

PRIZES AND AWARDS

Each year, the generosity of individuals and firms from the community allows the Festival to offer awards, trophies and plaques for merit on the recommendation of the adjudicators. To ensure eligibility for prizes and awards, competitors should refer to the rules and regulations in their specific discipline. The Awards Committee reserves the right to withhold presentation of any award, if, in the opinion of the adjudicators, a sufficiently high standard of performance has not been achieved or if there are no competitors meeting the criteria of the specific award.

MAJOR TROPHIES & AWARDS

The following awards are selected by the adjudicators based on performances at the final concert in each age group. The major awards are generated from the interest of their respective trust funds.

SENIOR STAR AWARDS

FOUNDERS' TROPHY

On the 20th anniversary of the New Brunswick Competitive Festival of Music, as a tribute to its founders, a trophy known as the Founders' Trophy was presented by the President, D.M. Wathen, for annual presentation to the Star of the Festival at the close of the Founders' Night Concert. A Keeper Trophy remains in the permanent possession of the STAR. The winner is not eligible to be named STAR more than TWICE.

This concert is held on the final evening and presents, in competition, the outstanding performers of the entire week, who will be judged by the team of adjudicators. The individual chosen as the most outstanding performer, the Star of the Festival, will receive the Founders' Trophy and a cash award. The runner-up will also receive a cash award.

The choice of Founders' Night competitors is the decision of the adjudicators. To qualify, an individual must have participated in a minimum of three classes, one of which must be Sight Reading.

SMITH–MACLAREN MEMORIAL AWARDS

Rothsay resident and long-time supporter of the Festival, Aileen (Smith) MacLaren, bequeathed the Festival a significant contribution to be used on an annual basis to fund the Smith–MacLaren prize. Previously a \$500 cross-discipline prize, in 2013, the Board of Directors established the Smith–MacLaren Memorial Awards to be awarded to the top three senior competitors in the Founders' Night Concert.

INTERMEDIATE STAR AWARDS

CITIZENS FOR FORT LATOUR DUMONTS–CHAMPLAIN EXPEDITION TROPHY

This trophy was presented by the Citizens for Fort LaTour to observe the arrival of the Dumonts and Champlain expedition of June 24, 1604. The trophy, which marks the 400th anniversary of that event, is given annually to the Intermediate Star of the Festival.

NBTel/BELL ALIANT TRUST INTERMEDIATE STAR AWARDS

A long-time supporter of the Music Festival, the NBTel/Bell Aliant Trust Fund supports the winner and runners-up of the Intermediate category, ages 14–17. These awards are presented at the Founders' Night Concert to the top three performers based on their performances at the concert.

JUNIOR STAR AWARDS

DR. JOYCE LUMB JUNIOR STAR PLAQUE

The plaque for the Junior Star is awarded to an individual competitor who is 14 years of age or under, and who has competed in at least two classes in his or her age group plus Sight Reading, where applicable. Eligibility to perform for Junior Star will be on the approval of the adjudicators. Sonatina classes will be considered in the average. Pieces up to and including Grade 6 are eligible for the Jr. Concert.

The winner of the plaque will be decided by the Adjudicators, based on Festival participation and on performance at the Junior Concert. The winner is not eligible to be named STAR more than twice.

APRIL MILLS MEMORIAL AWARDS

In memory of April Mills, a founding member of the Friends of Music, elementary teacher and the convenor and founder of the Junior Concert, cash awards will be presented to the top three performers based on their performances at the April Mills Junior Concert.

ENSEMBLE STAR AWARDS

A.C. JESSIE AND AGNES GLENNIE MEMORIAL PLAQUE

The A.C. Jessie and Agnes Glennie Memorial Plaque, as well as a cash award, will be presented to the most outstanding ensemble of two or more members. Ensembles will be selected by the adjudicators to perform in the Founders' Night Concert. The winner will be determined by the panel of adjudicators.

BENJAMIN R. GUSS TROPHY

This trophy was donated by the Honourary President of the New Brunswick Competitive Festival of Music, Judge Benjamin R. Guss, in memory of his brother, Joseph Guss. It is presented annually to the most outstanding New Brunswick school choir, Grades 1–5 inclusive, subject to terms and rules as stated in the School Choir section of the Syllabus.

GRETCHEN BETTS TROPHY

The Gretchen Betts Trophy was presented to the New Brunswick Festival of Music by the Winter Street/Rockwood Park Home and School Association in recognition and appreciation of Miss Betts' contribution to school music in the New Brunswick Festival from 1937 until her retirement in 1955. The Trophy will be presented to the teacher of the highest-ranking elementary school choir entered in school choir classes in the New Brunswick Festival, and will be awarded annually.

