

Marion Abbott

Music Theatre & Pop Vocal

Marion Abbott is a proud graduate of the Musical Theatre Performance Program at Sheridan College. Upon graduating, she was immediately hired to teach for the program and was later named one of the top twenty graduates of the program. She has her Grade 10 Voice and A.R.C.T. in Piano Performance from The Royal Conservatory of Music. She studied piano with Margaret Parsons Poole, Clifford Poole and Ted Ellis. She studied voice with Christina James, Deb Joy and Sheila Brand. Marion is the creator of The Confidential Project (which included Musical Theatre, Theatre, Shakespeare, Opera and Operetta), The Plain Stage Theatre Company, The Women Of Musical Theatre Festival, New Works Series, The Artist Discovery Series and The Spirit Of Maud Theatre Company. Her mandate as a producer was to provide as many opportunities for as many artists as possible; consequently, Marion produced over 400 productions in Toronto and other cities. Of the many (many!) shows Marion has worked on, some of her favourites include *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, *All Shook Up*, *Anne And Maud*, *No Safe Harbour*, *Ragtime*, *Streetcar Named Desire* and *Passion*. Most recently she was both Director and Musical Director for SMT's *Into The Woods* and Director for CCP's *Steel Magnolias*. As a private teacher, Marion has taught voice, piano and acting for 29 years to students of all ages. From festivals to recitals to performing in Disney World, Marion cherishes her memories of her time with her students dearly. Many of her former students now work in the arts full time. Marion is now in demand as a director-music director, consultant, adjudicator and private coach. She has



written three books: *700 Song Suggestions For Singers*, *100 Suggestions For Teaching Private Lessons* and *How To Parent A Child In The Arts: A Guide For All Seasons* - all available on Amazon. She has also uploaded over 400 accompaniment tracks on her YouTube Channel for Singers and Voice Teachers to utilize: www.youtube.com/c/MarionAbbott/Videos. Marion LOVES Walt Disney and tries to get to Walt Disney World in Florida at least once a year. Her favourite rides are Splash Mountain and the Tower of Terror. Marion is married to visual artist Giancarlo Piccin and they have a son, also named Giancarlo. The three of them are addicted to movies. www.marionabbott.com

Irene Ilic

Voice and Speech Arts & Drama

Soprano Irene Ilic received her Master's Degree in Music from the Cleveland Institute of Music and has performed a variety of operatic and musical theatre roles in the U.S. and Canada. She has been a guest soloist with many Canadian choirs and orchestras, performing as soprano soloist in works such as Orff's CARMINA BURANA, Purcell's KING ARTHUR, Haydn's THE CREATION, Handel's THE MESSIAH, Bach's ST. JOHN PASSION, and the REQUIEMs of Faure, Durufle, Brahms and Rutter.

Ms. Ilic has a thriving private teaching practice in Newmarket and is a member of NATS, ORMTA and the CMFAA. She has adjudicated many music festivals throughout Canada. She is the founder and director of the Newmarket Voice Festival, an annual event since 1996, and member festival of the OMFA.



Many of her students have won the Silver and Gold Medals for the highest mark in Ontario for an RCM Voice Exam. She was involved in repertoire selection for both the 2012 edition and 2019 edition of the Royal Conservatory of Music Songbook Series.

Her students have starred in the Toronto casts and touring productions of THE LION KING, THE SOUND OF MUSIC, BILLY ELIOT, MARY POPPINS, and more. Her annual "Tea & Tunes" student concerts have been held for over twenty five years and have raised thousands of dollars for Sick Kids Hospital.

Irene is very proud that many of her students have gone on to pursue music at the university level and as a career path.

Dylan Rook Maddix **Composition, Brass, Recorder, Percussion and Woodwinds**

Dylan Rook Maddix is Professor of Music at Cambrian College in Sudbury, ON, where he conducts the wind ensemble, teaches music theory and serves as the head of wind and brass studies. He also teaches conducting at Laurentian University. Dylan is founder of the Toronto Winds, host of the podcast The Band Room, and maintains an active career as a sought-after conductor, clinician, performer and adjudicator across Canada.



