

Volume 22 - Issue 2
Winter - December 2024

take note

In this issue:

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

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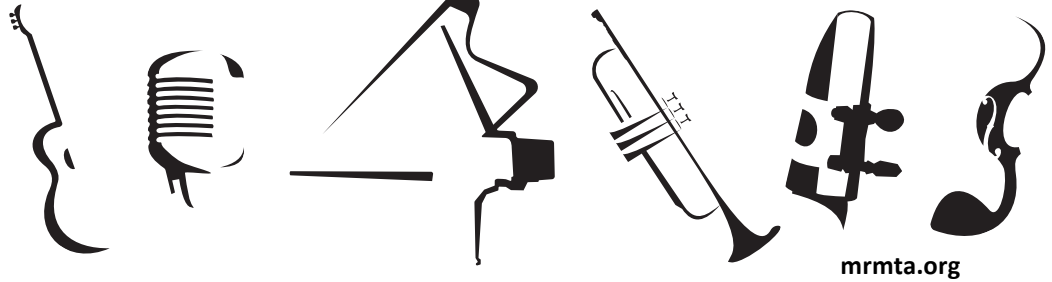
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rcmusic.com/TheoryQuiz



PUBLICATION INFORMATION

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

Next issue: Spring - May 2025

Submission Deadlines:

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Articles - April 15, 2025

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Two Thirds Page	\$54
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Third Page	\$30
Quarter Page	\$24
Business Card	\$18

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

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 Rob de Wit - <https://www.200f2.ca>



The President's Message

Inspiring Connections: Music, Growth, and Creativity

Laura Liu



Dear MRMTA members and friends,

As the fall season unfolds, I am struck by how quickly time flies. I extend my warmest wishes to you for a rewarding teaching year and fulfilling work ahead. Thanks to the tireless efforts of the MRMTA executive and members, opportunities for growth and connection continue to thrive. I am thrilled and deeply grateful to report that our call for assistance in sustaining programming for 2024–2025 has been met enthusiastically. Volunteers from across the province have stepped forward, reaffirming the strength and spirit of our community.

This year began on a high note with the CFMTA Western Young Artist Tour Winnipeg and Area Concert and the Brandon & Westman Branch Concert - organized and supported by the Brandon and Westman Registered Music Teachers. By the time you read this, the Canada Music Week celebrations in Winnipeg and Brandon/Westman will also have brought vibrant performances and collaboration to the forefront.

While many of our interactions have returned to their pre-COVID vibrancy, we've embraced new ways of working. The adoption of platforms like Zoom now allows members from every corner of the province to take on roles and attend meetings that might have previously been out of reach. Personally, this has been invaluable, enabling me to connect with many of you online. I look forward to meeting more of you at our upcoming in-person events.

Looking ahead, 2024 and 2025 promise a full calendar of exciting opportunities, including:

- Celebration of the Holiday Season - Pancake Brunch
- MRMTA Performance Scholarships Competition
- University of Manitoba Masterclasses
- Holtby and Other Scholarships
- CFMTA Student Composer Competition
- MRMTA Community Service Awards and RMT Professional Development Award
- Serata Fundraising Gala
- 36th Annual Musicthon Fundraiser
- Branch events in Brandon/Westman and Southern Manitoba

For the latest updates, please consult the MRMTA website, the schedule in this issue, and our regular e-newsletters.

This year, I encourage teachers to inspire students by participating in MRMTA programs and incorporating the CFMTA Branching Out initiative, "**Choose Your Own Adventure.**" Let's share music creatively by reaching new audiences through innovative presentations in fresh and unexpected venues. Visit the CFMTA website for ideas to spark your imagination.

A heartfelt THANK-YOU goes out to our volunteers and executives for their unwavering dedication and support. I look forward to seeing you in person at one of our events this winter!

Laura Liu
MRMTA President

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



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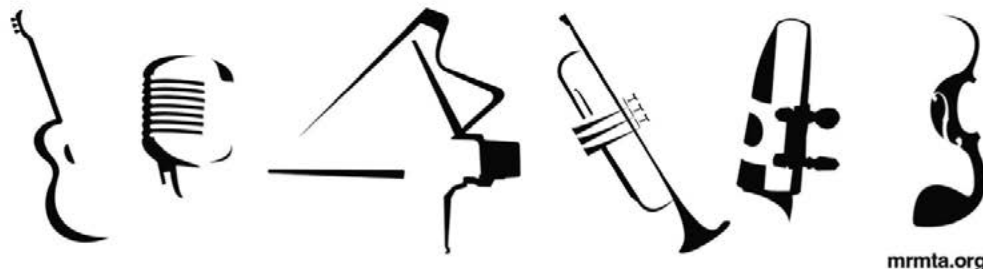
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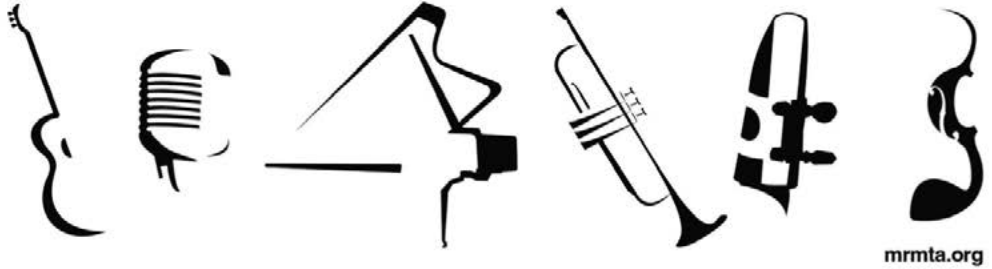


