anthony Trionfo was in town as an ESO soloist he generously gave his time to lead a clinic for members of the Edmonton flute community. Over 50 amateur flutists came together to watch Anthony work with six players, focusing on Practicing & Problem Solving. The clinic was sponsored by the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, Edmonton Flute Association and University of Alberta Department of Music, with leadership from ESO musicians Liz Koch and Shelley Younge.

CFL PLAYER AWARDS

Date: November 22, 2018

Last hosted by the Winspear in 2010, the CFL Player Awards returned in November, providing nationwide exposure for the Winspear Centre and a beautiful venue in which to celebrate the success of Canada's elite athletes.

EDMONTON YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Dates: November 25, 2018; February 24, 2019; April 14, 2019

Each year, the EYO presents three concerts at the Winspear Centre, featuring over 150 young musicians on-stage. Some of our ESO musicians got their start in EYO, and we are happy to support the great work they do in the community.

RUPI KAUR

Date: December 10, 2018

Canadian poet and performer Rupi Kaur graced the Winspear Centre stage in October to share her incredible spoken-word poetry, and some of the stories that inspired her to write her first collection, *milk and honey*, which spent more than 100 consecutive weeks as the #1 New York Times Restseller

BOB THE DRAG QUEEN

Date: January 29, 2019

The 2018/2019 season marked the Winspear debut of Bob the Drag Queen. From standup comedy to stories about being on *RuPaul's Drag Race*, Bob performed an incredible, hilarious show that won the hearts of the Winspear audience

CHRIS HADFIELD

Date: April 30, 2019

This year marked Chris Hadfield's fourth visit to the Winspear Centre, where he shared his enthusiasm for space, the world, and life itself. The incredible astronaut told stories of his time in space, anecdotes about his life on earth, and had his audience on the edge of their seats as they soaked in his every word.

CRESCENDO – JOHN CAMERON CHANGING LIVES FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER

Date: May 4, 2019

With a live orchestra and phenomenal singers and musicians, Crescendo was a huge hit during its third year at the Winspear Centre. Crescendo won Best Fundraising Event at the 2018 Edmonton Event Awards, and fundraised for the Access 24/7 Addiction and Mental Health Clinic.

LUCAS CHAISSON - JULY 5, 2018

Photo by Leroy Schulz

STAGE DOOR SESSIONS

Made possible through the generous support of Servus Credit Union

In July, the Winspear Centre launched Stage Door Sessions, a paywhat-you-can series, removing cost as a barrier for participation. This three show series that featured local artists was held in the backstage studio where the ESO, our guest artists, and even the Rolling Stones have rehearsed. Our first session put the spotlight on Edmonton rising stars Lucas Chaisson, Adri Meeks, and Dana Wylie. We closed the season with a performance featuring Edmonton Music Awards nominees Kane Incognito and Kay & Martinez.

The interdisciplinary work of A Soldier's Tale, fresh off a sold-out run at the Fringe, was a highlight for many. This production featuring dancers, actors, Chief Conductor Alex Prior and ESO musicians, tells the thrilling story of a soldier coming home from war, who comes across the Devil who tricks him into giving up his fiddle in return for an apparently magical book.

2018/2019 EVENTS:

JULY 5, 2018 Lucas Chaisson

> Adri Meeks Dana Wylie Trio

NOVEMBER 12, 2018 A Soldier's Tale

(sold out performance)

JUNE 24, 2019

Kane Incognito Kay & Martinez



CANTANDO FESTIVAL - APRL 7-9, 2019

CANTANDO FESTIVAL

2019 saw the Cantando Festival return to the Winspear Centre for their 20th year. Over the course of the three days, over 50 ensembles are evaluated, representing schools throughout Western Canada, ranging from junior high to college-aged students.

This non-competitive festival gives students the opportunity to the experience the thrill of performing on the iconic Winspear Stage. Spotlight Concerts highlighting ensembles invited by adjudicators, are also an integral component of the festival, giving these young musicians the opportunity to enjoy the music of quest artists. During the festival participants also partake in music workshops at multiple venues throughout the city. What makes this festival truly special is that it serves the entire music community, not just band, orchestra, or choir.