TROPIES AND PLAQUES IN COMPETITION

ALLEN W. BUSTIN PLAQUE

Allen Bustin was a beloved piano teacher, organist and choir director in Saint John for over 40 years. As a piano teacher, he worked with students of all ages often starting with them when they were very young. He was also a founding member of the Men of Fundy and the Friends of Music. Mr. Bustin's students and choirs actively participated in the New Brunswick Competitive Music Festival over the years. These plaques are awarded annually to the most outstanding competitors in Junior Piano I and Junior Piano II.

CITY OF SAINT JOHN MAYOR'S TROPHY

The City of Saint John Mayor's Trophy is presented annually to the highest-ranking North End School Choir performing in the New Brunswick Competitive Festival of Music. This trophy is also subject to the rules governing the awarding of school trophies and plaques.

DOUGLAS D. MAJOR PLAQUE

The Douglas D. Major Plaque and Award will be presented annually to a choir with the best performance of a folk song. It is named in honour of Mr. Major, a former organist, conductor, composer and public school teacher in the Saint John area. He is perhaps best remembered for his regional folk song compositions including: "Down the River Saint John" and "Deer Island".

DAVID THOMSON TROPHIES

The David Thomson Trophies are presented to the New Brunswick Competitive Festival of Music by the Department of Education in recognition of Mr. Thomson's outstanding contribution to music especially as a Choral Director and as School Music Supervisor for the Province of New Brunswick for several years. One Trophy is to be presented to the highest-ranking Elementary School Choir (Grades 1 to 3). This trophy is subject to the rules and terms as outlined in the School Choir section. The second trophy is awarded to an outstanding Senior Choral Group.

GLADYS W. SMITH TROPHY

The Gladys W. Smith Trophy is given by sisters Mrs. Treva M. Drake and Miss Lois P. Smith and is to be awarded annually to the highest-ranking Middle School Choir (Grades 6–8) Hymn Class.

GLORIA RICHARD PLAQUE

The Gloria Richard Plaque, given by the former School District 52 is to be awarded annually for the highest-ranking School Choir in Grades 4 to 7.

JESSIE WARD BARKER MEMORIAL PLAQUE

Given by the Festival in memory of a dedicated teacher of stringed instruments, this plaque is awarded annually to the most outstanding competitor in Junior Strings.

DR. JOYCE LUMB MEMORIAL PLAQUE & AWARD

This plaque and award is presented to a choir for the best performance of a choral composition by a Canadian Composer.

JUDY MCINNIS MEMORIAL PLAQUE

Given by New Brunswick Competitive Festival of Music in 2014, this plaque is awarded annually to the most outstanding competitor in Junior Instrumental. Judy McInnis was a flute and piccolo player in the Greater Saint John area. She was a member of Symphony New Brunswick and its predecessor the Saint John Symphony. She was also a member of the 3rd Field Regiment Artillery Band and St. Mary's Band.

DR. KEVIN LANGFORD SAINT JOHN HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI PLAQUE

Presented by the alumni of Saint John High School in honour of Dr. Kevin Langford's ('75) commitment to youth and choral music in the Greater Saint John area. This plaque is awarded to the best Youth Choir participating in the New Brunswick Competitive Festival of Music.

KIWANIS CENTENNIAL PLAQUE

In 1967 the Kiwanis Division No. 16 (N.B.) donated a specially designed plaque for annual competition by High School Choirs. These schools are Grades 9–12 inclusive. This imaginative trophy bears the Centennial symbol with each of the eleven sections made of wood native to one of the eleven Canadian divisions. Small shields have been added, on which will be annually inscribed the name of the winning choir.

KIWANIS WESTERN KINGS RIVER VALLEY PLAQUE

This Kiwanis Award is presented annually to the best school choir in the Western Kings River Valley performing in the New Brunswick Competitive Festival of Music. This plaque is also subject to the rules governing the awarding of school trophies and plaques.

MARSHALL STOUT TROPHY

Donated in 1959 by the Policy Committee of the New Brunswick Festival of Music as a tribute of esteem and appreciation to the late Mr. Marshall Stout, Honourary Life Patron and Honourary Vice-President. His wise judgment and leadership contributed in a large measure to the successful development of our Festival. This Trophy will be awarded to the highest-ranking Middle School Choir, Grades 6–8 inclusive and is subject to the criteria for the awarding of school trophies and plaques, as outlined in the School Choir Section.

