

# **the ORBit** September 2017

Newsletter of the Ottawa Region Branch of the Ontario Registered Music Teachers' Association www.ormtaottawa.ca



# President's Message By Amy Boyes

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Convention 2018

September—a new beginning. A fresh start. Here we are again, ready to teach for another ten months!

If you're like me, you may be dismayed by how quickly the summer passed but also excited to see students again. I am

always amazed by the changes I see in students at their first lesson in the fall. They're taller, more tanned, and often more energized for their studies.

My four-year old daughter, within the span of the summer, grew an inch and learned to spell "Mom" and "Dad" with wobbly letters. She also went from being terrified of her bike to tearing around corners to the park. Head down, knees flying—she mastered it!

Over the summer, ORMTA Ottawa Region Branch has also made some changes. In addition to the Canada Music Week Recital, the First Class Honours Recital, University Master Classes, and Competitions, we will be offering two brand new events this year for students—the Ensemble Concert, and the Junior Piano Master Class.

The Ensemble Concert, an event convened by Danielle McIntyre, will inspire and encourage students to play in a group setting. A wide range of ages, performance levels, instruments, and genres will be featured. The Junior Piano Master Class, convened by Kimberley Sundell, is an opportunity for students to perform and receive feedback from a clinician. In a positive environment, students will learn skillfulness and musicality in their art form.

We have new members to welcome to the community (Kirsti Bakker, Nathan Bredeson, Leora Ann Nauta and Samar Abi Nasr) and a new council (see page 4 for the complete list).

We also have the 2018 ORMTA Convention to look forward to (Saturday, July 28th to Sunday, July 29th, 2018). As host branch, Ottawa Region will be welcoming ORMTA members from across the province. Local teachers and council members, Susan Blyth -Schofield and Lori Lynn Penny, will present workshops, and John Avey, Dina Namer and Nadia Boucher will all be conducting master classes throughout the weekend. Please see page 12 for more details, including the exciting "Welcome to Ottawa" events at the University of Ottawa and House of Commons (Friday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018).

In conclusion, I wish you a wonderful September and hope that you are as excited as I am for the next year!

**Amy Boyes** 

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# **Ottawa Family Music Expo 2017**

by Katarina Jovic, Music and Beyond Coordinator

Did you get to collect stamps and complete your musical bucket list? If you visited this year's Family Music Expo, you had an opportunity to get an autograph from your favourite musician, try out an instrument at the Long and McQuade instrument petting zoo, make a Penny Whistle with Jonathan Crone and had a chance to win one of many fun prizes that Music & Beyond prepared for you.

On July 16, the day before Music & Beyond Summer Music Festival held its closing concert, ORMTA took part in yet another Family Music Expo for children and families. The event was held in the music studios and halls of the Perez Building and on the surrounding University of Ottawa grounds. We were represented by many talented piano and voice students and teachers. Pianist Ryan Sun, a student of Galina Shostakovsky opened a series of mini-recitals with his ARCT selections followed by soprano Chloe Hataley, a student of Carol Wood, who sang in three languages. The morning series was closed with Pirates of Caribbean, a piano arrangement performed by Katarina Jovic.

The afternoon session saw three excellent young pianists, the Hou siblings, all students of Priscilla Gruver. They performed a wide range of pieces from level 6 to level 10 piano. Soprano Cara Ileleji, a student of Sarah Ripley Phulesar followed with a musical theatre selection. Our programme concluded with Amy Li, a piano student of Heather Norian, and her mature performance of ARCT pieces.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all participating students, their teachers, as well as two collaborative pianists Ioulia Brechun and Sabrina Tang. Thanks also go out to Amy Boyes and Kimberly Sundell, who helped me to represent ORMTA and spread a word in the community about our important mission of offering qualified music education and promoting music in general as an essential part of the human experience.



# Ottawa Region Branch Executive and Committee (2017-2018)

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# September General Meeting Monday, September 11th, 2017

Please join us for our Fall General Meeting. Once again we will be in the east end of the city at Resurrection Lutheran Church, 1325 Gaultois Ave., Orleans. Beverages and snacks will be ready for 9:15 a.m. so you can search for finds in our used music and browse the CD & DVD Library while you catch up with your friends and colleagues before the meeting begins 9:30 a.m. Your executive and council have many exciting things to share with you about plans for the 2017-18 season. And their will be guest speakers including Jennifer Messer from The Steinway Store.

