



**CANADIAN FEDERATION OF MUSIC TEACHERS' ASSOCIATIONS  
FÉDÉRATION CANADIENNE DES PROFESSEURS DE MUSIQUE**

*Providing leadership in music education across Canada  
Fournissant une direction forte en éducation musicale à travers le Canada*

**2011 – 2012  
PROVINCIAL REPORTS**

Mississauga, ON

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## BRITISH COLUMBIA REPORT 2011 - 2012

Greetings to all our musical friends across the country from beautiful British Columbia!

BCRMTA has had an exciting and productive year. With more than 1000 members and student auxiliary, in twenty one branches across the province, we represent many musical perspectives.

Our Branches hosted Canada Music Week® activities that included more than 500 young Canadian students. Performances of Canadian works by instrumentalists, vocalists and choirs delighted audiences across B.C. and many branches included commissioned works and student compositions. Many branches also sponsor yearly Music Festivals, and provide scholarships for promising performers highlighting the important part we play in musical education. Professional Development continues to be a priority for us and all our Branches have stepped up in 2012 with master classes and workshops with subjects such as (to name only a very few)-technology, musical games, composition, jazz performance and studio business. Provincial bursaries help smaller branches finance clinicians so that professional development is available for all communities.

Many branches took advantage of the CFMTA/FCAPM “Branching Out” initiative and planned special events that promoted strengthening branch connections, reaching out to new members or increasing visibility within their communities. Thank you CFMTA/FCAPM for recognizing that the strength of our organization lies with our membership and that nurturing those ties is very important.

BCRMTA continues to work on branding and growing our organization. Recently, we ratified changes to our bylaws that would allow the addition of International Members to our rosters. We welcome teachers from outside the country who want to stay in touch with what is happening in Canada. Our “Grow BCRMTA” committee is at work on a plan that includes website changes, outreach to other organizations and disciplines and gathering perks to make membership in BCRMTA even more attractive.

New, eye catching, “peel off” membership cards have just gone out and they are a pleasure to show. These use the signature look for BCRMTA that brands our website, brochures, and magazines. Thank you to Susan Olsen, our energetic and exceedingly efficient registrar, for taking on this project.

“BC Vibes” (Convention 2012), presented by the Abbotsford branch, will be an amazing event. We love to get together and September is the perfect time for our members to recommit and reconnect with workshops, performances and fun. The clinicians, Christine Donkin and Janet Scott Hoyt are outstanding, the BC Piano Competition is always an exciting event, and the opportunity to share our ideas keeps us professionally sharp.

BC is proud and excited to be hosting the 2015 CFMTA/FCAPM National convention and it can only be spectacular with Joanne Loughheed and her team at the helm. We look forward to seeing teachers from all parts of the country come and share BC’s special brand of hospitality.

It is my privilege to represent the dedicated and talented members of BCRMTA. From all of us on the West Coast, we wish you a relaxing and rejuvenating summer.

Submitted by,

Carol Schlosar,  
BCRMTA President

## NOVA SCOTIA REPORT 2011 - 2012

The 2011/12 teaching year is proving to be a happy and productive one for Nova Scotia! We have welcomed new members, we have had hundreds of students participate in Canada Music Week® Activities and our members have enjoyed numerous pot-lucks and concerts.

March and April are very much dedicated to Kiwanis, with students performing in pre-festival recitals and practising diligently to prepare for those oh so important performances. We also had a March master class with NSRMTA Member Tietje Zonneveld. Tietje frequently gives master classes to advanced piano students and the list of students waiting to work with her is ever growing. Her insight and musical guidance is positively amazing and the students benefit enormously.

The Scholarship Committee is being hosted and organized by our Dartmouth Chapter this year and Peggy Harrison (Dartmouth Chapter President and co-chair of the Scholarship Committee, along with Michal King) reports that we have numerous entries. The competition will be taking place on May 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.

Our Provincial Convention is being hosted by our Valley Chapter this year and members are looking forward to a wonderful day of socializing and professional development at Acadia University in Wolfville. Valley Chapter President Heather Pineo Regan is hard at work with her committee to make this day the very best it can be!

Immediately following our Provincial Convention and Provincial AGM, the Nova Scotia Delegates will be making their way to Toronto for the CFTMA Executive meetings. With such interesting initiatives and progress going on at the National level, we are very much looking forward to some much needed discussion with other CFMTA Delegates!

