



## **DARREN SCHWARTZ JOINS SMFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

November 9, 2009

One new director of the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association (SMFA) was elected on November 9, 2009 at the Annual General Meeting held in Regina at the Travelodge. Darren Schwartz of Saskatoon Music Festival was elected to a three-year term. President, Theresa Brost (Macklin); 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, Joy McFarlane-Burton (Saskatoon); 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Karen MacCallum (Swift Current); Past President, Gloria Nickell (Rosetown) and Directors Nancy Wilkins (Davidson), Nancy Toppings (Kipling), Sandra Senga (Meadow Lake) and Eleanor Epp (Blaine Lake) comprise the Provincial board of Directors for 2009 -2010. Retiring Directors, Karen Unger (Spalding) and Joanne Messer (Tisdale) were thanked for their many years of service on the Board.

This is the first year in the history of Saskatchewan that all five music organizations came together for one music conference. The Saskatchewan Band Association, Saskatchewan Choral Federation, Saskatchewan Music Educators Association, Saskatchewan Music Festivals Association, and the Saskatchewan Orchestral Association hosted the Saskatchewan Music Conference with the theme "Riding the Wave of Change"

Session presenters this year included: Denise Gagne, Richard Dubé, Dean Bernier, Gloria Nickell, Eva Bostrand, Dean McNeil, Betsy Raum, Lenora Bells, Kory Gibbs, Melanie DeMore with an inspiring keynote address from Peter Boonshaft "Even a Fool Knows You Can't Touch the Stars".

In addition to the business agenda, delegates received greetings from a representative organization, Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers' Association (Verna Veikle).

A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of SMFA members and supporters who had passed away in the last year, SMFA Honourary Life Member, Elizabeth Tydeman and others who were involved with our district music festivals.

Nineteen SMFA Volunteer Awards were presented by President, Theresa Brost: Cathy Richardson (Battlefords Music Festival), Lorraine de Moissac and Charmaine Poitras (Biggar Music Festival), Gloira Chicoine and Elaine Taylor (Estevan Music Festival), Clayton Braybrook and Scott Near (Kindersley Music Festival) Grace Voldeng and Nola Holtvogt (Naicam Music Festival), Linda Moriarty (Prince Albert Music Festival), Karen Cruikshank and Wendy Eyolfson (Quill Plains Music Festival), Darlene Jones and Flora Tyler (Regina Music Festival), Vicki Vardy (Saskatoon Music Festival), Pat Schultz (Twin Rivers Music Festival), Sandra Glassord (Unity Music Festival), Debbie Dramnitzki and Bev Tatarniuk (Yorkton Music Festival).

SMFA, established in 1908, is funded by grants from Sask Lotteries Trust for Sport, Culture & Recreation, Saskatchewan Arts Board and SaskCulture. For further information contact Carol Donhauser, Executive Director, Phone: 306-757-1722 Fax: 306-347-7789 e-mail: [sask.music.festival@sasktel.net](mailto:sask.music.festival@sasktel.net)

*Established in 1908*