

## GREATER VICTORIA PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL BOARD 2023-2024



### **Bill Devey - President**

Bill Devey is an Executive Director and Chief Technical Officer supporting the Natural Resource Ministries in the Government of British Columbia. He holds a Bachelor of Applied Science (Engineering) from the University of Toronto and a Masters of Business Administration from the Rotman School of Management. Bill has helped both domestic and international companies to transform, develop new markets and create new products. He has also developed and financed international projects which focussed on protecting the environment, generating renewable energy and providing sustainable rural economic development. This is Bill's first volunteer board membership, inspired by his belief in the value of a strong music community. Bill, his wife and three sons live in North Saanich and his oldest has participated regularly in the GVPAF.



### **Jacquie Dawes – Vice President**

Jacqueline Dawes is retired from her career as a Certified Professional Accountant and as an executive member of the British Columbia Public Service. Over her career, Jacqueline led ministries and programs of varying scope and size, oversaw several large Crown Corporations, and was responsible to advance both public and private sector interests through her engagement with industry and other levels of government on a range of topics including those related to economic generation. In her role as Deputy Minister of Community Sport and Cultural Development, she gained a high degree of knowledge and familiarity with the arts community and an understanding of its intersection with provincial and local governments and with private sector agencies. Jacqueline lives with her family in North Saanich, including her teenaged son whose ongoing involvement in the musical performing arts has provided her with additional insight into the value of music to young performers.



### **Jane Gardiner - Secretary**

Jane Gardiner joined the Ministry of Education in 1992 after a teaching career in senior sciences. She held management positions in the area of Learning Resources and in Curriculum Development and went on to become Director of Intergovernmental Relations where, in addition to liaising with Ministries of Education across Canada, and other levels of government, she and her staff had the privilege of developing the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Games Education Program. Over the years, Jane Gardiner has been actively involved in the Victoria Arts Community including: Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival as Head of Voice section, Board of Directors and President (1985- 91); Victoria Conservatory of Music - Board of Governors and President (1989-99); Greater Victoria Youth Orchestra – Board of Directors (1991-94); Musica Victoria, International Recital Series – Board of Directors and President (1999-04). She is currently a Member of the Canadian Music Centre – BC Region and of the Justice Education Society.



**Carolyn Fumalle - Member at Large (Section Head Liaison)**

Carolyn is a former RN and Labour Relations Consultant for the Vancouver Island Health Authority. Her first exposure to music festivals was as a participant in the Kiwanis Music Festival in Calgary. Carolyn currently plays with a number of music groups/orchestras in Victoria, has volunteered with the Victoria Conservatory of Music and is a former Hampton Concert Orchestra Board member. She has been the GVPAF Section Head for Woodwinds for the past 7 years, on the Board since 2013, and recently completed one year as Vice President.



**Elizabeth Willis - Member at Large (Volunteers Portfolio)**

Liz was born and raised in Victoria, BC. After her marriage, she lived in several small towns in the Interior, due to her husband's employment with the BC Forest Service, eventually settling in Prince George where she lived for over 20 years. While there, Liz worked for the College of New Caledonia as a Science Lab Technician while raising a family. She also volunteered for the Prince George District Music Festival, including the Provincial Festival. During Prince George winters, classical music concerts and theatre performances proved to be extremely welcome. Liz developed a lifelong love of Music, beginning with piano lessons as a child. Her particular musical interests are Ballet, in which she took adult lessons while living in Prince George, and Early Music, which is music composed before 1800. After her husband's retirement, Liz moved back to Victoria and became involved with both the Early Music Society of the Islands as a Board member for the past 15 years, and with the GVPAF as a volunteer. She also worked on the Provincial Festival Committee in 2017.



**Barbara Eadie - Member at Large (School Liaison)**

Barbara Eadie has been a Music Educator in Victoria, British Columbia for more than 40 years. Prior to moving to B.C, Ms. Eadie was a member of the Preparatory Department faculty at the Eastman School of Music and an Instructor in flute at Brockport State College University located in Brockport, New York. She has performed as a soloist and chamber musician in the US and Canada and is a founding member of the Candlelight Trio, a chamber group consisting of flute, violin, and cello. She has had extensive symphony orchestra experience including playing extra flute with the Victoria Symphony on a CBC broadcast. Before her retirement in 2018, Mrs. Eadie taught band, strings and choir at the elementary, middle and high school levels in School District 61, Victoria, B.C.



### **Michelle Atamanchuk – Fundraising Chair**

Michelle joined GVPAF at the beginning of 2023. Her son has been involved and competed in many Music Festivals across Canada and this led to her association with GVPAF. From a young age her parents always led by example in giving back to their community. Whether it was at school, church, hospitals, food banks, environmental organizations, boy scouts and girl guides, they instilled in her what it meant to help others and make the community you live in better. Michelle transformed her Business Degree into a Professional Fundraising designation. She has had the privilege of fundraising for educational institutions, religious organizations, children's health care organizations, girls' education in poverty-stricken countries, environmental charities and so many other areas. Her current role led her back to BC after living in Manitoba for 25 years and raising three children. She is excited to join GVPAF and help grow the footprint of music in the Greater Victoria area. "Engaging and giving back to the communities we live in make us Better Together! People are extremely generous philanthropically including time and talent and we can all do our part to make a difference where we live."



### **Kristen Kristiansen – Treasurer**

Kristen has fond memories of performing in the annual music festival while growing up in Saskatchewan, and when she became a band and choir teacher, she entered her students in festivals across the Prairies. When she moved to Victoria, she joined the Navy as a finance clerk which began her journey to becoming an accountant. Since leaving the Navy, Kristen has worked as a financial analyst for the provincial government and currently works in Enterprise Risk Services for a national accounting firm. She is also the Treasurer for the Victoria Children's Choir.



### **Debora Giles – Member at Large**

Debora Giles is a classical pianist who began her musical journey in Saskatchewan. She studied at the Regina Conservatory of Music and obtained her ARCT before moving to Victoria to study with Dr. Robin Wood at the University of Victoria. In 1984, she completed her Bachelor of Music (Piano Performance) and then continued her studies at the Victoria Conservatory of Music where she completed the Teacher Training Program with Winifred Scott Wood. Debora taught at the VCM for a few years prior to leaving Victoria with her husband to follow his career path. After several years abroad, they returned to Victoria to raise a family and Debora worked in administrative positions for local companies but always maintained her love of music. She is thrilled to have the opportunity to use her music background as Section Head for Senior Piano with the GVPAF and to support the Victoria performing arts community as a board member.