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Canada Music Week® Semaine de la musique^{DM}

YUKON

Canada Music Week® 2015 was celebrated in the Yukon Territory with a Student Recital containing many Canadian compositions, from Preparatory to Grade 10 piano, violin, guitar, and voice. Composers included Pierre Gallant, Anne Crosby Gaudet, Stephen Chatman, and Susan Griesdale. Thanks to member Roslyn Wilson for organizing the concert, and many thanks to the teachers for encouraging their students to explore Canadian Music, for without this our Canadian composers would not have the tremendous output that they have.

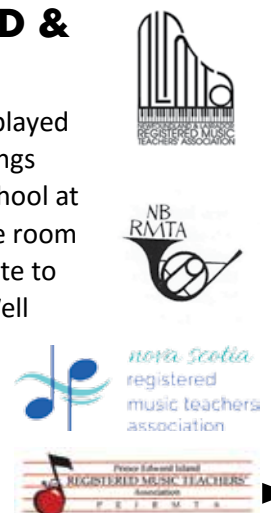
Annie Avery 🎵



NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR

Three young students played for their parents, siblings and friends at the music school at MUN in a smaller ensemble room and received a gift certificate to Menchie's for ice cream. Well enjoyed by all.

Catherine Cornick 🎵





BRITISH COLUMBIA

This year, ten Branches reported on their activities to celebrate Canadian Composers during the week commemorating the Patron Saint of Music, St. Cecilia. During the many Concerts that graced this week, over **49** student compositions were featured! Congratulations to all of the students as well as their teachers for this wonderfully creative endeavour!

Chilliwack, Coquitlam/Maple Ridge, East Kootenay, South Okanagan, and Sunshine Coast Branches hosted Concerts in honour of our National Music. Chilliwack brightened their Concert by decorating the venue with Canadian flags as well as having the performers dressed in colours mirroring the flag. The Coquitlam/Maple Ridge audience was delighted when two of T. Richert's compositions were performed with the composer in the audience! **Premiere Performance** certificates were also presented to their four budding composers. East Kootenay Branch enjoyed a rendition of *Canadian Girls* composed by local composer Dean Brody as well as music of various different styles. Twenty compositions by the students of this Branch's members who entered in their CMW composition festival were recognized with awards. Most of this year's Concerts were followed by the presentation of awards for excellence in both theory and practical exams.

The Nelson and Trail/Castlegar Branches joined together to host Michele Wheatley/Brown who is an active teacher, an adjudicator, a licensed Andover Educator, as well as an examiner for the Royal Conservatory. She adjudicated a mini-festival showcasing Canadian music as well as presiding over two Workshops presented to the teachers as well as their adult students.

The first workshop was on rhythm while the second one concerned itself on Body Mapping. [The study of sound biomechanical principles implemented to avoid playing related injuries]

Over a two year period, the North Island Branch amassed twenty-one compositions by students of their branch members. These were compiled and published as a book of **Compositions from Vancouver Island**. Congratulations to both students and teachers who worked so diligently on these works! Sixteen of these pieces were performed at a Concert where a total of 29 students played Canadian works by well-known composers as well as their own creations. Ms. Anita Perry, an award winning and published BC Composer presented two Composition Workshops for the Branch. The first of these showed teachers the methods they could use to encourage students

to compose. The second, guided the students themselves.

South Fraser had a three-part Canada Music Week® event. T. Richert and I. Voros performed pieces from the Red Leaf Pianoworks collection. This was followed by a Workshop led by Katya Pine who demonstrated how to use performance repertoire as a springboard to composition. These were followed by a recital featuring thirty enthusiastic performances.

The Victoria Branch hosted their yearly CMW Breakfast meeting after which Dr David G. Duke offered an interesting presentation titled **Some Thoughts on Canada Music Week**. This talk considered five different forms of music: Minimalism, Genre Bending, Musics, Cross Cultural, and the Power of Rock Music. Dr. Duke also paid tribute to Helen Dahlstrom as well as to Murray Adaskin. Prior to the lecture, he adjudicated the Murray Adaskin Composition Competition hosted by the Branch.

