

## ALGONQUIN COLLEGE OFFERS MUSIC COURSES

**Ottawa, ON, December 2, 2002:** Beginning in 2003, Algonquin College will offer a new series of music courses through the College's Centre for Continuing Education and Life-long Learning.

According to Abla Sherif, Dean of the School of Media and Design, the College's new musical offerings will meet the increased demand for high-quality music-based programming in the Ottawa area. "The development of this new curricula for the School of Media and Design is very exciting," says Sherif. "Music courses add a new dimension to the College's current program offerings."

Algonquin has recruited a number of the region's premiere musicians to teach a wide variety of courses. Veteran singer/songwriter Barry Brown, formerly of Family Brown, will be teaching a song-writing course beginning in January 2003. He will not only bring his award-winning musical talents to class, but he will also focus on the business side of song writing as well.

"I'm excited to be a part of Algonquin's new music program," says Brown, a Canadian Country Music Association (CCMA) Hall of Fame inductee and winner of CCMA's Entertainer of the Year award. "I only wish that something like this had been available when I was starting out as a songwriter."

Course selection will range from the novice level up to more advanced courses, such as Jazz Music: Roots and Branches taught by Canadian jazz guru Rob Frayne. This course takes a look at the beginnings of jazz and looks at how this genre fits into today's overall musical landscape. Frayne is an experienced jazz performer, having played at jazz festivals in the United States and the United Kingdom, and is a regular on the Canadian jazz and folk festival circuit.

Algonquin College School of Media and Design Manager Robert Lemire believes that the new music will appeal to a large audience.

"We've gathered some top names in the local music scene to teach for us," says Lemire. "In addition to sharing skills and techniques in the classroom, our teachers will also discuss what's happening in the music industry."

Algonquin's music programming will feature more advanced music courses, such as song writing techniques, jazz appreciation, music theory and home studio recording using the latest computer technologies.

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**Music At Algonquin - 2**

To further highlight the new music courses being offered through Algonquin's Continuing Education Department, Barry Brown and fellow instructors Derek Debeer, Bob Deeks and Rick Lazarra will be performing live at the College's Continuing Education Information Evening taking place Tuesday, December 3, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Algonquin's Woodroffe Campus.

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