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IMPORTANT DATES 2024-2025

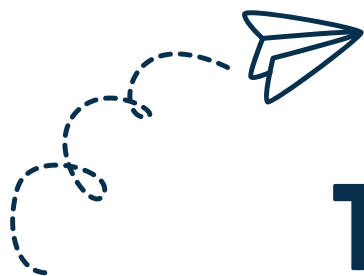
DATE & TIME	EVENT & PLACE	CONTACT
Tuesday – December 10th 9:30 am	Pancake Brunch The Original Pancake House 2220 McGillvrary Blvd, Winnipeg	Rachel Dueck mrmmta.events@gmail.com
Sunday - January 12th 2:00 – 5:00 pm	Simultaneous Masterclasses with U of M Faculty Voice / Piano / Cello / Violin / Flute U of M 136 Dafoe Road	Laura Liu president@mrmmta.org
Monday - January 13th 9:30 am	Executive Meeting (online)	Laura Liu president@mrmmta.org
End of January January 27th – January 31st	MRMTA Performance Scholarships Competition Sterling Mennonite Fellowship 1008 Dakota Street, Winnipeg	Bennet Charter mrmmtascholarships@gmail.com
Sunday - February 2nd	MRMTA Performance Scholarships Competition Gala Concert Sterling Mennonite Fellowship 1008 Dakota Street, Winnipeg	Bennet Charter mrmmtascholarships@gmail.com
Saturday - February 8th Sunday - February 9th	36th Annual Musicthon Fundraiser Kildonan Place Mall	Christina Hutton mrmmtamusicthon@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@mrmmta.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 president@mrmmta.org



IMPORTANT DATES 2024-2025

DATE & TIME	EVENT & PLACE	CONTACT
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@mrmmta.org
Thursday - May 1st Application Deadline	Holtby Scholarships	Laura Liu president@mrmmta.org
Thursday - May 1st Renewal Opens	MRMTA Membership Renewal	John Himes registrar@mrmmta.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@mrmmta.org
Sunday - June 1st Deadline	MRMTA Membership Renewal	John Himes registrar@mrmmta.org
Sunday - June 22nd 2:00 pm	106th Annual General Meeting	Laura Liu president@mrmmta.org
Friday - August 15th Deadline for Submissions	Take Note Magazine - Fall Issue	Dina Pollock editor@mrmmta.org

Be sure to read your email newsletters and check the website for any changes to this calendar!



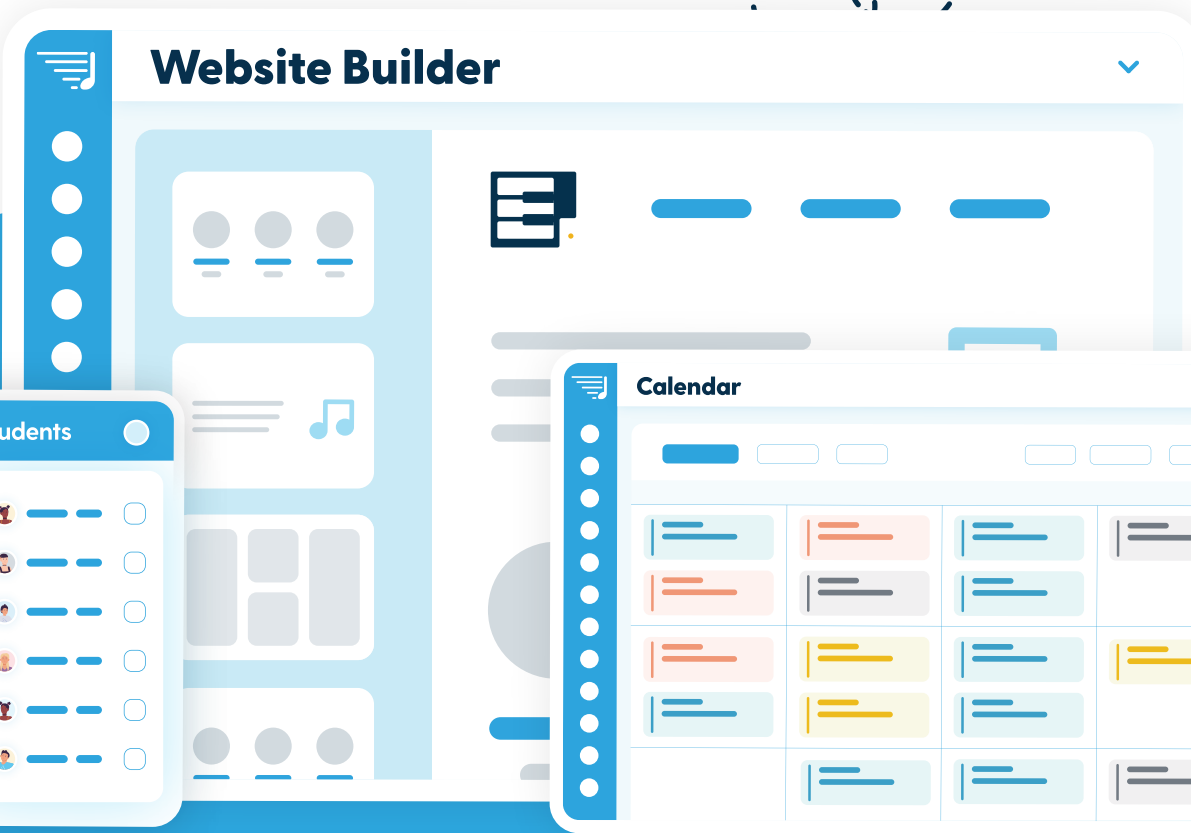
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Registrar's Report

