



THE WOMEN'S MUSICAL CLUB OF WINNIPEG

"...where tradition embraces the future."

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2014

Madeline Hildebrand, piano ~ Jessica Strong, soprano

2012 WMC McLellan Competition Winners

Sunday, April 27, 2014 2:00 pm



Madeline has studied most recently with Jane Coop, receiving her Performance Master's at UBC. She won a silver medal at the 36th Eckhardt-Gramatté National Music Competition.



Jessica was recently hailed as a "powerful, charismatic soprano" in her "stand out" performance as Elvira in Calgary Opera's Italian Girl in Algiers. She was also a semi-finalist at the Hans Gabor Belvedere and Metropolitan Opera auditions.

Tickets \$25 at McNally Robinson Booksellers or at the door (cash or cheque only). Students \$5 at the door only.

2014-2015 SEASON

at the Winnipeg Art Gallery

All concerts at 2:00 pm

Sunday, October 19, 2014

Cecilia String Quartet

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Sunday, November 16, 2014

37th Eckhardt-Gramatté

National Music Competition Winner - (voice) TBA

\*\*\*

Sunday, December 28, 2014

WMC Scholarship Winners' Recital

\*\*\*

Sunday, March 29, 2015

Jamie Parker, piano

Subscriptions: Earlybird \$80 until August 15, 2014

Regular \$90 Student \$20

Send cheque or money order to:

WMC, 529 Laidlaw Blvd., Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3P 0L2

Individual tickets: available from McNally Robinson or at the door (cash or cheque only). Student tickets \$5 at the door.

Concert series information will be available in the WMC brochure to be mailed in June, and on the website: www.womensmusicalclubofwpg.ca or by phoning 204 944 9431



"Tea with James"

May 3, 2015 at 2:00 pm

at The Hotel Fort Garry, Provencher Room

James Ehnes, violin

Andrew Armstrong, piano

This is a separate event from our 2014-2015 concert series with limited seating.



## BIOGRAPHIES

**Madeline Hildebrand** is the 2012 winner of the prestigious WMC McLellan competition for live solo performance with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra where her dynamic performance of Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 1 netted the 8K first prize. She has been described as an energetic performer who conquers "challenging repertoire" with flair and brilliant execution (SquamishChiefPress).

Madeline was recently awarded a Master of Music from the University of British Columbia where she studied under the tutelage of distinguished Canadian pianist, Jane Coop. Previous to that she studied with Judy Kehler Siebert and Rei Hotoda, graduating with a degree in Piano Performance from the U of M, where she earned the Millennium Scholarship. A four-time scholarship winner at Manitoba's Provincial Festival piano finals, Madeline has accumulated prizes in the Manitoba Registered Music Teachers' Competition, the Winnipeg Music Festival finals, the WMC, and the Women's Musical Society of Vancouver. She is the recent recipient of a Manitoba Arts Council grant.

In August of 2007 Madeline represented Canada in the classical division at the Eastern European Cultural Arts Festival in Sibiu, Romania. Other highlights have included her post as accompanist with Canada's National Youth Choir, her Southern Manitoba tour with her student-initiated 8-hand piano group, and guest artist performances for the Women's Musical Club of Winnipeg. She has maintained a vibrant studio of piano students over the years.

Madeline has been awarded opportunities to study under scholarship with such prominent artists as Andre Laplante, John Perry, Gilbert Kalish, Christina Dahl, Seymour Lipkin among others, in numerous festivals including Orford, Banff, Icicle Creek Piano Festival (Washington) and Kneisel Hall (Maine).

Past 2012 and 2013 performances include solo concerts for the Agassiz Summer Music Festival, the Steinbach Arts Council (Manitoba) concert series, the Women's Musical Society of Vancouver, the Squamish Performing Arts Association (BC), and a Manitoba and Saskatchewan-wide house concert tour organized through Winnipeg's Homeroutes Association. Madeline is looking forward to venturing into the new world of adjudicating; her first piano festival is in Altona, Manitoba, in April. Upcoming performances include competing in the Semi Finals of the Eckhardt Gramatté National Piano Competition in May, performing Mussorgky's *Pictures at an Exhibition* in March 2014 for the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra's Soundbyte series, and a feature concert for the Women's Musical Club of Winnipeg concert series April 2014.

