

2022-2023



Saskatchewan Choral Federation



Sing Saskatchewan!





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04

VISION

Saskatchewan's choral community is vibrant, thriving and inclusive.

MISSION

To foster participation in and development of choral music in Saskatchewan.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Saskatchewan Choral Federation's service offerings meet the needs of diverse communities.
- The public is engaged in choral music.
- Saskatchewan Choral Federation's organizational capacity aligns with its' vision and mission.

VALUES

Inclusivity through adaptability and accessibility for all

- *Choirs at all stages of development from beginning to excellence*
- *Adaptive, able to include other traditions*
- *Make what we're doing accessible*
- *Make what's important and unique to the group part of our experience*

Responsible, proactive leadership

- *Demonstrate leadership in the music community*
- *Leverage what we have to move forward and capitalize on existing resources*

Accountability

- *Responsibility to our membership and funders*
- *Keep our commitments*
- *Provide honest answers to honest questions*

Relevance

- *Anticipating the future and leveraging the opportunities it presents to our advantage*
- *Capitalize (execute) opportunities*
- *Think outside the box*
- *Environmental awareness*
- *Embracing the evolution of choral music while preserving and celebrating it's past*
- *We have a heritage to people who did something before us and we have an obligation to leave a legacy behind us*

OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Board of Directors

Cynthia Peyson Wahl, President
James Hawn, Past-President
Marley Duckett, President-Elect
Erich Chang, Treasurer
Britni Shingoose, Secretary
Chloé Golden
Joshua Hendricksen
Megan Kent
Kelsey Kuz

Staff

Sheryl Neher, Executive Director
Kayla Stadnick, Program Manager
Madison Ouellette, Summer Student 2022
Peyton Snow, Summer Student 2022
Emmy Maghilom, Summer Student 2023

Committees

Audit & Finance Committee Chair
Erich Chang
Executive Committee Chair
Cynthia Peyson Wahl
Fundraising Committee Chair
Megan Kent
Governance Committee Chair
Marley Duckett
Nominations Committee Chair
James Hawn



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am so glad to be able to be with all of you, celebrating the successes of the Saskatchewan Choral Federation through the last year. While we as an organization and a community are still facing the challenges of recovery from the effects the pandemic on our programs, I am happy to once again be in community with other choir nerds today!

I was very pleased to see the full return of some of our flagship programming, like ChorFest and the Saskatchewan Youth Choir. It was gratifying to see Saskatchewan choirs singing in community with each other, and to have the incredible input of educators/clinicians like Dr. Frances Farrell, Dr. Melissa Morgan, Scott Leithead and Geung Kroeker-Lee. There were three full days of choirs, and it was encouraging to see some elementary choirs singing at the festival as well. One area I would love for the SCF to work towards in the future is a partnership with our sister organization, Saskatchewan Music Educators' Association, to support educators at the elementary level provide meaningful vocal education to students. They are the future of singing in Saskatchewan. I think the format we followed again this year, with in person festival experiences combined with individual workshops in choir's home location, was a good way to meet the needs of a variety of choral/vocal programs in the province.

The Saskatchewan Youth Choir gave an outstanding performance with Wascana Voices as a collaborating performer, including members of our own board! Scott Leithead brought exciting and innovative programming and included the voices of Indigenous and Canadian composers. The choir was small but mighty, and I was impressed with how much progress they made over their short rehearsal timeframe. The end result was encouraging and musically satisfying.

Our incredible staff have continued to help us move forward through difficult circumstances. Even though in areas we feel like the pandemic is over, we are still dealing with the repercussions in our school and community choral programs. Sheryl and Kayla have worked really hard to continue to offer programming that is relevant and useful to us as choral educators, music directors and students in this province. We have exciting new programs in the works like the newcomer choir and pop-up choir. You will be able to read more about the Programs that were offered this year in the Program Report.

Our staff and our board also continue to be dedicated to inclusion, diversity, equity and accessibility. This includes work in making our library offerings more representative and moving forward with a new strategic plan for our organization. I look forward to where this new plan will take us as an organization and how that forward thinking will have positive effects on our community.

I was pleased to be able to participate in choral festivals in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario over the last year, and can report that choral music is on the upswing in Canada.

