

Newsletter of the Ottawa Region Branch of the Ontario Registered Music **Teachers' Association**

www.ormtaottawa.ca





President's Message

by Tania Granata

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Upcoming ORB Events

Happy February to all! I hope this message finds you well, in good health and good spirits! February means many things to us as teachers: looming exam deadlines on the horizon, snowy days and homemade Valentines from our young students. It it can also bring a "slump" in motivation. What do you do to keep your students motivated through this time? With my group classes I have done theme days: wear your pj's to class and a Hawaiian themed class. With my private students I have organized small group "studio clubs" where we play some music related games, enjoy hot chocolate and each play a piece that we are working on. My students have found motivation with these simple ideas.

As usual there is so much going on in our branch. How lucky we are to have such a wealth of musical opportunities. As you read this, the First Class Honours auditions and recitals will have just wrapped up. Thanks go out to Sherry Lu for organizing the scholarships, Cheryl McDonald for working on funding/advertising and of course to all the teachers who sent students and helped volunteer to help out for both concerts. The Variety Show auditions have taken place and the recital is fast approaching. Thanks in advance to Susan Blyth-Schofield for continuing to organize this event. Our second master class of the year will also have wrapped up. Thanks to Katarina Jovic for organizing the Stéphane Lemelin master class. Professor Lemelin will be moving to Montreal at the end of this teaching year, so we are thankful for his support and generosity. I am very excited about our upcoming Professional Development event with Dr. Burge. Thanks to my Second Vice-President Amy Boyes for her brilliant idea to merge student development and teacher development in this "Art of the Assessment" forum. I hope to see many of you there!

Upcoming deadlines to remember are our Adult Student Master Class and Workshop and Recitals for Piano students with clinician Jenny Regher and Vocal students with Donna Klimoska (see Page 5 for more information). Thanks in advance go to organizers Ioulia Brechun and Carol Ann Wood. I love that learning never has an end. I look forward to seeing Jenny and Donna work their magic!

As we are well on our way into the teaching year, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the council for their hard work thus far. I am very proud of the group we have and thank you all for volunteering your time to promote ORMTA and all that it stands for. Special thanks go out to the Executive for their dedication and reminders when I'm forgetting something!!! It really does take a village to run a branch as big as ours!

I wish you all well and look forward to next month with spring around the corner!

Yours in music. Tania Granata

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Ottawa Region Branch Executive and Committee (2013-2014)

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General Information

Do you have a **new address or phone number?**You can update this information on your personal profile on the provincial website – www.ormta.org – but you must continue to inform the branch as well. Contact President Tania Granata at 613-728-1195 or tania5@sympatico.ca <u>or</u> Kimberly Sundell at sundellpianostudio@gmail.com or 613-698-7338.

If you are **looking for more students**, call the ORMTA Hotline at 613-226-6768 and have your name added to the list of Teachers Looking for Students.

If you would like a **new subject added** to your list of teaching subjects, contact Ron Spadafore, our Provincial Registrar, directly at 705-264-0978 or at ormta@ntl.sympatico.ca You may only add subjects that you are qualified to teach.

If you would like to **change your membership status**, contact Ron Spadafore, our Provincial Registrar, directly at 705-264-0978 or at ormta@ntl.sympatico.ca before March 1, 2014.



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January General Meeting

by Tania Granata, President

Typically January is thought of as being the month for deep reflection. Friday, January 10th marked the first 2014 meeting of the membership and we spent part of the morning "walking down memory lane" thanks to our Archives convenor extraordinaire Ann Babin. She gave us a lesson on how many of our events came to be, reminded us of the people responsible for helping get the Ottawa branch "on the map". She also gave some of our long time members a memory jog and our new members a lesson in our rich history.

From there we "jumped into the future" thanks to Amy Boyes who took everyone through our beautiful, new, modern website. She answered questions and walked us step by step through the website. It's truly something to be proud of and I'm very grateful that she has the answers to everyone's queries because I certainly don't! I'm a work in progress.

