

Friends of McCoy Society Press Release

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The **Friends of McCoy Society** is announcing that it is organizing a virtual concert featuring the musical talents of current students and distinguished alumni from the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education. The year 2021 marks the 60th anniversary of the opening of Monsignor McCoy High School. It is also the year that the Friends of McCoy Society is kicking off a campaign to raise funds to build a 280-seat theatre and additional athletic facilities at the school.

Friends of McCoy Society president David Leahy said, “Monsignor McCoy is the only high school in the city without a theatre and we felt the 60th anniversary of the school opening was an excellent opportunity to turn that dream into a reality.” Concert organizer, Helen Snortland stated, “I have been amazed at the response from former students who have agreed to perform in this concert. They are so appreciative of their experience with the Medicine Hat Catholic education system. They are ecstatic about being offered the opportunity to give back. These former students recognize what an impact a theatre at Monsignor McCoy will have on students in the division.” Snortland added, “that the lineup for the concert is exceptional and reflects the tremendous talent that the city of Medicine Hat has been able to produce for many years.”

Hosted by Kim Johnston of CHAT 94.5, the virtual concert will be available for viewing by visiting the Monsignor McCoy website at <https://www.mccoyhighschool.ca> or the Medicine Hat Catholic website at <https://www.mhcbe.ab.ca> from April 30 to May 2. The concert is a “pay as you please” event in support of the theatre and athletics facilities. Any donation over \$20 will receive a receipt for tax purposes.

Some of the featured artists include:

Fiona Chisholm... French horn player from the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. The CSO is one to the top-rated symphonies in the world.

Keri Kelly... a musical theatre performer and vocalist. Miss Kelly has performed on and off Broadway and around the world.

Jacqueline Arthur... received a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Lethbridge and a Master of Music Degree in Vocal Performance from the University of Manitoba. She has performed in many opera productions.

Hannah Myers... enrolled at Grant MacEwan University and graduated at the top of her class with a Theatre Arts Diploma. She worked on multiple theatre productions before moving to Vancouver to pursue film and television.

Tylor Van Riper... began his career and post-secondary education in Edmonton. He has continued his studies in Toronto and England. Through his travels, Tylor has become an accomplished singer, actor, and songwriter, who has performed and written for many of the world's stages.

Anthony Hurst... has been on stages in Medicine Hat, Lethbridge, and Edmonton. He completed the Theatre Arts Program at MacEwan University in 2018. His theatre credits involve a variety of genres.