

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



President's Message

By Olivia Riddell

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Well, here we are looking at December already! Hopefully you have had a wonderful fall and your students are progressing well.

November was a wonderful musical month starting with the Canada Music Week auditions – and yet another successful Canada Music Week Recital on November 20th. Congratulations to Tania Granata and all the teachers (and students) who participated. Mid-month we enjoyed the Contemporary Showcase Rhythm Ensemble Day and the Information Sharing session, hosted and organized by Paulette Price, with Steve Boudreau speaking and sharing on Jazz Elements.

In December we look forward to enjoying the Contemporary Showcase Piano/Composition Classes – and please remember to submit your First Class Honours Scholarship applications.

I am happy to announce that the NAC TUNETOWN pre-concert activities committee has welcomed us back to have our students perform at the **January 28th** event. Please continue reading through this issue of the ORBit to find out more.

During our November council meeting, I shared my thoughts and concerns about the number of events and portfolios that each of our council members is convening. Being raised by parents that are 5 and 10 year planners, I am constantly thinking ahead to when I will pass my Presidency to Amy Boyes in the summer of 2017. As many of you know, being on council is a wonderful experience; however, it is a volunteer-based format. I have been on council myself for 10 years. I know many of our current council members have served that length, or are nearing it themselves. Since I joined council in 2006, I have witnessed our council members having to take on more and more, and it has now become almost the “norm” for council members to convene more than one portfolio – and this worries me as we all can only do so much.

So, as council we have decided that we are going to be taking a very detailed look at all our events and portfolios – to see where things can be “tightened” up a bit. But, as well, I am asking any Ottawa Region Branch member who wants to be a part of a fantastic, detail-oriented and dedicated group and who wants to ensure that our Ottawa Region continues with the events, partnerships and communication within our Region to please consider joining our council. Especially with the convention coming in 2018, our council needs our members even more. Should you have any questions about what being on council involves in general, or if you are interested in specific portfolios, I welcome a conversation with you.

Wishing you a very happy holiday season,
 Best,
 Olivia Riddell
 ORB President



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Young Artist Recital October 29th, 2016

by Olivia Riddell, Convener

On Saturday, October 29th, 2016 the Ottawa Region Branch was happy to host the 2016 Young Artist winner, Andrew Fu.

Approximately 35 people were in attendance. A very sincere and heartfelt thank you to all the ORB teachers who attended, as well as inviting their students. Andrew mentioned that our turnout was the biggest audience so far in his tour.

Andrew played a wonderful and impressive performance full of variety in tone and styles. His program started with Ravel: Une barque sur l'océan (A Boat on the Ocean), followed by Alborada del gracioso (Aubade of the Jester), from *Miroirs* and Chopin: Fantaisie in f minor, op.49. He then moved onto Forsyth: "Chopi" from *Tre Toccate* and finished with Schubert: Fantasy in C major, op.15 "Wanderer-Fantasy".

The recital was just over an hour in length (including a 10 minute intermission). Many thanks to Lori Lynn Penny and for helping at the door. Thank you to our council members Amy Boyes, Kathleen Howard, Meg Iwaskow, Ann Babin, Jennie Smith and Danielle McIntyre for attending as well.



Musical Terms I Wish I had Invented

Adagio fromaggio – slow and cheesy
 al capone – machine-gun tempo
 andante – infernally slow
 Angus Dei – a divine and beefy selection
 A patella – unaccompanied knee slapping
 Approximato – somewhat close to what the composer intended.
 Crashendo – what happens when a percussionist drops a cymbal.
 Kvetchendo – gradually and annoyingly increasing in volume.
 Molto bolto – head straight for the end, but don't make it seem rushed even though it is.
 "Last one to the cadence loses."

Mucho Caffeinato – loud and fast enough to wake up the audience.
 OraToro – may substitute a ride-on lawnmower.
 Pescado – fish around for the right note.
 Poochini – singing, while accompanied by your dog howling.
 Schmaltzando – a sudden burst of sickly sweet sound.
 Spritzicato – a bright, bubbly sound, sometimes accompanied by sparkling water and lemon.
 Tempe Arizona – a particularly hot, dry passage.
 Tempo Tantrum – what a conductor has when the orchestra isn't looking at him/her.
 Vesuvioso – gradually build up to a fiery, explosive conclusion.

BRI, 2007

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Members' Corner

Congratulations to:

Edith Orton, who celebrated her 92nd birthday on November 9th.

Hoda Nassim, whose student, Alicia Miguelez was chosen as a performer for the RCM Ontario/Quebec Gold Medal Awards Recital, held on Nov. 26th.

Condolences to:

Tania Granata, on the death of her father in late November.

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

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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, November, November, December/January, February/March, April/May and June/July/August.