In addition to all this “business as usual” stuff, Nova Scotia is busy planning for the 2013 CFMTA Convention. There has been much development and things are coming along very nicely. Venues are booked, artists are contracted and sponsors have also been secured. To keep up to date with all this convention business, please visit [www.cfmta2013halifax.ca](http://www.cfmta2013halifax.ca) and sign up for our mailing list. If anyone ever has any questions, please do give us a shout!

Submitted by,

Rémi Lefebvre, RMT  
NSRMTA President

## ONTARIO REPORT 2011 - 2012

ORMTA Provincial Meetings, AGM, Special Teacher Luncheon and Competitions were held at Stage West Hotel in Toronto on July 23rd, 2011.

Anita Pari, from Ottawa, was the winner of the Young Artist Competition. Ms. Pari, at thirteen years of age, was a mature and graceful performing artist, travelling to six Ontario cities during September and October 2011. ORMTA is grateful for the ongoing support of CFMTA with our Annual Young Artist Tour.

On July 22nd, a Strategic Planning Session was held at Stage West with Provincial Executive, Provincial Council and several Branch Presidents. The topic was our present membership policies and methods of increasing membership.

ORMTA continues to update its Workshop Program in order to provide excellent Professional Development to our members. In September, we created a Workshop Video with Clinician Maria Case from the Royal Conservatory of Music. This is posted in Chapter form on our Provincial Web Site. We will monitor the number of hits to help us decide if this would be a wise use of funds for our members to have easier access to Workshops.

Our Affiliate Teacher Level is in the process of being evaluated and updated. A Committee researching this Qualification level will be reporting their findings to Provincial Council.

We continue to make one of our four yearly Provincial Council Meetings an e-meeting, which saves our members several thousand dollars a year, and ensures that our Council members are not driving or flying in January inclement weather to Toronto.

We have had a Technology Committee working all of this year exploring new possibilities for Website Communication for our members. This will be an ongoing process during the next few months.

"From Synapse to Symphony-Molding the Musical Mind", our Provincial Convention, will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Centre, in Burlington, Ontario, July 22-25, 2012, hosted by the Hamilton - Halton Branch. Branch President Warren Nicholson and Convention Convenor Andrea Battista have an exciting Convention planned for our members.

Submitted by,

First Delegate Charline Farrell  
Second Delegate Sue Jones

## QUEBEC REPORT 2010 – 2011

Cette année encore, les activités de l'AMPQ ont fait partie de la vie de plusieurs jeunes musiciens. D'ailleurs, au moment d'écrire ces lignes, nos activités se poursuivent jusqu'à la mi-juin.

Tout d'abord la semaine de la musique canadienne a ouvert notre année d'activités. Une centaine de jeunes musiciens ont participé à cette journée composée de cinq récitals soit le 20 novembre. Des jeunes entre cinq et dix-sept ans se sont inscrits à cet événement. Le concert gala (le 26 novembre 2011) nous a offert des œuvres de quinze compositeurs différents. Grâce au centre de musique canadienne à Montréal, les musiciens sont retournés à la maison avec une nouvelle partition canadienne de musique canadienne. Mentionnons aussi les nombreuses récompenses dédiées aux participants comme des bourses offertes par l'APMQ et par notre juge invité Matt Herskowitz.

Le Père Noël était de retour parmi nous cette année lors du « club des petits » au début décembre. Ces petits récitals (3 en tout cette année) s'adressent aux jeunes musiciens entre quatre et dix ans. Pour le grand plaisir des enfants, le Père Noël a écouté puis récompensé les jeunes musiciens en leur offrant des cadeaux à chacun d'entre eux.

L'automne s'est terminé avec quelques « club des adultes » qui ont eu lieu chez des professeurs ou des bénévoles. Des musiciens de niveaux débutants intermédiaires et avancés ont performé lors de ces récitals. Le tout a été suivi d'un agréable petit goûter.

En juin prochain, nous aurons les clubs de performance des adultes de niveaux débutant et avancé.

Le récital du printemps est de retour cette année et il bénéficiera d'une journée de récitals qui aura lieu dimanche le 29 avril en après-midi.

Finalement, le festival de musique classique de Montréal (FMCM) est dans la préparation de sa grande fin de semaine de présentation. Les inscriptions sont en cours et l'horaire sera publié dans un mois environ. Nous avons tous hâte à cet événement qui clôturera notre année à l'APMQ par le concert gala du concours le 2 juin 2012.

