



# AIMTAC Advisor

Association of  
Independent Music  
Teachers at Alberta  
College

Winter 2018

IN THIS ISSUE

## From the President



Hello, and welcome to 2018!

Last year went by fast! AIMTAC is working hard at your behest, as always. We seem finally to have resolved the issue of the south entrance to the building remaining open in the evening, though it took some months of back-and-forth between AIMTAC, Maureen, the Dean and Security.... October saw a marvelous workshop on body awareness in musicians led by **Dr. Bianca Baciu**, based on her current training as an Andover educator. More PD to come this year! Many of you were able to join us for our wonderful Christmas luncheon at Bistro Praha. And our annual Benefit Concert is shaping up quite nicely-- March 4, 2 pm--spread the word!

Last but not least, **Sandra Munn** has decided to parse her immense music library down to essentials. With the assistance of AIMTAC and the Conservatory office, we are making it available for purchase, with proceeds going to AIMTAC's scholarship fund. This is a can't-miss opportunity, as some of these scores will be absolutely impossible to find elsewhere for less

than a king's ransom. We'll be set up in or near the Conservatory office in April, so do come and find some musical treasures!

As always, I'd like to remind you to bring your concerns, big or small, to anyone on AIMTAC's Executive, and we'll be happy to advocate for you. Robert, Elizabeth G., Gerry, Dan S., Keri, Carol and I would love to hear from each and every one of you.

Have a great winter everyone! See you at the water cooler!

Dan Davis  
[danjdav@gmail.com](mailto:danjdav@gmail.com)

### TAKE NOTE

## Print Music Sale

*Tentatively slated for  
April 9 – 20  
During Kiwanis Festival*

*All items are from the  
collection of Alexandra Munn,  
sold at reduced prices.  
Proceeds will go to the AIMTAC  
Scholarship Fund!*

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**Print Music Sale** Page 1



Distinguished member of the Conservatory faculty is donating print music to benefit AIMTAC scholarship winners. Come early and beat the rush!

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The aforementioned **Sandra Munn** is acknowledged for her long-time support of our cause.

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Encourage your students to take advantage of group learning at its finest!

**STOP PRESS!** Page 4

# AIMTAC Pioneer Honoured at Christmas Luncheon

by Robert Klakowich



Sandra Munn with Conservatory colleagues at AIMTAC Christmas luncheon. At table from left to right, Keri Zwicker, Gerry Haythorne, Carol Mellors, Karen McNaughton, Reinhard Berg, Frank Ho, Lary Benson, Sandra Munn.

Bistro Praha was once again the site for the annual AIMTAC-hosted holiday event this past December 18, as we shared a delicious lunch and some Christmas cheer. It was also a special occasion for us, as we paid tribute to one of Alberta's best known pianists and teachers and, of course, one of our own. **Sandra Munn** was President of AIMTAC when it was a young institution still struggling to gain recognition. Her leadership lent instant credibility in the eyes of Conservatory teachers, helping to make AIMTAC the strong voice of advocacy for music instructors that it is today.

On my first day back teaching in 2018, I found a very touching hand-written letter from Sandra in my mail box, which she asked me to share with you here.

*Dear AIMTAC Colleagues,  
Thank you for honouring me during the annual AIMTAC Christmas lunch. The Bistro Praha was the ideal venue to enjoy your unforgettable choral [sic] tribute!*

*AIMTAC means a great deal to me, and I pray those of our colleagues who believe in its value will continue to encourage "non-believers" to join our ranks. The incomparable value it provides us as artists and teachers must be realized, especially in a society that seems to require constant reminding.*

*The past twenty-six years have provided a memorable sharing of our muse which I do not intend to forget or forego, and I plan to continue as a consultant and teacher/coach, primarily from my home.*

*Seventy years of teaching (and more of performing!) have provided a life enriched with what I believe to be my mission on this planet, and I am ever grateful for our friendship and music making.*

*I have not left the Conservatory. Rather, I have become attached—like an umbilical cord!  
Please keep in touch, and I wish each and every one of you a healthy and rewarding New Year.*

