



Ross McIntyre

BAND

Ross McIntyre has been a conductor/educator within the Westwinds Music Society adult band organization in Calgary since 1992. He retired from The Calgary Board of Education in 2019 after thirty years of teaching both junior and senior high school music and is currently teaching for Mount Royal University, (Custom Music Workshops) as teacher mentor, guest conductor and trumpet clinician. Ross continues to be active throughout western Canada adjudicating music festivals.

In 1993, Ross received the "Excellence in Teaching Award" from the Alberta government and in 2001 received the "Tommy Banks Award" for his contribution to Jazz education. Ross was honoured in 2006 as one of the University of Calgary's "Top Forty Alumni". In 2013, Ross was awarded by the Canadian Government with the Prime Minister's Award for teaching excellence.

Along with friend and co-producer, Samantha Whelan Kotkas, Ross received funding from the Canadian Space Agency to create and produce "From Blue To Red" - a hard cover children's book and interactive online e-book. The book was written and illustrated by Lord Beaverbrook High School students whom were inspired by several professional mentors from across Canada. "From Blue To Red" features the narration of Jazz legend, Diana Krall and three Canadian astronauts: Dr. Robert Thirsk, Julie Payette and David Saint- Jacques. The e-book continues to live online in both English and French at: www.frombluetored.net or www.dubleuaurouge.net. "From Blue to Red" was chosen as the recipient of the 2013 Award for "Best Children's and Young Adult Book of the Year" among Alberta Publishers



Alexandra Brigley

SCHOOL CHORUS & SPEECH

Alexandra (Ally) Brigley, soprano, is an active professional performer and private music teacher. Originally from small-town Coronation, Alberta, Ally is a dedicated and passionate musician. She received a Graduate Performance Diploma in Opera from the Boston Conservatory in May of 2024. During her time in Boston, Ally studied under the tutelage of Soprano, Sara Goldstien-Gall and world renowned opera director, David Gately. In April 2022 she completed her Masters in Music studying vocal performance at the University of Alberta with Canadian tenor, John Tessier.

Ally's most recent credits are as the Soprano Soloist in Vivaldi's Gloria with the University of Alberta in December of 2025, and she will be debuting the role of Noémie in Cendrillon, Massenet's operatic telling of Cinderella in June 2026. Ally has experience performing in several operatic including; Soprano Lead in Matthew Peterson's contemporary opera, Voir Dire (Boston Conservatory Opera, 2024), Soprano Pig in Michael Ching's Three Little Pigs Remix (Boston Children's Museum, 2023/2024), Oasis in L'etoile (Boston Conservatory Opera, 2023), Barbarina in Le nozze di Figaro (Boston Conservatory Opera, 2023), and Mab in Jonathan Dove's The Enchanted Pig (University of Alberta, 2022).



Marlis Gunderson

PIANO

Marlis loves music. She started playing piano by ear when she was 4, took lessons and finished her RCM Grade 10 while in high school. After graduating she became an ICU nurse. Missing her music, she completed her ARCT with Jaquie Ryan and has been teaching piano since. She continues to do private duty nursing.

Marlis enjoys learning new music by being involved in the Roubakine Piano Club, where she attends master classes twice a year. She has toured Switzerland three times with the Edmonton Swiss Men Choir, as their accompanist. She adjudicates across Alberta and is organist and accompanist for several choirs, vocal groups and violin students.

She resides in St. Albert with her husband, close to her 2 grown children and 6 young granddaughters.

Marlis is very excited to be invited back to the Stettler Music Festival.



Kimberley Denis

VOCAL & MUSICAL THEATRE

Kimberley Denis is known for her energy and enthusiasm both on stage and off and is sought after as a soloist, conductor, adjudicator and choir clinician.

Upon completion of both a Bachelor of Commerce and a Bachelor of Music at Mount Allison University in New Brunswick, she returned to Alberta to pursue a double Masters degree in choral conducting and vocal performance at the University of Alberta. She has won many accolades for her work as a soloist and conductor, and was recently awarded a Con Spirito Award from Choir Alberta for her work supporting choral music in Alberta and the Alberta Band Association Award of Distinction for her contributions to supporting music education in the province.

She is a singer with Edmonton's professional choir, Pro Coro Canada and has a flourishing voice studio at her own music school – the Purple Door Music Academy. She is also a music and theatre instructor at The King's University in Edmonton and presently directs Fire Choirs (a choir for singers between the ages 9 and 16 based on equity and accessibility principles) and the River City Chorus (a non-auditioned adult community ensemble). In addition to her work as a singer, teacher, conductor, and adjudicator, she arranges pieces for choirs.