

PRINCIPLE

Students of MBCLA are challenged, guided and encouraged in the development of high ethical standards.

Life Well Learned.



SASKATCHEWAN
BAND
ASSOCIATION

SUPPORTED BY:



*ANNUAL
REPORT*
2021

Report from the **SBA Board of Directors**

The continuation of the pandemic made 2021 another year filled with challenges and uniquely creative solutions. Despite all of the variations caused by restrictions and concerns over public safety, the SBA's work continued to be guided by our long-established Objectives and Ends.

The Objectives, thanks to the excellent work of those who founded the SBA, have not changed and continue to provide much valued clarity to our organizational focus and purpose. The Ends are a further refinement of the Objectives in keeping with our Policy Governance model. Together the Objectives and Ends form the broadest strokes of our strategic plans and all organizational efforts are in service of the clarity of purpose they provide.

Our Objectives as per the SBA Constitution are:

1. To encourage the development and education of bands in the province of Saskatchewan.
2. To provide assistance for planned activities of the Saskatchewan Band Association.
3. To inform the people of Saskatchewan as to the value of bands in their schools, community and province.
4. To help raise the level of performance of bands in the province of Saskatchewan.
5. To help encourage the active participation of bands in their communities.

In service of our stated Objectives and in keeping with our Policy Governance Model... our Ends are:

1. People and communities are culturally enriched and fulfilled by engagement with band music.
2. Individuals and communities are aware of, value and support band throughout the province.
3. Band encourages creativity and development of new music, reflecting the diversity of Saskatchewan communities
4. Band is accessible to all.
 - Community ensembles exist throughout the province.
5. Bands in Saskatchewan are committed to ongoing improvement.
 - Resources and opportunities exist throughout the province

The 2021 Annual Report continues to demonstrate how SBA focuses our resources and efforts in service of those established directions. The Board of Directors is very proud of the ongoing creativity and responsiveness of our organization. We have all been required to pivot and adapt continually throughout the past year. It is a testament to our clarity of purpose and to the dedication of our staff team and operational volunteers that we have been able to remain flexible while also remaining true to our stated purpose.

The Board of Directors wishes to thank our 2021 staff members: Suzanne Gorman, CEO; Sandra McLean, Administration Coordinator; Julie Atter and Robin Tinani, Program Coordinators; Matt Henry and Lindsay Holizki, Program & Communication Assistants for their hard work and dedication. We would also like to thank our Online Education, Member Funding and Awards & Recognition Teams as well as many other SBA volunteers for their ongoing and incredibly valuable contributions.



Mission Matters

Dedicated to our Objectives

Missions, Objectives, Ends... regardless of the term used, the level of importance remains the same. As a registered Charity, the SBA is solidly committed to delivering on its organizational purpose from the broadest levels to the smallest decisions.

The pandemic has presented many challenges and unanticipated risks to bands and band programs. It also provided the SBA with new opportunities to demonstrate our ongoing and unrelenting commitment to the Objectives enshrined in our Constitution. *This Annual Report presents our many 2021 Programs and Services in a unique manner – connecting them to the Objectives established by our members and founders.* As we head toward our 40th Anniversary year in 2023, reflecting on how new and innovative initiatives continue to serve our long-standing organizational purpose highlights the strength and longevity of these original organizational Objectives.

In 2021 alone, the SBA offered the following programs & services in furtherance of our Objectives, Ends and Mission:

Programs:

[After School Online Program](#)
[Tune Up Tuesday Webinars](#)
[Online Master Classes](#)
[Semi-Private Online Lessons](#)
[Online Music Theory & Composition Courses](#)
[NAC Partnership Webinars/Professional Development](#)
[Band in the Park](#)
[Summer Online Lessons](#)
[Rural & Remote Program](#)
[Christmas Tuba Festival](#)
[Holiday Band Celebration Online Concerts](#)

Services:

[COVID Restriction Advocacy](#)
[Back to Band Guidelines](#)
[Band Parent Advocacy Resources](#)
[Why Join Band Promo \(translated\)](#)
[Head Start Beginner Band Videos](#)
[Beginner Band Support](#)
[Scholarships & Awards](#)
[Member Special Project Support](#)
[Community & Pipe Band Contributions](#)
[Diversity & Reconciliation Supports](#)
[Communication & Promotions](#)

Each of the programs and services above are listed within the report under the Objective they most accurately serve.

