

Vision

To serve as a premiere student residence and cultural centre that promotes the highest ideals of Ukrainian culture and Orthodox spirituality within a global community.

Mission

To provide a supportive and inclusive living and learning environment for our residents and community at large.

Values

Orthodox world view in the Ukrainian cultural tradition

Education

Leadership

Stewardship

Social Responsibility

Inclusivity

Integrity

Seasons Greetings from the Board Chair

Вітаємо Вас з Різдвом Христовим і Новим 2024 Роком!

В імені Дирекції Інституту, бажаю Всім Вам найкращі побажання з нагоди Різдва Христового та нового року! Христос Рождається! Нехай народження малого Ісуса та початок Нового Року принесуть Вам радість нового життя та ентузіазм свіжих почувань та успіхів у всіх Ваших особистих та спільних справах! Нехай буде спокій на землі! Христос Ражадайється! Славімте Його!

After a busy spring and summer of welcoming and accommodating many foreign students enrolled in USask programs, we were able to pivot quickly to get ready for returning and new residents for the first semester of the new program year. While returning students were basically assured that they would be accommodated, a waiting list was in effect for new residents. When classes commenced, Mohyla was at full capacity. The outlook for the second semester is trending toward full capacity as well. We are proud of all our residents.

Over the past 107 years, Mohyla has been steadfast in serving our Ukrainian community. Operating in an increasingly competitive and diverse environment as a not-for-profit institution is a challenging feat for the Board and its highly dedicated and

...Continued on page 2



Board Chair, Stephen Senyik

In this Issue

Board Chair Greetings.....	pg. 1
Lastiwka Choir and Orchestra.....	pg. 3
Kamenjari.....	pg. 4
Christ is Born! Let us Glorify Him!	pg. 5
Call for Board and Advisory Committee Members.....	pg. 6
Executive Director Greetings.....	pg. 7
Ukrainian Language Classes.....	pg. 7
2023 Scholarship Recipients.....	pg. 8
Annual Membership Fee.....	pg. 9
Thank You for your Donations...	pg. 10
Notice of AGM.....	pg. 11
Bandura: Emblem of Ukr Heritage.	pg. 12
Parks Canada Features Mohyla.....	pg. 13
Introducing Oksana.....	pg. 14
In Memorium.....	pg. 15
Board of Directors and Employees	pg. 15

skilled Executive Director and her staff. The current facility is 59 years old. It is functionally dated. It is in need of major costly renovations, but more realistically it is in need of replacement with a new facility. Yes, we need to focus on new ways and means to develop and ensure Mohyla's viability well into the future.

A means toward Mohyla's future success is by getting things right, by innovating and developing new capabilities to better meet contemporary and foreseeable emerging needs. We know that the status quo is not an option. It is time to reinvent our venerable Mohyla toward renewed purpose and sustainable growth. What we make of this opportunity is up to us. What is possible is up to us. We are at a pivotal time.

Towards this end, the Board and its Executive Director drafted a well considered Conceptual Plan for Mohyla to start the process of moving forward. It was a bumpy process, working through the many necessary health constraints of COVID, staff and budget cutbacks, uncertainties and limitations on accommodations for student residents; however, with dedicated resilience and resolve it did get done. The Conceptual Plan was presented for the first time at the triennial convention of the Ukrainian Self-Reliance League of Canada (USRL) where it received positive and supportive comments from the convention delegates. The Conceptual Plan was presented for the second time to Mohyla members, supporters and interested guests via Zoom on March 9, 2023, and then approved at the Mohyla AGM. Overall, the comments were supportive and encouraging.

The next phase of the process is to transition the Conceptual Plan to a fully detailed business plan which will provide the full scope of design, costs, and pertinent facts that when completed, will be presented to Mohyla members for a vote of approval to proceed. You may request a copy of the Conceptual Plan by sending an email to info@mohylainstitute.ca.

Building a new Mohyla state-of-the-art facility will depend on our gifted Ukrainian community coming together to make it a reality. One important way to become involved with helping to move Mohyla forward is to become a member. As a member, you will have the opportunity to help shape and ensure the future of Mohyla. Encourage others to join you in becoming members of Mohyla. Together, as an active and dedicated membership we can achieve many things. The annual tax deductible membership fee is \$35.

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas and the New Year, a traditional time for sharing and giving, let's continue to keep our resolve and offer our enduring support for our relatives, friends and all the people of our beloved Ukraine - the crucible of Europe and the world in the fight for democracy, freedom and peace. Almost two horrific years have already passed that mark the largest unprovoked attack on an independent European country since World War II. Putin and his most evil regime must be defeated. Let's be generous and unequivocal in our support of Ukraine.

