



# AIMTAC Advisor

Association of  
Independent Music  
Teachers at Alberta  
College

Fall 2016

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## AIMTAC EXECUTIVE

<b>President</b>	Dan Davis
<b>Vice-President</b>	Carol Mellors
<b>Secretary</b>	Emily Grieve
<b>Treasurer</b>	Keri-Lynn Zwicker
<b>Advisor Editor</b>	Robert Klakowich
<b>Directors-at-large</b>	Nominations invited

## From the President



Hello, all! My name is Dan Davis, President of the Association of Independent Music Teachers at Alberta College. If we haven't met as yet, please do say hello and introduce yourself.

Welcome back to the Conservatory for another wonderful year of teaching and music making. As your teachers' association, AIMTAC is dedicated to enhancing your experience as teachers at the Conservatory. This year, look for professional development workshops, a social gathering or two, our scholarship benefit concert in the spring, and of course our upcoming Annual General Meeting on October 18. In addition, we will continue to advocate on your behalf for things that will make your teaching life better. If you have any questions or concerns, please bring them to Robert, Emily, Carol, Keri or me. Happy teaching!

Dan

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*AIMTAC Advisor* is published approximately three times a year, and is distributed electronically to faculty and staff of the Conservatory of Music, MacEwan University.

*Please keep us informed of your newsworthy activity, both professional and personal, and feel free to submit short articles of interest to our faculty. Email submissions to the editor.*

Winter issue deadline: JANUARY 10, 2017

## Editor's Corner

The passing of a full spring and summer since our last issue of the *AIMTAC Advisor* (Winter, 2016) compels us to get caught up on activities from the time when the snow last flew.

One such was the AIMTAC Scholarship Benefit Concert held on March 13, which netted the Association some \$750 to add to the scholarship coffers. Thanks to all who attended, and to the wonderful and generous artists who graced the Muttart Hall stage. The human voice in all its purity was manifest in arias from Puccini's *La Boheme* and Dvôřák's *Rusalka*, as well as Richard Strauss' *Lieder*, performed by **Svetlana Sech** and **Elizabeth Grigaitis** respectively. **Frank Ho**, **Julia Dolman** and **Emily Grieve** offered us a Haydn piano trio, while the music of Debussy resonated from the bell of **Russell Whitehead's** trumpet, accompanied by **Alexandra Munn**. AIMTAC scholarship winner **Andrea Young** stepped on stage to perform piano works by Bach, Prokofiev and Bartók.



Andrea Young

The program finale had a Canadian flavour, as the Schola Cantorum Women's Choir under the direction of **Clint Hagel** delighted us with some stirring Canadian folk songs. Thanks also to the Alberta Baroque Ensemble, the Edmonton Recital Society and the ESO for donating door prizes, and to **Carol and Clint Mellors** for organizing a lively after-concert reception.

The summer LP record sale was highly successful, drawing in \$700, shared equally by AIMTAC and the Conservatory.

The School of Continuing Education has established a liaison with the Conservatory in the form of a faculty rep on Council, as well as a Conservatory Committee made up of members of faculty and administration chaired by Dean Heather McCrae. AIMTAC has a presence on both bodies, and continues to act on your behalf. You have a stake! Please plan to attend the upcoming Annual General Meeting to make your views known.

In this issue, you will find news of considerable interest on recent faculty achievement, highlighted by **Beth Levia's** article on WindRose Trio as ambassadors to Harbin, Edmonton's sister city in China.

Robert Klakowich  
[klakowichr@macewan.ca](mailto:klakowichr@macewan.ca)

## Welcome to New Faculty

- Dr. Yoana Kyurkchieva
- Mr. Randy Hale

**Dr. Kyurkchieva** is a concert pianist and teacher, a native of Bulgaria, who has made solo appearances throughout Europe and North America.

**Randy Hale** is a specialist in low brass. He has won awards at local and provincial festivals, and has been active with various bands in Edmonton.