THE WINSPEAR PROJECT



Building Exterior (Digital Rendering)

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Winspear Centre has been the home of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra (ESO) and the community since its doors were opened in 1997. At the time of construction, the footprint of the Winspear was reduced in order to create the superb acoustical chamber for the orchestra to perform in and stay within budget, leaving a parking lot at the back of the building. The City of Edmonton agreed to lease this lot to the Winspear with a commitment to build on the space in the future. In 2009, with support from the City, planning began for the expansion and we are now ready to proceed.

The Winspear has also become home to the Tommy Banks Centre for Musical Creativity. From its beginning in 2012 and with over 20 permanent programs, the Tommy Banks Centre invites people of all ages and walks of life to discover the joy of music through exploration, creation, and social connection.

The Winspear Project is multi-faceted and includes a 41,000 square foot expansion, refresh and renewal of existing spaces, and space to house a YMCA daycare and parkade. As part of our funding strategy, we are engaging the public in a community capital campaign of \$17M.

The project will add multipurpose spaces and community gathering spaces including a café and outdoor terrace, interactive musical discovery zones, and a 550-seat performance hall called the Music Box.

The expanded Winspear will be open to the public during the day to welcome guests to enjoy the facility, attend events and engage the public in musical discovery. This will transform the Winspear into an active Centre for Music, open and accessible every day.

The Music Box will be the jewel of the addition. This intimate and unforgettable venue is perfect for a wide variety of events, including diverse performances, conferences, rehearsals, galas,

and meetings. It will have state-of-the-art digital projection, lighting and audio resources, and a hydraulic seating system providing flexibility not currently available in the city. The floor will have the ability to transform from flat floor to raked floor to cabaret-style seating in minutes. This flexibility makes this space an ideal venue for smaller ensembles and community members to rent for their events.

The additional flex-use spaces will allow the Tommy Banks Centre for Musical Creativity to expand and grow. Currently, our ability to accept new participants and develop additional programming is at capacity. The Winspear Project expansion will give us the ability to increase our current registrations, not only through additional spaces in current programs but also creating an opportunity to develop and explore new collaborations and offerings. It allows us to further expand our ability to reach out and invite the community to explore music.



The YMCA daycare will provide 64 childcare spaces that will fulfill an identified need for not-for-profit childcare in the downtown core. The Winspear will become its backyard, with the children having playtime on the outdoor terrace and learning through music-centered programming. The Winspear Project is an opportunity for Edmonton to continue the legacy of Dr. Francis Winspear and to create space for the Tommy Banks Centre for Musical Creativity, thus creating more opportunities for Edmontonians of all ages, cultures, economic, and educational backgrounds to connect with each other through music.

Tommy Banks believed in the power of music to bind the community together. We wholeheartedly embrace his vision ... and hope you will too!

WINSPEAR PROJECT FUNDING

The Winspear Project includes funding from all levels of government plus a community campaign.

\$17M Community Capital Campaign \$48.6M Combined Government Contribution

\$65.6M Total Winspear Project Funding

As part of our funding strategy, we will engage the public in a community capital campaign that will launch Spring 2020.

2022:

70TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE EDMONTON SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA

25TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE WINSPEAR CENTRE

OPENING OF THE WINSPEAR CENTRE'S EXPANSION AND RENEWAL

LIVE AT THE WINSPEAR





CŒUR DE PIRATE - MARCH 8, 2019

DAN MANGAN - FEBRUARY 8, 2019

PURPOSE

- To deliver exceptional alternative performances to Winspear Centre audiences
- To provide a platform for upcoming artists
- To put a spotlight on Canadian talent

2018/2019 SERIES

CRAIG FERGUSON October 18, 2018

REUBEN AND THE DARK October 29, 2018

MILK CARTON KIDS October 30, 2018

PHANTOM OF THE OPERA October 31, 2018

DAN MANGAN February 8, 2019

CŒUR DE PIRATE March 8, 2019

THE CAT EMPIRE March 14, 2019

NEKO CASE May 7, 2019

EDMONTON MUSIC AWARDS June 27, 2019

FEEDBACK

"Wonderful show in a wonderful venue, not a bad seat in the theatre, the acoustics and sound are phenomenal, love this venue."