Over all, BC Branches celebrated CMW with great enthusiasm and creativity! Well done!

Sonia Hauser 



NOVA SCOTIA

Valley Chapter - On Sunday afternoon, November 22, students of the Valley Chapter presented a delightful recital to celebrate Canada Music Week®. This event took place in Denton Hall, sponsored by Acadia University. Thirty-six piano students, from beginner to Level 8, performed a wide array of selections for their appreciative audience. Canadian compositions were identified with an asterisk on the printed program and each performer received a Canada Music Week® pencil. In the lobby teachers organized a display of second-hand music books, which students and parents could purchase with a small donation.

Heather Pineo Regan

Dartmouth Chapter - Five music teachers used various locations in the Halifax-Dartmouth area, on the weekend of November 21 and 22, to celebrate Canada Music Week®, with some ninety one performances by students. The aims of Canada Music Week® were highlighted and recitals featured a high proportion of Canadian composers.

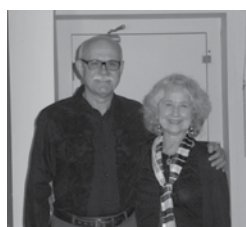
Some Conservatory Canada medals were presented, and some younger children displayed musical artwork.



Pascal St. Peters



Valery Makagon



Bob Bauer & Diana Torbert

There was enthusiasm and enjoyment displayed by performers and audience alike. *Michal King*

The **Halifax** Chapter of the NSRMTA hosted an exciting afternoon to celebrate Canada Music Week® for 2015. We presented a student recital featuring all Canadian works and original compositions, with an emphasis on the connection between all the arts. Students were encouraged to present a poem, story, or visual art to further express the music they performed.

Our program featured two first place national award winners in the CFMTA Composer Competition for this year: Elena Brushett – Preparatory, Class 1, and Owen Maitzen –Category C (19 years and under). Elena performed a piano solo, and Owen performed two of his compositions: a piano solo and a work for violin, performed by Jennifer Jones, a violinist with Symphony Nova Scotia with Owen accompanying her.

Our guest speaker was Robert (Bob) Bauer, a respected Canadian composer, broadcaster, performer, conductor, arts administrator and educator. He worked for the CBC for 30 years as a recording engineer and music producer. Mr. Bauer has composed for orchestra, vocalists, piano, chamber music, contemporary ensembles, and electro acoustics. His musical style incorporates elements of impressionism, minimalism,

world music, rock, jazz and more! Mr. Bauer is an active composer and performer (guitar) and shared many insightful ideas and experiences with our students. We had about thirty students from ten studios performing and many of them shared artwork or poems to highlight the music.

Diana Torbert

SASKATCHEWAN

Canada Music Week® is celebrated jubilantly in Saskatchewan. These are reports representing local branch's activities.

The **Saskatoon** Branch had students perform pieces of Coulthard, Louie, as well as Saskatchewan composers Lynette Sawatsky, Janet Gieck and Sarah Konecsni. The pieces were adjudicated by Deborah Buck who critiqued pianists and recommended the outstanding pianists for the Saskatoon Branch's Canada Music Week Recital that occurred in Emmanuel Anglican Church.

Yorkton Branch Wes Froese, a Saskatchewan composer critiqued each of the eighty students who performed Canadian music. He also performed a mini concert of his pieces and gave a clinic on creating accompaniments for gospel music from a lead sheet.



Yorkton

SASKATCHEWAN - cont.

The **Swift Current** - winner of one the William Andrews - more on page 14. Thanks to CFMTA for presenting the William Andrews award.