Performance Scholarships Competition

Registrar's Report

It has been an exciting fall for MRMTA. Young Artist winner Anna-Lucia Mena Shevchenko kicked off the programming for the year with a series of concert performances in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Many students participated in Canada Music Week events in both Winnipeg and Brandon. Be sure to mark your calendars for the Performance Scholarships Competition and Musicthon.

Registrar's Update on Membership

As of November 15th, 2024, there are 133 MRMTA members.

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

In Closing

I wish all a happy holiday season. Members are invited to contact me at registrar@mrmta.org with any inquiries.

John Himes - MRMTA Registrar

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!

Performance Scholarships Competition

Happy December, everybody!

In our local musical community this is always a busy time, full of planning and preparation. The application deadline for the upcoming 2025 MRMTA Performance Scholarships Competition has just passed and the process of schedule preparation is well underway. Schedule details will be sent out in early December. The competition will be held the week of January 27 - 31, 2025, at Sterling Mennonite Fellowship with the Gala Concert taking place on February 2, 2025, also at Sterling.

Please keep an eye on <https://www.mrmta.org/scholarships> for more information as it becomes available.

This is a particularly exciting year for the Advanced Piano category as the winner of that category may be recommended to play in the CFMTA National Piano Competition which is held biennially, in odd-numbered years. The national competition will take place in Montreal in July, 2025.

Another exciting bit of news is that we have decided to do away with admission fees for the competition classes throughout the week so teachers and families will no longer have to pay to watch their students and children compete. There will, however, still be a \$5 admission fee for the Gala Concert.

That is all for now regarding the Performance Scholarships Competition. I am looking forward to another successful competition in the new year!

Bennet Charter, Performance Scholarships Competition Chair



CFMTA Corner



Stay connected and take part in the vibrant opportunities offered by the Canadian Federation of Music Teachers' Associations (CFMTA/FCAPM). Please visit www.cfmta.org or the CFMTA/FCAPM App for detailed information, including past and current updates. Let's celebrate and promote music education across Canada!

Explore These Resources and Opportunities:

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 password 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. 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.

CALL FOR COMPOSITIONS

For performance during Canada Music Week

Grades 3 - 4 / Grades 5 - 6

- Piano
- Instrumental with accompaniment
- Vocal with accompaniment

Deadline Date: March 3, 2025
Bring Your Name

The competition is open to any Canadian resident. Submissions must be new, unpublished pieces, and previously recorded in any form. One submission per composer per category. We encourage you to be inspired by the Winter Activities of Canada as the theme of your piece.

The competition will be organized by a selection committee from across Canada. The winners' compositions will be published in the CFMTA/FCAPM website with November 2025.

For questions, contact: canadamusicweek@cfmta.org

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NATIONAL ESSAY COMPETITION

LE CONOURS NATIONAL D'ESSAI LITTÉRAIRE

The National CFMTA/FCAPM Essay Competition invites submissions of essays on any research topic related to music teaching, pedagogy or performance practice. This competition is open to all Canadian residents currently studying at the high school, undergraduate, masters and doctoral university graduate levels. There is no fee to enter. Please note maximum word count on submissions.

Deadline: May 1, 2025
For more details: cfmta.org
Catherine Faith Barrett: essaycompetition@cfmta.org
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BRANCHING OUT

Choose Your Own Adventure
ON SE RASSEMBLE

The 2024 - 2025 Branching Out initiative
Choose Your Own Adventure

Notes awareness of your local music:
Weekly Branch by:
• Creating an event unique to your location
• Sharing your music, your way
• Using your imagination and resources
Events may be live in person, live streamed, or pre-recorded.

