

# TECH TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD HUGHEEN FERGUSON DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARD AND A FEW COMMENTS



## TECH TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

L-R: Rhona-Mae Arca (winner in 2013),  
Karen King (runner up)  
**Linda Gould Winner for 2015**



L to R: Doug McGarry (Roland Canada),  
Karen King, Rhona-Mae Arca,  
Linda Gould (Winner 2015),  
Derek Oger (Conservatory Canada)

I am writing to express my gratitude for your generous contribution to the Tech Teacher Award at the CFMTA/FCAPM Conference.

I am humbled to have been chosen knowing there were many qualified recipients. I thoroughly enjoyed and was inspired by this year's conference. Thank you once again for your generosity.

*Linda Gould* ✨

## HUGHEEN FERGUSON DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARD

### SUSAN OLSEN



Susan Olsen, Teacher, Pianist, Volunteer Extraordinaire. Susan established a thriving piano studio in Surrey B.C.

As a member of the South Fraser BCRMTA branch she held many executive positions, chaired workshops, convened recitals, was the Surrey Music Festival co-ordinator, chair of the Encore 96 Piano Competition, Assistant Chairperson at Odyssey 2001, and chairperson of the Langley Piano Competition in 2006.

Susan was the BCRMTA Registrar for more than 20 years, transitioned the use of paper to electronic records, organized the distribution of certificates and membership cards, began the on-line registration process, helped to launch CFMTA/FCAPM's national insurance program and established the BCRMTA Community Service Music Awards. Presently, she is the provincial Archivist.

We are honoured to present Susan Olsen with the Hugheen Ferguson Distinguished Teacher Award for many years of dedication to the BCRMTA. ✨

I just had to write you this morning, to tell you what a marvelous time I had at the CFMTA Pathways Conference. It was just superbly run from beginning to end. Honestly, I cannot ever recall taking part in such a gathering / convention/ music festival which gave me such pleasure.

In the last four days I met such lovely and extraordinary people, from all of you involved with the CFMTA, to the folks from Tom Lee and Long & McQuade and Yamaha, to my fellow adjudicators who are gold, and all the marvelous competitors from across the country. It was just exhilarating. This morning I'm enjoying a glow along with my coffee, thinking of some of the great piano performances I heard and unforgettable meetings and conversations enjoyed -- a bit sad that it's all over for now. But hoping we'll meet again soon, and often. All my profound thanks for making me a part of such a wonderful gathering,  
*Sara Davis Buechner* ✨

Thanks to you and the rest of the committee for all the work put into organizing the conference and for keeping things running smoothly. I hope you're all enjoying a restful and relaxing week!

*Hetty Jagersma - Alberta* ✨

We did indeed enjoy ourselves and greatly appreciate your kind words. The committee did a marvelous job of organizing this event and the hard work certainly was evident in how smoothly things ran. We were delighted to have been a part of such a wonderful few days. Congratulations to all of you along with our thanks.  
*Norm King Jane Ripley - Ontario* ✨ ▶

Thank you so much for a wonderfully organized convention. Your commitment and enthusiasm were evident through the entire event. The concerts were commendable and workshops well planned. Always something for everyone!

It was great to reconnect with old friends and make new ones. From someone who knows exactly what is all involved behind the scenes - BRAVO and I hope you have all had a chance to rest and relax and revel in a job well done! Till next time!  
*Lore Ruschiensky - Saskatchewan \**

THANK YOU! for a really wonderfully inspiring and aspiring conference! I was only able to attend Friday and Saturday and found the whole event incredibly well organized, the venue easily accessible, and the sessions valuable and interesting. Rena Sharon's "Collaborative Citizenship" was worth more and meant more than I can say. An incredibly well researched and presented and timely subject. I was able to attend Dale Wheeler, Jody Compeau and Marjorie Purdy's sessions as well and found them very practical....much to consider and apply! The best part was how the conference brought us all together and allowed us to learn and celebrate and commiserate in such a comfortable and welcoming atmosphere.

Thank you for the many hours and effort and expertise you all contributed to make this such a memorable event.  
*Catherine Bundt - British Columbia \**

I want to thank your National Piano Teacher's Association for permitting MTNA members of USA for attending. I might have been the only one from America but the Friday night Finals plus the half day Saturday sessions were well worth the drive to Richmond. Even though I left before the winners were announced on Friday night, the results were what I would have expected. All three of them were worthy contestants! I enjoyed the Saturday master class of Jamie Parker (good sense of humor and very insightful coaching) as well as the interesting lecture by Allan Fraser( I just read an article by him in the July/August keyboard Companion). What really topped off my attendance was the remarkable presentation by Rena Sharon on chamber music. Not only was it promoting the benefits of doing collaborative music but to an even greater degree the power and influence that music has in the people's lives who choose to perform or listen to the great music of the centuries. Bravo for her presentation! I will be sure to convey my feelings to Willard Schultz at our Fall Seattle Music Teachers Meeting. He was a teacher at the University of Alberta for a number of years and is still teaching top notch students at the ripe age of 87. I know that there was a scholarship in his name for the piano competitors.  
Best wishes and I hope to attend some future Canadian music conferences.  
*John Van Lierop, Jr., NCTM  
Seattle Washington \**

Just a quick note to convey my thanks and congratulations for a successful conference!  
*Tom Green - Ontario \**

The Conference was really useful and fun. I enjoyed the "Master Classes" with Jamie Parker and Sarah Davis Bueckner. How great it was to meet the stars! Thanks to the committee for all your hard work!  
*Janet Davidson - British Columbia \**

Thank you Conference Committee, for all your work on this Conference. It was absolutely terrific! The venue, the speakers, the piano competition, trade show, meals, everything! It was all fantastic. Thanks for doing so much to provide us all with this inspiring experience.  
*Lori Elder - British Columbia \**

Thank you to your committee for all your hard work. It was a well-run conference.  
*Sandra Stobbe - Saskatchewan \**

It was a fabulous convention. I enjoyed meeting teachers from all over Canada. The sessions were excellent. Inspiring, educational, and a lot of fun besides. It was such a convenient location; so nice to have everything in one venue and the gala concert on Wednesday night was a pleasant short walk away. Your organization was superb. Thank you for all of your hard work on our behalf.  
*Esther Neufeld - British Columbia \**