Encouraging the Development and Education of Bands in Saskatchewan.

After School Online Program

Generous funding support from the **E. Murray & Edna Forbes Foundation at the South Saskatchewan Community Foundation**, made a one-time 7-week virtual After School Program possible. The program was specifically targeted to reach students whose band programs had been entirely cancelled or significantly altered due to COVID 19. Once students were provided time to register, as space permitted, adult musicians were also allowed to join.

SBA Clinician Bureau members provided instructional support for 14 separate class groupings reaching 130 participants from 14 different communities. A perfect example of the program's value could be found in a group of 11 Junior Flute players. This group of participants were from Saskatoon where their elementary band program had been cancelled for the year. For this group, our Online Program was the only band instruction they would receive throughout the 2020-21 school year.

Instrument ensembles submitted recordings of small ensemble pieces and the recordings were turned into a short virtual concert to showcase the learning. The Concert was viewed by over 550 people.

Instructor Quotes:

"I had one student in particular, who isn't the strongest player. They had weak tone, limited range, and struggled with rhythms. This student practiced absolutely EVERYTHING that was given to them. ... They used SmartMusic to its fullest extent - and recorded every single assignment for me. ... By the end of the 7 weeks their range improved by at least 4 semi-tones and they are easily playing rhythms they struggled with at the beginning. I love that I was able to connect with someone in rural Saskatchewan, who without this program, would not have access to lessons such as this."



South
Saskatchewan
Community
Foundation

"I had one participant whose initial response to questions was "I pretty much forgot everything. I can't read notes, and I can't play a good sound." By the end, he was playing multiple scales and was quite successful in his recording. We definitely made some inter-community connections!"

Summer Online Lessons

SBA offered online semi-private lesson sets in both July and August. Our number of participants was significantly lower compared to 2020 due to the relaxing of restrictions and a growing apathy for online activities.

Participant comment: *“THANK you for making lessons available. ... Excellent lessons, semi-private is very individualized, and your staff are all extremely knowledgeable and personable. Another excellent opportunity to make music together, and individually improve and help make playing one’s instrument even more fun and enjoyable!”*

A successful 2020 initiative was expanded. Under the direction of Saskatchewan Composer Paul Suchan, our Composition Level 1 course returned and a new Level 2 was introduced in August. Participant-created compositions were recorded by a small group of SBA Clinician Bureau members, showcasing the results of the work from our budding Saskatchewan composers.



NAC Music Alive Program Partnership Support

The summer wrapped up with 3 great online sessions provided thanks to our **partnership with the National Arts Centre Music Alive program.**

Two special Brass and Woodwind **“Instrument Tune Up for Fall”** sessions were delivered by Kevin Junk. Overall, 18 woodwind and 12 brass participants gained insight into common instrument issues as well as maintenance and repair tips.

Arlene Shiplett delivered a development session for Band Directors focusing on **using online resources** to enhance their band programs. 14 participants signed up for the session from at least 7 different school divisions.



NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE
CENTRE NATIONAL DES ARTS
Canada is our stage. Le Canada en scène.

Beginner Band Support SBA Head Start Video Series

A brand new video series was released in time for the start of the 2021-22 school year. After many band programs were paused entirely in 2020, schools were facing a double cohort of beginner students and the need for this resource was very high. Again, SBA Clinician Bureau members provided the content expertise.

One Band Director summed up the reaction of many in an email to SBA right after the promotion went out: *“This is incredible, and right on time. Thank you SO much!!!! I’m crying happy tears.”*

From Sept – December 2021, the Head Start videos were viewed by an estimated 1,100 people. Saskatoon, where all elementary band programs had been cancelled in 2020-21, was the location with the highest number of views, totalling over 600.

In addition to the full videos, the cleaning and maintenance sections were also turned into small extra instruction videos. These short clips were watched approximately 100 times from Sept. – Dec. alone with Saskatoon again having the highest number of views.

