

Classical music prize awarded

A British Columbia pianist has been awarded the first Sylva Gelber Foundation Award.

John Kimura, 22, from Burnaby, British Columbia was presented the award at a recent gala concert at the Banff Centre. He is presently at the Juilliard School of Music in New York City.

The prize, worth \$5,000, is administered by the Canada Council and has been created by a foundation established by Sylva Gelber of Ottawa, Miss Gelber is a former director of the Women's Bureau in the federal government and is a member of a family well-known for its support of the arts.

The award is intended to provide greater opportunities for talented young Canadian musicians in the field of classical music. It will be given each year by a jury of professional musicians to an outstanding candidate under 30 years of age.

Perry Como Christmas special filmed in Quebec



Olympic skating champion Dorothy Hamill (left) and Quebec singer and four-time Félix award winner Diane Tell join Perry Como in admiring an Inuit sculpture presented to him by the Canadian government during the recent filming of his Christmas television special in Montréal and Quebec City.

Children's holiday programs

The National Museum of Natural Sciences, the Public Archives of Canada and the Art Gallery of Ontario presented special programs in December designed to help put children into the spirit of Christmas.

The National Museum of Natural Sciences in Ottawa presented an exhibition, entitled *In Search of the Unicorn*. Children from local schools provided the basis for the exhibition, which comprised 100 drawings of unicorns. The drawings,

done at the museum by the youngsters, were used to make a slide show that is being shown into the New Year.

Unicorns have long represented the myths and fantasies that people have about the animals. The exhibition called a "children's extravaganza" featured not only the unicorn, but other mythical beasts, including dragons and kraken (sea monsters).

In Search of the Unicorn also pointed out some of the realities behind the myths by portraying not only the colour-

ful and phantasmagorical aspects of the creatures but also the history of the unicorn, dragon and kraken.

Visitors to the exhibition were also treated to the music of roving minstrels.

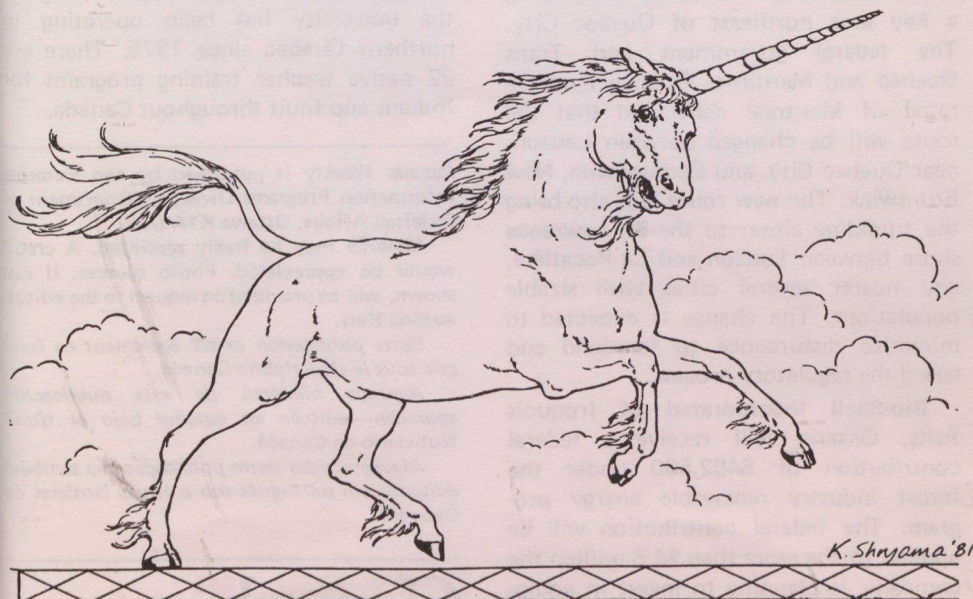
The Public Archives of Canada, also in Ottawa, presented children's activities as part of its Laurier House Christmas program. Laurier House, the former home of prime ministers Sir Wilfrid Laurier and William Lyon MacKenzie King, is now a museum administered by the Public Archives.

Old-fashioned decorations

Children were invited to participate in the making of nineteenth-century style Christmas decorations and in the trimming of a tree at Laurier House. The program also included films and slides outlining the history of Christmas.

The Art Gallery of Ontario in Toronto held a festival weekend for families, who were invited to enjoy the charm of the gallery at holiday time, with trees, hot cider and caroling choirs. The two-day festival featured activities and entertainment throughout the gallery.

Children gathered for story hours, made bubble magic with soap and strings, watched films and accompanied their parents on theme tours of the galleries. Ned Hanson's Boys' Choir of Toronto performed Christmas carols during the festival.



The unicorn, a mythical creature, formed the basis for an exhibit at the museum.