En terminant, j'aimerais souligner le travail constant de nos membres et la participation de ceux-ci lors de nos activités. Un merci particulier aux membres du conseil d'administration ainsi que tous les bénévoles qui s'impliquent grandement à faire de nos activités un grand succès à chaque fois. Merci à tous ceux qui participent de près ou de loin à toutes ces expressions de la vie musicale chez nous.

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Again this year, the QMTA activities have been a part of the young musician's life. As this paper is being written, activities are still taking place and will until the middle of June.

Our year of activities started with the Canada Music Week<sup>®</sup>. Over a hundred young musicians have taken part in this day of music, which took place on November 20. Young students from 5 -17 years of age signed up for the event. The official concert (November 26, 2011) offered us works of 15 different composers. Due to the Canadian musical center in Montreal, the musicians went home with new appreciation of Canadian music. Let me mention also the many rewards given to the participants, like awards offered by QMTA and by our judge Matt Herskowitz.

In December, Santa Claus was again with us at the Kinder Club. Those small concerts (3 this year) are for young musicians between 4 - 10 years old. Santa Claus offered gifts to each and every one of these young musicians.

During the fall season, the adult performance club took place at the teachers' or volunteers' homes. Musicians from different levels, beginners, intermediates or adults performed at these recitals. These concerts were followed by much appreciated lunches.

In June, we will have the high level adult performances.

The "Spring Recital" is back this year and will be composed of recitals on April 29 in the afternoon.

Finally the Montreal classical music festival (FMCM) is preparing for a grand weekend festival. Registrations are going on and the entire schedule will be known in a month. A concert - gala will be on June 2nd 2012.

In conclusion, I would like to mention the constant work of our members and their implication in our activities. Special thanks to members of the board of directors as well as all the volunteers who help make these activities a success. Warm thanks, to all who participate on the different levels in all of these expressions of our musical life.

Submitted by,

Lynne Gagné  
APMQ-QMTA Co-President

## **SASKATCHWEN REPORT 2011 – 2012**

It has been a busy year in all of our branches.

In November the Regina Branch offered 'Contemporary Showcase' for piano students. In December, Greg & Jackie Chase hosted a lovely Christmas party. In February, Greg Chase presented his workshop, 'Cracking the Boy Code'. In March, we presented a 'Mall Recital' with piano students performing throughout the day. In May, we will participate in Regina's 'Cathedral Village Arts Festival', by having voice and piano students perform in Westminster United Church, and their performances piped out into the street. Our branch presents about 8 student recitals through the year.

The big upcoming event is the Provincial Convention in Regina, on Oct. 19 and 20, 2012. It will feature two stellar guest artists: internationally-renowned coloratura soprano Tracy Dahl in recital; and pianist Jacques Despres, who will give a lecture-recital on the Debussy Preludes. There will be 10 workshop sessions in two streams: one for voice; one for piano. More information can be found at [www.srmta.com](http://www.srmta.com).

### **North Battleford Branch**

North Battleford Branch will be hosting the province wide Jean McCullough Piano Competition in May. This competition is for piano students Grades 3- 8.

### **Yorkton Branch**

February 4 and 5 saw our teachers taking part in Pedagogy and Coaching workshops with Debra Wanless. Our annual student Music Writing Competition was judged on Feb. 17. We were pleased to have 11 entries in total. On May 4 & 5 we are sponsoring a Weekend Contemporary Keyboard Workshop with clinician Wes Froese. In May we are planning our Boys Recital and Duet Recital.

### **Swift Current Branch**

Swift Current Branch Meetings have included performances by teachers, music festival scholarship winners, a presentation on business practices and a teacher's inspiring story of musical highlights in her life. The branch participated in the Branching Out initiative sponsored by CFMTA by displaying brochures and posters and also performing during Culture Days in Swift Current. Several students and one teacher performed their own compositions at the Canada Music Week® recital held in November at the Art Gallery. The branch will be sponsoring a teachers' recital featuring piano, violin and vocal performances at the Swift Current Art Gallery on May 27.

### **West Central Branch**

West Central Branch continues making music and musicians in over 10 communities. We have increased our profile through press releases and new member information packages. Nine of our twelve members attended the CFMTA Convention and were an integral part of the book launch of SRMTA's "From Prairie to Pine – Piano Solos by Saskatchewan Composers – Volume 2"

Professional development activities highlight each of our meetings. We are fortunate to be inspired by performances by Marylou Dawes, Christina Bakanec, Katy Finch and Helen Barclay's percussionists.

