



## Western Manitoba Philharmonic Choir fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions14288>

Part Of:	RG 5 Western Manitoba Manuscript Collection
Description Level:	Fonds
Accession Number:	8-2001, 13-2016
GMD:	multiple media
Date Range:	1965-1980, predominant 25 May 1965 - 30 September 1976
Physical Description:	12 cm textual records 6 b/w photographs (loose) 1 artefact
Physical Condition:	Some of the items in the scrapbook have come loose from their pages, some documents are stained from a liquid, likely coffee

### History /

#### Biographical:

In 1965, Chris Verhoef, member of the Overture Concert Association, Allied Arts Centre, and Brandon Citizens' Committee for the Performing Arts, called for a meeting of Western Manitoba citizens interested in the prospect of a Philharmonic Choir for the region. The meeting took place on 26 May 1965; the steering committee that gathered, led by Margaret Goodman, undertook the formation of the Choir. The Choir would have an Executive consisting of at least four members, and a committee consisting of a minimum seven members. Each executive member would be elected on an annual basis. The Choir's executive, in collaboration with the conductor, would determine the choir's repertoire for the year. The establishment of the Western Manitoba Philharmonic Choir (WMPC) sought to encourage amateurs to sing for enjoyment, provide the opportunity for a choir to perform choral compositions in collaboration with a symphony orchestra and promote and sponsor the musical arts in the Western Manitoba region. Membership to the choir would be open to all citizens of the region, and members would be accepted based on the discretion of the conductor. The first meeting of prospective members took place on 27 September 1965 in St. Matthews Cathedral parish Hall where more than 90 people gathered and registered to become a member of the WMPC.

Chris Verhoef led the Western Manitoba Philharmonic Choir into its first season as President of the choir's Executive Committee. For the organization's first season, the WMPC hired two members of the Brandon College School of Music: Lucien Needham for the position of conductor and Louise Chapman for the position of accompanist. Brandon College, as well as other donors sponsored the choir for its first season. The Choir held its debut performance in collaboration with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra (WSO) on 12 March 1966, and the Choir's performance of Vivaldi's Gloria and Handel's Dettingen te Deum attracted an audience of more than 1400 people. The performance was well received by the public. The debut performance's success earned the Choir a recommendation for a grant from the Manitoba Centennial Corporation that would sponsor a special concert during the centennial year. Furthermore, the Canada Council supported the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, by the means of special funds, to make the Symphony's appearance with the Philharmonic Choir possible.

For the WMPC's second season, membership rose to 111 amateur singers. Verhoef

remained as President of the Executive, while the Brandon Citizens' Committee for the Performing Arts provided sponsorship. Following the Choir's performance of Schubert's Mass in Eb Major on 17 November 1966, the membership increased to 132 singers. On 20 January 1967, the WMPC's first taped broadcast was released over CBC and CKX. The broadcast's success resulted in an offer from CBC to record another broadcast for a similar release. The Kiwanis Club of Rivers invited the Choir to perform in Rivers on 25 January 1967. On 7 April 1967, the Choir performed Haydn's oratorio, *The Creation*, in the Brandon College Gymnasium.

The choir elected Murray Ames as President to lead it through its third and fourth seasons. In its third season, the WMPC, conducted by Leonard Mayoh, performed Handel's *Messiah* on 22 November 1967 in the Brandon University Gymnasium. The Choir's spring concert, named the "Chris Verhoef Memorial Concert," in honour of Chris Verhoef who had passed away December 1967, featured works by Bach, Brahms and Perry. Held on 9 March 1968, in the Brandon University Gymnasium, the concert featured Brandon University student James Stewart as soloist and was received with great praise. In addition to the memorial concert, the WMPC also established a \$500 scholarship for a Brandon University music student to honour Verhoef's substantial contribution to the community.

