July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

With Gratitude

BRINGING MUSIC TO LIFE

WINSPEAR

Edmonton Symphony Orchestra

Keeping the Music Alive

On behalf of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra and the Winspear Centre, thank you to all our donors and supporters. Your generous contributions have built something truly special for our community. By donating, you show that you care about your community and want to be part of a movement of people willing to invest in making it better. When you donate, you directly support our mission of fulfilling the human need to make and share music.

Thanks to your support over the years, we have the wonderful Edmonton Symphony Orchestra (ESO), 56 professional musicians who live and work full time in our community, making music.

You have established the Winspear Centre, one of the greatest concert halls in the world. To bring the Winspear to life, you helped develop the Tommy Banks Centre for Musical Creativity, a suite of programs that bring children, families and everyone in our community together to make music.

The Youth Orchestra of Northern Alberta (YONA) program offers hundreds of children every year a safe, positive place to go after school, where they can aspire to be better versions of themselves and contribute to a stronger community.

Together, these make up a Music Centre that provides our community with the tools and skills to express our culture as Canadians, Albertans and Edmontonians.

By being part of this movement and supporting it regularly with your time and money, whether it is yearly, monthly or daily, you provide the security needed to plan and build a Music Centre that will last for generations.

In the ESO's 74th season, join us in celebrating the great achievements you have made possible:

- We welcomed a new music director for the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, Jean-Marie Zeitouni, who brings a fresh championship of art and music to the ESO and to our community.
- In summer 2025, the Alberta Conservatory of Music became part of the Winspear Centre and the Tommy Banks Centre for Musical Creativity, a huge step forward in our transformation into a Music Centre.
- In fall 2025, we opened the first sections of the Winspear Expansion, including a new classroom and two studios, space for performances, recitals and education through YONA, the Conservatory and all our Tommy Banks Centre programs.
- In February 2026, we opened a new YONA site at the Ivor Dent school in the northeast Edmonton neighbourhood of Rundle Heights, the only site in an Edmonton Public School, giving more children the opportunity to benefit from YONA's holistic care.

You are building one of the world's best music centres in your community, allowing us all to make and share music like never before.

Thank you,

Alex Draper
Director of Philantropy

A Lifetime of Giving: Arnold and Grace Rumbold in Edmonton's Arts Community

Arnold and Grace Rumbold have been beloved fixtures in Edmonton's arts scene for decades, known for their warmth, humour and unwavering support of music in the community. If you attended an Edmonton Symphony Orchestra (ESO) concert at the Jubilee in the 1960s, you likely saw the Rumbolds in the audience. (Just don't greet them with "Hey guys" — Grace would quip, "I'm not a guy!", her gentle way of reminding you of her grace and individuality.)

The Rumbolds' journey began at a college dance in Calgary in 1953, where Arnold, a smooth-talking electrician-in-training, met Grace, a stenography student. It was, by all accounts, love at first sight. The young couple married in 1957 and moved to Edmonton the next year, planting roots in a city that would soon benefit immensely from their presence.

Arnold came from humble beginnings — he grew up on a farm with no electricity and built his first wind-powered light as a teen — but Edmonton offered something his hometown couldn't: a vibrant arts community. Arnold even joined the Richard Eaton Singers and later the Edmonton Opera Chorus, turning his new-found passion into participation. As he once mused, "What would Edmonton be without a symphony?" — the ESO was one reason the Rumbolds never looked back after settling here.

...a couple whose love for each other, for music and for their community will resonate for generations to come.

Over the decades, Arnold and Grace transformed their love of the arts into a profound philanthropic legacy. Arnold built a successful career in Edmonton's electrical industry, rising to chief estimator and "hanging out his own shingle" by launching an electrical consulting firm in 1988. Arnold and Grace's business success gave them the means to give back in a big way. They became generous benefactors to the very institutions they loved as audience members.