During this very special season, I also appeal to you to be generous in support of Mohyla. Your financial help is needed. No amount is too small. Please also note that estate and memorial donations in blessed memory of deceased family members, alumni and friends of Mohyla are always welcomed.

On behalf of the board, management and staff, I wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to our individual and organizational donors for the financial and moral support received during the past year.

In conclusion, I wish to thank fellow board members for volunteering their valued time, skills and talents to serve Mohyla during the past year, and to thank our Executive Director, Sara Detenshen and her staff for their dedicated and valued services.

...Continued on page 3



Let's be thankful for our many blessings, and may the Christ child bless each of you with good health, love, happiness, prosperity and peace throughout the New Year.

With good cheer, warm wishes and best regards - Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Stephen Senyuk, Board Chair

СЛАВА УКРАЇНІ! ГЕРОЯМ СЛАВА!

GLORY TO UKRAINE! GLORY TO HER HEROES!



Lastiwka Ukrainian Orthodox Choir and Orchestra

Lastiwka has completed another year of exciting activities and performances. We began 2023 with carolling from house to house with New Year's Greetings and songs. We visited St. Joseph's, St. Volodymyr's, St. George's and Ilarion Senior's Residences and many private homes with our Щедрівки, and were warmly received by our hosts. We truly enjoyed the lovely reception by all and very much appreciate the generous donations to the choir.

Lastiwka sang at the With Ukraine in Our Hearts concert, along with many dance groups and other performers, helping to raise funds for our Ukrainian brothers and sisters in this horrible time under the unjustified illegal invasion of Ukraine. This well attended concert was much appreciated by a large and enthusiastic audience.

Lastiwka began the fall with choir back to full activity, performing at the Pavlychenko Obzhynky event on November 4, and a lovely retirement celebration for Dob. Karen Wasylenko, Lastiwka's first president when we began in the 1983-1984 season.

The new year brings a very busy schedule for Lastiwka with performances at Malankas, our regular caroling schedule, performance at the National Ballet of Ukraine's concert on February 3, performing with the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra's presentation of Beethoven's 9th Symphony on May 4, and with our 40th Anniversary Concert coming in June. Watch for details coming in the next short while through social media.

Lastiwka has moved weekly rehearsals to the Ukrainian Orthodox Hall due to space considerations, but still considers Mohyla its home. For forty years the choir has been happy to share memories with the Mohyla family. Thank you to Sara and a big and heart-felt thanks to all of the many supporters we have in the Mohyla family as well. Your moral and financial support is greatly appreciated.

2023 was a very rewarding year for Lastiwka and we are looking forward to a blessed Christmas season, and a busy and productive new year of 2024.

May God's Blessings of the season be with you and have a very Happy New Year in 2024!

Larry Klepoushak
Artistic Director and Conductor

Greetings from the Kamenari at Mohyla!

2023 has been quite an exciting year for the residents of Mohyla, as there's been no shortage of events and activities around the dorm. As the student society, Kamenari's goal is to create a lively and engaging atmosphere within Mohyla to foster a warm and welcoming environment for the residents. We pride ourselves on planning a diverse range of events and parties that cater to the varied interests of our residents. From cultural celebrations that embrace the rich Ukrainian heritage of Mohyla, to the thrilling themed parties that create countless stories to tell, or even the relaxing picnic in the park and our regular study nights, Kamenari is committed to making Mohyla more than just a living space. Our aim is to provide a sense of belonging and a home away from home for every resident, fostering a community spirit that creates friendships that will exist beyond the walls of our dorm. Together, we're weaving a tapestry of shared experiences and creating a unique Mohyla identity that resonates with each student who calls it home.

As the President of Kamenari, I'm excited to continue creating incredible experiences and fostering new connections for the residents of the dorm. Our engagement for events has increased substantially this year, which is evident even when there are no events occurring at the time. There's always a presence downstairs and someone to talk to, whether that's playing ping-pong or pool, watching a movie, or studying in the study room. It really makes Mohyla feel alive and vibrant. As we enter the new year, I hope to continue this trend and help to create a welcoming and warm home for the residents of Mohyla. Mohyla is not just a place to sleep and eat; it's a lively community that fosters connections and memories that last a lifetime.