We tried a different format for this meeting. An abbreviated business meeting and a short review of council reports allowed time for our two presentations, shopping for used music, chatting amongst colleagues and of course lots of coffee and tea to keep everyone warm. Thanks as always goes out to Jennie Smith for organizing another fantastic meeting space.



The deadline for submissions to the April/May issue of the ORBit is March 10.

About the ORBit

the ORBit is published 7 times a year: September, October, November, December/January, February/March, April/May and June/July/August.

All submissions for the **April/May 2014** issue of *the ORBit* must be received by the editor on or before: **March 10, 2014.**

Send submissions by e-mail to:

L.Susan.Jones@gmail.com

or by mail to: Sue Jones,

Editor, the ORBit 259 Crocus Avenue

Ottawa, ON K1H 6E7

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.

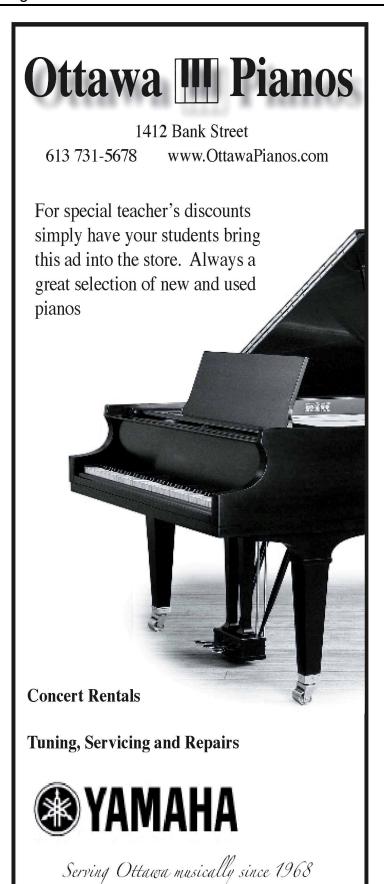
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Contact the Editor concerning rates for multiple edition advertising.

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.



Adult Music Student Learning Opportunities

by Carol Wood and Ioulia Brechun, Co-convenors



Saturday, March 1 Piano Workshop and Master Class

Jenny Regehr, who is well known across Canada for her solo recitals, duo and chamber music performances and lieder collaborations, will be presenting a morning workshop and lead an afternoon master class. In the workshop, entitled "From Harpsichord to Piano," Jenny will discuss how the piano's evolution is relevant to every piece of music we play today.

For more information on the adult student piano workshop and master class, please contact Ioulia Brechun at medbeach@yahoo.ca

Saturday, March 8 Vocal Workshop and Master Class

Ottawa mezzo-soprano and vocal teacher, Donna Klimoska, will be our clinician. She will talk about techniques of the Alexander Method and Tai Chi movement in the workshop.

Participants taking part in the vocal master class will be the models for the workshop. The workshop is open to all adult music students including instrumentalists. In the master class, Donna will incorporate techniques which were presented in the workshop as well as working interpretively with the singers.

For more information on the adult student vocal workshop and master class, please contact Carol Wood at carol.wood@rogers.com

Registration forms for both events are available on our website www.ormtaottawa.ca The registration deadline is Friday, February 21.

There will be two breaks during the March 1 and 8 events: brown bag lunch: 12 – 1 pm and a half hour afternoon coffee break.

The location for both is the studio of Carol Wood - 3025 Linton Road.

Please note: Participation in the piano and vocal master class will be on a "first-come, first-served" basis.

Master class participants are encouraged to memorize their pieces. Time spaces allotted will vary depending on the level of the student and their specific needs.

Saturday, March 22 Recital and Reception

The recital will take place at City View United Church, 6 Epworth Avenue. Time TBA.

