

take note . . .

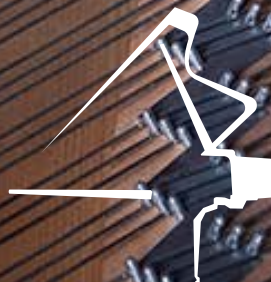


In this issue:

- *Community Service Awards*
- *Student Composer Results*
- *Young Artist Tour*
- *and so much more . . .*

mrmta

— MANITOBA —
— REGISTERED —
— MUSIC —
— TEACHERS' —
— ASSOCIATION —





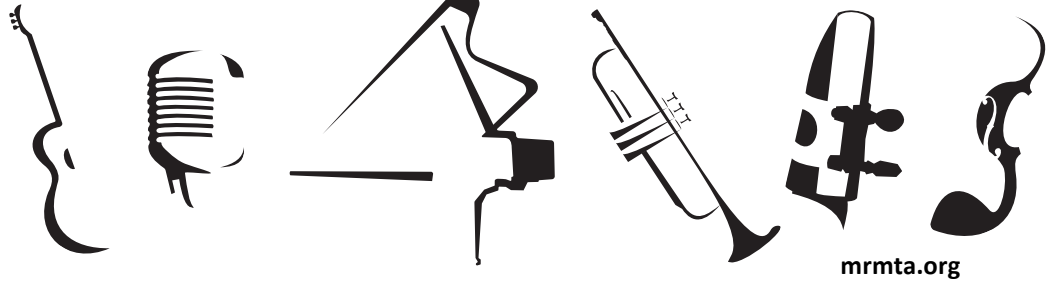
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This quiz serves as an educational milestone, allowing students to validate their progress and understanding of foundational music theory principles.

Start your student's theory journey today!

rcmusic.com/TheoryQuiz



PUBLICATION INFORMATION

Take Note is the official journal of the Manitoba Registered Music Teachers' Association, and is published three times a year.

Next issue: Winter - January 2025

Submission Deadlines:

Advertisement - December 1, 2024

Articles - December 15, 2024

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Quarter Page	\$24
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For a print copy of the magazine:

Please indicate your subscription on the membership renewal form or contact:

Registrar - registrar@mrmmta.org or

Editor - editor@mrmmta.org

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*** Front cover photo by Dina Pollock*



The President's Message

Laura Liu



A New Chapter of Harmony and Growth

Dear MRMTA members and friends,

I am honoured and excited to step into the role of President of the Manitoba Registered Music Teachers' Association. My journey with MRMTA has been filled with growth, collaboration, and a deep love for music education, and I am thrilled to continue this journey with all of you.

First, I thank our previous president and the executive team for their dedication and hard work. Their efforts have laid a strong foundation, and I am committed to building on it as we move forward together. In the coming year, MRMTA aims to explore professional development opportunities, enhance member engagement, foster innovation in our teaching practices, and strengthen our connections with other professional music education organizations.

We are facing challenges and uncertainties in the current world. Music has always been a source of comfort and resilience. In these turbulent times, keeping our passion for music alive is more important than ever. I firmly believe that by working together, we can navigate challenges and seize the opportunities ahead. I encourage you to get involved, share your ideas, and take full advantage of our planned resources and events. Your participation is crucial to our collective success. Together, we will ensure that MRMTA continues to thrive as a vibrant and supportive community that benefits us all.

Laura Liu
MRMTA President

**Questions,
Comments,
or Concerns?**

Notify your Executive by
emailing president@mrmta.org

Our next executive meeting is
September 9th, 2024.

MRMTA's Find-A-Teacher

directory has been updated for the
2024 - 2025 year.

All RMTs are encouraged to check
their entry. Corrections can be sent to
registrar@mrmta.org



The 105th Annual General Meeting

By Maureen Baird

The 105th Annual General Meeting was held Sunday, June 23rd, 2024; online for the third year in a row. The convenience of an on-line AGM has certainly allowed easy opportunity for attendance for members from throughout the province.

President Maureen Baird welcomed all those in attendance and thanked Evangeline Keeley who just completed her term as past president and six-year tenure in the leadership of MRMTA's executive. Rachel Dueck, who will be stepping down as editor of Take Note magazine was also thanked and commended on her work of updating and giving the magazine a fresh new look. Dina Pollock, who had held the position prior to Rachel, will now return as editor for a contracted 2-year term. Dina was re-introduced and welcomed by the group. Maureen was happy to announce that John Himes (office administrator) and Bernadette Geras (webmaster) have also re-signed for another 2-year term.

John Himes then announced the new members of 2023/24:

- Michelle Mourre
- Yuri Hooker
- Katherine Plett
- Anatolii Antonenko
- Erica Schultz
- Cathy Rayner
- Alyssa Ramsay.

Congratulations also went to newly retired members Kerrine Wilson, Dianne Norris and Heida Sigfusson.

Incoming President, Laura Liu, gave recognition and career highlights for MRMTA 20, 30, and 40 year members, some of whom were in attendance. Special recognition went to Heida Sigfusson for an outstanding 50 years as a MRMTA member.

Evangeline Keeley presented a commemoration of the passing of long-time and Honorary Life Member, Winnifred Sim. A moment of silence was taken in remembrance of Mrs. Sim.

As the fall of 2024 will be another year for the Western Finalist Young Artist Tour, we were delighted to have with us this

year's winner Anna-Lucia Mena Shevchenko of Winnipeg, introduced by Evangeline Keeley. Anna thanked MRMTA for the opportunity to tour and improve her musicianship and then presented us with an exciting video performance of one of her winning selections.

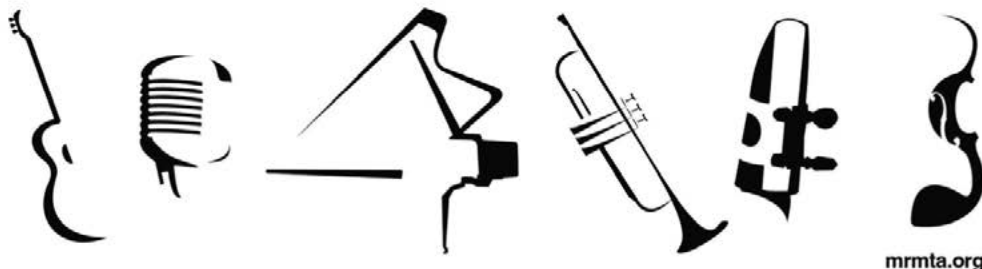
Annual reports were given by executive and committee chairs with a few highlights and recommendations being made. During the presentation of reports, it was announced that long time MRMTA Archivist Muriel Smith, who was unable to attend, would be retiring from her position. Another change will be the retirement of Tiffany Wilson as By-Laws Committee Chair. Both members were thanked for their service to the organization.