The work we are doing in Saskatchewan is on par with those other choral communities, and we can be very proud of all we've accomplished here.

I also want to express special thanks from me to the rest of the board for all of their diligent work over the last year. I'm excited for the directions we will head as Marley Duckett takes over the president's role. Marley's enthusiasm, intelligence and fresh outlook will be incredibly beneficial for us as an organization. I hope to be a good support for Marley as she takes on the mantle of President. I know the board will be just as helpful and supportive for her as they have been for me. I would also like to thank Kayla and especially Sheryl, as they helped me help them over the last two years. Our administrative team is well-oiled and adept at handling the challenges that present themselves!

And finally, I would like to thank the Sask Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation for the support SCF receives. Without the funding we receive from the Trust Fund we would not be able to bring the programs and services to you that we do.

As always, my fervent hope moving forward is that we can continue to build a strong choral community, a connected choral community, where we have many resources to share, stories to tell, and an ability to share our songs with each other. I am hoping for new and ongoing participation from members from across the province who are involved with choral/group singing in any way.

Wishing you all an incredible season full of learning and aligning our hearts through vocal music.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Peyson Wahl

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

I am delighted to present my report for the past year, outlining the achievements and developments of the Saskatchewan Choral Federation (SCF). As we reflect on the past year, we are proud to share the many great things that have happened with SCF programming following almost two full years of not holding in-person events.

SCF's commitment to engaging and supporting choral communities and continued development of singers across Saskatchewan remained forefront of our activities. Initiatives such as the Saskatchewan Youth Choir, summer music camps, workshops, and the annual choral festival, ChorFest, connected directors, singers, and enthusiasts from various parts of the province over the year. These programs empowered participants, provided valuable insights, fostered a sense of community, and displayed a common purpose of promoting and sharing the love of choral singing within our diverse province.

In response to the unique challenges posed by the global pandemic, SCF had successfully transitioned to the digital realm. Although it was not always easy, we embraced the opportunities with enthusiasm and creativity, however, were more than happy to return to in-person programming though there continued to be obstacles to overcome as part of the recovery process.

Our youth programs were re-ignited, nurturing the next generation as we encouraged youth to sing together in our summer music camps, watched them participate in the Saskatchewan Youth Choir, and sing for and encourage one another at ChorFest. A return to in-person workshops for both directors and choirs was a welcome change from the online platforms. More details on programming follow in the reports.

SCF expanded its community outreach efforts and is working towards collaborating with local organizations and community groups for the upcoming year. Plans were developed during the year, and we are excited to say that some of the programming was piloted in summer 2023 with some beginning in the fall. Through these partnerships, our goal is to promote group singing, provide community and a source of joy and unity. Stay tuned for more announcements on these initiatives as we look for volunteer program assistance in the months to come.

As always, we are dedicated to advocating for the importance of choral music in our education system. This has been fueled through discussion with the Saskatchewan music organizations for a music education advocacy campaign with the Saskatchewan Arts Alliance (SAA) taking the lead on research and making of communication materials. SAA hosted us for a discussion to develop a

plan to ensure that music education overall is important. We must start within the education system to ensure that music is available and there are singers developing at an early age to continue to high school and university and further into community choirs for the future.

Despite the economic challenges posed by the pandemic, we have successfully maintained our financial stability. Due to our new financial realities, we made the difficult decision to downsize from our individual space on Albert Street to a shared location in 1860 and 1870 Lorne Street. Holding SYC rehearsals, hosting workshops and other programming will be different now, but we are looking forward to providing more opportunities for outreach and engagement throughout the province because of this cost saving.

The past couple of years have been a testament to the resilience, dedication, and passion of the many choirs/ensembles/choruses throughout the province. We have seen the majority of SCF members successfully navigate the challenges of the pandemic and emerge committed to the celebration of choral music across the province. We are thankful for the opportunity to play a small part in each of those choirs that have emerged and are going forward. We are sad for those that have not continued for whatever reasons but hope that the singers and directors have found a new choir to join or are enthusiastic participants in audiences to encourage those that continue.

