

CFUW AURORA/NEWMARKET PROGRAM SPEAKERS – 2017/2018

DATE

September 26
2017

Dean Burry, Artistic Director for Canadian Children's Opera Company

"Opera For Young People - Serious Fun!"

Toronto-based composer and educator Dean Burry discusses the joys (and pitfalls) of creating opera with and for children.

Dean Burry joined the Canadian Children's Opera Company as Artistic Director following two decades of dedication to children's opera in Canada. He has been a key player in the Education and Outreach Department of the Canadian Opera Company since designing the celebrated After-School Opera Program in 1997. Working as Program Leader, Music and Stage Director he has created over fifty operas with young people in various Toronto communities. Burry has written twelve nationally and internationally-performed theatrical works for young people, including *The Hobbit*, *The Secret World of Og*, *The Scorpions' Sting*, *The Bremen Town Musicians*, *Le Nez de la Sorcière*, *The Vinland Traveler*, *Angela and Her Sisters*, *Pandora's Locker* and *The Sword in the Schoolyard*. His opera *The Brothers Grimm*, commissioned by the Canadian Opera Company's in 1999, has been presented over 600 times and is considered "the most performed Canadian opera in history."



October 24
2017

Claudia Olguin, Coordinator of Community-Led Initiatives at Aurora Public Library

"The Local Library – A Place of Possibilities"

Libraries are transitioning from being traditional places where the public goes to read or borrow books to serving as the "living room" of the community where customers can also attend innovative programs, events, develop their knowledge, meet and interact. Aurora Public Library's Strategic Plan 2017-2021, titled *Place of Possibilities*, charts a fresh direction for the Library and community. Based on a community-led model in which consultation with residents of Aurora is key, *Place of Possibilities* envisions the Library as a "community hub" where people of all ages and interests in the community can have an active stake in how programs and services are delivered to meet their needs and expectations.

Claudia Olguin holds a Communications degree from Tec de Monterrey in Mexico, along with a Business-Marketing diploma and a Social Service Worker-Immigrants and Refugees diploma, both from Seneca College.

As Community-Led Initiatives Coordinator for the APL she spends a lot of her time soliciting community feedback and ideas in order to develop programs and services that are relevant to the residents of Aurora. Claudia's work is focused on developing new partnerships and building strategic relationships that help APL to better respond to the needs of the community.



November 28
2017

Jocelyn Palm, Director of Glen Bernard Camp, Sundridge, Ontario

“Girls’ Summer Camping: Revitalizing a Tradition”

Jocelyn Palm has been the owner and director of Glen Bernard from 1977 to the present (40 years). She joined GBC as a staff member following fifteen years as a camper and counselor in Quebec. From 1959-1965 she held a number of senior staff positions at GBC, including waterfront and senior section director and leader of the counselor-in-training program. Jocelyn was the National Director of the Royal Life Saving Society Canada for 15 years. She is a past President of both the Canadian and Ontario Camping Associations.

Jocelyn has also been a tireless supporter of Women’s College Hospital. She was a founding member of Friends of Women’s College Hospital, a grassroots organization that since 1989 has fought to keep the hospital independent.

In 2012 Jocelyn was awarded the Order of Canada for her work in youth development, women’s health and environmental stewardship.

Glen Bernard Camp, founded in 1922 by Mary S. Edgar, was significantly revitalized when Jocelyn Palm became the owner and director in 1977. Her commitment to continuously updating the programs and facilities over the past forty years and a focus on environmental sustainability has helped keep girls’ summer camping an important place of confidence building and leadership training for girls today.



January 23
2018

Jacqueline Stuart, Director of the Aurora Museum

“A History of Women and Education in Aurora/Newmarket”

Jackie Stuart graduated from the University of Toronto with an interesting but useless general arts degree. Not knowing what else to do, she went to England for a year – and stayed eleven. There she worked in the technical libraries of civil engineering and architectural firms.

After returning to Canada she continued library work until she learned of a course being offered at Seneca College: historical/natural interpretive services, or how to tell people about historical or people/places/events or about nature. She became a very mature student.