In the order of new business, members discussed and passed a motion to accept a new suggested minimum teaching rate of \$32 per half hour for RMT members, a rate which had last been adjusted at the 2022 AGM.

The 2023-2024 Provincial Executive election process proceeded with Maureen calling nominations for Vice President, Members Programming Coordinator and Student Programming Coordinator. With no nominations for any of these positions, they will remain vacant. President Maureen Baird indicated to the membership that all other executive positions would be held by the same members as last term. She continued to say that it is vital to continue the search for Vice President and the Members Programming positions. Without someone in these positions there will be limited programming for the membership. Everett Hopfner was thanked for organizing the U of M masterclasses and his willingness to continue with this endeavor.

Thanks were once again extended to those stepping down from their roles and to Maureen for her work in the past 18 months as president.

Maureen congratulated all in attendance for their support and hard work and wished Laura Lui well as she takes over as MRMTA President for the next term.



mrmta.org

IMPORTANT DATES 2024-2025

DATE & TIME	EVENT & PLACE	CONTACT
Monday - September 9 th 9:30 am	Executive Meeting (online)	Laura Liu president@mrmta.org
Thursday – September 19 th 7:00 pm	CFMTA Western Young Artist Tour <i>Featuring Anna-Lucia Mena Shevchenko</i> Brandon & Westman Branch Concert Lorne Watson Recital Hall School of Music, Brandon University	Marla Winters mwinters_vln@yahoo.ca
Sunday – September 22 nd 2:30 pm	CFMTA Western Young Artist Tour <i>Featuring Anna-Lucia Mena Shevchenko</i> Winnipeg and Area Concert Fort Garry Mennonite Fellowship Church 150 Bayridge Avenue, Winnipeg	Evangeline Keeley egkeeley@gmail.com
Friday - November 1 st Application Deadline	MRMTA Performance Scholarships Competition (end of January TBA)	Bennet Charter mrmtascholarships@gmail.com
Monday - November 4 th 9:30 am	Executive Meeting (online)	Laura Liu president@mrmta.org
Wednesday - November 15 th Deadline for Submissions	Take Note Magazine - Winter Issue	Dina Pollock editor@mrmta.org
Sunday - November 17 th 1:30 pm	Provincial Canada Music Week Recital St. Mark's Lutheran Church 600 Cambridge St., Winnipeg	Melissa Gingrich 204-218-4907 gingrich.melissa@ymail.com
Friday - November 22 nd	Canada Music Week Concert and Workshop Brandon & Westman Branch Workshop – 3 pm - Brandon University Music Bld Recital – 7 pm - BU Lorne Watson Recital Hall	Alla Turbanova tselyakov@hotmail.com
Date TBA - January	Simultaneous Masterclasses with U of M Faculty Voice / Piano / Cello / Violin / Flute U of M 136 Dafoe Road	Everett Hopfner everetthopfner@gmail.com
Monday - January 13 th 9:30 am	Executive Meeting (online)	Laura Liu president@mrmta.org

IMPORTANT DATES 2024-2025

DATE & TIME	EVENT & PLACE	CONTACT
End of January January 27 th – January 31 st	MRMTA Performance Scholarships Competition Venue TBA	Bennet Charter mrmtascholarships@gmail.com
Sunday - February 2nd	MRMTA Performance Scholarships Competition Gala Concert Venue TBA	Bennet Charter mrmtascholarships@gmail.com
Saturday - February 8th Sunday - February 9th	36th Annual Musicthon Fundraiser Kildonan Place Mall	Christina Hutton mrmtamusichthon@gmail.com
Saturday - March 1st Application Deadline	Paper Scholarships	Linda De Pauw 204-488-6096 lmdepauw@mts.net
Monday - March 31st 9:30 am	Executive Meeting (online)	Laura Liu president@mrmta.org
Tuesday - April 1st Application Deadline	RMT Professional Development Award (See website for details)	Tiffany A. Wilson 204-960-1539 tiffanyawilson@hotmail.com
Tuesday - April 1st Deadline	MRMTA Community Service Awards	Laura Liu MRMTAcommunityservice@outlook.com
Tuesday - April 1st Submission Deadline	Student Composer Competition	Melissa Gingrich 204-218-4907 gingrich.melissa@ymail.com
Tuesday - April 15th Deadline for Submissions	Take Note Magazine - Spring Issue	Dina Pollock editor@mrmta.org
Thursday - May 1st Application Deadline	Holtby Scholarships	Laura Liu president@mrmta.org
Thursday - May 1st Renewal Opens	MRMTA Membership Renewal	John Himes registrar@mrmta.org
Sunday - May 4th 7:00 pm	SERATA: An Evening of Musical Delights Fort Garry Mennonite Fellowship Church 150 Bayridge Avenue, Winnipeg	Tiffany A. Wilson 204-960-1539 tiffanyawilson@hotmail.com
Monday - May 12th 9:30 am	Executive Meeting (online)	Laura Liu president@mrmta.org
Sunday - June 1st Deadline	MRMTA Membership Renewal	John Himes registrar@mrmta.org
Sunday - June 22nd 2:00 pm	106th Annual General Meeting	Laura Liu president@mrmta.org
Friday - August 15th Deadline for Submissions	Take Note Magazine - Fall Issue	Dina Pollock editor@mrmta.org



Congratulations !

2024 Member Recognition

20 years

Maureen Baird

30 years

Leora Loewen

Alison V. King

Dianne Norris

Barbara Anhang

Rosemary Klaassen

Sister Josephine Chudzik

40 years

Eleanor Lwiwski

50 years

Heida Sigfusson

We extend a hearty welcome to the following who are taking on new positions:

- Laura Liu - President

Please note that at the time of publication, the following positions remain vacant:

- Vice-President
- Members Programming Coordinator
- Student Programming Coordinator.

We thank Rachel Dueck and wish her best of luck as she leaves the position of Take Note editor and welcome Dina Pollock as our new editor.

