

**Kathie Van Lare** received her B. Mus. (“With Distinction”), Teacher Certification and Dip. F.A. in Wind Band Conducting, all from the University Of Calgary. Born and raised in Calgary, she has been teaching music in the Calgary area for 35 years, and though now retired, she continues to be active as a guest conductor and adjudicator throughout much of Western Canada for both concert and jazz bands. She also currently serves as the Musical Director for the Foothills Music Society Concert Band, the Westwinds Music Society Gold Jazz South and the Calgary Women’s Jazz Orchestra.

Kathie has participated on various committees for the Alberta Band Association, the Alberta International Band Festival and JazzYYC. She is currently Vice-President of the Band Masters Fraternity, Phi Beta Mu and is the Past - (Co) President of Women Band Director’s International - Alberta Chapter. She has presented at the Calgary Teacher’s Convention, JazzYYC’s *Tune In, Tune Up*, Conference as well as the “Women-Led” Jazz Symposium in Winnipeg. She has also taught at the Calgary Regional Summer Band Workshop for the past many years in the roles of conductor, sectional instructor and trumpet master-class teacher.

Through her affiliation with WBDI-Alberta Chapter, Kathie also serves as Co-Organizer of “Girls in Jazz”, a program created in Calgary in 2023 to encourage and support women of ‘all ages and stages’ in furthering their study in jazz, with the ultimate goal of creating gender parity on professional jazz stages of the future.

Bands under Kathie’s direction have been the recipients of several local, provincial and international awards and she has been the recipient of various personal awards: Alberta Band Association’s “Elkhorn Award” as the Band Director of the Year; Alberta Band Association’s “Vondis Miller Legacy Award”; Laureate in John Philip Sousa Legion of Honor at the MidWest Band and Orchestra Conference in Chicago. Women Band Directors International, “Scroll of Excellence”; and an Honorary Lifetime Membership from the Alberta Band Association.

Kathie continues to be active as a free-lance musician (trumpet) and has performed with many groups including among others, the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, the Rocky Mountain Symphony Orchestra, Prime Time Big Band, Alberta Winds, and most-recently with the Calgary Jazz Orchestra and Altius Brass.

Besides music, Kathie enjoys woodworking, horseback riding and is an avid baseball fan. Go Cardinals!