**Jessica Strong** was recently hailed as a "powerful, charismatic soprano" in her "stand out" performance as Elvira in Calgary Opera's Italian Girl in Algiers. She has been praised by Opera Canada for possessing "a powerful top, seductive vibrato, and assured coloratura."

A recent graduate of Calgary Opera's Young Artist Program, Jessica performed as Elvira in *L'Italiana in Algeri*, Annina in *La Traviata* (Violetta cover), the title role in *Il Segreto di Susanna*, and Ginevra in Handel's *Ariodante*. Other roles include Alice Ford in *Falstaff* and Mimi in *La Boheme* with Calgary Opera (covers); Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni*, Gretel in *Hansel and Gretel*, Frasquita in *Carmen*, Cunegonde in *Candide*, and Clarice in *Il Mondo della Luna* at the University of Toronto; Anne Truelove in *The Rake's Progress* at the Music Academy of the West; Rosalinde in *Die Fledermaus* with Opera NUOVA; and Helena in Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Aspen Music Festival (cover).

In 2013, Jessica sang for soprano Jessye Norman in Zankel Hall at the prestigious Carnegie Hall as part of Marilyn Horne's Song Continues concert series. Jessica has also performed with the St. Lawrence String Quartet, the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, the Aldeburgh Connection, Canzona, and The Musical Offering

Jessica has won prizes from the Sylva Gelber Foundation, the National Music Festival (1st place), the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions (National Semi Finalist and 1st place Northwest Region), the Hans Gabor Belvedere Competition (Semi Finalist), the Marilyn Horne Song Competition (runner up), the Vancouver Opera Guild, the Solti Foundation, the Jacqueline Desmarais Foundation and the WMC McLellan Competition (1st prize). Originally from Winnipeg, Jessica completed a Master of Music from the University of Toronto's Opera Division, and a Bachelor of Music and Post-Baccalaureate Degree from the University of Manitoba.

## SWING INTO SPRING

The fourteenth annual "Swing into Spring" event will be held Thursday, May 29, 2014, from 11:30 am - 2:00 pm at an exceptional home in River Heights.

The funds raised at this luncheon are specifically earmarked for the WMC Scholarship fund. The awards go to young Manitobans pursuing their studies in music.

The 2014 Scholarship winners will be heard at a holiday concert December 28, 2014 at 2:00 pm, at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. The five winners will perform and receive scholarships totalling \$10,000.

**Mark your calendars ~This event is not to be missed!**

For more information call 204 944 9431.

## BIOGRAPHIES

### 2013 WMC SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Winnipeg soprano **Ashley Boychuk** completed a Master of Music degree in performance from the University of Minnesota's School of Music singing the roles of Fioridiligi (*Cosi fan Tutti*), Singing Keeley (*Elmer Gantry*), and covering the role of Adele (*Die Fledermaus*). Ms. Boychuk has participated in the "Young Artists Ecco Program" between the University of Minnesota and the Minnesota Opera as well as Musica Lirica in Novafeltria, Italy. Ms. Boychuk has performed with the Manitoba Opera Chorus and in 2013 received numerous scholarships and awards including the Women's Musical Club, Orville J. Derraugh, and an encouragement award from the North Dakota District Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.

**Natalie Dawe** began playing cello at the age of 7. In 2007, she travelled to Beijing, China with the New Brunswick Youth Orchestra to perform and record a CD that won an East Coast Music Award (Best Classical). Moving to Winnipeg in 2007, Natalie studied with Yuri Hooker, principal cellist with the WSO. In 2011, she toured Sweden and Finland with the University of Manitoba Singers. She was a prize winner in the Genser Competition and a winner of the Desautels Faculty of Music Concerto Competition. In 2013, she graduated with a B. Music degree in cello performance from Desautels Faculty of Music studying with Dr. Minna Rose Chung. Currently, Natalie is a scholarship student completing a M. Music degree in cello performance at the University of Western Ontario's Don Wright Faculty of Music where she is studying with Tom Wiebe.