Information Sharing Session

by Paulette Price, Convenor

March 10, 2014 – 9:30 to 11:30 am Studio of Paulette Price 13 Lismer Crescent, Kanata

This will be an "Open" Session in which teachers are invited to share ideas that have helped them in their teaching. We will spend the morning alternating short presentations with discussion. It would be great to have a variety of topics, so please consider sharing your expertise and explorations. Even if you don't plan to make a presentation yourself, do plan to attend to share in the discussion.

If you have an idea to share, please contact me by phone or email with a very brief description of your topic and whether you will need 5 minutes, 10, or 15 minutes to present it. I would like to have a rough plan for the morning by late February, so aim to have your ideas in by **Monday Feb. 24**th.

To confirm your attendance and/or register your topic idea, phone me (613-592-6686) or email me at pauletteprice@rogers.com.

We Say Good-bye to Stéphane Lemelin

Our January master class with Professor Lemelin was his last for ORMTA as he is moving to Montreal to take a position at McGill. Our University Liaison, Katarina Jovic, presented him with a gift, spoke of her time with him as his first master's student in Ottawa and thanked him for his many contributions to ORMTA. You can read excerpts from her speech on Page 7. We will miss you Stéphane!



Ann Babin, Stéphane Lemelin and Katarina Jovic

University of Ottawa Master Classes with David Jalbert and Stéphane Lemelin

by Katarina Jovic, Convenor

There were two ORMTA piano master classes this year organized in conjunction with the School of Music at the University of Ottawa. Over forty appreciative audience members attended David Jalbert's master class in November and were treated to his fresh and lively approach. We started the master class with questions and answers focusing on the three recordings he released in 2012.

Equally attended was the January master class with Professor Lemelin. It was promising to see more young students in the audience. Finally, I wish to thank Ann Babin for her assistance at both events. Her cheerful presence made it flawless.



David Jalbert and students



Stéphane Lemelin and students

Twelve Years of Piano with Stéphane Lemelin

(exceprts from a speech given by Katarina Jovic on January 19, 2014) by Katarina Jovic

It is impossible not to recognize the name of Stéphane Lemelin as being a professional musician, pianist or piano teacher anywhere in Canada. Stéphane Lemelin has enriched musical life in Canada ever since he graduated with his Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Yale University in 1990. He taught at the University of Alberta for more than ten years, and since 2001 has been on the faculty of the School of Music of the University of Ottawa. I am very proud to say I was his first master's students at the University of Ottawa.

It was late summer when I phoned him to discuss repertoire choices for my studies in the coming academic year. He was very serious about that and immediately suggested a couple of works to start working on by Fauré and Ravel. This is no surprise. Stéphane is widely known for his passion for French music as is evident by his more than twenty recordings.

It was not easy for me to play Fauré's Nocturnes for someone who has recorded all of them. I hadn't played any Fauré in the past. Stéphane was very thorough in his pedagogical approach. He made sure all the basics were covered, and would go on to talk about other aspects of a piece. He made me understand and love Fauré.

Ravel was another French composer special to Stéphane. While I was learning Ravel's beloved Sonatina, he told me that he had played that piece for over 20 years. No wonder he insisted that I use the fingering which he preferred! Now I think this piece is going to be my repertoire specialty for the next 20 years, as I have enjoyed performing it ever since I learned it with him.

Speaking of Ravel, the Ottawa Symphony Orchestra opened their 2013 season at the National Arts Centre with two iconic Ravel piano concertos with Stéphane Lemelin as a soloist. I hope some of you were fortunate to hear this concert.

The last months of my studying with Stéphane were spent preparing for my upcoming graduation recital. The date was suggested and I remember Stéphane telling me this: "There is good news and bad news about your recital: the good news is that the requested

date is available; the bad news is that I am away that day for my tour in China". He gave me an option to change the recital date to ensure he would be around. His support and dedication for his students is always there. Even when he was away, students were offered the chance to work with a substitute teacher to ensure their pieces would be in good shape. We were always taken care of by Professor Lemelin.