The first concert of the Western Manitoba Philharmonic Choir's fourth season was held on 10 December 1968, in the J.R.C. Evans Lecture Theatre at Brandon University and featured selections from Handel's *Messiah*. A piano trio comprised of Francis Chaplin (violin), Malcolm Tait (cello) and Gordon Macpherson (piano), as well as a brass trio, also performed at the choir's winter concert. In its fourth season, the WMPC performed two concerts in the second half of its season. On 15 February 1969, in cooperation with CKX Radio and Television, the choir performed works by Mozart, Hindemith, and Mahler in collaboration with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra conducted by George Cleve. Later in the season, the choir performed Brahms' *Requiem Mass*, once again in collaboration with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra.

Dr. R. Parker filled the position of President of the Executive for the duration of the Choir's fifth, sixth and seventh seasons. The fifth season saw the WMPC performing four concerts. Conducted by Leonard Mayoh, it opened its season on 11 October 1969 with a performance at the Grand Finale of the Grand Opening of the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium, performing the overture to Mozart's *The Magic Flute* and Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9*. Their Christmas concert, also conducted by Mayoh, took place on 10 December 1969. The Choir's third concert of its fifth season was held on 31 January 1970, in cooperation with CKX Radio and Television, and featured works by Mendelssohn, Ravel, and Schubert, in collaboration with the WSO under the direction of conductor George Cleve. The season concluded with another concert in collaboration with the WSO on 7 March 1970, conducted by Leonard Mayoh. This concert featured works by Vaughan Williams, Handel and Poulenc.

Seasons six and seven consisted of two concerts each. The Choir held its fifth annual Christmas Concert on 5 December 1970. Led by Leonard Mayoh, it performed its spring concert on 10 April 1971 in collaboration with members from the Winnipeg Symphony, featuring selections by Bach and Mozart in the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium. In its seventh season, the Choir performed Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* on 4 December 1971 in the Central United Church. For its final concert of the year, the WMPC revisited a piece that had been the main focus of its second season: Haydn's oratorio, *The Creation*. The Choir performed this Haydn masterwork on 8 April 1972 under the direction of Piero Gamba.

Helen Riesberry led the choir through its eighth and ninth seasons as President of the Executive. In its eighth season, the WMPC held its annual Christmas concert on 12 December 1972 in collaboration with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra in the style of a sing-along led by Mitch Miller. The choir's spring concert featured another masterwork, Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis*, conducted by Piero Gamba. The WMPC and members of the WSO performed the *Requiem Mass* on 28 April 1973 at the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium. Despite the lack of attendance at rehearsals since the Christmas concert, the WMPC presented an overall

effective performance of the challenging Requiem Mass.

In its ninth season, Derek Morphy took over the position of conductor from Leonard Mayoh. Morphy had his debut performance as conductor with the WMPC at the annual Christmas concert on 17 December 1973. In March 1974, in collaboration with members from the WSO, Morphy led the Choir in its performance of Mendelssohn's oratorio, *Elijah*, in the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium. Later in the season, the choir performed a concert entitled "Reflections," a choral programme for Lent and Easter, accompanied by organist Arthur Bower.

Nearing the end of its ninth season, the Philharmonic Choir encountered severe financial challenges. The Choir released a notice in the newspaper that the anticipated \$3000 grant from the Manitoba Arts Council had been cut to \$1000, leaving the Choir \$3100 in debt. The notice explained that the Choir needed funds in order to enable operation and continue hiring the WSO for concerts. The WMPC executive and committee held a Leonard Mayoh Night in an attempt to gain funds and donations. Although the Manitoba Arts Council raised the grant to \$2000 and the City of Brandon contributed \$500, the Choir's financial situation remained in a dire state as its ninth season came to a close.

The Choir elected Edith Hayden to lead it through its tenth and eleventh seasons as President of the Executive. The opening of the tenth season challenged the WMPC. In addition to its financial woes, the Choir's Executive struggled to overcome the lack of attendance at rehearsals and the shortage of male voices. The WMPC had experienced membership issues in earlier seasons as well. In its third season, despite a membership of 130 individuals, the choir had struggled to create a balanced sound due to a lack of male membership and therefore a lack of lower voices. In its sixth season, the Choir opened their concert year with an appeal for members. In an effort to improve the choir's financial affairs, the Choir Executive and conductor decided against hiring the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra for the time being. In an attempt to improve the situation, Derek Morphy wrote a letter to the members of the Choir outlining his concern that he may not be meeting their expectations as a conductor but hoped to generate positive and hopeful prospects for the future of music-making together.

