



2017 AMNA Nomination

Prepared By: Owner

Arts Educator Award

Nominee [Lynne Dalcin](#)
Artist Type Teacher/Instructor
Organization/Business Various



Photo

Nomination

Lynne has received her Association of the Royal Conservatory (ARCT) diploma for Teachers in piano. The Associate of the Royal Conservatory diplomas for Performers and Teachers are the highest academic standings awarded by the Royal Conservatory. The ARCT Teacher's diploma is respected internationally as a teaching qualification. Lynne has been teaching piano for 25 years with 22 of those years in Airdrie. Over the years she has taught anywhere between 25 and 40 students per year depending on the year and the length of the lessons. This year she has 21 students of her own and 29 junior students. Lynne operates her own studio, but has two aspects to her studio. Students range from beginner to Grade 10 Royal Conservatory. Lynne Dalcin Piano Studio – is where she instructs her students to obtain their Royal Conservatory Diplomas. She is one of the very few teachers in Airdrie that undertake all aspects of this program, so she has many other piano teacher's students joining in the theory, history and harmony classes. She goes above and beyond to prepare the students for these exams. Her satisfaction is seeing her students and other teacher's students succeed. She is very proud of the fact that a few of her students achieve Distinction on these exams. She has also had six students go on to study music at the University level. Then another component to her studio is the Junior Piano Studio. Here she mentors her senior students in teaching the younger students. This is a great opportunity for the senior members to gain valuable experience in teaching. Lynne is very passionate about music and shares this passion with her students. Every year her students attend the Philharmonic Orchestra, they enter the Airdrie Rotary Festival of Performing Arts Festival and participate in two recitals. Lynne's students do very well at the festival. Some have even gone on to place at the provincial level and do Airdrie proud. Lynne also belongs to a performance group in Calgary called Music Coterie. It's a group that meets once a month to share music together - to listen and perform for each other. This group hosts two student recitals a year, which her students participate in. They are given the opportunity to go into Calgary to play on \$250,000 pianos. A once in a life time opportunity for these students. Lynne is all about giving back to the community through her studio and herself. Her students regularly perform at Good Earth to raise money for the Foodbank and for the Airdrie Rotary Festival of Performing Arts. Her students also provide entertainment at the Annual Meeting of the Nose Creek Museum Board in May. Lynne belongs to the Airdrie Community Choir and they support the community by performing at the Remembrance Day ceremony, the Artisan Market in December, the Christmas SingFest in December as well as their own spring concert. One of Lynne's main contribution of the arts to the Community is to the Airdrie Rotary Festival of Performing Arts. She was a founding director hosting the initial meetings at her house and is now currently the Vice-



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President and also the Piano Liaison. Her passion is evident and this festival is something that will continue on when she is finished teaching. Lynne has been an Adjudicator for the Old's and District Kiwanis Music Festival. Lynne is more than just an educator. She works very hard in supporting the arts in Airdrie and works very hard to further its excellence and relevancy. Lynne is very deserving of the educator award because she is very passionate, dedicated and her unique studio is developing future piano teachers.

Portfolio

Biography

Start

I've played piano all my life - since I was 7 years old anyway. I've always loved it - I could not walk by the piano when I was young without playing it, even just a note. I grew up in the 60's and not everyone had a piano, and not everyone could afford to give their children piano lessons, so I was a very lucky person! I was the envy of my friends that I got to learn to play the piano! By the time I was 14 years old, I was teaching younger children, I was playing at two different church services and every wedding in town (it was a small town!) I couldn't take lessons beyond Grade 8 because there was no teacher for me in my hometown. As an adult, after my children were born, I returned to piano lessons and earned my Associate Degree through the Royal Conservatory - my A.R.C.T. - and I began to teach during this process. I love sharing music with children - I especially love the quiet children who are able to express so much emotion at the piano - it delights me to see and hear them find their "voice". I'm 60 years old now and it still delights me to play myself and listen to children play! I know I'll ever lose that delight!

Mentor

This is a difficult question! I guess my mentors would have to be both my students and my teachers. Michelle Wheatley-Brown and Linda Kundert-Stoll were my teachers while working on my degree. They taught me to truly love the masters. Sister Marion was my teacher when I was a child. I remember her as a kind and loving nun who taught me to love music - all the while with a cat on her lap! My mentors in the past few years have been my students who have taught me so much - I think they play much better than I ever will! My students who have achieved their Grade 10 RCM in the past few years have truly humbled me with their dedication and love of music - Miranda Schmidt, Connor Wilde, Erin Stadnyk and Hanako Rodgers. They've taught me far more than I've ever taught them! My mentors in my life, other than my teachers and students, would undeniably be my husband and my four children. Without them, life would not be possible



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Achievement

I've never really thought about what I've done in terms of achievement. I, of course, am proud of the achievements of my students - we've had some great success with the Festival, both locally and provincially and also with the Conservatory. I'm also very proud of the fact that I started a teaching studio in my home. My senior students teach my beginner students, while taking lessons themselves. I think this is something unique in Airdrie and I'm very proud of that. I host monthly pedagogy lessons with my student teachers to help them learn how to teach music. But, I think what I'm most proud of is that I'm a founding director for the Airdrie Rotary Festival. I actually hosted the initial two meetings in my own home, and I've worked as the piano liaison and also as vice-president of the Board. I'm so very proud that Airdrie has its very own Festival where we can celebrate classical music! We have classes in piano, voice, musical theatre, strings, choir, band and speech. It's my favourite ten days of the year! At the risk of overstepping, I feel that this will be my legacy - this is what will live on, long after I'm not teaching anymore. That is my dream.

Future Goal(s)

I would like to "grow" the local Airdrie Festival so it's a more central, important event in the city. I'm working on finding sponsorship within the city and on expanding into even more classes. I was given the opportunity last year to adjudicate at the Olds Festival and last year, I've been hired by the Wetaskiwin this year. I hope I can do more of this work - I enjoy it. I would also perhaps at some point like to join the Provincial Festival Board and be a part of that. On a more personal level, I'm hoping that I can continue to teach in my home - and to play. That's my favourite thing - to be in my studio with one of my students and working through a Mozart Sonata or a Chopin Nocturne and creating something beautiful! I guess that this is my top goal - to be able to teach for many more years!