

Music

Invited to sing in Victoria

Murrayville's Tiffany Desrosiers honoured one of her biggest musical inspirations in song last weekend.

by Roxanne Hooper

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Even though Tiffany Desrosiers was nursing a flu, there was nothing that would stop her from accepting an impromptu invitation to sing with world-renowned music producer David Foster this past weekend in Victoria.

The call came Tuesday, and her flu was a distant memory by the time she took the stage Saturday night to sing Foster's song *The Prayer* along side 17-year-old Cody Karey of Fort St. James.

The performance was part of the Victoria Independent Film & Video Festival's tribute to one of Canada's greatest contributions to the world of music - David Foster.

The evening, hosted by Terry David Mulligan, consisted of images and sound clips from significant milestones in Foster's life.

Part of that tribute included performances of several of Foster's songs. And that's where the young duo came in.

While Karey was familiar with *The Prayer*, Desrosiers, 20, was not as apt. She had not sung the song in a few years, not since a friend's wedding in 2004. So it took some serious rehearsing.

But the duet went off without a hitch, moving not only Foster who accompanied them on piano, but the crowd of some 400 people who leapt to their feet for a

standing ovation at the end.

"Knowing the great big heart that David Foster has for young people, it does not surprise me that at the last minute, he has decided to share the stage with the next generation of talent," said Kathy Kay, the festival's director. "I can't think of a more moving finale than David and these three up and coming stars."

In addition to Desrosiers and Karey's performance, Foster was accompanied by 16-year-old Alisha Pillay of Surrey who won Foster's Star Search in 2005.

"It was an awesome experience to be invited to sing *The Prayer* in honour of David Foster and his contribution to the world of music. David Foster's music has always been a huge inspiration to me. It was very cool to be in the presence of a genius," said the Murrayville singer-songwriter.

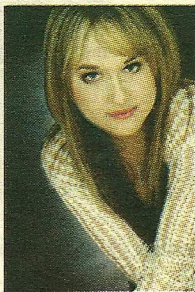
Desrosier has been singing since infancy, or shortly there after, and began her first singing lessons at age nine. She now sings a mix of classical and pop music and is learning eight opera pieces for the Kiwanis Music Festival in April.

In her second year of music studies at Trinity Western

University, Desrosier first met Foster last July, during his Star Search competition.

Since she was in Las Vegas for voice training and vacation at the time of the Star Search competitions in Langley, she was given the opportunity to compete in the Vancouver Island regionals in Victoria a few days later.

While she only earned first runner-up in that competition, it was her appearance last July that earned her an invitation back this month for this event.



Tiffany Desrosiers

Langley singer-songwriter