Luke Rybalqa
Kamenari President



Clockwise, beginning above:
Eron vs. Aaron at the
Casino Night,
Halloween 2023 * 2

Різдвяний Привіт Отця Настоятеля Дорогі возлюблені у Христі браття і сестри Христос Народився! Славіте Його!

“Небо і земля нині торжествують. Ангели й люди весело празнують” співаємо в коляді на Свято Різдва Христового і знову радіємо радістю Різдвяних свят. В цей радісний і світлий різдвяний час вітаю всіх Вас зі святами і бажаю Вам і родинам Вашим веселих свят Різдва Христового і щасливого Нового Року. Щоб ці святочні дні дали Вам натхнення і наснаги далі молитись для свого спасіння, наснаги працювати на українській ниві і щоб милосердний Господь обдаровував Вас Своїм милосердям. Нехай Дитятко, яке народилося у Вєфлеємі більше як дві тисячі років тому, надалі благословляє всіх нас.

Christ is Born! Let us Glorify Him!

“God is with us, understand, O nations, and submit yourselves, for God is with us.”

Once again, we gather to celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ, the Son of God. We are reminded of the teachings of St. Gregory the Theologian ...”this is what we are celebrating today: the coming of God to man, that we might go forth, or rather that we may go back to God, that putting off the old man we might put on the new, and that we have died in Adam, so we might live in Christ...”

This is a great gift that the Heavenly Father has given us on Christmas, the Nativity of our Savior. As practicing Christians it is important to respect and honour this Holy Day. As parents teach our children that this Holy day is more than a statutory holiday.

Luke 2:11-14 ...”For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior who is Christ the Lord...Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace and goodwill towards men”... Jesus Christ is one with God, His only begotten Son. In the Creed we pray...” and in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages, Light of Light, True God of True God. Begotten not made. Of one essence with the Father through whom all things were made”..

The Gospel of John 1:1, which is read on the Nativity Feast...”In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God”...

The Divine Son of God was born in the human flesh for the salvation of the world...”for us men and our salvation”...(the Creed).

During this Holy season let us reflect on how glorious God is! Yes we face tremendous challenges today, right now. But we have our Church, our family, our physical and mental health, and most



Rt. Rev. Mitred Archpriest Taras Makowsky
& Dobr. Joanne Makowsky

...Continued on page 12

importantly- love of God. Our Cathedral, our home Church, our personal family prayer will keep us strong. Let us stand firm in our faith, in the Holy Trinity, there is no obstacle that we can not overcome. We pray that any misunderstandings in our Church community be reconciled in peace and love. We pray that we do not repeat our mistakes, respect everyone's feelings, needs and concerns. With love and joy embrace in our hearts the true meaning of the Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Look to the Star of Bethlehem, and like the Wise Men, guide us to Glorify Him.

St. John of Kronstadt (sermon on Nativity of our Lord)...”and the Word became flesh, in order to make us earthly beings into heavenly ones, in order to make sinners into saints; in order to raise us up from corruption, from earth to heaven; from enslavement to sin from the devil- into glorious freedom of children of God; from death- into immortality, in order to make us sons of God and to seat us together with Him upon the throne as His royal children, O boundless compassion of God! O inexpressible wisdom of God! O great wonder, astounding not only the human mind, but the angelic as well!”...

Rt. Reverend Mitred Archbishop Taras Małowski
Cathedral Dean

Call for Board and Advisory Committee Members

The Mohyla Institute Board of Directors and Executive Director have been working on a new Conceptual Plan for Mohyla Institute, respecting and building on our history (1916-2022) while innovating for a new generation. This Conceptual Plan was developed and refined over the past couple of years. While the Covid-19 pandemic slowed this process down, we continued to work towards answering the question: How can an innovative business model be developed with key stakeholder support for Mohyla Institute to better serve the Ukrainian community? Our answer: Develop a multi-generational Ukrainian centre. Senior and student housing incorporating daycare/preschool, office, meeting, and performance spaces along with a grocery/convenience store and restaurant/pub (the latter two dependent on location need).

We are looking for Advisory Committee Members to advise the Mohyla Institute Board of Directors with their expert knowledge and guidance as the conceptual plan moves forward.

We are also always looking for community members who would like to sit on the Mohyla Board of Directors.

If you have the following skillsets and a desire to see Mohyla move forward, we would love to hear from you!

- Relevant Industry Experience
- Accounting / Financial / Fundraising
- Marketing
- Strategic Direction
- Community Outreach

If you are interested, please send an email to info@mohylainstitute.ca with your resume, stated interest, the skillsets you will provide, and if you wish to be considered for the Advisory Board or the Board of Directors. We are looking forward to hearing from you!



