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## ROCKWAY LAUNCHES

## SHARE THE FLAME CAMPAIGN



At Rockway Mennonite Collegiate (RMC) the belief is that everyone who wishes to have a faith based education should be entitled to do so. On that basis Rockway's Administrative staff and Board have set in place a plan to raise \$150,000 this year in tuition assistance support to help provide financial aid for families who would like to send their children to Rockway but lack the financial resources to do so. The effort has been dubbed the "Share the Flame" campaign!

### MENNONITE CHURCH EASTERN CANADA STEPS UP TO THE PLATE

Mennonite Church Eastern Canada (MCEC) has a mandate to support youth ministry which is very much in synch with Rockway's goal to produce responsible, reflective, globally minded and compassionate individuals to become the future leaders of the Church, our communities and our world. On that basis MCEC has promised to match dollar for dollar the amount raised by the "Share the Flame" campaign up to \$150,000! Their support is very much appreciated and gives supporters the opportunity to "double their impact" when they give to Rockway in this way!

### DARE TO SHARE!

If you would like to make a difference, to impact an individual's life by changing their direction of education and have a greater impact on the future Church, our future communities and our future world you can do so! Simply become a part of our "Share the Flame" campaign by sending a cheque made out to Rockway Mennonite Collegiate and mail it to the school at 110 Doon Road, Kitchener, ON N2G 3C8 or by credit card through CanadaHelps which you can access at [www.rockway.ca/donatenow](http://www.rockway.ca/donatenow).

Your support, no matter how big or small, will no doubt help to make a difference in someone's life who will in turn make a difference in our Church, our community and our world!

Rockway's Board of Directors recently passed the following motion ensuring as many families as possible can share in this generous gift: "In response to the matching MCEC gift of \$150,000, the Board hereby establishes as a priority and goal that every family from an MCEC congregation that wishes to enroll a child should be able to apply to Rockway without financial barrier." If you know families that would benefit from a Rockway education, please keep encouraging them to contact us to see how we can work together to make Rockway possible.

# ROCKWAY ALUMNI MUSIC RECITAL SERIES

In its third season the Series continues to feature amazing Rockway alumni who have incorporated their musical background, including their Rockway music experience, into their careers and their lives. This year features a coming together of two classmates from the year of 1968 (Daniel Lichti and John Hess) and combining their talents with a “younger generation” alumnus talent from the class of 1990, none other than Timothy Shantz!!! Don’t miss out on this spectacular display of Rockway Musical talent!

When: Thursday May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
Where: Rockway’s Performance Centre  
Why: To support Rockway’s arts programs  
Cost: Free will offering  
Check it out at [www.rockway.ca/alumnimusicrecital](http://www.rockway.ca/alumnimusicrecital)



## Daniel Lichti '68

Since his operatic debut at the 1974 Stratford Festival, Daniel Lichti has established himself as one of Canada’s finest Bass-baritones, performing with many of North America’s finest orchestras (both modern and baroque) and with many of its leading choral organizations. He appears regularly at major Bach and choral Festivals and has performed Oratorio and Opera internationally, working under conductors such as Robert Shaw, Helmuth Rilling, Christopher Hogwood, John Nelson, Bruno Weil, Bernard Labadie, and Yannick Nézet-Séguin, to name a few. He has gained acclaim as a recitalist and recording artist and will celebrate 40 years of professional life in the next season with concerts in Canada, the United States, Europe and Asia. An Associate Professor of Voice for the Faculty of Music at Wilfrid Laurier University since 1998, Mr. Lichti’s artistry continues to inspire admiration for the beauty, warmth, and richness of his voice, and respect for the dignity and sincerity of his interpretations.



## John Hess '68

John Hess is the recognized authority on contemporary opera and song in Canada and is Co-Artistic Director of Toronto’s Queen of Puddings Music Theatre. He has been involved with the creation of many new productions for the Canadian Opera Company and has collaborated with virtually every contemporary opera company in Canada. At the Banff Centre for the Arts, he served as Associate Artistic Director of the 20th Century Opera and Song program. John is equally in demand as a vocal coach and pianist. He works regularly with Ben Heppner in Canada and other performances of note include recitals with Measha Brüegggergosman, Jane Archibald and Wendy Nielsen. John is heard regularly on CBC Radio and has recorded numerous CDs, including the complete vocal works of Canadian composer Harry Somers with singers Valdine Anderson, Jean Stilwell and Ben Heppner. As a member of the music faculty at the University of Western Ontario, John directs the first Masters program in Collaborative Piano in Canada. He holds a Doctorate in Musical Arts from the University of Michigan where he was a fellowship student with pianist Martin Katz.



