



# Canada Music Week®

## Prix semaine de la musique canadienne<sup>md</sup>



### Newfoundland & Labrador

The NLRMTA 2018 Canada Music Week® celebrations took place in St. John's, Newfoundland, from November 11<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The committee members that helped create and organize this event were: Jen Benson (committee chair), Tiffany Pinhorn Smith, and Margie Murray Reed.

Canada Music Week® celebrations began on November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018 with our third annual program called the **Canada Music Week® Video Project**. This project was formed in an effort to promote Canadian music and composers, as well as promote our Canada Music Week® final recital. In addition, the project allows for teachers from rural areas of Newfoundland to more easily contribute to the CMW celebrations and showcase their students and studios. Teachers of the NLRMTA were invited to send video clips of young artists performing Canadian works to NLRMTA Canada Music Week® committee members. Six young pianists and vocalists submitted videos and media consent forms from parents. From sharing the videos on Facebook and our website ([www.nlrmta.ca](http://www.nlrmta.ca)), thousands of people were reached, and our goal of promoting Canadian music to the community was certainly reached.

Canada Music Week® 2018 saw the inaugural **'Creating Canadian Composers' workshop** which took place on Sunday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, at Memorial University's School of Music. Memorial professor and Juno award nominated composer Dr. Andrew Staniland, along with accomplished composer Aiden Hartery, created and facilitated a two-hour workshop introducing compositional techniques to students ages 12 and up. Six students attended the workshop. By the end of the clinic, each student had created a short composition, which they presented to the class. The compositions were greatly varied; some were written for piano, others for trombone, and some were accompanied on guitar. Dr. Staniland and Aiden then offered further instruction on how the students could continue to develop their ideas as they continue to compose. One student performed her new composition at our Canada Music Week®

recital (see below). Overall, the students were fully engaged throughout the duration of the workshop, and participation was active and enthusiastic.

The annual **Canada Music Week®** recital saw fifteen performances representing thirteen different Canadian composers. The performers ranged in ages 8 to 21, and included pianists and vocalists from both community studios and private teachers, and Memorial University music students. One student from Newfoundland performed two of her own compositions. Suncor Energy Hall, which is at Memorial University's School of Music, was decorated with Canadian flags and red and white decor. NLRMTA volunteers for this event included Joni Woodrow, Yaying Tu, and Carla Furlong.



Included below is a photo of some of the participants after the recital.

*Jennifer Benson*



Canada Music Week®  
November 17 - 24, 2019

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### British Columbia

This year saw many BC Branches enthusiastically engaged in the celebration of our Canadian Composers and their music.

Several Branches delighted audiences with Recitals featuring their students who performed both published compositions as well as their own works!

**Trail/Castlegar, Chilliwack** and **Vancouver** Branches offered such concerts as well as honouring students who distinguished themselves in practical and/or theory exams with Branch Awards. **Nelson** Branch, had their students perform their Canadian pieces at a local Senior's Home. Emilia Watson, the winner of the BC/Yukon on-line Composition Competition in honour of Remembrance Day, played and sang her work *I Will Remember* for the enjoyment of the **North Island** Branch's Recital. **South Okanagan's** eleven teachers from West Kelowna to Osoyoos were delighted to award \$900 worth of scholarships to deserving students following their yearly CMW Recital. This was courtesy of the support of the Penticton & District Arts Council as well as the Diamond Jubilee Chapter of the IODE. The **Vernon** Branch opened their concert with a lovely rendition of W.H. Belyea's *Lazy Summer*, and followed their event with the bestowing of awards to deserving students.

Using the 'Branching Out' theme of 'Music Making a Difference' the **Abbotsford** Branch hosted both a recital and a 'Practice-a-thon' in support of 'Inasmuch' (a non-profit society) which provides transition housing and settlement for refugee claimants and asylum seekers in the Fraser Valley. These two events netted a total of \$800 for the Society!

The **Coquitlam/Maple Ridge** Branch commissioned composer and BCRMTA member, Greg Hartley to write music for late elementary/senior students. He was partly inspired by our West Coast tree and mountains. Some of the pieces contain jazz elements as well the use of word-plays in the titles as well as the use of specific intervals in each piece. After the Recital, Mr. Hartley presented a short workshop for the students. Later in the week, he offered a workshop to the teachers.

The **South Fraser** Branch enjoyed forty-one delightful piano performances. The recital featured the introduction of four works by local composer, Frank Levin. He also shared his stories with the performers and audience of how each piece came to be written.

