

Kathy Thompson

Kathy has been a professional singer since her first performance at age 16. Kathy was then a voice major for three years in the **Humber College** Music Program in Toronto, and also studied with various private singing teachers. Bands she sang with in early days were Los Amigos, back-up singing for recording artists Glenn Smith and Vic Franklyn, toured with Sweet Surrender and Terry Dee & Showdown.

Kathy joined the RCAF and was posted in Ottawa where, after Basic Training, was the vocalist for the **Royal Canadian Air Force** 55-piece Central Band. During her stay in the military, Sergeant Thompson was also on library staff as a copyist / calligrapher. She was a vocalist at The Chateau Laurier with the Moxy Whitney Orchestra, sang with the Vernon Isaacs Big Band and The Moonmen. Returning home to Toronto she has done performances numbering into the thousands: clubs, festivals, corporate events, private functions, television, film & recordings working with the finest local musicians. She has sung on stages in Japan, Germany, the USA, Switzerland, The Bahamas, Mexico and across Canada.

Kathy established her own dance band for corporate and private functions. Clients included: BT Bank of Canada, Bulk Barn Canada, Craighleith Ski Club Collingwood, The Delta Chelsea Inn, Ford Motors, Morneau Coopers Lybrand, North 44 Bistro, Ontario Place Jazz Oyster Bar, Ontario Timers Association, Proctor-Silex Canada, Prudential Assurance, The Old Mill, Quinte Arts Council, ReMax Oakville Realty, Rosedale Golf & Country Club, Suzuki Canada, and The International Group.

Kathy was a founding member of **The Singers Guild of Toronto** with three other vocalists. She wrote articles, helped organize member gatherings and created events for singers such as Women's Self Defense workshop, and an evening with **Donny Osmond**, where he spent an hour after "Joseph" one night talking to our group about singing and the music industry. The SGT also recruited legendary jazz singer **Annie Ross** for a masterclass.

Kathy was elected to the **Board of Directors, Toronto Musicians' Assoc.** (AFM) for the 1994 – 96 term where she was active on the PR Committee to support live music, and was chair of the misc. contract revision committee. Kathy was also editor of the "See the Music" live talent guide.

Kathy has done film work such as standing in for **Debbie Reynolds** and has been a background actor in many films. As a jingle singer, Kathy's voice was heard singing for Irwin Toys, Wal-Mart Canada in-store, Grand and Toy, Dixie Value Mall and Cream of Wheat. She studied animation voice acting in Los Angeles and Toronto, as well as studying Comedy Improv at Second City and at TheatreSports. Kathy has fond memories of being a singing host at Mark Breslin's "**Sing Sing**".

Kathy composed, published and distributed 3 independent recordings produced by Craig Ruhnke, which still receive Canadian airplay, most notably her Christmas single "**The Gift of Love**". She won a **Scarborough Arts Council Award** for one of her original country songs, "*Put Your Mind at Ease*".

Singing live jazz, Kathy was a featured vocalist with Paul Grosney's Orchestra in many venues including Toronto Jazz Festival, Canada Day Nathan Phillips Square and at Vaughan Estates and has performed with Guido Basso's orchestra.

Kathy has performed a principal role in the hilarious musical comedy improv show "Joey & Gina's Comedy Wedding" for many years. Kathy's Holiday Carolers have enjoyed a cappella Christmas caroling in venues such as **OLG Casinos** around southern Ontario and at Long Term Care and senior retirement residences.

As a Bette Midler Tribute Artist, Kathy has performed in many countries around the world including Japan, Switzerland, Mexico, the USA and Germany, getting her start with Legends in Concert from Las Vegas in 1996 where she first sang on The Big Red Boat and The Oceanic cruise ships in the Caribbean. She headlined with other tribute artists on mainstages in casinos such as Bally's, Trump Taj Mahal and The Claridge Atlantic City, Casino Rama, Seneca Niagara Falls, The Potawatami in Milwaukee, and many more. There were other long runs in Branson Missouri at the Dick Clark American Bandstand Theater and The Osmond Family Theater, and in Myrtle Beach.

Kathy has been a vocal coach for over two decades: Pure Voice Power. She still privately teaches singing and performance.

