

1978

20 YRS AGO — FEB 15, 1978
THE NORTH Peace Festival Association wishes to thank the merchants of Fort St John who are offering to close at 6 pm on February 22, the last night of the Drama Festival. The success of the Festival ensures funds for the children's Music, Dancing and Elocution Festival in the spring, as well as deficits on the Music Trail celebrity series - and other community projects. We certainly appreciate such evidence of community spirit and co-operation. (Signed: Marguerite Davies for the Committee).

Arts Festival

High quality earns praise

1978 APR 21

The first week of performing arts competitions concluded yesterday on a very optimistic note.

Ed Marty, adjudicator for

bands and solo instruments was high in his praise for the quality and variety of classes he judged. He especially enjoyed the Central Kindergarten Rhythm, band. "I don't believe it," he said. "They're wonderful." He was also delighted to adjudicate, for the first time, a dulcimer entry by Metro Semeniuk.

"Melody, rhythm and harmony. All these elements must be present in instrumental music," Mr Marty told all participants. He then joined Paul Pearson, North Peace Secondary music teacher and students in playing the Beethoven Quintet. Later one student was heard to remark, "I never knew that it should sound like that."

Two local groups were awarded gold certificates for their performances. Ambrose school ukulele band and the North Peace clarinet quartet both received top honors.

Mr Marty enjoyed meeting our local young musicians and hopes to be invited to adjudicate again here.

Nine plays were adjudicated on a non-competitive level this week by Brian Paisley, local director. Central school kindergarten entered three choir drama selections continuing the polished performances of last year. Mrs Hall's little ones brought high praise throughout last year's competitions, and her two groups this week have had an excellent start for this year also.

An interesting mime production by Central school grade seven, written and directed by Peter Jackson added new variety to the festival week, and a classic melodrama at Bert Bowes introduced students to the fun of hissing the villain and cheering the hero. An oriental touch was added by Ambrose grade five with their production of "The stolen Prince".

Fantasy, so easy to believe by young audiences but not so easy to perform for junior high students, carried Central primary students into the land of wizards, when Bert Bowes drama club wove enchantment in "Where the Wizzard went". Cinderella was not forgotten when she and her friends brought fairy tales into the seventies with a way out spoof.

The festival continues all next week. Speech Arts solo voice will be held on Monday and Tuesday beginning at 8:30 am in the Burch Hall, then moves to the Elks Hall on Wednesday for group speech, Thursday is a busy day with dancing at Central school and music at the Burch Hall.

A complete schedule for next week will appear in Monday's issue.

E Richards.

The
BIRCH HALL
ELKS HALL SCHOOL
CENTRAL SCHOOL

18th to 29th
SPEECH • DANCE • MUSIC (BANDS!)

Service
"Festival '78"
• DRAMA • INSTRUMENTAL

Meet festival Adjudicators

APR 25, 1978

Festival '78 drama adjudicator, Brian Paisley, is the Northern Lights College theatre instructor and director of Stage North. Paisley came to the college from Theatre Canada and the British Columbia Drama Association. Earlier he was the educational director of Vancouver Playhouse. After graduation from UBC with a Bachelor of Education Paisley spent several years

Meet festival Adjudicator

Speech Arts will be continued at the Elks Hall on Wednesday for all Choral Speech, Public Speaking and Prose Reading. Adjudicator will be Jose Smith, an experienced adjudicator at many festivals who enjoys acting and directing adult drama when she can. She is a licentiate of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London, England, and has the same distinction at Trinity College, also in London. Jose has extensive teaching experience with all ages and often directs workshops in speech, choral speaking, creative drama and acting. She also organizes and directs a children's and young people's drama group which produces a children's play in Prince George each year. Jose is a gold medallist of Poetry Lovers' Fellowship and holder of the Dame Irene Vanbrugh Award for outstanding contribution to drama.



promote community and school drama in BC, and she does this by touring the province giving workshops. When she was in Dawson Creek all were pleased with her job at adjudication of junior and senior high drama.

Canada and the United States, appearing in recital with such artists as John Alexander, Judith Forest, Arthur Polson, Albert Pratz, Martial Singher, Jan Rubes, Bernard Turgen and many others. Over the past thirty years he has performed frequently on CBC radio and television.

In the Vancouver area, where he makes his home, he has collaborated with such organizations as the Kiwanis Music Festival, the Vancouver Opera Association, Theatre Under the Stars and the Vancouver Symphony.

At present he is on the faculty of the Banff School of Fine Arts, as vocal coach in the voice-opera division.