The **Victoria** Branch celebrated CMW with a two day celebration. The first of these featured an illuminating talk to the teachers and guests by Professor Janet Danielson on the subject of 'Harmony and Counterpoint in Music: Fusty or Trusty?' The following day saw the performance of two afternoon concerts. The first of these featured the compositions by students who participated in the Murray Adaskin Composition Competition. Adjudicator, Professor Janet Danielson gave out the awards to the winners of the competition. She also gave a talk featuring helpful advice with respect to music composition as well as demonstrated her hand-made horizontal stringed instrument.

I am delighted that our BC Branches take the time as well as expend the energy to celebrate our Nation's Culture through the lens of its music! Thank-you all!

*Sonia Hauser*

### Yukon

Yukon held a concert November 25<sup>th</sup> with seventeen performers from 7-17, featuring piano, violin, and a four part vocal group. Canadian composers such as Violet Archer, Nancy Telfer, Carl Strommer, Stephen Chatman, Anne Crosby and Christine Donkin were represented. It is always important to listen and play Canadian music, and it is a special time to be proud of the musical part of our Canadian heritage.

*Annie Avery*

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### Nova Scotia

The **Yarmouth** Chapter of NSRMTA held it's annual Canada Music Week® recital on November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018. It was great to witness the growing enthusiasm for this event with a record number of participants this year. As is our practice, we opened the recital by singing all four verses of 'O Canada' played for us by a brass duo. Though the majority of the musicians were pianists, we also had a classical guitarist/baritone playing and singing his own composition. It was a well attended afternoon of beautiful music by many of our great Canadian composers. *(Karen Turpin)*

The **Halifax and Dartmouth** Chapters held a combined celebration for Canada Music® Week this year. An afternoon of recitals was held in the Helen Creighton room of the Alderney Gate library, with twenty five students performing works by Canadian composers,



including some original compositions. We were pleased to welcome as our special guest, CFMTA/FCAPM president Tiffany Wilson. She gave a presentation outlining some of the many musical endeavours that CFMTA/FCAPM and NSRMTA support on both a local and national basis. She highlighted their newest projects, an "E-Festival" for those students who prefer personalized feedback and this method of sharing their music, and professional development videos that are being posted on the CFMTA/FCAPM website. Past President of CFMTA/FCAPM and NSRMTA, Lorna Wanzel, and current NSRMTA president, Paula Rockwell, were also in attendance. It was an enjoyable afternoon commemorating Canadian music and performers. *(Kathy Andrew)*

The **Valley** Chapter held a Canada Music Week® recital on November 18 at Denton Hall, Acadia University in Wolfville. Seventeen of our students performed works mainly by Canadian composers. *(Marlene Jackson)*

*Diana Tirbert*

### Alberta

The **Lethbridge** Branch of the Alberta Registered Music Teachers' Association combined their annual Canada Music Week Recital and Student Awards Presentation with the Canadian Federation of Music Teachers' Associations' Branching Out initiative: Making a Difference to encourage students to participate in helping others in the community. The Lethbridge Branch chose to invite students and teachers to bring non-perishable food items for the local Food Bank. Four boxes of food were collected for donation, worth approximately \$225.

During the recital, twenty students performed selections by Canadian composers including Anne Crosby, Christine Donkin, Nancy Telfer, Pierre Gallant, Clifford Poole, Stephen Chatman, Jean Coulthard, and Oscar Peterson.

At the conclusion of the recital, 44 awards totaling over \$2000 were presented to students for the highest marks in practical and theory exams during the December 2017-August 2018 examination sessions, including the ARMTA Recognition Fund awards given to 5 students with the highest marks in both a practical and theory exam—Joel Siebert, Reuben Peters, Jessica Morton, Hannah Birrell and Jessie Irwin. The ARMTA Recognition Fund was established in 2008. Its purpose is to augment prizes for music competitions and awards in Alberta.

This year during the Awards Presentation, the Lethbridge Branch recognized former member Mr. James Ringland, the designer of the Lethbridge Branch logo. A card and gift were presented to thank him for sharing his talents by providing such a beautiful design for us to use to represent our group in the community.

In addition, the following ARMTA Milestone recipients were recognized for their years of provincial membership during the presentation: Marilyn Sinclair, 55 years and Linda Dickey, 45 years.

*Tamara Bowie*



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### Québec

L'Association des professeurs de musique du Québec (APMQ) a célébré la Semaine de la musique canadienne en organisant une série de quatre récitals qui se sont tenus au cégep Saint-Laurent, à la salle Adrienne-Milotte, le dimanche 18 novembre 2018.