Activities of note for students and teachers include our annual Contemporary Showcase as well as a pre-festival master class with Kathleen Gable.



## **Saskatoon Branch**

This season has been a success on many fronts. Several workshops were provided by fellow RMTs. We thank Wes Froese for his workshop, "Teaching chart playing for piano", Peggy L'Hoir for taking us through the new Prairie to Pine collection and Bonnie Nicholson for her presentation "Contemporary Classical Music for the Reluctant Student". Thanks also to Darcia Evans, who joined us in January to talk about "Strategies for Teaching ADHD Students".

This year our branch is celebrating its 80th anniversary. Celebrations for this special year were launched with an unforgettable performance by pianist, Jan Lisiecki. In February, we convened at the historic Gustin House, where Walter Thiessen spoke about the early days of our branch, and the Lyell Gustin Studio. Our Anniversary celebrations will culminate in a High Tea event at the Delta Bessborough and will also afford us the opportunity to recognize long standing service of several of our members.

Submitted by,

Audrey Watson,  
SRMTA President

## MANITOBA REPORT 2011- 2012

The past year has been a very busy one for the MRMTA. It began with our AGM, which was held at the Viscount Gort Hotel on October 2nd, 2011. There was a lively discussion re the fee structure for the Province of Manitoba – we appreciate all the input by members who were present. Understandably, there were some concerns, and the Executive is working very hard to alleviate those concerns. In the fall of 2011, we did a close examination of our by-laws, which resulted in a new set of by-laws (to meet the needs of our recently-amalgamated Winnipeg Branch with the Provincial Branch). The by-laws were revised in a draft form by Cathy Dueck, our former Registrar. Some input was presented by a small group of members after the Panel on Leading Students to Excellence, which was held on October 30/11. In addition, a by-law revision meeting was held on November 24/11 at St. Paul's Anglican Church in Fort Garry. A good turnout of members voted in favour of the new rules. But most people had sent in e-votes, with their approval. Let's hope the changes made will take us into the future with confidence for a stronger-than-ever organization. We know that there was much discussion and rumination, but such a huge undertaking requires a lot of thought.

In the area of Professional Development, an interesting workshop was held at St. Andrew's River Heights United Church on October 30/11. The panel consisted of three of our own members, who are also on staff at the University of Manitoba Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music: Caron Whitlaw-Hiebert (piano), Dr. Oleg Pokhanovski (violin), and Dr. Karen Jensen (voice). The teachers present had an opportunity to ask questions pertaining to their own studio environments – problems they might have with students of different age levels and economic backgrounds, etc. It was an enjoyable and enlightening experience.

In November of 2011 Brandon and Westman Branch represented the Province of Manitoba during Canada Music Week<sup>®</sup>. They had a concert plus Master Classes and a Workshop, which featured eminent Canadian pianist/composer David McIntyre. According to Ann Germani, President of the Brandon and Westman Branch, the week-end was a resounding success.

In Winnipeg, we celebrated the "branching out" project by donating our \$50. given by CFMTA/FCAPM to the Siloam Mission. We also collected non-perishable food items for the Mission. It seemed the right thing to do as we approached the Holiday Season. In addition, sharing with those less fortunate often brings the people involved closer together.

As I write this report, Scholarship Auditions have been completed, and winners have been selected to perform on April 15/12. This Gala Concert will take place at Westworth United Church in Winnipeg. Naturally, we are hoping for a good turnout! Those young performers worked long hours to prepare for the monetary awards, which will be presented during this concert. It seems that the level of ability is increasing each year!

The Gold Medal Ceremony was held at the Winnipeg Art Gallery on January 8, 2012. This event was sponsored by the Royal Conservatory, and it was very well attended. The concert was delightful and awards were handed out quickly and efficiently! A big thanks to Lisa Doerksen for all her work on the occasion. On January 22/12 we held a holiday dinner party at St. Luke's Anglican Church in the Osborne Village Area. Kerrine Wilson arranged this event and our entertainers were Steve Kirby and his wife, Anna-Lisa Kirby, a jazz duo "par excellence". Teachers and their guests were most impressed with this gifted couple, who now reside in Winnipeg (and they are both on staff at the U. of M.) after living and performing in New York for several years. And the dinner was delicious.