And we bid farewell to Silvia Buttiglione, Leanne Maitland, Jenie Nolan and Sarah Woodman. *À bientôt!*

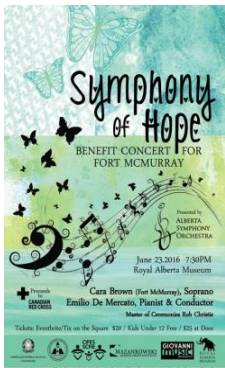
### AIMTAC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Tuesday, October 18**

**10:30 am, PCL Hall**

## From the Water Cooler

### ASO Brings Hope to Fort McMurray



On June 23, the Alberta Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of **Emilio de Mercato**, performed a benefit concert at the Royal Alberta Museum for those affected by the devastating fire in Fort McMurray last spring. It was well attended, with all proceeds going to the Red Cross. Footage of the fire was projected on the screen during the opening piece ("Moonlight" Sonata, first movement), prompting one family whose

house burned to the ground to express their profound appreciation to the orchestra. CTV Alberta Primetime interviewed Emilio about the event, and about ASO's mandate to respond to the needs of Albertans at a time of crisis. Watch the interview on this link: <http://alberta.ctvnews.ca/video?clipId=897123&binId=1.2002989&playlistPageNum=1>.

### Other Faculty News

**Marie Forestier** received an award for excellence in teaching from the Alberta String Association for her support to the cause of string education, and for helping to build the



Marie Forestier

Edmonton string community. The award was presented by the President of the Association, Guillaume Tardif, at a reception at the U of A on April 20th.

Since January, **Cameron Watson** has been working with FAVA filmmaker, Wes Miron, on his latest art film, *UNDERTOW*. Cameron is sharing credits with notable film composer, Alexander Desplat. The film is complete, and has embarked on the North American festival circuit.

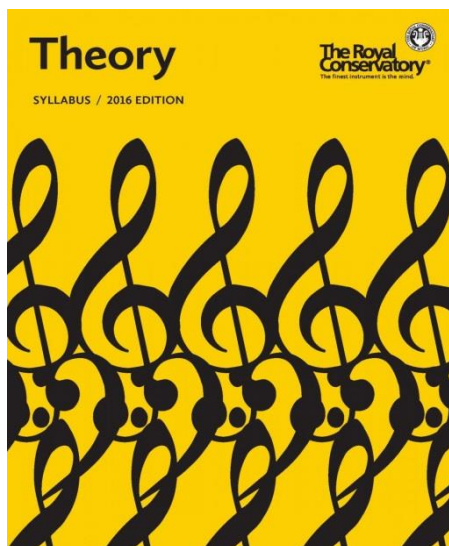
**Maura Sharkey-Pryma** continues her work with AMEF on the planning committee of the October Music Conference in Banff. Learn more at [www.musicconferenceab.ca](http://www.musicconferenceab.ca).

**Dan Davis** and **Julia Hui** tied the knot on July 8. Many blessings!!



# Changes in the Royal Conservatory Theory Curriculum

by Robert Klakowich



It is the customary practice of the Royal Conservatory (as RCM of Toronto now brands itself) to issue new syllabi in each of the music disciplines from time to time “in order to ensure the quality, relevance and effectiveness of our curriculum.” So says Peter C. Simon, President and CEO of the Royal Conservatory, in the preface to the 2016 theory syllabus which is hot off the Frederick Harris press. Thus, once again, we are faced with changes within the theory domain which we must observe as teachers, and this article highlights some of the more exigent ones for the benefit of those students pursuing Royal Conservatory exams.

## New Course Names

The Royal Conservatory has begun to encourage theory instruction from the earliest stages, and has introduced new names for each course in three categories: Elementary, Intermediate and Advanced.

The first two contain what we have hitherto referred to as Rudiments, now called **Levels 1-8 Theory** preceded by a Preparatory Level (numbers corresponding to the practical grades). In the Advanced category are **Level 9 Harmony, Level 9 History** (formerly Basic Harmony and History 1 respectively), **Level 10 Harmony/Counterpoint** and **Level 10 History** (formerly Intermediate Harmony and History 2 respectively), and **ARCT Harmony/Counterpoint** (formerly Advanced Harmony), **ARCT History** (formerly History 3) and **ARCT Analysis**. Keyboard Harmony is still available as an alternative at all three harmony levels.

There are no exam requirements for courses in the Elementary category (Prep. to Level 4), and for those pursuing the ARCT, only the Level 8 Theory exam is a required Intermediate pre-requisite. In the Advanced category, all exams are now required for either the performance or teacher's diploma, **including Level 9 Harmony** (which can no longer be by-passed with credit in Level 10).

The Counterpoint exam will be offered for the last time in December 2016, as counterpoint is now integrated into the entire harmony stream.

## Cross-over Period

Except for Counterpoint, there is a **one-year cross-over period—two-years** for ARCT levels--between the old and new curricula, ending after the August exam sessions of 2017 and 2018 respectively. Exams during this period will have alternate questions of the candidates' choice, based on either the 2009 or 2016 syllabus.