"An overall amazing experience – both the venue and the concert. The staff were wonderful and the quality was superb."

"Spectacular. Intimate. Same authentically charming, devastatingly talented artistry we've always come to love and expect from Dan Mangan and the comfortable, aesthetic, and acoustic dream that the Winspear provides."

SERIES ATTENDANCE AND REVENUE

SERIES	CONCERTS	ATTENDANCE	TICKET REVENUE	AVERAGE ATTENDANCE PER CONCERT
Symphony Under The Sky	4	8,852	243,595	2,213
ESO Rocks	3	4,785	171,489	1,595
Specials	22	31,008	1,114,158	1,409
Pops Saturday	7	9,689	434,205	1,384
Pops Friday	7	9,671	433,398	1,382
Sunday Showcase	4	5,235	144,971	1,309
Pops Matinées	4	5,200	156,465	1,300
Education	21	27,087	185,891	1,290
Lighter Classics	5	6,434	205,250	1,287
Symphony For Kids	4	5,136	68,040	1,284
Perfect Pairings	3	3,723	82,945	1,241
Masters Encore	6	7,334	234,888	1,222
Live at the Winspear	9	10,404	302,617	1,156
Traditional Classics	4	4,578	106,943	1,145
Masters Applause	6	6,801	217,817	1,134
Masters Friday	6	5,951	190,594	992
Total	115	151,888	4,293,266	1,321

ADDITIONAL FIGURES:

HIGHEST REVENUE CONCERT

\$368,000 The Music of Harry Potter (all shows combined)

HIGHEST REVENUE PERFORMANCE DATE

\$81,500 The Music of Harry Potter June 22, 2019

HIGHEST REVENUE CONCESSION SALES

\$19,685 CFL Players Awards November 22, 2018

TOTAL ATTENDANCE FOR ALL 2018-2019 EVENTS

223,725 Visitors to the Winspear

MOST TICKETS CONCERT

8,863 The Music of Harry Potter (all shows combined)

LARGEST PERFORMANCE TOTAL MUSICIANS

350 Suzuki Charter School 24th Annual Spring Concert: World Music & The Music of the Romantic Period May 9, 2019

COSETTE JUSTO VALDÉS YEAR ONE



Photo by Eric Kozakiewicz

In her first year with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, Cosette Justo Valdés, Assistant Conductor and Community Ambassador, shared her tremendous skill and passion for music with the staff, musicians, and patrons both on and off the stage. In addition to her work as the Assistant Conductor for the ESO, she is also the Conductor and Artistic Director of the YONA (Youth Orchestra of Northern Alberta) program, which allows her to transfer her love for music to the next generation of composers, conductors, and musicians.



Photo by Dale MacMillar



Photo by Leroy Schul

LARGE IMPACT IN A SMALL TIME

NOVEMBER 2018

Cosette competed with six final candidates for the position of Assistant Conductor & Community Ambassador of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra. Her audition in front of the orchestra was impressive and the musicians voted overwhelmingly in her favour. Cosette accepted the position and then headed home to Cuba to pack.

JANUARY 2019

Undeterred by the winter cold, Cosette arrived in Edmonton and made her first cameo appearance with the ESO at the Last Night of the Proms. She had her first meetings with the YONA Teaching Artists and was warmly welcomed by the YONA students.

MARCH 2019

Cosette conducted her first YONA concert and led the La Bruyère Orchestra through a rousing rendition of Sibelius's *Finlandia*.

MAY 2019

She narrated and conducted her first Symphony For Kids concert, as well as conducted half of a Sunday Showcase concert. Cosette also made a cameo appearance in the Pops and Lighter Classic series. In addition, she collaborated with Chief Conductor Alexander Prior in presenting eight education concerts for students in grades K-3.

JUNE 2019

Cosette wrapped up her first ESO concert season onstage with the ESO and over 130 YONA musicians in an inspiring Road to Joy fundraiser.

