



Michelle Flint (centre) with students from St Paul's Collegiate's Band Programme.

Music Director Receives KBB Music Scholarship

KBB Music is pleased to announce Cambridge-based music director, educator and trumpet player, Michelle Flint as the recipient of the 2011 KBB Music Midwest Scholarship which will take her to the world's largest instrumental music education conference in the USA later this year.

"I was flabbergasted when told I am the recipient of the KBB Music Midwest Scholarship," says Mrs Flint. "As music educators we too need inspiration, engaging experiences and motivating ideas to empower our students. I cannot think of anything that would tick all of these boxes than the Midwest Clinic."

The Midwest Clinic is an intensive 4-day International Band and Orchestra Conference held annually in Chicago. Attracting over 15,000 music educators and musicians worldwide, the Clinic aims to inform and inspire music educators through

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workshops, concerts and exhibitions.

Provided by musical instrument retailer KBB Music, the KBB Music Midwest Scholarship is a unique professional development opportunity open to all music educators/directors of bands or orchestras across New Zealand.

"We have once again received a number of very strong applications this year," says Paul Skipper, Director of KBB Music. "Michelle's passion for music education is clear with her involvement in a number of groups in her school and community. Not only will she be able to reach and inspire many young musicians, she will be able to share her knowledge with other music educators too. It has been a pleasure to offer this scholarship and assist our Music Education Community once again in 2011."

Mrs Flint is the newly-appointed Director of Instrumental Music at St Paul's Collegiate School in Hamilton. After successfully initiating a Band Programme, Marimba Group and Chapel Band, Mrs Flint is also set to revive the School Orchestra and Jazz Band. Prior to this, Mrs Flint was Head of Music and Performing Arts at Cambridge Middle School for 7 years. During this time she implemented a number of programmes and directed various musical groups.

Mrs Flint's community involvements include resurrecting and leading the Cambridge Brass Band to a D Grade Championship title at the 2011 Brass Band Championships. She is also an active trumpet player with the Riverlea Theatre, Hamilton Operatic Society and Waikato Symphony Orchestra. The latter of which Mrs Flint has collaborated with to produce an education programme for local primary schools.

In 2009, Mrs Flint completed two Masters level papers in Music Education at the University of Waikato, resulting in a study on 'Musical Activity as a Stimulus to Improved Mathematical Performance' which has received interest from the educational world.

"I am looking forward to all the professional development opportunities [at the Midwest Clinic] that will offer me insight and inspiration for my teaching and directing," says Mrs Flint. "I hope to use my newfound knowledge to inspire, engage and energise my students and fellow music educators on my return."

Past winners of the KBB Music Midwest Scholarship include Victoria Brown (St Peter's School, Hamilton), Hamish Arthur (itinerant music teacher), Alastair Monteath (itinerant music teacher), Kathleen Mulligan (St Cuthbert's College), John Snowling (Lindisfarne College), Antun Poljanich (St Peter's College), Peter Thomas (Epsom Girls Grammar School), Stewart Stanbridge (Waikato Academy of Music) among others. ■

Michelle Flint chose Simon Hocking House of Travel for her flight arrangements.