Donations of table ready snacks are always most welcome. Contact: Susan Blyth-Schofield: 613-226-4950, sblythschofield@yahoo.com

# ncoming Event

# Information Sharing Session Monday, September 25th, 2017

9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the house of Paulette Price, 13 Lismer Crescent, Kanata

Topic: The Teacher as a Practice Coach

This will be an open forum discussion on ways to encourage students toward better quality and quantity of practice between lessons. Successful and enthusiastic practicing will make students, parents, and teachers happy, but we know the quality of work done at home could often be improved. How can we make a difference when we're NOT THERE? Can we be more effective as "distance" practice coaches?

Teachers who are interested in attending this session are encouraged to bring strategies that they have tried in the past as well as an idea that they would like to try in the future. Hopefully, we will all get inspired and go home with renewed energy and some new tools for improving our student's work.

To reserve a place, email Paulette at pauletteprice@rogers.com, or phone at 613-592-6686. If you are interested in bringing a snack for coffee time, please let Paulette know one week before the session.

# Upright Piano for Sale Samick S-108S Mint condition. \$2200.



# **BOOK SALE**

A wide variety of nearly-new and used music books for sale. Music text books and reference books also available. Friday, September 8th, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For information, contact: Deborah Foster

278-D Dalehurst Drive, Nepean

613-224-7244

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Like us on Facebook	
www.facebook.com/ormtaottawa	
Looking forward to connecting,	
Amy Boyes (Website)	
Kimberley Sundell (Facebook News Feed Manag	
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# **About the ORBit**

The ORBit is the official newsletter of the Ottawa Region Branch of the Ontario Registered Music Teachers' Association. It is published 7 times a year: September, October, November, December/January, February/March, April/May, and June/July/August.

All submissions for the October issue of the OR-Bit must be received by the editor on or before: September 10, 2017.

Send submissions to: kmaryhoward@primus.ca or by mail to: Kathleen Howard, Editor 326 Donoghue Rd.
Oxford Mills, ON K0G 1S0

Advertisements and announcements should either be plain text or fully formatted text. Plain-text submissions will be formatted by the editor. Fully formatted submissions will be included exactly as sent. The only acceptable formats are: pdf, jpeg, or tiff. Formatted word processing documents may not preserve formatting and/or font information and will not be accepted. Type-written submissions are also acceptable. Submissions must be accompanied by written reprint permission where applicable.

# Advertising Rates:

	Members	Non-members
Ads		
1/6 page	\$12	\$16
1/4 page	\$16	\$22
1/3 page	\$22	\$25
1/2 page	\$25	\$33
Full Page	\$33	\$44
Inserts	\$25	\$33
Flyers (per page)	\$33	\$44
Heavy Brochures	\$50	\$66
Larger than 8.5 x 1	<b>1</b> \$83	\$110

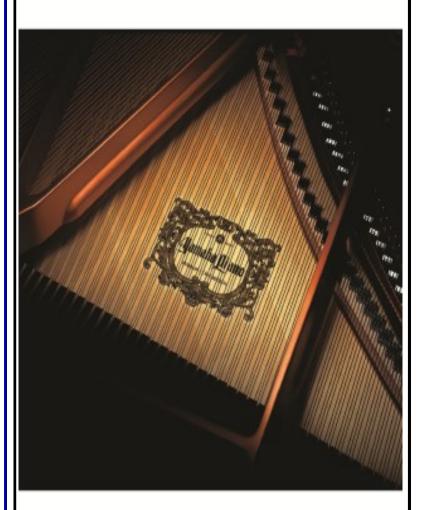
**Repeat** ads: first ad full price, subsequent publishing of the same ad, 10% off.

Contact the Editor – kmaryhoward@primus.ca concerning rates for multiple edition advertising.

The Ottawa Region Branch of the Ontario Registered Music Teachers' Association shall retain the right at all times to accept or decline any advertising opportunity based solely on the judgment of the Editor with the support of the Executive Committee of the Ottawa Region Branch. The products, services, and ideas expressed by the authors and advertisers in the ORBit are not necessarily those of the Ottawa Region Branch of the Ontario Registered Music Teachers' Association.