Quatre-vingt jeunes pianistes et violonistes ont interprété des œuvres de compositeurs canadiens. Tous les violonistes étaient accompagnés par Anne-Marie Denoncourt. Comme à chaque année, chacun a reçu un certificat de participation. Parmi nos membres, il y a quelques professeurs-compositeurs, ce qui nous a permis d'entendre une variété encore plus grande de compositeurs canadiens. Nous avons entendu entre autres des œuvres pour piano ou violon de Judith Altman, Valérie Carreau, Mélina Claude, Alexandra Delgado, Danielle Fournier, Marybelle Frappier, Mona Lebrun et Cristina Mondir. Des compositeurs comme Clermont Pépin, Maurice Dela, François Morel ont aussi fait parti de cette riche programmation.

La pianiste Francine Chabot a été invitée à venir écouter tous ces jeunes et a fait une sélection des meilleures interprétations. Les jeunes élèves choisis ont eu la chance de revenir jouer au concert gala le samedi soir 24 novembre au même endroit, ce qui a clôturé la Semaine de la musique canadienne. Le choix fut difficile car plusieurs d'entre eux méritaient de jouer lors de ce concert. Plusieurs compositrices étaient d'ailleurs présentes lors de cette soirée. Chaque élève ayant participé au concert gala a reçu un prix donné par la Fondation québécoise pour l'éducation musicale. Comme à chaque année, un petit goûté a suivi et a permis à tous (participants, professeurs, compositeurs, parents et amis) d'échanger et de terminer agréablement cette soirée très enrichissante !

Nous en profitons pour remercier tous nos bénévoles qui ont fait de cet événement une réussite : Marie Bellemare, Christiane Claude, Louise Claude, Lynne Gagné, Patrycia Meunier et Gaétan Veillette.

*Solange Bellemare*

### Quebec

The Quebec Music Teacher's Association (QMTA) celebrated the Canadian Music Week® with three recitals given in the Adrienne Milotte room of cegep Saint-Laurent, on Sunday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Eighty young pianists and violinists interpreted musical works from Canadian composers. Each one of them received a participation certificate. We also have a few teacher composers amongst our members, therefore this gave us the pleasure to listen to an even greater selection of Canadian music work. Some of the piano and violin music pieces interpreted were from Judith Altman, Valérie Carreau, Mélina Claude, Alexandra Delgado, Danielle Fournier, Marybelle Frappier, Mona Lebrun et Cristina Mondir. Composers such as Clermont Pépin, Maurice Dela and François Morel have also been part of this rich program.

The pianist Francine Chabot was invited to see and hear all those young musicians. She selected her choice of the best interpretations for a gala recital which ended this successful Canada Music Week® event on the evening of November 24<sup>th</sup> at the same location. The choice was difficult because many of them deserved to play for the gala.



Each participant to the gala recital received a reward given by the Quebec Musical Education Foundation. A reception followed and gave the chance to everyone (participants, teachers, composers, friends and family) to gather, share and visit to pleasantly end this great evening.

We take this opportunity to thank all our volunteers who

contributed to this special event which was a great success: Marie Bellemare, Christiane Claude, Louise Claude, Lynne Gagné, Patrycia Meunier et Gaétan Veillette.

*Solange Bellemare*





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### Ontario

The **Barrie** Branch ORMTA hosted two full recitals for Canada



Music Week® this year, with sixty students performing! Each recital featured piano and vocal students of nine ORMTA teachers. Between the two

recitals, we showcased students who received the highest marks in the RCM exams during the past year.

On Sunday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, the **Belleville** Branch celebrated Canada Music Week® with the presentation of their annual Recognition Recital honouring students who had received first class honours on their practical and theoretical examinations in 2018. Twenty students performed and received awards to mark their achievement.

**Central Toronto** Branch held a composition master class, run by Dr. Kelly-Marie Murphy, on November 18<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Murphy began with a talk and slideshow about her life in music. Works presented during the master class included three piano works by junior participants and a symphonic movement by a senior participant.

The **Hamilton-Halton** branch celebrated Canada Music Week®



on November 18<sup>th</sup> with an afternoon workshop featuring Canadian composers Jana Skarecky and Sharona Clarke, showcasing how they compose their pieces, to inspire composition in our

music practices. Our evening Recital demonstrated fabulous performances of all Canadian works by our students and teachers.

The **Kingston** Branch was thrilled to welcome Andrew Harbridge to adjudicate their 2018 Canada Music Week® Mini-Festival. Mr. Harbridge heard many piano, voice and flute students perform a varied selection of compositions. His encouraging and educational feedback included discussions about the wonderful variety of Canadian composers represented in the festival.

