



For Immediate Release

Robert Munsch Inaugurated to Music Centre's Wall of Fame

19 June 2015 – The **Guelph Youth Music Centre (GYMC)** inducted a new member, international children's author Robert Munsch to its Wall of Fame on Thursday, June 18.

Author of more than 80 children's books of which *Love You Forever*, published in 1986, has been the bestseller in both Canada and the United States. Munsch's books have been translated into many languages, including those of three first nations. Munsch has also won many awards for his writing, including a recipient of the Order of Canada in 1999 and in 2009 was honoured with a star on Canada's Walk of Fame.

From 1975 to 1984, Munsch was a professor of Family Studies at the University of Guelph, simultaneously teaching in the university's lab preschool. There he was encouraged to publish his stories beginning with *Mud Puddle*, which sold 3,000 copies in its first year.

"We are thrilled to be honouring Robert Munsch, who is a prodigious contributor to the arts community and will be our first recipient of this award from the literary arts," commented Josephine Horton, Wall of Fame Committee Chair for the Guelph Youth Music Centre. "He has earned international fame and continually demonstrates his magic and enthrall to audiences again and again. We are pleased to be honouring him with the Wall of Fame award."

The GYMC's Wall of Fame was established to honour individuals whose career or volunteer activities in music and/or the arts exemplify the philosophy of the Centre. The award recognizes appropriate persons either currently active or from any period in Guelph's history.

Individuals must also have:

- been born, live or have lived, or had some significant connection with Guelph and the area;
- made a significant contribution in music and/or the arts compatible with the GYMC philosophy or fostering a life-long appreciation of music and/or the arts in young people; and
- not be an active member of the Board of the GYMC.

Past inductees include:

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| - Karen Haack | - Pat McLeod |
| - Robert Emberson | - Sally Gross |
| - Linda Beaupré | - Jennie Lamb |
| - Stephen Lewis | - James Gordon |
| - Jessie Hill | - Gail Lange |
| - Robert Gillham | - Edward Denver |
| - Carolyn McMillan | - Bill and Daphne Hughes |
| - Charles M. Wilson | - Edward Johnson |
| - Nick and June Kaethler | - David Rogers |



Established in 1992, theGYMC is a not-for-profit organization that is dedicated to education, enrichment and fostering the development of youth through music and the arts. The unique facility is an exciting cultural hub for children of all ages and backgrounds in the community. Through a variety of programs, provision of space to partner organizations and outreach into the community, theGYMC enriches many lives.

For more information visit www.gymc.ca or call **519.837.1119**.

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