

The ABMF in a Nutshell

The Anne Burrows Music Foundation (the "ABMF") is a non-profit organization founded by Anne Burrows, Jenny Diment, Mary Lee, Mary Yiu, and Winnie Yiu-Young, to assist pianist Angela Cheng in studying at the Juilliard School of Music in New York. Since that time, over the past 44 years, it has expanded to provide over \$1.4 million in scholarships to more than 130 musicians.

The ABMF's vision is for its musicians to make a positive impact on our community and around the world through music.

The ABMF's mission is to fund gifted music students from the Greater Edmonton Area so that they can pursue excellence in their post-secondary music education in Canada and abroad.

The ABMF achieves its vision and mission by investing in its recipients. As it is a volunteer-based organization, almost all the funds raised go towards post-secondary tuition support for its music scholarship recipients.

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Three of the Original Five Founding Members
Winnie Yiu-Young (current president), Mary Lee and Mary Yiu
The other founding members were Jenny Diment
and Dr. Anne Burrows herself.

2024-2025 Music Scholarship Recipients

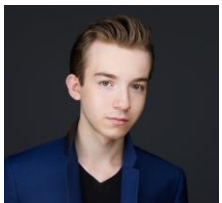
The ABMF and the Friends of the ABMF are pleased to announce this year's recipients! Up to \$15,000/year is allowed per successful applicant, typically up to a maximum of four years, in support of tuition expenses at a recognized post-secondary institution. The ABMF adjudication panel uses a pre-determined scoring system and selection criteria to decide on the amount of each scholarship award. This includes the ranking of each applicant's musical performance level, scholastic achievements, academic references, personal vision essay and career aspirations, along with funding availability at the time.

The ABMF and the Friends of the ABMF congratulates 11 successful recipients:



Sointu Aalto, *cello* - Continue Bachelor of Music in cello and composition at the Schulich School of Music at McGill University.

Maya Budzinski, *violin* - Continue Undergraduate Degree in Violin Performance at the University of Toronto.



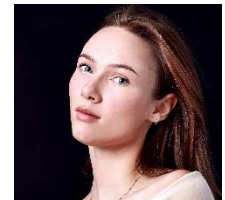
Jacques Forestier, *violin* – Continue Bachelor of Music (violin) at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Theodore Chow, *piano* – Continue Doctor of Musical Arts Program at the University of Western Ontario.



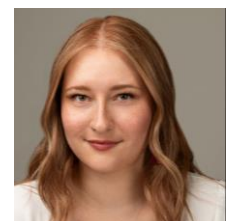
Emily Luo, *oboe* - Pursue Master of Music in Oboe Performance at the Rice University Shepherd School of Music in Houston, Texas.

Aemilia Moser, *soprano* – Continue Master of Music Degree (Opera Program) at the University of Toronto.



Ehrentraud Moser, *violin* - Continue Bachelor of Music at The Glenn Gould School (GGS) of Music in Toronto.

Alla Salakhova, *mezzo soprano* - Pursue Master of Music in Opera Performance at the University of Maryland's Maryland Opera Studio.





Erin Selin, *soprano* - Commence Master of Music in Classical Vocal Performance at the Royal Conservatoire The Hague in The Netherlands.

Elina Yuma, *violin* - Pursue Bachelor of Music in Violin Performance (Honours) at The Glenn Gould School (GGS) of The Royal Conservatory in Toronto.



Jessica Yuma, *piano* – Commence Master of Music at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, Massachusetts.

Alumni Beats

Many ABMF alumni have gone on to establish wonderful music careers, whether it be in passing on their art to other young musicians or performing on the national and international stage. Here are some stories from this year:

Allesandra Ianni, mezzo-soprano

Allesandra, a recent recipient, is seen in performance in Teplice, a spa town in the Czech Republic. Allesandra recently completed a Master of Music (Opera) at the University of British Columbia.



Jacques Forestier, violin

A letter from current recipient Jacques Forestier:

Dear Anne Burrows Foundation,

My name is Jacques Forestier and I am one of the 2023 recipients of your scholarship. I am an 18-year-old, second year violinist at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, PA and I truly would not be able to be here learning the way I am without your extremely generous support -- it makes it possible. While Curtis generously waives tuition for all students, there is an extensive living bill that accompanies a second year student and thanks to your support a large portion of it has been taken off my family's shoulders for which we are so grateful. Thank you for all that you do in supporting young musicians at this crucial stage in our lives, over the past few decades. It is very special and makes an ineffable difference in each of our lives that we will never forget.