## Significant Content Changes

A few terms to which we have become

accustomed now seem to be out of favour. For example, “semi-tones” become “half-steps,” and cadences generally known as “perfect” and “imperfect” now become “authentic” and “half.”

The Elementary and Intermediate courses now have a history—yes, history component! There will be two or three required works from the standard repertoire at each level, on which questions will be asked pertaining to relevant terminology, background information and guided listening.

The History sequence itself (Levels 9 to ARCT) sees a number of repertoire changes, and less choice of works for study than in the 2009 syllabus. The three volumes of the *Explorations* series will be replaced by those of *Celebrating Theory: History*; the stated available date is December 2016. It is expected that these will prove as useful and essential as *Explorations* was for Royal Conservatory exam preparation, while Conservatory Canada is still adhering to the Machlis text.

Further information can be obtained from the 2016 Theory Syllabus, from [rcmusic.ca](http://rcmusic.ca), or from me at [klakowichr@macewan.ca](mailto:klakowichr@macewan.ca).

Our 30-hour fall/winter class, Complete Music Rudiments (beginning September 27), will incorporate Preparatory to Level 8 curriculum. The Level 8 exam is a pre-requisite for the eventual ARCT theory component, and is the appropriate preparation for entrance into a university degree program. Register at 780-633-3725.

## Mark Your Calendar

Frank Ho, violin  
David Tutt, piano  
Sunday, October 2, 2 pm

### PD WORKSHOP

Stage Department and Collaborative Skills  
with Alexandra Munn

October 25, 1 pm (date to be confirmed)

WATCH THIS SPACE FOR  
MIDDAY MUSIC  
IN MUTTART HALL

Pre-Festival Concert  
Frank Ho, Peter Janciewicz  
Tuesday, November 15, 7:30 pm

FALL FESTIVAL  
November 16-19  
Gala Concert Saturday, November 26, 2 pm



# WindRose Trio Plays 2016 Harbin Music Festival

by **Beth Levia**



On August 5th we landed in Harbin after over 24 hours of travel. We (**Beth Levia**, oboe; Robert Spady, clarinet; Matthew Howatt, bassoon) and our special guest pianist, **Sarah Ho**, were invited by the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs to play in this UNESCO-recognized music festival. The festival organizers were interested in having a musical group from Harbin's sister city perform, and while we were there we learned that we were the first Canadian group ever to play at this, the 33<sup>rd</sup> Harbin Festival.

Two interns, who would be our guides and translators for our entire stay in Harbin, met us at

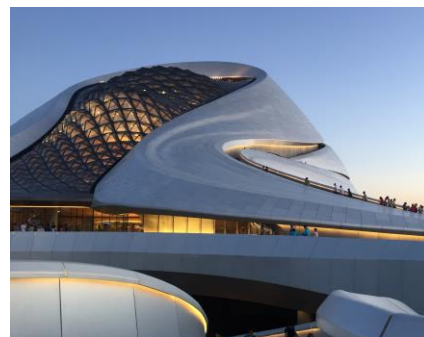
the airport with a "Welcome WindRose" sign to identify themselves to us. They led us to the van and driver, who would be with us for the rest of our stay.

We played a concert the next day in a beautiful venue called the "Old Synagogue." It has a very interesting history of displaced Jewish people taking the Siberian Railroad out of war-torn Europe and settling in Harbin.

The next day we were treated to some excursions to see the Siberian Tiger Rehabilitation Centre, an absolute must-see! The tigers are healthy and well cared for, but most certainly wild.

We visited St. Cecilia's Church. The Russian influence in the architecture is clear. This church, now more of a museum, has been occupied by various military forces over the years. There is evidence of conflict reflected in bullet holes in the walls and blast marks in the paint. Still, it was very beautiful.

The Theatre building in Harbin is spectacular! Designed with very few straight lines, and looking remarkably like a glacier, you can walk up along the outside of the building to an observation point. We went to hear a Russian jazz band at this venue, but later in the festival, there was a Spanish opera company performing *Carmen*, and another from Singapore staging *Turandot*.



Our second concert was at the Concert Hall (pictured), a very modern building designed to look like a crystal of ice. The Harbin Symphony plays in this venue, and Zubin Mehta was in town to conduct them during the festival. We played in the chamber music hall, a 400-seat venue, but with two balconies so that the audience seemed quite close and intimate.