Additional Beginner Band Supports

When requested, SBA provided added support to help Band Directors handle the influx of double cohort beginners in the fall. The SBA supported over 25 individual clinics reaching over 275 beginner students in person. We also provided virtual clinic support using the same successful breakout room model from the After School Online Program. Overall, 275 grade 6 students and 163 grade 7 students received dedicated virtual instruction from 9 SBA Clinician Bureau members

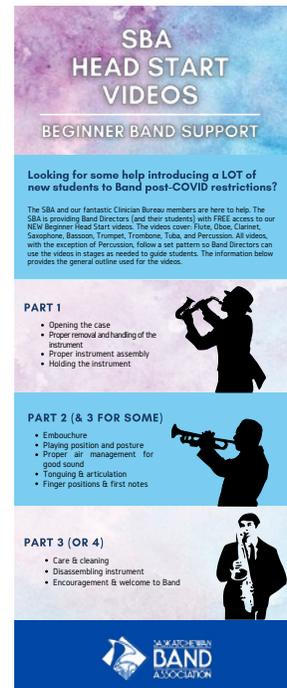
Band Director comment “This was such a great experience for my students. They are still talking about what they learned in the clinic. Thank you for all your work behind the scenes and setting up our clinicians. I would love to run our clinics this way again next year!”

We also offered specialty virtual sessions for French Horn, Bassoon and Oboe beginners around the province.

Member Support – Special Projects

SBA provided financial support to the following member projects:

- Prairie Spirit School Division’s 7th annual Resonate music conference in early April. Resonate 2021 had 697 students for the conference as well as 69 educators for a teacher Professional Development day, both events drawing from across Canada.
- University of Regina Conservatory’s COVID rebuild and recruitment initiative
- University of Saskatchewan’s commissioning project for a new Jazz composition premiered at a fall concert.
- Prairie Spirit School Division’s ReconciliAction PD day’s Band Panel discussion. The session was offered as a hybrid model and connected within SBA’s special TRC focused online series.



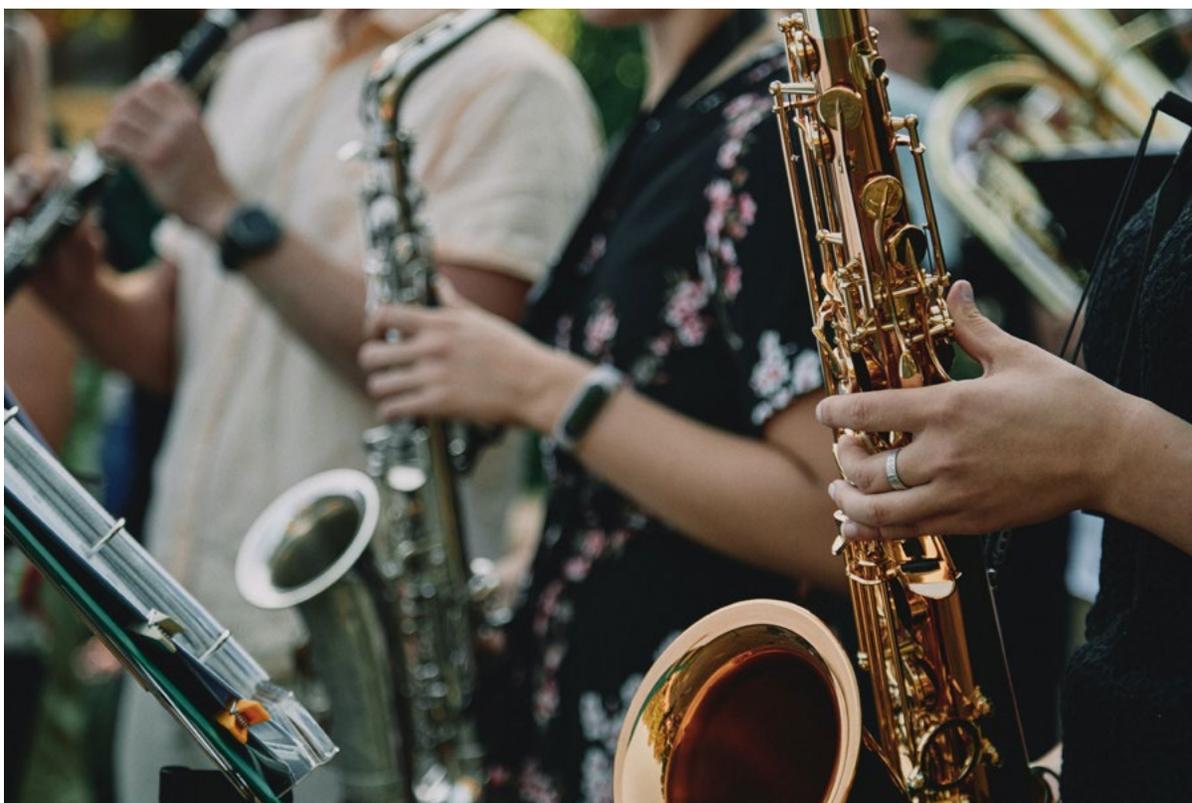
Promoting the Value of Band in Our Schools, Community and Province.