I would be remiss if I did not say a huge thank you to SCF Program Manager, Kayla Stadnick, who has been with us for four years now. Not one of those four years has looked the same and I am truly thankful for her willingness to make "it" happen, whatever that may look like. She has had no choice but to be as adaptable as can be imagined, which has resulted in some wonderful programming and events over the past year. The SCF Board has once again been amazingly supportive as I juggled a number of things both professionally and personally this past year. This fall we will mark the retirement of three of our Board members, Kelsey Kuz, James Hawn and Joshua Hendricksen. Although they will no longer be part of the leadership team, we know they will not be far away if a need arises for assistance in a volunteer capacity. Many thanks to each of them for their work over the past number of years.

We remain deeply appreciative of the substantial funding we receive from the Sask Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture, and Recreation. Our existence relies on this support! Equally essential to our pursuits is the support from SaskCulture, as they furnish us with resources, training, and networking opportunities year-round. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to them for their invaluable contributions!

In conclusion, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our members, volunteers, and supporters for their unwavering commitment to our mission. As we look forward to the future, we are excited about the potential opportunities that lie ahead, and we remain dedicated to continued growth and success of SCF. Thank you for being an integral part of this journey. Together, we will continue to make beautiful music and create a harmonious choral community in Saskatchewan.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheryl Neher

Fundraising

On the recommendation of the Board, a Fundraising Committee was formed with Megan Kent as the Chair. The committee has held one meeting in May 2023 covering some general points and brainstorming ideas on how to move forward with a fundraising plan for SCF.

Other members of the Fundraising Committee are Marley Duckett, Chloé Golden and Executive Director, Sheryl Neher.

Governance

The Governance Committee meets to review Saskatchewan Choral Federation Governing Policies. This year, the Governance committee worked to review and revise policies, paying special attention to any that felt out-of-date. Specifically, any language that was deemed exclusionary or antiquated. For example, several policies that specified gender such as the use of 'his' and 'her' was edited to reflect 'they/them' pronouns. This choice reflects industry standard and best practice as it is more inclusive. In addition to this, policies are routinely debated to determine their relevancy in an evolving world, especially in the years following the COVID-19 pandemic. Policies that withstand rigorous internal debate are deemed relevant and remain in place, if any should not withstand critique, they are edited or removed. The Governance Committee is also responsible for ensuring that Board members interact with governance policies often, so review of certain policies are a regular agenda item for meetings. In addition to this, the Governance Committee spends time researching and reviewing policies implemented by other organizations and compare those policies to those at SCF. This helps the committee to stay relevant and to help inform decisions about policy change. Currently, we are reviewing safety policies from other organizations, such as harassment in the workplace, in an effort to update our own policies.

This year, the Governance Committee dedicated sometime to onboarding new Board members who have joined the committee this year. This meeting involved reviewing policies as they related to our strategic plan – which is due for renewal and educating new committee members on policy revision process and the steps the Board takes to change policy if it is required.

Committee members include Marley Duckett, Chair, Erich Chang, Chloé Golden and Executive Director, Sheryl Neher

Nominations

One of the roles of the Nominations Committee is to solicit nominations to the Board of Directors. Current Board members are encouraged to seek out potential board candidates in their broader circles to assist in bringing together a diverse group with a varied knowledge to assist in the every-changing needs of the organization. As well, they are the selection committee for the SCF Recognition Awards and Scholarships. The committee is composed of the Past President who acts as chair, two board members (not up for re-election) and a member from the community. The committee for this last year was composed of James Hawn (Past President), Josh Hendricksen and Kelsey Kuz (Board Member representatives), Dr. Jennifer Lang as community member, and Cynthia Peyson Wahl (President, ex-officio). Dr. Melissa Morgan, University of Regina Choral Director, was invited to provide input for the University Choral Leadership Awards.

The 2022-2023 award winners were:

Pro Musica Award – Richard Janzen (Rosthern)
Community Service Award -- Audey Falk-Janzen (Rosthern)
Community Service Award – Pamela Cochet (Prince Albert)
Golden Note Award (Singer) – Louella Friesen (Waldheim)
Golden Note Award (Singer) – Pauline Roth (Rosthern)
Outstanding Administer Award (not presented)
Nova Voce Scholarship – Matthew Praksas (Saskatoon)

University Choral Leadership Awards:

University of Saskatchewan Award – Kysten Rioux
Dr. Dominic Gregorio University of Regina Award – Kiera Eastley

Congratulations to these deserving recipients. We all share in these wonderful achievements, whether we have direct connections to these deserving recipients or not. Through the involvement of all those in the choral community, whether it be past recipients, present directors and singers, advocates, and enthusiasts, we look forward to continuing to honour the successes and achievements of the organization and the people involved in it.

