



FONDATION PEARSON POUR L'ÉDUCATION

1925, avenue Brookdale, Dorval, QC H9P 2Y7 514.422.3000 poste 2212

PEARSON EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

1925 Brookdale Avenue, Dorval, QC H9P 2Y7 514.422.3000 Local 2212

Newsletter: December, 2013

This has surely been the month of the Rona Cupak Fund!

Four times more snowsuits and boots have been delivered to schools that ever before, and requests are still coming from schools every day, as well as requests for other clothing. The continuing weak economy in Quebec, and long-term disappearance overseas of manufacturing and factory jobs translates, sadly, into deep poverty in too many areas in our Board.

But how our community has responded!

Saturday, December 7th saw the stunning benefit presentation of "*A Lester B. Pearson Christmas Carol*" at the Lindsay Place auditorium. It was a delightful evening of excellent theatre and heavenly music but more specially, of the good things that the season represents: love, joy and generosity of spirit, from the performers, from the audience, and from the people manning the kiosks at intermission. A seamless blend of professional musicians and actors, employees, and students artfully brought together by Director, and part-time (!) Transition Consultant Ashley Daniel Foot were totally engrossing. The only fitting word for Region Director Tom Rhymes, our Scrooge, is **WOW**: A performance from the heart. We are indebted to producer Nancy Battet for bringing all the details together, and to Auvitec for audiovisuals second to none.

Products produced and displayed by our students: Light a Dream, LIFE, Horizon, Pearson School of Culinary Arts added to the ambience and profit for the Rona Cupak Fund. Cookies baked by Horizon students were bought on arrival, never made it to intermission. Entrepreneurship partner *Yeh! Yogurt* provided scrumptious treats and a donation.

Attached is the program- **there is no other way to thank the contributors- each and every one deserving of a page unto himself.**

And then, on December 12th, 7:00 in the morning, the grand opening of Walmart **Kirkland Supercentre**. Since April, Walmart had been undergoing renovations, making room for fresh produce in beautiful display upon entrance. And from April to December, through bake sales, barbecues and raffles, the employees of the store raised \$16,000 for outreach to our community !!



Chapeaux!!

Pearson Educational Foundation Rona Cupak Fund was one of four projects chosen for support and received a cheque of \$5000, which will go so far to fill the need.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, THANK YOU to all of the above.

Barbara Freeston, President
Pearson Educational Foundation

The Rona Cupak Story

In November, 2006 Rona Cupak, highly respected LBPSB Commissioner for the off-island ward and mother of 4 boys ranging in age from 6 to 16, died in a tragic car accident. A large amount of money was donated in her memory to the Pearson Educational Foundation. In addition, amongst themselves, her colleagues on Council bought the four boys a gift that spoke to the most special interest of each.

On December 20, I took the gifts out to the family in Ste-Marthe, near the Ontario border, and asked the dad, Richard Deslauriers, how he wished to direct the memorial money.

This man, who had just lost a beautiful, young, greatly loved wife quietly replied:

“ Nous ici, nous sommes les chanceux. Nous avons une bonne maison et le frigo plein. Utilisez l'argent n'importe comment pour les enfants démunis de la Commission scolaire. That is what Rona would have wanted.”

The following autumn, then president of PEF, now chairman of the school board, Suanne Stein Day, had the brilliant idea to buy winter clothing and boots for our students in need.



Principals simply email the Foundation with the size, the gender, and what is lacking, and within a few days, snowsuits and boots go out to the schools. For some of the children, these are the first brand new clothes they have ever owned. Sadly, this year there have been far more requests than ever before.

The Foundation is committed to ensuring that no student at the Lester B. Pearson School Board lacks proper garb for a Montreal winter.

It is a fitting legacy for Rona, and our own very special Christmas Carol.

Respectfully
BARBARA FREESTON, PRESIDENT.

ABOUT THE PEARSON EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Through a commitment to public education and the promotion of learning for all, the Foundation believes in enhancing the opportunity for all students to become life-long learners, self assured, respectful and responsible to their community.

Recognizing that government funding of public education is finite, the Foundation supports students and furthers this goal by supplying seed money to a broad array of projects generated by the teachers and administrators of the LBSB community.



CONTACT THE FOUNDATION

Pearson Educational Foundation
1925 Brookdale Avenue | Dorval, QC H9P 2Y7
514. 422. 3000 ext 2212
pef@lbsb.qc.ca
<http://pef.lbsb.qc.ca>

PEARSON EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION presents

A Lester B. Pearson Christmas Carol

A staged reading of the classic holiday ghost story by
Charles Dickens

directed by
Ashley Daniel Foot

original music composed, conducted and performed by

Kris Epps

producers

**Nancy Battet
Thomas Rhymes**

Saturday, Dec 7, 2013 7:30pm
Lindsay Place High School Auditorium

A Lester B. Pearson Christmas Carol

THE PLAYERS

EBENEZER SCROOGE.....THOMAS RHYMES (DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS, REGION 2)
NARRATOR.....KATHLEEN MCAULIFFE (FILM AND TV PERFORMER, THE AVIATOR)
MARLEY'S GHOST.....JOHN BRENNAN (DIRECTOR, HUMAN RESOURCES, LBPSB)
GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT.....BARRY GAIPTMAN (GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR, PLACE CARTIER)
GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST.....KATHLEEN FEE (FILM AND TV PERFORMER, MIRROR MIRROR)

