

Karin Klassen, a native of Winnipeg, is both a violinist and a music educator. Karin holds Bachelor degrees in Arts, Music and Education as well as Associate and Licentiate diplomas in violin performance.

As a violinist, she played with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra for eighteen years. She has served as the resident violin instructor at the Canadian Mennonite University. Now she plays the violin as a freelance musician for solo, orchestra or ensemble performances. She is a member of the Allegro String Quartet. Karin also adjudicates at festival and scholarship competitions throughout Manitoba. She is an ongoing faculty member of the International Music Camp, having worked as both orchestra conductor and violin instructor to students and adults. In 2009, she received a Distinguished Service Award for her long-term involvement with the camp. The summer of 2002 saw her traveling to Taiwan to teach and conduct young aspiring string players at the Cantai Music Festival.

As a music educator, Karin teaches elementary music at Dalhousie School. Her extracurricular recorder, handbells, drumming and Orff groups have performed for the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra and the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra. She is an Orff specialist, and has served as the Manitoba Orff Chapter president. Karin was the recipient of the 2006 Morna-June Morrow Award for Excellence in Music Education in Manitoba. In the past she has also served on the MMEA board. In 2010, she spent a wonderful year abroad, teaching music on exchange in Australia.

Karin has conducted the Winnipeg Youth Strings Orchestra since 2003.