Mr Brown will be adjudicating Thursday and Friday including two evening sessions. He will be adjudicating piano and voice.

Josie Smith

Due to lack of room, a note on speech arts adjudicator Josie Smith will appear tomorrow.

Peggy Bain will return this year to adjudicate all dance forms at Festival '78 and is looking forward to meeting old friends and viewing the improvement evident in local dance techniques.



Peggy began dance studies at age 3 with Delores Kirkwood and later trained with Marn McBirney, Norbert Vesak and others. Until her mid-teens ballet was her first love, when she discovered musical theatre and jazz at the age of sixteen she attended Banff School of Fine Arts and refers to this as 'a wonderful experience.'

She later danced lead in Oklahoma and Carousel ballets and was also in the Canadian premiere of 'Roar of the Grease Paint.'

During one summer she acted with a children's theatre company, touring the lower mainland.

At an early age she established her own school of dance, preparing students for musical festivals and ballet exams.

One of her pupils was recently chosen to dance at a seminar with Celia Franca.

Peggy looks forward to seeing the Peace River country again during Arts Festival '78.

Arts festival report

Arts . . .

Continued from page 1

My apologies for an error in last week's report on Bands and Ensembles. Gold certificates were awarded to the two bands from Dr Kearney Junior High School and the North Peace Clarinet Choir for excellent performances.

E. Richards.

Hall **APR 25, 1978**
 Friday- Music- Central School gym
 Saturday-Finale- North Peace gym-8:00 pm.
 Tickets are available at the door for all performances.

Continued on page 6

The second week of the festival activities began on Monday at the Burch Hall, as Jose Smith, adjudicated.

Bible reading classes were well represented with more than thirty students entering in various age groups, as well as two adult entries.

Gold certificates were awarded to Tim Wooley and Anna Budac for excellent performances.

Ms Smith commended students for their hard work in preparing for the festival but cautioned against choosing passages that were too difficult for young contestants. She stressed, also, the use of facial expression.

"If you are telling us a joyous story, let us know you are happy," she told them. "Your face sets the mood of the story, don't be afraid to use it."

Prose reading for eight years and under and Dramatic Poetry for older students and adults completed the first day of the three day Speech Arts section.

An interesting variety of

poetry was chosen by the Junior High School entrants, both in Dramatic and Lyric poetry.

Ms Smith encouraged them all to continue in Festival work.

"Your voices are now beginning to show promise for bigger and better works," she praised, "You are beginning to know what your voice can do, now you can polish it."

This advice was well demonstrated to these students as they listed to the Lyric Poetry, adult classes. Joan Thomson was awarded a gold certificate for her simple but beautiful selection of "I Choose the Other Road."

Speech arts continues at the Burch Hall on Tuesday with more solo entries in Lyric and Dramatic Poetry, then moves to the Elks Hall on Wednesday for all Choral Speech, Public Speaking and Prose Reading.

The schedule for the other sections are:

Thursday- Dance- Central School gym
 Thursday- Music- Burch

April 29
 FESTIVAL FINALE **APRIL 26**
MAY 27, 1978

N.P.S.S.S. at 8 p.m.

A varied program of all sections of Festival entries of past 8 days. Not always the highest award winners but an interesting collection of entries from schools and community. To encourage the newest entrants as well as to give recognition to polished performances.

★ FESTIVAL ★

APR 26, 1978
 April 24, 25, 26 -
 SPEECH ARTS

Solo, and group - poetry, prose, public speaking - adjudicated by Ms. Jose Smith, Prince George at Birch Presbyterian Hall and Elks Hall

April 28 -
 DANCE

Central School Gym
 Ms. Peggy BAin, Maple Ridge, B.C.