At the AGM in October 2022, the SCF Board of Directors welcomed new members Chloé Golden (Regina) and Britni Shingoose (Saskatoon).

Respectfully submitted,
James Hawn, Chair, Nominations Committee

Meet the 2022-2023 Awards Recipients

The **Community Service Award** recognizes the contribution of an individual or group to the cultural life of Saskatchewan through involvement in the development of choral music in their community.



Audrey Falk Janzen has been a collaborative pianist/accompanist for many choirs, groups, and individuals for over 30 years. She has also sung in many notable choirs over the years as well including the Mennonite Festival Chorus, CMU Oratorio Choir, CMU Singers, U of M Singers, and U of S Greystone Singers. To her credit she has choral compositions that were commissioned by Canadian Mennonite University and the Saskatchewan Choral Federation. Her involvement in music includes Assistant Music Director for RJC High School Musicals, sessional instructor at the U of S, facilitator for Piano Teacher Courses for the Royal Conservatory of Music. She has also been active as a clinician and festival adjudicator.



Pamela Cochet began her journey with music, choral and children when she started teaching in 1984. Throughout her career she has been involved in many school children and youth choirs, directed school musicals, and began an elementary “Orff” music program. As well she taught private voice and piano lessons. Wherever teaching took her, her work with youth and music continued. Students learned the various genres of music, worked on harmony and choreography to share in performances around the communities she was in. Over the past years Pam has been involved in Magic City Chorus, a female barbershop group based in Saskatoon. Since 2014 she has played an integral role in the summer music camps under the partnership of Sask Music Educators Association, Sask Band Association, Sask Choral Federation, and Sask Orchestral Association. As a retired teacher, Pam continues to spread the love and joy of singing and music to children all over the Sask Rivers School Division when she does short term contracts or is a substitute teacher.

The **Golden Note Award** recognizes the contribution of individuals to the cultural life of Saskatchewan by their long-time (25+ years) active participation in the choral arts. There are two award categories: Singer or Choral Conductor.



Pauline Roth has been singing her entire life, both as a soloist and as a chorus member. She has resided in Rosthern for many years and left her mark on the choral/vocal community there and throughout Saskatchewan. She has been a member of numerous groups including: Kammersenger, Winnipeg Mennonite Festival Choir, Faith and Life Recording Choir, Saskatoon Chamber Singers, and the Station Arts Singers (formerly the Saskatchewan Valley Singers) as well as singing in her church choir. She has opportunities to be soloist for a number of performances with choirs such as the Regina Philharmonic Chorus, Swift Current Oratorio Choir, and the Saskatoon Chamber Singers. Her love for choral music well-known to all those who know here or have worked with here.



Louella Friesen began singing at an early age in district music festivals as well as in her local church and school choirs. She attended MCI, a private Mennonite high school in Manitoba for Gr 10-12 where there was a vast opportunity for choral singing. Music education quickly became her first love! In 1984 she began conducting her local church choir in Waldheim which extended to community choirs and children's choirs in the next few decades. She also joined the local community choir most recently known as the Station Singers. In the late 90's she also joined the Saskatoon Chamber Singers for a few years, took a break and joined them again where she continues to enjoy singing a vast variety of quality choral music and a high standard of choral singing!

Music, choral and solo singing, and voice teaching have been Louella's career and more importantly, one of her life's pleasures!

The Pro Musica Award is presented annually in recognition of exemplary service to choral music in Saskatchewan.



Richard Janzen has been conducting church choirs and ensembles for 40 years along with 30 years teaching at RJC High School where he held the position of Music and Performing Arts before his retirement. He has had the opportunity to sing with many choirs and ensembles including the Mennonite Festival Chorus, CMU Singers, U of M Manitoba Singers where he was Assistant Director for one year, and is a founding member of the Winnipeg Baroque Ensemble now known as Canzona. During his time at RJC he directed over one thousand students in choirs and produced over thirty full length musicals. While at RJC, the choirs were recognized for excellence in both provincial and national music festival competitions in choirs and produced over 30 full length musicals. While at RJC, the choirs were recognized for excellence in both provincial and national music festival competitions.