**Ainsley Wray** is a recent graduate from the University of Manitoba with a degree in vocal performance and a Post Baccalaureate Diploma in vocal performance. As a student at the University of Manitoba, she studied with Lois Watson-Lyons and Tracy Dahl. She is currently enrolled in the Masters of Music vocal performance program at the University of Toronto, and studies with J. Patrick Raftery.

Ainsley was the winner of the NATS Competition in 2011; was the winner of the Doris Mills Trophy in 2012, and was a recent recipient of the Orville J. Derraugh Memorial Scholarship. She looks forward to continuing her vocal studies, and to future performing opportunities.

Tenor **Nelson Bettencourt** is a native of Winnipeg, Manitoba. Since completing his Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance at the University of Manitoba, he is currently pursuing a Master of Fine Arts at The Boston Conservatory in Boston, Massachusetts. Nelson was last seen in Regina, Saskatchewan performing in a production of Rent (Mark Cohen) and prior to that attended Opera NUOVA summer opera program in Edmonton, Alberta. Last year Nelson had the opportunity to play The Boy in The Little Opera Company's production of The Velveteen Rabbit, and this February he will be performing as Monostatos in The Boston Conservatory's production of Die Zauberflöte.

Born in South Korea, **Jinsung Kim** began piano studies at age nine, and moved to Canada at age twelve. Formerly a scholarship student of Dr. Lawrence Jones in the Eckhardt-Grammate Conservatory of Music in Brandon, he is continuing his graduate studies (Master of Music) with Dr. Kyung Kim at Brandon University, where he holds the President's scholarship (full tuition) for outstanding performance and potential, and a full Graduate Assistantship.

A recipient of numerous awards, he most recently was first place winner in the 2013 Women's Musical Club of Winnipeg Scholarship Competition. Jinsung was also winner of the Western Financial Group Insurance Tudor Bowl, and the Kaye and G.R. Rowe scholarship at the Brandon Festival of the Arts, where he was twice named top performer at the BFA's 2012 and 2013 Encore concerts. As first place winner in the Young Artist Series CFMTA Western Tour Competition, he completed a highly successful recital tour of Western Canada in 2012-2013, and made his Carnegie Hall debut as winner of the American Protégé International Competition in December 2013.



L to R: Jinsung Kim- piano, Nelson Bettencourt- tenor, Ainsley Wray- soprano, Natalie Dawe- cello, Ashley Boychuk- soprano

## FROM THE TREASURER. PHYLLIS ILAVSKY

It is that time of year again when we launch our "Annual Campaign". The ongoing generous support of our subscribers and friends has ensured that we remain a viable and vibrant organization.

Crucial to the financial health of our organization are the season membership subscribers who attend our concerts. We thank you for your loyalty. As well, donations to the General Fund are essential to meet the rising costs in presenting the outstanding artists featured in our annual recital series.

We are most appreciative for the ongoing support of our concert sponsors and corporate donors.

Our annual May fundraising luncheon "Swing into Spring" continues to be a great success and provides a strong financial base for the five scholarships we award annually. In 2013 we increased our scholarships to total \$10,000.

On April 4, 2014 we will present the 5th WMC McLellan Competition with The Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra to award three scholarships totalling \$20,000. We would be most grateful for contributions to assist in covering the cost of hiring the orchestra who provide an invaluable opportunity for the winners to perform with them as soloists.

Enclosed in this newsletter you will find an "Annual Campaign" donation card with an addressed envelope. We thank you for your continued interest and generosity.

### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Flutist **Garrett Hudson**, a winner of the 2003 and 2005 WMC scholarships and third place winner in the 2008 WMC McLellan Competition is flutist with quintet WindSync.