With much gratitude,

Jacques Forestier

Paolo Rosselli, french horn

A nice quote from past recipient Paolo: *The Anne Burrows Music Foundation is a prime example of “excellence” in action as they give emerging musicians the opportunity to share their musical expression, give them a platform to volunteer and share musical knowledge and create lasting impacts in the musical community.*



Juliette Kang, violin



Another ABMF alumni to celebrate!

Juliette Kang was born in Edmonton in 1975. A child prodigy, she began violin lessons at age four and soon started lessons with Edmonton Symphony Orchestra concertmaster James Keene. She made her concerto debut in Montreal at age seven. At age nine, Juliette accepted a scholarship to the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. She earned a Bachelor of Music degree in 1991, and went on to study at Juilliard, earning a master's degree in 1993.

As a young violinist, Juliette won top prizes at multiple competitions, including the 1989 Young Concert Artists international auditions in New York (becoming, at age 13, the youngest artist to win that competition); the 1992 Yehudi Menuhin International Competition for Young Violinists in Paris; the 1992 Philadelphia Orchestra Student Competition; and the 1994 International Violin Competition of Indianapolis.

Juliette first performed with her hometown orchestra, the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, at age 11. She made her New York City recital debut at the 92nd Street Y in 1993. She made her Carnegie Hall recital debut in 1996. She joined the Philadelphia Orchestra in 2005, where she continues to hold the position of first associate concertmaster.

Juliette will be performing *Affairs of the Heart*, a violin concerto by Mozetich, with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra at the Winspear on November 22 and 23, 2024.

Gabrielle Couillard-Després, violin



At Juilliard's 119th commencement, which took place May 24, 2024, in David Geffen Hall, the ceremony honored this year's 324 music, dance, and drama graduates, including Burrows Alumni Gabrielle Couillard-Després, who graduated with her Masters Degree.

The ceremony included speeches by school leadership, the conferral of degrees, honorary doctorates, and prizes, as well as multidivisional artistic interludes. Gabrielle performed as part of the Edith Quartet, which played the intricate, fiery final movement of Beethoven's String Quartet, Op. 59, No. 3.

In addition, Gabrielle was awarded the William Schuman Prize for Outstanding Achievement and Leadership in Music, presented by Provost, Adam Meyer.

The ABMF offers further congratulations to Gabrielle on being one of ten 2024 Emerging Artists of The Lieutenant Governor of Alberta Arts Awards. The L-G Foundation was established in 2003 to celebrate excellence in the arts and to underline the importance of the arts in Alberta.

Violinist Gabrielle Coulliard-Després is a gifted and talented musician with a very bright future. While intensely studying and perfecting her craft with the masters, she is keen to make her mark on the global classical music scene. Her recent work in bringing music therapy to correctional institutions is truly inspiring, demonstrating her passion for using music as a powerful tool for outreach. Congratulations on this most deserved award – we can't wait to see where Gabrielle's musical journey takes her.

– Emerging Artist adjudicators

Maria Millar, violin

A note from Maria's husband, Shawn Wyckoff, dated February 12, 2024:

Today, Maria and I (a.k.a. Sonic Escape) bring the adventure to you. We recently rented out our place in Toronto, Ontario and moved south to Wild, Wonderful West Virginia. Not to worry, though – before loading the U-Haul, we employed our backyard and an epic snowstorm to create a winter wonderland! Snow angels, flying flutes, and [our duo arrangement of Pachelbel's Canon](#) await.



We miss all that snow here in Martinsburg, but oh, how sunny it is! And friendly! Based in the historic downtown core, we can run all errands on rollerblades – just like in Toronto – but here, drivers stop to let you pass, share a wave, or fling an arm out a window just to give you a thumbs up. We even had an impromptu dance party with a car waiting at a red light. We wove our passions into the following [YouTube Short](#) – rollerblading, cinematography, music-making and gorgeous, old buildings.

Amanda Forsyth, cello



The University of Alberta Department of Music welcomed the internationally acclaimed Zukerman Trio for the 2024 Kilburn Memorial Concert. Consisting of violinist Pinchas Zukerman, cellist Amanda Forsyth (ABMF recipient), and pianist Shai Wosner, the Zukerman Trio brought their peerless musicianship to the Winspear stage in March 2024.

Angela Cheng, piano

The original ABMF recipient (1980-1987), Angela Cheng, performed a beautiful concert of Schubert and Mozart with the Vetta Chamber players in April 2024. While she continues to thrill audiences in concert halls around the world, she always makes time for old friends.