# Ottawa III Pianos

1412 Bank Street | 613 731-5678 | www.ottawapianos.com



Ottawa Pianos is happy to announce our partnership with ORMTA, Ottawa Branch. We invite you to visit our showroom and See our great selection of Yamaha Pianos.



Serving Ottawa for over 48 years



# Information Sharing Session Monday, Nov. 13th, 2017

9:30 to 11:30a.m. at the house of Paulette Price, 13 Lismer Crescent, Kanata Topic: Performance Skills, and Building Self Confidence through Performance

A successful performance, even for an audience of one, takes a good deal of practice and preparation. If all goes well, confidence grows. This session will be a discussion of what goes on behind the scenes: the planning, the choices, some of the psychology that is involved in ensuring, as best we can, a successful outcome for our students.

Here are some possible discussion points. Think about what you want to discuss, as there will be no "leader" to point the way.

Success for all. Is it possible?

Setting appropriate goals for (and with) students.

Repertoire choices can make a difference!

Time flies! Helping students to manage their readiness.

What does "ready" mean?

Once ready, how do you keep things fresh?

Using technology to help.

Keeping a healthy perspective.

Lending support at performance venues.

Email Paulette at pauletteprice@rogers.com to reserve your spot, or phone at 613-592-6686. If you are interested in bringing a snack for coffee time, please let Paulette know one week prior to the session.



# Members' Corner

Welcome to New Members:

Samar Abi Nasr—Piano

Kirsti Bakker—Piano, Rudiments

Nathan Bredeson—Classical Guitar, Composition,

Theory

**Leora Anne Nauta**—Analysis, Counterpoint, Harmony, Harpsichord, Organ, Rudiments, Solfege/Sight-Singing, Theory

**Condolences** to **Virginia Strawn** on the sudden loss of her daughter.

## Congratulations to:

**Claudia Cashin-Mack**, whose student Meghana Kesankurti was awarded Honourable Mention, Class B1 for "Clouds" in the ORMTA Music Writing Competition.

Catherine Donkin, whose student Eric Bouchard was awarded Third Place, Class B1 for "Trio pour piano, cor français et euphonium" and Honourable Mention, Class B1 for "Voyageurs" in the ORMTA Music Writing Competition.

**Lauren Richardson**, whose student Nathania-Rose Chan was awarded First Place (Dr. Joan Heels Scholarship) at the ORMTA Provincial Vocal Competition.

**Chunson Park**, whose student Ning Hu was awarded second Place (June McBey Scholarship) at the ORMTA Provincial Instrumental Competitions.

Farewell to: Adrienne Booth as she moves to BC.

Do you know an ORMTA member who deserves a congratulatory note, condolences or get well wishes? Please forward details to: kmaryhoward@primus.ca

# It's Time to Update Your Profile

Have you checked your ORMTA Teacher Profile lately? Now is a good time to verify that your contact information is up to date. It's not a bad idea to make sure all your contact information is correct, and make any changes required, on both the Provincial website and our local Ottawa Branch website.

#### For the Provincial website:

Go to www.ormta.org and login with your email address and password (set one up if you haven't already done so). Then click on "view profile" in the upper right corner of the screen, and click on "edit profile".

You can add a link to your website, and add or update your biography.

You can also link your profile to Facebook and/or Google+

#### For Ormta Ottawa Branch:

Go to www.ormtaottawa.ca Click on "Find a Teacher", and verify the information on both the Teacher Map and the Alphabetical Listing. Notify Amy Boyes at amyboyespianostudio@gmail.com of any changes including your website.

# **Help Me Update the ORBit Mailing List**

We mail our September issue of the ORBit to all members, but you can opt out of receiving the paper copy (saving money for postage and printing, and saving trees/paper). Subsequent issues will be sent only by request.

If you do wish to "opt out" for September, or to "opt in" to receiving all issues by mail, please send an email indicating your preference to the Editor, Kathleen Howard kmaryhoward@primus.ca.



# DO YOU KNOW A CHILD WHO LIKES TO SING?



The Boys' Choir and Girls' Choir of St. Matthew's Church welcome new members!

Choristers receive an exceptional musical education, sing at church services and special concerts and make new friends while developing leadership skills.

