



CANADA MUSIC WEEK® - *Coast to Coast*



YUKON

The Yukon was honoured this year with a visit from the National Arts Centre Orchestra, which played a selection by Canadian composer Alexina Louie, entitled *Take the Dog Sled*.

We were fortunate to have Alexina Louis give a master class to three of our senior piano students who each played one of her compositions. It was an enlightening evening for all, but was especially significant for those students who met and worked with the creator of their piano selections.



The YRMTA completed Canada Music Week® with a recital November 18th, at Riverdale Baptist Church. Twelve vocal and piano students shared their wide selection of Canadian compositions, along with a display of posters that some had made about the composer of their work.

submitted by Annie Avery

BRITISH COLUMBIA

This year, Canada Music Week® fell between Nov 18 and 24. The week contains the feast day of St. Cecilia who is the Patron Saint of Music. This is a very important week in the celebration of our National Culture and Heritage!

The **Abbotsford** Branch enjoyed a concert where twenty-one students performed works by Stephen Chatman, Anne Crosby, Christine Donkin and Veronika Krausas to name a few. Paul Williamson, winner of the BC Piano Competition, wrapped up the evening's concert playing Larysa Kuzmenko's: *In Memoriam to Victims of Chernobyl*.

The **Coquitlam/Maple Ridge** Branch hosted two recitals in honour of Canada Music Week®. The Mid-Island Branch put on a concert featuring fifteen duets, trios and ensembles. There were also solo piano and guitar performances. Of the seven guitar performances, five represented the performer's own composition. The concert ended with a fast moving, toe tapping fiddle rendition of the *Hangman's Reel*.

The *North Shore* hosted Jordan Nobles as their guest composer. His work *Museum Pieces: Six Solo pieces for chamber ensemble* (named for 20th Century pieces of art), were played by student performers. A unique contribution to the recital was the premiere of a suite written especially for this occasion by Diane Sanford – a North Shore teacher. The *Medieval Suite* consisted of eight short pieces which were performed by the composer's own students.

Oscar Peterson, Jean Coulthard and Linda Niamath were but a few of the composers featured at a recital held by

BRITISH COLUMBIA - cont

Prince George Branch. The performers were asked to present at least three facts about their Canadian Composer while the other students were encouraged to take notes as they were quizzed on these facts throughout the evening. Teachers requested that their students make a poster depicting what Canada Music Week® meant to them. Forty of the students responded and their art work was displayed during the recital.

Arne Sahlén was the featured composer of the **Trail/Castlegar Branch.** He gave a two part workshop on composition in the morning and afternoon of Nov. 24. At the evening recital, along with twenty student performances of Canadian works, Mr. Sahlén performed Murray Adaskin's work *Eskimo Melodies*, as well as some of his own compositions.

On the Sunshine Coast, twenty-six students performed Canadian compositions on piano, guitar, violin, and voice at a recital held in honour of Canada Music Week®. Along with favourites by Nancy Telfer, Linda Niamath, and Boris Berlin; popular composers Oscar Peterson, Joni Mitchell, and Michael Buble were featured. Several students impressed everyone by playing their own compositions, as well as one piece by RMT Carolyn Cordsen. The concert finale consisted of two student guitarists and one pianist performing an original song.

submitted by Sonia Hauser

ALBERTA

This year we have two reporting branches, **Fort McMurray** and **Lethbridge**, both of which have chosen to present their awards recitals within the parameters of Canada Music Week®. In each case students were honored for excellence in both Theory and Performance, with the Fort McMurray branch honoring students with first class honors in their exams.



In Alberta for many years the Student Writing Competition and Canada Music Week® were combined under the same umbrella. Currently we have split these roles, and are seeking to find a Convenor for Canada Music Week® who will encourage members to participate and celebrate Canadian Music and Canadian Composers. With the advent of a new position created, we are hopeful that more interest and participation in Canada Music Week® will ensue in the branches.

