



*Peace River North  
Performing Arts Festival*

**Meet Our  
Adjudicators**



**Curtis Foley**



**Jim Hibbard**





**Piano:** April 6, 7  
**Strings:** April 8  
**Guitar:** April 8  
**Voice & Choir:** April 8  
**Instrumental:** April 9  
**Band:** April 9  
**Dance:** April 10-13



Heather Johnson



Garth Williams

**Peace River North**

**Performing Arts Festival**

**[www.prn-performingarts.com](http://www.prn-performingarts.com)**

**April 6-13 North Peace Cultural Centre**

*2014*

2014



# FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

**Piano**  
**Vocal/Choral/Dramatic Speech**  
**Strings/Instruments/Band**

**April 6 - 13, 2014**



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OFFICE SOLUTIONS

**\$4.00**

## Heather Johnson: Piano, Voice & Choir



A native of Alberta, Canada, Heather Johnson is the Founder and Artistic Director of the Cantilon Choirs in Edmonton, Alberta. The Cantilon Choral program involves over two hundred singers of all ages in ten different choirs. This community choral program seeks to enrich the cultural life of Edmonton and Alberta through a dynamic and widely varied choral season. The choirs participate in local community events and festivals, perform regularly with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, Richard Eaton Singers and other professional arts organizations, actively commission new works for treble voices by Canadian composers, and maintain a rigorous national and international touring schedule.

Since their inception, Ms. Johnson's choirs have been honoured with many awards in provincial, national and international competitions. Both her women's choir, Belle Canto and her children's choir, the Cantilon Chamber Choir have enjoyed great success on

the international stage. The **Cantilon Chamber Choir**, competed in July 2011 in the **International Choral Eisteddfod in Llangollen, Wales** where they were honoured to receive 1<sup>st</sup> Place in both the Youth Choir and Folk Song Choir categories and 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in the Female Choirs category. Prior to this, the choir performed at the invitation of the government of Spain at the **Tolosa International Choral Competition** where they were awarded third place in the Children's Choir category. Other international honours include 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the European Broadcast Union's **Let The Peoples Sing** radio competition, first place awards in both the Children's Choir and Youth Choir categories of the prestigious **57<sup>th</sup> Annual Béla Bartók International Choral Competition** in Debrecen, Hungary in July 2006, and second place and two third place awards in the **International Choral Eisteddfod in Llangollen, Wales** in the summer of 2003. With Belle Canto, tours to Italy, Germany and Ireland have garnered distinctions at the **Johannes Brahms International Choral Festival** (Wernigerode, Germany; 2012), the **Seghizzi International Choral Festival** (Gorizia, Italy; 2010), the **Cork International Choral Festival** (Cork, Ireland; 2007), the **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual International Choral Olympics** (Bremen, Germany; 2004) and the **International Choral Kathaumixw** (Powell River, Canada; 1998). Both the Cantilon Chamber Choir and Belle Canto are also multiple first-place winners in the National Competition for Canadian Amateur Choirs as well as the National Music Festival of Canada.

Heather Johnson holds a Bachelor of Music degree in piano performance from the University of Lethbridge, a Bachelor of Education degree and a Master of Music degree in choral conducting from the University of Alberta, and a diploma from the Kodály Pedagogical Intézet in Kecskemét, Hungary. In great demand as a choral clinician, adjudicator, lecturer and guest conductor, Heather also maintains an active voice studio. Heather lives in Edmonton, Alberta with her husband, Steven Turgeon and her daughters Sophie and Lina.

## Garth Williams: Strings, Guitar, Band



Teacher, and Professional Musician, Garth began his professional career as a violinist with the Vancouver Symphony. In addition, he has played with the Victoria Symphony, the C.B.C. Chamber Orchestra and the Vancouver Opera Orchestra. During the past twenty years, he has performed with the Gala Players of Vancouver and has conducted Symphony Pacifica. When he is not playing professionally, he is generally conducting or arranging music for Youth Orchestras. He has conducted the Delta Youth Orchestra, the Vancouver Youth Symphony and is Founder and past Musical Director of the Summer Pops Youth Orchestra of Vancouver.

As a Music Educator, Mr. Williams has formed string programs in three different school districts in British Columbia, as well as establishing music programs in two secondary schools in Vancouver. He has operated his own studio, Kantata Studios for over thirty years, wherein he teaches violin and viola. He has served as District Head Teacher of Music in Courtenay, B.C.

with responsibilities from Kindergarten to Grade Twelve. He has taught all forms of music in secondary school, from band, guitar, orchestra, and choral programs to electronic music composition. Mr. Williams has also served as adjudicator for music festivals in Powell River, Nanaimo, Cranbrook, Chilliwack, Burnaby, Courtenay, Penticton, Sechelt and Salmon Arm British Columbia.

He, together with his wife, Ruth, continues to offer violin and piano instruction through Kantata Studios in Duncan. Mr. Williams served for two years as Musical Director of the Cowichan Musical Society, staging "Kiss Me Kate" and "Hello Dolly". He has held the position of Concertmaster of the Cowichan Consort for three years and in 2006, formed Cowichan Camerata String Orchestra, an orchestra comprised of adults and teenagers who enjoy playing not only the classics but also the pop repertoire. "The Scampering Scarecrow Violin Book" is a collection of pieces for young violinists which represent the seasons of the year. In addition however, there are additional pieces available on the website written for both Junior and Intermediate Violinists. All his compositions can be found on his website, "kantatastudios.com". All compositions come with an MP3 preview and can be downloaded from the website.