Branching Out donations of \$100.00 each will be distributed to random draw to participating Branches after March 31, 2025.
Applications are to be submitted on-line at [CFMTA.org](http://cfmta.org)

Deadline for submissions is March 31, 2025.
For more information: heather.fyffe@cfmta.org
CANADIAN FEDERATION OF MUSIC TEACHERS' ASSOCIATIONS
FÉDÉRATION CANADIENNE DES ASSOCIATIONS DE PROFESSEURS DE MUSIQUE



CFMTA Corner



Branching Out - Choose Your Own Adventure

This initiative invites branches to explore innovative ways to share music with their communities, stepping into new spaces and connecting with fresh audiences. Events can be live in-person, live-streamed, or pre-recorded. 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 at www.cfmta.org 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

Mark Your Calendar!

- Call for Compositions - March 1, 2025
- Branching Out – March 15, 2025 – online submission deadline March 31, 2025
- Hugheen Ferguson Distinguished Teacher Award – Deadline May 1, 2025
- National Essay Competition - Deadline May 1, 2025
- Memorial Pedagogy Awards – Deadline May 1, 2025
- National Piano Competition Entry – Deadline May 1, 2025
- CFMTA Student Composer Competition – Deadline June 1, 2025
- CFMTA Annual General Meeting – July 2025 (Contact admin@cfmta.org to register to attend)
- CFMTA/FCAPM 2025 Conference – Montreal – July 4 – 6, 2025
- Connecting Canada Professional Development – July 2026



Western Young Artist Tour

Anna-Lucia Mena Shevchenko

WESTERN YOUNG ARTIST BRANDON CONCERT

Submitted by Marla Winters

Brandon & Westman Branch Concert Convenor

The 2024 concert featuring Anna-Lucia Mena Shevchenko, pianist, was held in Brandon in the Lorne Watson Recital Hall at the School of Music, Brandon University. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the concert had to be rescheduled from September to Sunday, October 6 at 2:30 p.m.

Anna-Lucia performed with great energy and artistry, with depth of musical expression and creativity. She described playing the Steinway:

*“The piano had a beautiful singing tone,
the acoustics were magical,
and the lighting in the stage was just perfect.”*

Admission was by donation and a reception with refreshments followed the concert. Students and community members really enjoyed meeting Anna-Lucia and her mom, Yaroslava.

I would like to personally thank Anna-Lucia Mena Shevchenko, Yaroslava Shevchenko, the Brandon and Westman Registered Music Teachers’ Association and Winnipeg members for their excellent communication and planning. A special thank you to everyone who helped with planning details, travelled long distances, and those who brought food and beverages.

This inspiring musical event was thoroughly enjoyed!

WESTERN YOUNG ARTIST WINNIPEG CONCERT

Submitted by Barbara L. Cornish

On Sunday, September 22, 2024, Anna-Lucia Mena Shevchenko, winner of the 2024 Western Young Artist Concert Tour, presented the first of her performances. She invited us into a rich Chopin experience with the *Nocturne in C minor*, op. 48, no.1. This selection, with the wide range of emotion, was followed by the technically challenging sweeping arpeggios of the Etude in C minor “Ocean”, op. 25, no. 12. After these exciting performances, she played one of Chopin’s greatest achievements, the *Ballade in F minor*, op. 52, no. 4. Her presentation of the introduction and the first haunting theme drew us into the intense drama of this composition.

After the intermission, the Chopin influence was clear in the choice of the *Musical Moment*, op. 16, no. 4 by Rachmaninov. The technical aspects here present an exercise in strength, stamina and accuracy. Next, we heard the demanding Chopin *Polonaise in F# minor “Tragic”*, op. 44, no. 5, with its complex harmonies, recurring rhythmic drive, and deep emotional expression of both beauty and sadness. The final selection on the program was the powerful and entertaining arrangement of the *Malagueña*, Ernesto Lecuona – Arcadi Volodos.

The Chopin *B Minor Mazurka* encore was a delightful choice with a subtle hint back to a Mazurka in the middle of the Polonaise.

Seventeen-year-old Anna-Lucia has played the piano for seven years, under the direction of her mother, Yaroslava Shevchenko. At this young age, the repertoire was presented with confidence and proficiency. Anna-Lucia demonstrated a convincing level of maturity in this very ambitious program. We look forward to following her continued development, achievements and performance opportunities!

PROGRAM

Nocturne in C minor

op. 48, no. 1

Frédéric Chopin

Etude in C minor "Ocean"

op. 25, no. 12

Frédéric Chopin

Ballade in F minor

op. 52, no. 4

Frédéric Chopin

Intermission

Musical Moment

op. 16, no. 4

Sergei Rachmaninov

Polonaise in F# minor "Tragic"

op. 44, no. 5

Frédéric Chopin

Malagueña

Ernesto Lecuona – Arcadi Volodos



A professional photographer took pictures in Rosetown, SK



Evangeline Keeley, Western YA Tour Coordinator, presents a bouquet to Anna-Lucia at the Winnipeg concert



Anna-Lucia prepares to play an encore at the Winnipeg concert



Western Young Artist Tour - cont.

