Maren Skipper

Maren experienced the healing power of music as a young child through studying piano and singing in choirs.  She felt a connectedness and the ability to emotionally express herself through this creative art form, personally transformative.  Throughout high school and university she worked as a piano teacher and accompanist encouraging her students to find their voice through music.

From 2001 to 2003 Maren studied at the University of Lethbridge in their Arts and Science program with a major in psychology and minor in sociology.  She then moved to Concordia University College in 2003 and 2004 studying with a major in music to finish her prerequisites for a Bachelor of Music Therapy program which she worked on from 2004 to 2007 at Capilano University.  Maren's clinical and fieldwork as a music therapy practicum and internship student included running therapeutic music programs with middle school children in Vancouver as well as geriatric work.  In 2006 she volunteered at Rozelle Pysictric Hospital with Music Therapist Clair Hogan while traveling in Sydney Australia.

Since living in Whitecourt Alberta Maren has had the opportunity to continue to work as a piano and guitar teacher.  She has also volunteered her time working as an accompanist for vocal soloists and elementary school choirs. She also enjoys singing with the seniors at Whitecourt Spruce View Lodge in her Sound of Music group.

During the summer of 2012 Maren ran a summer guitar program for the Whitecourt Teen Center which focused on building confidence and self-esteem in program participants as they learn to play music, connect with peers, share their talent, and give back to their community with the gift of music.  Maren continues this work with the Teen Center at Percy Baxter School in a peer mentoring guitar program called PB and Jam.  Recently she was involved with Whitecourt Teen Center's BeYOUtiful Campaign inspiring teen girls to connect with their real beauty through music.