

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

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President's Message

By Olivia Riddell

What an interesting spring we have experienced already! Here's hoping that the nicer, warm weather will stay in longer periods soon! I trust you all have had a wonderful February and March.

We had some wonderful events happen in February with the First Class Honours Recitals, organized and hosted by Meg Iwaskow. Thank you to Meg for her continued dedication this portfolio, always ensuring that it is professional and high quality for students and teachers involved.

We also were happy to host a Provincial workshop with Nikki Loney on February 17th. Her insight, tools and tips for creating impactful and user-friendly websites, while also helping us navigate through social media was so valuable.

Please continue reading through the ORBit for some more information on these events.

March brought our Adult Student Recital, organized and hosted by Ioulia Brechun. This programme is so helpful and insightful for both adult students and teachers. I encourage you to read more about this portfolio and the success of the recital.

We have our Competitions on May 6 and 7. I know that all members will enjoy the calibre and quality of the students performing at these competitions and strongly encourage you to attend. Katarina Jovic has worked very hard taking on this portfolio this year (with the support of Kimberley Sundell and Tania Granata) and I know that it will be two days of pure excellence.

Thank you again to our exclusive partner, Ottawa Pianos, for the incredible support and services that they have provided our branch over the last few months with these events. Whether it has been pianos supplied or the wonderful space that they make available to us at their premises, this partnership continues to add to the professionalism and excellence of the events we offer.

I am also thrilled to announce the winner of the 2016-2017 OCTA, Jenny Regehr. We will have a wonderful article sharing Jenny's journey in the next issue of the ORBit.

Please remember that we have our AGM on May 26th at Cedarhill Golf & Country Club! More details inside. I hope to see as many members as possible as it is a wonderful time for us colleagues to reconnect, find out more information about the Ottawa Region Branch's upcoming 2017-2018 events and council – as well as any Provincial Matters of Voting that we have received. Afterwards is a lovely luncheon with entertainment.

Have a wonderful start to your spring and I hope to see you all soon.

Best,
 Olivia Riddell



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First Class Honours Recital

by Meg Iwaskow, Convener



Sunday February 5th, 2017 marked another wonderful First Class Honours recital for the Ottawa Region Branch of the Ontario Registered Music Teachers' Association. There were two concerts: one at 2:00 pm and another at 4:00 pm. Both concerts featured outstanding performances from students who achieved a First Class Honours or higher standing in a conservatory exam in the 2016 year.

Scholarships were awarded at the 4:00 pm concert to students who received the highest mark in the senior practical and theory conservatory exams.

I would like to thank Ottawa Pianos for the delivery, tuning and use of their beautiful Yamaha

9' concert grand piano for both the auditions at Ottawa Pianos and concert weekend. Thank you to City View United church and their staff for being so helpful, as well to all the ORMTA teachers who worked so hard to prepare their students for a successful audition and concert performance. Finally, a huge thank you to Danielle McIntyre, Olivia Riddell, Sherry Lu, Helen Sinclair, Diana McCarthy, Yuko Soncini-Koizumi and Kimberley Sundell for volunteering their time on audition and concert day.

Looking forward to next year.



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Conveners Needed

To take over the Adult Students' Workshop, Master Class and Recital portfolio and the Social Convener portfolio. If you are interested in joining Council to take on either programme, please contact Olivia Riddell 613-680-2996.

Ottawa Region Branch Executive and Committee (2016-2017)

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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 June/July/August issue of the ORBit must be received by the editor on or before: May 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 11	\$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.

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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.



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Professional Development Workshop with Nikki Loney

by Olivia Riddell, Convener

10 members gather on the morning of February 17th for the Provincial Professional Development workshop with Nikki Loney. Nikki guided the group through the essential of building a user-friendly and engaging website for our students. Nikki also walked through the importance of being involved with social media and provided a wonderful checklist as to how to navigate through the “world” of social media – focusing on key elements that will help you decide which platform would be suite your needs (and your prospective students). Thank you again to the members who attended!