Angela & Winnie at dinner in Vancouver

Board Announcements

Fall Fundraising Dinner: October 28, 2023

The ABMF's annual fall dinner was memorable for many reasons, starting with a wonderful vocal performance by Aemilia Moser, who showed the more than 120 people present at the University Club of the U of A why she is a current ABMF scholarship recipient.

A graduate of the University of Alberta, where she studied violin and voice, Aemilia earned an artistic diploma at the University of Manitoba. She is currently working toward a Master of Music degree in opera at the University of Toronto. During her 45-minute performance, accompanied by pianist Shannon Hiebert, Aemilia demonstrated her wide-ranging talents. Her program included music from Mozart to Sondheim, and also featured pieces by Debussy, Liszt, and Rodgers and Hammerstein, among others.

A special treat was Aemilia's rendition of the Doris Day hit song, *Que Sera Sera*. She sang it in honour of ABMF co-founder Mary Yiu's younger brother, Robert Ng, who passed away in March 2023 and who, with his wife April, started the April and Robert Ng Music Scholarship Fund under the Anne Burrows Music Foundation Endowment.

The song was a particularly fitting addition to the evening's musical program and led nicely into a presentation by the new Manager of Philanthropy of the Edmonton Community Foundation, Matt Mandrusiak, regarding the ABMF Endowment Fund and the impact of the major donation from Uncle Bob and Aunt April.

The Fall Dinner's typical evening program changed this year, starting earlier (at 5 pm) with the concert preceding the dinner. It was an exciting evening, and the ABMF extends its thanks to all who attended!

Casino Fundraiser: March 1 & 2, 2024

The Friends of the ABMF's casino fundraiser is the largest source of funding for the post-secondary scholarships that the ABMF provides to its music students each year. The ABMF and the Friends of the ABMF thank all of the casino volunteers who helped raise nearly \$78,000, which will go towards music scholarships over the next two years.

While far from a complete list, the volunteers who helped make the fundraiser such a success include:

Marie Forestier

Christian and Yvonne Chow

Doug Wong

Brian Dunsmore

John Yee

Pete Campbell

Melissa Nguy

Laura and Randy Fester

Lynn Cook

Winnie Yiu-Young

John Huck

Pat Huck

Mark and Fran Armstrong

XuiLi Yu

Aaron Chiu

Cindy Walter

Wing Choy

Linda and Alan Hai

Sophie Kuly

Jennifer Wan

Julia Boberg

2024 Summer Solstice Festival with ABMF

In June, the ABMF partnered with the Edmonton Chamber Music Society to present the Summer Solstice Music Festival.

Featured over the course of a week were three main concerts, a masterclass, and an Evening of Music for Strings at the Yardbird Suite.

The ABMF thanks its newest volunteer, Yoanna Malahkova, who developed the following handout for this event, including a QR code to access the ABMF website and donation page. Yoanna is a budding freelance graphic designer in our community.



Who We Are

Founded in 1980, the Anne Burrows Music Foundation is a small, volunteer-operated non-profit dedicated to supporting gifted music students from Edmonton and the surrounding area. We provide scholarships that enable these students to further their music education at post-secondary institutions in Canada and abroad, empowering them to use their musical talents and gifts to make a positive impact on the community and the world.

Almost all of the funds raised go directly back to supporting music students, ensuring that our resources are focused on nurturing the next generation of musicians.

OVER \$1.4 MILLION
IN SCHOLARSHIPS

130+ MUSICIANS
SUPPORTED

43 YEARS OF
EXCELLENCE

Notable Institutions and Performances

Our recipients have studied at prestigious institutions and performed on renowned stages, including:

- ✦ The Juilliard School in New York
- ✦ Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia
- ✦ Royal Conservatory of Music (RCM) in London, UK
- ✦ The Glenn Gould School (GGS) of The Royal Conservatory in Toronto
- ✦ The Schulich School of Music at McGill University in Montreal
- ✦ Carnegie Hall in New York

Scan QR Code to Learn How
You Can Get Involved!