Our larger branches avail themselves of Contemporary Showcase, a national organization focusing on the promotion of Canadian Music in collaboration with the Canadian Music Centre. Although not ARMTA or CFMTA per se, this is a wonderful organization with a syllabus of Canadian works which are used in festivals all over Canada. Member branches choose to support this very worthwhile commitment to Canadian composers and their compositions as their homage to Canadian Music.

submitted by Karen MacDonald

SASKATCHEWAN

There were two activities in Saskatchewan to celebrate Canada Music Week®. In the **East Central** area, individual teachers celebrated by hosting their own Canadian Recitals.

In **Yorkton**, the YRMTA hosted their annual Canadian Showcase. Adjudicating this year was Marilyn Marsh. Sixty-two students participated in this non competitive festival, which was held in St. Andrews United Church in Yorkton. As a reward each student received a CMW pencil and sticker.

submitted by Laureen Kells

MANITOBA

MRMTA has a NEW look. We are very pleased to present our new MRMTA logo and a new website mrmta.org.

This Canada Music Week®, and indeed, this past *Canada Music Year*, has been particularly exciting for The Brandon & Westman Registered Music Teachers' Association.

Last year, in November 2011, Regina composer, David McIntyre, came to Brandon for Canada Music Week®, to host a Student Recital, conduct Masterclasses for students working on his compositions, and Workshop with students on improvisation. As a result, we were inspired to commission David to write a collection of pieces that would appeal to our membership, and that would include students of various



levels and instruments, and feature different ensembles for presentation at this year's Canada Music Day Celebrations.



MANITOBA - cont.

The Collection consists of three works:

- *Adrift* - A duet for a melody instrument (flute, violin, or other) with harp or piano. (Grade 1-2 level)
- *L'appel* - A duet for voice and harp or piano. (Grade 3-5 level)
- *Main Street Stride* - A piano quartet (two pianos, eight hands). (Grade 7-8 level)

The Premier Performance of David McIntyre's Commissioned Pieces was held on Saturday, November 24th at 10:30am in the Lorne Watson Recital Hall at the School of Music, Brandon University, with the composer in attendance. It was a thrill for students, teachers and audience to hear different player and instrument combinations, and fun for everyone to witness the spontaneity in which David and students worked – trying out new musical expressions and ideas, as well as experiencing the sheer joy of making music together!

The Canada Music Week® Recital, in the afternoon at 2:00 pm, featured students playing pieces by Canadian Composers, hosted by David McIntyre, who introduced the performers, and commented on the music, the composer, and the performances. Each session was proceeded with a reception to which everyone was invited



for a piece of Canada Music Week® Birthday Cake, and hot chocolate. Performers, teachers and audience had a great time visiting with David and with one another – some even planning their next pieces and performances! In all, a year well worth the effort, and a day well worth the play!

*submitted Ann Germani
President - The Brandon & Western
Manitoba*

On Sunday, November 18 the Manitoba Registered Music Teachers hosted a recital held at Loewen Piano House. The recital was a celebration of Canadian Composers for Canada Music Week®. There were twenty-one performers including some of our own wonderful composers. There was a wide variety of music played by children as well as adults. This recital showcased the diverse styles of Canadian composers of all ages. We had a beautiful performance by Julianne Dick who has had much of her music published. We also had several young composers performing their own pieces to a very welcoming and appreciative audience. The venue was elegant with two grand pianos on stage, one for the accompanists and the other for the piano performers. A large Canadian Flag was prominent at the refreshment table, which was completed with little Canadian Flags on the dainties. Thank you to Loewen Piano House for welcoming us and thank you so much to the teachers, composers, students and parents for making the recital such a success. It was an event where we were all happy and proud to be part of Canadian music.