NEW BRUNSWICK MUSICIANS' ASSOCIATION TROPHY

The New Brunswick Musicians' Association, Local 815 of the American Federation of Musicians, has donated a Trophy and an award of \$100 for annual competition by New Brunswick bands and/or orchestras. These will be awarded to the band or orchestra attaining the highest mark in the New Brunswick Competitive Festival of Music. In the event of a tie the decision will be made by the adjudicators.

Eligibility:

- (1) For bands and orchestras of New Brunswick schools only;
- (2) When competing for this Trophy, members must perform in the band/orchestra which is representing the school or schools in which he member is presently enrolled and attending;
- (3) A member may perform in only one band/orchestra for this Trophy.

RCCO (ROYAL CANADIAN COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS) PLAQUE

Given by the Saint John Centre of the Royal Canadian College of Organists in memory of Charter Members, this plaque is to be awarded to the choir from the Greater Saint John area, for the most outstanding performance of a piece of sacred choral music.

SAINT JOHN ENERGY TROPHY

The Saint John Energy Trophy is presented annually to the highest-ranking West Side School Choir performing in the New Brunswick Competitive Festival of Music. This trophy is also subject to the rules governing the awarding of school trophies and plaques.

SAINT JOHN ROTARY CLUB TROPHY

The Saint John Rotary Club has donated this trophy to be presented to the best boys' choir, unchanged voices.

SAINT JOHN TRANSIT PLAQUES

Given by Saint John Transit, these plaques are awarded annually to the most outstanding competitors in Junior Vocal I and Junior Vocal II.

SHIRLEY DYSART MEMORIAL PLAQUE

The Shirley Dysart Memorial Plaque and Award will be presented annually to the highest-ranking South/Central Peninsula School Choir performing in the New Brunswick Competitive Festival of Music. This plaque will also be subject to the rules governing the awarding of school trophies and plaques. Mrs. Dysart was a prominent educator and politician in Saint John. She was the first female Speaker of the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly, first female Minister of Education and served as the first female president of the New Brunswick Competitive Festival of Music from 1991 to 2000. She continued to support the Festival as a keen volunteer for many years.

SIMONDS TROPHY

Given by the board of the former Simonds School District to the highest-ranking school choir from the Simonds area. This trophy is subject to the rules and terms as outlined in the School Choir section.

TOWN OF QUISPAMISIS MAYOR'S TROPHY

The Town of Quispamsis Mayor's Trophy is presented annually to the highest-ranking school ensemble (any level) from the Kennebecasis Valley area.

PERPETUAL TRUST AWARDS

All of the following are invested with BMO Nesbitt Burns with the annual interest being used to generate awards for each Trust Fund.

JESSIE WARD BARKER MEMORIAL AWARD

Created by the New Brunswick Competitive Festival of Music in memory of Jessie Ward Barker, a dedicated teacher of stringed instruments, this award accompanies the Jessie Ward Barker Plaque for an outstanding Junior string competitor.

ISABELLA BELYEA MEMORIAL AWARD

The Festival is grateful for the contribution from Mrs. Isabella Belyea. The history of this award is unknown, and the Board of Directors would welcome any information about its history. The funds from this trust are used for an award to be presented to a competitor in Piano classes 12080-12089.

MARGARET BENOIT AYERST MEMORIAL AWARDS

To honour a great Canadian lady, and to encourage young people to take up the art of a true musician, these awards are offered to assist in their musical studies. Winners of these awards must have been a resident of the Atlantic Provinces for at least three years and have studied with a resident teacher for at least one year. The first award to an exceptionally fine female voice in Senior Solo classes: Concert, Oratorio and/or Operatic. The second award for an exceptionally fine Senior performer in Violin, Cello, or Clarinet.

BETA SIGMA PHI AWARDS

The Festival is grateful for the contribution from the local chapter of Beta Sigma Phi to continue the Catherine Gale Memorial Award and the Shirley Cunningham Memorial Award. These awards are distributed annually based on the available interest from the fund.

PAULINE BIEDERMAN MEMORIAL AWARD

The Festival is grateful for the contribution from Pauline Biederman. The history of this award is unknown, and the Board of Directors would welcome any information about its history. The funds from this trust are used for an award to be presented annually to an intermediate competitor in Baroque Piano classes (12070, 12080, 12090).