Band Advocacy

After hosting an input session with Band Parents, the SBA developed a series of free resources for parents wanting to ensure their band programs returned as quickly and fully as possible. The resources relied upon high-quality research from the International Performing Arts Aerosol Study and established benefits of band research. A special bulletin on the new advocacy resources encouraged over 750 band families to take an active role in securing their band programs for the 2021-22 school year while also profiling SBA Scholarship opportunities for band students.

Throughout the pandemic, the SBA was in regular contact with the provincial government's Business Response Team (BRT) to illustrate the impact of extreme, unnecessary restrictions on band.

We also hosted a follow-up session on the International Performing Arts Aerosol Study with the study's co-chair Dr. James Weaver as our guest presenter. Direct invitations to the session, and follow-up emails, were provided to key decision makers in the Departments of Health and Education, the Business Response Team (BRT) and School Division Superintendents and Arts Ed Consultants. Our *Back to Band Guidelines* were updated to reflect new research findings and provide support in response to constantly changing restrictions.





Let's Band Together!

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www.saskband.org



SASKATCHEWAN
BAND
ASSOCIATION

Sex Culture | SASK LOTTERIES

Guidelines for Back to Band

The Saskatchewan Band Association is pleased to provide school and community bands with updated guidance for their 2021-22 band programs. These guidelines are intended to provide further support to bands concerned about the emergence of the DELTA variant, increasing COVID case counts and with overall desires to ensure the greatest safety possible in band programs, rehearsals and performances. Our guidelines continue to be drawn from the International Performing Arts Aerosol study group. The full study has now been peer reviewed and published following traditional scientific protocols.

Additional Research – Assessing the Risk of Music Programs

In the spring of 2021, the Coalition completed an additional study to assess the level of spread events that had occurred in school-based music programs during the pandemic. 3,000 survey responses, covering 1,641 music programs were received. Of the 1,641 music programs, only 8 programs (5 choir, 2 band, and 1 orchestra) self-identified a potential additional spread of COVID-19 occurring in a music class or rehearsal. Two of the self-reported cases were from schools that did not use any of the study mitigations.

Researchers applied all of the data gathered to assess the potential COVID-19 risk 2020-21 program participants faced. “The overall expected chance of getting COVID-19 in a 30-minute rehearsal would be ... a chance of one (1) in 1,969,709 per person per half hour...”. When most or all of the study mitigations were applied the risk dropped even further to 1 in 2,192,287. More Risk Assessment information can be found [HERE](#).

Moving Forward – Safety for 2021-22 Year

Band programs CAN be offered safely, even with the Delta variant. This has been proven by the research time & again, even before vaccination campaigns were underway. The SBA strongly encourages full vaccinations for everyone who is eligible. The higher the vaccination rate, the lower the risk of transmission at all times - including during band programs.

Whether or not formal COVID-19 related health restrictions are required by the Government of Saskatchewan, the SBA recommends the ongoing use of the mitigations recommended in the Aerosol Study for added protection. In fact, mitigations can be used to reduce transmission of many respiratory pathogens such as flu, virus, common cold, and measles etc. The recommendations below are meant to provide some best practices as we manage variants, increase vaccination rates and we continue to move out of the pandemic.

- **Outdoors:** Outdoors remains the safest space – no mitigations needed

Indoors:

- **Mask the instrument.** Bell covers made from appropriate material* remain the best way of reducing potential infected aerosol from circulating in an indoor space.
- **Mask the musician.** Musicians should wear a regular full mask made from appropriate material* when entering or moving around the rehearsal

Band Together with Us!

Band builds strong students...

Band programs develop cooperation, creativity, discipline and concentration – key skills to succeed in school and in life. Getting children involved in band at an early age can lead to a lifetime of accomplishments.

The benefits for band students go far beyond the classroom. Band programs help students excel in their studies, feel part of their community, enhance cultural understanding and make new friends.