## Timothy Shantz '90

Timothy Shantz has received accolades as both conductor and singer. In 2012 he founded Luminous Voices, Calgary’s first professional choir, to critical acclaim. Shantz is also Artistic Director of Spiritus Chamber Choir, winners of the 2013 Healey Willan Prize, and Chorus Master for the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra. He has worked extensively as conductor, collaborator, and tenor soloist with ensembles and festivals in Canada, the U.S. and Europe, including the Luzerne Festival Academy, the Carmel Bach Festival, the Kölner Vokalsolisten, National Youth Choir of Canada, Pro Coro Canada, Richard Eaton Singers and the Windsor Symphony Orchestra. In 2012, Shantz debuted both as guest conductor with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra in Handel’s Messiah, and as tenor soloist in the “Bach at Knox” series. As tenor soloist, Shantz’s 2013-14 season includes a performance with the Alberta Baroque Orchestra, a solo recital at the University of Calgary, as well as Handel’s Messiah with the Masterwork Chorus at Carnegie Hall, New York.



**ATTENTION!  
ALUMNI OF ROCKWAY!**

**JOIN OUR  
FACEBOOK  
GROUP**

**CONNECT WITH YOUR ROCKWAY FRIENDS!  
KEEP UP WITH ONGOING EVENTS AT ROCKWAY!  
RECONNECT WITH YOUR CLASSMATES!**

To join, go to the Rockway website at  
[www.rockway.ca](http://www.rockway.ca)

Look under “News and Alumni” and  
click on: Alumni Events  
Find and click on “Rockway Alumni Group”  
which will take you to the  
“Alumni of Rockway Mennonite Collegiate”  
Facebook Page

NOTE: Recent changes to Facebook resulted in our original  
Rockway Mennonite Collegiate Alumni group being  
deactivated so you will need to rejoin through the above  
process to get back on board.

## Updating our Database

We are hoping to transition to communicating online much more in the future but we need to update your information. Please send a message to Bernie Burnett at [development@rockway.ca](mailto:development@rockway.ca) indicating your interest in receiving information via email. We also welcome all corrected address information.

# OTHER WAYS TO SUPPORT YOUR SCHOOL

## CHANGEIT!

ChangeIt® is a new and innovative way to automatically round up your payment card purchases, creating Virtual Change®, and automatically directing this Virtual Change® to Rockway Mennonite Collegiate. Your sales receipts remain unchanged and you have complete CONTROL over your rounding preferences and how much you give! Whether buying a new pair of shoes or your morning latte, ChangeIt® enables you to easily and automatically support Rockway every time you make a purchase for yourself. Check it out at [www.changeit.ca!!](http://www.changeit.ca!!)



## ROCKWAY MENNONITE COLLEGIATE'S ANNUAL FUND RAISING DINNER

Every year a group of Rockway students take extra time outside of class to prepare a drama presentation for the local Sears Drama Festival. This year they will be part of the entertainment for our annual fund raising dinner.

When: Thursday February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
6:30 pm refreshments  
6:45 pm seating

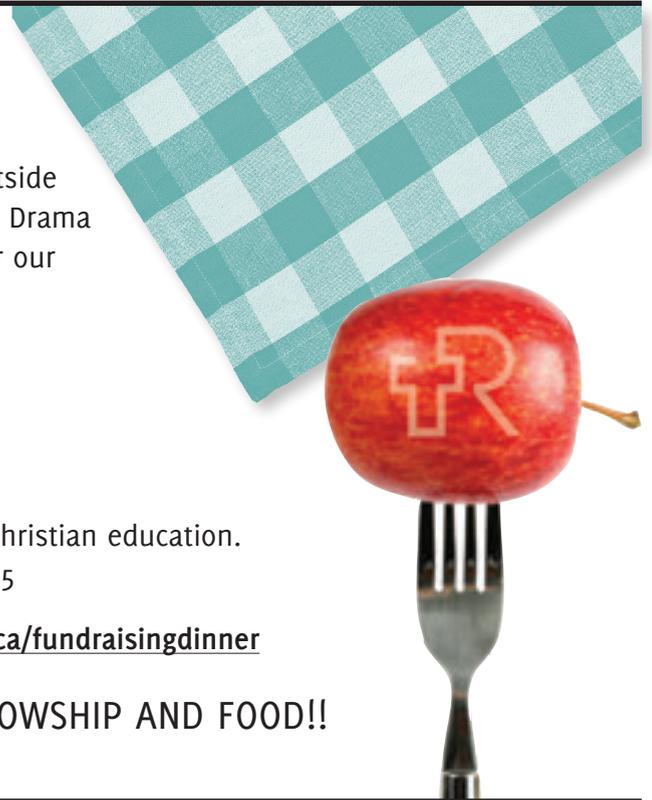
Where: Rockway's Performance Centre at the school