The **Nova Voce Scholarship** recognizes an individual (under the age of 30) in the early stages of choral conducting development who has the potential to make a significant contribution to choral music throughout the life of their career.



Matthew Praksas' love for making music started with watching his mom and grandma. Music was and to be a way of sharing love. Throughout his school career he has many teachers who have spurred this love for music, inspiring him to play the piano, playing multiple instruments throughout elementary and high school, only to discover his singing voice when he joined choir in Grade 10. to be a way of sharing love. Throughout his school career he has many teachers who have spurred this love for music, inspiring him to play the piano, playing multiple instruments throughout elementary and high school, only to discover his singing voice when he joined choir in Grade 10. These teachers grew into important role models that continue to be a source of support and knowledge as he enters the professional music community. He is active as a singer in the chorus for the Saskatoon Opera, is a member of the Saskatoon Chamber Singers and Aurora Voce, while not working in his job as Outreach Coordinator, Librarian and Production Assistant for the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra.

Dr. Dominic Gregorio University of Regina Choral Leadership Award and The University of Saskatchewan Choral Leadership Award

The Choral Leadership Awards recognize an undergraduate student at each university who has made or has the potential to make a significant contribution to the choral community of the university.

Dr. Dominic Gregorio University of Regina Choral Leadership Award



Kiera Eastley has recently completed her Bachelor of Education degree with a major in secondary math and minoring in choral music education. She has been privileged to learn from and sing with many fine choral ensembles. Kiera is looking forward to sharing these rich experiences through her future teaching and singing. She aspires to foster opportunities for others to create positive relationships and happy memories through organized singing and in doing so, discover a love for music just as she has.

Kiera is honoured and grateful to be selected for the Dr. Dominic Gregorio University of Regina Choral Leadership Award.

University of Saskatchewan Choral Leadership Award



Born and raised in Saskatoon, Kylan Rioux is a music education student and voice major at the University of Saskatchewan. With over eight years of choral experience, she has been a member of the Greystone Singers for four years. This past year, she has been an Alto section leader and served as Vice President of the choir's executive committee. Kylan is incredibly grateful to receive this award and thanks the Saskatchewan Choral Federation for making it possible.

Programs and Services



2022 Summer Camps

Regina Summer Music Camp

- Held July 5th to 8th, 2022 at the Regina North East Community Facility in partnership with the Regina North East Community Association
- 28 campers ages 7 to 13
- School community represented: St. Michael Community School, George Lee Elementary School, École St. Mary, McDermid Community School, École Wascana Plains Elementary School, St. Gregory School, and Imperial Community School
- Camp leadership team: Camp Coordinator - Maddie Ouellette; Instructors - Peyton Snow (singing), Allison Getz (ukulele), Hannah Wildman (drumming); Group leaders - Alissa Sadler, Adria Snow and Kami Miller
- Repertoire performed at showcase concert: singing - Siyahamba (We are Marching in the Zulu language of South Africa), Kye Kye Kule (call and response from Ghana), The Water is Wide; ukulele - Can't Stop the Feeling and Riptide; percussion - body percussion and drumming accompaniment for ukulele and singing songs.

Summer Music Camp



Mini-Music Camp



Regina Mini-Music Camp

- Held July 14th, from 1:00 - 3:30 pm at the Glencairn Recreation Centre in partnership with the Dewdney East Community Association
- free mini-camp pilot
- Seven youth ages 6 to 12 in attendance
- Activities - singing, making musical crafts, playing musical games, learning to listen to music
- Camp leadership - Maddie Ouellette

MUSIC EXPERIENCE CAMPS

Prince Albert Music Experience Camp

- Held July 25th to 28th, 2022 at W.J. Berezowsky School, Prince Albert
- 51 campers Grades 4 to 8 (64 registered overall)
- Program originally designed in conjunction with the Dream Broker's program to provide an opportunity for youth Grades 4 to 8 experience different types of musical instruments and encourage them to work with their Dream Brokers to continue music lessons well beyond the four days of camp
- Camp leadership team: Camp Coordinator - Pamela Cochet, Instructors, Group Leaders and MANY volunteers from within Prince Albert community
- Music Extravaganza concert with over 125 in attendance
- Joint partnership with the Saskatchewan Music Educators Association, Saskatchewan Band Association, Saskatchewan Orchestral Association, and Saskatchewan Choral Federation