ANNOUNCER/FANNY.....DEBORAH DIXON (VICE PRINCIPAL, RIVERDALE HIGH SCHOOL)
FRED, SCROOGE'S NEPHEW.....ADIL D'SOUSA (TEACHER, PACC ADULT EDUCATION)
BELLE, SCROOGE'S FIANCÉE.....COLLEEN GALLEY (PRINCIPAL, HORIZON HIGH SCHOOL)
BOB CRATCHIT.....PATRICK BRENNAN (TEACHER, PACC ADULT EDUCATION)
MRS CRATCHIT.....KARA CONNOLY (TEACHER, PACC ADULT EDUCATION)
POOLE, FIRST CHARITY SEEKER.....REBECCA McDONALD (TEACHER, PACC ADULT EDUCATION)
LAMB, SECOND CHARITY SEEKER.....DAVID MELOCHE (DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS, REGION 3)

KATE, FRED'S WIFE.....ALISHA TATHGAR (TEACHER, PACC ADULT EDUCATION)
MR FEZZIWIG.....DAVID ABRACEN (PRINCIPAL, BEURLING ACADEMY)
MARTHA CRATCHIT.....EMILIE BATTET (STUDENT, BEACONSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL)
TINY TIM CRATCHIT.....NICK PAXTON (STUDENT, BEURLING ACADEMY)
BELINDA CRATCHIT.....MAYA WALDRICH (STUDENT, ALLION ELEMENTARY)
PETER CRATCHIT/ BOY CAROLER.....ALESSIO RASO (STUDENT, SUNSHINE ACADEMY)
BUCKGRACE SINGER (STUDENT, CHILDREN'S WORLD)
HAVISHAM.....AUGUSTA AALDERS (TEACHER, PACC ADULT EDUCATION)

THE PRODUCTION TEAM

DIRECTED BY ASHLEY DANIEL FOOT
MUSICAL DIRECTOR KRIS EPPS

PRODUCERS NANCY BATTET ASHLEY DANIEL FOOT THOMAS RHYMES
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER BARBARA FREESTON
LIGHTING/SOUND DESIGN PATRICK ROY / AUVITEC LTD.
STAGING CONSULTANT NATLIE KALINOWICZ

STAGE MANAGERS JENNIFER HOLMES AND RANDI LEE SANDRA CROSS
THE VOICE YOU DON'T SEE JACKIE ROMANETTI

PROJECTION DESIGNER/POSTER/ GRAPHICS/SOUND FX ASHLEY DANIEL FOOT
SOUND ENGINEERS DAVID AYALA KAREN NESBITT

PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS TIMOTHY WONG MATI ULLAH
PHOTOGRAPHY AND FILM MAX KALINOWICZ

BAKERS, MAKERS, AND MORE

- BIRD HOUSES - HORIZON HIGH WOTP
- CANDLES - LIGHT A DREAM
- COMPUTER BAGS AND WALLETS -
BHS INFINITY
- COOKIES - HORIZON HIGH SCHOOL
- CHRISTMAS CARDS: ART BY THORNDALE,
PCHS, & RIVERDALE STUDENTS
- GIFT CARDS - LIFE
- JEWELLRY BY TATIANA
- TRUFFLES- PACC SCHOOL OF CULINARY ARTS

PROGRAMME

ACT ONE

GREETING.....SUANNE STEIN DAY, CHAIRMAN, LESTER B. PEARSON SCHOOL BOARD

OVERTURE.....THE BOMBADILS

OUR STORY BEGINS.....

McGILL CHORAL SOCIETY CHAMBER CHOIR | KRISTOPHER EPPS, CONDUCTOR

“Down to the River to Pray” Trad. arr. Meineke/Epps from *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*

“Dirat-On” music by Morten Lauridsen text by Rilke

“Ritmo” music and lyrics by Dan Davidson

THE FIRST SPIRIT VISITS SCROOGE

MEMBERS OF THE BEACONSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL GRADE 11 CONCERT BAND | VALÉRIE LEPAGE, CONDUCTOR

INTERMISSION

please visit our lobby for sweet treats and gifts made by our fabulous students

ACT TWO

ENTR'ACTE....THE BOMBADILS

THE SECOND SPIRIT VISITS SCROOGE

ST ANTHONY CHILDREN'S CHOIR | KATHLEEN WALSHE-TURCOTTE, CONDUCTOR

“Holly and Ivy and Evergreen” music and lyrics by Teresa Jennings

“For the Winter” music and lyrics by Mike Wilson

“In the Spirit” music and lyrics by Teresa Jennings arr Paul Jennings

THE FIRST SPIRIT VISITS SCROOGE

THE SECOND AND THIRD SPIRITS/GOD BLESS US EVERYONE

“At Christmas Time” music by Kris Epps lyrics by Derek Webster and Ashley Daniel Foot PERFORMED BY MAYA WALDRICH

McGILL CHORAL SOCIETY CHAMBER CHOIR | KRISTOPHER EPPS, CONDUCTOR

“After the Goldrush/Hallelujah” Music and lyrics by Neil Young and Leonard Cohen arr. Epps

“Sleigh Bells” Trad. arr. Rentz

“Behold that Star” Trad.