Why: To support Rockway's mission of delivering Christian education.

Cost: \$80 per person - includes a tax receipt for \$55

Check it out at [www.rockway.ca/fundraisingdinner](http://www.rockway.ca/fundraisingdinner)

PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF FUN, FELLOWSHIP AND FOOD!!



## ROCKWAY'S ANNUAL FUNDRAISING GOLF TOURNAMENT

On the first Wednesday of June every year a group of Rockway supporters hit the links to raise funds to support Rockway's tuition assistance pool (Share the Flame). This will be a special year with MCEC matching the funds raised in this event as they are applied to our Share the Flame campaign! As usual we will be hosted by Ron Schiedel and his crew at the Willow Valley golf course and have the opportunity to win a car courtesy of Willy Heffner and Heffner Toyota!



When: Wednesday June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Where: Willow Valley Golf Course, Mount Hope (bus provided)

Why: To support Rockway's tuition assistance pool (Share the Flame)

Cost: \$1000 or \$500 in sponsorships

Check it out at [www.rockway.ca/golf](http://www.rockway.ca/golf)

COME OUT AND TRY TO UNSEAT LAST YEAR'S CHAMPIONS  
(Jim Blair, David Seyler, Bob Shantz and Dale Brubacher-Cressman)

## ALUMNI SPORTS CHALLENGE

Connections Weekend would not be the same without the Annual Alumni Sports Challenge! Recent and not so recent grads were out in force to take on the challenge of playing against our youthful school teams.

The senior boys volleyball team kicked off the weekend when several alumni showed up at morning practice and joined forces for an impromptu challenge. It was a fun morning culminating in a rousing game that made both sides sweat!

In the evening, a large contingent of alumni came out to play basketball against the school teams. It turned out the current teams were no match for the maturity and skills of the alumni. The womens alumni got off to a slow start but found their shooting form eventually with faculty staffers Lindsay Shantz '02 and Jo Scott '05 finding the hoop from three point range. Peg (Weber) Nitsche '82 even knocked down her two foul shots!

The mens game was very entertaining - early in the second half, the game became an exchange of three point shots from both sides...with most of them going in from downtown! All in all, it was a fun and exciting night. Everyone was able to play and keep their spaghetti down. See you volleyball players next year!

## RETIRED EMPLOYEES BREAKFAST

Yet another tradition of our Connections Weekend is the coming together of past Rockway employees. Gracing the halls of our school once again this year were Barry Bishop, Bob and Jan Shantz, Glen and Margaret Woolner, Henry Janzen, Nancy Ellen Nafziger, Paul Helmuth, Roger and Daphne Stover, Vernon and Eva Brubacher, Rolf Thiessen and Ted and Carol Wiebe. It was a wonderful time of reminiscing and being brought up to date on the activities of the school by Principal Ann L. Schultz and Assistant Principal Dennis Wikerd.

## ALUMNI REUNIONS

One of several reunions that took place on Connections Weekend the CLASS OF '73 gathered over lunch in the classroom wing of the "new" addition. The gathering featured a visit from Emo, Ontario of Harold Boven resulting in a reconnection for many with him from 40 years ago! It also ended up being a reconnection with our Hong Kong classmates, Francis Lee and Tony Cheng via email. This hopefully will lead to future face to face gatherings with this crew either in Hong Kong or back here at Rockway depending on who gets the travel bug first! Memories were shared over a pot luck lunch and they seemed to be better experiences now than they were back then!! "If we only knew then what we know now" was a frequent lament. The gathering featured Harold Boven '73, Fred Schiedel '73, Esther (Steinmann) Kennel '73, Jeanette (Miller) Ewert '73, Rob Cressman '73, Daniel Kramer '73, Dale Cressman '73, Joy (Burnett) Hancock '73 and myself, Bernie Burnett '73.

