

November 2019 Newsletter

Welcome! Gary Karr and Harmon Lewis: Honorary Co-Chairs of Encore Legacy Society



Gary Karr, left, and Harmon Lewis

The VCM is proud to announce that Gary and Harmon have accepted our invitation to serve as Honorary Co-Chairs of our Encore Legacy Society.

Gary Karr is a classical double bass virtuoso and teacher, considered one of the best bassists of the 20th and 21st centuries. Harmon Lewis is an accomplished pianist, organist, and harpsichordist. The two met while studying at Indiana University in the 1970s and went on to form the Karr-Lewis Duo. The globe-trotting, best-selling musicians moved to Victoria in 1995, building a recording studio in their home and becoming involved with the VCM as ambassadors, guest performers and master class teachers.

Encore members can look forward to news and updates from the Co-Chairs, and an invitation to an exclusive event in 2020.

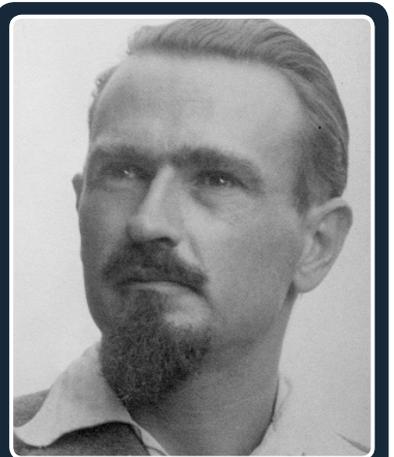
“*Music has been such a focus in my life that I felt compelled to leave a legacy to the Victoria Conservatory of Music. The Encore Legacy Society is a dedicated group of music lovers like you who truly know and understand the beneficial influence of music in our community.*

Please join me in becoming a member so we can continue to enrich the lives of many generations of Victorians. - Gary Karr

A Remarkable Legacy

As a teenager in Vancouver in the 1930's, **Pen Brown** spent many happy hours attending classical music concerts. As a young man Pen had a conventional career in banking, and then in 1956 his love of the outdoors led him to light-keeping on a remote BC island with his new wife, Betty. In 1966 Pen decided to work in the Coast Guard's Victoria office, where he stayed until retirement 23 years later.

But his love of music never left him. In later life, even after he could no longer hear music, he continued to support music in the city and in his legacy planning. Despite never earning more than \$12 an hour, Pen's careful saving and investing enabled him to leave a substantial legacy that will significantly impact the future of music at the VCM and in Victoria.



Rex Pendril (Pen) Brown
1923 - 2018

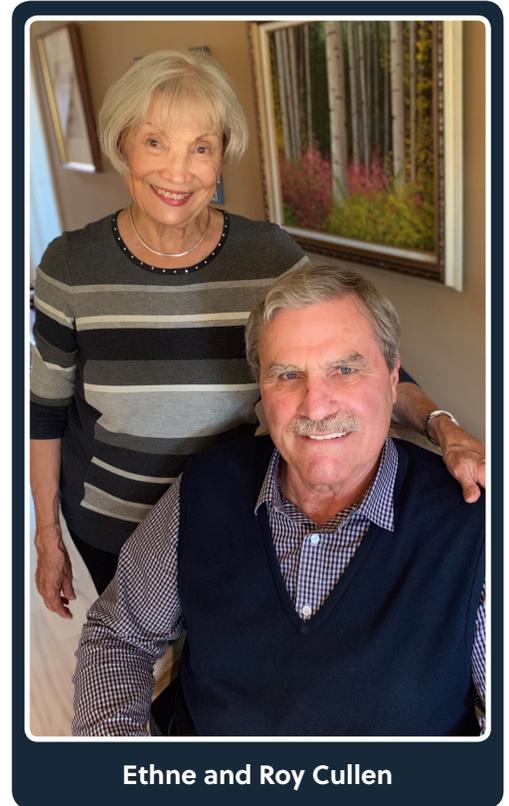
Investing in the future of music at the VCM

Roy and Ethne Cullen have always been community minded. Victoria was home for many years when Roy was with the BC Ministry of Forests. A political life was calling and Roy was first elected in 1996 as Member of Parliament for Etobicoke North, Toronto, where he served through five sessions of parliament until 2008. Roy and Ethne returned home to Victoria for a busy retirement, where they have continued to be active in community causes.

Roy joined the VCM's Board in 2011, becoming Treasurer in 2013 and

then Chair in February 2014. On the Board he has helped lead the VCM through a period of critical change and growth. When making the decision to join the Board, Roy was impressed with the transparency, accountability, energy, and commitment of everyone at the VCM. Both Roy and Ethne know that music is a positive force in society. From their early dating days, music has played a part in their lives, and with their commitment to the VCM, their love of music has deepened even more.

“ *Knowing the VCM so very well, and how much our community benefits from the power of music, leaving a legacy to the VCM was an easy decision.*” - Roy and Ethne Cullen



Make Music Your Legacy

Legacy Giving ensures the VCM continues to enrich lives through music in our community for generations to come. Consider a gift to the VCM in your estate plans and join our Encore Legacy Society – make music your legacy.

We are here to provide information and support should you wish to include the VCM in your Legacy Planning. It would be our pleasure to talk with you and learn more about your connection with the Victoria Conservatory of Music.

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DID YOU KNOW...

The VCM has an endowment fund for future sustainability: The *Victoria Conservatory of Music Fund*, held at the Victoria Foundation.