



### Joy Coghill Thorne

Joy Coghill's best-known work is *Song of This Place*, a play about the Canadian artist [Emily Carr](#).

Joy Coghill was born in [Findlater, Saskatchewan](#)

With her husband Jack Thorne she was a member of UCV for many years and often read at our Candlelight services. Her daughter is Rev. Debra Thorne is now minister in Nanaimo.

At Kitsilano High School she was introduced to theatre. Coghill acted in and directed her high-school production of *Room in the Tower*, thereby winning a scholarship at UBC's summer school of theatre.

She co- founded Canada's first professional touring children's theatre, Holiday Theatre in 1953.

Coghill received four [Jessie Richardson Theatre Awards](#), a Governor General's Performing Arts Award for Lifetime Artistic Achievement, and made a Member of the [Order of Canada](#) and cited as "a champion of Canadian talent and quality and as "a continuing inspiration to her colleagues in theatre throughout the country.

In retirement, she worked to bring to life the Performing Arts Lodge (PAL), a social housing project to provide affordable housing to aging people in the performing arts.