*Republished in part from the Winnipeg Free Press print edition November 16, 2013 G1 kevin.prokosh@freepress.mb.ca*

*Garrett Hudson was a fresh-faced, 16-year-old flutist when he made his solo debut with his hometown Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra.*

*For the single-minded St. Vital teenager, it was a major musical milestone that will be surpassed Tuesday when Hudson's Houston-based woodwind quintet WindSync makes its first appearance at Carnegie Hall, six months before the WSO appears at the fabled New York City concert hall.*

*WindSync is a rebel chamber ensemble made up of Hudson, fellow Canadian Erin Tsai on oboe, along with the American trio of bassoonist Tracy Jacobson, clarinetist Jack Marquardt and french horn player Anni Hochhalter. All are between 25 and 28 and staunchly dedicated to pushing the boundaries of wind quintet performance with a youthful, pop-rock sensibility.*

*The five perform exclusively from memory -- not common practice -- making it unnecessary to assume the traditional seated position onstage behind music stands arranged in a semi-circle. That frees them to move around and offer a theatricality through choreography, costumes and masks. For instance, in their version of Ravel's Bolero, which WindSync will perform at Carnegie Hall, they pass each other the drumsticks while continuously tapping out its hypnotic beat on the snare drum.*

*"We are trying, in a way, to build the classical music audience," says the 2011 graduate of Rice University's Shepherd School of Music in Houston. "We don't necessarily feel that just playing traditional quintet repertoire is going to do that. I think it is appealing to see a young, energetic group really exploring classical music. The younger generation needs to see that to feel they can relate."*

*WindSync has been praised for its musical virtuosity, freshness and DIY entrepreneurial spirit that has made the act one to watch. The five members have been gaining notice -- they recently won a Concert Artists Guild Adventuresome Artist Prize.*

*Last year, WindSync won the Concert Artists Guild Victor Elmaleh Competition, earning the date at Carnegie Hall. It should open doors for the quintet seeking rock 'n' roll stardom in classical music.*

**Colleen Skull**, first place WMC scholarship winner 2001, earned a Doctorate of Musical Arts 2013, and is now employed at the Royal Conservatory of Music as Practical Program Manager. She is also Director of the Highlands Opera Community School in Haliburton, Ontario, and continues as a self-employed musician, Opera Singer.

Pianist **Derek Yaple-Schobert**, a former Egré winner, who performed with us in February 2012, will be in Winnipeg in March. He is performing at the Neil Bardal Centre, 3030 Notre Dame Avenue, Winnipeg at 2.00 pm on Sunday, March 16th, presented by the Norwegian Consulate in celebration of the 200th Anniversary of the Norwegian Constitution. Repertoire includes works by Grieg and Harald Saeverud. Derek's tour includes concerts in Carman and Deloraine, as well as Sioux Lookout, ON. Tickets for the Winnipeg concert are \$10 at the door, cash only, and doors open at 1.30 pm.

### THE WMC MCLELLAN COMPETITION FOR SOLO PERFORMANCE WITH THE WINNIPEG SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Women's Musical Club is proud to present the fifth biennial WMC McLellan Competition. Local musicians have adjudicated and ranked all of the coded CD entries, and the 12 semi-finalists chosen for live auditions are:

Maria Cherwick, violin	Caroline Nicolas, cello
Alyssa Delbaere-Sawchuk, viola	Joshua Peters, violin
Bronwen Garand-Sheridan, oboe	Lara Secord-Haid, soprano
Jinsung Kim, piano	Lida Szkwarek, soprano
Sarah Kirsch, soprano	Miles Thomsen, trumpet
Anne-Marie MacIntosh, soprano	Tony Zhou, piano

**Semi-final auditions will be held on Friday, March 14, 2014, from 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. at Muriel Richardson Auditorium, Winnipeg Art Gallery and you are invited!** Please come and hear some of the stars of tomorrow! They will be grateful for your support. Check the WMC website [womensmusicalclubofwpg.ca](http://womensmusicalclubofwpg.ca), or phone 204-944-9431 for audition times of your favourite competitors. At the end of the day the adjudicators, one of whom is flying in from London, UK, will choose the three finalists who will perform with the WSO and share in awards totaling \$20,000 (First place \$10,000; Second place \$6,000; Third place \$4,000). **Admission: \$10 at the door (cash or cheque). No admittance during an audition.**