The Choir's annual Christmas concert featured a collaboration with the Brandon School Division Music Department and Brandon School Orchestra and Band Association, as well as dancers choreographed by Barbra Enhes. The WMPC performed Haydn's Mass in D minor at its spring concert on 27 April 1975, accompanied by Arthur Bower. By the end of the season, the Western Manitoba Philharmonic Choir's financial situation had begun to improve.

The WMPC hired conductor Peter Allen to lead the Choir through its final season of operation. The Choir held its annual Christmas concert in the Central United Church on 7 December 1975, and featured Vivaldi's *Gloria*, accompanied by pianist Barry Anderson. The choir performed Deller's Psalm 148, Telemann's Cantata for the Fourth Sunday after the Feast of the Three Kings, and Dvorak's *Stabat Mater* at its spring concert held at the Central United Church on 25 April 1976.

Despite its best efforts, the Western Manitoba Philharmonic Choir's first rehearsal of its twelfth season saw just 26 members in attendance. As a result of lack of membership, the Choir Executive decided to disband the WMPC for its 1976/1977 season, with plans to reassess the situation in September of 1977 for the prospect of a 1977/1978 season. Matters were further complicated by financial considerations; by June 1977 the choir's financial situation had worsened as a result of the administrative fees that the WMPC covered for the duration of its unexpected inactive 1976/1977 season. Unlike past years, there were not any ticket sales to cover such expenses.

Following its year off, membership interest in the Western Manitoba Philharmonic Choir did not increase and the decision was made not to return for another season. In 1980, the WMPC revoked its registration as an organization and officially ceased to exist.

#### Custodial History:

Records in the 8-2001 accession were donated to the McKee Archives in 2001, by three representatives of the Philharmonic Choir: Dr. Bill Paton, Botany Department, Brandon University; Mrs. Edith Hayden, WMPC President; and Mary Davidson WMPC Archives Committee. Records in accession 13-2016 were given to Terry Stamper in the School of Music by Marilyn Hayden and then transferred to the McKee Archives on September 21, 2015.

#### Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of records that document the origin, activities, and ultimate disbandment of the Western Manitoba Philharmonic Choir. These records were created and accumulated during the eleven year existence of the WMPC.

Records include: the organization's constitution and history from 1965-1968; financial records, which include grants received from the Manitoba Arts Council, Canada Council, and City of Brandon, as well as materials documenting the organization's financial struggles from 1974-1976; minutes from executive and committee meetings from 18 June 1973 to 24 June 1974; correspondence in the form of letters between the president of the executive and the choir members, and between the conductor of the choir and its members; membership lists from each season of the WMPC; and concert programmes from every major Christmas and Spring concert that the organization performed. Fonds also contains newspaper notices, advertisements and reviews of various performances, as well as posters advertising performances of the WMPC in the 1967/68, 1970/71, 1971/72 and 1973/74 seasons; the posters advertise the choir, collaborators, patrons and featured works.

Also included in the fonds is a scrapbook detailing the choir's history. Each page of the scrapbook is decorated with hand painted images of plants native to the southwestern Manitoba region. The scrapbook includes concert programs and photographs of the choir from all years of the organization's operation. The scrapbook also contains an assortment of informal photographs from various WMPC events. There are also six black and white group photos of the WMPC from various seasons.

Finally, the fonds contains one artifact, a leather bag/zippered file folder with "WMPC" printed on it.

Notes: History/Bio information was provided by representatives of the Western Manitoba Philharmonic Choir. Copies of the history can be found in the fonds. Description by Jessi Gilchrist (October 2016).

