



Suzanne Doyle-Yerxa Awards Fund Benefits KV Students



Suzanne Doyle-Yerxa and the Fund Organizing Committee are shown with some of the cast of "Beauty and The Beast" (absent from photo: Chris Leveille)

Suzanne Doyle-Yerxa will retire this spring after thirty-five years of teaching, 31 of them at Kennebecasis Valley High. Former students Jeff McAloon, Mark Bishop, Chris Leveille and Brad Stanley, are establishing a lasting legacy in her honour. She is well-known for her commitment to the Performing and Creative Arts, key roles in the production of dozens of dramatic and musical productions and creation of several performing arts-related groups.

The founders of the Suzanne Doyle-Yerxa Awards took their enriching high school experiences in the arts with them as they continued their studies and began careers, as an educator, Multimedia CEO, designer/ performer and financial advisor. A love of the creative/performing arts and an intent to pursue studies in that field will be the key elements in the selection of two KV High grads as annual winners of the \$500 awards. A permanently endowed fund, entrusted to the Greater Saint John Community Foundation, was launched for it recently. It will generate annual income for the awards. The groups are pleased it is inspiring other supporters to contribute and encouraging donations of any size.

Community Foundation Chair Cheryl Robertson states, "The new Suzanne Doyle-Yerxa Awards Fund brings the total to forty-seven funds held within the permanent endowments of the Community Foundation, a testament to the generosity of our donors. As an educator, I admire and congratulate Mrs. Doyle Yerxa on the impact of her career on both students and our community". Suzanne Doyle-Yerxa clearly recalls her first day teaching thirty-five years ago and what a thrill it was. The Boston native states she still feels that sense of excitement and reward from her English and journalism teaching career in 2010.



KV High musicals and drama, the KV Players, children's summer theatre and music camps and Kidding, for younger children, all were profoundly associated with Suzanne Doyle-Yerxa. She received the 2008 Premier's Award for Excellence in Education for inspiring students in "Developing a Passion for Learning" and conceived of the new "Gallery of Arts" to recognize KV grads with arts-related careers. Mark Bishop will be the first inductee.

To donate contact Brad Stanley: brad.stanley@sunlife.com (506) 333-8080 or online at www.suzannedoyleyerxa.com or www.saint-john-foundation.nb.ca

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Photo: KV High students interested in pursuing a career in the Performing or Creative Arts can celebrate the establishment of the Suzanne Doyle-Yerxa Awards Fund, thanks to the efforts of Brad Stanley, Mark Bishop and Jeff McAloon, pictured signing the new agreement with Cheryl Robertson, Community Foundation Board Chair and Suzanne Doyle-Yerxa. They have benefitted as students from her commitment as a teacher and involvement in the arts as enrichment activities. Two annual awards will be made starting in 2010. Donations are welcome.(absent from photo: Chris Leveille)