This generosity goes far and beyond, as Stéphane often presents fundraising concerts. Such examples are his 2013 concerts to benefit the OrKidstra program here in Ottawa and his Calgary piano recital to support the Calgary Arts Summer School bursary program for students in financial need and to also support the RCM Alumni Calgary Chapter scholarship fund for outstanding piano and theory students.

In 2002, Stéphane was named Honorary Patron of the Ontario Registered Music Teachers' Association. He wasn't chosen because of where he lives, but because he is very supportive of ORMTA and its teachers. Stéphane has been giving master classes in Japan, the United States and Canada since his student years. He wasn't hesitant at all when asked to offer master classes for ORMTA students more than 10 years ago. Ever since then, he has been part of our own music community and engaged eagerly in Ottawa's piano life.

After a decade of teaching at the University of Ottawa, he has been appointed Professor of Piano and Chair of the Department of Performance at the Schulich School of Music at McGill University starting in May, 2014. On behalf of the Ottawa Region Branch of ORMTA, I would like to thank Professor Lemelin for all his work, effort and support over the years and to congratulate him on this highly prestigious and well-deserved position. While he will leave some emptiness in our musical paths, he will definitely enrich the lives of many young pianists in Montreal. They are fortunate to have him. We wish him all the best in his future endeavours.

I sincerely hope he will come back for many more recitals and master classes in Ottawa, since we are not that far from his new home.

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ORB 2014 Competitions Adjudicators

by Kimberley Sundell, Convenor

Our Competition adjudicators this year are Dr. Christopher Foley (piano) and Wanda Procyshyn (voice). Their biographies follow. The Competitions take place on May 3 and 4 at the University of Ottawa with an application deadline of April 1. Application forms can be found on our website at www.ormtaottawa.ca

Dr. Christopher Foley

Dr. Foley teaches piano to students of a variety of ages and ability levels, from beginner to professional. He created and teaches the collaborative piano class at The Royal Conservatory School. He also coaches professional singers, specializing in the field of contemporary opera.

Dr. Foley studied with Jean Barr and David Burge at the Eastman School of Music and with Robert Rogers and Rena Sharon at The University of British Columbia. At the Eastman School of Music and the Vancouver International Song Institute, he gave workshops on the creation and curation of the Collaborative Piano Blog.

Dr. Foley has adjudicated at music festivals in Vancouver, Whitehorse, Edmonton, Windsor, Hamilton, and Toronto, as well as for Contemporary Showcase in Mississauga. Some of the many venues at which he has performed include the faculty concert series at the Eastman School of Music, The University of Western Ontario, the Cleveland State Composers' Forum, the Vancouver International New Music Festival, April in Santa Cruz, Toronto Arts Week, Word on the Street, Canadian Contemporary Music Workshop, Algoma Fall Festival, and the Gamper Festival of Contemporary Music.

His recording of Abigail Richardson's dissolve with Ryan Scott and Sanya Eng was awarded first prize in the under-thirty division of the 2004 International Rostrum of Composers and was broadcast over 100 times throughout Europe and North America in the 2004-2005 season. Dr. Foley has recently appeared as pianist and coach for the singers featured on the Bravo! Canada reality show "Bathroom Divas."

Wanda Procyshyn

Soprano Wanda Procyshyn is admired and praised for her vocal versatility, her interpretative and dramatic gifts, and her outstanding ensemble work. She is an accomplished performer of music spanning the baroque to the present.