Name Access: Chris Verhoef  
Margaret Goodman  
St. Matthews Cathedral  
Lucien Needham  
Louise Chapman  
Manitoba Centennial Corporation  
Canada Council  
Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra  
Brandon College  
Kiwanis Club  
CKX  
Helen Reisberry  
Mary Donovan  
Tom Inglis  
Humphrey Davies  
Muriel Bain

H.V. Kidd  
Eileen Christ  
Brandon College Auditorium  
CBC Radio  
J.M. Donovan  
Murray Ames  
Dr. R. Parker  
Henry Stein  
Ernie Pearn  
Gerry Streuber  
Dorothy McLean  
Mayme Tucker  
Margaret George  
Bob Blair  
Bud Keenan  
Marilyn Johnston  
Sister Mary Rose  
Lou Brown  
Jeanine Baker  
Muriel Patmore  
Leonard Mayoh  
Jim Cory  
Eric Davies  
Phil Ricou  
Elaine Dechka  
Lester Spinaze  
Archie Miller  
High Rest  
Lorna hamilton  
Ruth Cutforth  
Ollie Timkiw  
Thelma Findogasson  
A. Bayne  
Dick Vanderveen  
Lee Donnelly  
M. Rogosin  
Ken Nichols  
Manitoba Arts Council  
Piero Gamba  
Mary Graham  
Reuben Gurevich  
Leonard Stone  
Brandon Area Foundation  
Arthur Bower  
Derek Murphy

Judy Pringle  
Irma Peters  
John Martens  
Robert Publow  
Brandon Citizens' Committee for the Performing Arts  
Brandon Musical Supply  
P.A. Kennedy  
Bond Books  
Brandon Public Library  
Phylis Thomson  
Hilda Miller  
Arthur Janzen  
Walter Deller  
Nora Needham  
Jean Dorian  
Margaret hammond  
Eileen Blain  
Brian Bailey  
Brandon College Gymnasium  
Brandon University School of Music  
G.R. Rowe  
Sylvia Richardson  
Peter Koslowsky  
Nelson Lohnes  
James Stewart  
Francis Chaplin  
Malcolm Tait  
Gordon Macpherson  
J.R.C. Evans Lecture Theatre  
Lorne Watson  
Donald Henry  
Lawrence Jones  
Alice Hekster  
Walter Hekster  
Hilda Dridger  
Elizabeth Grant  
Dorothy Froese  
Robert Ford  
James Mendenhall  
Colin Cooper  
Allison Ryles  
Joy Crawford  
Audrey Farnell  
Maxine Miller  
Smith Miller

	Brandon Sun
	Barbra Ehnes
	Brandon School Division Music Department
	Brandon School Orchestra and Band Association
	Barbra Landry
Subject Access:	Brandon School of Rivers Philharmonic choirs amateur choirs amateur musicians symphony orchestra philharmonic classical music performance ensemble cultural organizations music community organizations
Storage Location:	2001 accessions
Related Material:	School of Music records Lorne Watson collection Lawrence Jones collection Brandon Women's Musical Club fonds Francis Chaplin collection Brandon Festival of the Arts fonds Fred McGuinness collection CKX fonds Music and the Brandon Community collection



## Marionne Scott fonds

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions8854>

Part Of:	RG 1 Brandon College fonds
Description Level:	Sub-series
Series Number:	MG 2 2.29
Accession Number:	23-2008, 3-2009
GMD:	multiple media
Date Range:	1926-1934; 1941
Physical Description:	1 photograph album 1 graduate's book
Physical Condition:	Very good
History / Biographical:	

Marion (Marionne) Louise Scott was born January 13, 1913 at Ste. S, Parkview Block, Brandon, MB to Annie Louisa Lawson and David Henry (Harry) Scott. She attended St. Michael's Academy and Brandon College (Arts, Class of 1933), graduating with a teaching certificate. At some point following her graduation she moved to Toronto, living with her Aunt and Uncle Olive and Keith Murphy, while working for Massey Harris. Eventually Marionne became Private Secretary to the president James Duncan. She also worked with E.P. Taylor

and Colonel Phillips during her duration with the company.

Marionne met her husband Robert (Roy) Warden Jamieson through friends at the Parkdale Canoe Club, which is now the Boulevard Club on Lakeshore Avenue in Toronto. They were married on December 26, 1944. Following their retirement, Marionne and Roy spent their winters in Florida.