*Gratefully,  
Sandra (Prof. Alexandra M. Munn)*



Dated January 9, 2018

## Mark Your Calendar

### Upcoming in Muttart Hall

**EMERGING ARTISTS RECITAL**  
Saturday, February 17  
7:30 pm

**PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE**  
Sunday, March 11  
2 pm

**PRESIDENT'S GALA CONCERT**  
Sunday, March 25  
2 pm

**AIMTAC SCHOLARSHIP BENEFIT CONCERT**  
Sunday, March 4  
2 pm

**COLLEGIUM CONCERT II**  
Saturday, April 7  
2 pm

# News from Hither and Yon

## ASO and TSO Partner for Canada 150



This past November 17 saw yet another milestone for the Alberta Symphony Orchestra, the brainchild of pianist and Conservatory faculty member **Emilio De Mercato**. Beginning with only a handful of musicians in 2015, a full 55-piece orchestra now took to the Winspear stage for homage to a Canadian icon, Glenn Gould.

The Toronto Symphony Orchestra acquired federal funding for a sesquicentennial Gould tribute as part of the "Canada Mosaic," which involved several orchestras across the country. Emilio was approached a year ago to involve the ASO as part of the project. The November 17 program included Beethoven's "Emperor" Concerto (recorded famously by Gould) played and conducted by Emilio from the keyboard. Also on the program was Dvorak's Symphony no. 9 (subtitled "From the New World") and a new work by Ottawa-based composer Kelly-Marie Murphy commissioned by the TSO for the occasion.

For November media previews of the concert, follow these links:

[Edmonton Journal](#)

[CTV](#)

[Global News](#)

## Young Violinists Return from New York



Our Spring/Summer edition reported that brothers Justin and Jasper Ng (ages 10 and 7), violin students of **Frank Ho**, received not one, but two awards from the American Protégé Competition and were invited to perform in Carnegie Hall last July, with a return visit in December. From Alberta College to the Big Apple! Well done, boys!

## Body Awareness the Focus of PD Workshop

Our October 24 Professional Development workshop saw some nine participants moving slowly about the room, eyes closed, hands on abdomen, with full concentration on breathing and how the feet made contact with the floor.

This was one of a number of body mapping exercises that our colleague **Bianca Baciu** led us through—exercises that she regularly prescribes for her piano students that she says produces "immediate positive results." Bianca described the US-based Andover Education as "not quite in the mainstream" with respect to music teaching in Canada, but that it is has a broad application. With emphasis on the flow of the body, and with the individual's mental well-being as the goal, this somatic method of learning has obvious potential in the performing arts, and indeed is worth exploring by music teachers.

Bianca referred us to the Mindfulness Institute of Edmonton, which runs stress prevention workshops for professionals in various disciplines (music teachers?). Further information on their programs can be found at [www.mindfulnessinstitute.ca](http://www.mindfulnessinstitute.ca).

Watch this space for notices of further AIMTAC PD workshops. We have tentative plans for a valuable and exciting May event—details to follow!

## Muttart Foundation's Platinum Anniversary



The Conservatory and the Foundation will celebrate together in 2018 with a year of special musical events. The Anniversary Concert in June will feature pianist Angela Cheng, who will also give a piano master class, and expect what promises to be a spectacular outdoor concert later in the summer. A free-to-join ESL choir has been newly formed, directed by **Kim Denis**, meeting Tuesday afternoons, and a number of Conservatory outreach programs will take place at various schools this spring and next fall. Other concerts and programs are currently in planning. Watch for announcements.

## Fall Festival Gala

The Gala Concert took place on the afternoon of December 2, with stellar performances by a selection of scholarship winners from the festival. Providing able piano accompaniment was Conservatory instructor **Judy Loewen**. With a variety of vocal, piano, string and woodwind performances, we heard works by Bach, Mozart, Milhaud and Kabalevsky, as well as the lesser-known Mauro Giuliani, Yoshinao Nakada and Vittorio Monti. The concert was capped by a performance of Liszt's *La Campanella* under the sure hands of Louise Lu (piano student of **David Tutt**). Two of **Lary Benson's** voice students (one in costume!) provided novelty to the program with humorous selections by Tom Lehrer, Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt.