The Winnipeg Music Festival ran for three weeks – from February 26 – March 18/12. Many of our teachers had students entered in the classes, and also found time to volunteer their services to the festival. Several teachers act as accompanists in the solo classes for all disciplines.

For three days February 10th – 12th, Glory St. Germain and several MRMTA member-volunteers – along with the Variety Club Children’s Charity volunteers, presented the 22nd MRMTA Pianothon at Loewen Piano House on Portage Ave. Thank you to all the students and teachers for their fund-raising efforts and performances! Almost \$6000 was raised this year.

Our calendar year continued on Mar. 18/12 with a Workshop at the home of Glory St. Germain. She gave an interesting presentation/discussion on the teaching of theory, using her own books and audio-visual aids, and, of course, her own lively dialogue.

We are presently looking into having our June 3/12 wind-up meeting combined with the Annual General Meeting – another new move by our Executive. Peter Van Ginkel is the Chairperson for this event, and we are eagerly looking forward to a great afternoon at the Viscount Gort Hotel. MRMTA Executive representatives, Glory St. Germain and myself, look forward to the CFMTA/FCAPM meetings to be held in Toronto – June 25th and 26nd. A good summer to everyone!

Submitted by,

Dorothy Lothar,  
President MRMTA

## YUKON REPORT 2011 - 2012

Another busy year in the life of YRMTA members

Our participation in the October Event involved managing an information booth, teaching music classes for children, and volunteering in the Instrument Petting Zoo for the Western Canadian Music Awards Mini Break Out West Kids Fair. November included a weekend workshop with Dalcroze specialist from Toronto, Cheng Feng Lin, who gave us many new ideas for teaching music concepts.

YRMTA members collaborated in different combinations, from guitar trio to jazz quartet, to present our annual recital at the end of January, and February had a visiting teacher from Winnipeg, Dr. Edmund Dawe, to give both an evening talk to teachers, and three days of lessons to our senior students.

March had performing pianists, Bax and Chung, presented by Whitehorse Concerts, available to work with piano duets and quartets, and April contained our annual Rotary Music Festival, which highlighted senior piano adjudicator Ian Parker, who also performed an evening concert.

The Yukon Chapter is delighted to have had a visit from CFMTA President Lorna Wanzel during our Festival, and in May has plans to be hosting Dr. Jennifer Snow from the Royal Conservatory for a Teacher Professional Development Seminar.

YRMTA maintains its youth concert initiative with Whitehorse Concerts. This relationship of over ten years enables members' students to receive five-dollar tickets for any concert in this classical series, making concerts approachable and affordable.

Yukon members are already planning our next members' recital, Pictures at an Exhibition.

Like all chapters, we have regular meetings, an AGM, executive planning sessions, and we are such a small group that most members wear several arts association hats. We are fortunate to access monies from the Yukon Arts Fund to assist with professional development opportunities, and in our small and seemingly isolated community, we are able to feel less insular when visitors come to share their ideas. As always, being a positive influence in the life of a child is a great privilege, honour, and responsibility, and we are blessed to have that opportunity.

Submitted by,

Annie Avery  
YRMTA President

## PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND REPORT 2011 - 2012

I am very happy to report that our membership has grown to 36 members this year - an all-time high. It has been a busy year, as usual, for our organization and we continue to play an active role in the arts community on PEI.

Our year began with the RCM Professional Development Seminar soon followed by our Branching Out event, a tea held at our new President Sue Irvine's house, where we met two prospective members. Our Canada Music Week® celebration was small but mighty good! Thirty students representing six studios performed Canadian repertoire for solo voice, piano and violin.

Also in November, four PEI students received RCM Gold Medals in the ceremony held in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Three of these recipients were students of PEIRMTA members. We congratulate the students and their teachers.

In January we held our awards concert for the Student Composer Competition.

Our adjudicator, PEI composer Kathy Campbell, was very enthusiastic about the compositions and has recommended five entries move on to the CFMTA competition.

Our Young Musicians' Recital Series continues to be a success with seven performance opportunities throughout the year. Three adult student and teacher get-togethers take place with performances and a pot-luck meal.

Our piano pedagogy group meets on a monthly basis.

Our seventh annual Perform-a-thon, in which students performed in an all-day concert for pledges, was a huge success. This event is our main fundraiser and provides students the perfect opportunity to perform their repertoire for an audience prior to the local music festivals on PEI.

