

Arlene Shiplett Biography

Arlene Shiplett was born and raised in North Battleford, Saskatchewan. She became involved in music at an early age with piano lessons, choir and both school and private band programs. She graduated from the University of Saskatchewan with a B.Mus.Mus.Ed in 1986. Arlene became a member of the Saskatoon Symphony in 1992. For several years Arlene taught Band in rural Saskatchewan and played in the Symphony. Since 2000, she has narrowed her focus to teaching horn at the University of Saskatchewan as well as private teaching and coaching.

Arlene is the brass instructor for the Saskatoon Youth Orchestra, Administrative Assistant for the North Saskatchewan Wind Symphony and works at Musicraft Instrument Repair.

She is also a member of the Gala Trio along with as Audrey Bayduza, Piano and Gaye-Lynn Kern, Soprano. This dynamic group performs a wide range of repertoire from classical to pop to jazz standards.

Arlene formed the Saskatoon Horn Choir in 2002. It has become a group made up of horn players from every adult band and orchestra in Saskatoon. The horn choir performs several concerts during the Christmas season and in the spring. There is also a junior form of this group. They were featured artists at the Moose Jaw Band Festival in May, 2013.

In 2008, she became the Northern Saskatchewan presenter of the National Arts Centre's Music Alive Program. Every year, Arlene visits schools across Northern Saskatchewan performing presentations to elementary schools. The goal of this program is to bring live music, as well as teach the joy of music, to students who would not normally experience it.

Arlene is in her 9th year performing with the International Brass Quintet at the International Peace Gardens. The IMC Brass Quintet meets for 2 weeks every summer to perform in Minot, North Dakota, on the Festival of the Arts series at the Peace Gardens and informal concerts in Boissevain, Manitoba.

Arlene has also performed with Prairie Virtuosi, Regina Symphony Orchestra, Brandon Chamber Orchestra, Saskatoon Philharmonic, Saskatoon Opera, North Saskatchewan Wind Symphony, Saskatoon Concert Band and Saskatoon Community Wind Ensemble as well as various chamber groups in Saskatoon. In June 2011, she performed a solo concert in North Battleford with Jaya Hoy, Piano and Myra Lyn, Violin. Arlene will be the guest artist with the Saskatoon Philharmonic Orchestra in January 2014.

Her other accomplishments include winning the 2013 YWCA Women of Distinction Education Award, 2004 Dwaine Nelson Teaching Award at the University of Saskatchewan, conducting the mass horn choir at the Call of the Wild horn conference in Cold Lake, Alberta and forming mass horn choirs to perform at the University of Saskatchewan Brass Days and special events.

Arlene may be seen every summer performing on the Saskatchewan Western Development Museum's Steam Calliope – one of a few in playing condition in North America.