Changes to MRMTA Provincial Executive:

There have been a few changes to the Provincial Executive for the 2024-2025 year. Some members have stepped down from their duties, and others have come forward. We extend a big "Thank You!" For the years they have served the MRMTA:

Maureen Baird - President

Evangeline Keeley – Past President

Muriel Smith – Archives

Mark your Calendar

Composers & Kids with composer Wes Froese

October 18th - 19th (Friday - Saturday)

Whitewater Church, Boissevain

September 27th - Deadline for Submissions

For more information: Tenley Dyck

tenley@dyckmusicstudio.ca

6th Chopin Piano Competition

Toronto, January 9 - 14, 2025

COMPETITION DETAILS

Applications open: May 1, 2024

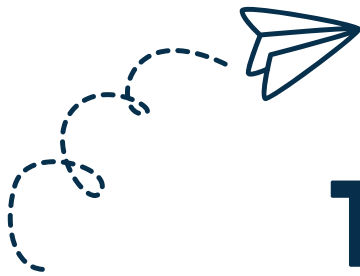
Application deadline: September 15, 2024

Virtual Preliminary Round: October 17 - 25, 2024

In-Person Competition (Toronto): January 9 - 14, 2025

For more information - [Click here](#)





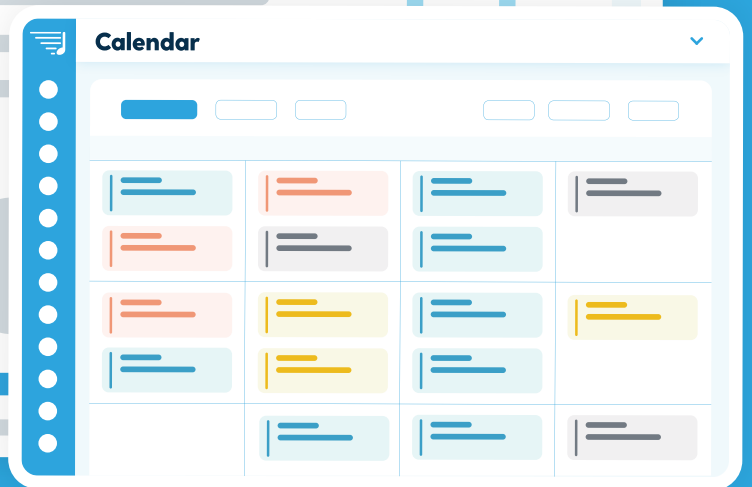
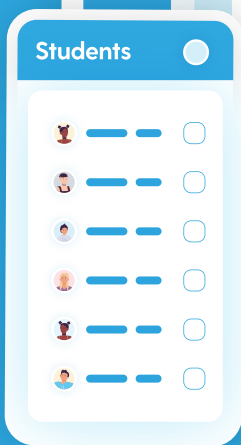
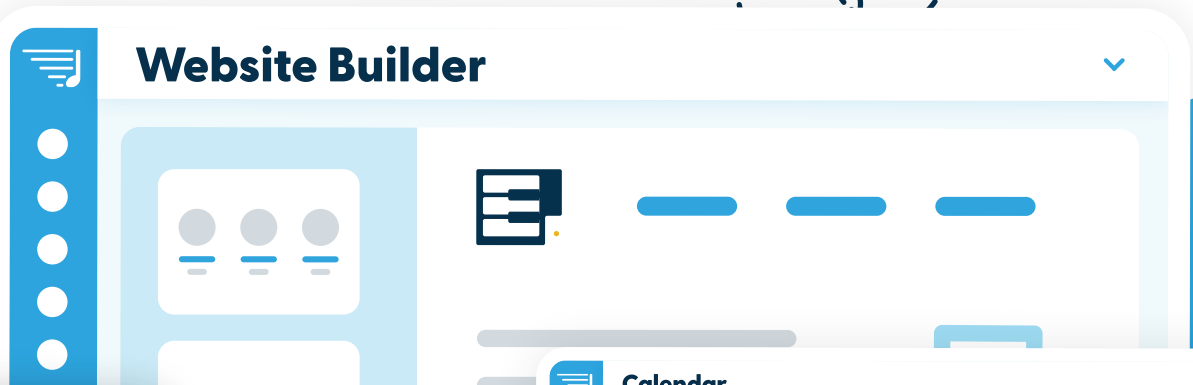
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Registrar's Report

Submitted by John Himes - MRMTA Registrar

Take Note Fall 2024

I wish all a warm welcome in our 106th year. In my third year as Office Administrator I'm excited to build on the successes of previous years. Coming out of the pandemic, the Executive team is keen to engage our members and their students even more through events and programming. Here are a few important items of which members should be aware:

Volunteer Rebate

The Executive approved the reinstatement of the volunteer rebate for Winnipeg and Area members. As before, these members will receive a rebate of \$50 in return for four hours of volunteer service.

Suggested Minimum Rate

Members present at the AGM voted to increase the suggested minimum rate for Registered Music Teachers to \$32/half-hour.

Teacher Directory

As a benefit of membership, RMTs are listed in our Teacher Directory (<https://mrmta.org/teacher-search/>). Please check the directory to ensure your entry is correct. Requests for changes may be sent to registrar@mrmta.org.

Registrar's Update on Membership

As of August 15th, 2024, there are 126 MRMTA members.

- 114 Full members
- 7 Retired members
- 2 Honorary Life members
- 2 Auxiliary members
- 1 Student member

In Closing

I'm looking forward to another exciting year for our organization. Members may always contact me at registrar@mrmta.org with any questions or requests for help.

Have you moved? Changing Emails?

To ensure your **Take Note Magazine** is delivered, please update your **email address & mailing address**

with our Provincial Registrar.

registrar@mrmta.org

Thank you!

Margaret Winnifred (Johnston) Sim 1930 - 2024

Honorary Life Member, Winnifred Sim, passed away on May 1, 2024 at the age of 93. She was a member of MRMTA for over 65 years and was Winnipeg Branch President on two separate occasions: 1976-78, and again from 1990-1992.

Winnifred was an exceptional accompanist and recitalist, often performing on CBC radio and television. She was well known for her involvement with CBC's Hymn Sing which aired on national television for decades. She played for the Manitoba Opera Company, Royal Winnipeg Ballet and Rainbow Stage, and soloed with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra. A tireless committee member and encourager of young musicians, Winnifred was a founding member of the Manitoba Choral Association and chaired the committee which founded the National Youth Choir. Her influence as a teacher, adjudicator, clinician and composer is widely known across Canada.

Winnifred's legacy lives on through the many musicians she taught, encouraged, and mentored over the years. A moment of silence was held in memory of Winnifred at the MRMTA June AGM.