Marionne Scott Jamieson died on July 20, 1990 in Mississauga Ontario. Both she and her husband are buried in Park Lawn Cemetery at Bloor Street and Prince Edward Drive in west Toronto.

A number of the individuals identified in the photographs are members of Marionne's extended family or friends. Basic biographical information for both side of her family are below. Additional biographical information on the Lawson and Scott families is available at the McKee Archives.

#### Maternal relatives:

William Lawson was born c. 1849 in Markham Township, Ontario where his parents had settled from England. In September 1875 he married Alice Brunskill (born c. 1854) in Buttonville, Ontario. The couple settled on a farm at Aurora, Ontario before come west in 1892. Lawson and his family settled in the Hayfield district south of Brandon where he farmed until c. 1916. During his farming years, Lawson made a number of trips to Scotland and Ireland for the Manitoba government to secure immigrants. After retiring from farming, Lawson became an agent for the Manufacturers' Life Insurance Company. Lawson's brother, Reverend Thomas Lawson, organized the first Methodist congregation in Brandon.

William Lawson and Alice Brunskill had seven children:

William Ernest (married Maragret Louise Conling 23/11/1904 in Souris, MB)  
Clarkson Brunskill (married Florence?)  
Annie Louisa (married David Henry (Harry) Scott 29/06/1910 in Brandon, MB)  
Alice May (married Arthur Ferrier Valens 27/06/1912 in Winnipeg, MB)  
Fred J. (married Lottie C. Gibb 18/04/1906 in Selkirk, MB)  
Frank Hill (married Cora Ethel Cunningham 11/03/1914 in Oakland)  
Olive Gertrude (married William Keith Murphy 25/12/1923 in Brandon, MB)

#### Paternal relatives:

David Hunter Scott was born in 1851 in Brampton, Ontario. After completing his education he became a telegraph operator and then deputy postmaster for his hometown. In 1873, he moved to Manitoba, settling at Meadow Lea, where he took up a homestead. After fifteen years engaged in farming, Scott moved on to become a representative for an implement manufacturing company. In 1892, he moved to Brandon to become manager of the Brandon Times newspaper. Four years later he founded D.H. Scott and Son, a real estate and insurance business he operated with his son David Henry until his death in September 1943.

David Hunter Scott married Anne Jane Lipsett (born 1854) of Meadow Lea, MB on May 24, 1876. Together they had ten children:

John Frederick  
Robert Wesley  
David Henry (Harry) (married Annie Louise Lawson 26/06/1910 in Brandon, MB)  
William James  
Caroline (married Christopher Russell Heise)  
Annie Louise (married Alexander Ferguson (died 1927), married Nettleton Whitby Kerr)  
Mary Emeline (married David Gordon Bouthheimer)



Mary Emma (married David Gordon Sawinheimer)

Lillian Georgina (died August 9, 1931)

Josiah Aikens (died during World War I)

Reginald Jacob (married Norma May Hughes 16/08/1915 (Reginald died during World War I))

Custodial History:

The photograph album and graduate's book were sent to Alumni Relations by Ruth L. Murphy on March 31, 2004. Both items had been in the possession of Marianne Scott, passing to her husband Robert Jamieson upon her death. When Jamieson died the items came into the possession of Ruth Murphy, whose husband was Marianne's first cousin. Carla Eisler, Alumni Relations, transferred the photograph album to the Archives on January 15, 2008, and the graduate book on January 8, 2009.

Scope and Content:

Fonds consists of a photograph album created by Marianne Scott. The majority of the photographs cover the period 1926-1933, and are of family members, friends, and classmates at both St. Michael's Academy and Brandon College. They were taken in Brandon and at a number of other locations that Marianne visited. There are three loose photographs, taken by R.M. Coleman, that were taken at the wedding of Vivian Eva? and Reginald Stanley Stark, June 7th, 1941 at St. Matthews Cathedral and the Prince Edward Hotel.

The graduate's book consists of notes, signatures, newspaper clippings, photographs, programs, convocation documents, graduation cards, reunion descriptions and the 1932 general information booklet for Brandon College.