Choristers receive nominal pay.

Open rehearsals will be held throughout September Boys' Choir - Tuesdays - 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Girls' Choir - Wednesdays - 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Contact Kirkland Adsett, Music Director

kirkland.adsett@yahoo.com;

St. Matthew's Anglican Church, 217 First Avenue 613-613 234-5482, stmatthewsottawa.ca

# **ORMTA Ottawa Region Branch Survey – Part 2**

#### INTRODUCTION

Council's goal for this survey was very simple; ask the question, "What do you value in ORMTA Ottawa Region Branch?" As a council, we want to make sure we are contributing to the needs of our members as effectively as possible, while still respecting our council members' time. Every council member is a volunteer—no one is paid to sit on Council. We need to strike a balance between running events and programs which, often, have low attendance and focussing on those events that many members find valuable. Of course, creating consensus is not easy, but this survey is one way we can listen to our members.

# What could ORMTA (Province or Branch) do better?

- Keep hosting vocal events, but check dates better to avoid conflicts We do try, but we have a very busy city!
- Advertising-- HARD COPY STYLE-- I miss the brochure that I could just hand to someone. Telling someone to look us up on line does not happen. A lot of my students are low budget and use the library computer so it is a pain to go to the library to look things up. Not everyone is online. Although the Membership Brochure was very well-loved by some, hundreds were discarded each year because they were not being used as marketing tools by the majority of the membership. They also became outdated before they even made it from the printer.
- More Professional Development with invited a Guest Teacher There's lots happening this year with guest teachers! Stay tuned.
- Put meetings on Sundays Finding consensus for meeting dates is nearly impossible.
- Offer more opportunities (events, professional development) for singing students and teachers of singing (very piano focused) We would love to! Unfortunately, our vocal master class was cancelled last year due to a lack of registrations.
- Advertising. We are continually trying to broaden our advertising through print, online and outreach.
- I think they are doing a good enough job for the interests of the majority of members
- It would be very nice if the Information Sharing sessions could also take place in the east end. I would like to participate but driving to Kanata at rush hour is not possible for many east end teachers. Thanks for the suggestion.
- As I am mostly retired, I am satisfied with all our Branch does now.
- The one thing that has bothered me (and others) is
  the sometimes poor attendance of ORB council
  members at general meetings. There are only 3 a
  year and I don't think it's an unreasonable expectation for all of council to be there. Thanks for the feedback. That is the expectation of ORMTA as well.
- Space out events. We try!
- More small venue networking, voice concerns with changes that seem to come unannounced.

- Employ more modern music, like the C Norton event at Steinway. *Modern music is welcome repertoire at all our recitals. Perhaps a modern music master class could be arranged in the future*.
- Challenge the RCM teachers' listing as it is misleading and issuing certified piano teacher stamps beside unqualified teachers ORMTA does not challenge private companies on their business models or methods.
- Come up with better events, modify or change those events that are not of interest to members We have two new events this year that we hope will be of interest!
- Offer teacher development on weekends
  - Don't know why I have very few piano students, this year (like never before!) and I would like to be contacted/recommended more by the Ottawa ORMTA, please...to help build up my clientele again....or else I will be forced into early retirement!!! We have approximately 240 members in the city. We continually increase our advertising but it is incumbent on the individual teacher to add information to their provincial profile, have a website (can be linked to the branch website's place marker) and actively advertise their own independent studio within the community.
    - Would appreciate more information coming from the local liaisons to the Province
  - Maybe some events, especially student ones, could be more centrally located.
    - General awareness of what it means to be an ORMTA teacher. I have students who are full-time music teachers who should be members but aren't. An excellent goal! If teachers of teachers need information materials about ORMTA, please ask branch president.
    - Less isolation between provincial and local? We agree! Communication is important.
    - I appreciate that ORMTA (province & branch) represents us across Canada and with the conservatories.

