



## ST. MICHAEL'S CHOIR SCHOOL

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### **Alumnus provides support to St. Michael's Choir School for its famed and growing organ performance program**

**September 14<sup>th</sup> 2009 - Toronto, Ontario.** St. Michael's Choir School is pleased to announce that Glionna Mansell Corporation has made a significant contribution in support of the expanding organ education initiatives now being developed under Choir School Rector Fr. Peter Tammearu.

Gordon Mansell, an alumnus of St. Michael's Choir School, and President and Artistic Director of Glionna Mansell Corporation recently extended financial and material support that now enables students to practice on a new Allen Protégé L9 organ. The organ has a realistic pipe-organ touch on its two manuals and pedalboard, ensuring that the students who learn on this instrument will gain the best possible organ performance technique in their daily practice regime.

One of the greatest services the Choir School has provided to the Archdiocese is the training of liturgical musicians. Many students who have gone on to studies and careers in different professions still continue throughout their lives to serve the Church as parish ministers of music.

In order to prepare students for this expression of Christian service, it is important to encourage the development of solid practical skills in the area of music fundamentals. In particular, this involves putting a suitable emphasis on organ studies.

Mansell says, "I considered my involvement in this project a natural fit. As a professional organist, I know how important a reliable practice instrument is. When I learned of Fr. Tammearu's initiatives, primarily to generate greater awareness of the organ as a serious musical instrument and worthy of study, I knew that I wanted to be part of his efforts. I credit my own love and support of music, particularly organ music to the education that I received as a student at the Choir School."

#### **ABOUT GLIONNA MANSELL**



Glionna Mansell Corporation is the exclusive Ontario dealer for the world's largest and most respected classical and theatre organ builder – *Allen Organ Company of Macungie, Pennsylvania*. For more information on this or any of the fine Allen products, please contact Gordon Mansell at [aoinfo@glionnamansell.com](mailto:aoinfo@glionnamansell.com) or visit the Allen organ website at [www.allenorgan.com](http://www.allenorgan.com).

#### **ABOUT ST. MICHAEL'S CHOIR SCHOOL**

Established in 1937, St. Michael's Choir School continues a long and proud tradition of educating the young men who provide the music for St. Michael's Cathedral. The model of service to the Cathedral and to the Catholic community is at the heart of its mission. Through its high academic and artistic standards, the Choir School provides a challenging and rigorous preparation for young men to go forth to be leaders in a changing world. The academic programme offers a complete curriculum for Grades 3 through 12, including extended French and athletics. Because enrollment is limited to 260 boys, the learning environment is characterized by small classes, individual attention and a strong sense of community responsibility. Admission is based on successful completion of a musical audition, entrance examination and interviews.