



TRAVELLING CLINICIANS PROGRAM - 2020-2021

Once again, the **RCCO Travelling Clinicians Program** is being offered by the College as part of **Professional Development and Outreach**. Each year professional musicians make visits to Centres to perform, teach and encourage public awareness of the organ, its variety of sounds and the vast literature written for it.

With travel expenses borne by the College through the RCCO Endowment Fund, qualifying local Centres can mount a first-class organ concert, which might otherwise be beyond its reach. Visiting clinicians, two of which are chosen each year, may also hold a masterclass or conduct a workshop at a Centre meeting or specific event.

How the Program Works

Centres apply for a clinician (see attached application form) **no later than April 1, 2020 for the following College year**. As funds for the program are limited, APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER APRIL 1st CAN NOT BE CONSIDERED. Not all applications may be approved each year, but unsuccessful Centres are encouraged to re-apply in the following year.

Centres may choose one of two clinicians offered that year and also may choose between a workshop (topics are provided by the clinicians at the time of application), a concert, or BOTH. We are pleased to announce that our Travelling Clinicians for 2020-2021 are **Valerie Hall** and **Marnie Giesbrecht**. Their biographies, workshop topics and concert offerings are on the following pages.

Successful centres are responsible for:

- Accommodation and meals for the clinician
- Local transportation
- Publicity - The local centre is especially responsible for publicity. This may include:
 - simple advertising in local publications (centre newsletters, church bulletins, community newspapers)
 - posters at churches and schools
 - invites to local musicians, music teachers, other local arts groups
 - social media (Centre website, Twitter, Facebook)
 - an invite-a-friend program
 - and the ever popular word of mouth or any other form of inviting the public and membership to a workshop or recital.

The RCCO National Office is responsible for clinicians' honorariums and travelling expenses to Centres.

In considering applying for the Travelling Clinician program, Centre Executives are reminded that, like any concert engagement, these events involve rearrangement of work timetables for clinicians, as well as obtaining the most economical purchase of airline tickets. **Arrangements, once made, are considered binding.**

For any questions, concerns, or more information, please contact the National Office at info@rcco.ca.

Valerie Hall

A past National President of the RCCO, Valerie has spent much of her professional life performing Canadian music. Born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Valerie studied organ with Philadelphia native and renowned improver, Lawrence Ritchey, under whose inspired Tutelage she completed a Bachelor Music in Organ Performance from the University of Manitoba. After a lengthy period of professional success as a National Electone (organ) Education Consultant with Yamaha Canada, Valerie returned to music studies at Concordia University, River Forest, Illinois, and began a church music career in earnest. More recently Valerie has devoted much of her time and interest to voice study, culminating in the completion of an Associate Diploma from the Royal Conservatory of Music in Voice Performance in 2018. Valerie now maintains a dynamic teaching studio for both organists and vocalists through the Conservatory of Performing Arts, University of Regina, serves as Organist at St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church and freelances as both organist and harpsichordist with the Regina Symphony Orchestra.



Workshop Topics

1. Stepping Up the Choir Director's Game: using pedagogical methods derived from the Italian Bel Canto school to improve choral tone and tuning.
2. 150 Years Since the Birth of Louis Vierne (1870-1937): examining some of Vierne's organ works which are appropriate and manageable as voluntaries for church services.

Concert Theme

Celebrating 150 Years Since the Birth of Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

A fascinating examination of the potential influence of Vierne's compositional style on his "French-Canadian musical descendants". Repertoire will include selections played by Louis Vierne on Canadian soil, an organ composition by one of his Canadian students and several works by subsequent generations of Vierne's "musical descendants".

Marnie Giesbrecht

A passionate and versatile keyboard artist, Dr. Giesbrecht is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, Professor Emerita at the University of Alberta (1988 to 2014) and Adjunct Professor of Music at The King's University, Edmonton. Marnie Giesbrecht performs and records as organ soloist, collaborative musician (organ, piano, harpsichord) and with Joachim Segger as Duo Majoya. CD recordings include solo organ, duets for piano and for organ as well as for the combination of organ and piano. Her teaching embraces a broad range of students at all levels of study.



As community builder Giesbrecht served as local and national RCCO presidents and on organ selection/building committees including the Davis Concert Organ at the Winspear Centre in Edmonton. She is music director at First Presbyterian Church together with Joachim Segger, and regularly plays solo and continuo harpsichord for Early Music Alberta concerts and festivals. Marnie Giesbrecht is honoured to have served on national and international organ competition juries including the RCCO (Royal Canadian College of Organists), Claude Lavoie, CIOC (Canadian International Organ Competition) and the Longwood Gardens International Organ Competition.

One of the great joys of touring is meeting and delighting in colleagues and music lovers in an infinite array of ordinary and exotic locales; of sharing music, experiences and stories. I look forward to traveling opportunities through the RCCO Traveling Clinician program.

Workshop Topic

1. Creative Programming: bringing the pipe organ to new audiences; bringing new audiences to the pipe organ
2. Tips and Techniques for Practice: Using body, mind, heart, humour, eyes and ears to best advantage
3. Exploring Mendelssohn's Six Sonatas, Op. 65: a treasure trove of musical expression, references, techniques and inspiration

Concert Themes

1. Lecture Concert - Then and Now: Reflections on the Life and Career of a Keyboard Musician
or
2. Music Concert



REQUEST FOR TRAVELLING CLINICIAN

*This form can be filled in electronically or printed and filled in.
PLEASE PRINT*

The deadline for applications is April 1, 2020 for the following College year.

Please read the accompanying information about available clinicians and topics before filling in the form.

Centre: *Click to enter text.*

Name of Contact Person: *Click to enter text.*

Email: *Click to enter text.*

Clinician Requested: *Choose a clinician*

Date(s) Requested: **First Choice:** *Click to enter a date.*

Second Choice: *Click to enter a date.*

If clinician is unavailable for preferred weekends, is your Centre able to host a mid-week event?

Choose Yes or No.

Event Preference

Centres can request a concert, a workshop or BOTH.

Workshop: *Choose Yes or No.*

Workshop Topic: (See list on Clinicians Biographies) *Click here to enter text.*

AND/OR

Concert: *Choose Yes or No.*

If you would like a specific concert as suggested by the clinician, please note that here. See Clinician Biographies for suggested concerts. *Click here to enter text.*

Date: *Click to enter application date.*

Please return this form by email to:

**Debi Harris
C/O RCCO National Office
info@rcco.ca**