



Progressions

Year in Review

2020

B.C. Registered Music Teachers' Association Provincial Magazine



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President's Message

Joanne Lougheed

2020 has certainly been a year to remember or to forget – depending on how you look at it. It has been a year of delays, postponements, rethinking and outright cancellations in many areas of our lives – both personal and professional. We have survived it all in spite of our doubts, worries and exhaustion.

BCRMTA has continued to move forward with our usual activities – albeit in different formats. Meetings and/or lessons held via ZOOM (I always thought ZOOM meant to go very fast or using a ZOOM lens on a camera!) or TEAMS or FaceTime or other online platforms with varying degrees of success. Our April AGM and September Semi-Annual Provincial Council Meetings were held using ZOOM and while not perfect, did allow us to conduct the business of BCRMTA. Using ZOOM also allowed the Executive Board to meet several days prior to the Council Meeting which eliminated much of the rush to get everything together for the Council Meeting normally held the next morning. My thanks to Anita Perry (Secretary) and Dina Pollock (Webmaster) for doing all the upfront preparation in order to allow the meetings to proceed smoothly.

Our Student Composer Competition went forward as usual in the spring. As this is normally an 'online' competition, there were no major shifts required here. Congratulations to Thomas Ivanovic (piano composition), Isidora Uhlman (violin composition), Antoine Villeger (orchestral composition) and William Lin (piano composition) on their success.

The Conference 2020 planning committee from our Mid-Island Branch, made the difficult but necessary decision to postpone our provincial conference until September 2022. We look forward to being able to see each other in person to rejuvenate ourselves at Tigh-Na-Mara in Parksville. Our thanks to the committee for agreeing to stay on and present the conference in 2022.

Thank you to the five (5) branches entered a competitor in our first ever virtual piano competition in September. The competition was ably adjudicated by Dr. Jamie Syer who offered encouragement to all of our competitors at the conclusion of the competition. Congratulations to Johnathan Devey on his first place finish in the competition. Johnathan represented the Victoria Branch and will represent BCRMTA at the upcoming CFMTA National Piano Competition being held virtually in July 2021.

Our branches continued to move forward under trying circumstances this past year. I invite you to read their stories – I am always inspired and impressed with the ways teachers demonstrate their resilience, willingness and ability to 'think outside the box'.

Congratulations to the Vancouver/Burnaby Branch and their celebration of 100 years as a branch. Congratulations also to the teachers who received their 25 year pins (19), their 50 year pins (2) and to Joyce Dyck of the Chilliwack Branch who received her 60 year pin.

Thank you to Jean Ethridge who wrote the tribute to the Shuswap Branch. After twenty-nine (29) years creating a rich history, the branch decided to dissolve. Looking forward to the future, the Shuswap Branch members transferred their memberships to the Vernon Branch – a few kilometres down the road.

Thank you to all the members of BCRMTA across the province – you are what drives BCRMTA forward. Keep teaching, learning and connecting. In the words of Captain Sir Tom Moore (April 30, 1920 – February 2, 2021): *"Tomorrow is going to be a better day even if today was a good day"*





25 Year Pins Presented in 2020

This year we have the pleasure of recognizing 19 members who will receive their 25 year pin:

(These members joined in 1995.)

Coquitlam Maple Ridge

Isabella Tsisserev

Kelowna

Marla Mesenbrink

North Island

Jeannie Wilson

North Shore

Barbara Irschick

Prince George

Tae Maeda

Maureen Nielsen

South Fraser

Paulette Nielsen

Vancouver/Burnaby

Sandra Starek

Fiona Chan

Shan Shan Chen

Karen Louie

Elisabeta Podut

Kathryn Rowe

Karrie Tam

Yolk Kin May Yu

Victoria

Catherine Kemp-Roth

Gabrielle Tong

Monica Tse

Provincial Member

Theresa Takacs

Congratulations to each one!

Joyce Janzen - BCRMTA Registrar



50 Year Pins Presented in 2020

We have the privilege of recognizing 2 members who will receive their 50 year pin having joined in 1970:

Victoria

- Louise Holland

Shuswap

- Jean Ethridge

Each of these members will be sent their pin by mail.
Congratulations to each one!