THE IMPORTANCE OF AN ORCHESTRA

MADELEINE STOUT & ARMAND BIRK

ESO | FWCM YOUNG LEADERSHIP COUNCIL (YLC)



Madeleine Stout



Armand Bi

Live music is a cornerstone of almost every culture and society we know today, whether it exists as a concert or another collaborative experience. The importance of live acoustic music is universally recognized for its role in progressing culture and exploring the human experience. While orchestras can (and do) entertain people, like all art, entertainment is rarely music's primary goal.

Music is an experience that allows audiences to express and connect with human emotion; from joy to despair, and everything in between. Even in an age when listening to digital music is easier than ever, live performances still offer something recordings never can, and an orchestra is one of the only entities that can offer musical experiences unfiltered by electronic amplification. Even the best audio system can't make you feel the magic that exists in a concert hall with a live orchestra.

Orchestras do so much more than present concerts. Musicians contribute to the city by teaching, advocating for music, and bringing music to the greater community outside of the concert hall. Professional orchestras also inspire community ensembles; for example, Edmonton has one of the most vibrant and active musical communities in the country, including choirs, orchestra, and bands. These ensembles are vital for building and fostering a love of music and for making music accessible to everyone. We know that music transforms lives, but orchestras, and the ESO in particular, are special because they transform community.



YOUNG LEADERSHIP COUNCIL:

Left to Right: Armand Birk, Angelene Myers, Micah Poworoznik, Lydia Metzger, Madeleine Stout, Drew Delbaere, Katrina Tarnawsky, Jenica Sinclair, Saoirse Cipko, Emilie-Anne Neeland, Kyra Droog, Navneet Gidda • Not pictured: Aemilia Moser, Matthieu Gauthier

TOMMY BANKS CENTRE FOR MUSICAL CREATIVITY



Science of Sound sutdents (Photo by Dale MacMillan)

The Tommy Banks Centre for Musical Creativity changes lives through the power of music. Through innovation, creation, and exploration, each immersive program offered through the Tommy Banks Centre focuses on expanding the minds of its participants and fueling their love of music. A few of the many programs offered through the Tommy Banks Centre include Music Box Babies, the Rusty Musicians Program, Sound School, and Education Concerts.

During the 2018/2019 season, great growth was seen in each of our offered programs; for example, our Education Concert attendance was the highest it has been in several years. Not even winter cold snaps and downtown construction could keep students and teachers away from these incredible, electric concerts. The Music Box Babies program also expanded, adding weekday classes so the program is now offered four days per week from September to June for caregivers and their infants/toddlers to learn about music. The Rusty Musicians Summer Camp celebrated its largest group, with 40 campers being mentored by

ESO musicians and forming their own symphony orchestra, conducted by Robert Bernhardt.

During Sound School, an Inquiring Minds sitebased experience, the Winspear Centre becomes a classroom for Gr. 2-6 students. Throughout their week at the Winspear Centre, students learn about many aspects of a performance venue including lighting, acoustics, instruments, and philanthropy. Teachers work with the Program Coordinator at Tommy Banks Centre to customize the week so the class's learning not only fits specific curricular goals, but also provides resources to incorporate Sound School experiences into the rest of the class's school year. A new curricular addition this past season had Sound School students become archaeologists and architects for the Winspear. With plans moving forward on construction of the Winspear Project, discussion and activities related to this expansion have been incorporated into Sound School programming. Students received a visit from the Executive Project Manager, viewed renderings of the proposed design, toured the

perimeter of the build-site, brainstormed ideas for what the new expansion facility could have in it, and sketched a personalized design of the new Winspear Centre. Sound School has steadily expanded over the past five years, and last season saw concurrent running programs for two classes to participate during the same week, doubling participation capacity.

With program expansion of this magnitude emerging from the Tommy Banks Centre for Musical Creativity, we are reminded of the impact that musical discovery has on our community. Making these opportunities accessible to as many participants as possible allows the community to celebrate their shared love for music, as well as explore new learning opportunities, make new friends, and have new life-changing experiences with music.

