

Oscar Peterson is honored

NOT FOR CIRCULATION

Real Bigg. Blk.
Mar. 30 - 83 MN

This city's own Oscar Peterson has been chosen Mississauga's Musician of the Year.

The award, being given by the Mississauga Music Council, is presented in recognition of outstanding accomplishments in the field of music.

Peterson, 57, was born in Montreal. He played trumpet at the age of 5 but switched to piano at 8 after a year-long battle with tuberculosis.

At the age of 15, he began his own radio show, *Fifteen Minutes Piano Rambling*. He made his way up in the radio scene until he was heard nationally on CBC's *Light Up and Listen*.

Peterson declined requests from

Count Basie and Jimmie Lunceford to move to the U.S. to join their bands. But he did accept an invitation from U.S. impresario Norman Granz to be planted in the audience at Granz' Jazz at the Philharmonic and to be brought on stage as a surprise guest. He received rave reviews.

Under the guidance of Granz, his manager, Peterson formed a trio of piano, guitar and bass in the states. He toured worldwide with the group, and often, Ella Fitzgerald.

He has won numerous awards ranging from the Order Of Canada presented by the Governor General to the Toronto Civic Medal.

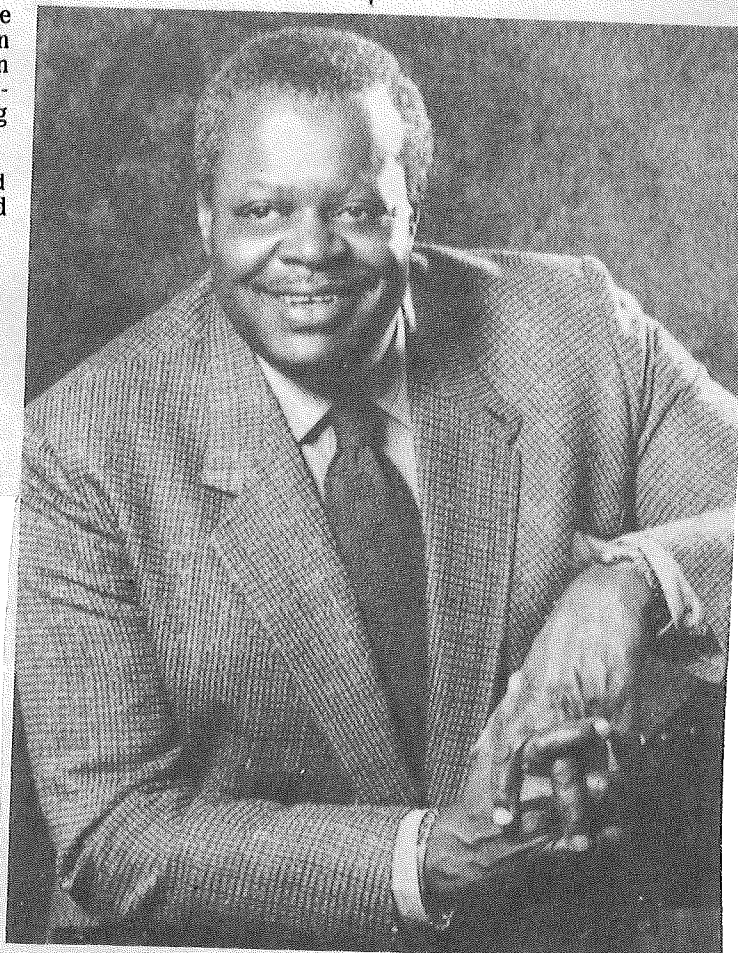
Peterson now lives here in

Mississauga with his wife Charlotte and their 4-year-old son, Joel. When he is not practising or recording in his in-home recording studio, he enjoys a variety of activities, including fishing, boating and photography.

He is said to be very open and friendly and has even been labelled "The Gentle Giant."

The award ceremony will take place Sunday, April 10 at the Carvery restaurant. There will be a reception at 12:30 p.m., lunch at 1 and the actual presentation at 2 p.m.

Tickets, which sell for \$15, are available by calling John Ambrose at 821-2750, Lynn Osmond at 274-1571 or Laurie Pallett at 276-2787.



World-renowned pianist Oscar Peterson will be honored as Mississauga's Musician of the Year at a ceremony on Sunday, April 10 at the Carvery restaurant, located at 2 Robert Speck Pkwy.
(Photo by Horvath)

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PETERSON, OSCAR