On September 12, 1997, Arnold proudly stepped onto the Winspear Centre stage as a chorister during the concert hall's opening night, singing alongside the ESO and Calgary Philharmonic. This was a moment that symbolized the couple's full circle from concertgoers to part of the performance. In 2019, when the Winspear Centre announced its ambitious expansion project, the Rumbolds were among the first to pledge support. Having watched Edmonton grow from a city of 250,000 in 1958 to over one million today, Arnold and Grace knew that a world-class music facility would be vital for future generations. In gratitude for their visionary support, the Winspear Centre has recently named its choir loft the "Arnold and Grace Rumbold Choir Loft," a permanent tribute to the couple, which was unveiled in 2025.

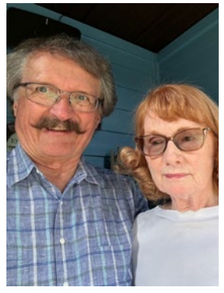
In 2022, Grace and Arnold partnered with Edmonton Opera to create the Rumbold Vocal Prize, a nationwide competition for emerging Canadian opera singers. This annual prize not only provides financial awards but also mentorship and networking opportunities for young vocalists. Grace found joy at the Vocal Prize events: she was a familiar, welcoming presence, cheering on performers and congratulating them as they came off stage.

Grace passed away on October 8, 2024, but her and Arnold's impact on Edmonton's cultural life endures. Their contributions have been recognized widely and their legacy lives on in the institutions and people they continue to uplift. The ESO performs in a hall they helped build, young opera singers' voices soar thanks to their prize, and students pursue careers they love thanks to their scholarships. "We've had a pretty darn good life … in the best of countries. We are so fortunate," Arnold reflects gratefully. In turn, Edmonton feels fortunate to have had champions like Grace and Arnold Rumbold, a couple whose love for each other, for music and for their community will resonate for generations to come.

Building the Community: Mark and Nancy Heule's Long-term Giving

Mark and Nancy Heule, long-time subscribers and donors, were both exposed to music at a young age. Nancy remembers cèilidhs on Saturday nights in her childhood home. She started playing the piano at age eight and still enjoys doing so. Mark's father, a great lover of music, was on the ESO board many years ago and his love of fine music was passed on to his children.

When describing the importance of their long-time philanthropic support, the Heules say, "Music has been integral to our lives as individuals, as a couple and as a community. We have made many friends in the music world. As well, our association with the ESO has led to philanthropy and all the benefits that has provided to us: a predominately better and more livable community in which to reside and work."



Long-time donors like the Heules are crucial to vibrant communities. Their commitment to the Winspear and ESO means that music here in Edmonton has consistent support and a healthy financial future. "We would encourage others to enjoy wonderful experiences such as Symphony under the Sky complete with picnics in the park, and, at one time, fireworks, as well as a beer tent," said the Heules. "Every year we look forward to an exciting season of many concerts, including the Messiah at Christmas, all with astounding players, conductors and composers."

If you are interested in becoming donors like Mark and Nancy and learning more about long-time donor perks, please reach out to Alexandra Stout at: **780 401 2532** or **astout@winspearcentre.com.**

Ken and Esther Pals's Family Commitment

Ken and Esther Pals were happily married for 44 years. They settled in Edmonton after Ken was appointed President and CEO of the Workers' Compensation Board of Alberta.

They were both long-time attendees of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra (ESO) and strong supporters of the arts. "For many years, our parents attended symphony concerts," said their daughter, Katherine Ryan. "Our parents were avid classical music fans and knew the importance of the arts to the community."

Ken passed away in 1998, and Esther in 2024.

Their children, Katherine and David, donated a substantial gift from their parents' estate in memory of them. "We were so happy to donate to the Winspear and Edmonton Symphony Orchestra in our parents' memory. We knew it would be in alignment with their wishes and interests."

The Pals's gift has a profound impact on the Winspear and ESO by supporting both day-to-day programming and the Winspear Expansion. In honour of the Pals's generous and forward-thinking support, Ken and Esther's names will be included in the Winspear Expansion.