The **Battleford** Branch celebrated Canada Music Week on November 15th with 22 local students performing Canadian music in voice and piano. The recital was called "Keeping the Beat" with guest artist Jan Michael Bourgeois. He is a local percussionist who wowed the audience with a performance featuring a snare drum and marimba solo. He also performed marimba duets with his student Noah Esquirol. Many music students conversed with Jan Michael after the performance and practiced the marimbas.

West Central Branch - Kindersley had 2 mini recitals for Canada Music Week®. Each student introduced their piece and gave a short bio on the composer. Then we ate "maple leaf" cookies and marked the composers on a Canadian map with little flags.

In **Biggar** piano students went on a tour, to share Canadian compositions with their peers at local schools. Next, a community based fund - raising concert filled the theatre with over 50 performers (choirs, ensembles and soloists) aged four to eighty. Their choice of Canadian music ranged from Eleanor Daley to Stompin Tom Connors and raised funds for the local theatre. The week finished with 15 piano and vocal students busking for an audience at the local Pharmasave and filling the store with great Canadian music. The students raised an additional \$100 for the local theatre!

Marij Maldon 🍷

ALBERTA

On November 22, **Calgary** ARMTA members and friends gathered at St. John's Music for our Composer Showcase that featured eight Alberta composers: Kevin Chen, Peter Rudzik, Hope Lee, Roberta Stephen, Paul Bagley, Stephen Rogers, Han Ding and Michalis Andronikou, and seventeen performers. The music included two world premieres and recital repertoire, with some very traditional sounds, and some very contemporary sounds – a wonderful balance of old and young! Each performance included at least one ARMTA member as a composer or performer or member's student. The composers enjoyed the camaraderie of meeting other composers, having a supportive audience for their works, and a wine and cheese social. The event was a great success and we will plan to do this again. *Beth Olver*

Edmonton ARMTA hosted a Canadian Music Celebration in the studio of Leslie Bai on November 14. The program featured mostly piano works by Canadian composers, Rebekah Maxner, Lynette Sawatsky, Frank Horvat, Ann Crosby, Nancy Telfer, Martha Hill Duncan, Ernst Schneider, Teresa Richert, Joyce Pinkney and Pierre Gallant, to name a few. Several piano trios and works composed by Malcolm Forsyth were performed – one for cello and another for voice. We were honoured to have Edmonton composer George Andrix in attendance, along with Sylvia Shadick-Taylor, who performed two of his Compositional Etudes. Bravo to all who were willing to perform to make this an exciting and worthwhile event!
Annette George and Leslie Bai

The **Fort McMurray** Music Teachers' Association held their Annual Scholarship and Awards Recitals on November 21. This is the largest undertaking of the year to recognize student achievement, benefitting all music students within the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo who have excelled and received a mark of 80% or over on their Royal Conservatory of Music (RCM) Examinations in any discipline during the previous calendar year. A Certificate of Excellence was prepared/presented to all students receiving First Class Honors. The event this year included sixteen performers and 136 Certificates of Excellence covering 103 students, and 33 scholarships. The evening concluded with a wonderful reception.

Marie Gazzard

Lethbridge ARMTA held their annual Canada Music Week® Recital and Student Awards Presentation on November 21 in the Lethbridge Public Library Main Branch. Twenty-three students performed piano selections featuring Canadian composers Linda Niamath, Stephen Chatman, Nancy Telfer, Pierre Gallant and Boris Berlin. Two display cases at the Lethbridge Public Library were filled with biographies and music about Canadian composers as well as information about Canada Music Week® for the month of November.

Christine Rogers 🍷



ONTARIO

The **Owen Sound** branch celebrated with a student recital featuring works from across Canada and by our very own members including Debra Wanless, Jen Smith Lanthier, and Beth Hamilton. Over twenty-five students participated in the recital, which was followed by a cake and punch.

Kingston's Canada Music Festival featured forty-six performers: voice, strings, and piano. Local composers were highlighted (Martha Hill Duncan, Beverly Porter, John Burge, James Medd). Twenty-three students were selected for the finale concert and hockey tickets for our local OHL team were given away.