Joyce Janzen - BCRMTA Registrar



Jean Ethridge - Shuswap Branch



Louise Holland - Victoria Branch





60 Year Pins Presented in 2020

We have the privilege of recognizing 1 member who will receive her 60 year pin having joined in 1960:

Chilliwack

- Joyce Dyck

We will send her 60 year pin and plaque by mail.
Congratulations!

Joyce Janzen - BCRMTA Registrar



Joyce Dyck (15)- receiving Grand Champion trophy
at the Chilliwack Music Festival
(now renamed to the Chilliwack Lions Club Music and Dance Festival)





BC Piano Competition 2020

Our five participants begin to submit their performance videos on September 12th. Our three finalists were announced on September 17th, and the final winner announced on September 20th.

So I present the following bouquets of appreciation:

- to the Provincial Council for assuring that the 2020 Piano Competition will take place in the midst of Covid-19
- to Dina Pollock who spent hours working out an on-line piano competition format that even I understand
- to each of our participants and their teachers, who committed their time and talent to this project
- to Dr. Jamie Syer who happily accepted the role of adjudicator without hesitation
- to our scholarship donors:
Westland Insurance Agency, who gave \$ 250.00 as the *Adjudicator's Own Choice Award*,
The Canadian Music Centre/Centre de musique canadienne offered the *Barbara Pentland Award* and \$ 250.00 in recognition of an *Outstanding Performance of a Canadian Music*

When Sean Bickerton, BC director of the **CMC**, spoke with me about the scholarship donation, he thanked the BCRMTA for "continuing to work to build the future."

As a new school year begins and we guide our students on the coming unfamiliar pathway, may that be so.

Thank you one and all!

Maureen Hollins

Our Adjudicator - Dr Jamie Syer

Now living in Alberta, Dr. JAMIE SYER was Dean of the Victoria Conservatory of Music until 2012. He also served as Head of the Conservatory's Keyboard Department, and taught at the School of Music, University of Victoria. As a lecturer for UVic's Faculty of Continuing Education, he led two arts related travel tours to France. Dr. Syer completed his graduate degrees at the Yale University School of Music as a student of Claude Frank and Ward Davenny. He has taught at universities and colleges in Alberta, Saskatchewan, British Columbia and New Brunswick.



Jamie Syer is the founder of the Victoria Conservatory's Young Artists Collegium program, which continues to offer an enriched curriculum for talented young singers, pianists and instrumentalists. He has performed many times in Europe: in Scotland, Ireland, Hungary, France, and England, as well as closer to home in recital venues across Canada. Last season, he was a featured concerto soloist with the Sidney Classical Orchestra.

Dr. Syer is known for his imaginative recital programming, and his artistic, energetic playing. He is a popular adjudicator and workshop clinician, who enjoys working with teachers' groups and with students of all ages. In addition to his musical activities, Jamie is a skilled letterpress printer, former Manager of his local public library, and Musical Director for a recent production of *Matilda: the Musical*. ☼



Abbotsford – Rafael Brisebois



Rafael is a 14-year-old pianist, violinist, violist and composer from Mission BC. He started his musical studies and piano at Music Language Studios in Mission at age 4, started studying violin at age 7 and last fall also picked up the viola. He has been an avid composer ever since he first had access to a keyboard and over the years has tried his hand at composing for many different instruments, combinations and structures. He has won many awards (including locally, provincially, nationally and one international prize) for his instrumental virtuosity as well as for his compositions.

Rafael is an enthusiastic performer and has been a member of the Abbotsford Youth Orchestra for 6 years, where he has had the privilege of performing as a violinist, as a soloist pianist and violinist and violist, and is now enjoying his role as principal violist since last fall. He has performed as a guest violinist with the Fraser Valley Symphony. He has performed many times at senior care homes and for non-profit organizations. He volunteers to help others who can't write music to write down their scores. He has enjoyed attending live performances all his life, and he celebrates the talents of his role models and peers. Rafael is grateful to the Abbotsford Music Teachers for selecting him for this exciting opportunity and looks forward to sharing his music and enjoying the music of his fellow participants.