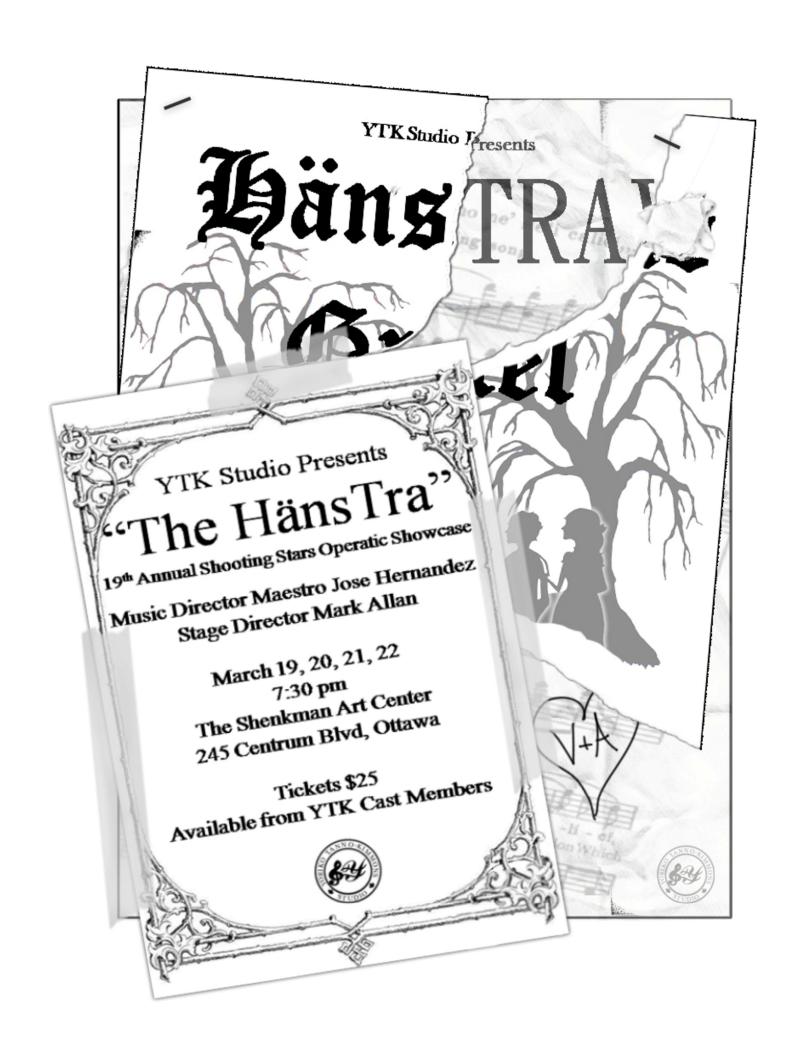
Wanda has performed at the Ottawa Chamber Music Festival, the Boston Early Music Festival, the International Festival of Baroque Music in Lamèque, the Carmel Bach Festival, the Aldeburgh Festival and the Elora Festival. She flourished artistically as a member of the Studio de musique ancienne de Montréal (SMAM) and was a soloist on several recordings made by this ensemble. She has presented numerous recitals and concerts, enthusiastically seeking out and learning new repertoire. In 2009 she recorded her first solo recital disc with pianist Elaine Keillor. *To Music* features Canadian song cycles of the 20th century. It is released on the Carleton Sound label.

Wanda is a dedicated voice teacher. Her understanding of vocal technique, her knowledge of repertoire and style, her sense of humour, and her determined pursuit of the vocal well-being of her students has placed her in high demand as a teacher. She has also given workshops on singing to many choirs in the National Capital Region, including the Ottawa Choral Society and The Canadian Centennial Choir.

If you would rather read your ORBit online, please let me know and I will remove your name from the mailing list.

Thanks, Sue

L.susan.jones@gmail.com or 613-523-5317



□ Upcoming Concerts **□**

(listed by date)

Fri. February 7 - 8:00 pm. The Group of 27 Chamber Orchestra will perform 'Concerto Grosso for Timpani and Trumpet Obligato' by Maya Badian in addition to other pieces. Conducted by Eric Paetkau. Trinity-St. Paul's-Centre, 427 Bloor Street West, <u>Toronto</u>. Pay what you can. Information: 613-722-2822.

