

SHARON CROWTHER MEMORIAL AWARD FOR VOICE 2013 RECIPIENTS



William Ford, tenor, is currently completing his Master's Degree at the University of Western Ontario studying with tenor Torin Chiles. While at Western, Mr. Ford performed Bazilio (*Le nozze di Figaro*), Stewpot (*South Pacific*), Alfred (*Die Fledermaus*) Lucano (*L'incoronazione di Poppea*), Ferrando (*Così fan Tutte*) and the character James in an original recital production *Love's Never Lost*. Other performances have included Basilio and Curzio in *Le nozze di Figaro* (COSI) and character roles Andres, Cochenille, Spalanzani, and Pittichinaccio in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* and Snout/Wall in Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (HSOW).

As well as operatic stage performance, William has appeared as a soloist in Hayden's *Missa Sancti Nicolai* (Windsor Community Orchestra), Charpentier's *Messe di minuit* (Our Lady of Assumption Church) and with the London Fanshawe Chorus in Schubert's *Stabat Mater* and Mozart's *Requiem* at London's Centennial Hall.

William was accepted into the 2013 St. Andrews Opera Workshop for Advanced Singers, under the Artistic Direction of Wendy Nielsen and will be performing at the Opera Workshop benefit concert in St. Andrews on August 4, 2013. Next year, he will be joining the University of Toronto in their Diploma in Operatic Performance program studying with tenor Patrick Raftery.

Prince Edward Island native, soprano **Tracy Cantin** is quickly becoming one of Canada's top young artists praised for her "international voice" that is "powerful, articulate, and modulated at will."

Winner of the 2013 St. Andrews International Aria Competition, Ms. Cantin will be performing with the St. Andrews Gala Festival Orchestra, Lewis Dalvit, conductor, on July 26, 2013 in St. Andrews, NB Canada.

Tracy is a member of the Lyric Opera of Chicago where she made her professional debut singing the Fifth Maid (*Elektra*) in the highly acclaimed production by Sir David McVicar, conducted by Sir Andrew Davis. She has also appeared as Countess Ceprano (*Rigoletto*) and as Fiordiligi (*Così fan Tutte*). In April Tracy made her Australian debut under the baton of Sir Andrew Davis with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra. Upcoming performances include soloing with the Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra and in Bernstein's *Songfest* at the Ravinia Music Festival.

A graduate of McGill's University's prestigious Artist Diploma program in Voice Performance, she studied with American baritone, Sanford Sylvan. With Opera McGill, she performed numerous roles including Mimi (*La Bohème*) Governess (*Turn of the Screw*), Donna Anna (*Don Giovanni*), Desdemona (*Otello*) and Violetta (*La Traviata*). Other operatic credits include Alice Ford (*Falstaff*, Opera NUOVA, Highlands Opera), Mother (*Hansel and Gretel*, University of Alberta Opera Workshop) and Nella (*Gianni Schicchi*, Opera NUOVA).

Ms. Cantin is currently supported by the generous donations of Mrs. C. G. Pinnell, the Jacqueline Desmarais Foundation, and the Edmonton Community Foundation. Tracy holds a Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance from the University of Alberta, and a Master of Music in Voice Performance and Literature from the University of Western Ontario.



THE ST. ANDREWS ARTS COUNCIL

SHARON CROWTHER MEMORIAL AWARD FOR VOICE



Established in loving memory of Sharon Crowther (1961- 2011) by her family and friends to honour her love of teaching, music and the human voice, **The Sharon Crowther Memorial Award for Voice** is awarded annually in June to the winner of the St. Andrews International Aria Competition and to a classically trained emerging artist enrolled in the St. Andrews Arts Council's opera and voice programs.

Sharon touched an incredible number of people, both musically and academically. Her talents were revealed early when growing up in Moncton, NB, Canada where she performed lead roles in high school musicals and sang with the Young Acadian Singers. Upon graduating from the University of Toronto with a Bachelor of Music degree in Voice Performance in 1983, Sharon continued to pursue her passion for the arts as a soprano with the Canadian Opera Company from 1984 to 1989. She and her husband Dr.

Edward Trippel moved to St Andrews, NB in 1990 where she continued to perform with Opera New Brunswick while raising two children, Anna and Evan.

Sharon received a Bachelor of Education degree with Honours from the University of New Brunswick in 2003 and began her teaching career at Vincent Massey Elementary School in St. Andrews. Her enthusiasm, dedication, and professionalism became an inspiration to all her students, many of whom credit her with teaching them to believe in themselves. She exhibited outstanding leadership qualities in the classroom and after-school activities, contributing to her community and various organizations through music and theatre

Sharon was a member and executive of the St Andrews Arts Council, on the Board of the New Brunswick Youth Orchestra, Director of the Shiretown Singers and the Passamaquoddy Voices of the Bay. She was an adjudicator of provincial music competitions, a voice coach to young students, and conductor of her elementary school band, choir and school musical productions. Sharon was nominated for the New Brunswick Minister's Excellence in Teaching Award, which was awarded to her posthumously in November 2011.

To make a Tax-Deductible donation to the **Sharon Crowther Memorial Award for Voice** please mail your contribution and contact information (name, mailing address, email, phone) to:

SHARON CROWTHER MEMORIAL AWARD FOR VOICE

St. Andrews Arts Council
99 Augustus Street
St. Andrews, NB E5B 2E9

St. Andrews Arts Council established in 1983 in partnership with the New Brunswick Community College/St. Andrews, is dedicated to promoting and encouraging the creation, performance and appreciation of the arts; enriching New Brunswick communities; and providing high quality educational and performance opportunities for students of all ages from beginner to pre-professional emerging artists pursuing a career in the performing arts.

99 Augustus Street, St. Andrews, NB Canada E5B 2E9 506-529-4692 (CA) 207-454-3324 (US)

www.standrewsartscouncil.nb.ca summerschool@standrewsartscouncil.nb.ca