To leave a legacy like Ken and Esther, and learn more about estate gifts, please contact Alexandra Stout at **astout@winspearcentre.com** or **780 401 2532.**

Uplifting the Community: Drs. Megan and Georg Schmölzer's Sustained Giving

Drs. Megan and Georg Schmölzer are passionate supporters of youth and music in Edmonton. As monthly donors to the Youth Orchestra of Northern Alberta (YONA), they make sure children have access to free, holistic music education every day after school.

Their connection to music runs deep. Georg grew up in Austria, spending much of his youth in Graz and Vienna, cities deeply connected with classical music. Vienna in particular played a formative role in his appreciation of music. Megan grew up in Melbourne, Australia, a city with a rich cultural and educational environment, which shaped her deep appreciation for the arts and for the role of education in empowering young people.

Megan and Georg came to Edmonton to pursue research that improves the lives of premature babies. Megan, a scientist, and Georg, a neonatologist and clinician-scientist, loved the opportunity to advance neonatal care and to make a real difference in families' lives. Their dedication to helping others extends beyond their professional work and into their support for youth and the arts.

They were first introduced to YONA at a dinner hosted by one of Georg's colleagues. That evening sparked their interest in the program. "We were deeply moved by the passion and dedication behind the program," they recall. What followed was a commitment to support YONA's mission — not just once, but every month.

Becoming monthly donors reflects a thoughtful approach to giving. "We believe in providing consistent support that helps YONA plan ahead and continue its important mission," they explain. "By contributing regularly, we know we are part of building a sustainable foundation for the program and the children it serves."

The Schmölzer's monthly support means that every student in YONA can find their home in supportive ensemble music making. For Megan and Georg, the impact is obvious: "What inspires us most about YONA is how it uses the power of music to transform children's lives. It fosters not only musical skill but also confidence, resilience and community."

To learn more about YONA and donating monthly, please contact Alexandra Stout at **astout@winspearcentre.com** or **780 401 2532.**

"By contributing regularly, we know we are part of building a sustainable foundation for the program and the children it serves."

Leaving a Legacy: Larry Anderson's Powerful Philanthropy

Larry Anderson didn't just live in Edmonton, he helped shape it. A visionary entrepreneur turned philanthropist, Larry dedicated his life to lifting others up and ensuring young people had every opportunity to thrive. From building homes for Alberta families to nurturing the next generation of citizens, his impact on the city's landscape and heart will be felt for decades.

Larry found his passion in business, rising from a copier salesman to launching Growth Marketing in 1974 and co-founding Lincolnberg Homes in 1978. By 1985, he and his partners formed the ManCap Group, which would go on to build over 8,000 homes for Alberta families. He was also an involved speaker becoming a Distinguished Toastmaster. Larry's business career was defined by hard work and an entrepreneurial spirit.

One of Larry's greatest interests was music and he firmly believed in its power to change lives. In 2013, he became a founder of the Youth Orchestra of Northern Alberta (YONA), a free program that gives kids structure, joy and a sense of belonging. YONA goes much further than fostering musicians, it builds young people into wonderful neighbours and community members. Thanks in no small part to Larry and his wife Janet's support, YONA has flourished: in 2025 it engaged nearly 300 students from diverse backgrounds with an astounding 91 per cent attendance rate — far above typical after-school programs. Each success story from YONA reflects Larry's vision and his unwavering belief in the potential of young people.

Larry's devotion to music and community went beyond YONA's daily programs. He was also a key champion of the Winspear Centre's Expansion project, recognizing it as an investment in Edmonton's cultural future. Larry worked throughout his life to bring Edmonton together and build a better community.

Edmonton's arts and youth communities today stand as a living tribute to Larry's generosity and vision. His legacy plays on in each young musician's first note at the Winspear Centre and in every act of leadership and kindness those individuals pay forward. He will be remembered for his generosity and as someone who lifted up everyone around him.

