

Book a [Donna & Andy](#) concert for your school

When? **April 23 - May 11, 2018**

## Ontario Elementary School Tour



How? Email: [andy@redcastlepublishing.com](mailto:andy@redcastlepublishing.com)  
Phone: (902) 681-6260 (Andy)

[www.donnaandandy.com](http://www.donnaandandy.com)

What will happen?

**A one-hour concert with ECMA award winners and JUNO nominees Donna & Andy**

- Enjoy story telling and original songs in an interactive, musical and educational presentation.
- Andy's great audience rapport and Donna's expertise as a K-6 music specialist guarantee a concert that is tailored to the diverse needs of a K-6 audience.

Why?

- ✓ Support the delivery of music curriculum outcomes
- ✓ Meet live composers
- ✓ Hear folk instruments of Atlantic Canada such as accordion, fiddle and Newfoundland Ugly Stick
- ✓ Participate by singing, doing actions, playing instruments, or dancing in selected songs
- ✓ Support delivery of Language Arts programs and curriculum in other subject areas

Who? **Donna Rhodenizer and Andy Duinker (Donna & Andy)**

- performers, composers, award-winning recording artists and publishers. Their energetic musical performances have been delighting audiences of all ages since 1996 in over 1000 elementary school performances
- created ten recordings with multiple ECMA and Music Nova Scotia nominations and awards.
- **nominated for a 2007 Juno Award** for Children's Album of the Year.
- published five songbooks of their original songs (including two French publications), two cross-curricular Teacher's Resources, and a number of choral selections. Their music is used in schools throughout Canada, the US, Trinidad and Tobago, Australia, Europe and Hong Kong.

Cost?

\$450 to \$750 (plus HST) depending on the number of students in the school. Please contact us to get a pricing quote for your school.

When your school books a Donna & Andy concert, each K-6 classroom will receive a complimentary Donna & Andy CD.

All of Donna's Songbooks, CDs and Teacher Resources are included in the Nova Scotia Department of Education Approved Learning Resources List.

For videos, music, and to see the list of schools where Donna & Andy have performed

go to [www.donnaandandy.com](http://www.donnaandandy.com)



Search on YouTube for "[Donna & Andy](#)"

French music resources available

Go to [www.redcastlepublishing.com](http://www.redcastlepublishing.com) for details

Donna & Andy  
Red Castle Publishing  
P.O. Box 10001  
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New Minas, NS B4N 5K1



**Donna Rhodenizer and Andy Duinker** are the world-class, international performing duo, Donna & Andy. Their musical excellence has been recognized with a Juno nomination and multiple ECMA awards. Donna & Andy have performed for over 600,000 audience members in 1200 performances throughout Canada, entertaining children and families with an interactive musical performance using fiddle, accordion, keyboard, guitar and even a Newfoundland Ugly stick. Their signature vocals, instrumental diversity, comedy, and lots of audience participation guarantee an enjoyable performance for all.

Donna & Andy made their international performing debut as **Artists in Residence at the Canadian International School of Hong Kong** for four weeks in April-May 2014. Their residency included performances for the students at the school, daily classes with the students, presenting their own original music and music of the East Coast, preparing a concert presentation for the school's Arts Festival and workshops for teachers.

**Donna & Andy** have five recordings for children all of which have received multiple provincial, regional and/or national nominations and awards:

**Blue Skies and Pirates** (ECMA nomination)

**Dinosaurs, Dragons and Me** (ECMA nomination, Music NS Award, JUNO nomination)

**It's Christmas Time** (ECMA nomination)

**Computer Cat** (ECMA Award for Children's Recording of the Year, Music NS nomination)

**La vie pour moi** [French adaptations of Donna's songs] (ECMA Award for Children's Recording of the Year, Music NS Award for Francophone Recording of the Year)

This duo has also released two recordings for adult listeners: Fine Company (featuring Andy's vocals in easy listening, Maritime selections) and Musically Yours (an instrumental album of Donna's original fiddle, violin and piano works).

Donna & Andy are consummate performers, musicians and educators devoted to the presentation of top-quality music. Their original songs delight young audience members and are embraced by teachers who are able to use the songs in their classrooms via teaching resources and printed songbooks of Donna & Andy's music. Donna & Andy have published over 50 original songs in two teaching resources, plus a series of five song collections (including two publications with French lyrics) and 30 individual titles for choirs. Over 50,000 Donna & Andy CDs, 5,000 songbooks and over 30,000 copies of single sheet music of their original songs have been distributed across Canada and around the world.