**Kitchener-Waterloo**- one of the winners of the William Andrews Award 2018. See page 17.

To celebrate Canada Music Week®, the **London** Branch



enjoyed a recital by students performing works of Canadian Composers, including many fabulous student compositions. The

event was also an Awards Recital, taking time to celebrate the achievements of students who excelled in their conservatory examinations.

On November 24<sup>th</sup>, the **North Bay** Branch ORMTA held their STUDENT RCM HONOUR RECITAL, where students performed repertoire from various Canadian composers. Micah Sauder, level 9 piano student, received from Cynthia Roveda, President North Bay Branch ORMTA, Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> Collector's Edition of *O Canada*.

The **Ottawa** Branch Canada Music Week® recital on November



25<sup>th</sup> was a great success. All children were wearing red and white to Celebrate Canada. We had twenty-six performances, (pianists and

vocalists) representing twenty different Canadian Composers, with one student performing her own composition. Performers ranged from age 6 to 18.

The **Welland – Port Colborne** branch of the ORMTA held their annual presentation concert on Saturday November 24<sup>th</sup>. Students who attained first class honours in their music exams in the past year delighted the audience. Awards and scholarships were presented, and a lovely "Happy Canada Music Week" cake was enjoyed afterwards.

*Lynne Oliver*

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### Saskatchewan

**Yorkton** celebrated Canada Music Week® big this year! The YRMTA commissioned Saskatchewan Composer Janet Gieck for a piano piece which was named *Parkland Pirate Jig*. This was unveiled by Janet at our Canadian Showcase on November 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, where over sixty students took part and all received a wonderful mini-lesson by Janet. We would like to thank her for making Canadian music come alive and interesting.

The **West Central** Branch of the SRMTA organized and presented another Contemporary Showcase, mini-festival of Canadian composed music. It was held in the Rosetown Alliance Church on Saturday, November 24<sup>th</sup>. This year's event involved over 40 participants, and the modest but enthusiastic audience enjoyed piano solos, a duet and a trio, several vocal solos and two cello solos. Chris Kelly of Saskatoon was our adjudicator for the non-competitive programme, and he provided wonderful and useful comments and suggestions for the performers to further enhance their musical development and enjoyment of

these works. In addition, Wes Froese led group workshops on chording. He used familiar tunes to help students learn how to build chords, the relationships (I, IV, and V) and to hear when the changes should happen. A midday pizza lunch encouraged some bonding and networking among students and teachers. A silent auction and some "random" prizes (piano books by Canadian composers) helped round out a very successful day of celebrating Canadian music and musicians.

**Saskatoon** branch celebrated by holding a contemporary showcase. There were many excellent performances and it was adjudicated by a Saskatchewan composer, Sarah Konescni. They also held an evening recital of Canadian composers featuring the outstanding performances from the Contemporary showcase.

*Sharon Rodney*



 my music staff

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### Manitoba

**Winnipeg** - Manitoba's Canada Music Week® (CMW) recital was made special this year by a focus on Manitoba composers. Of



twenty-five performances, twelve were of music by Manitoba composers. An extra layer of interest was added by having Manitoba composers in attendance, including Holly Harris, Sid Robinovitch, and Michalis Andronikou. Many students

introduced their own pieces, making interesting and insightful comments about the music and the composers.

The student performers all received a pencil and a coupon that



they could redeem at our used music book sale sponsored by our Pre-Diploma program. Students had prepared an information page about the composer

of their piece. These were posted near the refreshments table, where juice and beautiful Canada cakes were served. Thank-you to all the volunteers of this event, particularly the organizer and emcee, MRMTA member Lee Houghton Stewart. (Gwen Allison)

**Brandon/Westman** - Our Canada Music Week® Recital held at the Lorne Watson Recital hall in Brandon University was very well attended on November 17<sup>th</sup>. Students from Brandon and south western Manitoba participated and performed music written by Canadian composers. A reception was held for students and their families following the recital. (Eleanor Epp)

**Southwestern** Manitoba's nod to Canada Music Week®

was the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Composers & Kids event on Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 an exciting celebration! It was a privilege to welcome Wes Froese from Saskatoon, Saskatchewan to Boissevain, Manitoba.

Wes is well-known, especially as a jazz/blues performer and composer. He is especially gifted in working with and encouraging young people Approximately thirty-six students participated in this event. (Tenley Dyck)

*Lee Houghton Stewart*





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