North Battleford Music Experience Camp

- Held as an 8 week after-school program fall 2022
- Program originally designed in conjunction with the Dream Broker's program to provide an opportunity for youth Grades 4 to 8 experience different types of musical instruments and encourage them to work with their Dream Brokers to continue music lessons well beyond the four days of camp - due to COVID camp was adapted to better fit the availability of facilities and instructors within the community
- Camp leadership team: Camp Coordinator - Gene Aulinger, Instructors, Group Leaders and volunteers from North Battleford music community to better connect participants with local instructors and existing community based programs
- Joint partnership with the Saskatchewan Music Educators Association, Saskatchewan Band Association, Saskatchewan Orchestral Association, and Saskatchewan Choral Federation



CHORFEST SASKATCHEWAN

As has been the format in pre-Covid years, the festival is divided into performance and workshop “pods” that each consisted of up to three choirs, held both morning and afternoon each day. Choirs came for their scheduled pod, and following a 15-minute warm-up, performed for up to 10 minutes for the clinicians and other choirs in their pod. Following each performance, choirs received a mini on-stage adjudication from one of the clinicians. Once all the choirs performed and received their on-stage workshop, they then moved to separate areas to work more intensively with another clinician for 45 minutes.

- Held Monday, March 13th to Wednesday, March 15, 2023 at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, Regina
- Clinicians for the 2023 year were: Dr. Frances Farrell, high-school music educator, conductor, and composer in Halifax; Geung Kroeker-Lee, grade 6-12 music educator at St. John’s-Ravenscourt School in Winnipeg; Scott Leithead, founder and Artistic Director of Korora Choirs (formerly Kokopelli Choir Association) and TIME Association in Edmonton
- Dr. Melissa Morgan and Cynthia Peyson Wahl assisted with 2 pods until the arrival of Dr. Farrell
- Number of participants - 608
- Communities represented - 6

Choirs represented

- Campbell Collegiate Grade 9 Choir (Regina)
- Campbell Collegiate Senior Choir (Regina)
- Central Collegiate Institute Concert Choir (Moose Jaw)
- Cornerstone Christian School Concert Choir (Moose Jaw)
- Ecole St. Marcy Choir (Prince Albert)
- LCBI Chamber Choir (Outlook)
- Luther College High School Girls Choir (Regina)
- Luther College High School Senior Choir (Regina)
- RJC High School Singers (Rosthern)
- Regina Christian School Elementary Choir (Regina)
- Riffel High School Concert Choir (Regina)
- Sheldon-Williams Collegiate Junior Choir (Regina)
- Sheldon-Williams Collegiate Senior Choir (Regina)
- Swift Current Comprehensive High School Meistersingers (Swift Current)
- Winston Knoll Junior Choir (Regina)
- Winston Knoll Senior Choir (Regina)

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SASKATCHEWAN YOUTH CHOIR

The Saskatchewan Youth Choir (SYC) is an exciting opportunity for talented youth ages 16 – 22 to perform in an SATB balanced choir with likeminded singers from across Saskatchewan. The program develops singers ready to participate in premier vocal ensembles across Canada. Singers will be eligible to represent Saskatchewan as part of the National Youth Choir and as part of other, provincially sponsored choral projects.

As part of their training, singers will prepare a varied program of exciting repertoire designed to enthrall audiences of all ages at a final concert.