## 20TH ANNUAL AUCTION EXTRAVAGANZA

Once again hundreds of people graced the halls and gym of Rockway to take part in the annual Auction Extravaganza. Volunteers in many capacities, silent and live auction bidders, auctioneers, students, parents, neighbors - all came together in a mass of frantic bidding and reconnecting conversations to make for an absolutely fun evening. There were lots of deal to be had and lots of dollars flowing to the school to make it a profitable night for everyone. It is a good bet that by now everyone in Waterloo County is the proud owner of the infamous wiener stick - Cal Jutzi the head auctioneer insists this is not the case.

Next year's Auction is slated for Saturday, November 1st.





## Celebrating my 1st Birthday!

Tuesday, January 7, 2014 marked the anniversary of my first year as Principal of Rockway Mennonite Collegiate. I continue to feel honoured and privileged to serve in this capacity. I offer you several highlights from the past 12 months!

### 1) Connections with Faculty and Staff

During my first three months, I embarked on a listening tour with Rockway faculty and staff members. This was an opportunity to talk with each of them, one-on-one, about how they were feeling about Rockway, their roles, things that would make them like their jobs more, how we could better serve our students, and how, as their Principal, I could be most effective. The information that faculty and staff shared with me was a wonderful way for me to launch into my work and strategize for the future.

### 2) Connections with Kids

When I accepted the invitation to be Rockway's Principal, I forecasted that I would miss the daily contact I had with students. I thought of ways in which I could maintain a relationship them. One way I have addressed this concern is by greeting the kids in the foyer as they enter the school at the start of the day. This has been a wonderful way for me to get to know the students by name, and interact with them about the latest game, music gig, or test they are about to write! As well, I have asked teachers to invite me to their classes to participate or simply observe as they deliver an exciting lesson. I have also enjoyed doing some accompanying for choirs at the Spring and Christmas concerts, a way to still nurture my artistic side!

### 3) Launching Inquiry Based Learning

This past year Rockway launched into the world of Inquiry Based Learning, a pedagogy that clearly aligns with our mission and four pillars for learning. Many of you will be familiar with the 3C's named by both educational and business scholars around the world, skills equal in importance to Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic! Inquiry Based Learning prepares students to be creative, collaborative, and critical thinkers. It is an approach to learning whereby students find and use information and ideas to increase their understanding. Teachers at Rockway began in-services for IBL last March, and will continue to be trained in this teaching pedagogy for the next several years.

### 4) Networking with

#### CAMS, MSC, CT2 Consortium, OFIS

I am a person who loves to connect with people and organizations, and to share resources and stories. This job has provided me with many opportunities to connect with many different individuals and institutions. This past year I have connected with Principals from the Canadian Association for Mennonite Schools, the Mennonite Schools Council, the Ontario Federation for Independent Schools, and The Critical Thinking 2 Consortium. These times of connection are invaluable. They allow me to glean ideas as to how I can strengthen Rockway's academic and other student-focused programs, as well as the business elements that enable our school community to operate and flourish.

### 5) Mennonite Church Eastern Canada

Rockway Mennonite Collegiate was officially born in 1945, out of a desire for area Mennonites to have a faith-based school in Waterloo County. Delegates representing the Mennonite Conference of Ontario wanted a school that would give opportunity for students to have a higher education, while also nurturing their values, traditions, and faith. I believe these founding principles continue to ground the school today.

Mennonites in Ontario are now identified as being a part of the Mennonite Church Eastern Canada. MCEC has continued to support Rockway since 1945 in multiple ways. Rockway was reminded of this partnership at Rockway's Annual General Meeting when Board Chair, Russel Snyder-Penner, announced the launch of Share the Flame, a fundraising campaign led by the Board and Administration to raise money for tuition assistance in the amount of \$150,000.00. Following this announcement, David Martin, Executive Director of MCEC, surprised us all with an announcement that MCEC was prepared to match every dollar we raised for Share the Flame, up to \$150,000.00! Rockway is deeply grateful for the support of MCEC, and is well on its way to raising its portion toward the Share the Flame campaign. You are encouraged to find out more about this initiative by going to our website at [www.rockway.ca](http://www.rockway.ca).