April 27, 28 -
 MUSIC

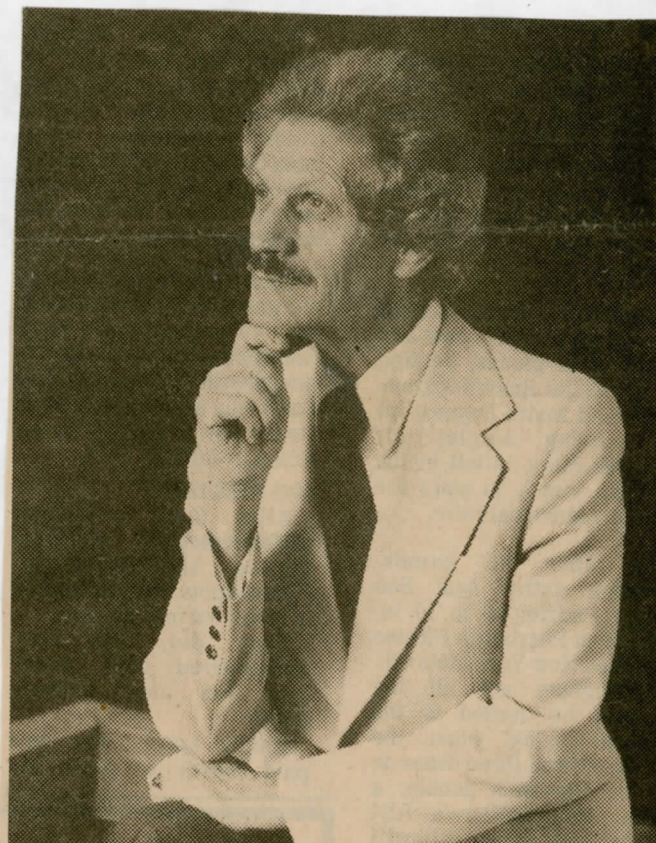
(H. E. Brown, Vancouver)
 Solo and group singing and all piano classes

27th - At Birch Hall, including evening sessions at 8 p.m.

28th - At Central, including evening sessions at 8 p.m.

CREATIVE WRITING

Poetry, prose, essays, short stories - are now being adjudicated by Rex Holmes, Burnaby. Winners to be announced during Festival Finale which will be held on April 29th.



Rex Holmes

ADJUDICATOR 1978

Rex Holmes was born in Sioux Lookout, Ontario, on October 4, 1923. He spent the first six years of his life on a farm in Richan, Ontario; then moved with his parents to a homestead about a mile south of Pouce Coupe on what was then called the Grande Prairie Trail.

He attended the 'Pouce Coupe Superior School,' which is now the Canadian Legion, the Highridge school, of which no trace remains, the Royston public school on Vancouver Island, unchanged to this day, and Minto school near Courtenay, another building that has been swept away with the years. The remainder of his education was obtained largely through correspondence courses for which he owes a lifelong debt

of gratitude to the Correspondence Branch of the Department of Education in Victoria.

In 1941 he joined the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, with whom he served in England and in Europe. After his return to civilian life late in 1945, he was employed by Canadian Telephones and Supplies and has since worked all across Canada in the telecommunication industry.

Although he owes his living to his business activities, his primary interest is, and always has been, in writing. He is the author of one book, **THE LAST SUMMER**, several articles and poems and has written three radio plays for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

He presently lives in Burnaby, BC.



THESE TWO YOUNG ladies, Heather Booth and Debbie Brandt were awarded a gold seal for their efforts yesterday at the North Peace Arts Festival held in the Burch Hall. They

played a duet in the class for under 4 years of study. All the entrants did very well in their classes and were appropriately awarded.

APR 28, 1978

Art festival results

The Burch Hall was the site of the music section of the Arts Festival yesterday, with Harold Brown of Burnaby adjudicating.

The classes ranged from junior piano solo to Senior Church Choirs. Trophies are being supplied for all classes the businesses, service clubs and companies in Fort John.

The morning saw the performances of the junior solo, trio or quartet class and then open class of the same with the last class in the morning being group singing. The afternoon

classes were solely piano ranging in years of study of under 2 years to over 4 years.

Evening classes were also held for the older entries. Vocal ensemble-family group, light soprano solo, contralto solo, light opera solo and folk song classes.

FESTIVAL - 1978

A PARTIAL LIST OF AWARDS.

SPEECH ARTS

- Bible Reading (12 years and under) — Tim Woolley
- Bible Reading (10 years and under) — Anna Budac
- Dramatic Poetry (Gr. 7) — Angie Hardt
- Lyric Poetry (Adult) — Joan Thompson
- Lyric Poetry (Gr 3) — Lily Jean

- Thompson, Susan Johnson
- Lyric Poetry (Gr 1) — Tina Collins, Kelly Harris, Dorene Lok.
- Lyric Poetry (Gr 2) — Brett Hall, Renata Pomeroy, Corinne Gauvreau.
- Dramatic Poetry (Gr 2) — Sherri Low, Penny Ewasko.
- Dramatic Poetry (Gr 3) — Nola Grieve, Kelly Elenick, Shawna Phillips, Kathy Uhryn.
- Dramatic Poetry (Gr 4) — Judy Mazurin
- Dramatic Poetry (Gr 1) — Monte Phillips, Sonya Erikstad, Nathan Hall.
- Dramatic Poetry (Pre-school) — Lori Viens
- Choral Speech (Gr 6) — Ambrose School
- Choral Speech (Gr 3) — Ambrose School
- Choral Speech (Gr 2) — Charlie Lake School
- Prose Reading (10 years & under) — Lana Asuchak, Lori Collins, Sandra Freund, Beth Lambie, Philippa Woolley
- Prose Reading (12 years & under) — Scott Fines