Greetings from the Executive Director

Mohyla Institute has been at capacity with residents for our core school terms from September to April for the past couple of years since coming out of the pandemic. The groups of students we have had lately are a fun, lively bunch who have really come together to make Mohyla a home. Please see the article from the Kamenari president on page 4. The summer of 2023 was busy with back-to-back groups for the four months, consisting of students from across Canada, Chile, and Mexico.

Cultural programming is always a focus, and we again offered conversational Ukrainian language classes for adults this past year. Please see below for more details about our next slate of classes. This year we were grateful to partner with UCC Saskatoon for a couple of different programs. We were once again the home base of a Ukrainian Day Camp for a week in July and we are also hosting and providing instruments for their bandura classes. Please see page 12 for an article about Banduras and their cultural importance from the Bandura instructor.

A great deal of time and energy has been spent working on a new business model for Mohyla Institute, which has resulted in our Conceptual Plan. We are now looking for advisory committee members for this project. Please see the previous page for details. In order to give this project the amount of time it requires from me, we hired an administrative assistant in December. There is an article introducing Oksana on page 14.

We are most grateful to the individuals and organizations who have chosen to donate to SPMI this past year. Thank you for your support. Every donation helps immensely.

May the happiness and good cheer of the holiday season be yours throughout the new year. Merry Christmas!

Sara Detenshen
Executive Director

Ukrainian Language Classes

We are hiring!

We are looking for a new Ukrainian Language Instructor as our current teacher steps back to focus on other commitments. Thank you to Oksana Dobushovska for her last 7 years of teaching the Mohyla Institute Ukrainian Language Classes!

We are searching for someone who will teach 1-3 online classes a week, from 7-9pm. These classes will be held on weekdays via Zoom. There is past curriculum to use as a guide, but we want someone who is confident in their abilities and willing to adapt to the class participants level and make adjustments as required.

Please email info@mohylainstitute.ca with your resume and cover letter, attention: Sara Detenshen.

Upcoming classes

Mohyla Institute will be offering online Ukrainian Language Classes in the new year. Classes will have a start date of February / early March. To be notified of classes, request to be added to the Mohyla Institute distribution list by emailing info@mohylainstitute.ca.



2023 Scholarship Recipients

The following scholarships were awarded to our deserving scholarship recipients.

Paraska Beahun Scholarship

2023 recipient: Clayton Dubiel - \$400

"This is awarded to students who achieve above average academic standings at the University of Saskatchewan."

John Fedan Scholarship

2023 recipient: Andrea Stickwood - \$800

"The candidate for this scholarship should be between the ages of 19 and 25, have an academic average standing of at least 75% and be in their second year of attendance at the university. Other factors that are given consideration are leadership, wholesome participation in co-curricular student activities at the Institute and financial need."

Nicholas & Olga Hawrysh Memorial Scholarship

2023 recipient: Petro Lazurko - \$200

"To be awarded to a post secondary student of Ukrainian descent. The student must demonstrate average or above average academic achievement, and be actively involved in Ukrainian cultural activities. This award is open to residents of Mohyla Institute."

Connie, Olga & Ludwig Kaye Jubilee Scholarship

2023 recipient: Carina Pilon - \$800

"This scholarship was set up to encourage students to develop leadership in Ukrainian Community Work. The student must demonstrate an average academic achievement level but wholesomely and successfully be involved in cultural co-curricular specific activities. The applicant for this scholarship should have demonstrated leadership qualities and continued interest in the future."

Ludwig, Olga & Constance Kaye Ukrainian Orthodox Millennium Scholarship

2023 recipient: Sophia Cattleya Dondé - \$800

"This scholarship is awarded to a deserving student who is a resident and registered in a Master's Program or a 2nd Degree Program at the University of Saskatchewan."

Prokop Kindrachuk Award

2023 recipient: Petro Lazurko - \$800

"The Kindrachuk award is to recognize the Mohyla Institute resident who took the objectives of the Institution seriously, was involved in student organizations, was competent in the Ukrainian language and achieved academically on at least an average level."

Mr. & Mrs. George M. Kotelko Scholarship

2023 recipient: Andrea Stickwood - \$200

"This scholarship is preferably awarded to a student pursuing a career in nursing."

Marie Kotelko Scholarship

2023 recipient: Kayla Gregorash - \$200

"This scholarship is offered to assist academically successful students and leaders in student affairs to pursue their higher education objective."