*submitted by Laureen Reeds
Student Programming Coordinator*

ONTARIO

On Sunday November 18th, students and families gathered in **Brantford** to listen to our annual ORMTA Canada Music Week® Recital. The recital included piano, voice and instrumental compositions, and began with *O Canada*, played by returning student Rebecca Orsini. Rebecca was present to receive the George White Memorial Scholarship for outstanding musical achievement, as selected by May Hillier and her committee. Rebecca is currently studying at the University of Toronto. Rebecca also played Morel's Etude #2. Guests for the recital, Trois Femmes, performed David L McIntyre's Piano Trio #1. All present enjoyed the wonderful diversity indicative of Canadian compositions.

submitted by Naomi Morrison

On Sunday November 18th - fifty-five parents and teachers gathered together at the Resurrection Lutheran Church in Orleans to listen to twenty-five students of **Ottawa** - ORMTA teachers play music by Canadian composers in celebration of Canada Music Week®.



Although the concert consisted of mostly piano music there was also a young vocalist who graced the audience with a holiday song called "D'ou viens tu bergere?". The students ranged in age from 6 to 17 and the styles of music consisted of everything from classical to jazz. All the teachers of the performers were in the audience

ONTARIO - cont

which is such a lovely thing to see. One student even performed his own piece which wowed the audience. The concert concluded with a piano/double bass jazz duet which was the perfect way to end a lovely concert. ORMTA Ottawa President Sandy Menard handed out certificates to the students and Canada Music Week® Convener Tania Granata also treated all the students with



Ottawa's famous "Obama" cookies from downtown bakery

Moulin de Provence in the shape of a maple leaf. The performers and audience then enjoyed a reception following the concert. All in all a perfect way to spend an afternoon!!"

submitted by Tania Granata

The **Owen Sound Branch** of the ORMTA celebrated Canada Music Week® 2012 by holding a student recital on Friday, November 23rd at the Owen Sound Alliance Church. There were



sixteen students on the programme ranging in age from 4 to adult. Some of the composers included in the programme were Debra Wanless, David Duke, Jean Coulthard, Boris Berlin, Anne Crosby, Stephen Chatman and Larysa Kuzmenko. We even had one student play his own composition. We concluded this special recital with a Canada Music Week® cake,



and each student took home special mementos: a calendar of Canadian composers, CMW pencils/stickers and a maple leaf cookie. Congratulation again to everyone for all your hard work!

submitted by Jennifer Lanthier

On Sunday 18th November 2012 the **Hamilton-Halton Branch** of ORMTA held a special recital at St. Christopher's Church in Burlington, called *FOCUS ON COMPOSERS*, featuring works of twenty-two diverse Canadian Composers, performed by piano and vocal students.



To increase awareness of Canadian Composers and their music and to celebrate composition as a living art here and now, a souvenir program was produced for the event. For each composer being performed, there was a 100-word biography and a picture in the program, along with the listed programmed pieces and the performers' names. The composers were arranged more or less chronologically, from **Calixa Lavallée** (born in 1842), **Jean Coulthard**, **Oskar Morawetz**, **Oscar Peterson**, **Mary Gardiner**, **Pierre Gallant** and **Patrick Cardy**, to name just a few, through to two of our own student composers who performed original works, **Pavel Chenarev** and **Mira Meikle**. Also, the well-known Oakville composer and member teacher of our branch, **Linda Fletcher**, accompanied six student singers performing her own compositions.

We celebrated afterwards with maple-leaf cookies, coffee and juice. It was

gratifying to hear samples of the wide range of distinguished Canadian creative musical writing that is our heritage as well as an ongoing tradition.

submitted by Janice Beninger

On Sunday, November 25th, 2012, the **Belleville Branch** of the Ontario Registered Music Teachers' Association, hosted a music recital for its junior musicians. Since the concert took place during Canada Music Week®,

LONGBOW
PUBLISHING

604-319-1630

publications@longbow.ca

www.longbow.ca

🎵 Your one-stop online theory shopping! Books from well-known authors covering:

- Rudiments
- History
- Harmony
- Counterpoint
- Analysis
- Pedagogy
- Keyboard theory
- Graded piano books

🎵 Music history lessons via correspondence now available!

Publications that fit your needs





Music without borders

CONSERVATORY CANADA™ has pushed the frontiers of innovation and is employing a unique technology that enables us to reach out to music students all over Canada.

