

HISTORY

In the summer of 1993, Pacific Music Industry Association (PMIA) decided to initiate a music scholarship fund. The Board of Directors chose to create that fund in the name of B.C.'s great musician and cultural ambassador, Fraser MacPherson. Delegates from the Board informed Mr. MacPherson of our wish, but already the great saxophonist was in poor health, suffering from cancer.

On September 28, 1993, Fraser MacPherson passed away at age 65. Born in St. Boniface, Manitoba, MacPherson had his Musicians union card by the time he was 16. He was known in Vancouver for his prolonged residency at the Palomar and at the Cave, where he became band leader at the age of 23.

He toured the Soviet Union five times, the last in 1989. In 1982 he won a JUNO for Best Jazz Recording for his duet with Oliver Gannon, his long-time musical colleague, titled *I Didn't Know About You* -- an apropos title for a man all described as private and enigmatic. At age 60 he was named to the Order of Canada.

When he passed away in September of 1993, the Vancouver Musicians Association noted that in lieu of flowers, donations would be accepted to the Fraser MacPherson Music Scholarship Fund. The response was overwhelming.

Nevertheless, for an ongoing scholarship fund, capital must continue to be raised. Our first major fundraiser was a Gala on April 10, 1994 at the Commodore Ballroom, sponsored by Shaw Communications, honouring Fraser MacPherson with a tribute and a re-creation of the band he led.

Since December 1993, the Fund has been officially incorporated as a Society in BC. The Board of Directors consists of 9 members of the music education and professional musician's community of B.C. They devote their time and energies to maintaining this fund as well as honouring Fraser MacPherson, one of the truly great pioneers of Jazz in B.C.

Each year the fund has disbursed between four and eight scholarships of up to \$2,000. Upon the Society's 10th anniversary, in a climate of highly challenging fundraising, the Society decided to concentrate its efforts on jazz musicians specifically, and to deliver educational workshops.

Please visit:

<http://www.vancouverjazz.com/fmsf/index.shtml>

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Board of Directors of the Fraser MacPherson Music Scholarship Trust Fund have decided to broaden our original mandate and to provide funding for workshops in B.C. schools and universities. Hence, we are encouraging music educators to apply to have a jazz artist/clinician assigned to your program to provide a 90 minute workshop, working with your instrumental jazz students in your classroom. This will only work if you agree to a 50/50 partnership, where your school provides \$100 towards the professional fee and the Fraser MacPherson Music Fund matches it with an additional \$100. Applications are now being accepted until Oct. 31, 2008. We anticipate that decisions will be announced early in 2009.

This Jazz Workshop Grant program is made possible by a grant from the *BC Gaming Commission*.

BECOME A MEMBER

Please consider becoming a member of the Fraser MacPherson Scholarship Fund. Members are kept informed of Fraser MacPherson Scholarship Fund activities and opportunities. Please take a moment to fill out the application and return it to us so we may work together to continue to support young jazz instrumentalists.

If you would like information about any of the activities of the Fraser MacPherson Music Scholarship Fund, please send your name, school (if applying for the Jazz Workshop Grant), address, phone and email:

Peter Stigings

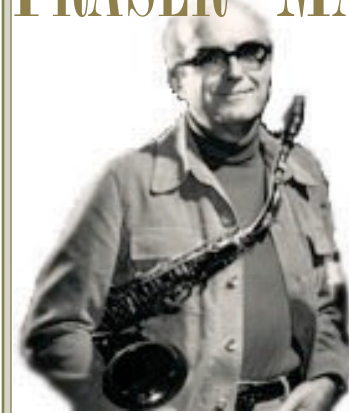
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FRASER MACPHERSON



BACK
FOR
2009

MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP FUND

THE JAZZ WORKSHOP GRANT

A NEW PROGRAM FROM THE
**FRASER MACPHERSON
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**
AIMED TO HELP COORDINATE AND
PARTIALLY ASSIST WITH
FUNDING TO BRING
PROFESSIONAL JAZZ MUSICIANS
INTO SCHOOL CLASSROOMS.

