

# *Hamilton Teen Idol Judges*

## *2009*

### *Tom Oliver:*

Tom Oliver was born on a farm near Stratford Ontario. He received his Honours Bachelors of Vocal Performance from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. His performance credits span from roles in film, television, music theatre, opera and concert work throughout North America.

During his performance years, Tom researched and taught voice and in 1993 opened his private studio, Voice Concepts. He has studios in Toronto, Oakville and Hamilton and is also a member of the Voice Faculty of the Sheridan Music Theatre College.

His students have furthered their education in vocal performance at the Sheridan Music Theatre Programmed, Berkley Music in Boston, Glenn Gould Performing Arts Centre, University of Western Ontario, Wilfred Laurier University, University of Toronto, University of British Columbia, and NYC's AMDA & Tisch programmers.

He has students debuting in current professional productions of "The Sound of Music", "Boys in the Photograph" "Camelot", "Seussical" "The Diary of Ann Frank" and "Shirley Valentine". This season, Cob's production of "Triple Sensation" awarded two of Tom's students with 2nd and 3rd place.

This summer marked Tom's seventh season with the Hamilton's Theatre Aquarius Performing Arts Programmed directed by Lou Zamperin.

Tom is excited to return to Hamilton IDOL tonight...and ... wishes all of the artists the best and to remember..." Words then the music!!"

### *Glen Nowell:*

Glen Nowell is a Speech-Language Pathologist with a primary focus on voice. An opera singer as well as voice therapist, he has lectured on voice therapy and vocal pedagogy at universities and conferences across Canada. As a member of the Voice Laboratory and Treatment Centre of Ontario Associates, he conducts voice therapy, singing voice rehabilitation and singing lessons at his offices in Hamilton and North York. He also works at the Voice Clinic at Hamilton Health Sciences, and is on vocal pedagogy faculty at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto.



## Small Town Girl with a Big City Sound

Brooke Nicholls, born and raised in Chatham, ON has never lost sight of her dream. That is to write and sing her own music with the hopes of touching lives with a sound and solid message of hope, inspiration and a renewed sense of vitality. Her latest single "If Wishing Were Forever" featuring Jhevon Paris, has just been released and according to those in the music industry, they have very high hopes that her new release will be a HIT! Not only is Brooke passionate, spirited, stunning and gifted, she mixes her passion for music with her compassion for others. She first started singing in church with worship teams. It was here where she was part of a youth music team who produced their first CD entitled "Captivated". Songs from this CD can still be heard locally on the radio. She later moved to the Toronto area to pursue her dreams and has been working diligently ever since. This Singer/ Song Writer and Performer's flawless compositions float effortlessly into your ears and bury deep within your heart. Brooke's captivating live performances in some of Toronto's "high end" entertainment stages leave fans speechless and wanting more! Initially she exploded onto the scene with a televised, international performance at York University's 3,500 seat stadium, and since then has shared the stage while on a Canadian Tire national tour with one of Canada's most successful recording groups, "Blue Rodeo". In addition, Brooke has also shared the stage with "Q" from Grammy winning recording artists "112". This is only an introduction to her superb talent and drive.

Her first CD release is scheduled for early 2010 and it is then where she will be making plans to go on an all Canadian tour.

Brooke is a small town girl with a big city sound. She will be performing on stage at the Chatham Cultural Centre in 2010 but until then, watch and listen for her new single. She knows she has been gifted and blessed with her music and is grateful to all the people who have reached out and supported and helped her in the pursuit of her dreams.

Brooke lives on faith and love. "We all possess gifts. I am blessed with the gift of music. Song resonates deep within my soul and I won't ever take that for granted." This is an invitation to all. You are witnessing the birth of a superstar.

### ***Colin Lindgren:***

Colin, a rising artist who is front man of the band BEAUTI was born in Kelowna B.C. He grew to develop two great loves: God and music. Playing guitar since the age of 12, he's developed a styling all his own. Writing became a passion at 17; sitting at his mother's piano he created the song Forever Love. His combination of guitar and piano bring a simple yet intimate dynamic to the floor. Colin's elevated chorus' and strong harmonies are engaging and bring a sense of fullness and life to his music. Colin currently works doing music production @ BRILLIANT RED STUDIOS located in Burlington Ontario. When asked what he was passionate about, he replied: I am passionate about living life free, acknowledging the deeper things of love and living differently than most people expect me to.

His songs are about love, hope, hurt and freedom they will leave a mark on the hearts of all who listen.

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### ***Joan B. Heels, Ph.D.:***

Joan B. Heels has an extensive background as a performer and teacher of singing, and has many years of experience teaching music (vocal, choral and band) in the educational systems in Montreal and Hamilton, where she directed many prize-winning choirs and bands. She has also been the Musical Director of community choirs in Montreal and in Hamilton. She has earned several degrees and diplomas including a Ph.D., M.A., B.Music, B.A., F.T.C.L., L.T.C.L., and an A.R.C.T. Special Diploma.

Currently, Dr. Heels maintains a private vocal and piano studio in Hamilton, is an active international adjudicator, and is a member of the College of Examiners of the Royal Conservatory of Music Examinations. She is often called upon to adjudicate Speech Arts and Drama, as well as her specialty which is Voice (Singing). Her pupils have included both female and male singers with different interests in singing, such as Classical singing, Musical Theatre, and Pops.

Dr. Heels has authored and published two Sight Singing books called, "Sight Singing for Success": Volume 1 for Grades 1 to 5 with Introductory examples, and Volume 2 for Grades 6 to 10 and including a Coda section with additional more difficult examples. These two volumes are extremely helpful for both the RCME and CC examination candidates, and are available from many Music Dealers and from the publisher.

'Doc' Heels is a member of numerous professional musical organizations including the National Association Teachers of Singing, Ontario Registered Music Teachers

Association, Canadian Music Festival Adjudicators Association, National Band Association and American Choral Directors Association. Also, she enjoys her service and educational club memberships, being a member of the Rotary Club of Hamilton, Zonta Club of Hamilton I and Ambitious City Toastmasters Club. For those who might think that she is all work and no play, 'Doc' loves to scuba dive, play tennis and watch TV situation comedies and some reality shows.

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**Note:**

Judges need to sign a waiver prior to judging that states that:

As a member of the judging panel, we do require that all volunteers agree to the following:

- Judges will refrain from evaluating the performance of a contestant if he/she determines a conflict of interest exists. A perception of bias could occur due to a personal, business or volunteer relationship between a member of the judging panel and a performer. In this instance, the judge would declare him or herself exempt from the evaluation process of the individual in question.
- Judges will defer public and media questions regarding National Child Day events to an appropriate spokesperson. Please refer inquiries to Rosemarie McKee, 905-546-2424 ext 7328.
- In the event that a judge is unable to fulfill a commitment to participate in the audition and/or finalist panel, he/she will contact Rosemarie McKee, 905-546-2424 ext 7328 so that a suitable replacement can be scheduled.