KATHLEEN MCAULIFFE | KRIS EPPS, PIANIST

“We Need a Little Christmas” from *Mame* music and lyrics by Jerry Herman

“Christmas in Kilarney” trad. WITH THE BOMBADILS AND KRIS EPPS

THE BOMBADILS CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS

ASHLEY DANIEL FOOT | THE BOMBADILS | KRIS EPPS

“Believe” from *The Polar Express* music by Alan Silvestri lyrics by Glen Berger

SPECIAL THANKS

Suanne Stein Day, *Chairman- LBPSB*; Robert T. Mills, *Director General - LBPSB*; Steve Balleine, *Assistant Director General, LBPSB*; Veronique Marin, *Director of Centres- Adult Education and Vocational Training, LBPSB*; Alycia Ambroziak, *communications officer, LBPSB*; Kris Epps, *for original music*

Katie Speck; McGill Choral Society Chamber Choir and intermission carollers; The Bombadils; Kathleen McAuliffe; Kathleen Fee; students, teachers, professionals, administrators, and directors of the LBPSB; Patrick Roy and his team, *Auvitec*; Susan Grand, *PEF*; Yeh! Yogurt; Planterra; Metro Pointe Claire; Natalie Kalinowicz; Diane Fortier; Lancy Low; Marie St Pierre; Maggie Soldano, Sonia Ruivo, Dona Bianchi, Staff of Lindsay Place High School, Michelle Harper, Stephen Swailes, Shari Waldrich, our amazing logistics and maintenance team and of course you, our beloved audience. Because of you, our students will stay warm and dry.



THE BOMBADILS are a lively and kind-hearted folk group based in Montreal. The four members met while pursuing studies in music at McGill University. Starting as a mainly traditional Irish group, they soon began to incorporate their other influences; including classical, jazz, bluegrass, and old time.

Since the completion of their studies in 2012, THE BOMBADILS have released their debut album, "Fill Your Boots!" and are busy touring Canada and the United States. They perform at festivals, concerts (including house concerts) and special events. They can be found online at www.thebombadils.com or through email at thebombadils@gmail.com

THE MCGILL CHORAL SOCIETY-SSMU (MCS) is a non-profit student organization dedicated to making great music! As one of the largest student groups on the McGill campus, MCS gives members the chance to explore and enjoy the experience of making music together. While MCS is officially a club of the Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU), it is also open to students of other universities and members of the general public.



Each year, we perform two major classical choral works: one in our Fall concert at the end of November, and the other in our Spring concert at the end of April. Our audiences range from 500 to 1000 people! We are accompanied by a small orchestra and professional soloists. In the second half of our concerts, we perform a selection of seasonal and popular music. Our next concert is SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 3PM For details, or to join our group please visit www.McGillChoral.ca



KRIS EPPS holds a Bachelor of Music degree from McGill University where he won first place in the piano category of the prestigious McGill Concerto Competition. Frequently in demand as a collaborative artist, Kris has worked with singers and instrumentalists in concert both nationally and internationally. He was an official accompanist of the *Jeunesses Musicales International Voice Competition*, and also the *National Music Festival*. In addition to teaching privately, Kris is on the faculty at Dawson College and the Comox Valley Youth Music Centre. He frequently works with Broadway performers including Julia Murney (*Wicked*), and Eric Kunze (*Jesus Christ Superstar*), and is the Director of Music for the production company Front Row Performing Arts. Kris Epps has

accompanied McGill Choral Society and coached sectional rehearsals since 2003. He began directing the McGill Choral Chamber Choir in 2004, and leads them in performances in the community throughout the year. If you are interested in working with Kris, either for private lessons or for a performance at your event, please contact him via email at kris.epps@gmail.com

KATHLEEN McAULIFFE, is a versatile performer who is at home singing, acting, narrating, or directing. Kathleen's film and television credits include *The Aviator* with Leonardo DiCaprio, *The Secret* with David Duchovny, and *Bonano: A Godfather's Story*. She recently completed a decades long engagement with the *Le Festin du Gouverneur* as a principal performing artist.



KATHLEEN FEE is a world class actress, and performer who has performed in dozens of films, television programs, plays and commercials. Her recent films include *Mirror, Mirror* with Julia Roberts and *The Words* with Bradley Cooper. She is also in demand as a voice over artist and she has given voice to numerous brands and companies including Nordstroms, Wawanessa, Garnier, and Silhouette Yoghurt