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Our 2022 Adjudicators

Click on names for biographical information

Dr. A.S Weinstangel	**Jennifer Smele**	**Dr. A.G. Yates**
Markus Howard	**David Geene**	**Sarah Moon**
	Dr. P. Stavreva	**Megan Murphy**

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Speech Arts Adjudicator 2022 - Megan Murphy

Megan Murphy is a graduate of York University's Fine Arts program and has worked as an actor in film, television, theatre and radio for more than two decades.

She is a graduate of the Second City Conservatory and the Seneca College Documentary Filmmaking Institute.

Most recently she co-created The Verandah Society, a theatrical experience of storytelling and song, alongside singer/songwriter, Kate Suhr. They premiered their latest show at 4th Line Theatre in August 2021. S

he co-hosted a morning radio show on Star 93.3FM for over a decade. Her feature documentary, “Murphy’s Law”, won Best Documentary Film at the Fingal Film Festival in Ireland and her short film, “Towns End” won an audience Choice Award at the Vox Popular Film Festival.

She is a public speaker and published writer and can be found at www.murphyslawfilm.com.

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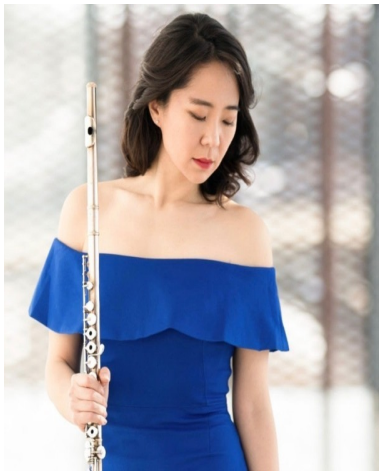
Adjudicator 2022 Woodwinds— Sarah Moon

Toronto-based Flutist Sarah Moon enjoys an active performance and teaching career all over Ontario.

She balances her schedule between teaching and conducting at Queen's University in Kingston during the week, and rehearsals and performances weekends in Toronto.

In 2018, Sarah joined Blythwood Winds, a prestigious professional woodwind quintet in the GTA. From 2016 to 2018, Sarah held the principal flute position with the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra and also taught at the University of Saskatchewan during her time there.

In 2019, she was invited back to perform Christos Hatzis' Concerto for Flute 'Departure' with the SSO. Sarah's previous orchestra engagements include Symphony Nova Scotia in Halifax from 2008-2010, and Orquesta Filarmónica de Jalisco in Guadalajara, Mexico in 2014.



Sarah received Bachelor of Arts from Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, PA, and Master's Degree in Contemporary Performance from Manhattan School of Music in New York, NY.

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PETERBOROUGH KIWANIS MUSIC FESTIVAL

String 2022 **Dr. ALEXANDER Sasha WEINSTANGEL**

A prolific composer, a passionate orchestral and choral conductor, and an accomplished violin virtuoso, Dr. Weinstangel was born in Croatia (Yugoslavia). He started his music education at the age of seven, completed his first published composition at the age of nine, and started appearing as a violin soloist with orchestras at the age of ten.

He received academic degrees in both Violin/Performance and Composition/Theory from the University of Belgrade, and the Doctor of Music degree in Composition/Music Theory from the University of Toronto, where he studied under John Beckwith. Along the way he also undertook studies in conducting with Sir Adrian Boult and Antonio Janigro, and electronic music with Paul Pignon, Gustav Ciamaga and Dennis Patrick.

Founding Artistic Director and Conductor of the National Chamber Orchestra of Canada, Dr. Weinstangel is a charismatic leader who leads his musicians with vigor and emotion, and is found in turn on the conductor's podium, at the harpsichord, or in concertmaster's chair, as suits the repertoire performed. His compositions include chamber, orchestral and choral works, operas, as well as concertos for diverse instruments. He has taught in universities and colleges in North America and New Zealand and has served as an adjudicator and juror for strings, chamber ensembles, orchestras, composition and conducting competitions.

"A compleat musician… such a rarity in our times" Richard GALE,CKDS/Stereo 95, Canada

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PETERBOROUGH KIWANIS MUSIC FESTIVAL

ADJUDICATOR Beginner Piano

JENNIFER SMELE M.Mus., B.Mus., A.Mus., A.R.C.T., R.M.T.