**The final Competition concert with the WSO will take place on Friday, April 4, 2014 at Jubilee Place Auditorium, MBCI, 180 Riverton Ave.** when the three talented Manitoba musicians will have only one rehearsal with the WSO before performing that evening. At this live performance the winning order of the finalists will be determined by a third set of national and international adjudicators, and the award ceremony will follow. A thrilling finish to an exciting competition! **Tickets: \$20 from McNally Robinson, or at the door. Students \$5 at the door only.**

This competition would not be possible without private and corporate donations, which will be gratefully accepted, and acknowledged in the program for the final Competition Concert with the WSO. If you are able to contribute please make cheques payable to the Women's Musical Club of Winnipeg, and forward to the Competition Convenor: Carol Gamby, Women's Musical Club, 421 Laidlaw Boulevard, Winnipeg, MB R3P 0K8. Charitable tax receipts will be issued for donations over \$10.

This is a Manitoba event, presented by a Manitoba organization, providing financial support for young Manitoba musicians. Please mark your calendars, and plan to be there to help these aspiring young people pursue their dreams and careers in classical music. We look forward to seeing you there .... !

### THANK YOU TO THE COMPETITION SPONSORS!



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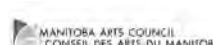


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## FROM THE PRESIDENT. KATHRYN A. YOUNG

Spring will come, but hard to believe, as 4 foot snow banks line the boulevards. When it does, the spring of 2014 will be a very special one, indeed, for the Women's Musical Club of Winnipeg. Musical events will include the auditions and final concert of the biennial WMC McLellan Competition, not to be missed. And there is more - pianist Madeline Hildebrand and soprano Jessica Strong will perform in the final concert of the WMC 2014 Series. Both winners of the 2012 McLellan Competition, they will bring their virtuosity back to the WMC stage. Spring wouldn't be Spring without Swing into Spring - enjoy luncheon with wine and musical entertainment. As tradition dictates, the AGM and lunch will be held in June at the St. Charles Country Club. Please join us in classical music as we celebrate the change of seasons.

### WMC SCHOLARSHIP AUDITIONS

The auditions will be held Saturday, May 10, 2014, from 9:00am-4:30 pm at Eva Clare Hall, Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music, University of Manitoba. Please join us for the day or part of the day and provide an audience for our performers. Parking is available behind the Faculty of Music. Our five winners will perform at the Scholarship concert on December 28, 2014.

**Deadline for application is April 13, 2014.**

*For more information, visit us at:*

**www.womensmusicalclubofwpg.ca 204 944 9431**

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Women's Musical Club of Winnipeg is looking for Board members willing to become actively involved to help us enhance our concert series, the scholarship programs, and to promote young Manitoba musicians.

Both men and women are welcome to join our board or volunteer on a casual basis over the coming season as "Friends of WMC".

For inquiries please call Women's Musical Club voice mail 204-944-9431.

### IN MEMORIAM

**The Honourable Alfred Monnin** passed away November 29, 2013. Mr. Monnin served on the Board of the WMC from 2000-2004 as legal Counsel.

**Gwenda Nemerofsky**, Arts critic for the WFP, died November 26, 2013. The WMC considered her a friend as she did many reviews and previews of our concerts.

### PRIVACY POLICY

The WMC operates in accordance with Federal privacy legislation. We do not sell or trade our mailing lists. Your information will be used to send you newsletters, invitations to special events, concert and financial information, and tax receipts. Please phone (204) 944-9431 if you wish to be removed from our mailing list.

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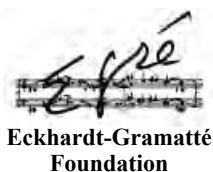
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We are thankful for our corporate donors and their generous support.  
We thank the Winnipeg Art Gallery for use of the Muriel Richardson Auditorium at our Scholarship concert.

Phone (204) 944-9431

Website: [www.womensmusicalclubofwpg.ca](http://www.womensmusicalclubofwpg.ca)