Band offers a welcoming and inclusive environment: an opportunity where everyone is part of the team!

Why join band?

Research shows students in band...

- have better academic success
- work better in teams
- have enhanced critical thinking skills
- stay in school longer
- develop confidence, commitment & discipline
- pursue advanced education opportunities

Ask about your school's Band program. Most Band programs begin in grade 5 or 6 but students are always welcome to join Band in later grades.

The Saskatchewan Band Association is a registered charity dedicated to the support, development and promotion of band throughout the province.

For more information on the SBA or band programs visit www.saskband.org



wicēwinān kitōhcikēwin!

kitōhcikēwin kiskinwahamākanak kā-otinahkik sohki-kiskinwahamāwak

kitōhcikēwin kā-otinahkik kiskinwahamākanak otinamwak ēkota oheci, māmwī-wicīhtāsowin, oshcikēwin ēkwa sohki-māmītonēyihcikēwin-ēkohe kā-kiskēyihāmīhk ta-kishīhāhk kiskinwahamātowin ēkwa miyo-pimātisiwin ka-ayāhk. awāsīak wīpac kitōhcikēwin kā-otinahkik mītoni mistahī kā-kashīhtāwak kā-āti-pimātisiwicik.

mistahī kā-kashīhtāwak kitōhcikēwin kiskinwahamākanak namōya poko kiskinwahamātowīkamīkōhk, kitōhcikan kiskinwahamākēwin wīhchītamakan kwāyāk ta-kiskinwahmācīk kiskinwahamākanak, ta-mīywayācīk ita kā-wīkīcīk, ayīwīk ka-kiskēyihrahkīk kōtaka ayīyīniwā opīmātisiwīniwā, ēkwa ka-wīcēwākānīhkēcīk.

kitōhcikēwīnhk pokwāyīyak nitawēyīhtākosīw ēkwa wīchīhtāw.

tānehkī ka-otinamān kitōhcikēwin?

- kiskēyīhīkātēw kiskinwahamākanak kā-otmahkīk kitōhcikēwin...
- nawac kwāyācīk kiskinwahamāwāk
- wīchīhtāsowak
- kwāyācīk māmitōnēyīhchīkēwāk
- nawac kīnwēs kiskinwahamānāwāk
- nawac sohkēmīsowak, kīkwāy kīshīhtāwāk ēkwa sohkēmītonēhchīkēwāk
- nītonamwāk pītō kīkwāy ta-kakēw-kiskēyīhtāhkīk

kakwēcīhkēmow kitōhcikēwin itē kīcawāsīmīs kā-kiskinwahamāt. kitōhcikēwin mācipayīn Grade 5 āhpō Grade 6 māka kā-ōtinamwak kitōhcikēwin pokwīspē.

Saskatchewan Band Association anīma registered Charity, ē-wīchīhtāsochīk kitōhcikēwin kā-sīpwēpīcīkātēk mīsiwē province.

kīspīn ayīwāk kī-nohtē-kiskēyīhtēn SBA oheci āhpō kotak kīkwāy kīyōhkāta www.saskband.org.

加入我们!

乐队培养坚强的学生.....

乐队项目可以培养学生的合作、创新、自律和专注—这些都是在学习和生活中成功的关键能力。

让孩子在早期加入乐队可以使其受益终生。

参加乐队的益处是学生在课堂中无法得到的。乐队项目帮助学生在学习中出类拔萃、融入他们的社区、提高文化理解力以及结交新朋友。

乐队还提供了一个温馨而包容的环境：一个让每个人都感到自己是团队一员的地方!

为什么加入乐队?

研究表明在乐队的学生可以.....

- 取得更好的学习成绩
- 更好地进行团队合作
- 提高批判性思维
- 留在学校更久
- 建立信心、责任心以及提高自律能力
- 有更多追求高等教育的机会

请咨询您孩子所在学校的乐队项目。大部分的乐队项目开始于5年级或者6年级，但是一直欢迎学生在之后的年级当中加入乐队。

萨斯喀彻温省乐队协会(Saskatchewan Band Association – SBA)是一个注册慈善协会，致力于在全省支持、发展和推广乐队。

更多关于SBA或者乐队项目的信息，请访问网站www.saskband.org.