Jennifer is very active in the greater Toronto area as both a performer and teacher. She holds her Master's degree in Piano Performance and Pedagogy from the University of Toronto where she studied with master piano pedagogue Dr. Midori Koga. Prior to this, she completed her Bachelor of Music (Education) at the University of Western Ontario, her A.R.C.T. Performer's diploma with the Royal Conservatory of Music, and her Associate Teaching diploma with Conservatory Canada. Throughout her studies, Jennifer was the recipient of several academic awards including the prestigious Ontario Graduate Scholarship.
Jennifer is an active member of the Royal Conservatory of Music's College of Examiners and runs a professional studio in Brampton where she offers piano and theory lessons in both Classical and Popular genres.

She has been a guest clinician at the University of Toronto, presenting graduate student workshops on a variety of pedagogical topics, and she enjoys adjudicating music festivals throughout Canada. Her workshop, "The Art of Teaching Transfer Students" has been received by O.R.M.T.A. groups with positive acclaim and she offers workshops to Classically-trained teachers/students seeking greater ease in lead sheet interpretation.
She is excited to be introducing a new teaching workshop entitled, "The Power of a Picture: Using Imagery and Imagination to Inspire Piano Progress."

Jennifer is a versatile, professional, vocal and instrumental accompanist and soloist.
She performs regularly at a variety of venues including nursing homes, receptions, weddings, yoga studios, and churches throughout Ontario. She has pursued studies in the field of Early Childhood
Music Education under the direction of Mary Stouffer and collaborative piano studies with Dr. Chris Foley of Oakville, Ontario. She spent July 2013 completing a collaborative piano internship with Music Theatre Bavaria in Oberaudorf, Germany and studied mindfulness practice and performance with Madeline Bruser from New York.

Jennifer continues to study Dalcroze Eurythmics, combining her passions for movement, music education and improvisation and completed the musician mentorship program with the Canadian National Ballet, training as a dance accompanist.

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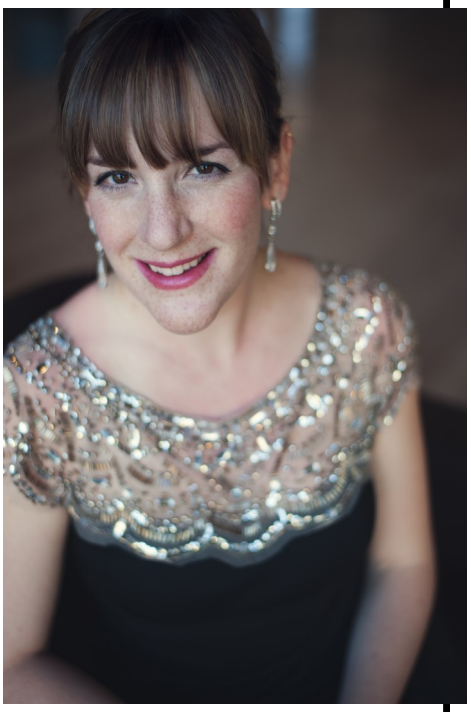
Adjudicator 2022 Dr. Amelia Yates—Junior and Intermediate Piano

Dr. Yates teaches piano lessons from her home studio, AGYPiano. Her goal is to help students perform, understand, and enjoy music thoughtfully, healthily, and artfully. She is also passionate about applying teaching approaches that nurture students' mental health and empower them to think critically and independently. Dr. Yates's students have received awards for both composition and performance at the local and national level, and frequently achieve First Class Honours and First Class Honours with Distinction standings on their conservatory examinations.



Before receiving her doctorate, Dr. Yates also earned an ARCT diploma in piano performance from the Royal Conservatory of Music as well as a Bachelor of Music Honours Music Education and a Master of Music in Performance and Literature from the University of Western Ontario. She had the privilege of studying performance with Dr. Leslie Kinton, Dr. Brett Kingsbury, and John-Paul Bracey, and pedagogy with Dr. Diana Dumlavwalla and Dr. Christine Tithecott.

