

## Welcome Back To School!

Although things look different again this year, we are thrilled that another school year has started! Welcome back to a brand new year of learning and discovering your passion while being a part of a community that brings people together.

To those who have registered already, thank you so much! If you haven't registered yet, please see or phone the office. We are open Monday-Thursday, 8:30am—5:00pm, closed for lunch from 1:00-1:30. The office is closed on Fridays.

We are pleased to offer payment options again this year, including monthly payment options:

**Option 1:** Pay invoice in two installments

**Option 2:** Pay invoice in four installments

**Option 3:** Pay invoice in monthly installments

For options 2 or 3, we will need postdated cheques or a credit card number that I can pull from. Please let the office know which option would work the best for you.

The best part of being at the Music School on a regular basis is seeing the progress students make every week. During the fall season when the windows are open, the sounds of music and learning flow out of the school and wrap around you like a warm sweater. We want to thank you, for sharing your time with us and being a part of our music community.



For all of the latest Music School information, follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

Are you wondering what to do with all of your Nature's Fare receipts you've collected over the summer? Bring them by the Music School! As part of the 3% Club, 3% of the total money calculated on the receipts comes back to the Music School, and in turn goes into our programs. It's a win-win situation, thank-you so much to everyone who has brought their receipts in!

To date, we have raised \$3,529.00 to go towards programs throughout the school.

Wahoo!

**BC Arts Council: - Masterclass Series 2021-2022**  
**Project Assistance: Professional Arts Training**

We are so excited to pass on this truly great grant opportunity we have been given through the BC Arts Council. Plans are in the works for a Masterclass Series because we want to be able to offer the opportunity for our students to meet and connect with a professional in their discipline of choice, to help build confidence and feel empowered. This rationale falls in line with the Music School vision about guiding and developing future community leaders. We know that students learn in an environment that is fun, supportive and inviting. We also know that when we foster positive self-esteem and self-confidence through work and creativity, children exhibit this behaviour and portray it in their academic studies as well through to their adult years. The Masterclass Series is a tool we will use, in conjunction with the other programs and methods of study we use, to build this environment. All of these sessions will fall within the 2021/2022 school year.

**Session 1- Rachel Kristenson, violinist and Okanagan Symphony Orchestra concertmaster**

Date: May 15th

Rachel Kristenson will be supporting our young string students between the ages of 6 to 13 between RCM grades 1- 6. Working with a professional artist at a young age can revolutionize a family's approach to music making, practice and mastery. Rachel will provide practical advice to parents on cultivating positive practice habits and ways to encourage a budding musician/performer. Rachel will also advise students on the importance of being set up for success with correct posture including right hand and left hand positioning.

**Session 2 – Aljosa Jurinic, professional concert pianist from Croatia**

Date: February 23rd (TBD)

We are collaborating with the North Okanagan Community Concert Association (NOCCA) to bring concert pianist Aljosa Jurinic to our community. Aljosa will be supporting our more advanced piano students by focusing on compositional and theoretical aspects, as well as the historical context of his pieces. He will also delve into the world of performance and how to prepare oneself for the public stage.

**Session 3 – Dr. Suzanne Snizek, professor of flute at UVic**

Date: April 30th

Dr. Suzanne Snizek, award winning flutist, will be presenting in a Masterclass as an authority on music that was written during the Holocaust, specifically music created by refugees who were placed in British internment camps during the Second World War. This is a small area related to the larger issue of Suppressed Music. As part of this Masterclass, she will be discussing how The

Third Reich suppressed music in many ways, by banning publication and performance of works by Jewish composers. In addition to this history, Dr. Snizek will be performing some of these works and introducing different interpretations for the students in the class.

#### **Session 4 – Dr. Calvin Dyck, Director of the Abbotsford Youth Orchestra**

Date: November 13th

Dr. Calvin Dyck will be working with our more advanced string students age 14 and above playing Royal Conservatory grade 7 or higher. Many of these students at this level are contemplating studying professionally so this workshop would encourage and inspire future soloists or musicians in orchestras, or bands. Students will hear about and engage with a variety of advanced bowing techniques including collé, spiccato, flying staccato, sautillé, and ricochet. Calvin may also talk about the importance of phrasing with the use of vibrato, dynamics and tone.