Hamilton/Halton celebrated Canada Music Week® with two wonderful recitals! Over fifty students of voice, piano and guitar, from all levels performed works by Canadian composers, including those of three of our own members. We were also treated to a couple of "own compositions" from young composers. Each recital opened with a jazzy version of *O Canada*.

North Bay branch's Canada Music Week® event was our "Honour Recital" which was held Saturday, November 21st.



North Bay

Kitchener-Waterloo - Winner of one of the William Andrews awards. *Report and photos on page 12.*

The **Barrie** branch had a tremendous attendance this year at their Awards Recitals. Each recital began with the singing of our national anthem, then performances from over fifty piano and vocal students were enjoyed. Students received treat bags of maple leaf candies. Certificates, honorariums, and awards were given for high exam marks and excellent performances.



Barrie

Ottawa Region held a Canada Music Week® recital. Forty plus students performed works by Canadian composers including local composers Christine Donkin and Claudia Cashin-Mack. The audience enjoyed piano solos, piano duets, and vocal and violin performances. After the recital, students were presented with certificates of participation as well as beautiful cupcakes, and guests enjoyed a lovely reception.

The **Belleville** branch held a well-attended Junior Recital and Tea, showcasing the musical talents, piano and vocal, of 41 young students. Many played Canadian repertoire

by composers such as Nancy Telfer, Clifford Crawley, Debra Wanless and Anne Crosby. The performances were followed by pictures, with many of the students waving Canadian flags and wearing Canadian scarves. The day culminated with a reception to celebrate the students' performances.



Belleville

The **North York/York** Region branch sponsored two recitals in local Seniors' Residences. These included students in piano, voice, strings, and speech arts, with both young and adult students participating. As well, the participants (performing Canadian composers' works) with the highest mark in each category and each level received trophies to celebrate Canadian music.

Central Toronto branch held a composition master class with ORMTA's president, composer Frank Horvat. Students, parents, and teachers appreciated Frank's insightful and encouraging comments.

Alice Dearden 

NEW BRUNSWICK

Moncton - On November 22, 2015, the Moncton Music Teachers' Association held their annual recital to celebrate Canada Music Week. We were treated to twenty seven performers, showcasing their talents. Many of these performers were current or former Music for Young Children students



Music for Young Children students

so they were invited to add an impromptu rhythm ensemble to "Land of the Silver Birch" amongst the

performances on piano and cello. The delightful recital was followed by a reception, featuring a Canada Music Week® cake and homemade punch.

Doris Sabeau

Carleton-Victoria County

Students participated in a studio performance class. Each student performed a piece by a Canadian composer and their own composition. I presented information on Martha Hill Duncan. We listened to and discussed her composition Sunshower. The younger students performed a rhythm band selection, *December Medley*, arranged by Francis Balodis. This was followed by cupcakes and juice. *Sharon Dyer*



Most of the students composed a piece throughout October and November and they all learned a piece by a Canadian composer. These pieces were performed for the residents of a local retirement centre. The seniors enjoyed seeing and hearing the young performers. Cake, ice cream and punch were served to all.

Barbara Long 🎵

MANITOBA

Winnipeg - How did you celebrate Canada Music Week® in your studio? Did you get kids to play *O Canada* by ear? Learn about Canadian composers? Get kids to compose their own composition? Some of these activities are obviously going on in teaching studios in Manitoba, as is evident by the wonderful performances at our annual *Kick-off Canada Music Week®* recital which was held on Sunday Nov. 15th at Fort Garry Mennonite Fellowship in Fort Richmond.

There were original compositions by the students; one, a piano duet entitled *Nescio* by Jessica Todd and another very moving vocal piece by Anna Schwartz who sang *My Perfect World* and accompanied herself on

piano to end our program. Three other students played their own piano compositions and most students introduced



Anna Schwartz

themselves and their Canadian composer to us before performing. Many students completed a worksheet to research their piece and Canadian composer, and deepen their learning experience! One of our very own Manitoba composers, Julianne Warkentin-Dick was in attendance with her students, and some of her very creative pieces were played for us. Rounding out the program of

thirty pieces were many piano solos and four vocalists!