Sat., March 15 – 7:30 pm. Opera By Request presents *Werther* in concert. Jean-E. Hudson, Jeff Boyd, Norman Brown, Nicole Bower, Gianmarco Segato, James Zacour and Dr. Keith Gomes. Music Director: Bill Shookoff. Southminster United Church. Bank and Aylmer. Tickets at the door, CD Warehouse, Compact Music or Leading Note. \$20 Information: 613-724-2889 or m_hudson@sympatico.ca

Sun. March 30 – 7:30 pm. *Tigh nan Teud / A House of Strings*, music for, and inspired by, the harp in Scotland with Mary Muckle, harp and harpsichord; Kirsten Carlson, flute; Doug Brierley, violin; and the Ottawa Youth Harp Ensemble. St. Luke's Anglican concert series, 760 Somerset St. W. Admission by donation. Information: 613-825-1379.

Members' Corner

Congratulations to ...

- Mary Mackey who turns 99 in March
- Mary Muckle, whose student, Michelle Yin, received an RCM Gold Medal for Grade VI harp 2013.

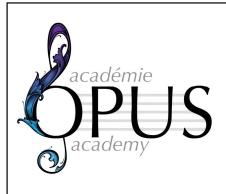
Get well wishes to ...

- Andy Fox who had surgery in December.
- Jennie Smith who had surgery in December.

Condolences to:

- Elaine Keillor, whose husband, Vernon McCaw, passed away in December.
- **Virginia Strawn**, whose sister passed away in December.
- Friends and family of **Dolores Gilmore**, who passed away in December.

The following is a note from Mary Orr - she is fully recovered from her illness and feeling great. She also says "I give all my thanks to my God who has healed me in such a short time."



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UPCOMING ORB EVENTS 2013-2014 (February – May)

February First Class Honours Recitals. 2:00 pm and 7:30 pm. City View United Church, 6 Epworth Ave. 2 Contact Tania Granata at taniag5@sympatico.ca or 613-728-1195 John Burge Workshop. 9:00 am to noon. Glen Cairn United Church, 140 Abbeyhill Rd. 6 Contact Amy Boyes amyboyespianostudio@gmail.com or 613-302-8090. 9 Variety Show. 7:00 pm. City View United Church, 6 Epworth Ave. Contact Susan Blyth-Schofield at sblythschofield@rogers.com or 613-226-4950. March Adult Student Piano Workshop and Master Class with Jenny Regehr. Studio of Carol Wood, 3025 Linton Road. 1 Contact Ioulia Brechun at medbeach@yahoo.ca or 613-836-2757. Adult Student Vocal Workshop and Master Class with Donna Klimoska. Studio of Carol Wood, 3025 Linton Road. 8 Contact Carol Wood at carol.wood@rogers.com or 613-421-1033. 10 Deadline for submissions to the April/May issue of the ORBit. Contact Sue Jones at L.Susan.Jones@gmail.com or 613-523-5317. 22 Adult Student Workshop and Master Class Recital. Time: TBA. City View United Church, 6 Epworth Ave. Contact Ioulia Brechun at medbeach@yahoo.ca or 613-836-2757. April Application Deadline for ORMTA Student/Young Artist Competitions. Contact Kimberley Sundell at sundellpianostudio@gmail.com or 613-698-7338. Applications available at www.ormtaottawa.ca May 3, 4 ORMTA Student/Young Artist Competitions. University of Ottawa, Freiman Hall. Contact Kimberley Sundell at <u>sundellpianostudio@gmail.com</u> or 613-698-7338. Competitions Gala. 7:30 pm. Ottawa Mennonite Church, 1830 Kilborn Avenue. Contact Jennie Smith at 9 jenniesmithrmt@gmail.com or 613-260-9171. 10 Deadline for submissions to the June/July/August issue of the ORBit. Contact Sue Jones at L.Susan.Jones@gmail.com or 613-523-5317. 30 ORB Annual General Meeting and Luncheon. More information to follow. Contact Jennie Smith at jenniesmithrmt@gmail.com or 613-260-9171.