CFMTA News

2024 CFMTA Annual Meeting Report

Submitted by Laura Liu

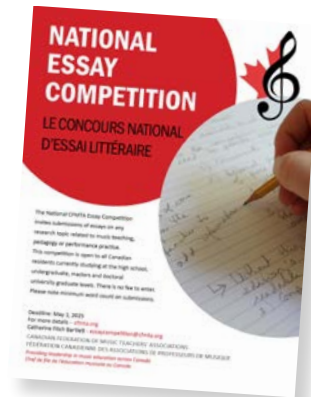
I am delighted to express my sincere gratitude to the membership and executive for entrusting me with the role of representing Manitoba as the second delegate and Chair of the CFMTA Professional Development Committee at the Canadian Federation of Music Teachers' Associations Annual Meeting, held via Zoom this past July. Our first Manitoba delegate, MRMTA President Maureen Baird, also attended, along with Leanne Hiebert, co-chair of the CFMTA Program Funding & Grant Application Committee.

The 2024 CFMTA Annual Meeting tackled several critical topics, including financial management, through updated payment systems and strategic adjustments to the budget. A top priority involved making changes to the National Music Competition effective 2027. Proposals include a new format with increased use of social media, containing engaging video content for the Young Artists Program.

The meeting also focused on preparations for the 2025 CFMTA National Conference (<https://www.apmqmta.org/en-ca/congres-national-de-la-fcmapm-2025>.) We are committed to ensuring our policies and procedures are up-to-date and practical, with thorough discussions on potential hosting opportunities and logistical considerations for upcoming conferences. Dedicated board meetings are planned to continue these preparations.

For more detailed information, please visit the CFMTA website. We encourage anyone with questions or a passion for involvement, whether locally or nationally, to reach out to the CFMTA or MRMTA offices. Together, we can drive forward our mission and make 2024-2025 an extraordinary year of growth and inspiration in music education!

Laura Liu 1st delegate president@mrmta.org
Maureen Baird 2nd delegate bairdbam@mts.net





CFMTA Corner



The CFMTA/FCAPM Programs for Teachers 2024-2025 offer valuable opportunities and resources. Whether you're part of the Canadian Federation of Music Teachers' Associations (CFMTA) or the Manitoba Registered Music Teachers' Association (MRMTA), there's something for you. Here's what you can enjoy:

1. Monthly "Of Note" Email and Canada Music Teacher Magazine:
 - Receive monthly newsletters and the Canada Music Teacher magazine three times a year.
2. CFMTA and MRMTA Facebook Groups:
 - Connect with fellow music teachers through these Facebook groups.
3. "Connecting Canada Year Round" Online Professional Development Chats:
 - Participate in monthly online professional development sessions. Details are emailed on the first of each month.
4. CFMTA Video Resource Library:
 - Access instructional videos by requesting the link from Dina Pollock at webmaster@cfmta.org.
5. A member of CFMTA Logo for Your Webpage and Correspondence:
 - Enhance your professional look with the CFMTA member logo. Get the logo from Heather Fyffe at admin@cfmta.org.
6. National Essay Competition:
 - Enter the CFMTA National Essay Competition. For more info, email essaycompetition@cfmta.org.
7. Canada Music Week Poster Competition:
 - Participate in the poster competition for Canada Music Week. This year's theme is "Canadian Animals." More details at canadamusicweek@cfmta.org. Deadline November 15, 2024
8. Call for Compositions for Canada Music Week:
 - Submit your compositions for Canada Music Week 2025. The theme is "Winter Activities of Canada." Contact canadamusicweek@cfmta.org for details.

Take advantage of these resources and opportunities to grow and connect within the music teaching community! For more detailed information, check out www.cfmta.org.

Branching Out - Choose Your Own Adventure

The CFMTA/FCAPM Branching Out Initiative for 2024-2025, titled "Choose Your Own Adventure," invites music teachers to spotlight their local music teachers' branches creatively. We encourage you to organize unique events tailored to your community, blend music into existing activities, or find your unique way to share the joy of music. Whether your event is in-person, live-streamed, or pre-recorded, all approaches are welcome!

Participating branches will have a chance to win a \$100.00 donation through a random draw, with winners announced after March 31, 2025. Every submission will be celebrated in the Canadian Music Teacher Magazine (CMT) Year in Review. To join in, submit your application online by March 31, 2025, including a description of your event, a photo, and a completed photo release form.

For further questions, contact Heather Fyffe at admin@cfmta.org.





Student Community Service Awards

In the world of music, giving back is as powerful as the notes we play. The MRMTA Community Service Awards celebrate individuals who go above and beyond to make a positive impact on our society through their dedication and service to community. Their achievements remind us of the importance of using our talents to enrich the lives of others.

Congratulations to the following 2023/2024 recipients who were recognized at Serata on May 5th, 2024.

- Lucas Kou
- Emily Ma
- Vicky Yubin Wang
- Kyle Wang
- Khloe Hao Barker
- Samuel Zhang
- Ashley Tan
- Jianqing Yang

Looking forward, we hope the MRMTA Community Service Awards will continue to be an annual tradition. The awards will be presented once a year at the May Serata Gala with a submission deadline of April 1st.

For information and application, please check the MRMTA website at: <https://mrmta.org/mrmta-community-service-awards/>

*** Nothing is more valuable than the gift of music shared with others.***



Vice President Laura Liu far left with Maureen Baird, far right and recipients of the MRMTA Community Service Awards



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SERATA: An Evening of Musical Delights 2024

Submitted by Committee Chair, Tiffany A. Wilson

St. Andrew's River Heights United Church
May 5th, 2024 at 7 pm.

This year, the Serata Fundraising Concert was a success thanks to the hard work of the small committee and the volunteers who helped with the event. We were very few but we continue to make a difference as we think ahead to the planning of our next CFMTA National Conference to be held in Winnipeg. A final total of \$1,455 was raised this year. A small portion of this money also goes towards the Professional Development Award (see article on page 22).