JAMES E. BROWN MEMORIAL AWARDS

The Festival is grateful for the contribution from James E. Brown. The history of this trust is unknown, and the Board of Directors would welcome any information about its history. The funds from this trust are used for awards to deserving, Intermediate competitors and for the general operation of the Festival.

VAN BURDON MEMORIAL AWARDS

Van Burdon was a well-known cellist who competed in the New Brunswick Competitive Festival of Music as a young musician. He went on to play professionally in the United Kingdom and South Africa, and was a regular chamber and orchestra pit player following his return to Saint John in the 2000s. Following his unexpected passing in 2017, friends and family created the Van Burdon Memorial Trust Fund through the NB Competitive Festival of Music to support aspiring intermediate and senior string players, especially cellists, to share Van's passion for string music.

ALLEN BUSTIN MEMORIAL AWARDS

Mr. Bustin was a well-known organist and choir director in the Saint John area, serving specifically at Silver Falls United Church and Carleton-Kirk United Church. He was a former vice-president of the New Brunswick Choral Federation and worked as accompanist for Port City Dance Academy. The funds from this trust are used for awards to be presented to deserving Junior Piano or Junior Organ competitors.

GRETA CAMERON MEMORIAL AWARD

The Festival is grateful for the contribution from the Greta Cameron Estate. The history of this award is unknown, and the Board of Directors would welcome any information about its history. The funds from this trust are used for two Band awards.

LILLIAN CLARK MEMORIAL AWARD

The Festival is grateful for the contribution from Lillian Clark. The history of this award is unknown, and the Board of Directors would welcome any information about its history. The funds from this trust are used for an award to be presented annually to a junior competitor with the highest average in any four piano classes, including Sight Reading and Sonatina classes, 12060-12069.

RUTH CLARKE MEMORIAL AWARD

Ruth Clarke was a respected and well-known organist in the Greater Saint John area. Originally created as an organ award, the award is given annually to a competitor in Organ and/or Piano classes with preference given to an Organ competitor.

MAUD COWAN CORMIER MEMORIAL AWARD

Maud Cowan Cormier was a member of the Ladies' Morning Musical Club that met with Sir Hugh Robertson in 1936. This meeting resulted in the founding of the New Brunswick Competitive Festival of Music. The funds from this trust are used for an award for a deserving Intermediate String competitor.

JUSTICE W.H. HARRISON MEMORIAL AWARD

A former dean of the University of New Brunswick Law School and a New Brunswick Supreme Court Judge, the Justice Harrison Estate bequeathed a trust fund to create an annual award for a Vocal competitor.

ETHEL LIKELY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Ethel Likely, one of the founders of The New Brunswick Competitive Festival of Music, believing that good teaching is essential to the well-being of our musical community, left a portion of her estate to the Festival with the intent that the annual income provide worthy contestants with the means to continue or complete his/her musical studies. Since her death, her family has continued to contribute to the Ethel Likely Memorial Scholarship Trust Fund. These four scholarships will be awarded annually to an Outstanding Performer in each of the Senior disciplines.

DOUGLAS D. MAJOR MEMORIAL AWARD

Douglas Major was an organist, conductor, composer and teacher in the Saint John area in the mid-20th Century. He was organist at St. Paul's (Valley) Anglican Church, associate conductor of the Carriden Choir and wrote regional folk music such as *Down the River Saint John* and *Deer Island*. The funds from this trust are used towards the Douglas D. Major Choral Plaque.

JUDY MCINNIS MEMORIAL AWARD

Judy McInnis was a well-known flautist in the Greater Saint John area. The funds from this trust are used for award to accompany the Judy McInnis Memorial Plaque for an Outstanding Junior Instrumental competitor.

MAURICE & AUDREY MACINTYRE MEMORIAL AWARD

Maurice MacIntyre was a well-known organist in the Saint John area having served for many years at St. Mark's United Church. He was an active choral director and handbell conductor. The funds from this trust are used for an award for a deserving Intermediate Vocal competitor.

CATHERINE PHILLIPS MEMORIAL AWARD

Catherine (Hawkes) Phillips was raised in the Dorchester area where she enjoyed playing piano. A graduate of Mount Allison University, Mrs. Phillips later moved to BC and Northern Ontario. The trust in her memory was created by her niece, Helen M. Petchey, a Saint John area school teacher and author. The funds from this trust are used for an award in her memory for an Outstanding Junior Piano competitor.

PEARL PRINCE MEMORIAL AWARDS

An annual award will be presented to the Outstanding Intermediate Piano competitor. The money for this trust fund was donated by Mr. Kilburn London, whose wife competed in the New Brunswick Competitive Festival of Music in the 1930's.