Kraynick Leadership Award

2023 recipient: Petro Lazurko - \$600

"This award is presented to students who demonstrate exceptional leadership and involvement at the Institute. Recipients will be chosen on the basis of fulfillment of requirements for good leadership, combined with their being judged for leadership potential."

Pitts Scholarship

2023 recipient: Kayla Gregorash - \$300

"This scholarship is awarded to a University of Saskatchewan student of Ukrainian origin and a resident at Mohyla Institute. (At least one parent should be of Ukrainian Descent). It is to be based upon academic achievement primarily and secondarily upon financial need."

Christa Potts Memorial Scholarship

2023 recipient: Carina Pilon - \$200

"This is awarded to a female University of Saskatchewan student who serves on the executive of the Kamenari Student Society or who makes major contributions to the activities sponsored by the Society."

...Continued on page 5



John Rudewsky Award

2023 recipient: Carina Pilon - \$400

“This award is to recognize leadership qualities in the cultural-educational activities at the Institute.”

Semeniw Leadership Award

2023 recipient: Carina Pilon - \$600

“This award is presented to students who demonstrate leadership qualities and involvement in Canadian Ukrainian student affairs.”

Peter Shelepiuk Award

2023 recipient: Carina Pilon - \$200

“This award is to recognize leadership qualities in the cultural-educational activities at the Institute.”

William Sopatyk Scholarship

2023 recipient: Clayton Dubiel - \$200

“To be awarded to a first year student and maintaining an Honours (70% or above) average and of Ukrainian descent. The candidate must be a full-time student and from Saskatchewan.”

Sorokan Memorial Scholarship

2023 recipient: Carina Pilon - \$400

“This scholarship is awarded to a University of Saskatchewan student who achieves average or above average academic standing and participated in cultural activities at the Institute.”

Taras & Myron Stetzenko Scholarship

2023 recipient: Kayla Gregorash - \$300

“This scholarship is awarded to students who are culturally aware and are in financial need to pursue academic goals.”

Zacharuk Scholarship

2023 recipient: Clayton Dubiel - \$100

“This is an open scholarship to residents of Mohyla Institute.”

Annual Membership Fee

Please consider purchasing a membership to support Mohyla Institute! The fee is \$35 on an annual basis. A current membership is required to participate in annual general meetings. Membership must be current a minimum of two weeks prior to any general meetings. The upcoming AGM will be held on January 29, 2024 at 7:00pm via zoom.

To purchase your annual membership, please send a cheque or e-transfer for \$35 to Mohyla Institute. The e-transfer can be sent to: info@mohylainstitute.ca. The cheque can be mailed to:

St. Petro Mohyla Institute
1240 Temperance Street
Saskatoon, SK S7N 0P1

Please include the following information with your membership fee:

- Full name and maiden name (if applicable)
- Years resided at Mohyla Institute (if applicable)
- Connection to Mohyla Institute (if non-resident)
- Mailing address
- Email address
- Telephone numbers

All membership purchases receive an Income Tax Receipt for the cost of the membership. We look forward to receiving your new annual memberships!

Thank You

To those who give so generously throughout the year, thank you for thinking of Mohyla Institute.
We appreciate it more than we can possibly say.

Thank you to the following who donated to St. Petro Mohyla Institute from
December 24, 2022 - December 22, 2023:

Personal Donations

> \$500

Anonymous Donor through the Benevity
Community Impact Fund

Terry Senko - Clavet, SK

Steve & Sandra Senyk - Regina, SK

\$250 - \$500

Ken & Gail Krawetz - Invermay, SK

Lesia Perritt - Edmonton, AB

< \$250

Larry Balion - Saskatoon, SK

Robert Boyko - Sherwood Park, AB

Alicia Danylchuk - AB

Meroslav & Katherine Davyduke - Saskatoon, SK

Mary Graham - North Battleford, SK

Daniel Hudy - Edmonds, WA, USA

Al & Cec Kachkowski - Saskatoon, SK

Larry & Alicia Klopoushak - Saskatoon, SK

Taras & Dorothy Korol - Canora, SK

In memory of Dmytro Mitch Makowsky

Dr Dennis W S Kreptul - Vernon, BC

Lilia & Patrick Livingstone - Norquay, SK

Gerald & Cathy Luciuk - Regina, SK

Jean Maksymiuk - Prince Albert, SK

Natalie Maruschak - Alvena, SK

Nadia Maruschak-Clay - Saskatoon, SK

C. Mervin Ozirny - Melville, SK

Mary Paltzat - Edmonton, AB

Zoria Kyba Poilievre - Saskatoon, SK

Don & Joan Popowich - Cochrane, AB

Tom & Nadine Potts - Saskatoon, SK

Donald Purich - Saskatoon, SK

Dena Rak- Saskatoon, SK

Linda Rudachyk - Rosthern, SK

Emelia Samcoe - Saskatoon, SK

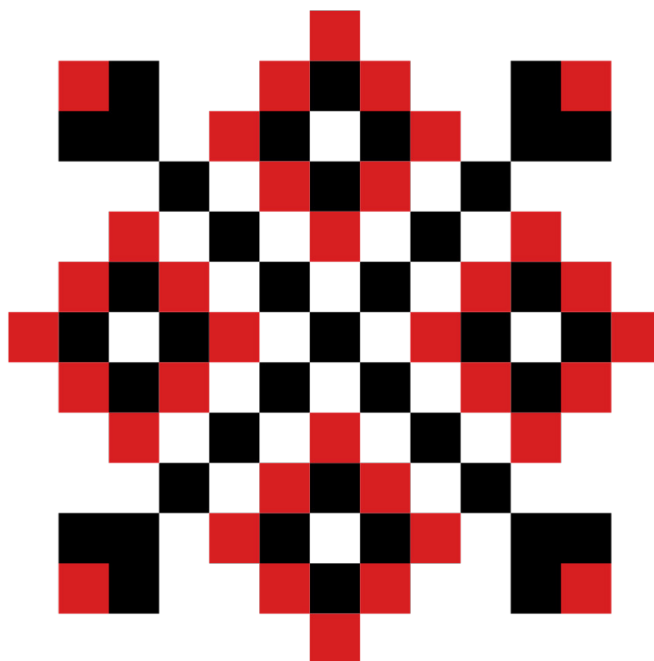
In memory of John & Annie Samcoe and
Fred & Olga Andruschak

Doug Senyk - Toronto, ON

J. William Strus - Oakville, ON

Dr. Bernie & Mary Ann Trischuk - Yorkton, SK

Martin & Gloria Zip - Saskatoon, SK



Organization Donations

Ukrainian Self Reliance Association (TYC)
- Steppe Club - Saskatoon, SK
\$8,000

Saskatchewan Lotteries - Regina, SK
\$4,320 PNPCG Funding

SUS Foundation of Canada - Toronto, ON
\$3,900 Grant

Ukrainian Society of Prosvita - Regina, SK
\$500

Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Saskatoon
Branch
\$200

Ukrainian Canadian Professional & Business
Association - Saskatoon, SK
\$200

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY



Ukrainian Canadian Professional &
Business Association of Saskatoon

Memberships are eligible for Income Tax Receipts. Donation receipts will continue to be issued electronically in 2024.

Please verify your email address, mailing address, and phone number when sending in your membership or donation.

Donations can be made to St. Petro Mohyla Institute via e-transfer, cheque, Flywire (credit card), or PayPal.

To donate via credit card, select Mohyla Institute as a payee on Flywire's website.

To donate via e-transfer or PayPal, send it to
info@mohylainstitute.ca.

To donate via cheque, please make the cheque out to Mohyla Institute and mail to
1240 Temperance Street, Saskatoon, SK, S7N 0P1.

Thank you for your continued support!

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Please be advised that the AGM for St. Petro Mohyla Institute is scheduled to take place on Monday, January 29, 2024 at 7:00pm via zoom. To attend the meeting, please RSVP to Mohyla Institute Administration by [email](#) or by telephone 306.653.1944.

A current membership is required to participate in annual general meetings. Membership must be current a minimum of two weeks prior to any general meetings.

Bandura: Emblem of Ukrainian Musical Heritage

The bandura, a unique musical instrument, plays a crucial role in Ukraine's cultural legacy. This stringed instrument, typically featuring 60 strings, boasts a centuries-old history and stands as an integral part of Ukrainian musical tradition.

History and Evolution of the Bandura

The bandura originated in medieval times, undergoing various transformations in appearance and construction throughout the centuries. The instrument became a significant aspect of folk culture, especially during the Cossack era. In the 20th century, the bandura took on a new form as the "concert bandura," gaining popularity as a serious concert instrument.

