June 16, 2015

Dr. Allan Gilliland receives Distinguished Research Award

Edmonton—MacEwan University is proud to announce that one of Canada’s busiest composers, Dr. Allan Gilliland, is the recipient of the first ever Dr. Sherrill Brown Distinguished Research Award. Gilliland has written music for orchestra, choir, big band, film, television and theatre. His music has been performed by some of the finest ensembles and soloists in the world and appears on over 20 CDs.

Gilliland was born in Darvel, Scotland and moved to Canada in 1972. For five years he was Composer-in-Residence with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, writing 11 works for the ESO including concerti for violin, trumpet, two harps, and clarinet. Other highlights include: The Winspear Fanfare composed for the opening of the Francis Winspear Centre for Music, Dreaming of the Masters 1, which was given its American premiere by the Boston Pops, and Dreaming of the Masters 111, was given its American premiere by Jens Lindemann and the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra at Carnegie Hall in 2012.

Gilliland holds a diploma in jazz studies (trumpet) from Humber College, a bachelor of Music degree in performance, a Master of Music degree in composition from the University of Alberta, and a PhD in Composition from the University of Edinburgh. Currently, Gilliland is chair of the Music program at MacEwan University.