DANCING

- Musical Drills — Central School, Kindergarten
 - Square Dances — Ambrose Gr 1, Ambrose Gr 3, Charlie Lake Group No 1
 - Folk Dances — Central School Gr 1
 - Boys
 - Acrobatic Dance, Solo — Christina Lynch, Jereyn Orcutt
- ### MUSIC
- Vocal Solo — Tim Woolley
 - Piano Solo (under 4 yrs. study) Bach — Sara Yoon
 - Piano Solo (over 4 yrs. study) Bach — Sherridan Klassen

A program of selected entries from all classes will be performed at NPSS Gym tomorrow night, Saturday at 8 pm, tickets available at the door. Trophies will be presented to the winners in several categories by the various private donors and service clubs. Performers will be contacted by the Festival Committee with more details.

E Richards

★ FESTIVAL

WINNERS ★

A partial list of awards.

Speech Arts -

- Bible Reading (12 years and under) - Tim Woolley
- Bible Reading (10 years and under) - Anna Budac
- Dramatic Poetry (Grade 7) - Angie Hardt
- Lyric Poetry (Adult) - Joan Thompson
- Lyric Poetry (Grade 3) - Lily Jean Thompson, Susan Johnson
- Lyric Poetry (Grade 1) - Tina Collins, Kelly Harris, Dorene Lok
- Lyric Poetry (Grade 2) - Brett Hall, Renata Pomeroy, Corinne Gauvreau
- Dramatic Poetry (Grade 2) - Sherri Low, Penny Ewasko
- Dramatic Poetry (Grade 3) - Nola Grieve, Kelly Elenick, Shawna Phillips, Kathy Uhryn
- Dramatic Poetry (Grade 4) - Judy Mazurin
- Dramatic Poetry (Grade 1) - Monte Phillips, Sonya Erikstad, Nathan Hall

- 1978
MAY 3, 1978
- Dramatic Poetry (Pre-school) - Lori Viens
 - Choral Speech (Grade 6) - Ambrose School
 - Choral Speech (Grade 3) - Ambrose School
 - Choral Speech (Grade 2) - Charlie Lake School
 - Prose Reading (10 years & under) - Lana Asuchak, Lori Collins, Sandra Freund, Beth Lambie, Phillippa Woolley
 - Prose Reading (12 years & under) - Scott Fines
 - Dancing -
 - Musical Drills - Central School - Kindergarten
 - Square Dances - Ambrose Gr. 1, Ambrose Gr. 3, Charlie Lake Group 1
 - Folk Dances - Central School Gr. 1 Boys
 - Aerobatic Dance, Couple - Susan Longstaff & Shauna Strate
 - Aerobatic Dance, Solo - Christina Lynch, Jerelyn Orcutt
 - Music -
 - Vocal Solo - Tim Woolley
 - Piano Solo (under 4 yrs. study) Bach - Sara Yoon
 - Piano Solo (over 4 yrs. study) Bach - Sherridan Klassen

APR 19, 1978

FESTIVAL '78

Over 1,000 contestants in varied fields - from choral speech choirs to solo verse; court drama to old fashioned melodrama; ballet to square dancing; opera to folk rock - are ready.

Each year the North Peace amateur talent is displayed for critical appraisal by adjudicators skilled in speech arts, dance, drama, music, band, and creative writing.

This year is no exception. Two adjudicators, Ms. Jose Smith of Prince George, speech arts, and Ms. Peggy Bain of Maple Ridge, dance, are returning for another year. Ms. Smith commented last year that it was refreshing to adjudicate here. "The true spirit of participation is very evident in Fort St. John", she said, mentioning that Prince George had no festival competition any more because of lack of interest in organizing it. Ms. Smith was delighted to find three full days of entries for her to judge. She will not be disappointed this year on her return visit. Beginning early on Monday, April 24 at

the Birch Presbyterian Hall with solo voices, then moving to the larger Elks Hall for group choral speech, she will judge the last entry late Wednesday afternoon.