Information Sharing Session

by Paulette Price, Convener

On Feb. 27th over 20 teachers gathered for the final Information Sharing Session of the season. The morning began with Sonja Deunsch Plourde and her Italian spinetta. After a brief description of the small harpsichord's qualities, Sonja invited all present to have a little “hands on” experience with the instrument. Sonja then performed two of the unmeasured preludes of Louis Couperin, impressing all with the musical qualities of the instrument. A hand-out of Prelude #7 was shared for teachers to use with their students, perhaps as a quick-study to provide a little peek into this early keyboard style.

Our morning continued with Elaine Keillor giving a fine overview of David Ledbetter's book, *Bach's Well-Tempered Clavier: The 48 Preludes and Fugues*. Elaine explained the main points of Ledbetter's introduction regarding instruments and tuning, and shared a very helpful outline of the book's main ideas. The preludes were given context by showing their possible prototypes, and Bach's use of sonata, dance, aria, and ritornello elements was discussed. The fugues were presented with explanations of style influences including the stile antico, the verset tradition, partimenti tradition, and elements of rhetorical scheme. Elaine praised this book for its scholarship, and teachers appreciated the introduction to it.

Elaine then moved on to a discussion of tempo in Bach, referring to Gerstenberg's work in the 1950's and a 2011 publication by Abravaya. She then performed the openings of the Preludes and Fugues listed as Grade 10, sharing her ideas on the relationship of tempo between the prelude and the fugue. Fascinating ideas and much food for thought!

Members' Corner

Welcome to New Members:

Aline Andrews — Early Childhood, Piano, Rudiments

Suzana McNeil—Singing

Congratulations to Hoda Nassim who participated in the "HARPEXTRAVAGANZA" concert fundraiser to purchase a harp for the new Harp program of ORKIDSTRA.

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

Dear teachers,

There's even more online: community event details, reminders, and opportunities from ORMTA and other organizations!

Like us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/ormtaottawa



Looking forward to connecting,
 Amy Boyes (Website)
 Kimberley Sundell (Facebook News Feed Manager)

Adult Students' Workshop and Master Class

by Ioulia Brechun, Convener

On February 25, 2017 six adult students, their teachers and a few observers gathered for the workshop and master class at Ottawa Pianos. Catherine Donkin, an active teacher and performer, led the workshop entitled "Playing with confidence; techniques for working through memory slips and nervousness".

Catherine talked about the importance of solid preparation of the piece including some obvious yet often overlooked points like understanding key and structure of the piece, practicing hands separately and from different places to avoid memory slips. The students enjoyed the game "Seven stages of misery" when they had to play a part of their piece 7 times well, moving from one stage to the next. If they messed up, they had to move a step back. That means, if you want to play it only seven times, you would have to really focus and that is called deep practicing! The second part of the workshop was devoted to preparing for nervousness.

The workshop was followed by 6 master classes. Catherine had a special gentle and encouraging approach very appreciated by the adult students who demonstrated a lot of care and enjoyment in making music that was shining through.

The event took place at Ottawa Pianos who provided us with a beautiful 9-foot Yamaha Grand. Special thanks to Carmen Papalia.

The Recital will take place on Saturday, March 25, 2017 at City View United Church at 2:30pm.



Volunteer Needed

Ottawa Region Branch can always use help with events, activities, etc. We are currently looking for someone willing to take over the Used Music Sale. Thanks to Tania Granata, who has been handling this for many years, but will be passing it on. This involves bringing the used music to general meetings, and setting it out, monitoring the sale, and storing the music between meetings. Proceeds from the used music sales go to our Scholarship Fund. Anyone interested and willing to take on this project, please speak to Tania Granata 613-728-1195 taniag5@sympatico.ca or Olivia Riddell 613-680-2996 olivia@myc.com

