

Citation for Professor Kjellrun Hestekin

During her 36-year career at MUN's School of Music Kjellrun was known for sharing generously of her time, money and talent professionally and personally. Not only did she continue many of these activities in her retirement but greatly expanded her interests in volunteerism to include many new and highly fruitful endeavors in the local community. Her commitment reflected her belief in social justice and equality.

In retirement, she continued her revision of on-line music theory courses for the School of Music and also participated in other university-related activities including assisting in Convocation ceremonies and serving as a board member of MUNPA. It was her work in the community, however, which defined her commitment to volunteerism. She was a committed volunteer with the Association of New Canadians, spending hundreds of hours helping in a variety of ways, including pairing with a couple from Bhutan in 2012, assisting in their quest to become more comfortable in their chosen home. She also served as a volunteer with the Food Bank and was always available to help out there.

In retirement, Kjellrun also continued to assist the local music community in a variety of ways. She assisted the Tuckamore Festival as a member of the board and helped with planning and fund raising. She was also an Adjudicator for the Terra Nova Program of the Gower Community Band in which she helped select applications from young composers applying to have their works played by the band, and also served as their liaison with the School of Music.

Kjellrun continued to be a valued member of the Cantus Vocum chamber choir and MUN's Chamber Choir long after retirement. In May 2015 she successfully re-applied to re-join the NSO Philharmonic Choir, and the director was personally delighted at the prospect of having her back in the choir.

Kjellrun's contributions to the community, particularly the music community, were invaluable. As Edsel Bonnell has stated "her contribution to music education and the cultural life of the province cannot be overestimated." It has been said of her that "if there was a job to be done, Kjellrun would do it. Not only would she tackle the work, she would embrace it enthusiastically." There is no doubt that Kjellrun is most deserving of a Tribute Award. It is only most unfortunate that she cannot be here with us today to personally accept it.