Thanks to the many teachers who helped out with this concert and to the fourteen teachers (including our very own Julianne Warkentin Dick a Manitoba composer) that prepared their students for this gig! It was a most enjoyable afternoon!

Leanne Hiebert 🎵





QUÉBEC

Notre semaine de musique canadienne au Québec a été un véritable tourbillon ! Comme à chaque année, cet événement a eu lieu dans une salle de concert du Cégep St-Laurent à Montréal. Dimanche le 22 novembre dernier, nous avons entendu plus de quatre-vingt jeunes musiciens nous présenter du répertoire de musique canadienne. En tout, quatre récitals ont rempli cette journée riche en musique.

Un juge, Michel Fournier, a écouté toute cette journée de musique et nous a donné ses coups de cœurs en fin de journée. En tout, 27 musiciens ont été sélectionnés pour participer au concert gala qui a eu lieu au Cégep St-Laurent le 28 novembre. De plus, nous avons invité Jeanne Frenette qui s'est méritée une deuxième place lors du concours de composition de la FCAPM/CFMTA afin qu'elle puisse nous interpréter sa composition « Fantaisie en quatre temps ». Pour conclure le concert gala, notre jeune pianiste Zhan Hong Xiao, qui s'est présenté au concours de la FCAPM/CFMTA, est venu nous interpréter la pièce canadienne qui lui a valu le premier prix en juillet dernier soit « A wild Innocence » de David McIntyre.

Partitions, disques et bourses font partie des prix offerts par le centre de musique canadienne et l'APMQ/QMTA. La soirée s'est terminée autour d'un léger goûter qui nous a permis d'échanger avec les concurrents et leur professeur. Encore une fois, une belle réussite et de jeunes musiciens reconnaissants d'avoir pu participer à cette activité !

Canada Music Week® in Quebec was once again a major event in our calendar year. Like last year, concerts were held at the CÉGEP St-Laurent Music Faculty in Montreal. On Sunday November 22nd, we heard more than 80 young musicians playing for an enthusiastic audience, selections of various Canadian repertoire. Given the large number of participants, four recitals were organized on that day.

Pianist and teacher Michel Fournier, our adjudicator, enjoyed listening to all of them. At the end of the event, 27 musicians were selected to play at our prestigious gala concert held Saturday evening November 28th. We also invited on this occasion Jeanne Frenette, recipient of a second prize in her category at the 2015 CFMTA/FCAPM Composition Competition. She played for us her composition Fantaisie en quatre temps. Our last performer was another invited guest, Zhan Hong Xiao. The Quebec representative at last summer's piano competition in Vancouver played for us the piece for which he won the Dorothy Buckley Prize for the best performance of a Canadian composition, David McIntyre's A Wild Innocence. We are very proud of Zhan's achievements.

Music, CDs and scholarships were awarded to the musicians, proudly donated by the QMTA and the Canadian Music Center in Montreal. We concluded the evening with a buffet, an opportunity for our guests to mingle and chat with the young musicians and their teachers. We

applaud all the volunteers involved with this year's Canada Music Week®. The event was very successful and our students and teachers were extremely grateful for everything.

Lynne Gagné - French
David Côté - English 🇨🇦

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

The PEI Registered Music Teachers' Association held its Canada Music Week® event on Saturday, November 14th. The afternoon began with a reception celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the PEIRMTA. Teachers, students and parents enjoyed some sweets and conversation before gathering in the Steel Recital Hall at the University of Prince Edward Island for the annual Canada Music Week®



Recital. Twenty-five piano and violin students from six studios participated in the recital, which included new and familiar works by Canadian composers. All of the performers received CMW pencils, ribbons and Canadian flags.

Stephanie Cole 🇨🇦

