

Passion for Music Takes Director to Chicago

A Musical Director's passion for music education is taking her to the world's largest instrumental music education conference in Chicago, Illinois later this month.

KBB Music is delighted to announce violinist, conductor and music educator, **Victoria Brown** of Hamilton as the recipient of the 2010 KBB Music Midwest Scholarship to attend the prestigious annual Midwest Clinic in the USA.

"It is a huge honour to be awarded [the KBB Music Midwest Scholarship]," says Ms Brown. "I feel very lucky to be given such an opportunity."

The intensive 4-day Midwest Clinic, an International Band and Orchestra Conference is the mecca for over 15,000 music educators and musicians worldwide. It exists for the sole purpose of informing and inspiring music educators, raising the standard of music education by providing numerous workshops, exhibitions and concerts since its inception in 1946.

Ms Brown is the Director of Music and Performing Arts at St Peter's School in Cambridge, the conductor of the Hamilton City Brass Band and Hamilton Operatic Society, as well as the facilitator of the Central North Island Association of Secondary Music Educators. An outstanding violinist, Ms Brown is also a registered Suzuki Method teacher.

"I spend a lot of my time working with bands and orchestras, so to be given the opportunity to hear gurus and experts speak about their craft and be immersed in an environment which is solely focused on music education is hugely exciting," says Ms Brown. "The idea of meeting the arrangers whose music I deal with regularly is pretty awesome."

The KBB Music Midwest Scholarship is open every year to music teachers and directors of bands or orchestras in New Zealand. It covers two-thirds of all costs for the recipient to attend the Midwest Clinic.

"Each year we receive a number of very strong applications and this year is no exception," says Alan Kemp from KBB Music. "Victoria's passion for music education is apparent through her involvement with a number of groups within the community. Her broad reach of young musicians means her knowledge will be shared widely – an important attribute we look for."

"I hope to bring back new pioneering ideas and music which will help me in my work in the Waikato with school and community based groups," says Ms Brown. "I believe [the Midwest Clinic] will reinvigorate me musically, and give me the chance to listen, learn and be shaped by clinicians, exhibitors, educational leaders, and musicians."

Past winners of the KBB Music Midwest Scholarship include **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.

Notes to Editor

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Midwest Clinic

www.midwestclinic.org

Images



Victoria Brown in action. Available in high resolution

KBB Music is one of New Zealand's most well-established musical instrument specialists since 1888. Apart from servicing the country's musical talents with the New Zealand's largest selection of brass and woodwind instruments as well as a team of expert technicians, KBB Music also fosters the growth of New Zealand's music community by sponsoring and supporting:

- CANZ/KBB Music Citation to Services to New Zealand music
- KBB Music Festival www.kbbmusicfestival.co.nz
- KBB Midwest Clinic Scholarship for New Zealand Music Directors
- New Zealand Concert Band Festivals
- New Zealand Brass Band National Championships www.bbanz.org.nz
- KBB Music National Young Performers' Competition
- Various music festivals, orchestras, bands and schools among many others

Website: www.kbbmusic.co.nz

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