We have recently received word that the PEI Department of Education has approved RCM accreditation, a process that has been underway for many years. Thank you to the many music teachers who have devoted their time and energy to this worthwhile project over the years.

Submitted by,

Suzanne Campbell  
PEIRMTA, 1st Delegate

## NEWFOUNDLAND/LABRADOR REPORT 2011 – 2012

Greetings to all our colleagues across the country!

Since our successful CMW® activities, featuring the music of Dean Burry, the NLRMTA has been busy with several projects. In December a series of recitals involving many teachers and their students was presented at MUN School of Music. These performances took place on the weekend prior to Christmas and featured seasonal as well as traditional repertoire. The special focus of these concerts was the contribution made to the Community Food Sharing Association through the donations of food and money collected as an admission to each recital. The benefits arising from this activity were multiple – students polished and performed their music; they experienced the gift of giving to others; the season was celebrated through music with friends and family; and the Food Bank's resources were enhanced to the value of \$6000.00! The NLRMTA is grateful to Margie Murray-Reed for her continued involvement in this most worthwhile project.

Each year from December to the end of February master classes are given by the faculty of MUN School of Music, and this is coordinated by the NLRMTA. The venue and master teachers are provided free, and the entry fee charged to each performer is donated to the scholarship fund of the NLRMTA. Students at a conservatory level of Grade Eight and above are eligible to partake. Again this year there was interest from students of Association members, as well as those studying with other teachers. Young performers found the classes very beneficial, especially because they were held prior to the Kiwanis Music Festival and music school auditions. Through these classes teachers from the NLRMTA were able to meet colleagues who are not members of the Association.

Our Winter Recital featured piano and vocal students, some of whom were performing for the first time. Others entertained the audience with selections they were preparing for concert group performances in the Festival. The NLRMTA Scholarship Recital, to be held on May 5, will be the culmination of our activities for students of registered teachers. Heather Hillier-Snow will adjudicate the event and will award scholarships and prizes which total over \$750.00. Again this year our organization is pleased to be presenting the winner of The Provincial Music Festival a \$500.00 scholarship.

Business will be mixed with pleasure when teachers meet for the AGM on May 6. Following the election of officers and committee reports, a pot-luck supper will be held. The small group of members who have so diligently served the Association will then be able to enjoy a carefree summer!

Submitted by,

Barbara Clarke,  
NLRMTA President

## **ALBERTA REPORT 2011 – 2012**

On an Alberta blue sky day last September, ARMTA held its Provincial Board meeting and AGM in Canmore, surrounded by the beauty of the mountains; we spent too much time indoors. For our banquet, we attended the musical performance “O Canada, eh?” at the Cornerstone dinner theatre. If you are in the Canmore/Banff area, it a wonderful fun musical event for the whole family.

In February, our “northern branch” representatives participated in our Provincial budget/board meeting via teleconference rather than flying down from Fort McMurray and Grande Prairie. This saves time and money, but we hope to have everyone present – in person – at our 2012 AGM in Calgary. ARMTA members will attend the semi-finals of Honens International Piano Competition.

A Premiere was held in Edmonton in February. Michael Massey, the director of the Edmonton Youth Orchestra has transcribed the 2nd piano parts of several Clementi Sonatinas for string ensemble. On February 5, 2012, 10 members of the Edmonton Youth Orchestra accompanied students of ARMTA teachers as they played the 1st Piano Part of the Sonatinas. It was a fabulous experience for the pianists, for Michael as he directed, and the audience was absolutely thrilled! It must happen again.

We thank ARMTA members for giving Masterclasses, workshops and concerts around the province.

Submitted by,

Karen MacDonald  
ARMTA Delegate

## **NEW BRUNSWICK REPORT 2011 - 2012**

NBRMTs have been busy over the last few months! Here is some of what we have been up to:

### **NBRMTA Music Competition**

The third biennial NBRMTA Music Competition was held on February 18, 2012 at the Charlotte Street Arts Centre in Fredericton. There were forty-eight competitors entered, thirty-two in piano and sixteen in voice, with thirteen teachers entering students. It was a long, but, successful day for all.

Due to the increased entries received, Round Two of the competition was eliminated. With the largest number of entrants being in Division One, this category was divided by grade. There were prizes awarded for each grade level. As in previous NBRMTA Music Competitions, the entry fees received went to the prize money awarded to the competitors.