Why Join Band Promotion

In the spring we focused on providing Band Directors with band promotion/recruitment resources. A new Why Join Band brochure was made available in both electronic and print format. Brochures were provided in English, Cree, French, Tagalog, Chinese and Arabic and focused on connecting with parents deciding whether or not to enrol their child in band.

SBA Scholarships & Awards

The Awards & Recognition Team launched a re-developed set of Scholarship awards in 2021, expanding the reach to more regions and ages.

The revised **Bev Shore Memorial Scholarship** now recognizes graduating grade 12 band students, rewarding dedicated contributions to their school bands and various plans to actively continue in band after graduation.

The Gelinas family of Regina wanted to expand their encouragement of young Jazz musicians to a provincial level. **The David Gelinas Memorial Jazz Scholarship** encourages jazz musicians of all ages to focus on their ongoing education and development.

The new **Greg McLean Memorial Scholarship** provides support and encouragement to Music Education students in the province preparing for their 4-month in-school practicum in Band and committed to a career as a Band Director.

As a result of these changes, SBA provided awards to more students than ever before:

2021 Bev Shore Memorial Scholarship winners:

Samuel Boyd - Saskatoon
Daly Haas - North Battleford
Megan Betteridge - Pilot Butte/Balgonie
Ella Sikora - Lloydminster
Ainsley Arndt - Regina

2021 David Gelinas Memorial Jazz Scholarship winner:

Rochelle Wright - Vanscoy

2021 Greg McLean Memorial Scholarship winners:

University of Regina - Lindsay Holizki
University of Saskatchewan - Rhett Schroeder

Distinguished Band Director Award:

Will Martin



Will Martin, Band Director for the Saskatoon Brass Band & Music Education Facilitator with Prairie Spirit School Division was awarded the **SBA's Distinguished Band Director Award** at the Resonate Gala Event in the fall. The many heartfelt nominations from Will's colleagues and friends emphasized Will's dedication to developing musicians of all ages and levels and specifically his ongoing commitment to encouraging a thriving "Band Community".

Rural and Remote Band Program Support

Originally planned to start in 2020, this pilot initiative was finally launched in the fall of 2021. Four Band Directors in rural or remote communities were provided with targeted virtual development support specifically designed for their bands' needs. The program utilizes the SBA Clinician Bureau and was one of the original drivers behind developing the Bureau.

The fall 2021 program provided 16 sessions reaching 107 students from: Ernie Studer School in Loon Lake; Indian Head High School and Indian Head Elementary; Montmartre, Vibank and MacLean Schools in the Prairie Valley School Division; and Westcliffe Composite School in Kindersley.

Communication & Promotion

The pandemic has made communication and promotion more important than ever. In addition to the regular communication efforts below, the SBA produced additional promotional banners highlighting the Benefits of Band in our communities and for our youth. The collapsible banners are available to SBA members and school band programs for free to aid in their promotion efforts.





Communication Statistics	2021	2020	2019
Website Sessions	14,226	21,180	15,447
Social Media	15,596	24,873	24,052
Member & Contact event/promotion emails	23,715	18,224	3,164
eNews distribution totals	29,757	17,765	8,007
TOTAL	64,172	82,042	50,670

Raising the Level of Band Performance in Saskatchewan

Tune Up Tuesday - 2021

Our free webinar series, launched in the fall of 2020, continued into the new year with our final winter/spring session being delivered on May 4th. Over 175 people signed up to participate in Tune Up Tuesdays throughout the year as we continued to have incredible support from fantastic presenters.

SBA hosted the following sessions:

- January 19: Body Mapping with Dr. David Dick;
- February 2: Updates on the International Aerosol Study with Dr. James Weaver;
- February 9: Pound Pro fitness using drum sticks with Kristina Gasparic-Block;
- March 2: Power of Podcasts with Dylan Maddix;
- March 9: Copyright and Online Performances with Tricia Howe & Simon Henri;
- March 23: Fearless Performance with Jeff Nelsen;
- March 30: Balancing Careers & Music with Bones Apart Trombone Ensemble and Will Martin;
- May 4: Small Ensembles with Canadian Brass' Jeff Nelsen & Chuck Daellenbach.
- October 19: Road to a new Composition – Conversation with Composer Ty McKenzie & Artist Kevin Peeace
- November 2: Reflecting Indigenous Culture & the new Band Curriculum with Brent Ghiglione





Virtual Master Classes

All master classes continued were offered at no cost.

