



LETHBRIDGE AND DISTRICT MUSIC AND SPEECH ARTS FESTIVAL SOCIETY

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE – 2026 AGM REPORT

Date of Meeting: October 21, 2026

The Scholarship Committee was very pleased to present 159 awards/scholarships totaling just over \$19,000 at the Gala Awards Evening for the 2026 Festival. . Keepsake awards in the form of engraved crystal and glass pieces, created by The Engravers were also given to the recipients.

A number of significant scholarships were added to the Musical Theatre discipline this year

The Sunrise Rotary presented \$15,000 in memory of Fran Rude, long time theatre director and great supporter of the Lethbridge Music and Speech Arts Festival. Monies for this scholarship were raised through the creation of a 2 evening Grand Concert presenting highlights from some of the productions directed by Fran. The evening was made possible by the combined efforts of long-time artistic partners of Fran- Ken Rogers, Nancy Graham and the Sunrise Rotary membership.

The “Louise Zobel Musical Theatre awards” for Senior and Junior classes presented in honour of Louise by her family. Louse was a long-time participant and is a great supporter of our Festival

The “ Dave Mik award” presented by Phoenix Arts CO in honour of David Mikuliak, long-time performer, director and great supporter of our Festival

For the 2026 Gala Evening, all of the available Board Directors shared the presentation duties for the evening. This was a change from previous years and was well received.

The Scholarship committee wishes to express their great appreciation to our General Manager Jaimee Jarvie for her assistance in an advisory capacity during the scholarship determinations. And the detailed precision in planning of the Gala Awards Evening. The committee also wishes to express great appreciation to our Treasurer Craig Churchward for his dedication to the distribution of the payments to the award recipients.

The committee looks forward to the coming 2027 year.

Respectfully Submitted: Karen Kay ,Tanya Arnold, Emily Wallace