

## **Biography – Jane Duerksen**

Jane Duerksen holds a baccalaureate degree from University of Manitoba as well as her Associateships both in Piano Performance and Teaching from the Royal Conservatory of Music. She has received numerous awards and scholarships including the Manitoba Arts Council, Canadian Daughters' League, University of Manitoba, Mrs. James A. Richardson and the Royal Conservatory. Her piano studies included Elsie Rempel, Sydney McInnis, Michael Oike and Heidi Peters alongside masterclasses with numerous artists including Edward J. Parker, Lorne Watson, Robert Silverman and Judy Kehler-Siebert.

A current member of MRMTA, Jane has the responsibility of Canada Music Week Student Composer Competition Coordinator for the province. Passionately involved for thirty years with a busy studio of piano students both privately and through the Manitoba Conservatory of Music & Arts, much of her enjoyment has derived from developing young pianists into strong capable performers both solo, duo and 8 hands 2 pianos. Her students have competed successfully both locally and at the provincial level. From 1996 to 2003, Jane concertized with Kim Bestvater-Sidorchuk on two pianos. She has been active as an adjudicator, accompanist and workshop clinician throughout Manitoba and Northern Ontario. Jane currently resides in Steinbach with her husband, Ken.