YONA







YONA

The Youth Orchestra of Northern Alberta, or YONA, completed its sixth year (2018/2019) with much celebration and learning. In addition to the many small successes experienced on a daily basis, attributed to the strong relationships built between students and staff over the years, there is also cause to celebrate programmatic growth. For example, the team piloted chamber music classes for all Junior High students as a way to address their expressed desires of wanting to play more advanced music and be held accountable for their own progress.

This year also introduced guided practice time, where students were encouraged to spend their free time practicing their instrument. As well as the addition of some new programming elements, YONA's sixth year marked the arrival of Cosette Justo Valdés, whose presence and connection with the students inspired everyone to strive for greater personal and shared excellence.

Over the course of year, the YONA team also began to make plans for expansion which will culminate in the opening of a new site at St. Teresa of Calcutta (where YONA originated in 2013/2014), with the goal of better serving students of various ages and skill levels. The plan is that students at the St. Teresa site will spend their first year at the St. Teresa Site in order to establish their "YONA Foundation." Here, they will learn about the YONA Way, learn the basics of their instruments, and create lasting friendships. After this foundational year (or two depending on the student) at the St. Teresa Site, students will join the students at St. Alphonsus (YONA's current Host Site) for more advanced programming.

On a macro level, the YONA team did some deep work to revitalize the YONA Vision, mission and statement of purpose:

We believe that ensemble music making is a transformative experience.

VISION:

YONA strives to have a lasting positive community impact by providing free music-centered programming for youth in Northern Alberta's priority neighbourhoods.

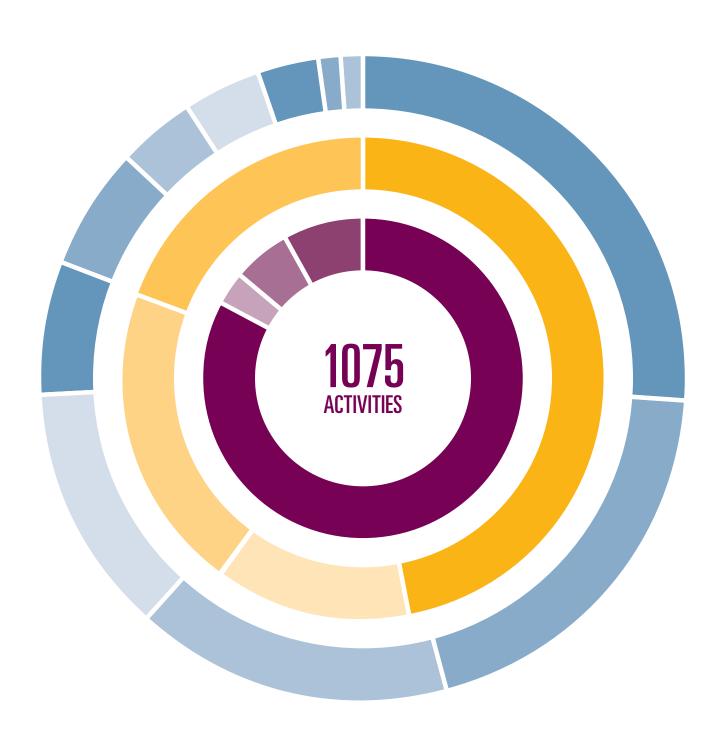
WE ARE:

- A supportive community that provides opportunities to experience the joy of making music together.
- An inclusive orchestra program where every student can be successful.

OUR PURPOSE IS:

- To inspire compassion, empathy, and artistic sensitivity
- To strengthen social and personal skills
- · To build leadership and confidence
- To encourage high standards, work ethic, responsibility, and accountability
- To provide opportunities for performance and peer mentorship
- To nurture relationships rooted in mutual respect, trust, and responsiveness
- To support the development of the whole person

WINSPEAR COMMUNITY USE



WE VALUE OUR COMMUNITY

The Winspear Centre is a popular venue for bookings by community groups, businesses, individuals, touring artists, and more.

1075 activities in total were held in the hall, lobbies, and studio spaces during the 2018/2019 season.