And in case you didn't know, AIMTAC supports Fall Festival scholarships in addition to its own competition in the spring. Congratulations go to this year's winners:

Junior Piano – Noah Mok

Senior Piano – Adam Wenzel

Strings – Christopher Wong, violin

Woodwinds – Zofia Stefanicki, oboe

Voice – Garrett Waschuk

Harp – Siobhan McKenzie-Uhuad.

## The 2018 AIMTAC Benefit Concert Preview

Well, of course, we can't really give too much away at this point. You'll have to come and see for yourself on March 4! Last year's well-deserving scholarship winners will certainly grace the Muttart Hall stage, namely pianist Amy Chau (student of **David Tutt**) and Seonidh McKenzie-Uhuad who, we are told, will perform with her older sister Siobhan (both harp students of **Nora Bumanis**). You might look for some vocal pyrotechnics from a vocal trio, an appealing **Ron Long/Emily Grieve** collaboration, and hopefully an as-yet-unnamed woodwind entry. Oh, and by the bye, foresee an appearance of musicians armed with very large stringed instruments!

As usual, we will have door prizes donated by Edmonton Opera, the ESO and Long & McQuade, and a sumptuous reception will follow the concert.

This is admission by donation, ladies and gentlemen, for a very worthy cause. It is well worth your Sunday afternoon, and we can promise that you will be amply entertained!



## AIMTAC EXECUTIVE

President	Dan Davis
Vice-President	Robert Klakowich
Secretary	Elizabeth Grigaitis
Treasurer	Dan Sutherland
Directors-at-large	Geraldine Haythorne Carol Mellors Keri-Lynn Zwicker

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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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, Alberta College campus, 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 comments and submissions to the editor.

Next issue deadline: APRIL 28, 2018

## Winter Programs at the Conservatory

Further details at [macewan.ca/conservatory](http://macewan.ca/conservatory).

### MUSIC IN EARLY CHILDHOOD

Elizabeth Grigaitis, Instructor  
Saturdays, January 13 – April 7  
(no classes February 17, March 31)  
Age 3: 9:30 – 10:20 am  
Age 5-6: 10:30 – 11:20 am  
Age 4: 11:30 am – 12:20 pm  
Tuition: \$195

### WHAT MAKES MUSIC TICK II?

Reinhard Berg, Instructor  
Saturdays, 9 – 10 am  
January 13, 27  
February 10, 24  
Tuition: \$80

### JAZZ IMPROV CLASSES

Dan Davis, Instructor  
Saturdays, 10:00 – 11:15 am  
Improv I: January 20 – March 17  
(no class February 17)  
Improv II: March 24 – May 26  
(no class April 7, May 19)  
Tuition: \$275 each

### PILATES BREATHING WORKSHOP

Steven Bryson, Facilitator  
Saturday, January 20  
2 – 4 pm  
Tuition: \$30

### WAGNER'S RING: STUDY OF THEMES

Reinhard Berg, Instructor  
Fridays, 7:30 – 8:30 pm  
January 26  
February 9, 23  
March 9  
Tuition: \$80

### EAL/ESL SINGING CHOIR

Kimberley Denis, Director  
Tuesdays, 2 – 3 pm  
January 30 – April 3  
(No rehearsal February 20, March 13)  
Tuition: Free

### EAR TRAINING FOR ROYAL CONSERVATORY CANDIDATES

Robert Klakowich, Instructor  
Saturdays, 11 am – 12 pm  
April 7 – June 2  
(no class May 19)  
Tuition: \$150

### ADULT BEGINNER FOLK HARP CLASS

Keri-Lynn Zwicker, Instructor  
Wednesdays, 7:30 – 8:30 pm  
February 7 – April 4  
Tuition: \$250

### JAZZ COMBO

Dan Davis, Instructor  
Saturdays, April 7 – June 2  
(no classes May 19)  
Beginner: 11:15 am – 12:30 pm  
Intermediate: 2:15 – 3:30 pm  
Tuition: \$225 each

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

## STOP PRESS!



Mila Riley Davis

A future saxophonist has arrived on the planet! **Dan and Julia Davis** announce the birth of their daughter, Mila Riley, on January 13, 2018, at 9:56 am. Mila weighs in at a strapping 7 pounds 8 ounces and growing. Congratulations to the proud parents!