

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

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President's Message

by Susan Blyth-Schofield

Greetings everyone.

This fall is unprecedented for all of us, but we have found ways to keep teaching and making music with our students.

For those of you who are teaching in person, or planning to return to it some time in the fall, please be sure you are in compliance with the guidelines set out by the Province – they are not the same from instrument to instrument. They can be found at <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/r20364> for stage 3. The “Teaching of Music” is specifically referenced in “In-person teaching and instruction” in section 5. To help you, the CFMTA has arranged for the law firm of BD Oakes to prepare a Waiver and Release. This can be found on the CFMTA website (<https://www.cfmta.org>). The waiver is password-protected so if you need the password, follow the instructions at the bottom of their page. Please be aware that this waiver has not been tested in court. There is also now a COVID-19 button on our website with important links should you need the information. Above all, remember that we are all independent businesses and responsible for our choices and the consequences of our choices.

We began our year on September 4th with a well-attended and informative Professional Development session on Tech for Teaching with Dr. Juanita Marchand Knight. Many thanks to Danielle McIntyre for organizing this successful event. You can read more about it on [page 3](#).

Thank you all for the great response to our Fall General Meeting. I heard from over 70 members and some 40 of you were able to attend. The meeting gave us a chance to reconnect with our friends and colleagues and Council was able to outline our plans for the year. Have a look at the Calendar of Events ([page 8](#)) to see what we have in mind for 2020-21.

We are planning a facelift for our website. If you have any thoughts about what you would like to see there, please email them to me before the 16th of October.

Although it seems like forever ago, thank you to the ORB members who attended the online Provincial Annual General Meeting on July 20th. Agenda items included a video presentation honouring our 2020 OCTA and Pedagogy Award recipients, reports from the executive and various council members on future initiatives and programmes, and the election of Zone Representatives.

Your executive and council are here for you – please be in touch if there is anything you want to discuss with us. Also if there is anything you would like brought before Provincial Council please be in touch with either Amy Boyes or me. We are your Zone Reps and will see that your voice is heard.

Stay safe and well, and have a Happy Thanksgiving.

Susan



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Tech for Teaching with Dr. Juanita Marchand Knight

by Danielle McIntyre, Convenor

Covid? Processor? DAW? Jitsi? Teaching Online?

Music teaching as we knew it was turned upside down this spring. If you were like me, I was determined to offer my students their lessons virtually. I got out my computer and my old iPad mini and decided that I had to do this. And I did. And it worked! It worked well! I did notice though, there was room to improve.

Fast forward 6 months to a branch budget meeting where the idea of hosting a professional development session BEFORE our general meeting was suggested to help our teachers learn about different technology we could use while teaching online. We put on our planning hats and with the help of Susan Blyth-Schofield, Dr. Juanita Marchand Knight, a Music Technology researcher from McGill University, was scheduled to give our branch a "Tech for Teaching" Workshop on Zoom.

We discussed solutions and platforms for collaborative music-making in real-time.



At the end of the presentation, members typed questions into the chat box and Dr. Knight answered them.

There was a great turn-out from Ontario. 33 members from Ottawa, Hamilton and even Manitoba joined our zoom session.

If you missed the presentation, please contact Danielle McIntyre (danielle_jersak@hotmail.com) to purchase the recording and PDF's of the workshop (\$10.00).

Information Sharing Session

Exploring Contemporary Piano Repertoire, presented by Colin Mack

by Hoda Nassim, Convenor

The session took place on Zoom on September 24th and focussed on finding ways that composers have creatively applied 20th century composition techniques.

The emphasis of this presentation was the integration of composition techniques found in specific piano pieces. Not trying to give formula for composing, but rather carefully examining how different 20th Century theoretical techniques have been applied to create good music. This comes from the firm belief that composition should begin in the

imagination within, but analysis of good music can stimulate the process.

The presentation was useful for teachers wanting to encourage students to compose as well as help provide a deeper understanding of new repertoire to students. Most of the material in this presentation could be found in current RCM Piano Repertoire, Etude and Theory texts.

