

School Orchestras Adjudicator



Michael Klazek

Educated at the University of Alberta and the University of Calgary, **Michael Klazek** studied conducting with Kenneth L. Nielsen, composition with Violet Archer, violin and viola with Thomas Rolston, as well as piano and Music Education. A professional violist whose musical travels have taken him to Europe, Australia and the Americas, he conducted the Hampton Concert Orchestra for five years and has been the conductor of the Sooke Philharmonic's Summer Fling since 2015. A founding member of the Calgary Civic, the Victoria Chamber and the Sooke Philharmonic orchestras, he has fostered many collaborations involving students with these ensembles.

Throughout his thirty-five year teaching career, Michael directed acclaimed choirs, bands, orchestras and musical theatre ensembles in Edmonton, Calgary and Victoria, which he has called home since 1989. He has served on the boards of the Greater Victoria Youth Orchestra, the Victoria Chamber Orchestra, the Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival and the Galiano Ensemble. Now retired from music classrooms, from the UVic Strings Mentorship program, and from the Comox Valley Youth Music Centre, he continues to play, conduct and most importantly, stay involved with workshops and clinics for young musicians - these are not on his retirement list. Music education and enjoyment are lifelong priorities for Mike.