

Media Release

For Immediate Release

Longtime classical music supporter leaves gift to Calgary Philharmonic that will benefit future generations

Calgary Alta. (April 12, 2022) – Marjory Barber loved music and the Calgary Philharmonic. She and her late husband Jim attended concerts regularly, and though they had no children of their own, they delighted in introducing their friends' children to the pleasures of classical music and live orchestra performances.

When Marjory was writing her will, friends suggested she make a charitable bequest in support of her passions. She passed away in December 2020, and her decision to leave her estate to the Calgary Philharmonic will not only contribute to the organization's sustainability, but will also benefit future generations of Calgarians, young and old.

Roxanna Indergaard was one of the children Marjory introduced to the orchestra, and she kept the tradition alive when she started bringing her own child to Symphony Sundays for Kids concerts. "The exposure to the Calgary Philharmonic, thanks to Marj and Jim, had a huge impact on me and my son Ellery," she says. "It gave me an appreciation for music beyond my age group and it taught my son about the ways that history and music are intertwined. Ellery was involved with cadets and attended a Battle of Britain concert that opened his eyes to the role that Big Band music played in improving soldier's morale during the Second World War."

The Marjory Barber Fund is among more than \$1 million in donations since January 1, 2022, to the Calgary Philharmonic's Ad Astra: Building to New Heights capital campaign, which was announced to the public in October 2020. The goal is to raise \$25 million over five years, providing a stable source of revenue that allows the orchestra to plan ahead with a focus on quality performance, education, and outreach programs. Contributions go directly to the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra Foundation's independent endowment fund, and funds raised may be eligible for a matching grant from the Endowment Incentives program offered through Canadian Heritage's Canada Cultural Investment Fund.

Foundation President Ryan Stasynec says Marjory's donation is an excellent example of the lasting impact an estate gift can have on the community. "The Foundation is incredibly grateful to Marjory for her generosity and foresight in translating her lifelong interest in orchestral music into a lasting legacy of support for the Calgary Philharmonic," he says. "Her contribution to the endowment's capital base will generate a regular return and help enable the Foundation to offer a stable source of funding to the orchestra in perpetuity. Over the medium to long-term, augmented by matching grants and market returns, the cumulative financial impact of legacy gifts can exceed the amount of the initial donation itself."

The Calgary Philharmonic is part of Will Power™, a national initiative encouraging Canadians to create positive change in the world by leaving a gift to charity in their Will, after taking care of any loved ones, of course. The campaign's website, Willpower.ca, provides advice on estate planning and Will writing, tax saving tips, a

Legacy Calculator, as well as information on charities and how they put future bequests to use. Visitors can also connect with advisors to take their first step towards leaving a charitable bequest in their Will.

Imagine Canada projects that in the next 10 years Canada's charitable sector will need an additional \$25 billion to meet spiking demand for services. Will Power organizers anticipate that if enough Canadians join the effort and leave a charitable gift in their Wills, we can raise as much as \$40 billion in the next 10 years to fill that gap and keep important community services going.

The Calgary Philharmonic is the largest not-for-profit performing arts organization in Alberta, with 30 administrative staff and 66 musicians. The Orchestra is also integral to the cultural fabric of the city and has fostered partnerships with many organizations — Calgary Opera, Alberta Ballet, Making Treaty 7 Cultural Society, Calgary Folk Festival, Kids Up Front, Calgary International Film Festival, Run Calgary, One Yellow Rabbit, and Calgary Pride, among others.

Media Opportunities

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About the Calgary Philharmonic

The Calgary Philharmonic celebrates 65 years as a pillar of Calgary's vibrant arts community in 2020 and has grown to be one of Canada's most celebrated live music ensembles. Led by Music Director Rune Bergmann, the Calgary Philharmonic presents classical masterworks, pop favourites, bold collaborations, and cutting-edge new works, and attracts world renowned guest artists and dynamic conductors. The Orchestra welcomes over 100,000 visitors annually and, in 2017, launched its live-stream initiative — an immersive, digital concert experience for audiences around the world. Follow the Calgary Philharmonic @calgaryphil on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, and register for email updates at calgaryphil.com/newsletter.

About the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra Foundation

The Calgary Philharmonic Foundation is an endowment fund created to support the long-term operations of the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra. Funds received by the Foundation are held in perpetuity. Donations made to the Foundation are eligible for a matching grant from the Canada Cultural Investment Fund, a program of the Federal Government's Department of Canadian Heritage. A portion of the return earned on the endowment fund is contributed annually to the Calgary Philharmonic. The Foundation has become the Calgary Philharmonic's largest annual funder, exceeding all levels of government support. The Foundation runs independently and at arms-length from the Calgary Philharmonic.