*Melissa Gingrich performing
Ralph Vaughan Williams and Maurice Duruflé
on Organ*



*Performers and Volunteers at Serata:
An Evening of Musical Delights 2024*



Dale Rogalsky, Annette Hay and Krystena Krahn

A special thank you to our Sponsors and Donors who helped with this event:

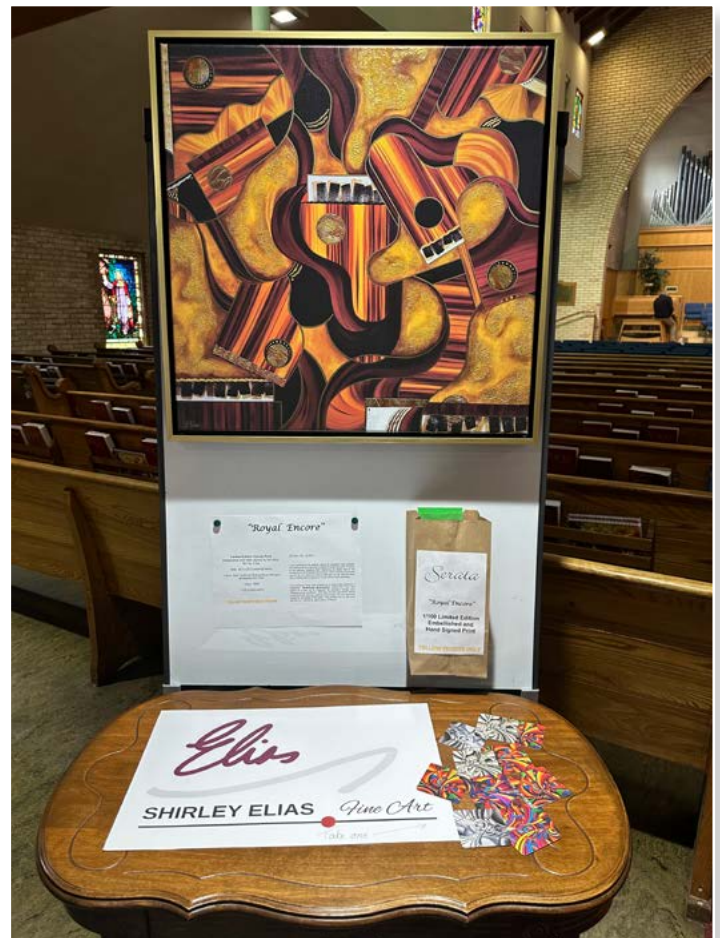
- Classic 107 FM once again hosted me in an interview with Chris Wolf for whom we are always grateful for collaborating with us.
- Manitoba Opera Association: An ad swap included our concert poster in both of their programmes this year; Li Keur and Carmen. We placed adverts in Take Note for the MOA.
- The design and creation of this year's advert was created by Zig Thiessen who made Facebook, Instagram and Website versions of the design as well as the specific advert for the ad swap with the Manitoba Opera Association
- DONORS
 1. Brandon & Westman MRMTA Branch - Garden Goodies (with Long & McQuade gift card)
 2. Dale Rogalsky - La Bella Pasta Gift Basket from De Luca's
 3. FBH Transport - 529 Wellington Steakhouse Gift certificate
 4. Music Studio of Tiffany A. Wilson - Thermea Gift Certificate
 5. Evangeline Keeley - Spring Cleaning Basket - Soaps, Lotions,
 6. Leanne Hiebert & Rita Leyden - Variety Basket
 7. Studio of Tuesday Royko - Sweet Treats Basket (Godiva Chocolates & Wine)
 8. Little Tree Hugger - Bath & Body Boutique Basket of Natural Bath/Body products
 9. Classic 107 FM - CD Package



Classic 107 FM

The Committee was thrilled to receive a generous donation from our artistic colleague and extend a very special thank you to SHIRLEY ELIAS for her donation of "Royal Encore" Limited Edition Canvas Print - Embellished and hand signed by the artist. Size: 25.5 x 25.5 (incl. frame) Value: \$650 - The first 1 of 100 limited editions! Her donation brought in a significant amount for this fundraiser.

The Paper Scholarships including the prestigious Holtby Awards, as well as the Community Service Award Recipients, are always an exciting addition to the evening as we celebrate our students' accomplishments and present them with their certificates. It's also wonderful that students can see their teachers performing.



First Edition Print of "Royal Encore" was generously donated by Shirley Elias and won by our Past President, Maureen Baird!



SERATA: An Evening of Musical Delights 2024 - cont.

PROGRAM - Serata Host: Muriel Smith

Melissa Gingrich

“Rhosymedre” No. 2 - Organ Preludes on Welsh Hymn Tunes

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Annette Hay, Krystena Krahyn and Dale Rogalsky

“Vivace” - Concerto for Two Violins in D minor, BWV 1043

J.S. Bach

Viktoriya Tuz and Tetyana Novaskaya

Tarantella from the ballet Anita

Valery Gavrilin

Presentation of Paper Scholarships

Dale Rogasky

Prelude in G# minor, Op. 32, No. 12

Sergei Rachmaninoff

Melissa Gingrich

Fugue sur le thème du Carillon des heures de la Cathédrale de Soissons

Maurice Duruflé

Donation Draw

BIG CHANGE ANNOUNCEMENT for NEXT YEAR – Sunday, May 4th, 2025

Serata: An Evening of Teacher–Student Collaboration!

Once again there will be two grand pianos provided at the new location, Fort Garry Mennonite Fellowship. Teachers are invited to ask a student, or select group of students to perform with their teacher; Duets, trios, etc. are welcome. Some things to keep in mind:

1. Students must be performing at an advanced level (9 or higher) to be included in the programming.
2. One performance per teacher is suggested unless submissions are low.

Since we are at the beginning of the teaching year, there is plenty of time to start planning your programming with students!

The committee is eager to start up this new opportunity and looks forward to hearing your feedback about this new format for the Serata Fundraiser. We are sure that this is not only a great new direction for this concert series but also a unique opportunity for students to collaborate with their teachers!

Sign up deadline is January 15th, 2025.

Contact Tiffany A. Wilson for more details at:

tiffanyawilson@hotmail.com

or

call 204.960.1539

2024 WESTERN

YOUNG ARTIST CONCERT TOUR

ANNA-LUCIA MENA SHEVCHENKO

PIANO



CANADIAN FEDERATION
OF MUSIC TEACHERS'
ASSOCIATIONS

FÉDÉRATION CANADIENNE
DES ASSOCIATIONS DE
PROFESSEURS DE MUSIQUE



BRANDON & WESTMAN BRANCH

Thursday, September 19th, 2024 7:00 pm

Lorne Watson Recital Hall

School of Music, Brandon University

Tickets: Admission by Donation

Contact: Marla Winters

mwinters_vln@yahoo.com

WINNIPEG AND AREA CONCERT

Sunday, September 22nd, 2024 2:30 PM

Fort Garry Mennonite Fellowship

150 Bayridge Ave., Winnipeg

Tickets: Admission by Donation

Contact: Evangeline Keeley

egkeeley@gmail.com

Young Artist Series

CFMTA



FCAPM

Western Tour



SASKATCHEWAN
REGISTERED
MUSIC
TEACHERS'
ASSOCIATION

mrmta



— MANITOBA —
— REGISTERED —
— MUSIC —
— TEACHERS' —
— ASSOCIATION —



MRMTA Holtby Scholarship Winner 2023

Victoria Lee

In the past year, I was able to experience and learn some new things through my piano studies. Participating in the 2024 Winnipeg Music Festival was a great opportunity to perform some of my Level 10 repertoire and I was very happy that I also performed a duet by Fanny Mendelssohn with my sister Alexis and won the **Claire C. Leckie Trophy** for the best performance in a piano ensemble. It was my favorite duet that I've played over the years with my sister and I was so proud of our performance. I was also able to complete my Level 10 piano and received first class honors with distinction on my exam in June. I am very thankful to my teacher Jacqueline Ryz for helping me prepare so much for this and I am very excited to learn new pieces as I start my ARCT studies!