Guest conductor - Scott Leithead, Artistic Director of TIME Association and Korora (formerly Kokopelli) Choirs, Edmonton

Collaborative pianist - Bill Sgrazzutti, Regina

Rehearsals - evening of January 13th & all day January 14th, evening of March 9th, afternoon of March 10th, morning of March 11th

Workshop & sharing concert - morning of March 10th, with Dr. Martin LeBoldus Catholic High School, Regina

Workshop (online) - morning of March 10th with Sherryl Sewepagaham, Edmonton

Final concert - afternoon of March 11th at Christ Lutheran Church, Regina with special guests, Wascana Voices

Items of note - South African exchange student, Travis Fick, a member of the University of Pretoria Youth Choir in South Africa, worked with the singers, teaching the choir two traditional South African songs

Repertoire

Vindo – Reinis Sējāns; Lead with Love – Melanie DeMore; All Things New – Elaine Hagenberg; Nitohtamok Askîy – Sherryl Sewepagaham; Hall of Snarky Ghosts – Dan Wiebe; Slack Jaw – arr. Jenna Baumgartner; Burden – arr. Edward Randall and Clare Wheeler; I'll Be On My Way – Shawn Kirchner; Zulu Mama – as taught to Òran by Jimmy Mulovhedzi; Emlanjeni/Eyelele – traditional Zulu arrangement with lyrics by Jimmy Mulovhedzi and transcribed by Tova Olson.

Number of singers - 24

Communities represented - Delisle, North Battleford, Outlook, Prince Albert, Regina, Saskatoon, Swift Current, Weyburn, Yorkton

WORKSHOPS

A WEEKEND WITH DR. TRACY WONG - October 14th & 15th, 2022

- Sessions included: Programming in the 21st Century; Voices in Movement; Reading Session
- Participants - 10
- Singers impacted - 447

MYTHBUSTERS: The Choral Edition with Dr. Frances Farrell - March 14th, 2023

- Session - principles rooted in the Alexander Technique
- Participants - 10
- Singers impacted - 591

PRIVATE CHOIR WORKSHOPS (SCHOOL)

- Clinicians - Scott Leithead, Dr. Frances Farrell
- Singers impacted - 194 (Balfour Collegiate Choir, Dr. Martin LeBoldus Catholic High School Junior and Senior Choirs)

PRIVATE CHOIR WORKSHOPS (COMMUNITY)

- Clinicians - Scott Leithead, Geung Kroeker-Lee
- Singers impacted - 103 (PRISM Choir, Wascana Voices, Moose Jaw Community Choir)



MUSIC LIBRARY

The Saskatchewan Choral Federation has a choral music library with 6,344 titles and 226,196 scores as well as a Resource Library with over 10,000 single copies of music.

Borrowers must hold a current membership with the Saskatchewan Choral Federation or through an inter-provincial agreement with the provincial choral organizations across Canada, a membership with the organization in their province. Fees to access music from the library (library improvement fees) assist in the overall purchasing of supplies for labelling the music and storage boxes. In province borrowers do not pay a shipping fee as part of member benefits. Out of province borrowers do pay for shipping and handling as well as the library improvement fee. SCF has access to Canada Post's Online shipping tool for library materials which offers significant shipping discounts and free return shipping labels. SCF members are provided with a shipping return label to send the music back to us at no cost.

We have continued the renewal of the library to offer a rich and diverse collection of music that encompasses works by Indigenous, BIPOC, and Queer composers, in addition to showcasing compositions by talented Canadian female composers. We have also added a number of reference/resource books that may be borrowed as well which include the "Teaching Music Through Performance in Choir" series. New additions to the book resources include "The Oxford Book of Choral Music by Black Composers", "Choral Diversity, A Mosaic of Historical Composers and Compositions" by Dennis Shrock, "The Choral Conductor's Companion, 100 Rehearsal Techniques, Imaginative Ideas, Quotes, and Facts", compiled and edited by Brian J. Winnie.

Statistics for the library from June 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

- Number of unique/different users - 22
- Number of times library accessed - 34
- Number of titles borrowed - 72
- Number of scores borrowed - 2389
- Number of singers impacted - 944

*Please note that the SCF Music Library was closed from March until June with the relocation of the library and office to allow for packing and unpacking of the over 700 boxes of music!