MINNIE SCOTT MEMORIAL AWARD

Mrs. Scott had a long association with the Festival, having been a vice-president during the early years. For many years, she also served as an Official Accompanist. She was a graduate of Acadia University and was a piano teacher in Saint John. The funds from this trust are used for deserving Junior Piano and Junior Vocal competitors in her memory.

F. JEAN STANTON MEMORIAL AWARD

Jean Stanton was an organist and music teacher at Saint John Vocational School (now Harbour View High School). Following her death, Ms. Stanton bequeathed funds to the Festival to be used for a deserving competitor in Junior Organ or Junior Piano classes.

SISTER M. ANNETTE SYMONS MEMORIAL AWARD

The Festival is grateful for the contribution from Sister Symons. The history of this award is unknown, and the Board of Directors would welcome any information about its history. The funds from this trust are used for an award to be presented annually to a Junior Piano competitor with the highest overall ranking in 12050-12059.

WINIFRED TURNER MEMORIAL AWARDS

Winifred Turner was a faithful volunteer for the New Brunswick Competitive Music Festival for many years. She was always very interested in young musicians. To ensure these musicians were supported and encouraged for years to come, she graciously left the Festival money to be distributed as awards to outstanding musicians.

DUNCAN WATHEN MEMORIAL PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Duncan Wathen was the founding president of the Saint John Boys and Girls Club. He was active with Saint John Rotary Club as a Governor's Representative. He served as the president of the New Brunswick Competitive Festival of Music in the early years of its development. The funds from this trust are used for an award to accompany the Kiwanis Centennial Plaque.

ELIZABETH WEST MEMORIAL TRUST AWARDS

Elizabeth West, mother of local Saint John area piano teacher Linda Hazen, was an amateur pianist who found time in her busy schedule while living in Toronto to study piano. Her dedication to practice and playing was integral in Mrs. Hazen's musical development. The funds from this trust are used for five awards for deserving Junior competitors.

MAUD WETMORE MEMORIAL AWARD

The Festival is grateful for the contribution from Maude Wetmore. The history of this award is unknown, and the Board of Directors would welcome any information about its history. The funds from this trust are used for an award in her memory for a deserving Junior competitor.

HILLMAN & ALICE-MAY (ECCLES) WRIGHT MEMORIAL AWARD

Hillman West Wright was a well-known piano tuner in the Greater Saint John area. His wife, Alice-May (Eccles) Wright was a trained concert pianist at the Royal Academy of Music in London, England. From 1940–1960 she was a regular performer on CBC Radio and maintained an active performance schedule. An active teacher, she taught piano, violin, viola, cello, and bass to countless students in Southern New Brunswick and was a driving force behind the formation of the New Brunswick Youth Orchestra. The funds from this trust are used for an award in their memory for a deserving Junior String competitor.

ANNUAL FOUNDATION AWARDS

The following foundations have designated funds to the New Brunswick Competitive Festival of Music to be used for awards.

JAMES VENNER RUSSELL FOUNDATION

Mary McKean was a teacher at Saint John High School for many years. She was avidly interested in the Music Festival and several other arts groups in the city. Miss McKean generously left money in trust to the James Venner Russell Foundation to be distributed to various arts groups in the city and province.

HELEN M PETCHEY FOUNDATION AT THE STRATEGIC CHARITABLE GIVING FOUNDATION

Helen M. Petchey was a school teacher and librarian at Simonds High School. A noted author who was raised in the Dorchester area, she was an active chorister during her time teaching in Saint John. She and her mother were regular attendees at the Music Festival. The funds provided by this Foundation are used to support the Catherine Phillips Memorial Awards, named in honour of Ms. Petchey's aunt.

AWARDS DONATED FOR THE 2025 FESTIVAL

The following awards were donated by individuals and businesses to fund additional awards for the 2025 Festival. (Names in brackets represent the donor.)

Sisters of Charity Awards

John Stewart Wright MacMurray Memorial Award (New Brunswick Youth Orchestra)

Nan McLellan Memorial Award (New Brunswick Youth Orchestra)

Elizabeth West Memorial Awards

David Thomson Memorial Awards (Kiwanis Club of Saint John)

Amelia Zed Memorial Award (Dr. Ellen Barry)

David & Joan Stilwell Memorial Award (Christopher Lane & Nadine Lane)

Music from the Heart Awards (Elaine Boulanger)

David Johnston Award

Hon. D.D. Patterson Memorial Award (Donald Patterson)