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1972-1

MONTREAL JUNIOR SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, The

Originals, 1947-1971, 1 box.

The Montreal Junior Symphony Orchestra was formed in 1947 as an outgrowth of the Inter-Schools Orchestra, which was inaugurated in 1945 as a result of the instrumental programme in the schools of Montreal. Its founder and conductor from 1947 to 1971 was Lewis V. Elvin, a British-born, American and Canadian-trained musician.

The Orchestra was composed of music students between the ages of 12 and 21. As well as giving at least one concert annually at the Plateau Hall and playing from time to time for groups such as the American Women's Club of Montreal, the Community Concerts Association, the Notre Dame de Grace Women's Club, etc., the orchestra also displayed its fine musical abilities throughout Canada and Western Europe. In 1948, it carried off many top honours in the Ottawa Musical Festival and repeated the same success at the Kiwanis Musical Festival in Toronto in 1950.

In July, 1954, the Orchestra made a highly successful tour of England, including a concert before members of the Royal Family. Another tour of the Scandanavian countries this time was arranged for the summer of 1963 and again the Orchestra received a warm reception everywhere it went. Its participation in the International Festival of Youth Orchestras in August, 1970 added to its already excellent reputation. In 1971, Mr. Elvin retired and Mr. Eugene Husaruk took over the conductorship of the orchestra.

Presented in 1972 by Lewis V. Elvin, former conductor of the Montreal Junior Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Elvin received his early musical training in England and then in Boston and New York. He received his Bachelor of Music degree from McGill University in 1946 and the Licentiate of the Royal Academy of Music in 1948.

Programmes, newspaper clippings of reviews, photos and posters concerning the existence of the Montreal Junior Symphony Orchestra from 1947 to 1971. There is also a short history of the orchestra covering the period from 1947 to 1963. 1 box is composed of 2 folders. Folder I contains general items from 1947 to 1971 (66 items) and Folder II contains the British Tour of July, 1954 (25 items). 10 photos were transferred to the Canadian Photo File under MONTREAL JUNIOR SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, The. See also the Vertical File: Organizations - Montreal Junior Symphony Orchestra.