Semi-Final Program

Prelude and Fugue No. 20 in A Minor
Well-Tempered Clavier Book I, BWV 865 - J. S. Bach

Sonata in E flat Major, Op. 81a
("Les adieux") 2nd & 3rd movement - L. van Beethoven

Three Pieces for Piano Solo, 1: Prelude - M. Mozetich

Final Program

Sonata in E flat Major, Op. 81a ("Les adieux") - L. van Beethoven

Abegg Variations, Op. 1 - R. Schumann

Toccata Op. 11 - S. Prokofiev



North Island – Michael Robert

Adjudicator's
Choice Award



Michael Robert began his formal piano lessons at the age of six. He has participated in multiple music festivals and has been selected to represent the North Island Festival of the Performing Arts (2019) and the Mid Island Festival of the Performing Arts (2020) at the Performing Arts B.C. Provincial Festival.

Michael spends his time building a diverse repertoire, not only as a soloist but also as a collaborative pianist for string performances, concert choir, and as a church musician.

Through his passion for sharing his music, Michael has received the BCRMTA Gold Community Service Certificate for volunteering his piano performing in his local community. He is also the recipient of the Marie Josephine Richard Piano Competition (2015), and the Dorothy Brealey Piano Scholarship (2020).

Michael graduated from high school in 2020. His plans for the future include continued music studies at the University of British Columbia, where he will be studying in the Fall.

Semi-Final Program

Sonata in D Minor Op 31 #2
2nd and 3rd movements - L. van Beethoven

Jardins Sous La Pluie - C. Debussy

Everything Waits For The Lilacs - J. Burge

Final Program

English Suite #2 - J. S. Bach

- Prelude

- Sarabande

- Gigue

Nocturne in E flat Major Op. 55 #2 - F. Chopin

Everything Waits For The Lilacs - J. Burge



South Fraser – Braden Eguia



Born and raised in Surrey BC, Braden Eguia began his music studies at the age of seven with the violin. He started piano lessons a year later and took it up as his primary instrument, dropping violin only to take up the cello as a secondary instrument several years later. He is currently studying piano performance at the UBC School of Music. Braden has been an award winner in many music festivals over the years, including the BC Registered Music Teacher's Association Piano Festival (South Fraser branch) and the KPU Music Festival. In 2016, 2018, and 2019, he was chosen to represent the KPU Music Festival in the BC Performing Arts Festival at the provincial level. He was a winner of the Fraser Valley Symphony Orchestra's 2019 Young Artist Solo Competition where he performed a concerto with the Fraser Valley Symphony. To Braden, music is something that everyone should have in their life as it provides exercise for the mind and enjoyment for the soul.

Aside from competitions, Braden plays piano for his church, teaches piano in his home studio, organizes student recitals twice a year, and volunteers at Vancouver General Hospital. Recently, he was involved in the UBC Connecting with Compassion program, which provides music for elderly residents in senior homes. Braden has also been a member of the Fraser Valley Symphony Orchestra as a cellist. Outside of performing, Braden enjoys transcribing and arranging pieces for the piano—mostly from movies, TV shows, and video games—binge reading fantasy books, and writing his own series of adventure-fantasy novels.

Semi-Final Program

Le Rossignol, S. 250/1 - F. Liszt

Sonata in D Major, Op. 28, 1st & 2nd movements

L. van Beethoven

Tremors: Homage to Ligeti - M. Mozetich

Final Program

Nocturne No. 1 in C Major - F. Poulenc

Variations serieuses, Op 54 - F. Mendelssohn

Le Rossignol, S. 250/1 - F. Liszt

Rhapsody in C Major, Op 11 No. 3 - E. Dohnanyi



Vancouver / Burnaby – Ivy Lin

Best Performance
of a
Canadian Work



Ivy Lin is a 17 year old pianist from Richmond, BC. Starting piano at the age of 3, she's received multiple awards and scholarships from many competitions including VKMF, SJPC, and VAM Edith Lando Gifted Youth Competition. Ivy performed at Carnegie Hall and UBC Chan Center after winning the PRIM festival in 2019, and received the R.J. Manion Shield for best performance in Canadian Music at CDMF Performing Arts Festival. In 2018, she was the gala winner of PIYMS, the gold medalist of the Canada Music Week Festival, and received Honourable Mention in the Senior category at Performing Arts BC Provincial Festival. Recently she was accepted into the 2020 Orford Music Academy with a scholarship. Ivy also volunteers as a performer at her local senior center, and has received the BCRMTA Musical Community Service Gold Award. Her other interests include playing flute, guitar, and sharing original piano covers.

