

Marlaine Stevens

Marlaine's love of music started at a very young age, hearing her mother play music of the day by ear. Her mother then began teaching her piano when Marlaine was age 4. She studied Royal Conservatory, supplemented by pop music until age 17 and achieved Grade 9 piano. She enjoys playing all kinds of music and especially loves sight reading new tunes!

When she was 9, she joined the junior church choir, later 'graduating' to the senior choir where she sang soprano, or alto or tenor if needed! She was also the assistant organist for the choir and church services. She continues to substitute on organ and piano for local church services.

Marlaine learned to play the flute later in life thanks to the Winnipeg New Horizons Band where she has been a member for 13 years. Since 2019 she has been in the Jazz section of NHB as well, playing keyboard.

Marlaine is also a composer and arranger. She has arranged songs in the barbershop style and has composed several songs. She had one of her compositions arranged for band and was thrilled when it was performed by the Junior Band at the 2023 New Horizons Spring Concert.

Marlaine got the barbershop 'bug' when her dad sang briefly in a barbershop quartet, but she didn't get to participate until her move to Winnipeg in the early 70's where she discovered ladies' barbershop with the Winnipeg Chapter of Sweet Adelines International and sang tenor. She later moved to the Assiniboine Chorus of Sweet Adelines Int'l. where she also sang tenor and was Assistant Director for many years. Later she held the position of Director of that chorus for six years. Marlaine has also been directing barbershop with a group of retired men, the Happy Homesteaders, since 2000.

At the same time, Marlaine has been active in barbershop quartets, singing with Genesis barbershop quartet for 35 years, followed by Honeycomb for 2 years. She currently sings tenor in n nStyle, lead in At Last, and tenor in True Harmony, a 12-member women's a cappella group. She has coached several award-winning barbershop choruses and quartets.

Through the years, Marlaine has attended a multitude of barbershop coaching sessions and educational events where she has gained an extensive knowledge of singing and the wonders of barbershop harmony. Marlaine is looking forward to sharing the joy of barbershop music!