Anna-Lucia Mena Shevchenko Tour Diary

I would like to sincerely thank Manitoba and Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers' Associations for organizing such an amazing concert tour. I am very grateful to every member that contributed to making this event fantastic and unforgettable.

Big thank you to Mrs. Evangeline Keeley for all her efforts that she put into making the concert arrangements in both Manitoba and Saskatchewan. She was so caring and helpful with all the preparations to make sure it would be a smooth and very successful experience!

This amazing concert tour experience started with the concert in Winnipeg. I performed in the same church that the Young Artist competition took place. I instantly recalled the feeling I had when I performed there. I felt so excited and grateful to be on that stage and be able to play beautiful music for such a warm and enthusiastic audience. I played on a very bright and colorful Yamaha, perfect for Rachmaninov. Once I performed my program, which mainly consisted of works by Chopin, I was showered with so many gorgeous flowers! I was very touched by this sweet gesture. I am very grateful to Mrs. Evangeline Keeley for her great effort and professionalism in organizing such a memorable event for me.



The Saskatoon skyline from the riverside walkway

A few days after my concert in Winnipeg, my Mom and I flew to Saskatchewan. As we arrived in Saskatoon, I was pleasantly surprised by a vase filled with gorgeous red roses in our hotel room. The President of Saskatoon Branch, Mrs. Willette Neijmeijer, kindly offered for me to have a rehearsal at her place, and I so appreciate I had a chance to practice on her beautiful Kawai grand piano before my first concert in Saskatoon. On the way back we went for a beautiful riverside walk surrounded by the gorgeous South Saskatchewan river, flowing through the heart of the city, majestic tall trees, and a beautiful autumn sunset reflecting a magical golden glow all around this lovely place.

Next day I had my concert performance in Saskatoon. I was warmly greeted by an amazing audience, which also included one of my adjudicators, Lynn Ewing, with whom I have had very memorable experience from beginning of my career. It felt so magical performing in the church which was decorated with lovely spring themed flowers where you feel embraced by its airy and ethereal ambience due to lots of natural light and soft sun rays coming from huge gothic style windows and central ceiling area right above the place a piano was located for the recital. I was so pleased to hear from the audience felt inspired and moved by the performance. Thank you so much to Mrs. Willette Neijmeijer and Mrs. Laurien Gibson for their dedication to make this concert such a great experience.

The next day I had a concert in Rosetown. Mrs. Claire Seibold was kind and very creative in organizing this concert. As we arrived at the venue, I was in awe with the gorgeous concert hall. The stage was decorated with bright burgundy curtains and beautiful chrysanthemum flowers that brightened the whole atmosphere. It was such a privilege to be there and perform on that grand looking theatrical stage. I had a very diverse audience, which included many young kids that were listening very quietly and attentively, to my surprise. My performance was concluded with a standing ovation. I was very happy to talk to people and learn that a concert like this



Anna-Lucia Mena Shevchenko

Acclaimed pianist performed here

Eagle staff

Having already played at Carnegie Hall in New York City, pianist Anna-Lucia Mena Shevchenko, 17, still seemed appreciative to do so in Rosetown.

Mena Shevchenko, of Winnipeg, performed a concert at the United Church on Sept. 29 as part of the Western Young Artist Series Tour.

She played classical pieces, four by Frédéric Chopin, one by Sergei Rachmaninov, and closed with Arcadi Volodos' arrangement of Malagueña by Ernesto Lecuona.

After a standing ovation from the audience of about 25, Mena Shevchenko played a mazurka by Chopin. She'd appeared once before on the Saskatchewan leg of the tour: in Saskatoon, before about 20 people.

For Mena Shevchenko, the key to playing long pieces of music without notes is practising.

"I'm doing mostly memory and mechanical work," she said during a reception hosted by organizer Claire Seibold. "I feel more safe on the stage."

That prompted a listener, Debbie McCulloch, to repeat an old joke: "So is it true? How do you get to Carnegie Hall? Practise, practise, practise?"

"It's not that difficult to get into Carnegie Hall," Mena Shevchenko replied.

She performed the prestigious hall in June with other first-prize winners of the American Association for Development of the Gifted and Talented Passion of Music competition in March.

Mena Shevchenko had taken part in it via the internet, as she'd did in at least 10 other international music competitions, winning either first or second prizes.

The Carnegie Hall trip was the first time she and her mother, Yaroslava Shevchenko, a Ukrainian piano teacher and musician, to be outside of Canada in many years.