#### **Session 5 – Dr. Demian Kogutek, Accredited Music Therapist (MT)**

Date: May 13th

Dr. Demian Kogutek will be focusing on Music Therapy and the benefits of it relating to improved motor skills and neurological functioning for developmentally disabled students as well as for those students who want to start a career in the Musical Therapy field. Dr. Kogutek is an accredited Musical Therapist and Supervisor experienced with a variety of populations. He is an accomplished classical guitarist, and extensively trained in percussion, voice, piano, bass guitar, theory and recording. His research and teaching area of interest is motor improvement in neurological rehabilitation through client's active use of musical instruments.

We are a community where making music plays a central role, and Masterclasses are a piece of this community. Students will have the potential to learn more about themselves and their instruments within our community as well as the greater community as a whole. This falls in line with our vision, and our passion about guiding future community leaders as we foster positive self-esteem and self-confidence through work and creativity. Working with professionals allows our students to ask questions and learn more about interpretation. This series will also potentially introduce students to new musical styles and methodology, which helps with improvisation and diversity. This is especially relevant when students move on to play in outside communities, strengthening their ability to connect with other musicians and diverse populations. Again, this ties in with the Music School's vision of fostering self-confidence in students when living and working in new situations. We believe this project will also strengthen the Music School community, as it will encourage all of our students to continue with their studies to that we can contribute to the amount of professional BC Artists.



**BRITISH COLUMBIA  
ARTS COUNCIL**



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COLUMBIA**



## Wall of Fame



Congratulations to the following students of Geoff Barker, on their recently completed RCM exams:

- Rachel Scuka—ARCT History, Advanced Pedagogy Written, and Advanced Pedagogy Viva Voce with Honours
- Kim Clarke—History 10 with Honours
- James Richardson—Level 8 Piano with Honours, Level 8 Theory with Distinction
- Claire Richardson—Level 8 Piano, Level 8 Theory with Distinction
- Anna Hrabchuk—Level 6 Theory with Distinction
- Sydney Soglo—Level 4 Piano
- Coby Martyn—Level 3 Piano with Honours
- Ben Hrabchuk—Level 3 Piano with Honours

Congratulations to the following students of Maddy Fehr, on their recently completed RCM exams:

- Ben Whibley, Level 2 Piano with First Class Honours with Distinction
- Alea Whibley, Level 1 Piano with First Class Honours with Distinction

Congratulations to Daisy Penner's student Mackenzie Scidmore, passing her Level 5 Piano RCM exam with First Class Honours!

# The 100 Days of Practice

**PRIZES**

## Challenge

**PRIZES**

\* More information coming soon\*

This piece is for all parents of music students! Growing up in the Music School community, Clark Reynolds was a part of the pre-school Creative Music program and then Piano Pathways classes. After a few years of piano, he switched to violin at age nine. Even today, music remains a constant presence in his life.

## Raising the Bar

As a former violin student and a current legal articling student, I've found myself reflecting on the different choices I've had the opportunity to make over the years and the impact they've had on my adult life. One of those choices was violin. My parents had enrolled me in piano lessons from an early age, but by age nine I had decided that violin would be my primary musical pursuit and with this came the expectation of regular festivals and exams.

While I immediately appreciated the satisfaction of mastering a new piece or helping to pull off a successful performance with the Carriage House Orchestra, it wasn't until later on that I truly understood the importance of festivals and exams. As a child or even as a teenager it can seem perplexing that testing and grading should play a role in something that is meant to be a passionate artistic endeavour. However, adult life frequently demands that we perform, and it helps to begin practicing early.



Clark performing with his brother and sister in elementary school.

I was confronted with this reality recently as I worked through the Law Society of British Columbia's version of the bar exam, the Professional Legal Training Course. For two months you attend regular classes and are required to pass a number of skill assessments related to topics like advocacy and interviewing, culminating in the solicitor and barrister exams. As I worked through these one by one I could feel the pressure building and thought back on the ways in which violin had prepared me. Festival and exam preparation demands months of regular, methodical work with no guarantee that it will all come together in the end. Facing these challenges early on helped me build confidence in my ability to prepare and successfully perform when required. Once I was finally facing down the barrister and solicitor exams, it was this preparation that allowed me to treat them as an opportunity to demonstrate my knowledge rather than an impossibly high hurdle to be feared.