Ms. Bain, a very talented dancer and dance instructor, who expressed her delight in such a varied program last year, will find that this year's entries to be performed at Central School on Thursday April 27, to be well rehearsed. Teachers and students have put in many hours of practicing, with mothers again busy making costumes, which although not required for competition add to the enjoyment of the festival.

Awards will be given for instrumental music or drama on advice from the adjudicators. New certificates will be used this year, but no marks will appear on them.

★ Well Done Festival ★

1978

Over two thousand people were involved the past two weeks giving their best performances for critical appraisal in the Festival '78 sessions held in Ft. St. John

Six professional adjudicators in music, band, speech, dance, drama, and creative writing were lavish with praise for so large an undertaking. Harold Brown from Vancouver remarked that only the smaller centres are still holding complete sections

"Large choirs in Vancouver are slowly dying out," he said. "As the older members leave, few young voices take their place."

While here, he judged 27 choral entries. This year the Festival Committee was very pleased to welcome an excellent choir as well as several piano entries from Ft. Nelson

They were also well represented at the trophy awards; the Ft. Nelson Musicales Choir tied with our own Cardinal Singers for the Community Choral Trophy, donated by Fort Music; and Sara Yoon, also from Ft. Nelson was awarded two trophies - Junior Piano Solo, donated by the Lion's club, and Piano Sonatina trophy, donated by the North Peace Music Teachers Association.

Festival '78 finale was held on Saturday, April 29th, bringing this years sessions to a close. A selection of entries from Music, Dance and Speech delighted the audience. The performance was videotaped for the committee by Elizabeth and David Richards, and will be available for later viewing through the schools.

Barry Willis and Bob Bennetts were able co-M.C.'s, helped by backstage crew Tony Atkins and Mel Telford. When one realizes that hanging the lights for this performance, then removing them after the audience leaves, takes over four hours, a Community Cultural Society must become a reality.

Phillippa Woolley was this years top award winner, receiving high marks in two or more diverse categories. The trophy donated by Winspear, Higgins, Stevenson and Co., was presented by last year's winner, Karree Phillips.

The Ambrose P.T.A. trophy awarded to the school receiving the most gold awards, was accepted by Jean Thompson for Ambrose School.

Other trophy awards were:-
BANDS: Best Group Instrumental, Peoples Drug Mart - to Dr. Kearney Concert Band. Best Band, Erving R. Foster - Dr. Kearney Beginner Band.

SPEECH ARTS Junior Poetry, Fort Pharmacy - Angela Hardt Primary Poetry, Beta Sigma Phi - Nathan Hall. SPOKEN VERSE [adult] P.R.N. Teachers Association - Joan Thompson.

SPEECH SOLO [open] Pacific Petroleum - Karree Phillips. CHORAL SPEECH GROUP [Primary] P.R.N. Festival Association

SPEECH ARTS:
Junior Poetry, Fort Pharmacy
Angela Hart
Primary Poetry, Beta Sigma Phi - Nathan Hall
Spoken Verse [adult], P.R.N. Festival Assn. 'Ambrose School Grade 3

Speech Solo [open] Pacific Petroleum - Karree Phillips, Ambrose School Grade 3.
Choral Speech Group [Primary], P.R.N. Festival Assn. Ambrose School Grade 6
Bible Reading, Ben's Butcher Shop - Tim Woolley

MUSIC:
Junior Piano Solo, Lions' Club - Sara Yoon
Senior Piano Solo, Fort Motors-Gwen Gunther.
Beginner Piano Solo, BPO Elks - Angella Lavalley.
Piano, Sonatina, N.P. Music Teachers - Sherridan Klaasen.
Junior Vocal Solo, Westcoast Transmission - Tim Woolley.
School Vocal Group, Pat's Home Furnishings - Central School Grade 6.
Junior Church Choir, United Church Women - St. Luke's Junior Choir.

Family and Community Choral, Fort Music - Fort Nelson Musicales Choir and Cardinal Singers.
Best Piano Performance, The Bay - Sherridan Klaasen and Carolyn Schmidt.

DANCE: MAY 3, 1978
Group Dancing, Co-op - Charlie Lake School Group No. One.
Traditional or Folk Dance, Beefeeders - Central School, Grade One Boys.
Best Solo, MacKenzie Inn - Jerelyn Orcutt.
Best Couple, C.C. Brooks, Susan Longstaff and Shauna Strate.

CREATIVE WRITING:
Prose [18 and under]- Fort Gifts - Nola Grieve.
Poetry [18 and under] - P.R.N. Festival Assn. and Friendly Gardens - Audrey Thoracius.
Prose [adult] - Bartell Bros.- Naomi Hall.
Poetry [adult] - Fort St. John W.I.