With a passion for music education and outreach, Dylan maintains a commitment to working with young people and the community. He has been music director of the Milton Concert Band, a conducting fellow with the Denis Wick Canadian Wind Orchestra, program assistant of the Hannaford Youth Program, and is now co-manager of the Denis Wick Canadian Wind Orchestra. Dylan has conducted the Northern Ontario Honour Band, Halifax Community Band Festival, Royal Conservatory Brass Ensemble, Northdale Concert Band, Western University New Music, Hannaford Youth Band, Mount Allison University Symphonic Band, Kingston Brass Choir, and Bathurst Chamber Festival Orchestra.

A prizewinner at the 2011 & 2014 National Music Festivals, Dylan has been a featured soloist with the Prince Edward Island Symphony, Weston Silver Band, Greater Moncton Chorale and Orchestra, and Strathgartney Chamber Orchestra. His musicality has led him to numerous festivals in Canada and the United States including the Scotia Festival of Music, Charlottetown Festival, North American Brass Band Championships, Indian River Music Festival, Bathurst Chamber Music Festival, Music Fest Canada and the Luminato Festival. He holds a Master of Music from the University of Toronto and a Bachelor of Music from Mount Allison University.

Amber Morphy **Piano**

Amber Morphy, is the owner of Morphy Music; a music studio established in Hespeler Cambridge. Amber is a recognized pedagogue in the community having taught all levels of piano and voice. She is a vocalist, pianist, a versatile performer, accompanist, teacher, examiner and adjudicator.

Amber has been a piano, voice and theory pedagogue for over 30 years. Her teaching has been recognized by the Royal Conservatory of Music by obtaining a Senior Specialist status.

Amber has been affiliated with many musical organizations such as Kindermusik, Ontario Registered Music Teachers Association, Royal Conservatory of Music and many more. She has travelled extensively throughout Canada and the US working as an examiner, adjudicator and clinician.

Amber is passionate about teaching as is evident in the many successful students that have completed all levels of exams and many who have gone on to university to pursue a musical career. She was also an accompanist and coach for singers at an integrated arts high school in Kitchener for over a decade.

Amber began her musical training in Ontario completing a Bachelor of Music in voice and piano at Wilfrid Laurier University. She then graduated with a Masters in Music from the University of Western Ontario. She has been a member of the College of Examiners for the Royal Conservatory of Music for 25 years. She examines all levels of piano and voice. She is also an active adjudicator for music festivals and competitions throughout Canada.

Amber has performed extensively in Ontario with Elora Festival, Gallery Concert Series, Kokoro, K-W Opera, Hamilton Opera, Summer Lyric Opera Theatre, Cambridge Symphony Orchestra and many more. She is an active recitalist and accompanist throughout the Waterloo Region. Amber had the honour of being the first Artist-in-Residence for the City of Cambridge in 2003. This exciting position allowed for monthly concerts, workshops, performances at community events and the creation of her first self titled CD.

In her spare time, Amber also enjoys teaching yoga, spending time with her daughters and granddaughters.



Maggie Morrison

Piano

Canadian pianist Maggie Morrison was born in Brantford, Ontario. She attended the pre college performance academy at The Glenn Gould School in Toronto, receiving her Performer's Diploma (A.R.C.T.) from the Royal Conservatory of Music at fourteen. Maggie then attended The Cleveland Institute of Music, graduating in 2012 with her Bachelor's Degree and 2014 her Master's Degree. Maggie lives in Toronto, where she teaches and collaborates. Currently, she is pursuing her doctorate at The University of Toronto with Jamie Parker.



She continues to make her mark as a music festival adjudicator, critiquing students locally and provincially across Canada and in Hong Kong.

An avid believer in community and education, Maggie is the Director of a Not for Profit, Exposure to the Arts, based in her hometown (Brantford, Ontario). Exposure to the Arts has provided community members with an instrument donation program which collects and distributes instruments to families who would otherwise not be able to hear them, and an annual festival – Brantford Canadian Showcase – held in November. 2020 will be it's 8th year running.