



The 2011 Banff Centre Midsummer Ball Weekend was the most successful in the event's 32-year history. It sold out in record time and attracted over 350 industry, government, arts and culture, and community leaders from Calgary, Alberta, Canada, and the United States.

Ball Presenting Sponsors Husky Energy and their guests were on hand to enjoy a view-inspired weekend (*photo at left*).

Over \$775,000 was raised in support of artist scholarships — another Midsummer Ball record.

Midsummer Ball scholarships have a transformative impact on the lives and careers of artists. Thanks to the generous support of leading corporate sponsors and individual donors, many talented emerging and established artists from Canada and around the world — in the areas of music and sound, opera, dance, theatre, literary arts, Aboriginal arts, media and visual arts — will be able to attend The Banff Centre's world-class professional development programs.



Timothy Chooi and Minsoo Sohn



Camille Tremblay of the National Circus School

Friday night, JR and Carol Shaw (*left in photo, along with Joanne Taylor and Jack Davis*) were on hand for the official opening of the Shaw Amphitheatre.

With spectacular views of the Bourgeau mountain range, capacity for 1,600, and sophisticated sound and light systems, it will provide a venue for world-class performers to entertain and delight audiences for many years to come. Before the opening, guests enjoyed fabulous wine and eight gourmet food stations at the Culinary Festival.





Leading Banff Centre alumni and friends from Canada and around the world performed on the Ball Weekend in support of artist scholarships. Friday night's cabaret featured an awe-inspiring performance by Timothy Chooi on violin and 2006 Honens Laureate Minsoo Sohn on piano; feats of agility and flexibility from National Circus School performers; and the musical theatre talents of Justin Paul and Benj Pasek (*photo at left*). All were 2011 artists in residence at The Banff Centre.



On Saturday night, Grammy- and Juno-nominated trumpet virtuoso Jens Lindemann (*left*) performed a touching tribute to outgoing Banff Centre President & CEO Mary E. Hofstetter (*centre*). Incoming president Jeff Melanson (*with Jennifer Snowdon Melanson, MP Michelle Rempel, and Jeff Kovitz, QC*) enjoyed his first Midsummer Ball.



J. Vair Anderson Jewellers and MC Angela Knight of CBC Radio presented "Inspiring Creativity" Scholarship Fund incentive winners Steve Snyder (*photo at left*) and Julie George (*photo at right*) each with a \$9,000 Rolex watch. For each \$1,000 scholarship donation, guests were entered to win one of two Rolex watches, compliments of J. Vair Anderson Jewellers and Rolex Canada Ltd.