ACTIVITIES	CATEGORY	+/-	2017/2018 ACTIVITIES
890	Non-Profit Resident Companies (ESO)	+213	677
85	Non-Profit and For-Profit Music Organizations	0	85
63	Business & Individuals	-2	65
37	Non-Profit Community Organizations	-2	39
505	Concert Hall	+29	476
221	Founder's Room	+90	131
207	Studio	+66	141
142	Lobbies	+24	118
283	Rehearsals	+29	254
170	Musical Performances	0	170
134	Facility Tours	+30	104
212	Education & Outreach Programs	+111	101
71	Events & Receptions	+15	56
65	Meetings	+9	56
43	Non-Musical Events	+2	41
42	Media (Recording, Filming, and Photography)	+26	16
33	Fitness Classes	-9	42
12	Graduations	-1	13
10	Weddings	-3	13

1075 ACTIVITIES IN 2018/2019

866 ACTIVITIES IN 2017/2018

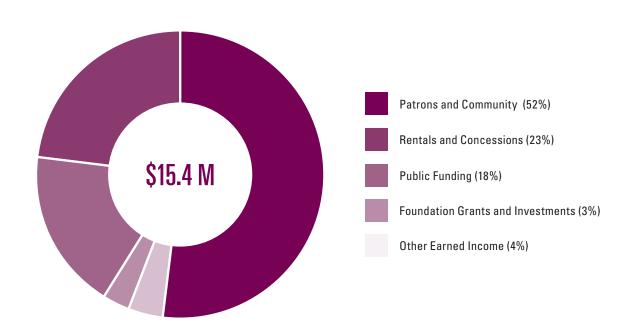
24% INCREASE FROM 2017/2018

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

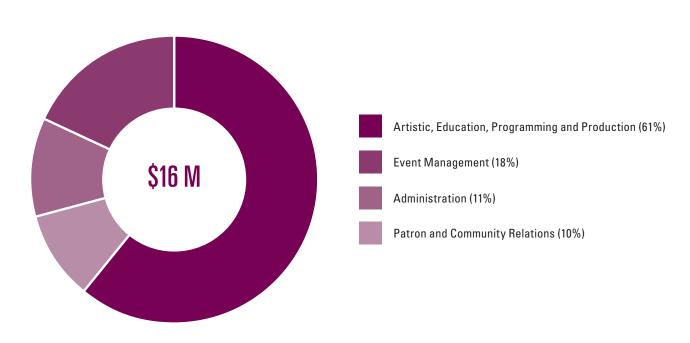
COMBINED ESS & FWCM FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

	JUNE 30, 2019	JUNE 30, 2018	JUNE 30, 2017
Total Operating Revenue	15,468,199	15,505,148	15,710,204
Total Operating Expenses	16,057,514	15,892,976	15,495,947
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	(589,315)	(387,828)	214,257
Internal Fund Transfers	335,672	473,238	(219,329)
Change in Operating Fund Balances	(253,643)	85,410	(5,072)
Total Assets	41,971,782	35,215,679	36,196,919
Total Liabilities	5,492,892	3,883,506	4,224,338
Net Assets	36,478,890	31,332,173	31,972,581
ESO and FWCM Endowment and Investments Edmonton Symphony and Concert Hall	4,668,381 11,843,424	4,769,314 11,960,146	4,621,691 11,423,628
Foundation Endowment and Investments	11,043,424	11,300,140	11,423,020
Total Endowment and Investments	16,511,805	16,729,460	16,045,319
Ticket Sales	4,293,266	4,313,615	4,301,182
Number of Concerts (Edmonton Symphony Orchestra & Live At The Winspear)	115	111	107
Free Tickets	15,645	15,108	17,953
Paid Tickets	136,243	130,620	127,939
Number of Tickets	151,888	145,728	146,965

2018/2019 REVENUES



2018/2019 EXPENSES



GRATITUDE REPORT

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, 2018 and June 30, 2019 are recognized in these pages for their

† Orchestra Circle gifts completely or partially endowed in perpetuity

* Sustaining pledges

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^{††} Appointed as Treasurer

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