Notes: History/Bio information taken from the Brandon Daily Sun, the 1901 and 1911 Canadian Census, the Manitoba Vital Statistics website, and the Brandon Cemetery website. Additional biographical information provided by Ruth Murphy. Description by Christy Henry.

Name Access: Esther Magdalene Moore  
Brandon College  
St. Michael's Academy  
Windsor Golf course  
Eleanor Wrye  
Katherine Harvey  
Marg Harvey  
Betty Harvey  
Helen Jamieson  
Marianne Scott  
Dot McArdle  
Teddy McArdle  
Parkview Steps  
Leta Valens  
David Henry (Harry) Scott  
Brandon CNR depot  
Genevieve Carey  
Vivian Muldoon  
Olive Murphy  
Brandon College tennis courts  
Winnipeg Beach  
Lake Clementi  
G. Finnegan  
Barbara Yeagar

Boundary Park  
Noxage  
Gimili Beach  
Gimili boats  
Gimili lighthouse  
Fred Lawson  
Keith Murphy  
Evelyn Lawson?  
Marg Paterson  
Madeleine Donaldson  
Kentucky Home  
Sister Raymond  
Reverend Mother Sister Madeleine  
Sister Louise  
Doug Hughes  
Curly Ross  
Charles Wilcox  
Bill Fletcher  
Dud Crawford  
George MacGregor  
Gordon MacDougal  
Amy Gainer  
Charles Campbell  
Lake Percy  
Ruth Bingham  
Marie Evans  
Jean Hitchings  
Mary Anne Maltman (Mickey)  
Thelma Stoodley  
Lois Gainer  
Helen Isobel Duncan?  
Kay Underwood  
Monte Gilchrist  
Ethel Rolston  
Jack Ellis  
Gordon Watson  
Bob Rolston  
Ruth Tully  
Alberta Griggs  
Tom Dunlop  
Mary Coutts  
Elleda Levitt  
Aud Rolston  
Mitchell fence  
Marg Buchanan

Margaret Draper  
Brandon College rink  
Sydney Pechet  
George Duncan Wilkie  
John Odin  
Erik Runehjelm?  
Robert McNeil  
Lonesome Little Dolls  
Alys Hunter  
Marg Sutton  
Alixé Ferguson  
Annie Louise Scott  
Hugh Kennedy  
Cecil Ryder  
Dot Pritchard  
Alma Cadieux  
Watrous  
Helen Hilton  
Pearl Gainer  
Manitou beach  
Anne Bacon  
Anne Lunam  
Norma James  
Edna Graham  
Peggy Bunting  
Gil Watson  
Nan Wilkinson  
Waldo Wheten  
Anne Sunam?  
Marion Champlin  
Bob Wheten  
Kermit Jones  
Bea Nicholson  
Lake Minnedosa  
Ev Ross  
Jean Bennest  
(Cordelia) Del Dunkin  
Lucille Mann  
Kay Fitzpatrick  
Ken Hall  
Jean Sutherland  
Archie McLachlan  
Herbert Watson McDowell (Waddie)  
Guelph memorial building  
Cayuga

	Brocks monument
	Laura Secord monument
	Burrell Hecock monument
	Clarke Lawson
	Dundern Castle
	William Lawson
	Luva Lewis' cottage
	Indianola beach
	McMaster University campus
	Wasaga beach
	Fred Murphy
	York Downs Golf Club
	Ruth Thornton
	Mayme Matthews
	Kay Robertson
	Amy Edwards
	Gigolettes
	Grace Armstrong
	Grace Hopkins
	Dorreene McGuinness
	Eleanor McKinnon
	Viola Olmstead
	Florence Simpson
	Ruth Wade
	Charles Vernon Myers
	Christina Molberg
	Paul Bugg
	Vivian Stark
	Reginald Stanley Stark
Subject Access:	Cappy Ricks
	Education
	elephant walk
	nuns
	dance revue costumes
	student activities
	class of 1933
	Class of 1930
	lit chorus
	y steps
Storage Location:	MG 2 Brandon College Students
	2.29 Marianne Scott