

Arlene Irwin brings more than 30 years of stage experience to her role as Speech Arts & Drama Instructor on the faculty at Mount Royal University Conservatory. A native of Northern Ireland, she has been studying Speech Arts and Drama since the age of 14.

Throughout the years, not only has she won numerous speech and drama awards, but also continues to be an active theatre performer. Arlene's most recent roles were as 'Mother Superior' in Storybook Theatre's musical production of *Sister Act* and in 2022, the role of 'Irene Ruddock' in Alan Bennett's *A Lady of Letters* for which she received the

award of outstanding performer at the Calgary One-Act Play Festival.

Holding an Associate & Licentiate diploma in Speech Arts and Drama from Trinity College London and an ARCT Teachers accreditation from RCM, Arlene also operates a private drama school and has adjudicated at numerous Speech Arts Festivals including The Kelowna Kiwanis Music Festival, Brooks, and Lethbridge Music Festivals.

She has also had the pleasure of working with Autism Calgary and the Autism/Asperger's Friendship Society teaching drama and social skills to a variety of enthusiastic students on the Autism spectrum.

Arlene is thrilled to have the opportunity to adjudicate at the Edmonton Music & Speech Arts Festival and extremely excited to hear the work of all the talented students.