

## **The Friends of Music Fund of FSA**

### **Background to Friends of Music Fund (FOM Fund)**

Prior to 1978, the costs of concerts performed by FSA music groups were underwritten by the church. However, concerts and musical performances rarely made money because of the costs involved and the wish to keep ticket prices affordable. In 1978, working together, the Worship and Music Committees made a proposal to Council and the Finance Committee to establish a “Friends of Music Fund”, outside the church budget, to underwrite music and spiritual outreach to the greater London community through a series of Worship Workshops and Sacred Music Concerts. This initiative was during the tenure (1977–1983) of then Director of Music, Alan Barthel.

Initially, the plan was to offer three or four major concerts during the year, with the spring concert being part of a three-day event on some aspect of worship. In addition to these events, the Friends of Music Fund also underwrote part of the expenses of Lenten and Advent noon time concerts in conjunction with the UCW who, for a small fee, provided a soup, sandwich and dessert luncheon. For the first few years, the Friends of Music Fund also sponsored several programs which were entitled “Music for a Summer Evening”.

With support from the Friends of Music Fund, it was also possible to stimulate students at FSA who were instrumentalists (for example, Geoff Nuttall) by bringing professional musicians to build on the wonderful group of instrumentalist who were members and or children of members of FSA.

Over the years, Friends of Music has continued to evolve and to be the major support to the concert series at First-St. Andrew’s. It continued to thrive under the leadership of Paul Merritt, Director of Music from 1984-2016. It has now passed to Director of Music, Terry Head, who plans to continue this great legacy.

### **Music at First-St. Andrew’s**

Music at First-St. Andrew’s is a series of concerts offered throughout the year at First-St. Andrew’s. It includes concerts sponsored by Friends of Music, such as concerts given by the Senior Choir and FSA Strings, and the Friday Advent and Lenten Noon lunch hour concerts, and it also includes other concerts, not sponsored by FOM, given by such groups as Western’s Don Wright Faculty of Music choirs, Amabile Choirs and London Pro Musica. These groups pay rent to perform at FSA.

## **Friends of Music Fund**

### **Terms of Reference**

#### **Friends of Music Fund - Mandate**

The mandate and purpose of the **Friends of Music Fund** is to sponsor concerts and musical events presented by FSA musical groups including the Senior Choir, FSA Strings and the Friday Advent and Lenten Noon concerts. Any other use of the Fund must comply directly with the mandate; this to be determined on a per case basis by the Music Committee, for example, a contribution to a new electronic sign which will be used to advertise, among other things, concerts supported by Friends of Music.

The Friends of Music Fund is completely separate from the Music Budget. The Music Budget covers costs related to worship services.

#### **Governance of the FOM Fund**

1. The fund is administered by the Director of Music and the Music Committee, who together oversee all aspects of the fund and the Concert series it supports. Expenditures are mostly at the discretion of the Director of Music.
2. The Chair of the Music Committee is the cosigner with the Director of Music of cheques drawn on the FOM Fund. For example, payment of guest performers, payment for lunches purchased for Advent and Lenten concerts and refreshments purchased for receptions for FOM concerts.

#### **Donations to the FOM Fund**

1. An annual appeal is made for donations to the FOM Fund. This is made each year in the Lenten issue of the FSA newsletter, *Tidings*.
2. The following statement, or similar statement, should appear in the programs for each concert in the FOM Concert Series:  
*These concerts are made possible through generous donations of Friends of Music at First-St. Andrew's. To become a Friend of Music, donations can be made online or by cheque payable to First-St. Andrew's United Church (Friends of Music in Memo line). Your gifts are tax deductible.*

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