May 22, 2018

**Piano virtuoso Angela Cheng performs at Muttart Hall**

Edmonton – World-renowned pianist Angela Cheng will help celebrate The Muttart Foundation’s 65th anniversary with a recital in Muttart Hall, a world-class recital hall at MacEwan University’s Alberta College Campus.

A former student at the university’s Conservatory of Music, Cheng is an orchestral soloist known for her remarkable technique, tonal beauty and insightful musicianship. “I was 11 years old when we arrived in Edmonton from Hong Kong and I didn’t speak a word of English,” says Cheng. “It was lonely. I was failing all my classes except mathematics so I begged my mother for piano lessons.”

“Every Saturday I would take several buses to get to Alberta College for my piano lesson and I’d spend the whole day practicing, and then my teacher would drive me home” she said. “I remember playing in a trio with a violinist and cellist, and even though I couldn’t speak English, it didn’t matter because music is really a universal language.”

Cheng had planned to pursue a medical career, but a determined music teacher convinced her that music should be her life’s work. “A group of Edmonton women set up a scholarship for me. They held bake sales, raffles, bingos, book sales—you name it—to raise enough money to send me to the Juilliard School of Music in New York. I know that everything I do is possible because of the people who supported me.”

Cheng has received international acclaim and praise for her interpretation of Mozart. She made her debut at New York’s Alice Tully Hall in 1985, and has given recitals in North America, South America, Asia, Europe and the Middle East. In 2012, she made her Carnegie Hall debut with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra. Cheng now lives and teaches in Ohio, but still considers Edmonton home. “Everytime I get a chance to play here, I treasure it.”

Built in 1992, and named after The Muttart Foundation, Muttart Hall is also home to the Muttart Steinway, a magnificent concert grand piano that was donated to the Conservatory of Music in recognition of the joint celebration of the Foundation’s 50th anniversary and the centenary of Alberta College in 2003. Cheng was the first musician to play the piano publicly at a recital in February 2003.

**When:** Saturday, June 2  
**Where:** Muttart Hall, Alberta College Campus (10050-MacDonald Drive)  
**Time:** 7:30 p.m.