

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



President's Message

by Susan Blyth-Schofield

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Greetings all,

Spring has officially begun, and despite Ottawa once again being in the COVID Red Zone, there is hope for an eventual return to "normal".

As teachers we rarely pat ourselves on the back, but we have continued to be resourceful and creative through the pandemic, and many of us have found benefits to online teaching that we will not be giving up when we return to in-person lessons. I think we should congratulate ourselves for continuing to keep music alive however we could. In order to teach and assist our students, we have used laggy platforms including Zoom and Skype, explored low latency platforms such as Soundjack, Syncspace, and Jamulus, learned about gain and why it matters, taught socially distanced with masks and behind plexi-glass, and learned a myriad of other skills such as how to produce, or at least how to help our students produce, a good-looking video for competition and other purposes. Being online has also made it possible for us to benefit from workshops and conferences around the world.

Speaking of conferences and such, the Branch's Annual General Meeting will be held online on Monday 17 May 2021 at the usual 9:30 am. Please save the date. You will receive an email from me closer to the time with more information. It will mark the end of my term as ORB President and I will be handing over to Danielle. It has been my pleasure to serve the Branch during this strange and challenging time.

As always, we will be awarding the OCTA (ORMTA Contribution to Teaching Award) at the AGM. I am delighted to announce that Chunson Park is this year's recipient. Her bio and photo will feature in the next issue of the ORBit and you will be able to find them online in April.

The CFMTA conference will be online between July 8th and 10th. For more information please go to their website at <https://www.cfmta.org>.

The ORMTA Provincial AGM will be held on July 24th. The morning will also include the OCTA presentations and the awarding of the prizes for the Competitors and a few words from our esteemed adjudicators Torin Chiles, Younggun Kim and Jason White. To register please go to <https://ormta.org> and follow the links.

Enjoy the longer days.

Chag Pesach Sameach v'Kasher and Happy Easter,

Susan



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First Class Honours Recital

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First Class Honours Scholarships

Sherry Lu 613-254-8772
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Junior Piano Master Class

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University Master Classes

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Young Artist Recital

* NOT HOSTED IN 2020 / 2021 *

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Music and Beyond

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Piano Compositions for Students

Presented by Christine Donkin

Sunday May 16 at 1:00 PM

Christine will discuss her piano compositions for students: when and how they were composed, their intended pedagogical focus, and answers to some of the questions that people have asked about them over the years.

The presentation will cover some of the pieces in the RCM books, some less familiar pieces, and a few new ones (including ones that have been selected for the 2022 edition of the Celebration Series books).



Christine Donkin composes award-winning, critically acclaimed music that appeals to a broad range of listeners and performers. Described as “stunning” (ConcertoNet.com), “highly imaginative” (American Record Guide), and having “enormous impact” (The Washington Post), her work is promoted by several publishers and is performed all over the North American continent and beyond.

Christine's music for students has been included in RCM publications for nearly 15 years, and also appears in the repertoire books of the two largest music exam systems in the world, ABRSM (Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music) and Trinity College London.

Christine currently teaches music composition and theory at the Victoria Conservatory of Music.

Please contact Hoda Nassim (hoda_nassim@hotmail.com) to register.

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Members' Corner

Condolences to the family of Sue Jones, whose father passed away.

Do you know an ORMTA member who deserves a congratulatory note, condolences or get well wishes?

Send details to: ormtaorb@gmail.com

About the ORBit

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

All submissions for the June/July/August issue of the ORBit must be received by the editor on or before: May 10, 2021.

Send submissions to: ormtaorb@gmail.com

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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1/6 page	\$15	\$19
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Full page	\$50	\$63

Repeat Ads: first ad full price, subsequent publishing of the same ad, 10% off. Contact the Editor Sabrina Tang at ormtaorb@gmail.com concerning rates for multiple edition advertising.

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ORB CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND DEADLINES 2020-2021

April 2021

No events.

May 2021

- 10 Deadline for submissions for the Summer (June/July/August) ORBit. Send all material to Sabrina Tang (ormtaorb@gmail.com).
- TBC Application Deadline for Junior Piano Master Class. Contact Kimberley Sundell (sundellpianostudio@gmail.com) for further information.
- 15 Deadline for YouTube video link submission for instrumentalists for ORMTA Competitions. Contact Katarina Jovic (katarinamusic@sympatico.ca) for further information.
- 16 Deadline for YouTube video link submission for vocalists for ORMTA Competitions. Contact Katarina Jovic (katarinamusic@sympatico.ca) for further information.
- 17 AGM and Luncheon. Venue and details TBC. Contact Susan Blyth-Schofield (sblythschofield@yahoo.ca) for further information.
- TBC Junior Piano Master Class. Venue and details TBC. Contact Kimberley Sundell (sundellpianostudio@gmail.com) for further information.

Forms and information regarding ORMTA Ottawa Region Branch events can be accessed at:

www.ormtaottawa.ca/events



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