



Providing leadership in music education across Canada | Chef de file de l'éducation musicale au Canada

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## Of Note CFMTA/FCAPM Monthly Memo

In the midst of the Covid-19 Pandemic, we are all struggling with how to keep going while maintaining a positive outlook for our students, our families and ourselves.

As the overarching link for music teachers from coast to coast to coast, CFMTA/FCAPM reached out to Provincial Associations to touch bases and gather information on how Canadian music teachers are faring during this difficult time. The following email from Anna Avery, president of the Yukon RMTA, eloquently sums up our unique situation:

***As we pass into these unprecedented times that we are all experiencing, we must remember that student/mentor relationships have been going on for centuries, and as we must TEMPORARILY distance our personal contact, we must adapt to how to do online lessons. No duets with our students, no touching their wrist or arm to help positioning or relaxation, and perhaps frustration with our new technical tools.***

***We are required to be deeper thinking teachers, to be able to measure and respond to anxiety from computer based perception, to think of new ways to accomplish musical gains, and have new games to play. Teaching is an art form that is always developing new ways to develop musical minds.***

***CFMTA/FCAPM is an organization that is good at putting ideas together. Sharing ideas, tips, forums used is helpful. Connection will make our isolation more bearable, and help us to realize that we are ALL in this together.***

Thank you Annie!

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Please be sure to take our CFMTA/FCAPM Covid-19 Survey.  
Go to the "Did You Know" section of this memo.

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### **SPECIAL NOTE RE: MAGAZINE**

Neither snow nor rain nor pandemic dire stays our intrepid editor from the swift completion of our magazine. However, because the print house is operating with a skeleton crew, the May edition of The Canadian Music Teacher (Volume 71 Number 3) may be a little late. In the meantime, you will be able check out the magazine online after April 15. *Enjoy!*

### **FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT RE: COVID-19**

The Federal Government has initiated the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) to help workers and businesses. Essentially, many our CFMTA/FCAPM music teachers would benefit from the CERB initiative, since we are self-employed individuals.

Some pertinent facts:

- The CERB will apply to wage earners, as well as contract workers and self-employed individuals who would not otherwise be eligible for Employment Insurance (EI).
- The portal for accessing the CERB will be available in early April.
- Canadians should begin to receive their CERB payments within 10 days of application.
- The CERB is to be paid every four weeks until October 3, 2020.

The link to take you to this and more information is: [https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan/covid19-individuals.html#new\\_canada\\_emergency\\_response\\_benefit](https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan/covid19-individuals.html#new_canada_emergency_response_benefit)

Remember too, that your own Member of Parliament is there for you and is able to provide assistance as well.

Thank you Past President Tiffany Wilson for this timely information!



### **UPCOMING EVENTS!**

Special Edition E-Festival April 14 to 19, 2020. Go to <https://www.cfmta.org/en/e-festival/> or <https://www.cfmta.org/fr/e-festival/>

A big **THANK YOU** to the E-Festival Committee for making this happen!



## DEADLINES

- Special Edition E-Festival - Deadline April 19, 2020
- National Essay Competition - Deadline May 1, 2020
- Memorial Pedagogy Award - Deadline June 1, 2020
- Student Composer Competition deadline June 1, 2020\*

*\*Remember, the National Student Composer Competition is administered through the provinces--individual teachers can not send their students directly to the Nationals. However, now is the time to enter your student in your regional/provincial/territorial competition rounds so that they can be sent on to the Nationals. Please contact your local Student Composer Chair for more information.*



## DID YOU KNOW...

### CFMTA/FCAPM needs to hear from you!

Please click on the below link to help us gather information with a view to contacting the Federal Government regarding the unique situation of music teachers. Go to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NMT8YB2> The survey will be open until April 7, 2020.



## WHAT'S NEW ON THE WEBSITE

Looking for new videos on teaching online? We've got you covered! This month's video is Teaching Lessons Online – a conversation with Linda Gould. Go to: <https://www.cfmta.org/en/video-resources/> or <https://www.cfmta.org/fr/ressources-video/> You can also access all our videos by going to the Professional Development tab on our website. Remember, these videos are protected, so contact [editor@cfmta.org](mailto:editor@cfmta.org) if you need the password.

*Enjoy!*



## FUN FACT

A word of Optimism from Kimberly BC Teacher, Arne Sahlen:

Online lessons can be safe, satisfying and successful if we don't keep missing the original (rather like coffee substitutes.) They keep some normalcy in student lives when so much else is crashing. We're challenged to describe vividly what we can't demonstrate easily, and to track lesson content that can't be jotted in a book. (I give the lessons on laptop and text instructions on my cell-phone). Have a bell or whistle; students busy playing may not hear your voice. Project excitement at this new frontier! It may be more the usual after things calm down.

*Thanks Arne!*

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***~If you have a CFMTA/FCAPM Fun Fact you'd like to share,  
please send it to [admin@cfmta.org](mailto:admin@cfmta.org)~***



*Hope you enjoyed this edition of *Of Note* from CFMTA/FCAPM.*

*Look for our next edition the first week of May!*



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