We had 88 brass, woodwind and percussion musicians sign up to participate in the winter/spring Master Classes and 39 signed up for the fall Master Classes supported by our partnership with the NAC Music Alive Program. For just over half of the 39 fall participants, the NAC sponsored session was their first ever Master Class.

Sessions included:

- January 26th Brass Master Classes – Miles Newman, Principal Trumpet Regina Symphony Orchestra, and Tom McCaslin, Principal Tuba Calgary Symphony Orchestra;
- February 23rd Woodwind Master Classes - Dr. Glen Gillis, University of Saskatchewan Professor, HyonSuk Kim, Principal Clarinetist Regina Symphony Orchestra and jazz flautist Marie-Veronique Bourque of Regina;
- March 16th Percussion Master Class - International Mallet Virtuoso Andrea Venet
- April 13th Percussion - mallet performer Helen Barclay, and Darcy Gingras, Principal Percussionist Regina Symphony Orchestra;
- April 20th Brass - retired SK Band Director & Trumpeter Nick Fanner, and Colin Traquair, Second Trombone of Ottawa's National Arts Centre Orchestra;
- April 27th Woodwinds - Allison Miller, Principal Flute Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra; Lumsden Band Director Miranda Hulshof, and Cameron Church of Moose Jaw Band Director.
- November 16th Brass, Woodwind & Percussion – presented by National Art Centre clinicians: Anna Petersen, Karen Donnelly and Jonathan Wade

Semi-Private Online Lessons & Intro to Music Theory Course

Thanks to extended funding support from the E. Murray & Edna Forbes Foundation at the South Saskatchewan Community Foundation, SBA offered additional discounted online lessons.

The 6-week set of online semi-private lessons was offered to band musicians of all ages and abilities. As with the After School program, most of the 60 participants were students but a number of adult community band musicians signed up for the development as well! The program concluded with a small ensemble concert. The concert was viewed by an estimated 550 people.

The Intro to Music Theory course was specifically designed for SBA by Clinician Bureau member Robin Tinani. Registrations hit the maximum # for the program with 12 joining from around the province.

Participant Quotes:

“...we’re making amazing progress in our class. I had been banging my head against the upper clarion B and C notes for half a year, and now Andrew has us playing in the altissimo range! How is that possible?”

“Thank you for the terrific, valuable instruction, and the incentive to keep playing! I have many ideas of ways to switch up practicing, playing scales, arpeggios, and becoming aware of small orchestral pieces was a true highlight. THANK YOU for the semi-private lessons! They were totally worth my time and I gained valuable insight into more aspects of playing my instrument. ... We have all learned so much!”



Program Instructor Quotes:

“At the beginning of the 6 weeks, one of my adult students could barely reach any sort of high note at all. She was struggling so much. By the end of the 6 weeks she had almost doubled her range! ... I am so proud of how hard she worked!”

“I found it delightful to have ... a student from rural Saskatchewan. He is a diligent learner and a solid flautist. ... He advanced at a really quick rate when able to have semi-private lessons.”

“I think all the groups enjoyed meeting each other! And I really enjoyed how they would cheer for each other, and encourage each other. To see them grow in experience over the lessons was very fulfilling for me as well as them. To be able to give them information and ideas and exercises that they were not getting, especially this strange year, but in general, ...was very rewarding.”

“I just think the SBA has done a wonderful job of providing band students an opportunity to continue playing through all the chaos of the pandemic. Having taught for 34 years myself, I have felt a lot of concern for what has happened to the children (and their teachers) through this past year. The kids in your program are really lucky.”

Diversity & Reconciliation Supports

Thanks to a new composition by Saskatchewan's Tyrone McKenzie, SBA used the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to launch a fall Reconciliation focused virtual PD series.

The new Saskatchewan Band 10,20,30 curriculum was released in the fall of 2021 and includes increased emphasis on diversity and reflecting indigenous culture. Tyrone's new composition, reflecting the First Nations and Metis people of the Prince Albert area, was made available for free to all Saskatchewan Bands.

In total, 45 registered for the online series with the SBA and 16 teachers participated at the in-person Prairie Spirit School Division session that was include in the series.

New Composition: Where the Prairie Meets the Pines

About the Music

Title: *Where the Prairies Meet the Pines*

For: Grade 7-9 Bands

Length: 3 minutes (recording link below)

The composition attempts to honour the gathering of not only two major rivers, but also those who have met there for centuries.