Not only can we connect with students in remote communities, but we are willing to connect with them ANYWHERE, ANYTIME!

At CONSERVATORY CANADA™ we will enable students to take exams whenever they are ready with our new Flex Exams. To find out more, contact our office.



zenph

Roland

We make learning music fun.

1-800-461-5367 | www.conservatorycanada.ca

42 parentinfo@conservatorycanada.ca



ONTARIO - cont.

the repertoire was largely Canadian and served as an introduction to our wonderful Canadian composers and their compositions. Forty young students at the grade 4 level and under, presented piano solos, duets, and vocal selections to a packed audience of family and friends. The performances were enthusiastic and comical at times - especially from the five year-olds - and were overwhelmingly well-received by the audience. For many, this recital offered the first chance to perform in front of a crowd. At the conclusion, everyone enjoyed a well-deserved treat of sweets and beverages supplied by the teachers.

submitted by Pat Ross

The **North Bay** branch hosted our annual Honour Recital on Saturday, November 17, 2012. To open this event, an official proclamation from Mayor Al McDonald was read announcing Canada Music Week® as November 18-24th.

At this event, students of ORMTA teachers were celebrated for their success in Conservatory exams in 2012. Anyone who achieved 70 per cent or more was invited to play or sing at this recital. The student with the highest mark (of at least 80 per cent) in each grade was presented with a certificate and a Canada Music Week® pencil. For grades six and higher and for the student with the top advanced theory mark, a small scholarship accompanied the certificate.

Half of the pieces played or sung at this event this year were written by Canadian Composers, and students have been working all this fall to prepare for our Canadian Contemporary Showcase which is held in February.

With Frances Balodis in our membership, we have the privilege of personal involvement with a Canadian composer who also helps us contact others when we want to connect our students with the composers whose music they are playing. We encourage students to write to these Canadian composers. What a thrill for a student to receive a personal letter from a living, breathing, published composer, especially if sample music is enclosed!

In February, 2012, Frances taught a series of three composition workshops for interested students, parents and teachers. Several students went on to enter their composition in the Kiwanis Festival composition class. So you see, the North Bay branch celebrates Canadian music all year round!

submitted by Susan Nicholson



On November 18, **Pickering Branch** held a Canada Music Week® Concert which included sixty-four participants. As we wanted to include as many participants as possible, we did not include only Canadian Music. There was certainly a variety which included singers and pianists. Along with the music program we encouraged the participants to draw a picture of their music and what it meant to them.



Our statement around the art was MUSIC IS ART - Allows a human being to take all these boring but difficult techniques and use them to create emotion. That is the one thing science cannot duplicate humanism, feeling and emotion, I am including some of the drawings. One of the children had the privilege to be chosen to have his Christmas card printed and is now sold this year as a fund raiser for the Sick Children's Hospital. We also presented participation certificates for each child. We also sold CD's for our scholarship fund which we featured Boris Zarankin and Giles Tomkins. Pickering raised \$7,000.00 to achieve this. As we are a small branch of only a few active teachers this was a lot of money to raise and this was over a period of approx. three years. We raised \$400.00 at our current concert.

submitted by Marion Roberts

QUEBEC

English –

The CMW was great as expected in Quebec this year. On the 18th of November, at Cégep de St-Laurent's hall, the room is full and the audience is eager to hear 72 young musicians aged between 5 and 17 years old, perform in 3 recitals throughout the day. The Canadian music repertoire is immensely rich and prosperous. Piano, flute, and voices works are played and heard with delight. New discoveries are being made. About 30 young musicians are chosen for the gala concert taking place the following Saturday.

As expected, the Gala is simply beautiful and great, featuring different Canadian composer's music work, and Francis Battah, once again, performed his new winning composition called "Le déclin". The "soirée" was one to remember. It was a true celebration and students were awarded prizes and certificates. The "coup de coeur" from Judge Marybelle Frappier went to 2 skillful pianists who's name are now starting to be quite known. Antoine Rivard-Landry and Francis Battah.