History and Evolution of the Bandura in Canada

The Ukrainian diaspora in Canada brought with them the rich tradition of the bandura, weaving it into the multicultural fabric of the country. Early Ukrainian immigrants carried this cherished instrument, maintaining its significance as a link to their homeland. In Canadian cities with a substantial Ukrainian community, the bandura found a new home, adapting to the cultural fusion that defines Canada.

The Bandura's Ongoing Presence in Canadian Culture

As generations passed, the bandura continued to resonate within the Ukrainian-Canadian community. Canadian musicians embraced this instrument, incorporating its unique timbre into various musical genres, contributing to the diversity of the Canadian musical landscape.

Today, the bandura stands not only as a symbol of Ukrainian heritage but also as a testament to cultural exchange and integration in Canada. Its story in Canada adds another layer to the global narrative of this exceptional musical instrument.

The Bandura in the Contemporary World

Today, the bandura remains a vital symbol of national identity and is utilized across diverse musical genres. Its distinctive sound and profound connection to Ukrainian history make it an inseparable part of the musical landscape and the nation's memory.



Oksana Hushliak
Bandura Instructor

UCC - Saskatoon organized bandura classes for those interested in learning this unique instrument. Mohyla Institute sponsors these classes by providing the classroom space free of charge and the Banduras to the participants to rent for a nominal administrative fee.

At left, students with their instructor, Oksana Hushliak, this fall.

Parks Canada Features Mohyla Institute

Parks Canada featured a story about St. Petro Mohyla Institute on This Week in History on September 25, 2023. Parks Canada introduced This Week in History on its website in 1998. The articles in this series explore Canadian history and entice readers to learn more about federal heritage designations and the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, National Parks, and National Marine Conservation Areas.

This Week In History



On September 30, 1916, the Petro Mohyla Institute opened at 716 Lansdowne Avenue in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. This secular institute was part of a movement to support higher education for Ukrainian Canadian youth and over the years it fostered a strong sense of Ukrainian identity in generations of young men and women.

By 1914, approximately 170,000 Ukrainian immigrants had settled in Canada, mostly on the Prairies. Some Canadian provinces allowed bilingual instruction in languages besides French or English in the late 19th century. During the First World War, however, the Prairie provinces withdrew their support of Ukrainian bilingual schools and closed teachers' colleges for foreign language-speaking teachers. Many Ukrainian Canadians wanted to educate their youths in Ukrainian language and culture. After the school closures, in August 1916, Ukrainian teachers held the first of what became a series of "people's conferences" (narodni zizdy). More than 500 people attended to discuss pressing issues. They resolved to found the Petro Mohyla Institute.

The Petro Mohyla Institute was part of the Ukrainian movement for the establishment of bursy—student residences that also served as educational and cultural centres. Wasyl Swystun, a Ukrainian educator and activist, oversaw its establishment as rector. The first 35 students occupied a rented three-storey building in Saskatoon. The Institute quickly outgrew this building and, in 1918, it acquired the Empress Hotel. The former hotel was home to as many as one hundred students at a time during the 1920s, with dining and common areas for classes, clubs, and other group activities that were part of the Institute's program.

To motivate students to become community leaders, the Institute hosted talks by Ukrainian politicians, academics, and artists travelling through Saskatoon. Guest speakers included Professor D. Doroshenko, a noted Ukrainian historian, and Vasile Avramenko, a dancer who specialized in Ukrainian folk dance. The Institute also held lectures on subjects such as "How to Publish a Newspaper" and participated in competitive public-speaking debates with other schools. The success of the Petro Mohyla Institute inspired the establishment of other bursy in Canora, Saskatchewan, and Vegreville, Alberta, in 1917, Edmonton, Alberta, in 1918, and Winnipeg, Manitoba, in 1927. They coordinated to provide consistent programs for students across the Prairies.

The Institute also encouraged former students to found affiliate organizations, like the Kamenari (Stonecutters) literary and dramatic arts society formed in 1919. Although the Kamenari was open to all, in 1923 female students decided to form their



...Continued on page 14

own organization, called the Mohylianky after Ukrainian Princess Raina Mohylianka, to focus on public-speaking skills. The Petro Mohyla Institute and related organizations exemplified how Ukrainian Canadians sought to preserve their language and culture while instilling community values and skills in youth.

The Petro Mohyla Institute was designated as a national historic event in 2008. The Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBC) advises the Government of Canada on the commemoration of national historic events, which evoke significant moments, episodes, movements, or experiences in the history of Canada.

The National Program of Historical Commemoration relies on the participation of Canadians in the identification of places, persons, and events of national historic significance. Any member of the public can submit a subject to the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada.



