

March 2020 Newsletter

Gary Karr and Harmon Lewis Encore Legacy Society Honorary Co-Chairs

Gary and Harmon were excited to become our special Honorary Co-Chairs. Having included the VCM in their will, they know the value of planning a legacy for the future of music.

We caught up with them in sunny Nevada.

“ After eight concerts and eight cities in Japan, we are having a well needed rest enjoying the warm weather in Las Vegas!

While visiting Japan we dined at a Kaiseki – a culinary experience out of this world, originally intended for the noble classes. When our good friend Kuniko Furuhashi Brauss, a singer whom we’ve performed with in Victoria and Japan recently visited, we were able to repeat that wonderful Japanese multi course meal with Kuniko here in Las Vegas, at a restaurant called Kaiseki Yuzu! It was very special.

We hope you enjoy reading the March Newsletter and will see everyone back in Victoria very soon!” - Gary and Harmon.



An Inspiring Passion



Lois Voight-Stockey
1927 - 2019

As a new decade unfolds, this is a time of reflection for many of us as we look to the future and think about our legacy to our families, and our community. We remember an outstanding individual who lived a long and full life and made an impact with her philanthropy to the city she loved.

Many will remember Lois for her passion for the arts, how she championed music education, and inspired others to support concerts, recitals, and opera in the city. Lois's philanthropy reflected that passion and even went as far as buying carpets for the VCM! Fundraising for a new carpet at Alix Goolden Performance Hall was a low priority for the VCM, but Lois took one look

at the old worn out carpet and took Jane, our CEO, on a spontaneous shopping trip to get it sorted! It's still there today.

We are so very fortunate that many of us in the arts community were remembered in her legacy planning. Lois loved to hear music in her own home and was always asking students and visiting musicians to come and play her piano. Music was a constant presence in her long life, and she made a wonderful gift to her community through a bequest to ensure music is here in many more of our lives, for a long time to come. Her generous gift to the VCM will allow us to plan for the future of music in our city and spread that passion for music that was so important to Lois.

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George and Ann Nation

Honouring Ann Nation and the Mother's Day Musical Garden Tour

As the VCM Mother's Day Musical Garden Tour enters its 38th year, many will not be aware that it was **Ann Nation** who planted the seed and nurtured the Garden Tour from its roots in 1982. Ann was a keen gardener and loved music – so she wove together her two passions to raise funds for the VCM. Her idea has put down deep roots in the community and is now one of the oldest and most loved fundraising events in the city.

Ann once said: "The conservatory is my charity, my baby." With her passing in 2019, Ann's legacy continues through this magical event. This year, her son Chris and his partner, Betty Gnocato, have kindly agreed to open their garden to the public as part of the Mother's Day Musical Garden Tour.

At the VCM we continue to honor the Nation Family, and Ann's mother, Alix Goolden for their thoughtful, progressive and long lasting legacy to music at the VCM and in our community.

VCM Endowment Operating Fund

O. Thomas (Tom) Webb's first fiddle lesson as a young boy in the 1920's was paid for with a dozen eggs! It was a significant start, as Tom kept music with him his entire life of almost 100 years. When Tom's son, Michael Webb, approached the VCM about setting up a named Scholarship for Winds and Brass in memory of his father, he also wanted to help ensure the VCM is here for everyone who wants to learn music, for the next 100 years. As such, Tom's legacy also includes a gift to the VCM Operating Endowment Fund. Thank you to the

Webb Family for making double the impact. The operating endowment helps us to ensure sustainability for the future by providing a reliable income. The good news is, donations to our endowment fund have the potential for match funding by Canadian Heritage, Canada Cultural Investment Fund and Endowment Incentives Component, so your donations have twice the impact! Please consider making a legacy gift to the VCM's Operating Endowment Fund to benefit your community in this way.



O. Thomas Webb & Patricia -
Wedding Day 1943

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. Please give me a call.

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