Trailblazer: Elexis Schloss Led with Generosity

Elexis Schloss was a visionary philanthropist, artist and community leader whose generosity and creativity transformed lives across Edmonton and beyond. Born in Medicine Hat and raised in Calgary, she studied architecture at McGill and served as Chief of Design at Maclab Enterprises.

Elexis supported over 25 organizations and welcomed thousands of new Canadians as a citizenship judge. Her thoughtfulness and philanthropic spirit, including knitting scarves and distributing gift cards to the unhoused community, guided her life.

At the Winspear Centre, Elexis was a passionate supporter and founder of the Youth Orchestra of Northern Alberta (YONA) which provides free, intensive music education and holistic care to children in central Edmonton and on Alexander First Nation. Students attend five days a week, receiving music instruction, academic support, nutritious snacks and social development programming, all at no cost to the families. Her support helped YONA grow into a transformative force in Edmonton, helping students build musical skill, confidence and community pride. To honour her vision and commitment to helping children reach their potential, the YONA Class of 2025 will be named for Elexis Schloss.

Through MacEwan University, Elexis endowed Indigenous student support.

To honour her efforts for the Indigenous community, she was named an Honourary Elder by the Aboriginal Women's Professional Association in 2008. She was also awarded an honorary degree from MacEwan for her support and leadership.

Elexis founded many projects and organizations. She co-founded Compassion House for breast cancer patients and developed a chocolate truffle served in first-class on Air Canada flights. The Queen Mother even ordered some to bring back home to her daughter, the Queen. On top of all this, Elexis created and designed sweaters worn by Princess Diana and Victoria Principal, star of *Dallas*, among others.

Elexis also contributed to the Art Gallery of Alberta, Edmonton's Jewish community and volunteered in Ghana, Ethiopia (twice), Rwanda (twice), Kenya, and Haiti (twice) after the earthquake in 2010. Her trips inspired her to create a comic book on HIV, which encouraged children to support their mothers getting tested to prevent future birth infections. This comic book was circulated in Africa and India.

Her many honours include the Queen's Jubilee Medal, the Rotary Integrity Award and induction into the Order of Canada. Her legacy of compassion, creativity and community lives on through all her small and large acts of kindness.

To honour her vision and commitment to helping children reach their potential, the YOcNA Class of 2025 will be named for Elexis Schloss.

Gratitude Report

July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

Thank you to everyone who contributes to our work fulfilling the human need to make and share music. This report celebrates the people and organizations who have contributed philanthropic gifts, funded or sponsored our work. This support includes sustained pledges, contributions to an endowment for our benefit and gifts to our capital campaign. Donors who gave between July 1, 2024, and June 30, 2025, are recognized in these pages for their support.

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In memoriam

Joseph Franklin Henderson

A longtime Edmonton resident and esteemed scientist, Joseph made a transformative contribution to the Winspear and Edmonton Symphony Orchestra through a bequest in his will. His support impacts the future success of the Winspear, ensuring that it remains a vibrant cultural cornerstone in Edmonton.

In memoriam, we remember those who made the ESO, YONA and the Winspear Centre part of their legacy by including us in their estates. Their foresight ensures that orchestral performance, transformative music education and a welcoming home for music continue to flourish for generations, and we honour their memory with gratitude.

Contact Alexandra Stout at astout@winspearcentre.com or 780 401 2532 about making music part of your legacy by including the ESO, YONA and/or Winspear in your will.

In memoriam

John and Leni Honsaker

John and Leni shared a lifelong love of music, particularly baroque music. Through an extremely generous legacy gift, the Honsakers have become part of the Winspear's championing of live orchestral music.

John, a physicist and musician, and Leni, a librarian, believed deeply in the power of music to elevate the human spirit. Their bequest supports the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra and makes sure that symphonic music has a home in Edmonton for years to come.

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In memoriam

Beth Howson

Beth was a proud music teacher and supporter of the arts. She thoughtfully included a bequest as part of her will, supporting the Winspear and Edmonton Symphony Orchestra. Her kindness supports musicians who live and work in Edmonton and ensures many more Edmontonians will have the transformative experience of listening to ensemble music.