As a coach to speakers she has done many seminars and educational workshops for the corporate world and has appeared as a guest speech expert on **CBC Radio 1** with Brent Bambury. Kathy was invited to join the CE faculty at Toronto's **Centennial College** to teach a series of voice improvement classes 2005 - 2014. She has taught classes on voice improvement for business communication skills at Toronto's Learning Annex. One of her voice classes at Toronto's **Learning Annex** was featured on CBC radio's "*Lost and Found*". As a Bette Midler Tribute artist, she has been featured on CBC's *Definitely Not the Opera* with **Sook-Yin Lee** and on the morning show "*What's On in Atlantic City*".

Kathy is an **Advanced Bronze Toastmaster** public speaker and is also a graduate of the National Institute of Broadcasting. Kathy is a **Certified Teacher of Adults** honours graduate. She completed the course: "Foundations of Coaching: The Gestalt Way". In 2015 Kathy completed Level 2 of the music therapy course called **MUSICARES**, Room 217 Foundation, as well as Semester 1, Thanatology Certificate course, Centennial College.

KATHY is a Music Wellness Program Facilitator for Seniors & Long-Term Care

Since 2010 Kathy has been visiting retirement residences and Long-Term Care facilities doing her Sing for Wellness program with seniors and assisted living residents. Her curriculum is a structured hour session once a month. This interactive musical wellness class includes clapping rhythms, light chair exercises, use of sing-along lyric books, singing for voice conditioning, improving memory with familiar music. Exercises for: breathing, posture, socialization & cognitive activity. Some music appreciation / listening therapy with a focus on health, well-being & enjoyment.

WHERE has Kathy performed?

EUROPE, Switzerland, Basel: Häbst Theatre
 EUROPE, Berlin, Cologne: Stars in Concert
 EUROPE, Belgium, Brussels: N.A.T.O. Headquarters
 MEXICO, Cancun: Fiesta Americana Hotel
 MEXICO, Buserias: Luna Lounge
 JAPAN, Atsugi: Yokota Air Base, Yokosuka
 BAHAMAS: Nassau, Freeport / Big Red Boat

ALBERTA, Banff: Silver Springs Hotel

ONTARIO, Millgrove: Cedars Private Park
 ONTARIO, Hamilton: Dundurn Park / Hamilton Pride
 ONTARIO, Milton: Mohawk Raceway: National Anthem (A Cappella)
 ONTARIO, Alliston: Nottawasaga Resort
 ONTARIO, Huntsville: Hidden Valley Resort
 ONTARIO, Fort Erie: Crystal Ridge Arena
 ONTARIO, Niagara Falls: Brock Sheraton, Americana Resort, The Greg Frewin Theatre
 ONTARIO, London: Wintergarden, HALO Pride / Centennial Hall

ONTARIO, Mississauga Living Arts Centre / MAC Awards (cable show co-host), Celebration
 ONTARIO, Mississauga: Stage West Dinner Theatre / Delta Meadowvale
 ONTARIO, Oakville : Oakville Banquet and Conference Centre
 ONTARIO, Hamilton: Flamboro Downs Casino, Ronald McDonald House Gala
 ONTARIO, Hamilton: Sheraton, Pride Auction & Fundraiser: Emcee /Host
 ONTARIO, Oshawa: Oshawa Little Theatre, ON
 ONTARIO, Port Dover: Festival Lighthouse Theatre
 ONTARIO, Orillia: Casino Rama, Main Theatre Diva's show
 ONTARIO, Ottawa: Barrymore's, Rideau-Carleton Racetrack Slots, National Arts Centre, National War Museum.
 Chateau Laurier Hotel
 ONTARIO, Woodbridge, Match Events Facility
 ONTARIO, Sarnia: Hiawatha Race, Slots & Casino
 ONTARIO, Windsor: Ceasar's Palace

