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Gary Karr, renowned doublebassist, is Honourary Chair of the Victoria Conservatory of Music's Encore Legacy Society

We gratefully recognize the generosity of these donors whose legacy gifts were recently realized:

Victoria Durance

Lavana Kilborn

Lillian Rabb

Greta Shaya

Thomas and Betty Underwood

In thoughtful remembrance of those who thought to remember us.

A Message from Gary Karr

As we celebrate the Victoria Conservatory of Music's 60th anniversary, I want to express my deepest gratitude for your support throughout the years.

We've built a legacy together – a legacy that continues to flourish because of your trust and commitment to the power of music.

Planned giving ensures that our work will continue for generations to come. This is why I have included the Conservatory in **my own** estate plans.

Through my bequest, I know that I am sustaining the future of music education so that talented young musicians will always have opportunities to grow, learn, and perform.

By including the Conservatory in your estate planning, you are shaping the future, enriching our community, and leaving behind a gift that reflects our **shared passion for music** and the benefits it brings to our lives.

On the next page, you can read about **Thomas and Betty Underwood**, two music-lovers from Shawnigan Lake, and how they have made music their legacy.

Together, we can ensure that the Conservatory remains a vibrant and thriving institution for the next 60 years – and beyond.

Thank you for being part of this remarkable journey.

Your support makes all the difference, and I look forward to continuing this wonderful legacy with you.

With sincere appreciation,

Gary Karr

Chair,
Encore Legacy Society

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Thomas and Betty Underwood



He played bass in the Cowichan Consort Orchestra, the Cowichan Camerata String Orchestra, and the string chamber group Tall Strings.

Betty was an active folk dancer and could often be found collecting tickets at the door of Tom's concerts.

Their generous forethought will create an additional 75 bursaries for students in financial need this year.

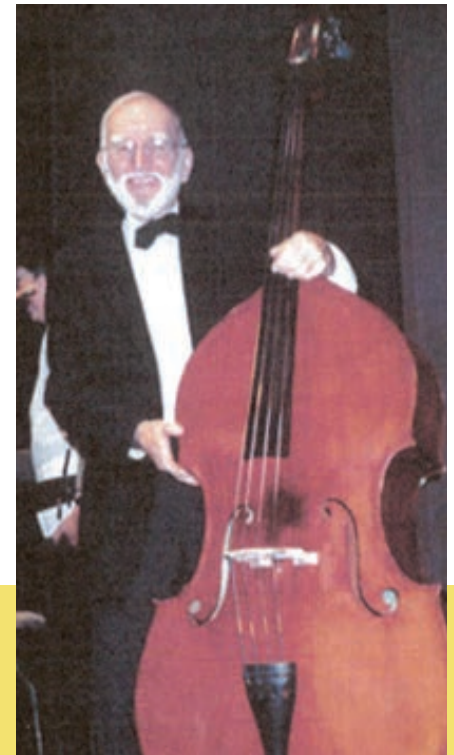
Tom and Betty's musical legacy will resonate through the ages, helping people of all ages and abilities access music in our community.

When Tom passed away in 2022, he left the Conservatory a portion of the residual of his estate to be applied to a bursary fund.

The **Thomas & Betty Underwood Bursary Fund** was endowed at the Victoria Foundation in memory of the couple.

The gift of just over \$890,000 was **eligible for matching funds** through Canadian Heritage's Endowment Incentives Component, amplifying the impact of their extraordinary gift.

Thomas Underwood, with the bass he carved out on his kitchen table



▲ Thomas and Betty Underwood

Music was an important part of the Underwoods' lives.

Tom took flute lessons at the Conservatory, and after borrowing a double bass from a friend, he learned to play it.

According to a family friend, after he acquired the bass, he wasn't completely happy with its sound.

Tom bought wood and carved out a new front on their kitchen table. Betty burned the scraps in their kitchen wood stove!

An electrician by trade, Tom was an active member of the music community.

A Legacy in Harmony

You can secure the next 60 years of music education and innovation at the Victoria Conservatory of Music through planned giving.

By including us in your estate plans, you can ensure that future musicians have access to the same transformative experiences that you value today.

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

To learn more about how to make music your legacy, contact:

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