Continued on Page 12

makes so much difference in the appreciation of classical music in their communities. After the concert I had a photo session and interview. This recording was aired on radio and published in a local magazine. Mrs. Claire invited me to her beautiful home for a lovely reception where we got to share our musical experiences and inspirations. I am very grateful to Mrs. Claire Seibold for all the preparations and her dedication that contributed to the success of this great event.

The beginning of October started with the Brandon concert. The stage was so classy, the concert hall had an amazing acoustic, and the huge nine foot concert Steinway that vibrated so gorgeous lush sound was the most impressive! I felt so fortunate to perform in such a unique hall and to have this incredible experience. After the concert we had a wonderful reception with a warm personal touch by Prof. Alla Turbanova preparing a delicious homemade pie. I am very grateful to the Brandon Branch President Mrs. Dianna Neufeld and Mrs. Marla Winters for their professionalism and dedication in preparing everything for the concert.

The tour was an incredible experience for me as an artist. This was my first tour, and I can say, that this is essential part for a musician's career to develop and nurture young talent. This concert tour has helped me understand what it looks and feels like to perform in tours and how to manage my strength and energy as a performer. I feel so fortunate to have been given this life changing opportunity and I sincerely wish each artist could experience such joy and inspiration in their musical careers.



Paper Scholarships

Holtby Scholarships

MRMTA Community Service Awards

PAPER SCHOLARSHIPS

Submission deadline: March 1st, 2025

MRMTA is fortunate to be able to offer numerous, generous scholarships for students. Why not check out the awards to see if any might be suitable for your students. All the information is on the MRMTA website. Applications for Paper Scholarships are due on March 1st, 2025. It is a good idea to have a look at the requirements in advance because some applications require reference letters and other testimonials that may take time to prepare.

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

HOLTBY SCHOLARSHIPS

Submission deadline: Thursday, May 1st, 2025 @ 11:59pm.

Do you have a student worthy of a Holtby Scholarship?

The Dorothy and Phyllis Holtby Scholarships are available for advanced piano and/or voice students, working on the completion of the practical and theoretical requirements for their Level 10 or Diploma (Associate or Licentiate) of the Royal Conservatory of Music or equivalent. The fund was established to provide scholarships to talented pupils in most need of financial assistance.

Please refer to the website at:

<https://mrmta.org/scholarships/holtby-criteria-and-application/>

for more information on eligibility requirements, criteria and an application form.

MRMTA COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

Submission deadline: April 1st, 2025

With the return of more in-person live performances over the years, now is the perfect time to consider incorporating the MRMTA Community Service Awards into your studio programs.

These awards recognize and celebrate students' dedication to community service, fostering a sense of connection and contribution beyond the classroom. Certificates will be presented annually at a designated MRMTA event, and successful applicants will be notified in advance.

Important Reminders:

- **Teacher Involvement:** MRMTA teachers serve as the primary contact for awards. They are responsible for verifying and signing off on all service activities and hours.
- **Progression Requirement:** To encourage a lasting commitment to community service, the awards must be in order: Bronze, Silver, and Gold. If an applicant applies for the Silver or Gold level, please attach all completed certificates.

Join us in celebrating the power of giving back to the community. Start preparing your applications today! Please visit our website at:

<https://mrmta.org/mrmta-community-service-awards/>

to learn more about the program details and access the application form.



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[BrandonU.ca/Music](https://brandonu.ca/Music)





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



Call For MRMTA Teacher/Student Performers

Serata - An Evening of Musical Delights

As we all know, Serata has become an annual event for the MRMTA featuring our talented teachers. If you haven't already heard, we are upping the game this year and inviting teacher/student performances!

A minimum student level of 9 and higher is recommended for all collaborations.

Do you have a student who would like to perform with you in a duet, or an ensemble piece? Or maybe more? For example, Serata Chairperson Tiffany A. Wilson is planning to sing a trio with two of her advanced singing students and a Level 9 RCM piano student will accompany the group. They are all excited to sing with "Miss Tiffany" and anticipate participating in a joint teacher/student concert. On the other hand, many of our piano teachers accompany their students' advance level concerti. This is an excellent chance to get the nerves out before June student exams! So many ideas come to mind as the committee plans for the 9th Serata concert. What can you bring to the stage?

We look forward to hearing from you!

There are many other ways to help out at Serata. If not performing, you can help stage manage, take tickets, hand out programmes, sell raffle tickets, package up raffle prizes, set up for and clean up for the concert.

All volunteers receive their MRMTA Volunteer Rebate for helping at events and this is one of the biggest so we hope to see you signing up to help.

CONTACT: Serata Chairperson Tiffany A. Wilson at tiffanyawilson@hotmail.com

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: Anytime until February 28th, 2025.

mrmta
MANITOBA
REGISTERED
MUSIC
TEACHERS
ASSOCIATION

Serata
AN EVENING OF MUSICAL DELIGHTS

Sunday May 4th, 2025 at 7pm
Fort Garry Mennonite Fellowship Church
150 Bayridge Avenue

Join us for an
unforgettable
fundraising night of
dynamic teacher-student
performances that will
inspire & captivate!