I think we all felt overwhelmed by the beauty around us, and certainly by the royal treatment! If you ever get a chance, don't hesitate. Visit Harbin!



## Fall Programs at the Conservatory

Check out these amazing classes, workshops and ensembles, and encourage your students to learn outside the studio!

Register at 780-633-3725.

### MUSIC IN EARLY CHILDHOOD

Elizabeth Grigaitis, Instructor

Saturdays, September 10 – December 10

Age 3: 9:30 – 10:20 am

Age 4: 10:30 – 11:20 am

Ages 5-6: 11:30 am – 12:20 pm

### SCHOLA CANTORUM

WOMEN'S CHOIR

Clint Hagel, Director

Mondays, 7:15 – 9:15 pm

September 12 – April 10

### SKY'S THE LIMIT MUSICAL THEATRE WORKSHOP

Ages 10-16

Faye Stollery & Ariane Lowrey, Instructors

Wednesdays, 12:30 – 2:30 pm

September 21 – November 30

SHOWCASE PERFORMANCE

Sunday, December 4, 12:30 – 2:30 pm

### COMPLETE MUSIC RUDIMENTS

Robert Klakowich, Instructor

Tuesdays, 5 – 6 pm

September 27 – May 9

### EAR TRAINING FOR TEENS AND ADULTS

Robert Klakowich, Instructor

Tuesdays, 6 – 7 pm

September 27 – November 29

**BEGINNER KEYBOARD**

Ages 7-12

Reinhard Berg, Instructor

Saturdays, 10:30 – 11:30 am

October 15 – January 28

**BEGINNER KEYBOARD  
FOR ADULTS**

Reinhard Berg, Instructor

Fridays, 5:30 – 6:30 pm

October 14 – January 27

**WHAT MAKES MUSIC TICK?**

Reinhard Berg, Instructor

Fridays, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

October 21, November 4, November 18,  
December 2**STRING ORCHESTRA**

Ages 9+

Mathias Silveira, Director

Thursdays, 6 – 8 pm

September 15 – June 1

**TUESDAY NIGHT BIG BAND**

Jeff Bryant, Director

Tuesdays, 7:30 – 9:30 pm

September 20 – May 2

**SAXOPHONE QUARTETS**

Charles Stolte, Director

Teens: Thursdays, 7 – 9 pm

Bi-weekly September 29 – November 24

Adults: Saturdays, 10 – 11 am

September 24 – November 26

Note: adult class at King's University College

**PERCUSSION FOR KIDS**

John McCormick, Director

Saturdays, October 15 – November 26

Ages 3-6: 12 – 1 pm

Ages 6-8: 11 am – 12 pm

Ages 8-12: 2-3 pm

**JAZZ IMPROV CLASSES**

Dan Davis, Instructor

Saturdays, October 15 – December 10

Improv I: 10:15 – 11:30 am

Improv II: 11:30 am – 12:45 pm

**BEGINNER TRUMPET**

Russell Whitehead, Instructor

Inquire at 780-633-3830

**JAZZ COMBO**

Dan Davis, Director

Saturdays, 12:45 – 2 pm

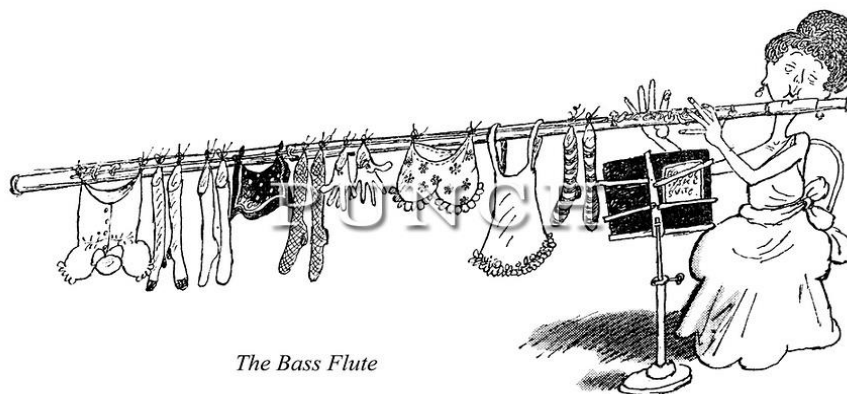
October 15 – December 10

**PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE**

John McCormick, Director

Inquire at 780-633-3801

Every effort has been made to provide accurate information in this newsletter. AIMTAC apologizes for any errors or omissions.



*The Bass Flute*