The unconditional implication of our young musicians supported by their dedicated teachers in their exploration of our Canadian music heritage is greatly alive. Year after year it remains a unique and appreciated celebration that many music lovers in our province are attending. Next year's event will reveal once more new talents, new performers and composers. This event is not to be missed.

French –

Le semaine de musique canadienne fut un bel événement comme prévu, cette année encore. Nous sommes le 18 Novembre 2012 et le public présent à la salle de concert du Cégep de St-Laurent est attentif et a bien hâte d'entendre les 72 jeunes musiciens âgés de 5 à 17 ans qui performeront tous au long de la journée, dans 3 concerts. Le répertoire de musique canadienne est immensément riche et prospère. Des pièces de piano, piano et flûte traversière ainsi que des voix ravissent les auditeurs. La découverte de nouvelles oeuvres enchante les coeurs, et une trentaine de choisis performeront au concert gala le Samedi suivant.

Comme prévu le Gala est simplement génial. Au programme, plusieurs pièces de compositeur(es) canadiens pour tous les goûts. Par ailleurs Francis Battah joue sa nouvelle composition " Le déclin. Il a remporté un prix en composition pour une 2ième année consécutive. En bref, c'est une vraie célébration de notre héritage musical et les étudiants reçoivent des prix et bourses. Le "coup de coeur" de la Juge Marybelle Frappier revient à 2 pianistes talentueux dont nous n'avons pas fini d'entendre parler. Il s'agit d'Antoine Rivard Landry et de Francis Battah.

L'implication inconditionnelle de nos jeunes musiciens ainsi que de leur professeurs qui les supportent dans cette exploration continuelle de la musique canadienne est très actuelle et vivante. D'année en année, l'événement est toujours aussi unique et apprécié. Le public ne se lasse pas. À ne pas manquer!

submitted by Nathanielle Lanthier



NEW BRUNSWICK

Several teachers and students throughout the province of New Brunswick were enthusiastic to participate in different Canada Music Week® events held in various locations. We are happy to report very successful events.

Carleton-Victoria Counties - In Carleton County, Sharon Dyer and Barbara Long each hosted a Canada Music Week® celebration in their studios. Students performed a piece by a Canadian composer as well as an original composition they had written this fall. Following the performances students learned about and listened to performances by Oscar Peterson [BL] and Diana Krall [SD] on YouTube. Of course no celebration would be complete without some party food! In Barbara's studio, students prepared essays or posters that on their Canadian composer to display.

In Victoria County - Irma Mulherin celebrated Canada Music Week® with students by preparing and recording our National Anthem *O Canada* with singers and pianists. These recordings were then sent to the local schools for use in the morning singing of the Anthem. Most students also prepared a repertoire selection composed by a Canadian and were required to research the composer giving either a short report or project which will be on display in the studio.

Saint John - The Saint John Music Teachers' Association celebrated Canada Music Week® with their 4th Contemporary Showcase on Friday November 23rd, 2012. Forty students participated, each playing/singing two selections. Thanks to Janet Kidd (our own local Canadian composer) for

adjudicating the twenty-two vocalists with selections by Donna Rhodenizer, Violet Archer, David Dahlgren and Clifford Crawley to name a few.

Pianists had the pleasure of being adjudicated by our provincial president Barbara Long. They all came out of their classes having learned something to technically improve their pieces and with posters with pictures and biographies of their Canadian Composers that Barbara had made for each of them. Some of the represented composers were Martha Hill Duncan, Anne Crosby, Sarah Konescni, Beverly Porter and Jean Coulthard. We would like to thank all of the Canadian composers who enrich the musical education of our students.

Submitted by: Rita Raymond- Millett, Saint John/KV Contemporary Showcase coordinator.

Fredericton - On Saturday, November 24, the Fredericton Music Teachers' Association held a recital to celebrate Canada Music Week®. The program included performances of a variety of Canadian music by piano, guitar, violin, and voice students as well as a small vocal ensemble. There were some young students who performed for the very first time through to some senior students. The wide variety of music presented made for an enjoyable afternoon to celebrate the work of Canadian composers. Thank you to Christine Freeman for again enthusiastically organizing this event.