Lynn Cook Retires as VP of ABMF & President of Friends of ABMF

ABMF Board Director from 2009-2024



An important director with the ABMF for 15 years, Lynn Cook was introduced to the ABMF by Winnie Yiu-Young, a colleague at the time. Lynn's strengths in administration and executive development have served the foundation very well. She has taken ongoing executive roles, such as Vice President of the ABMF and President of the Friends of the ABMF. She led the implementation of important definitions for executive roles, as well as a partnership framework for coordination with other organizations. Lynn was part of the leadership team that received training and helped establish the ABMF Endowment Fund with the Edmonton Community Foundation. She has overseen the grant application system, led strategic planning sessions, and helped lay the groundwork for the 40th Anniversary Ruby Celebration.

In addition to these important initiatives, Lynn has been a valued, trusted, insightful and cheerful member at board meetings and planning sessions. The ABMF has been fortunate indeed to have had 15 years of this dedicated professional's volunteer life. We wish her much success and happiness in the years to come. Lynn has assured us that she plans to continue to support the ABMF, including volunteering at the Friends' casino fundraisers.

Parting message from Lynn: *"Being part of this amazing organization is an honour and privilege. Achieving our mission consistently over the years has been a source of pride and working alongside my fellow Board members has been one of my most fulfilling experiences."*

Message from Melanie Duhaime, ABMF Board Director from 2009-2023

"My first experience with ABMF was attending an Xmas concert. Burrows alumni Jens Lindemann was the MC and ABMF scholarship recipients performed the music at the concert. It was an amazing experience. The quality of musicianship was outstanding and Lindemann spoke passionately about the work of ABMF in supporting music education for gifted Edmonton musicians. I like classical music and was searching for a way to do my part in keeping it alive. I decided that I wanted to be part of this organization.



Most of our Board members are invited to join the Board. I took a more proactive approach, tracked down a Board member and asked to meet with the Board Chairperson. Luckily lunch with Winnie and Janice went well, and my request to join the Board was accepted. I was a Board member for 15 years.

I have an interest in marketing and have volunteered in areas of our Board work that helped Edmonton become more aware of ABMF and the work it does, such as maintaining communications with donors and initiating our web page.

I also have experience in strategic planning, and in partnership with other key Board members, have played an active role in helping to develop our five-year plans throughout my time at ABMF. I believed strongly in our vision to start an endowment fund within the Edmonton Community Foundation and was one of the Board members who followed the ECF guidelines and courses to make this a reality.

In my early years with the Board I took on organizing the Xmas concerts. I did this for several years. Another project, that took two years to plan, was to organize the 40th Anniversary Ruby Celebration. We had several events planned for our celebration – two concerts featuring high profile ABMF scholarships. We formed partnerships with Winspear and MacEwan University and plans were to host the concerts at their facilities. In addition, we planned a special annual fund-raising dinner and solstice concerts with local music societies and orchestras. Many ABMF donors and supporters worked on committees with us to plan the 40th Anniversary. Alas, two weeks before our first anniversary event, COVID hit. I supported our backout strategy, communicating with our supporters through several weeks as all our events were eventually cancelled.

Along with fellow Board members, I worked on our strategies to keep ABMF healthy during the COVID years, and was so pleased that we emerged from the pandemic as a viable organization, and that we were able to support musicians with scholarships right through the pandemic.

The ABMF organization has been ongoing for 45 years, and to date has provided Edmonton musicians with much-needed scholarships. I have been proud to belong to ABMF and contribute to ABMF's mission. It has been a privilege to work with a group of helpful and friendly fellow board members. And not to be forgotten...life was enriched by the many glorious opportunities to hear excellent classical music from our musician scholarship recipients."

Melanie continues to keep updated on the ABMF's undertakings, and participates whenever she's in town. *"Once a Burrows, always a Burrows."*

Jacque Després, ABMF Board Director from 2008-2019



University of Alberta music professor Jacques Després was recently inducted into the Steinway & Sons Music Teacher Hall of Fame in New York! Considered one of North America's most prestigious awards for music educators, the honour recognizes Jacques' long history of preparing piano students for successful careers as performers, musical directors and teachers.

Jacques has performed as a soloist with many orchestras, and as a recitalist chamber musician and collaborative artist. He has also served as musical director of the Summer Serenades concert series at Stony Brook University's Staller Center in New York. Having joined the U of A's Department of Music in 2000, he continues to be an active performer, instructor and leading voice in the music community.

As we see in [this video spotlight](#), Jacques has a reputation for nurturing his students' interest in a broad and eclectic repertoire, often rooted in their own cultural backgrounds.

Personal News from Founding ABMF Members

Yet more joy has come to original board member Dr. Mary Lee in the form of her first great grandchild, Everett Michael Lee, her son Michael's first grandchild. Grandma Lee recently returned from Japan, where she traveled with her family for Baby Everett's first trip abroad! Happy days!



