

# Colin Harbinson

## **Colin Harbinson**

Rev. Colin D. W. Harbinson B. Ed., A.D.B. Ed., D.D.

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## **EDUCATION**

D.D., Canada Christian College, Canada, 1992

Doctor of Divinity, Honorary

A.D.B. Ed., Drama Board of Great Britain, 1974

Associate of the Drama Board in Education

B.Ed., University of Sussex, England, 1969

Teacher Certification, University of Sussex, England, 1968

## **EMPLOYMENT**

### **Belhaven College, Arts Division - Dean**

2000-

Belhaven College, established in 1883, is a fully accredited liberal arts college in Jackson, Mississippi. Its vision is to 'prepare men and women academically and spiritually to serve Christ Jesus in their careers, in human relationships, and in the world of ideas'.

Belhaven College has an expected 2002-03 enrollment of 2000 students and over ninety percent of the faculty hold Ph.D's or terminal degrees in their field. The College has been named to America's 100 Best College Buys', rated 'competitive-plus' by Barrons Magazine, and named to 'America's Best Christian Colleges', by Institutional Research and Evaluation Inc.

Belhaven College has a dynamic arts program that offers degrees in art, dance, theater, and music. State-of-the-art dance studios were recently completed and development of a modern arts complex, the centerpiece of which will be a new 750 seat theater, has begun. This, together with a skilled and dedicated arts faculty, position Belhaven as a premier evangelical training center for the arts.

### **International Festival of the Arts (IFA) - Founder and CEOs**

1991-Present

International Festival of the Arts was established to celebrate beauty, meaning, and hope in Christ. Registered as a charitable organization in Canada and the United States, its focus is nations going through major transition. Operating from a biblical world view, artists, educators, business people, and other professionals are enabled to interact within their counterparts in these nations. An initial international arts festival opens the door for ongoing cultural exchange programs.

Since its inception, IFA has facilitated almost eight hundred artists, educators, and other professionals in Russia ('92), Bulgaria ('94), and mainland China ('99). Numerous indigenous projects and programs have been the fruit of these major events. The recent festival in China (the most extensive of its kind in the history of the nation), involved three hundred participants from twenty countries. The success of this historic event has resulted in ongoing cultural exchanges with China.

## **College of the Arts, University of the Nations - International Dean**

1994-1999

The University of the Nations is an international degree granting institution (Bachelor and Masters), offering courses in over one hundred nations. As an expression of the heart and values of Youth With A Mission, it prepares men and women to enter every sphere of life with a biblical world view. The International Dean's responsibility was to bring leadership to the College of the Arts, one of seven global colleges. This included giving visionary leadership, developing an international leadership team, appointing deans and associate deans, developing curriculum, consulting with campuses around the world, and teaching on the arts and Christian discipleship. As a member of the university International Leadership Team, the International Dean worked closely with the President and the Provost to develop the University of the Nations around the world.

## **Academy of Performing Arts - Founder and Director**

1984-1994

Responding to the need for quality education and discipleship in the arts, I established the Academy of Performing Arts within the Youth With A Mission organization. This forty acre residential campus had over ninety full-time staff and students from every corner of the globe. Recognized as a leader in its field, the Academy trained students in dance, theater, music, mime, and dance theater. Christian character and discipleship within the arts were the spiritual foundation for all training. Under my leadership, students and faculty traveled and performed in over sixty countries.

## **Arts In Ministry School, Youth With A Mission - Director**

1980-1984

Youth With A Mission (YWAM), international and trans-denominational, invited me to join the organization as a full time faculty member, to develop creative the arts from a Christian perspective. This resulted in the development of the Arts In Ministry School, established in Ontario, Canada. This innovative program, in which students were taught cross cultural and non verbal communication through the arts, was then multiplied in many different countries. Excellence of skill and excellence of character were foundational requirements in these courses that had a strong 'field' component.

## **West Sussex Education Authority, England - Educator**

1969-1979

My teaching career in public education spanned a period of almost ten years and saw rapid promotion from teacher to department head, to deputy headmaster, and finally to acting headmaster of a Middle School with over six hundred students. Each appointment was given for me to test and pioneer new teaching methodologies that emerged in the British education system thirty years ago. During this period, I wrote and published learning resources for children and ran in-service training courses for teachers.

## **PRODUCTIONS**

### **Toymaker & Son - Creator and Choreographer**

This widely acclaimed theatrical allegory of the Gospel has been performed in over sixty countries, before whole governments and heads of state. It has garnered several prestigious awards and is recognized as a historic catalyst in encouraging Christians to express their faith through the arts. Toymaker & Son, along with adaptations of the show (Toymaker's Dream, Masterpiece, & Spellbound) has performed at Olympic games, World Expositions, and other major international events, and has been seen 'live' by multiplied millions and on national television in many countries.

## **Dayuma - Creator and Choreographer**

This stage production of the story of the 'Ecuador Martyrs', a classic American mission story, has been toured in several countries. Most recently it was performed in twenty-one major cities in the United States, in partnership with Wycliffe Bible Translators. As a result, Wycliffe reported unprecedented response in mission commitment, recruitment for training, and financial giving.

## **RELATED ACTIVITIES**

- \* The Arts, a Biblical Framework (Published tape series)
- \* The Artist, A Spiritual Foundation (Published tape series)
- \* The Arts and Cultural Restoration (Published tape series with illustrated book)
- \* Numerous articles on the arts published in magazines and books
- \* International teacher, conference and seminar speaker in over 40 countries.
- \* Board and advisory board member for several arts and missions organizations
- \* Music Producer
- \* Writer, director, producer, and choreographer
- \* Ordained minister, Anchor Ministerial Fellowship (US and Canada)

## **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

- \* Golden Halo Award (Toymaker & Son), Southern California Motion Picture Council 1984
- \* Cindy Award for excellence in video production (Toymaker & Son) 1986
- \* Angel Award (The Masterpiece, an adaptation of Toymaker & Son) 1991
- \* Addy Award, (industry advertising award). Several Addys awarded between 1990 - 1998
- \* Honorary Doctor of Divinity (for lifetime achievement in arts and missions) 1992
- \* Honorary President, Yunnan Arts Institute, China. 1999
- \* Honorary Arts Consultant, Yunnan Cultural Ministry, China 1999
- \* Honorary member of Sigma Tau Delta 2002

## **PERSONAL BACKGROUND**

Colin has been a committed Christian for over forty years. Within that period, he has been an artist and educator for thirty years, twenty of which have been in an international context. He is currently writing a book called "Original Intention."

Maureen, his wife of more than thirty years, has a nursing background and is an early childhood educator. She has a particular focus on special needs children and has written curriculum for training programs established in Hawaii and Hong Kong. She has been a member of the international leadership team of the College of Education, University of the Nations, and brings leadership to IFA's work with special needs and orphan children.

Colin and Maureen have two sons, Paul (born in 1970) and Mark (born in 1972), and three beautiful granddaughters, Jade Rochel (born in 1995 ), Tyra Rose (born in 1999) and Brooke Lane (born 2001).