

The Stars Dance for Mississauga



2016 Champion Ellen McGregor takes home the trophy

On Friday November 4th, the Foundation was thrilled to host what has become its most successful and anticipated annual event, the Dancing with Mississauga Stars gala.

This year, five community leaders brought their energy, passion for supporting their city and show-stopping performances to a night like no other. The five Stars for 2016 were Darren Coleman, Julie Jones, Tania Kolar, Ellen McGregor and David Wojcik. Their journey to the gala evening began months ago, as each was paired up with a professional instructor from Arthur Murray Dance Studio, Mississauga. Each star was provided with forty lessons to help them learn a completely new skill; a ballroom dance routine which would then be performed at the gala. At the same time, each Star reached out to their networks to help them raise pledges. And goodness, the Stars did not disappoint! They raised a cumulative total of over \$80,000 in pledges!

Then on the big night, each Star took to the floor. Julie Jones and partner Matthew Garthshore kicked

off the night with a lively Swing dance. Julie was followed by Tania Kolar and partner Dmytro Gurkov who performed an exciting Samba routine. David Wojcik (with an epic toss of his hat that we won't forget) and partner Rachel Clarke-Sagos delighted the audience with a zesty Merengue. Up next was Ellen McGregor and partner Carlos "Ole" Olavide for a fast-paced Salsa routine. And last but not least was "cartwheel king" Darren Coleman and his partner Cristina de Cicco for a fun and flirty Cha Cha. Our Stars kept the audience on their feet and impressed the judges, Janice Baker, Stilian Kostov and Jay Kana. High scores were plentiful this year as the Stars out did themselves.

But an event of this scope and professionalism doesn't come off without the support of so many. Our volunteer organizing committee did a fantastic job and was ably supported by the team from Shake it Up events management. The Foundation is also very grateful to Donato Salon & Spa for doing hair and make up for the Stars.

Appreciation is extended to Amy Tjen and Barry from Photo Depot

along with Don Crawford Business Solutions for the web site development and keeping it all up to date.

Very special appreciation goes out to our 2016 corporate partners and our event specific sponsors, Raymond James and Maggie Bras. Once again emcees Marivel Taruc and Fancis D'Souza kept the evening fun and on-time! And showcase performers included the Cawthra Dance Repertoire Ensemble, Latin Energy and Dmytro Gurkov with Snow Urbin. The Mississauga Convention Centre was our host and they provided guests with a scrumptious meal in a first rate venue.

With a combination of pledges received, audience and judges votes, at the end of the performances, Ellen McGregor took home the coveted mirror ball trophy. Congratulations Ellen and thank you for working so hard to make this event a success.

Once again, to Ellen, David, Darren, Tania and Julie, the Foundation sends sincere appreciation. This event is exciting and a great success. But it requires no small measure of time and commitment. These Stars truly "stepped up" for Mississauga!



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Farewell from Eileen MacKenzie



But every so often in our lives, we get those sweet, poignant moments when to say goodbye is both sad and happy all wrapped into one.

On December 30th, I will retire from the Foundation and say goodbye to an organization which has meant so much to me.

It will be hard to say goodbye to the Foundation, our wonderful donors and fundholders, the amazing volunteers I have met over the past 12 years, our remarkable staff and so many people in the community who championed the Foundation and celebrated our achievements. But I also feel an equal measure of joy.

There are no goodbyes for us. Wherever you are, you will always be in my heart.

Mahatma Gandhi

The Foundation has grown, it has impact in our community, it aspires to the future and it has a bright, bright path ahead. As a stable, resilient organization, it is

ready for new people and new ways of doing things. It is this more than anything that I am grateful for.

I want to take this opportunity to wish Anne Marie Peirce all the best as she assumes the role of President and CEO. I know she is going to be cheered on and supported by the most remarkable team. And her enthusiasm for this role and the organization is infectious. What good hands the Foundation is in!

Thank you to Mississauga; philanthropists, civic leaders, volunteers, grant recipients... to all of you. What a journey we have been on.

I can honestly say, and often have over the years, that I had the great good fortune to have the best job. It will always be a source of real pride to have been at this organization, to have witnessed its growth and impact and to have met all the amazing people who are part of our story.

Thank you all so much... truly heartfelt thanks. We are indeed all for community.

Eileen

Welcome Anne Marie Peirce

The Board of Directors of the Foundation is thrilled to welcome Anne Marie Peirce as the new President and CEO of the Foundation. Anne Marie is a not for profit leader who has spent more than 25 years in fundraising and advancement. With a passion for ensuring that organizations can successfully achieve their mission, she has honed her craft in roles in healthcare philanthropy and post-secondary education.