Thanks go to the teachers for acting as adjudicators for the competition, and in other capacities throughout the day. February 18<sup>th</sup> was a fabulous day of music making in Fredericton provided by our students. Congratulations to all who participated. We hope to see the numbers continue to increase in future competitions. The next competition will take place in February 2014.

### **From Council ...**

- a new brochure has been prepared to be distributed to prospective new members, as well as parents and students.
- We've also been reviewing and updating the By-laws. The proposed changes will be discussed at our AGM in June.
- The Sackville Branch will host the annual convention and AGM on Saturday, June 16 on the campus of Mount Allison University.
- NBRMTA has adopted a provincial version of the new CFMTA Mission Statement

### **From Fredericton ...**

In October, the Fredericton Music Teachers' Association, along with St. Thomas University had the honour of hosting Dr. Ana Maria Bottazzi. A native of Argentina, Ms. Bottazzi began playing the piano at age 2. While in Fredericton, she performed a recital at St. Thomas University, taught private lessons, taught masterclasses, and held an informal talk with FMTA teachers. Having re-learned to play the piano as an adult after the tragedy of a near-fatal accident, Ana Maria has a great understanding of piano technique and how to teach technique. She has an ability to clearly articulate to students what she is asking and to obtain immediate results. Having overcome such great obstacles in her own life, Ana Maria refuses to believe anything is impossible. She encouraged each student to never give up and to do something with their lives. Ana Maria's love for performing, passion for teaching, and energy for life inspired all those who had the privilege of meeting her.

At the November general meeting, we had Nicholas Larade talk to us on Sports Psychology as it pertains to preparing for musical performances. He discussed visualization, positive self-talk and relaxation techniques. We also enjoyed a performance by one of our members, Chris Freeman, and the Barbershop Quartet, "Meadowlarks," who performed at the Ladies' International Barbershop Convention for Harmony, Inc. in Hershey, Pennsylvania in November.



The Fredericton Music Teachers' Association recently presented awards for 'Original Composition' to sixteen area music Students. The Competition, adjudicated this year by RMT Jennifer Mok (*B. Music and M. in Music Composition, City University of New York*), is held yearly to celebrate and encourage music composition. The Student prize-winners receive an individual adjudication, a certificate of merit and a cash award. However, this year, those who finished first and second in their age categories have been invited to perform their works at the FMTA-sponsored "ENCORE LUDMILA" concert, to be held on Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m. at the Charlotte Street Arts Centre in Fredericton. 'ENCORE LUDMILA' features LUDMILA KNEZKOVA HUSSEY, (Order of NB; Hon. Doc. Of Letters, UNB Saint John), internationally acclaimed pianist, composer, music pedagogue and founder and Director of the 'LUDMILA KNEZKOVA HUSSEY INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION' which has brought brilliant pianists from more than fifty countries of the world to compete here in New Brunswick.

### **From Carleton-Victoria Counties ....**

RMT Irma Mulherin, and her husband, Scott of *Broadway Productions* in Grand Falls are celebrating their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. They began with a benefit concert for the local food bank in 2001 and continue the tradition annually. The company offers a summer theatre camp for children, a dinner theatre which now tours over 5 locations each November, and a private music studio specializing in voice and piano. Over the past few years Broadway Productions has been expanded to boast the Music for Young Children program, and three outstanding choirs, all under the direction of Irma Mulherin. Most unique to the company are the original dinner theatre scripts which have won them acclaim as far away as Banff and Fort McMurray, Alberta. Irma's music students are frequent medal winners for the MTA Local Examination Centre, and represent the Victoria County Music Festival at the provincial festival each year.

RMTs Barbara Long and Sharon Dyer joined studios for their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual collaborative music celebration. Each student prepared and performed a piano ensemble piece. Following the performances, students worked in groups with boomwhackers and percussion/rhythm band instruments to prepare an impromptu presentation.

RMTs Barbara Long and Tracy Anderson are piloting an after-school MusIQ Club program in Hartland and Woodstock elementary schools. The program features *Adventus* software and combines features of traditional and new approaches to learning music in a group setting.

### **NB Student Composer Competition**

This year, we had 15 student composer entries in three different categories of the Student Composer Competition which are being judged by Rebekah Maxner, a composer with the Red Leaf Pianoworks.

Submitted by,

Barbara Long,  
NBRMTA President