

ADAM GANDOLFO
BAND



Adam Gandolfo is the former Second Trumpet of the Virginia Symphony Orchestra, a position he held from 2013-2023. A native of Michigan, Adam received his Bachelor's Degree from Central Michigan University, under the tutelage of Dr. Dennis Horton. He also holds a Master's Degree in Music Performance from the Eastman School of Music, where he studied with James Thompson, former principal trumpet of both the Orchestre

Symphonique de Montréal and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. Prior to winning the Second Trumpet position with the Virginia Symphony, Adam was a freelance musician in Western New York and also parts of the Midwest, performing with the Buffalo Philharmonic and the Rochester Philharmonic in New York as well as the Canton Symphony Orchestra in Ohio. After recently relocating to Alberta, Adam currently resides in Castor with his wife Angelina, and he plans to continue his orchestral career here in Canada.

SHERRY STEELE
VOCAL



Sherry Steele, Soprano
Originally from London Ontario, Sherry is a graduate of the University of Western Ontario. She has performed with orchestras and in musical theatre throughout Canada, and toured internationally as a featured singer in Riverdance – The Show. Sherry also performed with the Broadway company of Riverdance, at the Gershwin Theatre for more than a year. Sherry has been teaching piano and voice for more than twenty years, most recently at the Don Wright Faculty of Music at Western University, and currently at the University of Alberta.

ELIZABETH RAYCROFT



SCHOOL, SPEECH & MUSICAL THEATRE

Elizabeth Raycroft, soprano, trained in Edmonton, Houston and in Vienna. She has performed with Edmonton Opera and many local symphony orchestras. She has worked with world renowned conductors and directors. For three years, she performed the role of Mother with “edmonton coOPERative’ during their Christmas performances of Amahl and the Night Visitors. In 2014, Ms. Raycroft performed in the Edmonton Fringe megahit “Propylene Glycol, Maltodextrin, Retinol Palmitate and Other Words I don’t Understand Like Love”, which also toured throughout Alberta in June and July 2015. In 2019

performed the role of Signora Naccarelli in Walterdale Theatre’s “The Light in the Piazza” and this past summer, Ms. Raycroft performed the role of Abbess in Puccini’s Suor Angelica, a Fringe production by Pop Goes the Opera. She is an avid performer of new music and recently performed the World Premiere of “Four Songs, Op.15” by Joseph Lai. She regularly shares her experience and knowledge in masterclasses, workshops and through adjudicating festivals throughout Western Canada. Her students consistently excel at local, provincial and national festivals. Many of her students have performed with the Edmonton Youth Orchestra, have performed in local, provincial and national musical theatre productions, with the Edmonton Opera, and in international opera houses. She maintains an active and full studio at MacEwan’s Alberta College Conservatory of Music and is also on the faculty of The King’s University College where she teaches voice, diction and vocal pedagogy.

JAMIE SYER
PIANO



<https://www.patreon.com/JamieSyer>
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Though he finds it hard to believe, JAMIE SYER is marking more than 50 years as a professional pianist, having debuted at Calgary's Pleiades Theatre in 1971. Dr. Syer completed his graduate degrees at the Yale University School of Music as a student of Claude Frank and Ward Davenny. Earlier, he studied piano in Calgary with Linhart Walker, and harpsichord with John Searchfield. He has taught at universities and colleges in Alberta, Saskatchewan, British Columbia and New Brunswick. Recently, Jamie has launched a new website jamiesyer.ca where he shares what he knows — and what he's still learning — about teaching and playing piano.

Jamie Syer was Dean of the Victoria Conservatory of Music until 2012. He also served as Head of the Conservatory's Keyboard Department, and taught at the School of Music, University of Victoria. As a lecturer for UVic's Faculty of Continuing Education, he led two arts related travel tours to France. Jamie is the founder of the Victoria Conservatory's Young Artists Collegium program, which continues to offer an enriched curriculum for talented young singers, pianists and other instrumentalists. He has performed many times in Europe: in Scotland, Ireland, Hungary, France, and England; as well as closer to home in recital venues across Canada. In 2019, he was a featured concerto soloist with the Sidney Classical Orchestra.

Dr. Syer is known for his imaginative recital programming, and his artistic, energetic playing. He is a popular adjudicator and workshop clinician, who enjoys working with teachers' groups and with students of all ages. In 2020, Jamie was Musical Director for a production of Matilda. He recently composed an original musical, Camp Spartan, which premiered in February 2023. Beyond music Jamie was Manager of his local public library for six years, and he enjoys the craft of letterpress printing.