Through a video competition that I won, The Agassiz Chamber Music Festival gave me the opportunity to perform in one of the pre-concerts as one of the "Glimpses of the Future" competition winners. It was a great experience and I really enjoyed performing my favorite pieces from my Level 10 repertoire! It felt wonderful to share my passion for the piano through performing because it shows how much I love the piano but also the hard work that I've put in and the support from my parents. I was also fortunate enough to get selected to play as a concert opener for the Virtuosi Concert Series. In January 2025, I will be performing a short duet at one of the concerts. I am super excited for that experience and grateful to Virtuosi for providing me with the chance.

Thank you MRMTA again for the Holtby award. It has greatly helped with my lesson expenses which have helped me grow and become a communicative performer.





MRMTA Holtby Scholarship Winner 2024

Marek Song

I've been playing the piano for over a decade now, and while it hasn't always been an easy journey, I've found the experience to be deeply fulfilling and rewarding. My passion for music has only grown as the time has passed, and I always enjoy being able to perform for others and share my passion with them.

Playing the piano has taught me numerous important life-skills such as working hard, discipline, and consistency. It's not always been easy for me to sit down and practice every day, and there have been many times where I wanted to take the easy way out instead of doing what was best in the long run. Ultimately these life-skills have enabled me to push through my hardships and become a better musician and person.

I feel very fortunate to have had the opportunity to perform in various settings. I've competed at MRMTA piano competitions, won various classes in the Winnipeg and Manitoba music festivals, such as the concerto classes, and have received first class honours with distinction for both my Level 9 and 10 RCM exams. I'm looking forward to competing again this year. I've also performed in non-competitive settings, such as accompanying a French children's choir and taking a collaborative music class during the school year. Each experience has taught me new and valuable lessons that I'll carry with me forever.

I would like to thank my piano teacher, Jacqueline Ryz, for her hard work and dedication in teaching me. She has exposed me to many new aspects of piano performance, such as teaching and accompanying me for my first two concertos, and has helped me greatly improve as a pianist and a person. I also want to thank my harmony teacher, Bernadette Geras, and my former piano teacher, Linda Bromberg, for their hard work. My achievements wouldn't have been possible without all of my teachers.

Finally, I want to sincerely thank the MRMTA for their generosity in awarding me with the Holtby scholarship. It will help me a lot in pursuing my ARCT performance goals and my growth as a musician as well as a person.

Thanks,
Marek Song





MRMTA Professional Development Award

Deadline April 1st, 2025

This award will be given to a deserving teacher who wishes to attend the CFMTA National Conference. It is intended to encourage our RMT's to further their continuing education as professional music teachers. Applicants will be actively involved with MRMTA programmes and involve their students in several annual events both provincially and nationally to qualify. This should ideally be their first time attending the national conference.

When offered, it is also possible to participate in the National Conference online. Should the recipients choose this possibility instead, the committee may also choose a second recipient to attend online as well.

Amount and Deadline

Each conference year, the MRMTA will grant one award amounting to the cost of the registration fee for the conference. The value of this award is around \$500 and will be paid directly to the conference registrar. It is meant to assist the recipient in their participation at the national conference.

Annual Deadline: April 1, 2025

Qualifications

1. Serve on the executive committee or a provincial branch committee or volunteer at 2 or more events in one year.
2. Participate personally or enroll students in at least one provincial programme in the past year, such as the Canada Music Week concert, perform at Serata: An Evening of Musical Delights, attend the Annual General Meeting, Musicthon, etc.
3. Participate personally or enroll students in at least one national programme, in the past year such as the CFMTA E-Festival, Composition Competition, national competitions or serve on a CFMTA committee.

Application Guidelines and How to Apply

To be eligible for this award, the applicant must be a full member of the MRMTA. Applications must be sent to the Chairperson of the Serata Committee and include a 300 - 500

word essay explaining why they should attend the conference and the benefits of this opportunity for their teaching career. Applicants are encouraged to demonstrate a willingness to replicate their learning in the home studio or a workshop setting.

Every application must include:

1. Full name and position on executive or committee (if applicable)
2. Home address, email and phone number
3. Essay of 300 – 500 words
4. Information to support qualifications 1 and 2 (which will include a minimum of 4 programs in which you or your students participated if you are not serving on a committee.)

Selection Process

Each application will be reviewed by a committee which will then announce the award winner at Serata: An Evening of Musical Delights. This fundraising concert happens annually on the first Sunday evening of May. Applicants must be present to receive the award to avoid forfeiting the prize. In the case of non-attendance, the award will be given to the runner-up. In the event of no applications or no recipients, the prize will remain in the fundraising account for the following year's selection process.

Reporting

Acceptance of the MRMTA Professional Development Award requires the applicant to attend the next CFMTA Conference. Recipients are later required to submit a brief report (no more than 200 - 400 words) detailing the professional development classes, workshops etc. attended and how they intend to implement what they've learned in the home studio. This may be featured in our Take Note magazine.