Introducing Our Newest Employee



Canada became my second home when I came here 1.5 years ago due to the start of the full-scale war in Ukraine. Despite this, I did not lose my positive thinking and desire to live and develop. When I came to Canada, I just started learning English, but every day I am working toward my goal and learning. In Ukraine, I worked as a primary school teacher, here in Canada I am developing new abilities. I'm not afraid to try something new. I am developing in many ways. If I take on a job, I put all my heart and creativity into it, and it doesn't matter what kind of work it will be.

If you visited any local Ukrainian fairs in the last 1.5 years, you could see handmade products made of polymer clay - cups, spoons, accessories. The creator of which is me. I call my place of creativity Gift Town. I like to bring joy to people and help them make gifts for their friends and family.

I am excited to start my career at Mohyla Institute, I hope that all my skills will be useful here.

Канада стала моїм другим домом, коли я приїхала сюди 1,5 року тому через початок повномасштабної війни в Україні. Попри це, я не втратила позитивне мислення та бажання жити та розвиватися. Коли я приїхала до Канади, я тільки почала вивчати англійську, але щодня я йду до своєї мети та навчаюся. В Україні я працювала вчителем початкових класів, тут у Канаді я шукаю себе у нових напрямках. Я не боюся пробувати щось нове та розвиваюсь різносторонньо. Якщо я беруся за роботу, я вкладаю в неї всю свою душу та творчість і неважливо, яка це буде робота.

Якщо ви відвідували українські ярмарки за останні 1,5 року, то могли побачити вироби ручної роботи з полімерної глини – чашки, ложки, аксесуари, майстринею яких є я. Я називаю своє місце творчості Gift Town. Мені подобається дарувати людям радість і допомагати їм робити подарунки для своїх друзів і рідних.

Я рада почати свою кар'єру в Могиллянському інституті, сподіваюся, що всі мої навички знадобляться тут.

Oksana Chetverikova
Administrative Assistant, Mohyla Institute

In Memoriam Вічна їм пам'ятть!

Mohyla Institute notes with sadness the passing of the following people in 2023. We acknowledge that we may have missed an important name on this list and we apologize for anyone we have neglected to acknowledge in this newsletter.

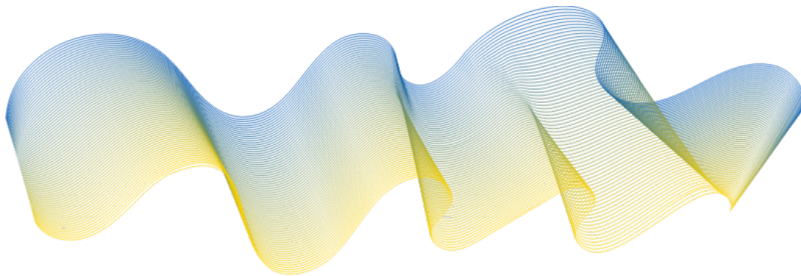
Dmetro Mitch Makowsky

Gerald Metrunc

Elsie Michayluk

Gerald Parfenuik

Randy Stratechuk



Mohyla Institute Board of Directors

Chair: Stephen Senyk - Regina, SK
Vice Chair: Martin Zip - Saskatoon, SK
Treasurer: Nadia Maruschak-Clay - Saskatoon, SK
Member-At-Large: Larry Klopoushak - Saskatoon, SK
Secretary: Gerald Luciuk - Regina, SK
C. Mervin Ozirny - Melville, SK
Zoria Poilievre - Saskatoon, SK
Dr. Bernie Trischuk - Yorkton, SK

Mohyla Institute Chaplain

Rt. Reverend Mitred Archpriest Taras Makowsky
Cathedral Dean

Mohyla Institute Employees

Executive Director: Sara Detenshen
Administrative Assistant: Oksana Chetverikova
Kitchen Supervisor: Cherene Rodman
Cook: Nomazulu Chuma
Resident Assistant: Carina Pilon
Resident Assistant: Justin Syrenne

Newsletter published by:

St. Petro Mohyla Institute
1240 Temperance Street
Saskatoon, SK S7N 0P1
Tel: 306.653.1944

Thank you to the following contributors:

Rt. Reverend Mitred Archpriest
Taras Makowsky
Cathedral Dean
Oksana Hushliak
Larry Klopoushak
Luke Rybalka
Stephen Senyk

To Subscribe:

To subscribe to the e-bulletins
or newsletter, please email
info@mohylainstitute.ca.