COMMUNICATIONS

July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

WEBSITE

- Unique visits - 2,559
- Page views - 5,227

LIBRARY WEBSITE

- Unique visits - 1,230
- Times accessed - 1,320

NEWSLETTERS AND MASS EMAILS

- Number sent - 2,505

YOUTUBE

- Number of visits - 891
- Minutes of viewing - 1,644

SOCIAL MEDIA

FACEBOOK

- Reach - 20,079
- Reactions - 2,336
(includes reactions/likes/comments/shares/
link clicks)
- Page Likes - 607
- Facebook followers - 753

INSTAGRAM

- Reach - 2,904
- Reactions - 1,425
(includes likes/comments/shares/saves)
- Followers - 760

Our communication efforts, especially our online presence, was strengthened through assistance of communication specialists throughout the year. Tips and tricks were learned for producing communication materials to increase our online social media platforms and engagement in our E-notes distributions. A professional videographer was hired to assist with obtaining quality video materials to use for online promotion and upcoming fundraising materials.



ADVOCACY, ACCESSIBILITY, DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

- Advocacy work with other Saskatchewan music organizations (Saskatchewan Band Association, Saskatchewan Music Educators Association, Saskatchewan Music Festival Association, Saskatchewan Orchestral Association and Saskatchewan Choral Federation) set in motion by Saskatchewan Music Educators' Association to encourage music education in schools and to ensure that music continues on throughout a person's life with Saskatchewan Arts Alliance spearheading research and promotional/communication advocacy materials
- Board and staff are encouraged to participate in training specific to inclusion, diversity, accessibility and inclusion wherever possible
- SCF Executive Director participated in half day of in-person training, June 2023, with Justin Jalea (Adjunct Professor of Human Rights and Philosophy in the Faculty of Liberal Studies at Durham College, and articling student at the international law firm, DLA Piper) thinking about greater justice and accountability for our organizations and those we serve
- Staff participate in various online sessions as available
 - Threads 2023 Conference hosted by Saskatoon Open Door Society

**Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility (IDEA)
is a journey, not a place.**

MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

Saskatchewan Choral Federation is

A proud member of



SCF also holds memberships with Choral Canada, CJTR Community Radio, Cultural Human Resource Council, Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan, Regina Open Door Society, Saskatchewan Arts Alliance, Saskatchewan Council for Archives & Archivists, Saskatchewan Library Association and Saskatoon Open Door Society

We are also part of network of provincial choral organizations including BC Choral Federation, Choir Alberta, Manitoba Choral Association, Choirs Ontario, Alliance chorale du Quebec, Nova Scotia Choral Federation, New Brunswick Choral Federation

Other provincial associations include Saskatchewan Band Association, Saskatchewan Music Educators Association, Saskatchewan Music Festival Association, and Saskatchewan Orchestral Association

Member Funding and Scholarships

The Saskatchewan Choral Federation is pleased to provide funding for member requests upon application during the year. Funding is provided on a first come first service basis as funds are available in the budget. Grant categories are Special Projects, New Choir Development, Choral Festivals and Festival Scholarships. Grants and scholarships disbursed in 2022-2023 totalled \$4,160.00.

Donors and Sponsors

The Saskatchewan Choral Federation expresses its heartfelt appreciation for the generous donations and sponsorships we receive year-round. These contributions play a crucial role in supporting scholarships for singers in the Saskatchewan Youth Choir program and facilitating programs like the free summer camp. Every single donation we receive is deeply appreciated!

Gratitude is extended to the individuals and organizations listed below for their financial support throughout the past year.

James Hawn
Jennifer Lang
Gerald Langner
Marcia McLean
Ryan Medforth
Joan Netter

Cynthia Peyson Wahl
Robert Solem
Diane Taylor-Neale
Stewart Wilkinson
Regina North East Community
Association

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www.facebook.com/saskchoral



www.instagram.com/skchoral



www.youtube.com/SKChoral

The Saskatchewan Choral Federation is thrilled to commemorate its 45th anniversary from July 2023 to June 2024, a milestone marked by four and a half decades of harmonious voices uniting our community. With a deep commitment to the power of music and the joy of choral expression, we look forward to continuing our journey of inspiration and song for and the future that awaits as we continue to sing together throughout Saskatchewan's communities. Thank you for being part of our enduring choral legacy!



Funding **12,000+** sport,
culture and recreation groups!

THANK YOU
TO SASK LOTTERIES FOR THE FUNDING
SUPPORT THEY PROVIDE OUR
ORGANIZATION!

"Music gives a soul to the
universe, wings to the mind,
flight to the imagination and
life to everything."

~ Plato