Donna has received four nominations for Music Nova Scotia's Educator of the Year. In 2009 Donna received the Nova Scotia Music Educator's Association Musica Viva Award for her outstanding contribution to Music Education. She also received the Canadian Music Educators Association **Jubilate Award of Merit** in October 2011 for her substantial contribution to music education in Canada.

For more information go to: [www.donnaandandy.com](http://www.donnaandandy.com)



[www.redcastlepublishing.com](http://www.redcastlepublishing.com)

[Follow Donna & Andy on Facebook](#)



[Donna & Andy/Red Castle Publishing PO Box 10001 20 Silver Fox Ave. New Minas, NS B4N 5K1 \(902\) 681-6260](#)

# **This is what folks are saying about Donna & Andy performances in elementary schools**

***“The Performance was excellent and enjoyed immensely by the students and staff. Very engaging and interactive, the students loved it.”***

Liz Bailey, Principal

***“Donna and Andy were great! We would highly recommend their performance to any school.”***

Colleen Winchester, Vice Principal

***“My students loved the performance and performers. Audience participation was fabulous (even from grade 8). Donna & Andy went out of their way to sign autographs and gave lots of positive feedback to students. They had great Donna & Andy stickers ready for student helpers and participants. They attended a gr. 6/7 class after the performance and answered questions from students about composing and music and instruments.***

***Besides a strong musical performance, both Donna & Andy were very personable with students. Donna was adept at dealing with less than appropriate questions from students (one student tried to guess her age). They provided a great opportunity to purchase materials and provided the school with a set of their CDs before the performance. I would highly recommend these performers to any school.”***

Arlene Pineo, Music Specialist

***“My students loved this concert. It was funny, participatory and well-paced. Donna & Andy know how to entertain kids! They are also great musicians who inspire kids with music composition and their ability to play several instruments. Fabulous!”***

Jane Hawketts, Gr. 3 Teacher

***“An excellent interactive music presentation. Entire audience engaged, participating and singing along.”***

Angie Debertin, Gr. 3 Teacher

***“Many thanks for your wonderful performance. Your high quality presentation was enjoyed by students and staff alike. The teachers were “rolling in the aisles” several times through your show. Along with the rich humour, your show is musically strong and is a delight to experience. Keep up the great work.”***

Allan Gaskin, Principal

***“Thanks so much for coming to two of my schools. I’ve heard nothing but positive comments about your wonderful show. Several teachers said your show was the best presentation they’ve ever seen for children. They had such a great time talking about lego, and stinky socks and grandmothers.....and everything. The kids are STILL excited. One boy (grade 2) told me he set a trap for Ed the Invisible Dragon in his bedroom. He put all of his little green plastic army men on the floor and if they get knocked over, he knows Ed was in his room visiting him. Another girl told me Invisible Ed was in her bedroom, because her bedroom blind fell off the window frame, and no one was in her room, so---it had to be ED.***

***I’ve had several other Ed sightings at our school. Some students are even wearing Invisible Glasses so they can spot him. It is so fun to watch them be kids. You really brought out the best in them.”***

Crystal Hanson, Music Specialist

# Donna Rhodenizer



Canadian Music Educators Association (CMEA) [Jubilate Award of Merit](#) recipient, Donna Rhodenizer, is an accomplished *composer, music educator, clinician and adjudicator*. Her song lyrics sparkle with imagination and humour reflecting a writer who has the ability to reach into the imaginations and hearts of children. She is a *music education specialist* who has been teaching elementary school music for over 30 years. This wealth of experience with children and music is very evident in the songs she creates.

Donna has written five songbooks with recordings for elementary level students: [Computer Cat](#), [Dinosaurs, Dragons and Me](#), [Blue Skies and Pirates](#), [It's Christmas Time](#) (bilingual) and [La vie pour moi](#) (in French). The recordings included in these songbooks, created with singing partner Andy Duinker, have received local, regional and national recognition.