# ORMTA Ottawa Region Branch Survey – Part 2 (cont'd)

# What new or different teacher or student events would interest you?

- I think that the branch has enough student events. Perhaps a Wine and Cheese gathering like we used to do once in a while with the executive and council. Lots of interesting ideas!
- A teacher recital would be so fun:) Let's see these teachers put their money where their mouths are...lol
- Workshops for students on using Apps / other practice tools
- Offering some more non-competitive performance for students; a singing master class for younger students
- Junior-Intermediate master classes or even competitions.
- I specialize in teaching younger students up to grade 8 piano. Many ORMTA events are more suited to teachers who teach advanced students.
- Junior-Intermediate master classes or even competitions. This year, we have two new events, the Ensemble Concert and the Junior Piano Master Class.
- New publication on pedagogy.
- A First Aid Workshop would be great. So many students these days have health issues and it would be useful to have some emergency skills
- More workshops for both singers and pianists. However, vocal teacher other than myself do not seem to be interested.
- Before huge changes are made, have centres send in concerns with such.
- Ask around
- We are blessed with so many events to attend, already!
- More for strings and winds
- Duet master classes, History and Harmony workshops
- The smaller teacher discussion sessions are a good idea, but Kanata is a bit far away for me.
- Long ago, Sandra Menard organized hiking in Gatineau park. and I think that is a good idea. As always we need volunteers. If you have an event idea that you are passionate about, we could love to talk. Please note, event convenors must attend monthly council meetings and general meetings.
- Any one with communications. varying the days vs. always a Monday for example to allow more flexibility.

# Other thoughts?

As my student load is going down, I am seriously thinking that ORMTA is no longer serving my needs-- I have not gotten a new student from being an ORMTA member for over ten years now. I do enjoy the conventions though but even those are getting too expensive for me to consider attending. A senior rate would help to attend another convention. We continually increase our advertising but it is incumbent on the individual teacher to add information to their provincial profile, have a website (can be linked to the branch website's place marker) and actively advertise their own independent

- studio within the community. A web presence is very nearly essential to effectively reach today's parent.
- Can meetings be Facetime or Skype? Not having to drive might encourage people. *Internet connection and audio quality are still too limited to have dozens of people connecting electronically.*
- Council members should be carefully chosen, presidents to attend most of events. We love volunteers! Council members are not chosen, although members approve the Executive and Council at the Annual General Meeting. They graciously volunteer their time.
- Good to encourage an online notice board about opportunities for advanced students. Like us on facebook. We have lots of notices throughout the year regarding non-ORMTA events and opportunities within our community. www.facebook.com/ormtaottawa
- Have one or two choice events. Too many events. As we get older we need to have other things in our lives. Teaching afternoons and evenings already impacts this.
- I don't think I'm connected with ormta facebook. I have RCM facebook and often read their posts. www.facebook.com/ormtaottawa Like us!
- I have been on sabbatical while studying so have not been as involved as I would like to be
  - I may be of no help as the events being offered are all meritous in my opinion. Sorry. Incidentally I am very grateful for those who are willing to serve on the council. Thank you for making this effort. Thank you for your kind words!
- I regret not being able to attend more meetings!
  - I think ORMTA does a fabulous professional job. I am still fairly new in the area, and it will take a while to develop students, with a new studio, to take part in the activities above.
  - Less competition events, as Kiwanis Festival already a big one. Out of all our events, only Competitions are competitive. We are required by the Province to hold this event.
- Love the small venue workshops in a teacher's home/ studio.
  - Make meetings in centre town or in the west end sometimes. Always going to the east end isn't fair to west end teachers We agree! Our general meetings are held in Orleans (Sept.), central Ottawa (Jan.), and the west end (May).
- Our Executive and All Portfolio Convenors do a fantastic job. Their work is much appreciated.
- Thanks to hard working committees.

# **Calendar of Events**

## September 2017

- 11 General Meeting at Resurrection Lutheran Church, 1325 Gaultois Ave, Orléans. 9:15 a.m. Coffee, 9:30 a.m. Meeting. Table ready breakfast items appreciated. Used book sale. Speaker: Jennifer Messer, Steinway Ottawa. Contact Susan Blyth-Schofield sblythschofield@yahoo.ca
- **25 Information Sharing Session** 9:30 11:30 a.m. at the home of Paulette Price, 13 Lismer Crescent, Kanata, ON. Topic: The Teacher as a Practice Coach ormtaottawa.ca/information-sharing-sessions