All submissions for the February/March issue of the ORBit must be received by the editor on or before: January 10, 2017.

Send submissions to: kmaryhoward@primus.ca
 or by mail to: Kathleen Howard, Editor, the ORBit
 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.

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Contact the Editor – kmaryhoward@primus.ca concerning rates for multiple edition advertising.

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by Mitchell Wright

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September Information Sharing Session

by Paulette Price, Convener

Twenty teachers gathered on the morning of September 25th for an Information Sharing session on the teaching of musicianship skills. It was a topic of real interest - questions were flying and challenges shared! Teachers agreed that the discussion could have gone on well into the afternoon.

A great variety of innovative ideas were offered regarding rhythmic elements. The benefits of different types of tapping, drumming and stomping were discussed as they were described and demonstrated. Interesting approaches such as "takadimi" and rhythm cup work (Wendy Stevens) were shared as new options for adding to the understanding and perception of beat and rhythm.

Pros and cons of online resources were discussed in detail. The undeniable value of singing and tonic sol-fa was reconfirmed.

The challenges presented by students who have a problem with a particular element were explored and helpful tips were suggested. Making the elements of aural training more relevant and embedded into the fabric of each lesson was a goal for many teachers.

Teachers agreed that creating an environment where mistakes are used as steps to growth, and creativity and exploration are enjoyed by student and teacher alike makes lessons productive and fun. The enthusiastic sharing of perspectives confirmed that there are many hard working teachers with great ideas among us!

Canada Music Week

by Danielle McIntyre for Tania Granata, Convener

On November 20, Orleans United Church was filled with a wonderful audience who braved the snowy weather to enjoy the 2016 Canada Music Week Recital. Forty-five students performed works by Canadian composers and we were very proud to feature some of our students' own compositions! The audience was treated to performances from a variety of talented young musicians including harp, voice, and piano solos and duets.

Each performer was presented with a beautiful ORMTA certificate and treated to a cupcake, baked by ORMTA member and council member Danielle McIntyre. Following the recital, a lovely reception was enjoyed by family and friends.

A special thank you to Orleans United Church, Olivia Riddell, Colin Mack, Ann Babin, Sandy Menard, Meg Iwaskow, Kimberley Sundell and Danielle McIntyre for help with the recital. Thank you to everyone who came out and supported our recital!



January General Meeting Monday, January 9, 2017

The next General Meeting will be held on Monday, January 9, 2017,
at the Ottawa Mennonite Church,
1830 Kilborn Ave., Ottawa



Coffee/tea will be ready for 9:15 a.m. Donations of "table ready" food items will be most welcome.



Meeting starts at 9:30 a.m.

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NAC Family Adventures TUNETOWN Pre-concert Activities

by Olivia Riddell, Liaison

The NAC Welcomes Ottawa Region Branch members and students back to Family Adventures TUNETOWN Pre-concert activities! I am so happy to announce that we have a confirmed date for our members and students for an NAC TUNETOWN pre-concert activity! That date is **January 28th**.



Theme of the performance: "How The Gimquat Found Her Song": This beloved family concert takes audiences on an expedition across continents and through the centuries to help a discouraged bird discover her unique voice. Young audiences laugh and sing along with the Gimquat and her wizard guide as they explore music from Gregorian chant to Beethoven to rap.

ORMTA will be the **featured group** on the mini main stage in the lobby. The performance opportunities for our students are between 12:45-1:25 pm and 2:45-3:25 pm. During these times, we will have 3 eight-to-ten-minute performance segments, with a 5 minute break to encourage people to continue onto the next TUNETOWN activity. What an amazing and exciting performance opportunity for your students!! Performances can be of any instrument, solo and/or group. Please consider the theme of this concert when submitting your students. If you are interested in having your students participate, please contact me directly (olivia@myc.com).

First Class Honours Auditions and Recitals

by Meg Iwaskow, Convener

Students of ORMTA members who have received a First Class Honours/First Class Honours With Distinction standing (80% or higher) in any of the 2016 examination sessions are invited to apply to audition for this wonderful event. It is open to students who have completed Grade 2 and above.

Application forms and detailed information can be found online at www.ormtaottawa.ca under the EVENTS link or you can contact me at megiwaskow@gmail.com

Application Deadline: Friday January 6, 2017

Auditions: Sunday January 15, 2017 at Ottawa Pianos 1412 Bank Street 1-5pm

Recitals: Sunday February 5, 2017 at City View United Church 6 Epworth Avenue

Adult Students' Piano Workshop, Master Class and Recital, February 25, 2017

by Ioulia Brechun, Convener

I am very pleased to announce that Catherine Donkin is going to be our clinician for the 2017 event. The workshop is entitled "**Playing with Confidence; techniques for working through memory slips and nervousness**".