<a href="#">Computer Cat</a>	--- ECMA Award
<a href="#">Dinosaurs, Dragons and Me</a>	--- Juno nomination
	--- ECMA nomination
	--- Music Nova Scotia Award
<a href="#">It's Christmas Time</a>	--- ECMA nomination
<a href="#">Blue Skies and Pirates</a>	--- ECMA nomination
<a href="#">La vie pour moi</a>	--- EMCA Award
	--- Music Nova Scotia Award

Music teachers use Donna's songbooks

and recordings in music programs across Canada and in the U.S. as well as other countries around the world.

Donna also writes *original songs and arrangements for adult audiences*. Her songs reveal a writer in touch with people and life experiences, a strong wit and a unique way of seeing the world. Donna's music reflects her love of harmony and beautiful singable melodies instilled through her choral experience and classical music training. These strengths have resulted in Donna being commissioned to write songs and/or arrangements for several leading choirs in Nova Scotia. Her music is well-loved by the choirs that include her songs in their regular repertoire. Donna has written over forty choral compositions in a variety of voicing configurations for professional, community and school choirs. Her music is printed and promoted by Red Castle Publishing, the company she co-founded and co-owns with Andy Duinker.

In addition to writing and publishing, Donna is an active *performer and recording artist*. She performs and records with Andy Duinker in a variety of musical settings. The duo "Donna & Andy" can be found singing for children and families. Adult audiences enjoy original, folk, contemporary, easy listening, or sacred arrangements presented with Andy's strong lead vocals and Donna's violin, accordion and keyboard accompaniments.

Donna shares her musical expertise as a [workshop clinician](#), equally at home discussing her own composing journey as well as encouraging fellow educators to experience music with children in their classrooms. She has been a conference clinician at the International Society of Music Educators (ISME), Ontario Music Educators Association (OMEA), New Brunswick Music Educators Association (NBMEA) and the Nova Scotia Music Educators Association (NSMEA), as well as presenting music teaching workshops for teachers in Saskatchewan, Ontario, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Donna is also sought after as a music festival and choral music adjudicator.

In the spring of 2014 Donna took part in a four-week Artist-In-Residence program sharing her educational expertise with students and teachers at the Canadian International School of Hong Kong.

Donna's work in the field of music education has been recognized by her music colleagues. She has received four nominations for [Educator of the Year](#) from Music Nova Scotia (MNS); the NSMEA [Musica Viva Award](#) for her contribution to music education; and the Canadian Music Educators Association (CMEA) [Jubilate Award of Merit](#) for her significant contribution to music education in Canada.

## **Teachers enjoy Donna's music.**

### **A long time music teacher said**

Donna, you have an amazing gift of writing memorable music. I always knew that, as the primary or junior choir students heard your songs for the first time on the accompanying CD, they'd almost instantly fall in love with them. The lyrics and melodies ... always staying in their mind and voice. As a result, the young people have always performed them well and because the topics or themes touched their hearts, it also touched the ears/hearts of the listeners. You have a wonderful gift! Your materials were always a treasure trove to find and use. I was always grateful to find new materials for the ... school students.

### **Another successful concert**

At our recent *Grade 3-6 Christmas Concert* we performed your song "Raise Up Your Voices" as our closing number with all 200 students singing. I was inspired to do this after attending your session at the NSMEA conference. All 200 students were in the Gym. The grade 6 and Grade 4 classes [around 100 students] were up on the stage which is raised and the grade 5 and grade 3 classes [again around 100] on the floor, visually below the other classes. The call and response went from the group on the floor to the group on the stage. As soon as the choreography started you could feel the audience really getting into it. As the last note sounded and everyone's hand shot up into the air the audience spontaneously rose as one into an extended standing ovation. What an amazing feeling that was for the kids. I just wanted to share this with you and wish you the best of the season.

### **From a music professional about one of Donna's Reading sessions.**

What appealed to me about this particular reading session was the quality of lyrics, melodic contours, and vocal harmonies! Donna writes for a range of levels and choral ensembles - from elementary unison choirs, middle school SSA choirs, to high school and community SATB ensembles. Whatever the level, one can be assured that the music is of the highest quality. As a writer, Donna imbues her texts with messages that are thought provoking, and inspiring. Singers and audience alike are challenged to reflect on the message. Donna's playful side gives birth to hilarious and affectionate songs that children continue to sing long after the concert is over.