Everybody is important in FSJ festival

1977 photo



THE GRAND AGGREGATE trophy, which goes annually to the most deserving participant in the Fort St John Arts Festival, was won last year by young Karree Phillips. She scored a high mark in two or more diverse categories.

Grand Finale MC Lawrence Richards held up her keeper trophy while Karree struggled with the heavy perpetual award. She also took Solo Dancing and Junior Solo Poetry trophies.

by Mike McGarrigle
The festival spirit is alive and well in Fort St John and this will be very evident from April 18 to 29. Yes, it's time for the arts festival again. Other centres, including our large southern neighbour Prince George, have found these events hard to sustain but Fort St John's festival has been going more than thirty years now.

This traditional display of culture featuring drama, ballet, (and other forms of dance), creative writing, music, singing and elocution is a measure of our local artistic endeavour.

The festival is the people in it. The bashful seven-year old reading a story is as important as the semi-professional actor scowling through a Shakesperian soliloquy. And the audience, in showing appreciation for the training of teachers and participants, becomes as much a part of the festival as are the organizers and adjudicators.

Over one thousand contestants from local and district schools, as well as private entrants, will present mainly amateur talent to please those who appreciate fine art. Opera to folk rock, melodrama to court comedy, square dancing to ballet, violin solos to instrumental and chamber ensembles are all ready for your enjoyment.

Interesting to see will be plays presented on opening day, April 18, at 1:00 pm in the Central School gym by kindergarten children. Another group performing during the afternoon is the Bert Boves Drama Club. In

lecturer, will again be the adjudicator, critically watching performances but always ready to help and advise directors and young actors.

Instrumental and chamber music will be featured April 21 at North Peace Senior Secondary School. Adjudicator will be Ed Marty, Master of Arts and Music. Marty is currently affiliated with the Yamaha Music Centre.

Speech arts on April 24, 25 and 26, including poetry, prose, public speaking will be adjudicated by Ms Jose Smith of Prince George. Presentations will be at Birch Presbyterian and Elk's halls.

Music, solo and group, singing and all piano classes, begins April 27 with adjudication by H E Brown of Banff School of Fine Arts. This will be held in Birch Hall and Central School consecutively. Both evening sessions commence at 8: pm.

Creative writing; poetry; prose; essays and short stories are now being adjudicated by Canadian author Mr. Rex Holmes of Burnaby. The winners will be announced during the Finale on April 29.

All forms of Dance at Central school gym on April 28 will be adjudicated by Peggy Bain, prima ballerina and dancing teacher of Maple Ridge.

Festival '78 programmes, at 25 cents, are available from Fort St John music stores, showing all dates, times and places. Admission tickets may be purchased at the door for any day's

at \$1.00.
season ticket, good for all
performances except the
Continued on page 3

over the first three days.
Brian Paisley, Northern
Lights College Drama



A MEXICAN HAT dance is only one of the several dance entries in last year's Art Festival by Ambrose School.

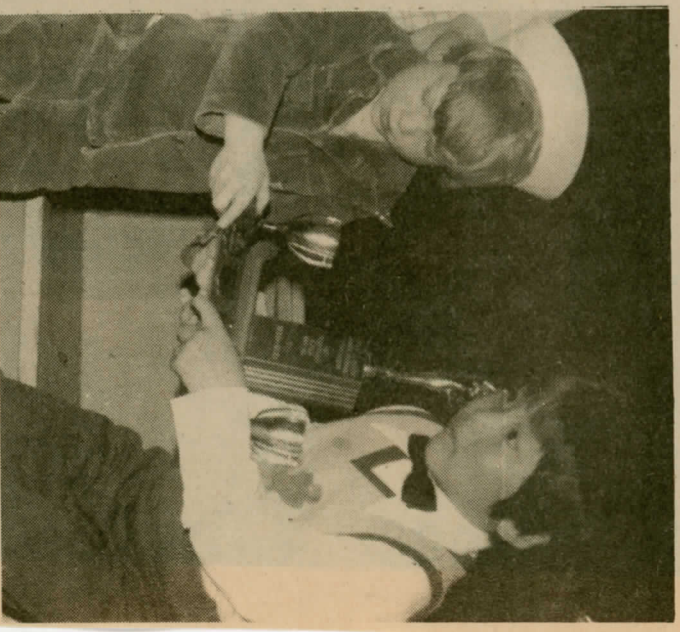
Twenty-five grade three and four pupils in authentic dress presented this particular number and seemed to enjoy it.