TICKETS \$15 - \$30 AT MRMTA.ORG



Serata

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**Join us for an
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TICKETS \$15 - \$30 at MRMTA.ORG



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2025

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“Kids Helping Kids” MUSICTHON 2025

Submitted by Christina Hutton

MRMTA’s 36th annual “*Kids Helping Kids*” *Musichthon* is scheduled February 8 - 9, 2025, at *Kildonan Place Shopping Center* and is sure to be an exciting music-filled weekend!

We are again partnering with *United Way Winnipeg*, supporting youth music programs at a variety of their donor-funded agency partners across Winnipeg.

Teachers, we need your help to keep the music going all weekend! Invite your students to perform at the mall and help a worthy cause! Sign-up available online at:

<https://www.bit.ly/Musichthon2025>

You may be asking,

“*Why should my studio participate in Musichthon?*”

In answer to that great question, *Musichthon 2025* is...

1. a recital and performance opportunity for your studio, in a unique informal environment.
2. pre-festival performance practice, in preparation for the *Winnipeg Music Festival*.
3. a community building event.
4. raising money to support inclusive music programs for Winnipeg youth.
5. an opportunity for MRMTA to be accessible and known to the public.
6. a whole lot of FUN!

Once you have signed up, the next step is to direct your students and families to

<https://mrmta.org/musichthon-event-page/>,

where they will find further information, student registration, and donation links.

We look forward to seeing you at *Musichthon 2025*.

Contact Christina Hutton at mrmta.musichthon@gmail.com or 204-487-3899 if you have any further questions.





Branch Reports

Brandon and Westman

Southern Manitoba

BRANDON AND WESTMAN

Celebrating the Magic of Music

The Western Young Artist Concert Tour, organized with dedication by Marla Winter, had its share of suspense but ended on a high note. Initially slated for September 19th, the much-anticipated concert featuring the young talented pianist Anna-Lucia Mena Shevchenko faced a sudden postponement due to illness. Yet, when the rescheduled date of October 6th arrived, the energy in the room was palpable. Anna-Lucia took the stage, and her performance was rewarded with applause, as the audience's warmth and appreciation filled the hall.

Canada Music Week: Anticipation and Excitement

As we look ahead, our branch eagerly prepares for a special celebration of Canada Music Week on November 22nd, featuring a Master Class and Concert led by acclaimed pianist and educator Dr. Daniel Tselyakov. His three-hour Master Class has garnered significant interest; Master Class spots were snapped up in record time by the School of Music, Brandon University and Eckhard-Gramatte Conservatory of Music students. Dr. Tselyakov's ability to inspire students and his thoughtful approach to musical interpretation has left a meaningful impact on our previous events, and we are thrilled to welcome him back.

Reflecting on last year's event, Dr. Tselyakov shared his admiration for the young musicians:

"The enthusiasm and commitment of students I witnessed were truly inspiring. It's a privilege to work them through the repertoire of Canadian composers."

This year, the Master Class will include an array of works by Canadian composers, including Ann Crosby Gaudet, Christine Donkin, Sarah Konecni, Teresa Richert, Gordie Carnahan, E. Schneider, A. Mathieu, David L. McIntyre, S.C. Eckhardt-Gramatté, Oskar Morawetz, Jean Ethridge, and Stephen Chatman.



Our adjudicator, Dr. Daniel Tselyakov

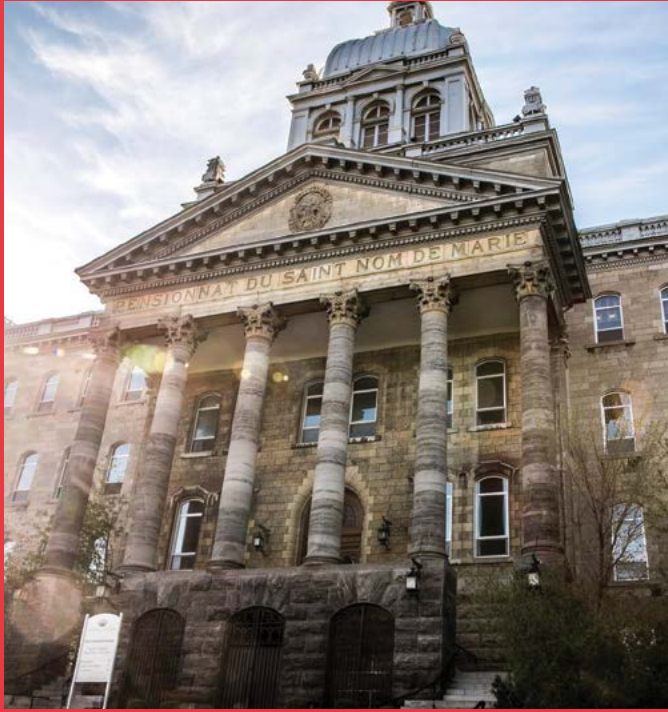


School of Music, Brandon University Student:
Adlin Wanting Ren



School of Music, Brandon University Students:
Darina Lavrukina, Alfred Qiao





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Branch Reports - cont.

