

Peter Stigings - CMEA/ACME Jubilate Award of Merit

The Jubilate Award of Merit is given by the Canadian Music Educators' Association to individuals who have made a significant contribution to music education in Canada. That contribution must also align with the philosophy of the Canadian Music Educators' Association. The Jubilate Award is an award that is sparingly and carefully given. In the history of the CMEA there have been years where no Jubilate Award was presented. This award is significant recognition for service to music education in Canada.

I am extremely pleased to have the opportunity to present the CMEA Jubilate Award to Peter Stigings. Peter is a music educator of the highest calibre who has taught students about music, and life, for 41 years. He has taught at elementary, secondary and post secondary levels. He has served as an adjudicator, conductor, and workshop clinician throughout Canada, the USA and Hong Kong. He has directed bands, choirs, orchestras and jazz ensembles and is known as a master teacher. His ensembles have toured extensively throughout Canada, the USA, Europe and Asia. In 1999 he was awarded the prestigious Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence. At the present time he is the Musical Director and Conductor of "A Little Night Music Orchestra," a 60 piece community orchestra, and Faculty Advisor for UBC and UVic.

Peter was my sponsor teacher when I was student teaching in the early 80's. As a young teacher I didn't appreciate how little I knew. Time has passed and when I reflect upon my student teaching experience, what I first thought was obsession with excellence, I now see as an amazing dedication to building relationships with young people, which led to musical excellence. Peter is a great motivator and leader. He has given of himself time and time again on behalf of our cause. He has been President of BCMEA and has dedicated himself to countless volunteer tasks, big and small, over the years, not only in B.C. but across Canada. At the present time Peter is the Student Chapter Coordinator and National Essay Competition Administrator on the CMEA Board of Directors.

It must also be mentioned that Peter's love of his family is rock solid. I have first hand experience in that my brother-in-law is married to Pete's 2nd daughter, Janet. Peter's wife, Pat, two daughters, 3 grandchildren, and extended family are the most important part of his life. To be able to celebrate a dedicated music educators career while at the same time knowing that there is loving commitment to family is really a celebration of a great person.

Everyone, please join me in congratulating Peter Stigings on receiving the CMEA Jubilate Award.

(Presenter: David Ennis)