### 6) Connecting with Rockway Families

Alongside connecting with kids, I have enjoyed interacting with their parents! This past year, I have looked for ways to talk and listen to parents, while also acknowledging the importance of having parents connect with each other. One highlight in this area was the Family Welcome Breakfast held in October. Students, parents, faculty, and staff were all invited to a hot breakfast held in our cafeteria. The event was a great success, and allowed everyone to interact and celebrate the Rockway community!

### 7) Grade 8 and Grade 12 Graduations

No one could have prepared me for the joy and excitement I felt as I handed out diplomas to our Grade 8 and Grade 12 graduates during the graduation ceremonies in June. I know these events will continue to be a highlight in the years to come!

### 8) International Exchange Evaluation Process

This past April, the Admin Council embarked on an evaluation of Rockway's International Exchange Program. This process, guided by an external facilitator, Jack Suderman, revealed strong affirmation of this program. I, too, believe the chances to travel to France, Germany, China, and Guatemala are incredible opportunities for our students to see the world from a different perspective.

### 9) Parent Survey

In June, Tom Bileski and I created a survey, giving parents opportunity to speak to Rockway's mission, school climate, academics, resources, extracurricular activities, communication, investment, and school promotion. The survey was sent to 184 domestic families on June 25<sup>th</sup> and, as of July 4<sup>th</sup>, we received 103 completed surveys, a 56% response! The results from this survey were very helpful as I/we planned for this school year and will continue to be drawn on for the future.

### 10) House of Friendship Food Drive

Rockway has a long-standing tradition of collecting food for The House of Friendship's Annual Christmas Food Drive. This year, with a student population of 278, we collected 30,096 cans -- an incredible accomplishment! I continue to be moved by the generosity of the Rockway community, and was reminded of our mission, which emphasizes creation care and seeking justice and peace.

CONTINUED ON BACK COVER

### 11) Spiritual Emphasis Week

I was very excited to bring back Spiritual Emphasis Week, an initiative that Bert Lobe, Principal from 1991-1996, launched during his tenure here. This event was an opportunity for faculty, staff, and students to engage with a topic in chapel for several consecutive days. Steve Thomas, a Mennonite Pastor and Martial Artist from Goshen Indiana, joined us at the end of September and focused his talks on Bullying Prevention. The series culminated with a challenge for us as a school to live peaceably with all, relating in love, living in respect, and creating a community of inclusion.

### 12) Homecoming 2013

How can I not mention Homecoming 2013 in an alumni publication? Attending Rockway's Homecoming Weekend allowed me to connect with past and present students, parents, and constituents. The spaghetti supper prepared by the Grade 10 class, followed by a fun-filled alumni sports challenge, was an evening of reconnecting and reminiscing. I had the opportunity to meet many alumni as I greeted people outside the door of the Assembly Area. It was a treat to reconnect with past students and hear about all the good things they

are doing! The next morning, I gave a State of the Union Address to retired Rockway employees, and had the opportunity to thank them for the quality education they provided when I was a student. Rockway's Auction Extravaganza reminded me of the vast number of Rockway supporters who have contributed over the years through volunteering, donating items, and/or bidding! Homecoming Weekend is a vital part of this school, and I am already looking forward to it in November 2014! My list of highlights could go on; however, I will save some for next year! I am grateful for a successful first year and look forward to celebrating subsequent birthdays! I would like to thank Rockway's Board of Directors for their ongoing support of me and my work, as well as Rockway faculty, staff, parents, and students. Without their affirmations and challenges, I couldn't do my job!

Wishing you all a year of peace, hope, joy and love!

ANN L. SCHULTZ '84, PRINCIPAL



## Rockway Web Site

We are excited to be working with our new website launched in August 2013. With the great work of Chris Steingart '99 and his business QTWebDesigns (qtweb.ca), we are moving forward with a fresh look and increased functionality in all areas. One of the most exciting features is our NEWS & Events section where we share Rockway stories regularly. You are invited to check it out for yourself and return often to see what is new.

 **Rockway Mennonite Collegiate**  
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