USA, Florida: : Port Canaveral - Big Red Boat, Amela Island,
 USA, South Carolina: Myrtle Beach, Legends in Concert Theatre
 USA, New York: Niagara Falls - Smokin' Joe's Event Centre, Seneca Casino Main Theatre
 USA, New York, Jamestown - Willow Bay Theater
 USA, New York, New York City: Rockefeller Centre
 USA, New York, Lancaster: Lancaster Opera House
 USA, Utah / St. George Arena
 USA, Minnesota, Minneapolis: Mall of America
 USA, Minnesota: Mystic Lakes Casino
 USA, California, San Francisco: San Francisco Marriott
 USA, Michigan, Dearborn: Ford Centre for the Performing Arts with Frankie Ford, The Drifters
 USA, Michigan, Northville: Genitti's Hole-In-The-Wall
 USA, Michigan, Fraser: Detroit Sport City
 USA, Michigan, Erie Shores Golf & Country Club
 USA, Michigan, Lapeer: Calvelli's Eatery
 USA, Michigan, Monroe: La-Z-Boy Theater one-woman show
 USA, Wisconsin, Milwaukee Potawatomi Casino ,
 USA, Wisconsin, Black River Falls: Ho-Chunk Casino
 USA, Atlantic City: Trump Taj Mahal / Millennium NYE / Bally's Park Place / Claridge Hotel & Casino
 USA, Missouri: Branson: Osmond Family Theatre, Dick Clark American Bandstand Theater
 USA, Ohio: Cincinatti Radisson Hotel
 USA, Florida: Amelia Island Resort, Coral Springs Performing Arts Centre
 USA, Connecticut: Hartford: SRO Cabaret One-Woman Show
 USA, Nevada, Jackpot: Cactus Pete's Casino Resort
 USA, Nevada, Las Vegas: Imperial Palace, Las Vegas Hilton

QUEBEC: Bromont Resort, Lac Leamy Casino, Gatineau
 QUEBEC: Montreal Jazz Festival with the Vernon Isaacs Big Band

ONTARIO, Toronto: Air Canada Centre Opening Day Ceremonies, The Old Mill, CN Tower Restaurant, 120
 Diner, The Distillery District, The Imperial Room, Vaughan Estates, Cruiseline Boat Cruise, Scarborough Civic
 Centre. Granite Club, Planet Hollywood, Carlu, D/X (Design Exchange), Sheraton City Hall, North 44, Granite
 Club, Rosedale Golf & Country Club, The Docks, Liberty Grand CNE, Scotia Plaza, Edo Sushi Eglinton, Le Parc
 Markham, Jacob's & Co. Steakhouse, The Palais Royale, Ontario Place, Forum Woody's Halloween
 Fundraiser (\$1,800. raised for PWA / People with Aids), Airport Delta Hotel

Jazz Performances by Kathy

Norman Marshall Villeneuve Trio, SuiteLife Arts For Youth Scholarship Fundraiser, **The Rex Hotel**
 Anabella's Lounge, Old Cabbagetown Jazz Cab with Whitney Smith,
 Black Dog Pub, Kathy Marie & Friends
 The Pod Oyster Bar Ontario Place
 Markham Jazz Festival,
 DuMaurier Jazz Festival
 Montreal Jazz Festival with Vernon Isaacs Big Band
 Waterfall Jazz series, Ontario Place with Paul Grosney

Toronto Jazz Festival and various locations with the George Lake Big Band
 Jacob's & Company Steakhouse Jazz Duo with Alan Cohen
 Edo Jazz with Tony Quarrington & Russ Boswell

