



It is a special delight to have this opportunity to be in touch with you again after all this time we were separated due to the Pandemic. This period of isolation made me realize how much I've missed my Conservatory family. Even though we couldn't see each other I am eternally grateful that the musical life at the Conservatory continued to flourish and enrich the lives of so many in our shared community.

Membership in our **Encore Legacy Society** is perhaps the most meaningful way to support the

Conservatory's future, and its uplifting impact on so many Victorians. If you are not already, I do hope that you will give serious consideration to becoming a member.

I wish you and the rest of our Conservatory family a very fulfilling 2023 and I hope to see you soon at our many Victoria Conservatory of Music events.

Very warmest regards,

*Gary*

◀ **Gary Karr**, renowned doublebassist, is Honorary Chair of the Victoria Conservatory of Music's Encore Legacy Society.

## “Creating fertile grounds for future artists”

Jan and Johanna GrootWassink

Jan and Johanna give back to their community in many remarkable ways. Their support of charitable organizations spans from Saskatchewan to Vancouver Island. The Victoria Conservatory of Music is very honoured to be one of those charities and our community of musicians, students and audiences all benefit from their generosity.

Jan and Johanna arrived in Canada in 1971 to Calgary, Alberta and then moved to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in 1976. The success of their business allowed them to move to the Cowichan Valley in 2001. When they retired in 2014, their thoughts turned to what was important to them. Jan joined PROBUS in Duncan and became involved with the Cowichan Symphony Society where he now serves as Treasurer for both organizations.

As well as supporting the University of Saskatchewan, where they are

providing assistance to students in sciences, they decided to invest in a designated endowment at the Vancouver Foundation to enable them to support those organizations close to their hearts. Although Jan indulges in the listening pleasure of classical, jazz and some folk music without any musical background, it was Johanna who selected the Victoria Conservatory as a beneficiary, hearkening the joys of singing alto for many years in the late 70s and 80s with the University of Saskatchewan Choir while also taking private voice lessons.

Jan feels strongly about a symmetry between science, technology, and commerce with the arts. Music, arts, and culture is the spirit of modern life and the business and technology sectors feed that spirit. Jan senses: “We need each other in different ways” and this philanthropic couple stepped up when they were needed.



Jan and Johanna support students of the Conservatory of Music, believing emerging artists need to be sustained. “Only the very best are able to make a good living but many are struggling especially in contrast to the business world”.

Their endowment fund at the Vancouver Foundation provides support for the Conservatory so music can fill our hearts and souls now and for future generations to come. We so appreciate their forward thinking and thank them profusely for their generosity.



We are very thankful that we received in 2022 the following gifts from the estates of:

**Rex Pendril Brown**

**Cynthia Diane Mooney**

**Lois Voigt-Stockey**

**Arthur Wilfred Whittingham**

It is with much appreciation that we too remember our supporters who remember us in their wills.

## Did You Know . . .

The Conservatory has an endowment fund for future sustainability: **The Victoria Conservatory of Music Operating Endowment Fund**, held at the Victoria Foundation, our trusted community partner.

All donations to this permanently endowed fund have the potential for match funding by Canadian Heritage, so your gift will have a greater impact on ensuring a steady annual income to support our programming and to maintain our cherished heritage building.



We are here to provide information and support should you wish to include the Conservatory 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 us a call.

**Development Department**

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*Please consult your own financial advisor when considering the Legacy Gift most appropriate for you.*

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ENCORE LEGACY SOCIETY SPONSOR:

