

DCAT Hall Of Fame 2008

Induction of Edward Key

by Jim Jennings



Jim Jennings
Presenter

Ted Key
Inductee

Tony Casciato
Committee President

1994 - Mr. Edward Key, (music graduate, secondary school teacher and ex-music director/drum major of Canada's Marching Ambassadors Drum Corps), was approached by Mr. Don Gill and accepted the inaugural Music Directors Position in the newly formed "Drum Corps Alumni Toronto".

In the late 1950's Ted was nicknamed "Fingers" because his vocal expressions were emphasized with hand and finger movements. But the name "Fingers" also appropriately recognized a piano/keyboard talent which allowed him to score extraordinary arrangements.

We have all heard that DCAT's reason for being was to join and be a performing choral member of the "Great Alliance of Seniors" (GAS). Ted took this challenge head on. We started with 4-part harmony and progressed to 6-part harmony. Every GAS Reunion Ted executed a plan which musically raised the bar. Each year the host group of the reunion was recognized in a musical production

with songs like: Hello Gas, Gotta Open, Tribute to Princemen and tribute to New York.

In concert with his musical abilities, Ted was also a lyricist who could theme words to songs in a poetic story telling result. Music with no words ended up with lyrics, Such as "On The Square" and the famous "Stars and Stripes Forever"

Theatrics was another one of Ted's talents. DCAT's performances had to be more than just a choir performance, it had to be a "Musical Revue". The "New Orleans Funeral" was such a production. It was used as the complete on stage back up for The Royal Bank Seniors Show at Roy Thompson Hall.

One of his creative inspirations was that he would like to be "Michael Flatley". Ted and nine other DCAT members perfected an Irish step dance routine which included singing and drumming to his arrangement of "Lord of The Dance". It was another show stopper.

In Ted's "pro-bono" tenure with DCAT he established and left us three major equities. These being:

- A seventy plus scored song library, many of which we continue to perform.
- He established DCAT's product position as a quality, versatile, professional, entertaining chorus.
- Set a colourful resume, supported in the highest esteem by, "our GAS peers", "Masonic Fraternity", "Royal Bank Srs. show producers" and "The Love Of Music Associates.

Your votes have demonstrated your recognition of these contributions. It is with great pride that I, on your behalf, announce the induction of Mr. Edward "Ted" Key to the DCAT Hall Of Fame 2008.