*submitted by Irma Mulherin
NB Canada Music Week Chair*

NOVA SCOTIA

The Halifax Chapter was pleased to hold a special celebration for Canada Music Week®. On Saturday, November 17th, the eve of Canada Music week, twenty-six students and their families gathered at Calvin Presbyterian Church for a recital which included a special talk from Dinuk Wijeratne.



Dinuk spoke on "Creativity and Why It Matters." He described how, in composing, it is usually necessary to go through three stages: imitation, assimilation, and innovation. In Dinuk's own first composing attempts as a teenager, he attempted to imitate Mozart. Although he now sees that his compositions during this time left much to be desired, this imitation was a necessary step to discovering his own compositional style.

Dinuk also explained how sometimes it can be interesting to try to imitate the sound of another instrument on the piano, and gave an example of how he came up with a way to make sounds on the piano that are similar to the sounds of tabla drums. He played two recordings: first, *March* from *The Nutcracker Suite* by Tchaikovsky, followed by *March* from the Duke Ellington *Nutcracker Suite*. These examples showed how one composer had imitated another composer, yet made a very unique piece of music.

Dinuk involved the students, asking them questions about their own composing and improvising attempts. Dinuk mentioned later how he was very pleased to hear so many original compositions performed.

During the recital, seven piano students performed original compositions, and other piano students played other Canadian pieces. The recital concluded with a medley played by violins in memory of Ralene Rankin.

Cookies and juice were served, and students were all warmly congratulated on their performances by their fans.

As organizer of the event, I would like to thank Dinuk Wijeratne, the students, their families, and the seven teachers for making this event a success!

submitted by Elizabeth Shearouse.

The **Valley Chapter** celebrated Canada Music Week with two student recitals on Sunday, November 25th. These took place in Denton Auditorium at Acadia University, and nearly sixty students participated. Each performer was given a Canada Music Week® pencil after playing. We enjoyed repertoire which included favourites by Nova Scotian composers Anne Crosby and Rebekah Maxner.

The **Dartmouth Chapter** celebrated Canada Music Week® also on November 17th with six recitals involving nearly 150 students where many Canadian compositions were featured.

submitted by Diana Torbert

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Canada Music Week® was celebrated in Prince Edward Island this year with a recital, and daily performances on CBC Radio One. Our recital was on November 17 at Steel Recital Hall, UPEI. Twenty-five students from seven studios performed Canadian repertoire, including solos for piano, flute and violin, and a violin trio. We were pleased to have Emma Huestis perform the CFMTA/FCAPM Call for Compositions selection *Land of the Silver Birch* by Jamie Hillman. All of the students who performed in the recital were delighted to receive CFMTA/FCAPM Canada Music Week® seals and pencils.

Six students who performed at the recital also gave live performances on CBC Island Morning the week of November 19-23. Host Matt Rainnie interviewed the students about their

musical lives, upcoming performances, and the Canadian piece they performed. The response from the community has been positive, and we are very appreciative of the opportunity to highlight Canadian music.

Thank you to Stephanie Cole who organizes our recitals and arranged the CBC performances, and to all of the teachers and students who participated.

submitted Sue Irvine

*Thank you to all the co-ordinators,
for getting the information to me
so quickly - not an easy task.*

Dina





Red Leaf Piano Works

www.redleafpianoworks.com



Land of the Silver Birch
24 Songs for Solo Piano
by Beverly Porter

Beverly Porter



Winter Skates
for children
by Martha Hill Duncan

Martha Hill Duncan



At Sea
Elementary Piano Solos
by Teresa Richert

Teresa Richert



ARCTIC VOICES
PIANO SOLOS
EASY INTRODUCTIONS TO EARLY ARCTIC
includes ARCTIC VOICES piano solo, winner of the 2005 CFMTA/FCAPM Competition

BY SUSAN GRIESDALE

Susan Griesdale



Creatures Great and Small
45 solos for the elementary player

By Joanne Bender

Joanne Bender