Some of last year's best



SINGERS FROM CLEARVIEW Elementary Chorus were all smiles after their performance in the Music and

Drama Festival last year. The selection they sang was the popular tune by Cat Stevens "Morning has Broken."



THESE TWO LITTLE fellows were taking great care not to drop their trophy that was awarded to their class in last year's Arts Festival. They were part of the kindergarten class from Central Elementary.

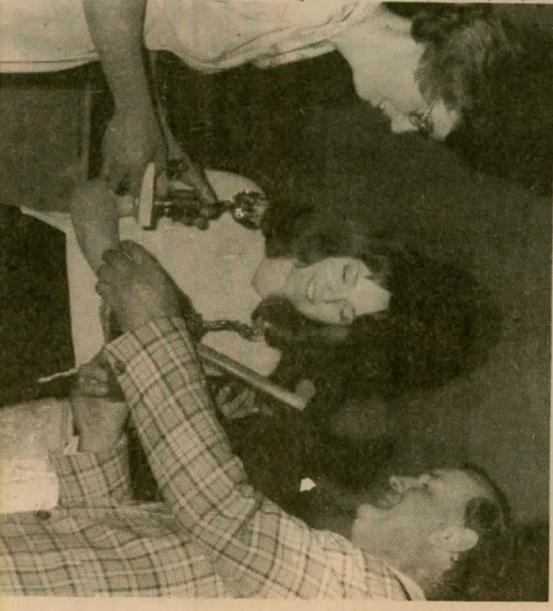


FSJ festival....

Continued from page 2

finale are available for \$2.50. Senior citizens will be guests of the Festival committee at all performances.

The Festival '78 Finale will be a varied program from all sections. These selections will not necessarily be the highest



award winners but an interesting collection of entries from schools and community, to encourage the newest contestants and give recognition to polished performers.

Much effort has gone into training and practice. Many hours have been spent by children and parents in costume making. So plan to attend. Be a supporter of the performing arts April 18 to 29. You'll find tremendous enjoyment.

UPPER PINE SCHOOL girl's choir under the direction of Mrs Donna Fines was one of the several out-of-town groups participating in the school choir competition at the Festival last year. Members of the choir were: Irene Davis, Edna Acko, Heather Dominic, Annia Acko, Jessie Attachie, Doreen Davis, Terry Wilson, Donna Blanchette, Lee-Anna Bain, Randa Hofstrad, Maxine Gordon and Carolyn Charters.

AN EXCEPTIONAL VOCAL duet, Judy Buller and Rose Brandt, happily accept trophies presented by Otto Wuthrich of the Dairymen's Association.

ALASKA HIGHWAY NEWS
FORT ST JOHN, MONDAY, MAY 1, 1978

PAGE TWO



THESE LIVELY DANCERS danced their way to winning the trophy for best group dance. They are the Charlie Lake number one square dancing group. They were just some of the 2,000 entries in this year's festival.



THESE SMILING FACES are some of the three groups of trophy winners from among the 29 groups and individuals which were awarded prizes in the Arts Festival held these

past two weeks. The presentation and finale was held on Saturday night at the North Peace school. About 1,000 people were on hand.

Very much the community effort at Arts festival

Over 2000 individuals were involved during the past two weeks giving their best performances for critical appraisal in the Festival '78 sessions held in Fort St John. Six professional adjudicators in music, band, speech, dance, drama and creative writing were high in their praise for such a large undertaking.

Harold Brown, Vancouver, remarked that only the smaller centres are still holding complete arts

festivals and was especially pleased to adjudicate the choral sessions.

'As the older members leave, few young voices are taking their place,' he said.

While here, he adjudicated 27 choral entries.

This year, the Festival Committee was very pleased to welcome an excellent choir as well as several piano entries from Fort Nelson.

They were well represented for the trophy

awards; the Fort Nelson Musicale Choir tied with the Fort St John Cardinal Singers for the Community Choral Trophy donated by Fort Music and Fort Nelson girl Sara Yoon was awarded two trophies, (the junior piano solo, donated by the Lion's Club, and the Piaoano Sonatina trophy, donated by the North Peace Music Teacher's Association.)

Festival '78 finale was held on Saturday April 29,

bringing this year's sessions to a close. A selection of entries from music, dance and speech delighted the audience. The performance was videotaped for the committee by Elizabeth and David Richards. It will be available for later viewing through the schools.

Bob Bennetts and Barry Willis MC'd the show and Tony Atkins and Mel Telford handled the backstage arrangements.

