



MINSTREL NOTES

December 2019

www.minstrelfoundation.org

Year End Report

Over the year, we sent hundreds of children and youth to camps and programmes that allow them to work on musical skills as well as have fun.

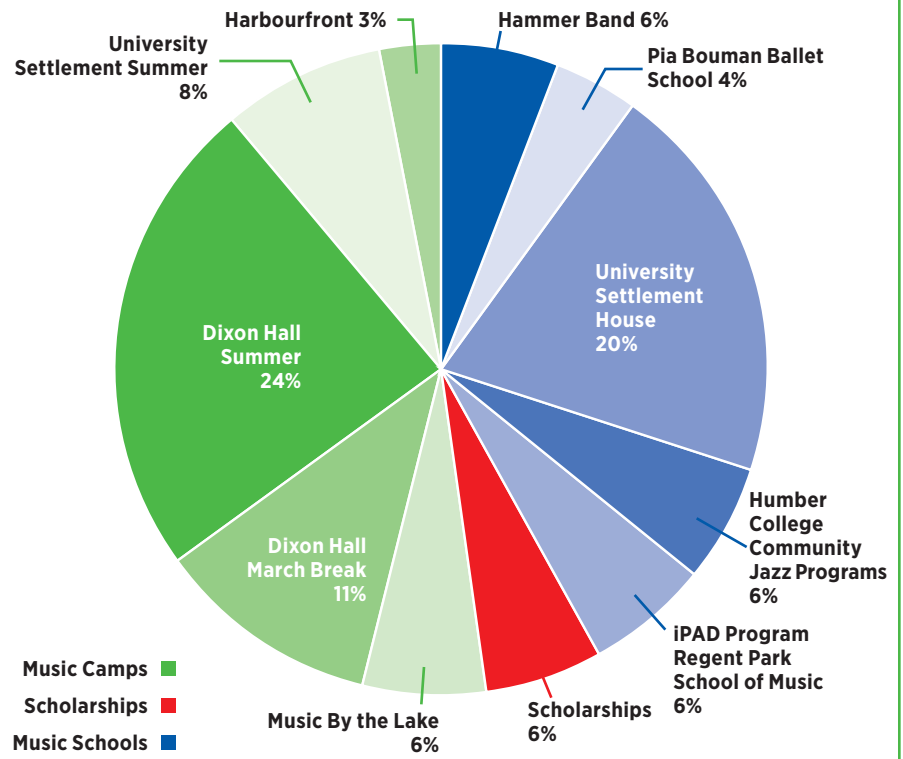
MUSIC CAMPS

This year we initiated a new program with Harbourfront Camps so they can accommodate children who want to attend their summer music camp. For many years we have sent children from Dixon Hall Music School to their music and arts camps (50 in 2019). With our \$5000 grant, Harbourfront will be able to offer a full subsidy to 17 kids from across Toronto in need of financial assistance, including camp fees and bus transportation from their schools. From our experience we know that Harbourfront camps offer a unique setting where learning and fun intersect, all while allowing campers to hone critical life skills.

We assisted with the cost of sending 18 youngsters to the University Settlement House Music Camp.

Minstrel funded 29 students from Dixon Hall and University Settlement to attend the National Music Camp where, in addition to swimming, sports and games they joined in the youth orchestra and took master classes with professional musicians.

WHERE \$166,000 WAS DISBURSED IN 2019



The National Music Camp is a prized event for youngsters hoping to advance to university music programs. Campers tell us they learn more in a week at camp than in several months or a year at school.

We sent 12 kids to Music by the Lake, a very popular one week camp program in June sponsored by the Toronto District School Board and Camp Wahanowin. Unfortunately the TDSB has cancelled the camp for 2020.

The two week Hart House Summer overnight camp for Dixon Hall kids is a time to relax but also continue with their music training. The kids also write that they love the cooking lessons as much as the outdoor activities. Each of two one week sessions comprises of 15 campers and Minstrel funds both sessions.

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The Hart House March Break overnight camp which accommodated 15 students is a boom to both kids and parents. Please look at the video on our website (News section) filmed by Dixon Hall at camp this spring. Last year we also funded the Girls Rock March Break camp. This was a one week day camp for 20 girls at Dixon Hall.

MUSIC PROGRAMS

Minstrel continues to assist programs working with marginalized Toronto youth. This year, our funds enabled students to attend the Humber College Community Music Program aimed at students in High School, provided bursaries to the Pia Bouman School for Ballet and Creative Dance, subsidized lessons at University Settlement House Music School, underwrote the cost of the iPad ensemble at Regent Park Music School, and helped programs at the Hammer Band (formerly From Violence to Violins), a program started at Jane & Finch by Moshe Hammer in 2005, the year of the gun, and even more relevant today.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Minstrel Foundation is pleased to offer scholarships to students who have excelled in the music programs we support so they can pursue their education at the post-secondary level. This year we awarded scholarships to five deserving students, two of whom are now studying at Humber College, one at the University of Toronto, one with Gloria Saarinen and one at the Royal Conservatory of Music.



