



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

For immediate release

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### **Music Education Day Proclaimed in Saskatchewan**

The Saskatchewan Music Educators Association (SMEA) and Province of Saskatchewan have proclaimed Friday, September 13, 2024 as Music Education Day in Saskatchewan.

“This is a day we celebrate the important work that music educators perform in the province as well as the tremendous benefits that music brings to students and the rest of society. The work that music educators conduct ensures that people of all ages and abilities can participate in music programs,” said SMEA President Sharon Bates.

“The Government of Saskatchewan recognizes music education as a valuable aspect of a child’s educational process. Music education enhances academic performance, social skills, creativity, self-expression, confidence, discipline and teamwork,” said Minister of Education Jeremy Cockrill. “I would like to thank the Saskatchewan Music Educators Association for promoting the development of high standards of music and showing our students that music education is more than just learning music - It is learning through music.”

Research has proven numerous benefits of music and the positive role it can have on students. Those who participate in music education programs stay engaged in school, set and achieve goals, improve their language and reading skills, enhance their coordination, and develop critical thinking skills.

SMEA is a charitable, non-profit cultural association that was incorporated in 1957. It acts as the voice for music educators, promoting the development of high standards of music and music education in Saskatchewan. SMEA is committed to supporting music education in the province and is recognized as a “Professional Growth Network” for music education by the Saskatchewan Teachers Federation.

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