Not afraid of big crowd

Little Nathan Hall's rendition of "Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf" definitely stole the show at the finale of the Arts Festival on Saturday night at North Peace school. The program which lasted about two hours featured many of the groups and solo performances from the festival.

About 29 trophies were distributed throughout the evening in third intervals.

The winners of the 2 trophies are as follows:

Prose 18 and under- Nola Grieve, Written poetry 1 and under- Audrey Thorlacius, Junior poetry Angie Hardt, Poetry Solo Nathan Hall, Choral Speech intermediate- Ambros grade 6, Bible Reading Timothy Woolley, Group Dance-Charlie Lake number 1, Traditional or folk Central grade one boys Junior piano solo-Sara Yoon, Couple Dance-Susan Longstaff and Shaun Strate, Solo Dance Jerle Orcutt, Beginner piano solo Angela LaValley, Choral Group-Central School grade 6, Junior Vocal-Timothy Woolley, Junior Church Choir-St Lukes United Church choir, Adult Creative Writing and Adult Prose Naomie Hall, Piano Sonitina-Sarah Yoon, Piano Bach-Sheridan Klassen Best Piano Solo-Sherrida Klassen and Carolyn Schmidt, Speech Solo-Karen Phillips, Senior Piano-Gwen Gunther, Group Instrumental-Doctor Kearney concert band, Family community choral-Fred Nelson Musical and Cardiac Singers, School Band Doctor Kearney Beginner Band, Adult Spoken Verse Joan Thompson, School with the most points-Ambros and the Grand Aggregate winner was Philip Woolley.



THOUGH SHE IS small her ability to play the piano isn't. Sara Yoon is 8 years old and plays very difficult music with ease. She won the

Junior piano solo trophy as well as Piano Sonitina, trophy donated by the North Peace Music Teachers Association.

MAY 1, 1978

Festival Assoc meeting tonight

The annual General Meeting of the Peace River North Festival Association will be held tonight, June 7 at 7:30 at Alwin Holland School in Room 8.

Election of officers will

JUN 7, 1978
take place for 1979 and they invite the general public to attend and those interested in music, dance and childrens drama who want to work on a committee to also attend.

Festival meeting

OCT 17, 1978
The Peace River North Festival Association held a meeting Oct. 10 at the Royal Canadian Legion. An election of officers was held for the 1978-79 festival season. The first priority of the executive is to contact and book adjudicators for the Festival.

After some discussion, it was decided that the Creative Writing category would be dropped this year. The Band and Instrument category will no longer be a separate segment of the festival, but will become part of the Music category.

The festival is tentatively scheduled for the end of April, 1979.

Letters to the Editor Thank you

1978
MAY 10, 1978
Editor Alaska Highway News

On behalf of the Festival Association we would like to thank all those who gave of their time and energy to make Festival '78 a success. Special thanks to to the Alaska Highway News, The Northern Star and CKNL Radio for their coverage of the festival. We would also like to thank the following: Elizabeth Richards for

publicity and for operating the video. We regret that Mrs Richards is resigning from the festival executive due to many other commitments. We greatly appreciate all that she has done.

Heidi Filter for getting the engraving done in time for the Grande Finale despite very short notice

To the School Board for the use of their facilities.

To Bernie Earthy for giving up the Central School Gym for the use of the competitions.

To Tony Atkins for handling the lighting.

To our excellent MC's Barry Willis and Bob Bennetts.

Last, but not least, we would like to thank all those who participated in the festival. Only through your interest and participation can we hope to continue with the festival and to achieve our goal of excellence.

Eileen Babcock
President, Festival Association.

Support the Arts Festival

SEPT 27, 1978
I wonder how many people know what the Peace River North Festival Association is all about? I recently had an opportunity to attend a meeting of the Association, and I was appalled at the lack of interest from the general public - in particular, parents of school age children. The Festival is put on every year for the benefit of talented children and adults in the Fort St John area. However, due to the lack of interest, it may now be a thing of the past.

for quite a number of years. As the parent of a child who has participated in the Festival for three years, I know the feeling of satisfaction it gives a parent to see your child have the opportunity to express his or her talent before an appreciative audience.

So please parents - get involved for your child's sake - these kids really love the Festival, don't let them down.

Last year total entries in the Festival were over 1100. The entire Festival was organized by a handful of interested, dedicated people, who apparently have been faced with this "lack of interest in helping attitude"

There will be a meeting of the Festival Association at the Royal Canadian Legion, Tuesday, October 3, 1978 at 8 pm. Please give the Association your support.

B Miller