After graduation from Seneca in 1981 Jackie became the first full-time, permanent curator of the Aurora Museum, then operated by the Aurora Historical Society.

She retired from the museum in 2006 but has continued to expand her knowledge of Aurora’s history, especially by answering requests for information, and by writing *An Aurora ABC: Stories from Aurora’s Forgotten Past*, published by the Aurora Historical Society.



<p>February 27 2018 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Mary Rose Marrin, Sister of St. Joseph of Toronto</p> <p>“The Fruitfulness of Aging”</p> <p>Sister Mary Rose Marrin is a Sister of St. Joseph of Toronto with a background in teaching, spiritual formation, congregational leadership and parish ministry. She obtained a BA from the University of Toronto, a Masters of Theological Studies from Jesuit Weston, Cambridge MA (now part of Boston College) and certificates in Spiritual Gerontology and Lifelong Faith Development from the Johnson Institute in St. Louis MO. From 2007 to 2012, she was engaged in the initiation and development of programs with “maturing adults” at St. Mary’s Church, Barrie.</p> <p>The goal of her present work is to raise awareness of the potential for spiritual, personal and emotional growth in the second half of life and to support initiatives in this area. She presents programs on “Continuing Growth in the Second Half of Life” for churches and other groups in the Toronto area.</p> <p>This presentation will focus on the opportunities and challenges offered through the gift of increased longevity that is a feature of our present reality. In particular it will address the potential for inner growth offered in our maturing years.</p>	
<p>March 27 2018</p>	<p>Mary Bastedo, Member of L’Arche Daybreak, Richmond Hill</p> <p>“Girls’ Education in Rwanda: Progress and Challenges”</p> <p>Since the devastating genocide in 1994, Rwanda has moved forward with astonishing determination, particularly in the area of education for girls. Last year Mary Bastedo spent a month in Rwanda and saw close-up several of the girls’ schools that are now very successfully producing graduates. Mastercard Foundation, based in Toronto, has deemed women’s education in Rwanda one of its most worthy places of investment. Mary will present some stories about these schools along with some slides of her recent trip.</p> <p>Committed to life-long learning, Mary has been a student at the University of Toronto at three points in her life, coming away with a Bachelors of Art (English and French) in 1970, a Bachelors of Science (Occupational Therapy) in 1983 and a Masters of Divinity (with a Diploma in Spiritual Direction) in 2007.</p> <p>Mary has lived and worked in various communities of L’Arche (a community with and for adults with a developmental disability, founded in France by Canadian Jean Vanier in 1964) since 1973, including L’Arche Edmonton, L’Arche Stratford, L’Arche Trosly (France) and L’Arche Daybreak (Richmond Hill.) When she retired from her role at L’Arche Daybreak in 2014, Mary joined CFUW Aurora/Newmarket. Currently she leads retreats, offers spiritual direction and volunteers with several outreach programs in Aurora.</p>	

April 24
2018

Sybille Hahn, member of Hesperus Village, Thornhill

“Sage-ing in Community”

Hesperus Village in Thornhill, Ontario is a seniors' affordable housing residence inspired by the philosophy of anthroposophy. Founded in the late 1980's it is supported by relationships with other anthroposophical initiatives in the Thornhill area; the Rudolph Steiner Centre, Toronto Waldorf School, Christian Community Church and the Pegasus Medical Center. Hesperus encourages interaction between the generations, people of diverse cultures and spiritual paths, and those with a variety of interests, skills and talents.

Born in Silesia, Germany in 1944, Sybille Hahn came to Canada in 1957. For seventeen years she was an active volunteer with the Toronto Waldorf School while raising her children, both of whom graduated from the Waldorf School.

Sybille has been working with seniors since she took up the duties of Executive Director at CANES Home Support Services in November 1999. CANES provides services that allow seniors to age at home, to avoid premature and unnecessary institutionalization. Her love of working with people and feeling the strength of a close-knit community are the sources of her energy and have drawn her to Hesperus. She became a resident there after 10 years on the Board and six years as Executive Director. Since 2009 she has been an exceedingly active volunteer.

Her presentation will focus on one way of finding meaning in the third stage of life, namely “elderhood.”