Catherine Donkin is an active teacher and performer in Ottawa. As part of the Duo Rideau with duet partner, Amelie Langlois, she has performed in various concert series over the past 12 years. A highlight of the Duo's career was a performance in Carnegie Hall in 2010 after winning first place in the Bradshaw and Buono International Piano Competition, which they also won in 2009. In addition to the Duo Rideau, Catherine is a member of the newly formed Ottawa Chamber Players who performed most recently at the Archville Chamber Series. As well as performing, Catherine also maintains a busy teaching studio, and is a Piano Performance Instructor at Carleton University.

The Workshop will be followed by Master Classes. We'll accept 6 applications on a "first come, first served" basis, so send your completed applications as soon as possible. The applications are now available on our ORMTA website complete with information on dates, times, fees and locations of the Adult Student event. We have a new feature for those who will not be able to get a Master Class: they will have a practice performance evaluation. It includes performing in front of their peers and receiving comments and suggestions from Catherine Donkin. It will help them to perform at the Recital on March 25, 2017 at City View United Church.

Observers are welcome to attend the Workshop and Master Classes, which will be held at on **February 25, 2017** starting at **9:30 a.m.** at **Ottawa Pianos, 1412 Bank St.**, Ottawa. Registration Forms are available on the ORMTA website. If you have any questions, the Convener for the Adult Students' events is Ioulia Brechun, med-beach@yahoo.ca

Calendar of Events

December 2016

3-4 Contemporary Showcase Piano/Composition Class Contact: Tania Granata 613-728-1195
tanag5@sympatico.ca

15 First Class Honours Scholarships Deadline Contact: Sherry Lu 613-862-7221 sherryludi@yahoo.ca

January 2017

6 First Class Honours Recital Application Deadline Form available online. Contact: Meg Iwaskow
613-983-1266 megiwaskow@gmail.com

9 General Meeting Coffee/tea ready for 9 a.m., Meeting 9:30 a.m. Ottawa Mennonite Church, 1830 Kilborn Ave., Ottawa. Used music sale and CD & DVD Library on display. Contact: Jennie Smith
613-260-9171 jenniesmithrmt@gmail.com

11 Variety Show Application Deadline Form available online. Contact: Danielle McIntyre 613-404-2565
jersakpiano@gmail.com

14 Variety Show Auditions 1-6:30 p.m. Ottawa Pianos, 1412 Bank St. Contact: Danielle McIntyre
613-404-2565 jersakpiano@gmail.com

15 First Class Honours Auditions 1-5 p.m. Ottawa Pianos, 1412 Bank St. Contact: Meg Iwaskow
613-983-1266 megiwaskow@gmail.com

26 Piano Concerto Master Class Application Deadline for Master Class with David Jalbert. University of Ottawa. Contact Katarina Jovic 613-261-7681 katarinamusic@sympatico.ca

February 2017

4 Variety Show 1 p.m. City View United Church, 6 Epworth Ave. Contact: Danielle McIntyre 613-404-2565
jersakpiano@gmail.com

5 First Class Honours Recitals Time TBA. City View United Church, 6 Epworth Ave. Contact: Meg Iwaskow
613-983-1266 megiwaskow@gmail.com

17 Professional Development Workshop with Nikki Loney. 9:30—11:30 a.m. Ottawa Pianos, 1412 Bank St.
Contact: Olivia Riddell 613-680-2996 olivia@myc.com

25 Adult Student Workshop and Master Class with Catherine Donkin. Ottawa Pianos, 1412 Bank St.
Contact: Ioulia Brechun, 613-836-2757 medbeach@yahoo.com

26 Piano Concerto Master Class with Prof. David Jalbert 1-4 p.m. at Freiman Hall, Perez building, University of Ottawa. Contact: Katarina Jovic 613-261-7681 katarinamusic@sympatico.ca

26 Voice Master Class Application Deadline for Master Class with Christiane Riel. University of Ottawa.
Contact Katarina Jovic 613-261-7681 katarinamusic@sympatico.ca

27 Information Sharing Session with Elaine Keillor 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the home of Paulette Price, 13 Lismer Crescent, Kanata. Contact: Paulette Price 613-592-6686 pauletteprice@rogers.com

March 2017

18 Adult Student Recital City View United Church, 6 Epworth Ave. Contact: Ioulia Brechun, 613-836-2757
medbeach@yahoo.com

26 Voice Master Class with Professor Christiane Riel 4 p.m. at Freiman Hall, Perez building, University of Ottawa. Contact: Katarina Jovic 613-261-7681 katarinamusic@sympatico.ca

May 2017

6-7 Competitions & Competitions Gala Patrick Cardy Studio, Carleton University. Contact: Katarina Jovic
613-261-7681 katarinamusic@sympatico.ca or Tania Granata 613-728-1195 taniag5@sympatico.ca