## October 2017

31 Application deadline: Canada Music Week Recital ormtaottawa.ca/Canada-music-week

#### November 2017

- 1 Application deadline: University Piano Master Class ormtaottawa.ca/university-masterclass
- **12 Canada Music Week Recital Auditions** 1:00—4:00 p.m. City View United Church Contact Tania Granata taniag5@sympatico.ca
- **13 Information Sharing Session** 9:30 11:30 a.m. at the home of Paulette Price, 13 Lismer Crescent, Kanata, ON. Topic: <u>Performance Skills</u> ormtaottawa.ca/information-sharing-sessions
- **19 University Piano Master Class** with Prof. David Jalbert. 1:00 4:00 p.m. Freiman Hall, Peréz Building, University of Ottawa.
- **19 Canada Music Week Recital** 4:00 p.m. City View United Church Contact Tania Granata taniag5@sympatico.ca

## December 2017

15 Application deadlines:

First Class Honours Scholarships ormtaottawa.ca/first-class-honours-scholarships First Class Honours Recital ormtaottawa.ca/first-class-honours-recital Ensemble Concert ormtaottawa.ca/ensemble-concert

# January 2018

- 8 General Meeting. Details TBA.
- **14 First Class Honours Recital Auditions** 2:00 6:00 p.m. Ottawa Pianos, 1412 Bank St, Ottawa, ON. Contact Meg lwaskow megiwaskow@gmail.com

# February 2018

- **4 First Class Honours Recital** Times TBA. City View United Church, 6 Epworth Ave, Ottawa, ON. Contact Meg Iwaskow megiwaskow@gmail.com
- **10 Ensemble Concert Auditions** 2:00 4:00 p.m. (specific time will be sent to teacher). Ottawa Pianos, 1412 Bank St, Ottawa, ON. Contact Danielle McIntyre jersakpiano@gmail.com
- **24 Ensemble Concert** 3:30 p.m. Ottawa Pianos, 1412 Bank St, Ottawa, ON. Contact Danielle McIntyre jersakpiano@gmail.com

# **April 2018**

**27 Junior Piano Master Class Application Deadline** ormtaottawa.ca/junior-piano-masterclass Contact Kimberley Sundell sundellpianostudio@gmail.com.

# May 2018

- 5 6 Competitions Location TBD. Adjudicators: Dr. Elaine Keillor (instrumental) and Bruce Kelly (voice).
- **27 Junior Piano Master Class**. Ottawa Pianos, 1412 Bank St, Ottawa, ON. Contact Kimberley Sundell sundellpianostudio@gmail.com.

# **July 2018**

**27 - 29 Provincial Convention** Infinity Convention Centre, 2901 Gibford Dr., Ottawa ON. Hosted by Ottawa Region Branch. Visit ormta.org/convention2018 for more information. Contact Amy Boyes for more information or to volunteer. amyboyespianostudio@gmail.com







# SATURDAY/SUNDAY JULY 28 & 29, 2018

# INFINITY CONVENTION CENTRE, 2901 GIBFORD DRIVE, OTTAWA, ONTARIO

MORE DETAILS AND REGISTRATION AVAILABLE AT WWW.ORMTA.ORG/CONVENTION2018
ONSITE HOTELS: HAMPTON INN 2869 GIBFORD DRIVE, HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS 2881 GIBFORD DRIVE

# WELCOME TO OTTAWA EVENTS - FRIDAY, JULY 27, 2018

A complimentary evening hosted by Ottawa Region Branch. Travel to/from the Infinity Convention Centre on a coach bus. Tour the University of Ottawa Piano Pedagogy Laboratory and explore the University's Period Instrument Bank with Dr. Elaine Keillor. Also, enjoy the Light and Sound Show at the House of Commons on Parliament Hill.

#### **VENDOR SHOW**

Businesses and organizations from across Ontario.

#### MASTERCLASSES

Junior Piano with Dina Namer. Vocal with John Avey. Collaborative Ensemble with Nadia Boucher.

# COMPETITIONS

ORMTA's Instrumental, Vocal and Young Artist Competitions.

#### TEACHER WORKSHOPS

Susan Blyth-Schofield on "Performance Anxiety." Lori Lynn Penny on "Theory Teaching Tips." GALA BANQUET
AWARDS LUNCHEON
YOUNG ARTIST RECEPTION

SPONSOR WORKSHOPS