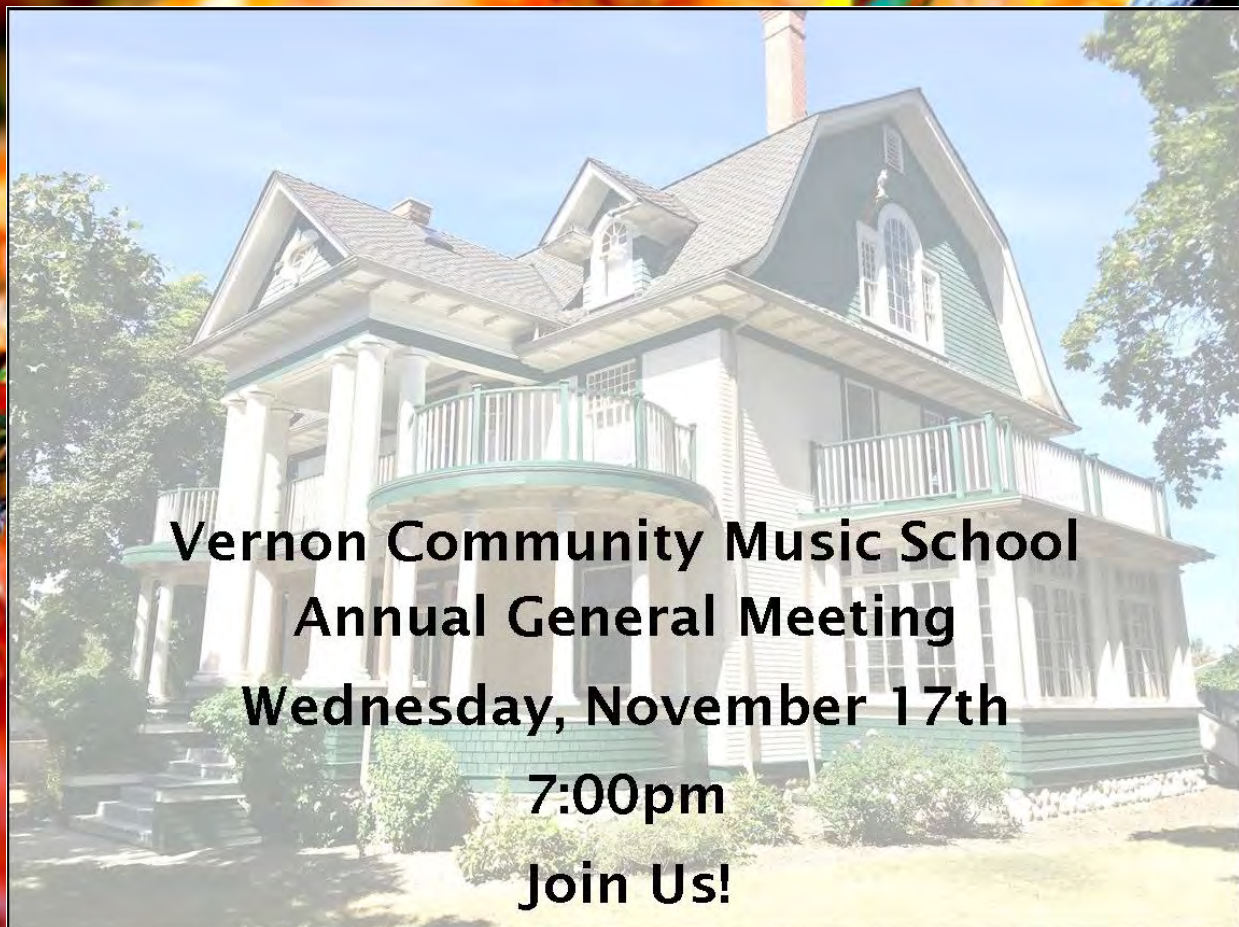


Clark playing his violin for Christmas 2020

Giving students concrete goals like festivals or exams can help them build a positive relationship with practice, and when their efforts pay off it can help them realize that their hard work has a tangible effect on the outcome. While there is always an element of luck involved in any kind of performance, facing the challenges posed by festivals and exams can provide you with the tools to approach seemingly insurmountable goals with confidence.

Clark Reynolds (BSc, JD)

Life-long music student, alumni of the Carriage House Orchestra and former student of Bev Martens



**Vernon Community Music School  
Annual General Meeting  
Wednesday, November 17th**

**7:00pm  
Join Us!**