Email application to: tiffanyawilson@hotmail.com

Tiffany A. Wilson

Chairperson: Serata: An Evening of Musical Delights



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MRMTA Student Composer Competition

Submitted by Melissa Gingrich

Category A - 11 years and under

Class 1 - Solo or ensemble instrument

First Place	Octave Brault	<i>Le papillon de nuit</i>	Teacher: Josée Vaillancourt
Honourable Mention	Margaret Custodio	<i>Retro</i>	Teacher: Melissa Gingrich

Class 2 - Vocal with or without accompaniment

First Place	Nathaniel Mercer	<i>Fun With the Cinnamon Bun</i>	Teacher: Shoshana Goldenberg
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Category B - 15 years and under

Class 1 - Solo or ensemble instrument

First Place	Favour Adelani	<i>The Jolly Wayfarer Variations</i>	Teacher: Jane Petroni
Honourable Mention	Serra Kroetsch	<i>Midnight</i>	Teacher: Christina Hutton

Category C - 19 years and under

First Place	Heidi Reimer	<i>Under Our Stars</i>	Teacher: Tracey Regier-Sawatzky
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Category D - Open

First Place	Sarah Mercer	<i>Up to Me</i>	Teacher: Shoshana Goldenberg
Honourable Mention	Heidi Reimer	<i>Waltz of the Sea</i>	Teacher: Tracey Regier-Sawatzky

Adjudicator - Janet Gieck

Congratulations, to our Student Composers!

Congratulations to our Manitoba competitors on their achievements at the national level this summer!

Category A - 11 years and under

CLASS 1 - Solo or ensemble instrument

1st Place

Octave Brault *Le papillon de nuit*



Octave was born in 2013 in Québec and moved to Manitoba with his family when he was 6 months old. He has two sisters: his older sister plays the clarinet and his younger sister the piano. He started playing the piano at age 4 and quickly developed a passion for it, with the help of his much appreciated piano teacher, Josée Vaillancourt. He also enjoys reading and soccer. His work, “Le papillon de nuit”, is his first written composition.



Category A - 11 years and under

CLASS 2 - Vocal with or without accompaniment

1st Place

Nathaniel Mercer *Fun With the Cinnamon Bun*



Nathaniel Mercer is 10 years old and is studying voice with Shoshana Goldenberg. Nathaniel enjoys composing for voice with piano, and voice with ukulele. At the 2024 Winnipeg Music Festival, Nathaniel was awarded the Stewart M. Thomson trophy for the most outstanding performance by a vocalist with unchanged voice, 14 years or younger. Other performance highlights include being in the children’s chorus for the April 2024 Manitoba Opera production of Carmen, being cast in the May 2024 Dry Cold Productions musical *Merrily We Roll Along* by Stephen Sondheim, and being a member of the Winnipeg Boys’ Choir.



Category B - 15 years and under

CLASS 1 -Solo or ensemble instrument

1st Place

Favour Adelani

The Jolly Wayfarer Variations



CFMTA
Honourable
Mention

Hi! I'm Favour Adelani, a 9th grade student at Mennonite Brethren Collegiate Institute. I love music, writing, reading, and baking. Currently, I play the piano and the trumpet. I thank God for inspiring me to compose "The Jolly Wayfarer Variations" and for helping me win my category. A great thank you to my family for their support; my piano teacher, Jane Petroni and former piano teacher, Lana Ribakovas for helping me on my musical journey; the MRMTA for selecting my composition; and the adjudicator, Janet Gieck for her insightful feedback. I hope to compose more in the future!

The Jolly Wayfarer Variations

THEME

Allegro $\text{♩} = 115-120$

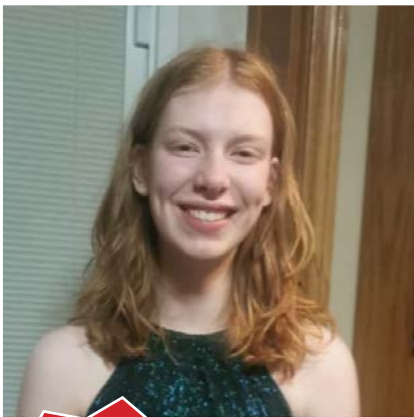
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Category C - 19 years and under

1st Place

Heidi Reimer

Under Our Stars



CFMTA
Honourable
Mention

Heidi Reimer is 17 years old, and currently completing grade 12 at Linden Christian School. She began playing piano at age 5, but also plays the clarinet in band, tenor saxophone in jazz band, and sings in choir and a vocal jazz group. Her compositions are inspired by emotions and the colours of music.

Heidi would like to thank her teacher Tracey Regier-Sawatzky, and the MRMTA for this amazing opportunity to learn and grow in her skills as a composer. Heidi will be attending University of Manitoba next year to study composition.

Under Our Stars

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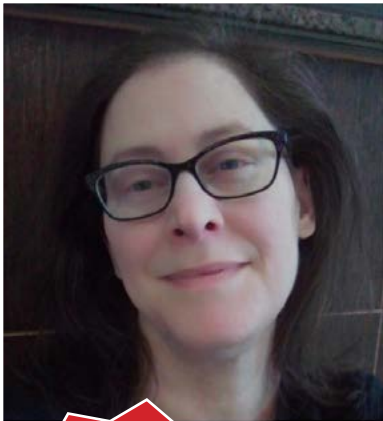
A Tempo

Category D - Open

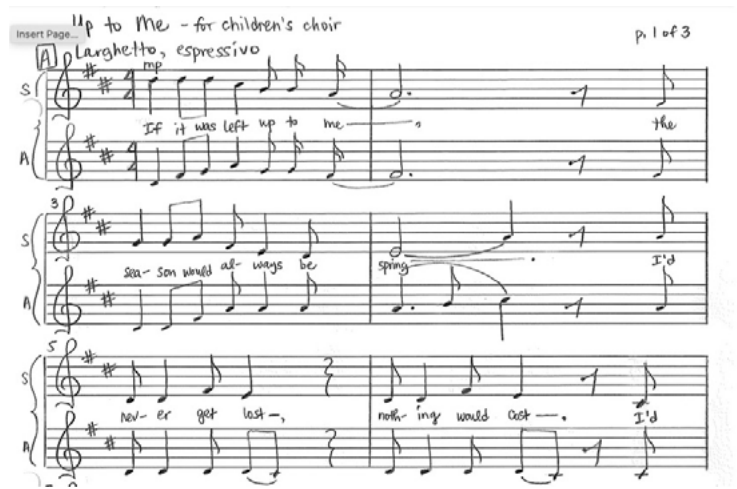
1st Place

Sarah Mercer

Up to Me



Sarah Mercer is studying voice with Shoshana Goldenberg. An experienced vocal soloist and chorister, Sarah has performed a range of vocal works, including jazz, musical theatre, gospel, folk and classical. Sarah is also a flutist and keyboardist. Sarah enjoys composing for children's choir, adult choir, solo voice, flute, and piano.



It's a great time for all studios to get their creative juices flowing and plan to enter the 2025 competition.

There are some categories of competition that are longing for entries, and cash prizes to be won!....

See the website for details.