ORMTA Contribution to Teaching Award

The ORMTA has an abundance of members who dedicate much time and passion to teaching their students, helping this organization, and volunteering within their communities. It is with this spirit that the ORMTA recognizes these exceptional individuals on an annual basis with an ORMTA Contribution to Teaching Award (or OCTA, previously Special Teacher Award). ORMTA branches are invited to nominate one of their members for this award in any one year. The nominee must have been a member of the ORMTA or one of the other provincial Associations within the CFMTA for at least ten years. Further criteria to nominate colleagues are determined by the individual branches. Ottawa Region Branch criteria are: may not be a current member of Council, must have demonstrated contributions to teaching and the local community including other professional organizations, must demonstrate ongoing educational pursuits and consistently excellent student results. The branch invites the nominee to the annual ORMTA Awards Luncheon where they will be recognized for their achievements and receive a certificate. The nominee will also be featured in a future edition of NOTES Magazine.

The OCTA Ottawa Region Branch 2017 recipient is Jenny Regehr.

Upcoming Concert

April 30, 7:30 p.m. Savoyards in Song present "Oceans of Harmony", directed by Gloria Jean Nagy at City View United Church.

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Annual General Meeting and Luncheon

Friday, May 26, 2017

Cedarhill Golf and Country Club

56 Cedarhill Drive

Coffee/tea: 9:00 am

Meeting: 9:30 am

Luncheon: Noon

Luncheon ~ \$38

Parking ~ free

NOTE: reservations are required for the luncheon only, luncheon reservations must be made by Tuesday, May 16, 2017

Entertainment: TBA

Regular menu: Cedar Hill salad * oven roasted chicken breast with mushroom herb cream sauce* fresh vegetables

Vegetarian menu: Cedar Hill salad * quiche with roasted vegetables and goat cheese * fresh vegetables

Dessert: lemon shortcake **OR** fruit cup

All meals include rolls, butter and freshly brewed coffee/tea

Please make your selections below and mail, along with your cheque (made payable to ORMTA) to:

Jennie Smith
2224 McQuaig Street Ottawa,
ON K1H 7N9 613-260-9171



Name: _____

Lunch: _____ Chicken Breast **OR** _____ Quiche

Dessert: _____ Lemon Shortcake **OR** _____ Fruit cup

Upcoming Event

May 6-7th Competitions Adjudicators

Adrienne Shannon is a concert pianist, teacher, and multimedia artist. Originally from Toronto, she began her studies with Boris Berlin. Dr. Shannon completed a MMus at the Juilliard School with Ania Dorfman and a Doctor of Arts degree at Ball State University with Mitchell Andrews as her mentor.

Dr. Shannon has performed as a soloist, chamber music and duo pianist. As a member of has PALENAI Piano Duo with Joy Innis, she has toured across Canada, in Europe, the United States, Israel, the Ukraine, and Korea. Appearances with major Canadian orchestras include the Toronto Symphony, Mostly Mozart Orchestra, National Arts Center Orchestra, Edmonton and Victoria Symphonies, Calgary Philharmonic and Muncie Symphony.

Dr. Shannon has held a number of teaching positions. She was Piano Coordinator at the Royal Conservatory, and taught at Mount Royal College, Alberta College, Malaspina University, and Saint Leo University in Florida. In 2002, she and Dr. Innis initiated and developed a unique program for St. Lawrence College in Kingston called *Music & Digital Media*. Currently she teaches at the Dan School of Drama and Music at Queens University.

Adrienne Shannon believes artists can contribute to society in a diversity of ways. Between 1986 – 2002 she and Dr. Innis acted as Artistic Directors of the *Pacific Rim Summer Festival* on Vancouver Island which became one of “Canada’s finest chamber music festivals” (Canadian Heritage). They also administrated *Festival on the St. Lawrence* and *Vienna: A Musical Heritage* (Calgary). Creative and environmental multimedia projects lead to awards and commissions from Parks Canada, the Sierra Club, Canada Council, Alberta Foundation, and the Telus Corporation (*Innovation in the Arts*).