Students at University Settlement Spring Recital

2019 Award Winners

One of the high points of our year is the presentation of awards to students who have shown special talents or achievements. Awards are funded by donors who want to see youngsters advance beyond basic lessons and who require more advanced training.

HAGOOD and MARTHA HARDY PROTÉGÉ AWARD

Vivid Ma is this year's winner of the Hagood and Martha Hardy Protégé Award. Regular Minstrel members are familiar with this exceptionally talented young woman's performance on the piano including a solo at this year's Holiday Stars event. Vivid is in her second year in the University of Toronto's performance program.

LOIS CALLANDER SCHOLARSHIP

Vita Zarembo, 13, received the Lois Callander Scholarship. Vita is with the Humber College Community Music School and her instruments are the piano and percussion. She has a particular interest in Latin American music and jazz and the award will enable her to take a year of lessons to forward her musical education.

CASSELS BROCK MUSIC AWARD

Abimbola Teniola, 16, is the recipient of the Cassels Brock Award. Abimbola is a drummer, has studied for five years and is in the Humber College Community Music School. His award will allow him to take advanced private lessons from Lorne Nehring where he will play with professional musicians and move along on his way to a career in music.

FAN PO CHU AWARD

Maxwell Tong, is a 17 year old grade 12 student is another youngster who continues to amaze with his exceptional piano performance. He is this year's recipient of the Fan Po Chu Award and he also performed at the Holiday Stars Gala. In addition to his exceptional musical talents, Maxwell is also proficient in three languages which should assist him in his future plans.



Martha Hardy

We are sad to announce the passing of Martha Hardy, one of the founders of the Minstrel Foundation and a lifetime supporter of music and arts for marginalized youth. Through her Hagood Hardy Protégé Award, in the name of her late husband, she enabled dozens of young performers to achieve their goals. We are pleased to announce the Award will now be named the Hagood & Martha Hardy Protégé Award and will continue to be given yearly under the direction of the Hardy's daughter, Jennifer. Jennifer, General Manager of Operations, Music Canada, will also join the Board of Directors in 2020 so the family connection will continue.

New Board Members 2019



MICHAEL BAUER

Managing Director and Market Manager – Canada Middle Market Banking at J.P. Morgan. Securities Canada Inc.

A member of J.P. Morgan's management team since 1994
Schulich MBA



MATTHEW DORFF

Senior Manager Performance Management & Communications at Rogers Communications.

University of Edinburgh 2007
Board Member The Waldorf School



DENNIS VAN DINE

Senior Product Manager at 500PX, an online platform for professional photographers.

Previously held product management and analysis positions at TVO and TIFF.

Honours B.Sc. Guelph, major Mathematics, minor Music

Some Thank You Notes from Parents

Members of the Minstrel Foundation

I want to express my appreciation for your generosity ... make my kids have a difference in their life.



Dear Minstrel Foundation

You have lightened my financial burden which allows me to be more focus at my work without worrying too much by knowing they are learning what they like and these lessons had helped them to be more confidence in school. At school my son was granted with the academic music award and my daughter joined the school choir which is a big step for her because even do she loves to sing she gets extremely anxious in front of people.



Dear Sir/Madam

Music changed my sons a lot, not only in their personality but also in their daily habits. Thanks to all your help, which opened a door connecting to a wonderful world, and this may affect their future. Specifically, my older son, he can play very complicated songs now...

Holiday Stars Gala Raises Over \$145,000

Once again, on November 28, guests gathered in the gorgeously decorated rooms of Casa Loma for food, music, and fun. Liberty Grand provided the delicious food and the Humber Community Music School jazz band kept everyone moving in the Conservatory. U of T group Octava started things going on the main stage. Singer/composer Mike Ruby and his band had the crowd jumping while Minstrel graduates Vivid Ma and Maxwell Tong showed off their exceptional talents. Guests also got to bid on auction items from holidays in Spain and Scottsdale to a selection of fine wines chosen by Minstrel board members. Emcee Farah Nasser of Global TV kept things lively and added a lot of style to the program. As one guest, Max Bauer, aged 10, put it: "This was the best party ever!"

The evening raised more than \$145,000 from Sponsorships, ticket sales, the silent auction, a raffle and donations.

The board wishes to thank all our Sponsors and guests and the staff at Casa Loma and especially Nick Di Donato, President and CEO of Liberty Entertainment Group.

Holiday Stars Gala Sponsors

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* joining in January 2020

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