Some of the ***Bands & Musicians Kathy has performed with:***

Alan Cohen Orchestra
 Band-tastic Super Reunion Band
 Barry Romberg, drummer
 Bob DeAngelis Orchestra
 Bob DeAngelis Orchestra
 Bobby Herriot Orchestra
 Brad Lovatt
 Brian Dickenson, pianist
 Brian Murphy, pianist
 Brian Wray, pianist
 Brigham Phillips
 Bruce Cassidy, trumpet
 Dan Bone Trio, Belleville
 Dan Stapleton Orchestra
 Dan Stapleton, drummer
 Danny McErlain, pianist
 Darius Nargowalla, bassist
 Dunstan Morey, guitarist
 Eric Soostar
 Etobicoke Community Orchestra
 Etobicoke Swing Orchestra
 Eugene Amaro Quartet
 Gene DiNovi, pianist
 George Lake Big Band
 Glenn Smith (Las Vegas)
 Grant Slater, pianist
 Guido Basso (of the Boss Brass)
 Henry Cuesta (Lawrence Welk Show)
 Jack Geldbloom Band
 Jerry Caringi Band
 Jimmy Amaro, bassist
 John Cheesman, drummer
 John MacMurchie
 John Macleod
 Jordan O'Connor
 Kenny Simon Guitar & Vocal Jazz Duo
 Kevin Dempsey, drummer
 Kirk McDonald, Saxophonist
 Larry Rodness
 Lew Mele
 Los Amigos and (the late) Roberto Acosta
 Lou Bartolomucci
 Lou Pomanti
 Mark Eisenmann
 Mark Kelso
 Marty Anderson & Midnite Hour
 Matt Pines , pianist
 Mike Allen, guitarist
 Moxie Whitney Orchestra
 National Anthem Woodbine, Mohawk Raceway 2011
 Pat Collins, bassist
 Patti Jannetta
 Paul Wiggins, pianist - organist
 Paul Zurin Orchestra
 Peter Telford, bass
 Phil Disera, guitarist
 Phil Gray Quartet
 Rick Gratton, drummer

Rick Levine's Toronto Party Band
 Rick Morrison
 Ron Willmot and Rendezvous
 Rosemary Galloway Quartet
 Roy Patterson, guitarist
 Russ Boswell, bassist
 Scott Alexander, bassist
 Susan Piltch, flautist / pianist
 Sweet Surrender
 Ted Quinlan, guitarist
 Terry Dee & Showdown
 The Casino Brothers with the late Paco Danesi
 The Moonmen with Mike Mullin
 Tommy Ambrose
 Tony Mergel, pianist
 Tony Quarrington Trio
 Wayne Kelso, pianist
 Whitney Smith & the Café of Wild Culture

Kathy's Other Appearances & Performances...

TELEVISION COMMERCIALS

Campbell's / Chunkamania
 Canada's Wonderland / Thunder Run
 Hostess / Hall of Fame

Labatt's / Celebration
 Pontiac / Big Sky
 Shell / Leapfrog

SINGING JINGLES

Dixie Value Mall
 Glidden Paint
 Grand & Toy (Christmas)
 Irwin Toys / Make-Up Magic Suzie
 Irwin Toys / Playland Babies, Stargazers
 Irwin Toys / There's a New Member of the Family
 Jumbo Video

K-Mart / nationwide in-store
 Labatt's Party Case
 Molson Park
 North York City Centre
 Panzorotto & Pizza
 Toronto Star / Skydome

SPOKEN VOICE OVER

Chinese Talking Yellow Pages Directory
 York University International Karate
 Championship Emcee / Host
 Irwin / Baby Suzie (& sing)
 Irwin / L'il Makin' Faces

Irwin / Puppy in my Pocket
 Irwin / Whisper Me Secrets
 Mark Breslin's Sing Sing / Host, Vocalist
 Sailor Moon (doll character sound chip)
 Smurf Figures / Who's Softer?

T.V. / FILM / STAGE:

MAC Awards, Living Arts Centre (televised)	...Co-Host / Emcee with comic Victor J. Hanson
Check It Out / Don Adams	...cashier
Las Vegas, Imperial Palace	...documentary as Bette Midler
Many Happy Returns / George Segal	...juror
Northern Telecom	...narrator / principal actor
P.R. (sitcom)	...cameo appearance as Bette Midler
Return of Perry Mason	...reporter
Sadie & Son / Debbie Reynolds	...stand-in for Debbie Reynolds
Stanley & Iris / Jane Fonda, DeNiro	...nurse
Suspect w/ Cher, Dennis Quaid	...courtroom secretary
What's On in Atlantic City	...documentary as Bette Midler
White Room / Karen Valentine	...pianist / special skill
Awareness Absenteeism (Industrial) Bell Canada	...Sally Fidget, discussion panel
Doc, starring Billy Ray Cyrus	...Billy's wife holding baby at a party next to him

RECORDINGS

"The Gift of Love" Composed & published by K. Thompson / ongoing Canadian playlist: Seasonal; Christmas

“A New Romance” Composed & published by K. Thompson
“Forgive and Forget” Composed & published by K. Thompson