

## FACE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA BIOGRAPHY

The FACE Chamber Orchestra (FCO) was founded in 1999 by its conductor, FACE music teacher, Theodora Stathopoulos. The orchestra provides the school's most advanced string players from all grades (10-16 year old) with the opportunity to further develop their ensemble skills through the study of advanced chamber music repertoire. The students' experience is enhanced through community concerts, tours and festival participation.

Provincial and National gold medalist the FCO is the recipient of first prizes at the Kiwanis and Musicfest Music Festivals. Recent achievements include Gold medal for small ensemble at the 2006 annual Quebec Music Educators Association provincial competition and first prize at the 2007 National Region Kiwanis Music Festival. In 2003 the Canadian Music Educators' Association awarded the FACE Chamber Orchestra with the Wilfred Harvey Award for the Best Small Ensemble in Canada.

Also in 2003 the FCO was the recipient of a congratulatory letter from former Prime Minister of Canada Jean Cretien for its outstanding performance on Parliament Hill at the inauguration of a new Canadian stamp. In 2005 the orchestra was invited by United Nations to perform a commemorative concert in memory of the former UN Executive Secretary Ms. Joke Waller-Hunter at the World Conference on Climate Change in Montreal, while in August 2004, the Orchestra represented Canada and toured Greece as part of the country's Olympic celebrations.

The FACE Chamber Orchestra has been the recipient of two federal government grants to tour Vancouver (2002) and Edmonton/Banff (2003) and was invited to perform at two ISME (International Society for Music Education) conferences that took place in Tenerife, Spain (2004) and in Bologna, Italy (2008).

Listed below, are a few of the places the chamber orchestra has been invited to perform:

\*Congres de la Federation des comminssions scolaires - Queen Elizabeth Hotel (Spring 2007)  
 \*University Women's Club of Montreal - Mount Steven's Club of Montreal (Winter 2007)  
 \*Theater Lac Brome (June 2006)  
 \*Austrian Society Ball - Chateau Champlain (February 2006)  
 \*United Nations' World Conference on Climate Change (Fall 2005)  
 \*Learning Disabilities Association of Quebec Conference - Palais des Congres (Fall 2005)  
 \*Kassandra Theater - Kassandra Summer Festival -Greece (August 2004)  
 \*Tenerif Auditorium -ISME International Conference - Spain (July 2004)  
 \*Montreal Museum of Fine Art - Tanagra Exhibition (February 2004)  
 \*TVA "Salut, Bonjour" - Guest performers (December 2003)  
 \* "Just for Laughs" Festival - Guest performers, Gala Opening Show, St. Denis Theater (July 2003)  
 \*AHEPA/Canada Post Corporation - Parliament Hill, Ottawa (Spring 2003)  
 \*Symposium of the Canadian Council for Inner City Education-Palais des congres (Fall 2002)  
 \*Montreal's Chinese Community Mid Autumn Moon Festival -  
 \*Montreal China Town (Summer 2002)  
 \*Commission Scolaire de Montreal Conference - Maurice Richard Arena (Spring 2002)  
 \*English Montreal School Board Adult Education Conference - Sheraton Hotel (Spring 2001, 2002)  
 \*Hellenic Scholarship Foundation - Awards Ceremony - McGill's Faculty Club (Winter 2002)  
 \*Musée d'arts contemporains de Montréal (Winter 2002)  
 \*Montreal/International Auto Show - Olympic Stadium (January 2002)  
 \*McGill University's Graduating Engineering Students' Annual Banquet - Ritz Carlton Hotel (Spring 2001)  
 \*Montreal's Jewish General Hospital Annual Staff Banquet (December 2000, 2001)  
 \*The Shield of Athena Millennium Art Auction for the Center of Battered Women - Hellenic Community Center (Fall 2000)  
 \*Montreal's City Hall - Open House (Spring 2000)  
 \*Taiwanese Communities of Montreal, Ottawa & Toronto Commemorative Concert - Salle Claude Champagne (Spring 2000)  
 \*Montreal Teachers' Association Annual Convention - Palais des Congrès (Fall 2000)  
 \*Artapalooza Performing Arts Festival for Children - Saidye

Bronfman Center (Spring 1999)

The Chamber Orchestra's repertoire covers a vast range of periods and styles from Corelli to Tchaikovsky in the classical domain including international composers such as Skalkotta, Piazzolla, Grainger, Holst and not neglecting Canadian composers such as Claude Champagne and others.