OTTAWA REGION BRANCH 2020/2021 EXECUTIVE AND COUNCIL

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EVENT PORTFOLIOS**Canada Music Week Recital**

Amélie Langlois 613-271-0787
amelielanglois@gmail.com

Community Outreach

Amélie Langlois 613-271-0787
amelielanglois@gmail.com

Competitions

Katarina Jovic 613-261-7681
katarinamusic@sympatico.ca

First Class Honours Recital

Danielle McIntyre 613-404-2565
jersakpiano@gmail.com

Meg Iwaskow 613-983-1266
megiwaskow@gmail.com

First Class Honours Scholarships

Sherry Lu 613-254-8772
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Junior Piano Master Class

Kimberley Sundell 613-698-7338
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Professional Development

Amy Boyes 613-302-8090
amyboyespianostudio@gmail.com

University Master Classes

Katarina Jovic 613-261-7681
katarinamusic@sympatico.ca

Young Artist Recital

* NOT HOSTED IN 2020 / 2021 *

ADMINISTRATIVE PORTFOLIOS**DVD & Video Library**

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sherryludi@yahoo.ca

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COMMUNITY LIAISON PORTFOLIOS**Kiwanis Festival**

Paula Lin 613-721-2850
paula.w.lin@gmail.com

Music and Beyond

* VACANT *

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Cards and Flowers

Helen Sinclair 613-271-9725
helen_sinclair@rogers.com

Information Sharing Sessions

Hoda Nassim 613-236-3865
hoda_nassim@hotmail.com

First Class Honours Auditions and Recital

by Meg Iwaskow & Danielle McIntyre, Convenors

This year is going to look a little different for ORMTA Ottawa's 2021 First Class Honours Recital.

Students of ORMTA members who have received a First Class Honours/First Class Honours With Distinction standing (80% or higher) in any of the 2020 examination sessions are invited to apply and send a video audition for this wonderful event. It is open to students who have completed Level 1 and above.

The application form, photo release form and detailed information about the video audition can be found online at www.ormtaottawa.ca under the EVENTS link. For further information please contact Meg Iwaskow at megiwaskow@gmail.com.

Application Deadline: December 15, 2020

Video Audition Deadline: December 15, 2020

Online Recital: January 31, 2021 at 2pm

Canada Week Recital

by Amélie Langlois, Convenor

Come join us for this very exciting event!

During Canada Music Week, ORMTA Ottawa Region Branch will be organizing a virtual recital, open to all instrumentalists and singers studying with an ORMTA teacher. Get ready to perform your favourite Canadian repertoire!

The application form, photo release form and detailed information about the video audition can be found online at www.ormtaottawa.ca under the EVENTS link. For further information please contact Amélie Langlois at amelielanglois@gmail.com or 613-804-0787.

Application Deadline: October 30, 2020

Video Audition Deadline: October 30, 2020

Release Date of Virtual Canada Music Week Recital : November 20, 2020

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Members' Corner

Congratulations to Amy Boyes
 who welcomed a baby boy into
 the family!

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

ormtaorb@gmail.com

About the ORBit

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

All submissions for the November issue of the ORBit must be received by the editor on or before: October 10, 2020.

Send submissions to: ormtaorb@gmail.com

Advertisements and announcements should either be plain text or fully formatted text. Plain-text submissions will be formatted by the editor. Fully formatted submissions will be included exactly as sent. The only acceptable formats are: pdf, jpeg, or tiff. Formatted word processing documents may not preserve formatting and/or font information and will not be accepted. Type-written submissions are also acceptable. Submissions must be accompanied by written reprint permission where applicable.

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Ad size	Members	Non-members
1/6 page	\$15	\$19
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1/3 page	\$25	\$31
1/2 page	\$30	\$38
Full page	\$50	\$63

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The Ottawa Region Branch of the Ontario Registered Music Teachers' Association shall retain the right at all times to accept or decline any advertising based solely on the judgment of the Editor with the support of the Executive Committee of the Ottawa Region Branch. The products, services, and ideas expressed by the authors and advertisers in the ORBit are not necessarily those of the Ottawa Region Branch of the Ontario Registered Music Teachers' Association.

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Archives October 2020

by Ann Babin

The time that COVID-19 restrictions gave us over spring and summer prompted bursts of indoor activity for many of us. After cleaning out some household clutter I turned to the many ORMTA archive boxes tucked away in our basement. Now would be the time for a serious sort through reams of correspondence, newspaper clippings, photos, recital programs and minutes collected over the decades. Here are a few standouts.

