



December 14, 2009

**Press Release: Immediately**

## **Funds Available to Local Youth Interested in Music, Dance and Art**

Guelph, ON, December 14, 2009 -- The Guelph Youth Music Centre announces a new program providing financial assistance to local youth interested in taking music, dance or art classes at the Centre. The ***Cowan Music Education Fund*** is being created through a donation provided by The Frank Cowan Foundation.

"Youth programs are the cornerstone of our Centre and we are excited to have access to the ***Cowan Music Education Fund*** to help support more young community members," says Brenda Gibson, Executive Director of the Centre, "Recipients receive funds towards private music lessons, camps, dance or art lessons, and we can also help support transportation to and from the programs. We are accepting applications for the current year immediately. Applications for the 2010-2011 program year will be accepted in March 2010."

"Cowan is pleased to support the Guelph Youth Music Centre," says Terry Reidel, Executive Director of The Frank Cowan Foundation. "We believe the ***Cowan Music Education Fund*** will assist at risk children and youth by providing them with access to interesting programs that will help tap their creativity and encourage excellence in other areas of their lives. "

Funds are available for children and youth in preschool to age 18, and awarded on a first come first served basis, upon application acceptance. Applicants must submit a letter of support from a teacher, arts instructor, support worker, parent or guardian, along with financial information, when submitting the application. Applicants can be awarded up to \$400.

To request an application, contact the Centre at 519.837.1119 or email [info@gymc.ca](mailto:info@gymc.ca) or visit [www.gymc.ca](http://www.gymc.ca).

### **About the Guelph Youth Music Centre**

The Guelph Youth Music Centre is a non-profit organization offering low-cost, high-quality rehearsal and teaching space to many community groups and individuals so that they may provide affordable programs to youth in the community.

Contact Information: Brenda Gibson @ 519-837-1119

### **About The Frank Cowan Foundation:**

The Frank Cowan Foundation is a charitable foundation that was activated in 1995 in honour of Frank Cowan, the company founder. The Foundation exists because of the success of the Cowan Group of Companies including Cowan Insurance Group, Frank Cowan Company, the Guarantee Company of North America and Millennium CreditRisk Management. Together they provide insurance and risk management products and services for individuals, businesses, organizations and public entities as well as assisting employers with their group benefits, retirement and health and disability management plans.

For information about Cowan please contact Lynne Short, VP Marketing and Communications, Cowan Insurance Group, 519-650-6363 ext 31608 or [lynne.short@cowangroup.ca](mailto:lynne.short@cowangroup.ca).