Entry deadline, April 1st, 2025

STUDENT COMPOSER COMPETITION

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES
APRIL 1, 2025

The MRM/TA Student Composer Competition invites submissions of original compositions for any instrument, voice, or combination of voice(s) and instruments in the following categories:

- Preparatory - 8 years and under
- Category A - 11 years and under
- Category B - 15 years and under
- Category C - 19 Years and Under
- Category D - Open

Prizes awarded in each class. Recommended submissions will advance to the CFMTA/FCAPM National Student Composer Competition.

For complete information including: Provincial regulations, divisions, awards, entry fees and entry forms please visit www.mrmta.org/cmw-student-composer-competition/ or contact Melissa Gingrich - gingrich-gingrich.melissa@gmail.com

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Canada Music Week happens in November!

Submitted by Melissa Gingrich

Canada Music Week will be celebrated nationwide November 17th through 23rd recognizing the significant achievements of our very own performers and composers and artistic heritage. At MRMTA, we draw attention to our students who need to be exposed to this heritage and who are the up and comers of the music scene in Canada.

Winnipeg Branch will host a student recital featuring performances of Canadian compositions and winners of the 2024 Student Composer Competition. We hope to draw a variety of disciplines and even ensembles to the stage as well as a professional guest appearance. The highlight of the event is always having the performer speak about the piece they will perform – whether historical information about the composer, observances about the compositional techniques, or simply what makes the piece meaningful to them. It's a special treat to have our young composers speak about their journey of inspiration and writing. A reception of red and white cake will follow!

Stay tuned for information about CMW events in Southern Manitoba Branch and Brandon & Westman Branch!

The Canada Music Week webpage will have event and registration information.

www.mrmta.org/canada-music-week



Winnipeg Branch CMW Student Recital

Sunday November 17th, 2024 at 1:30 pm

St. Mark's Lutheran Church – 600 Cambridge Street

Registration is on the MRMTA website – deadline November 1st, 2024

Admission is by donation; performers are free

Cake reception to follow!



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Western Young Artist Concert Tour – 2024

Submitted by Evangeline Keeley

MRMTA is pleased to present Anna-Lucia Mena Shevchenko in two Manitoba concerts in September! It has been a personal joy to watch her compete and perform in various MRMTA events over past years, and to watch her amazing progress as a pianist.

Anna-Lucia has been a student member for many years and studies with her mother, Yaroslava Shevchenko, an MRMTA member. During the 2023-2024 year, Anna-Lucia won the MRMTA Performance Scholarship - Advanced level, and received the Grace Rich-Bastin Keyboard Award.

Internationally, her awards are impressive! Most recent 2024 wins include 1st Prizes at Chopin Avenue International Piano Competition (IPC), AADGT Passion of Music International Music Festival, 4th Franz Liszt Center IPC, Orbetello IPC, Swiss International Music Competition, Gustav Mahler Prize IPC, and Basel IPC. As part of these wins, Anna-Lucia was invited to participate in several concerts in the world's most prestigious concert halls in Europe and the USA, including Carnegie Hall.

Anna-Lucia will be presenting an all-Chopin program on the tour. The opening concert will be in Brandon, Thursday, September 19th followed by a concert in Winnipeg on Sunday, September 22nd. Saskatchewan (SRMTA) will also be hosting a number of concerts following the two in Manitoba in this inter-provincial tour.

Mark your calendar now and plan to attend. You will be inspired by MRMTA's very own Anna-Lucia Mena Shevchenko and in a few years will say, "I heard her play back in 2024 when she gave the Western Young Artist Tour!"

Brandon & Westman Branch Concert
Thursday, September 19, 2024

7:00 pm

Lorne Watson Recital Hall, School of Music,
Brandon University

Tickets: Admission by Donation

Contact: Marla Winters

mwinters_vln@yahoo.ca

Winnipeg and Area Concert
Sunday, September 22, 2024

2:30 pm

Fort Garry Mennonite Fellowship
150 Bayridge Ave., Winnipeg

Tickets: Admission by Donation

Contact: Evangeline Keeley

egkeeley@gmail.com





Branch Updates

Paper Scholarships

From the Editor

Southern Branch

Southern Branch is looking forward to meeting in person again at the end of this month. Last year we tried a few new things which we plan to continue. One was monthly pedagogy talks for teachers. Another was a Musicathon early December in several local businesses and seniors' complexes. This meeting will be an opportunity to brainstorm ideas to celebrate Canada Music Week in November. Also, we are hoping to follow through with holding several masterclasses in the coming year.

Submitted by Rosemary Klaassen

Brandon And Westman Branch

The 2023/2024 teaching season ended with an enjoyable coffee/sharing time and AGM held on June 7th at Forbidden Flavours in Brandon. While talking about our year and sharing ideas, we were also able to discuss possible projects for 2024/2025. It was decided we would meet in August to put some dates to our plans. Although it became tricky to find a time to meet, five of us were able to get together via ZOOM on August 19th. One executive change was announced with the resignation of our long-time Registrar Alison McNeill-Hordern. We were happy to hear, however that Alison will stay on as an MRMTA member and hopes to stay involved with branch activities. All other positions remain the same, led by president Dianna Neufeld. Our year will be kick-started with the Young Artist Tour Recital by Western Finalist Anna-Lucia Mena Shevchenko of Winnipeg. Anna-Lucia will perform in the Lorne Watson Recital Hall at Brandon University on September 19th. We look forward to another Canada Music Week celebration with an active day of workshops and recital on November 22nd. Further discussions for the New Year are also underway to plan excursions to area Senior and Personal Care Homes so that we can share the many varied talents of Brandon and Westman music students.

Submitted by Maureen Baird

Paper Scholarships

As the new term begins in September, please keep in mind that there are numerous scholarships available for students of MRMTA teachers.

More than \$10,000 was given to deserving students in 2024. It is definitely worth checking to see if your students could benefit from these generous awards.

Please see the MRMTA website for information on the Paper Scholarships. Applications are due March 1st, 2025.

If you have any questions, contact Linda De Pauw at lmdepauw@mts.net.

Submitted by Linda De Pauw

From the Editor

Hello everyone in Manitoba, it is good to be back as your editor for *Take Note* magazine. Thank you, Rachel for taking the magazine to a new level. I hope I can keep on the tradition.



As I was putting the magazine together I was so impressed with all the opportunities and programs you offer to your students and your teachers. All members should be very proud of belonging to such a great association. If I was not living in BC - I would be proud to be part of MRMTA.

All the best for this teaching year.

Thanks

Dina



MRMTA Provincial Executive 2024 - 2025

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