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In memoriam

Nadine Luchka

Nadine loved classical music and attended many concerts at the Winspear during her life. She had a philanthropic spirit and supported the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra (ESO) while she was living and after she passed. She generously included the ESO in her will and substantially supported the music programming she loved so dearly.

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In memoriam

Irene Langley

Irene Langley was a generous soul and long-time attendee of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, particularly when the Winspear Centre first opened in 1997. Before passing in 2020 at the age of 98, Irene kindly included the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra in her will and contributed to the future of orchestral music in our city.

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In memoriam

Pamela Farmer

During her life, Pamela was an influential and dedicated music teacher. Her connection with the Winspear included singing for the Richard Eaton Singers for many years. Pamela passed in 2021 and is fondly remembered for her support for music and the Winspear Centre in her will.

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Impact & Recognition

Every gift has a tremendous impact on your community.

- Supporting the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra (ESO) means supporting live orchestral music in your community.
- Supporting the Youth Orchestra of Northern Alberta (YONA) means supporting music programming for social change.
- Supporting the Winspear Centre means supporting a transformative music centre for all, offering world-class facilities and music education.

Monthly Donations Perks

Monthly support means that the programs you love can be confidently planned and sustained into the future. As a monthly donor, you'll receive recognition based on your total annual giving, along with special benefits to say "thank you" for your ongoing support.

- Invitations to exclusive events to hear behind the scenes stories from your ESO and Winspear.
- Name recognition displayed on digital lobby signage.
- Special recognition in Annual Reports.

This table helps you envision the difference you make and how we honour your investments in music.

YONA Impact | ESO Impact | Winspear Impact

Gift Amount	Impact	Recognition
$20	Covers a taxi ride home for YONA student after a performance.	Tax receipt and access to E-Notes and YONA newsletters.
$100	Rents a special instrument, like crotales, for an ESO New Music concert.	Name recognition in Annual Reports.
$500	Supports musicians teaching children about orchestral instruments at Musical Mornings.	Invitation to exclusive events to hear behind the scenes stories from your ESO and Winspear.
$1,000	Helps outfit YONA students with indoor shoes at their school site.	Limited Edition Gift provided at the end of the symphony season.
$1,500	Tunes pianos for one month of ESO concerts.	Invitation to Musicalitea and Light Up, and access to the Founder's Room at ESO concerts.
Orchestra Circle Tier • $2,500+ Donations Call Alexandra Stout at 780.401.2532 to learn more about your impact and recognition at the following levels.		
$2,500	Sponsors a student's full semester in YONA.	Orchestra Circle recognition (including a parking pass on evenings and weekends), named on Expansion installation, and an invitation to the Expansion grand opening.
$5,000	Funds the Young Composers Project, a mentorship program for a local high school student who composes an original piece of music for the orchestra to perform.	Name featured on digital lobby signage during concerts.
$10,000	Rents music for an entire ESO series.	A personalized thank-you experience tailored to your interests.
$20,000	Funds one year of daily after-school music instruction for an entire YONA class.	We partner with you on growing our programming and finding a season naming opportunity to honour your investment.

A Sustained Vote: Curtis Strobeck's Enduring Love for Music

Curtis Strobeck was a dedicated academic and champion of symphonic music. Born in Powers Lake, North Dakota, Curtis's journey took him from the plains of Montana, to CalTech, to the University of Chicago, and ultimately to his academic home at the University of Alberta, where he served from 1976 to 2005.

Curtis's research in population genetics, molecular ecology and wildlife forensics was groundbreaking. He pioneered a method for tracking wild bears using DNA extracted from hair samples — a technique that revolutionized wildlife management and led to the founding of Wildlife Genetics International in Nelson, B.C.

Curtis also had a deep and enduring love for music. A devoted supporter of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, he attended performances at the Winspear Centre and contributed monthly to initiatives that helped sustain classical music in the community. He was a welcomed sight at many annual Winspear events, including Light Up the Winspear and Musicalitea.