Most recently, she served as Chief Development Officer at Mohawk College Foundation, providing leadership to a successful capital campaign and a vibrant development team. Prior appointments include Executive Director at King's College Foundation (Western University), Director of Major and Planned

Giving at Grand River Hospital Foundation, and roles at University of Waterloo and McMaster University.

Anne Marie received her Bachelor of Arts Degree at Western University. As a longtime Certified Fundraising Executive (CFRE), she is a big believer in paying it forward. She has taught and lectured on fundraising through Conestoga College, Association of Healthcare Philanthropy, Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) and DePaul University.

As a strong advocate for volunteerism, Anne Marie frequently lends her time and talent to other organizations. At the Association of Fundraising Professionals

Golden Horseshoe Chapter, she served on the Board of Directors and in major portfolios. She also acted as President of the Friends of Joseph Schneider Haus Museum and spent time volunteering with Leave a Legacy Waterloo Wellington, the Canadian Association of Gift Planners and her alma mater, among others.

Anne Marie notes, "I am thrilled to be joining the Community Foundation of Mississauga. It is a vibrant organization and the impact that it has had on the community is impressive. The funds it has granted have helped organizations across Mississauga to improve life for its residents – raising sights, solving problems, enabling success and looking to the future.

I look forward to working with the Board, staff, donors and volunteers."

Anne Marie Peirce will commence her new role on December 1, 2016. Please be sure to give her a call and say hello.



The Pendle Award



The Foundation is delighted to present the 2016 Pendle Award for Philanthropy to Winston Meyer. Winston's involvement with the Community Foundation was fostered through his parents who were donors and volunteers with the Kingston Community Foundation. When a newly incorporated community foundation was created for Mississauga, Winston was one of the first people to volunteer. He was on the first Board of Directors for the Foundation and served on a variety of committees

as well. He made one of the first donations to create an endowment; a pivotal gift for a fledgling organization. Over the past fifteen years, there have not been many fundraising events hosted by the Foundation that Winston hasn't attended and supported. But we do notice he turns up most often in the photos from our golf tournaments! From all of us at the Foundation, sincere congratulations and appreciation to Winston Meyer on this well-deserved recognition!

Created to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Foundation, the Pendle Award for Philanthropy recognizes outstanding contributions to building community vitality through support of the Foundation. Past winners include Ray Lessard, Tom Cooney, Brad Shoemaker, Robert and Joanne Wordham and Gary Reamey.



Vital Giving

A strong and vital community that has the resources it needs to ensure quality of life for everyone.... this is our vision for Mississauga.

Over the past fifteen years, many visionary donors have created endowed funds at the Community Foundation of Mississauga. They did so to ensure that causes they cared about would receive annual, growing grants to support critical programs and services. They knew that rather than a single moment of impact, they could create sustainable, positive change.

They created an endowment because they knew the Foundation would provide efficient, cost-effective stewardship. Donors knew that they could count on the Foundation for essential information about how the community is doing through the Mississauga Vital Signs reports and

community knowledge forums. Foundation donors have already created funds that made possible over \$8 million in cumulative grants back to building a strong, vital Mississauga. This giving season, be part of the impact. Consider a gift to your community foundation.



Early in 2016, our national membership organization, Community Foundations of Canada, was thrilled to announce a new community fund to celebrate Canada's 150th anniversary of Confederation in 2017. This fund made it possible for the Community Foundation of Mississauga to provide grants to locally-led projects that build community, inspire a deeper understanding of Canada and encourage participation in a wide range of initiatives that mark Canada's 150th anniversary of Confederation. Thanks to support from our donors to the Pendle Fund, the Meyer Family Fund and the Wordham Family Fund, we are able to grant \$160k to fifteen projects that will inspire and ignite Mississauga residents in celebrating our heritage.

Here's just a sample of these grants:

The Mississauga Heritage Foundation is receiving a grant to develop a series of short videos which illustrate Mississauga's place in confederation.

The Living Arts Center received a grant to support year long activities including a family day and a special event on Canada Day.

The Mississauga Pops received a grant to create a showcase of Mississauga/Canadian music from the '60s through to the present.

A grant to First United Church will help bring the Port Credit community and organizations together to enhance Canada Day celebrations and public events.

Thank you donors for making it possible for Mississauga residents to celebrate in 2017. Oh, Canada!

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The Community Foundation of Mississauga
 1100 Central Parkway West, Unit 15, Lower Level
 Mississauga, ON L5C 4E5
 P: 905-897-8880 f: 905-897-7509
 e: info@CFofM.org w: www.CFofM.org twitter: [@CFofMississauga](https://twitter.com/CFofMississauga)
 Charitable BN: 892395112 RR0001