Hailing from the UK, **Darrell Bryan** studied at Keele University (UK), and York University (Canada), specialising in vocal performance, conducting, and music education. During his studies, Bryan was the recipient of The Mervin Taylor Prize, the Keele University Choral Conducting Scholarship, the Royal Dolton Scholarship, and most notably Student of the Year (2010) for outstanding academic achievement and contribution to music education.

As a conductor and vocalist, Bryan has had the opportunity to work with perform and teach across Canada, in addition to appearances in the UK, France, Germany, China, Australia and the USA. Bryan currently resides in Kingston, Ontario where he is a member of teaching faculty at The Dan School of Drama & Music at Queen’s University.

As a voice teacher Darrell focuses on vocal health and efficient use of the voice across all vocal genres. Having studied extensively with vocal clinicians in the U.S.A., Canada, and Europe, Darrell uses an understanding of current vocal science to ensure students are making healthy, informed and positive steps in their vocal development. Teaching students of all ages, Darrell believes that all styles of music and performance benefit from a healthy vocal production and solid vocal technique.

In addition to his work at Queen’s University, Bryan runs a busy private voice, piano and theory studio, and offers musical consultation, adjudication, performance and musical theatre direction across Ontario.

Calendar of Events

May 2017

6-7 Competitions & Competitions Gala Patrick Cardy Studio, Carleton University. Contact: Katarina Jovic 613-261-7681 katarinamusic@sympatico.ca

26 Annual General Meeting and Luncheon, Coffee 9:15 a.m., Meeting 9:30 a.m., Luncheon 12:00 p.m., Cedarhill Golf and Country Club, 56 Cedarhill Dr. Contact: Jennie Smith 613-260-9171 jenniesmithrmt@gmail.com



ORMTA Ottawa Region Branch Survey

Please respond online (see link in Branch Emails) or by filling this copy out and returning to:

Amy Boyes, 144 Moresby Drive, Kanata ON, K2M 2E4

1. What is your typical engagement with the Adult Student Workshop, Masterclass, and Recital?

☐ I always send students.

☐ I sometimes send students.

☐ I encourage students to participate, but they don't seem interested.

☐ I never send students.

Comments: _____

2. What is your typical engagement with the Canada Music Week Recital?

☐ I always send students.

☐ I sometimes send students.

☐ I encourage students to participate, but they don't seem interested.

☐ I never send students.

Comments: _____

3. What is your typical engagement with Competitions?

☐ I always send students.

☐ I sometimes send students.

☐ I encourage students to participate, but they don't seem interested.

☐ I never send students.

Comments: _____

4. What is your typical engagement with the First Class Honours Recital?

☐ I always send students.

☐ I sometimes send students.

☐ I encourage students to participate, but they don't seem interested.

☐ I never send students.

Comments: _____

5. What is your typical engagement with University Masterclasses?

☐ I always send students.

☐ I sometimes send students.

☐ I encourage students to participate, but they don't seem interested.

☐ I never send students.

Comments: _____

6. What is your typical engagement with the Variety Show?

☐ I always send students.

☐ I sometimes send students.

☐ I encourage students to participate, but they don't seem interested.

☐ I never send students.

Comments: _____

7. How often do you attend General Meetings?

☐ Whenever possible.

☐ Sometimes.

☐ Never.

If you attend fairly often, tell us why or what could be improved. If you never attend, tell us why.

8. Do you attend Professional Development Events?

☐ Whenever possible.

☐ Sometimes.

☐ Never.

If you attend fairly often, tell us why or what could be improved. If you never attend, tell us why.

9. Further thoughts?

What is the #1 reason you are an ORMTA member?

What is your favourite part of being a local ORMTA Branch member?

What could ORMTA (Province or Branch) do better?

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

Do you read the ORBit regularly either online or in print?

Do you feel that the ORBit keeps you informed about upcoming events?

Other thoughts:

10. (Optional) Name : _____