ORMTA's roots go back to 1885 with the formation of the Ontario Music Teachers Association, which evolved into the Canadian Society of Musicians, a large, varied, and successful group that came to an unexpected end in 1896. ORMTA as a group was formed in Toronto in 1936 by a group of music teacher associations, with Ottawa becoming a branch member in 1938. In the early years ORMTA membership dues went to Treasurer Cora Ahrens in Stratford, our dues now go to Nancy Dale in Niagara-on-the-Lake. I love that theatre connection.

At the 1956 ORMTA Silver conference held in Ottawa at the Chateau Laurier the program listed the names of just over 100 member teachers with addresses ranging from Perth to Cornwall. Although most were Piano there were 7 who taught organ as well, 5 violin, 14 voice, 1 brass, 1 eurhythmics, and 3 SCH, presumably school. The Opening Evening program showcased eurhythmics students of Brenda Beament. Other evening recitals featured pianist Joan Milliken and singer Jack Cook.

In 1966 then President Sister Marie Claire invited ORMTA members to join RCM Alumni to entertain June RCM Examiners at the Green Valley Restaurant on the Prescott Highway. Price for the meal \$3.30.

In 1974 ORMTA Ottawa took on Ottawa City Bylaws when they pushed back against a complaint about teachers working from home studios. After a long, complicated and expensive process ORMTA won. This success could never have happened without a concerted group effort.

An October 1976 document outlines a program presented by RCM Representative W.J. (Bill) Marsh on the terms of reference "to organize and administer the theoretical and practical examinations of the RCM at the Ottawa centre".

In 1979 the Young Artist Competition and recital tour came to Ontario under the joint sponsorship of ORMTA and CFMTA. Programs and posters are part of the archive material. If you want to know who was YA and when just ask. Not sure I want to deposit that file just yet.

Most but not all of the files are about ORMTA. In February 1986 the Laurentian Junior Music Club under its President Elsie Melson was welcomed into membership of the Ottawa Region Music Council.

Many interesting hours have been spent so far and there are more ahead, I am presently only into the 1990's. When Ottawa City Archives are open again there will be several boxes ready for deposit. Some files will be harder to part with than others.

ORB CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND DEADLINES 2020-2021

October 2020

- 10 Deadline for submissions for the November ORBit. Send all material to Sabrina Tang (ormtaorb@gmail.com).
- 30 Deadline for Video and Application Form (including Media Release Form) for Canada Music Week Recital. Contact Amélie Langlois (amelielanglois@gmail.com) for further information.

November 2020

- 10 Deadline for submissions for the December / January ORBit. Send all material to Sabrina Tang (ormtaorb@gmail.com).
- 20 Release of Virtual Canada Music Week Recital. Contact Amélie Langlois (amelielanglois@gmail.com) for further information.

December 2020

- 15 Deadline for First Class Honours Scholarships Applications. Contact Sherry Lu (sherryludi@yahoo.ca) for further information.
- 15 Deadline for Video and Application Form (including Media Release Form) for First Class Honours Recital. Details TBA. Contact Meg Iwaskow (megiwaskow@gmail.com) or Danielle McIntyre (jersakpiano@gmail.com) for further information.

January 2021

- 10 Deadline for submissions for the February/March ORBit. Send all material to Sabrina Tang (ormtaorb@gmail.com).
- 25 Online Winter General Meeting. 9:30 am. Contact Susan Blyth-Schofield (sblythschofield@yahoo.ca) by Friday January 22nd to confirm attendance and to receive a Zoom link to the meeting.
- 31 First Class Honours Recital. Details TBC. Contact Meg Iwaskow (megiwaskow@gmail.com) or Danielle McIntyre (jersakpiano@gmail.com) for further information.

February 2021

No events.

March 2021

- 10 Deadline for submissions for the April/May ORBit. Send all material to Sabrina Tang (ormtaorb@gmail.com).
- TBC Application Deadline for ORMTA Competitions (Instrument, Vocal, and Young Artist). Contact: Katarina Jovic (katarinamusic@sympatico.ca).

April 2021

No events.

May 2021

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

Forms and information regarding ORMTA Ottawa Region Branch events can be accessed at: www.ormtaottawa.ca/events



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