Brandon and Westman

Southern Manitoba

“Each Canadian composition we explore is a window into a different world, full of imagination and cultural richness,” Dr. Tselyakov explained. *“My goal is to bring out the individual character of every work, making these music pieces resonate deeply with our performers and the audience.”* He also emphasized the importance of balancing technical precision with heartfelt expression: *“I believe in nurturing a musician’s technical foundation while encouraging them to discover their unique voice in the music. That’s where the magic truly happens.”*

Dr. Tselyakov also expressed deep gratitude for the outstanding support from the Brandon-Westman Branch, especially Alla Turbanova’s dedication to the organization Canada Music Week. He thanked branch members Dianna Neufeld, Lara Mason, Wing Chow, Maureen Baird, and Marla Winter for their incredible teamwork. Laura Liu, President of the Manitoba Registered Music Teachers’ Association, shared her excitement, saying, *“I look forward to attending and celebrating this Canada Music Week event at Brandon.”*

A New Partnership and a Broader Reach

In a thrilling new collaboration, WCGtv will capture both the Master Class and the Concert, providing our talented musicians with a platform to shine. This partnership not only shows the performers but also highlights our branch’s ongoing commitment to music education and community engagement. To ensure everyone’s comfort, updated consent forms will be available, giving families flexibility in choosing their preferred level of media involvement.

The combination of Dr. Tselyakov’s expert guidance and WCGtv’s media coverage will undoubtedly elevate the Canada Music Week experience, offering participants and the community an unforgettable celebration of music. But that’s not all—looking ahead, we’re excited to announce our Care Homes Students Concerts on February 8, 2025. This initiative will bring the magic of live music to local care home residents, creating heartwarming connections and spreading joy. By sharing the gift of music with those who may not often experience it, we hope to create unforgettable memories and enrich our community.

Respectfully submitted, Alla Turbanova

SOUTHERN MANITOBA

A warm welcome goes out to our newest member, Meagan Reimer! It is great to have a new vocal teacher in our area, and in our branch!

How nice it was to meet in person at the end of August. We enjoyed brainstorming ideas we’d like to implement in 2024/2025. One is a series of student recitals in personal care homes to celebrate Canada Music Week. Immediately following that we will be full swing into Christmas music. In addition to our own studio Christmas recitals in December, we are planning some music-a-thon afternoons featuring piano, strings, vocal students and teachers, in various stores, as we started last year. Our studios are very busy at this time of year but it is rewarding for us, for students and the greater community if we encourage students to share music from day one of lessons. Music is meant to be shared and this natural incentive benefits us all!

Submitted by Rosemary Klaassen



MRMTA Student Composer Competition



Deadline for Entries is April 1st

1. A student may enter more than one composition and more than one class but only one prize will be awarded to any individual. The composition must be a new composition, not previously entered in the CFMTA Student Composer competition.
2. The contestant must be eligible in his chosen age group as of the upcoming June 1.
3. Each entry is assumed to be the original work of the individual whose name appears on the entry form attached to the manuscript. Any infraction of this regulation could result in the nullification of the offending entry.
4. All rights to his/her original work will be retained by the contestant, but winning compositions may be displayed or employed by the MRMTA or CFMTA for publicity purposes after consultation with and agreement of the contestant.
5. First place winning manuscripts at the Provincial level may be forwarded by the Provincial Canada Music Week Coordinator to the CFMTA office before June 1st in order to be included in the Canada-wide judging. MRMTA assumes the National entry fee.
6. Contestants must be Canadian citizens or legal residents of Canada AND studying with a current member of the Registered Music Teacher's Association. This includes Canadian citizens living in Canada or abroad. Self-taught students do not qualify.
7. Manuscripts printed by computers are preferred. If submitting handwritten manuscripts, they should be neat and legibly written in black ink, in regulation manuscript size: including all necessary details of dynamics, editing and tempo, with every 10th measure numbered. Submission of a recording is optional, but recommended if available.
8. The judge's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into after final judging.
9. Any National level entrant who moves after June 1st must advise the Provincial Coordinator of his/her new address.
10. The winner's cheque must be cashed within thirty days of receipt of same.
11. A completed entry form including the appropriate entry fee must accompany each composition submitted. See the Manitoba entry form for details.
12. Prizes will not be awarded if the adjudicator feels the standard has not been achieved.

For more information - [Please see Manitoba Entry Form](#)



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From the Editor



Hello Everyone,

Wishing you all a happy holiday season for you and your families.
All the best in 2025, amazing how fast time is going. Anyone remember Y2K....

Please enjoy this issue of Take Note, so many exciting events coming up.
I am looking forward to the reports and photos in the next issue.

Thanks

Dina



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