Services; and three great grandchildren.

Another of our original board members had good reason to celebrate recently. Mary Yiu celebrated her tenth decade on December 22, 2023. Many well-wishers attended a grand birthday dinner, including Michael Massey, a long-time and dear family friend; her daughters, Winnie Yiu-Young and Dr. Verna Yiu, current Provost and Vice-President (Academic) at the University of Alberta and former CEO of Alberta Health

Upcoming Events

Event	Description	Details
Friends of the ABMF Annual General Meeting	To learn more about the Foundation/Friends, please join us at the Annual General Meeting for the Friends, followed immediately by a Strategic Planning Session for the Foundation.	Date: Saturday, September 14, 2024 Time: 9:30 am to 3:00 pm, Saskatchewan Room Location: The University Club, University of Alberta (formerly Faculty Club), 11435 Saskatchewan Drive, Edmonton, AB Parking: Windsor Parkade Contact: anneburrowsfoundation@gmail.com
ABMF Fall Fundraising Dinner	<i>SAVE THE DATE!</i> The ABMF will showcase current 2024-25 scholarship recipient Jacques Forestier (violin) in performance. More details to come.	Date: Saturday, October 26, 2024 Performance: 5:00 pm, Winspear Room Dinner: 6:00 pm, Winspear Room Location: The University Club, University of Alberta (formerly Faculty Club), 11435 Saskatchewan Drive, Edmonton, AB Contact: anneburrowsfoundation@gmail.com

**Board of Directors
of the
Anne Burrows Music Foundation**

President – Winnie Yiu-Young
Vice President – Lynn Cook
Treasurer – Dorothy Chan
Secretary – Jessica Liu
Trustee – Fran Armstrong
Trustee – Brian Dunsmore
Trustee – Mary Lee
Trustee – Viktoria Reisch-Dapp
Trustee – John Tessier
Trustee – Debby Waldman
Trustee – Janice Wan
Trustee – Mary Yiu

**Executive Members
of the
Friends of ABMF**

President – Lynn Cook
Vice President – Brian Dunsmore
Treasurer – Dorothy Chan
Secretary – Jessica Liu



2023-2024 Board of Directors

Left to right: Jessica Liu, John Tessier, Dorothy Chan, Mary Lee, Fran Armstrong, Mary Yiu, Winnie Yui-Young, Lynn Cook, Janice Wan, Brian Dunsmore

Missing: Debby Waldman, Viktoria Reisch-Dapp

How You Can Support ABMF and the Friends of ABMF

Every dollar counts in helping young artists with their post-secondary music education!

1. Attend ABMF Fundraising Events

We look forward to seeing you at our future fundraisers and celebration events!

2. Donate to Support “Annual” ABMF Scholarships

Contribute to our scholarship recipients’ post-secondary music education each year by donating to the *Anne Burrows Music Foundation*. Tax receipts will be issued for donations exceeding \$20.

Online: Donate directly to the ABMF through our page on Canada Helps, [here](#).

By mail: Send cheques payable to the “Anne Burrows Music Foundation” to P.O. Box 76115, RPO Southgate, Edmonton, AB, T6H 5Y7.

3. Make an Endowment Gift

Ensure our young artists of the future can realize their music education by donating to the *Anne Burrows Music Foundation (ABMF) Endowment Fund* at the Edmonton Community Foundation (ECF). Tax receipts will be issued by the Edmonton Community Foundation. Each year, ECF returns a percentage of total value of the fund to the ABMF to supplement its annual scholarship awards to successful applicants.

Online: Donate to the ABMF Endowment Fund through the Edmonton Community Foundation (ECF) [here](#).

By mail: Send cheques payable to the “Edmonton Community Foundation” with “Anne Burrows Music Foundation Endowment Fund” specified in the memo line. These cheques can be mailed to the ECF at 9910-103 Street NW, Edmonton AB, T5K 2V7.

To discuss more endowment donation options, please contact Matt Mandrusiak, Manager Philanthropy (ECF), at mmandrusiak@ecfoundation.org, 780-426-0015 (office ext: 123), or 780-974-7923 (mobile).

ABMF Online

Follow us online to get the latest news and events for the Foundation, current scholarship recipients, alumni, and more:

- Website: <http://www.burrowsfoundation.org>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AnneBurrowsFoundation/>
- Instagram: [burrowsfoundation](#)

Thank you!