Where the Prairies Meet the Pines is more than just a Junior High band composition. It is a labour of love inspired by the knowledge keepers, geography, peoples, culture and history of this region teeming with rivers, wildlife, forests and rolling hills.

Recording:

[Where the Prairies Meet the Pines.mp3](#)

Resources & Supports

Special thanks to Ty for providing the added teacher and student resources located below.

Also a special thank you to Brent Ghiglione and the University of Regina Wind Ensemble for preparing a recording of the composition.

[Where the Prairies Meet the Pines.mp3](#)

[Inspiration and Background - Where the Prairies Meet the Pines.pdf](#)

[Study Guide - Where the Prairies Meet the Pines.pdf](#)

[Composer's Statement - Where the Prairies Meet the Pines.pdf](#)

Encouraging the Active Participation of Bands in Their Communities



Band in the Park (BIP)

New initiative – GREAT Results

Essentially a drop-in band initiative, Band in the Park focused on providing musicians of all ages and abilities a chance to begin playing in person again. Many participants were surprised at how rusty they were after not playing in a group for over a year.

Well known, popular music was selected for the enjoyment of musicians and casual spectators alike. The SBA arranged for space in public parks in Regina, Saskatoon, Prince Albert, Moose Jaw and North Battleford. Despite hot weather and mosquitos, 7 BIP Events were successfully run from June – August with 2 additional ones cancelled due to weather. With 110 participants and another 160 spectators all of the events were very well received!

Special thanks to our BIP Coordinator Chad Huel and our various Band Directors: Mark Preece, Joel Lareau, Stacey Mortenson-Spokes, Chinley Hinacey and Kayleigh Skomorowski.

Community Bands & Pipe Bands Contribute

Despite ongoing COVID challenges, over 685 adult musicians continued to play in Community and University bands in 2021. Another 176 participated in various Pipe Bands around the province.

By applying equal mixes of dedication and ingenuity, bands continued to provide music for community events like Remembrance Day Services, provide spontaneous entertainment with seniors homes and street performances and put on in-person, virtual and hybrid concerts – ultimately reaching 263,800 Saskatchewan residents around the province!

The numbers do not even come close to reflecting the value and impact of these bands in our province! The following statements are snippets of contributions made:

From Band Reports:

“That brief period following the removal of all social distancing measures was the only window where the organization felt it was both safe and of benefit to the community to stage a public concert. This was held at the River Landing with a free outdoor concert performed by the summer concert and summer jazz band. It was a wonderful moment not only for the band members who hadn’t performed in over 16 months, but also for the audience members, most of whom were attending a live concert after waiting about the same amount of time.”
Saskatoon Community Band

“Our saxophone quartet did a number of driveway concerts and played outside at retirement residences. Our band provided music for Fort Qu’Appelle’s virtual Remembrance Day program and our Christmas concert was recorded and played at many different seniors homes across the province.”
Prairie Winds Adult Community Band

“Our membership was excited to return to a hybrid of rehearsals (some in person individuals coupled with additional membership on a streaming option) in April 2021. We have enjoyed full group participation since Labour Day this year allowing each of our bands to perform a successful in person concert this past fall.”
Saskatoon Concert Band

Remembrance Day Service in Yorkton with special guest Lt. Governor Russ Mirasty “...was our first public performance since March 2020 - 20 months It felt great to perform again.”
Yorkton Community Band



2021 Remembrance Day Service
Gallagher Center Flexi-hall
Special guest – Lt. Governor Russ Mirasty





Christmas Tuba Festival

SBA support was requested to help revive this long-standing, internationally connected initiative. To revive the event and to prepare for provincial expansion in 2022, SBA commissioned recordings of 19 holiday classics played by Tuba, Euphonium and Baritone experts. The recordings and the music for all levels of players were made available in advance of the event.

Tuba enthusiasts converged at the Southland Mall in Regina, using the mall’s newly created community space “The Spot”. Live holiday music was provided for 1.5 hours by 25 musicians for over 300 shoppers and spectators.

Holiday Band Celebration

The virtual Celebration was designed to profile a mix of bands from around the province from elementary bands to community bands and university bands – showcasing the whole “band family” together.

Ultimately 3 videos were created showcasing 25 bands, providing 60 minutes of music, with an estimated viewing by 750 people.



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