Dr. Yates holds positions on the board of the Hamilton/Halton Branch of the Ontario Registered Music Teachers' Association and the Hamilton Music Festival. She is honoured to support the Association of Canadian Women Composers as an Associate member. Dr. Yates is also a member of the Royal Conservatory of Music's College of Examiners.

When she is not performing or teaching, Amelia enjoys spending time with her husband Daniel, a musician and lawyer, as well as practicing yoga, riding her bike, and watching her favourite show: *Downton Abbey*.

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Dr. Petya Stavreva - Intermediate and Senior Piano

Praised for expressing "ultra-sensitive and highly refined pianism" (Quinte Society for Chamber Music), pianist Petya Stavreva holds a Doctorate degree in Musical Arts from Western University. While at Western, she was a four-time recipient of the Ontario Graduate Scholarship, as well as the Don Wright Graduate Entrance scholarship, and the Sherwood Fox Music scholarship. Her doctoral research was focused on the relationship between Rachmaninov's first piano sonata and Goethe's Faust. Prior to arriving at Western, she finished her Master's degree at the University of Texas at Austin, receiving full scholarship and grant support from Canada Arts Council, as well as the Webb Trust Fund at the Glenn Gould School. Before beginning her graduate studies, she was an artist-in-residence at the Banff Centre for ten weeks.

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Petya has been a prize winner of numerous competitions in Canada and Europe such as the international competition "Franz Schubert" in Rousse, international competition "Music and Earth" in Sofia, among many others, and has performed concertos with the Toronto Sinfonietta Orchestra. She has played concerts throughout Canada but also internationally, including in the US, France, Italy and Bulgaria. Her newly formed Duo Avante with pianist Todd Yaniw is looking forward to several engagements next season including a recording project and performances in Toronto, Kitchener, Mississauga and Caledon. Other upcoming concerts include Western's concert series "Fridays at 12:30" and the Quinte Society of Chamber Music's series in 2022.

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Adjudicator 2022 Markus Howard— Musical Theatre and Voice

As a conductor, director and choreographer, Markus Howard has worked extensively in the arts throughout Canada and abroad. He has appeared in 27 countries, working with musicians of varying ages, cultures and experiences. A conductor, educator and private voice teacher, Markus works in many musical genres including opera, musical theatre, pop and jazz voice. His students have included members of the Stratford and Shaw Festivals, Toronto's *Lion King, Billy Elliott, The Producers, and Jersey Boys,* and a number of Broadway and National Touring companies, and has worked as lead voice coach for Mirvish Production's Lion King School.

His talents have been recognized by Yamaha Music Canada, the Swedish Ministry of Culture, the Ontario Arts Council, and the International Association of Jazz Educators. He has been nominated four times as a candidate finalist by the Ontario Arts Council for the Leslie Bell Prize for excellence in conducting. Mr. Howard pursues an active adjudicating schedule across North America; this season taking him to Newfoundland, British Columbia and Alberta. Currently, Markus is the Artistic Director for two of Ontario's most outstanding youth choir organizations, the award-winning *Guelph Youth Singers* and *La Jeunesse Choirs*, as well as London Pro Musica.

He serves as the founding conductor of the professional chamber choir LA MOVIDA, and appears as guest conductor for advanced choirs around the province. Recent engagements include concerts with the *Guelph Symphony Orchestra,* and as conductor for the Handel opera, *Alcina* with *Halifax Summer Opera.* He held the position of Lead Artist Educator with the Canadian Opera Company, and was on the faculty of the Royal Conservatory of Music, Glenn Gould School and the Randolph Academy for the Performing Arts. At the University of Toronto, Markus directed the Hart House Jazz Choir and Massey College Choirs. In 2020, Mr. Howard was honoured with a Paul Harris International Fellowship for his work with BIPOC and LGBTQ+ arts advancement.

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Band adjudicator—David Geene

David Geene is a retired elementary school administrator, music consultant, and music teacher with over 30 years of experience in those fields.

He was a tuba player with several bands, orchestras, and small ensembles, is an active choral singer, and is a community theatre actor. He has lived and worked in Toronto, York Region, Durham Region, and now calls Peterborough home.

He is excited to be a part of the vibrant arts community in Peterborough and the Kawarthas!

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