Semi-Final Program

Sonata in D Major K284 1st movement - W. A. Mozart

Butterflies and Bobcats - D. L. McIntyre

Allegro de Concierto - E. Granados

Final Program

Chromatic Fantasy and Fugue in D Minor BWV 903
J.S. Bach

Barcarolle in F[#] Major Op. 60 - F. Chopin

Allegro de Concierto - E. Granados



Victoria – Johnathan Devey



Johnathan Devey is an 18 year-old aspiring concert pianist living in Victoria, B.C. Born in Tokyo, he started piano lessons at age 5 and since then has always wanted to have a career in music. In his childhood, he has won awards in the North Shore Musical Festival in Vancouver and the European International Piano Concours in Japan. Since moving with his family to Victoria 5 years ago, Johnathan has participated in the Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival every year, representing Victoria at the B.C. Provincial Festival twice and winning the City of Victoria Medallion, the highest award for piano, in 2019. He now studies in the music program of the University of Victoria. Recently, he won the Strauss Foundation Scholarship, with which he will attend the Mozarteum Summer Academy this next summer in Salzburg, Austria. As a performer, Johnathan has a passion for sharing his love of music with people through solo repertoire, piano concertos, and chamber music.

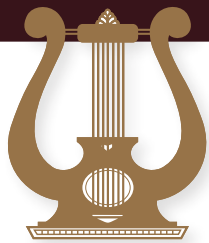
Semi-Final Program

Memoriam for the Victims of Chonobyl - L. Kuzmenko
Sonata in C Minor, K.457, 1st movement - W.A.Mozart
Variations serieuses, Op.54 - F. Mendelssohn

Final Program

Prelude and Fugue No.9 in E Major, BWV 854
Book 1 of the Well-Tempered Clavier - J.S.Bach
Variations serieuses, Op.54 - F. Mendelssohn
Valses nobles et sentimentales - M. Ravel





BCRMTA Pedagogy Award Kathleen Feenstra

Every year BCRMTA gives a Pedagogy Award to the student in each of four conservatories:

- BC Conservatory of Music
- Conservatory Canada
- Royal Conservatory of Music
- Victoria Conservatory

who achieves the highest aggregate mark in the Associate Teachers' Diploma. The award consists of a \$125 scholarship and a 1 year free membership in BCRMTA.

This year the Royal Conservatory of Music was the only conservatory who responded.

A current RMT member, who received her membership with an ARCT degree in Performance and teaching experience, has won the award this year. Congratulations to Kathleen Feenstra of Chilliwack Branch!



BCRMTA Pedagogy Award Kathleen Feenstra is a composer and piano and music theory teacher from BC's Fraser Valley where she has been teaching since 2001. Accredited by The Royal Conservatory of Music with an ARCT in Piano Performance (2010) and also an ARCT in Piano Pedagogy (2019), Kathleen is a member of the British Columbia Registered Music Teachers' Association. She enjoys teaching and is passionate about seeing her students succeed in their musical studies.





BCRMTA Student Composer Competition

2020 Adjudicator - Dr. John Burge



Dr. John Burge (b.1961) holds degrees in Composition and Theory from the University of Toronto and the University of British Columbia. He obtained his Associate Diploma of the Royal Conservatory of Music in Piano Performance while still in high school in Calgary. Since 1987 he has been teaching at the recently renamed Dan School of Drama and Music, Queen's University, where he holds the position of Full Professor.

A prolific composer of solo, chamber, choral and orchestral music, he has also composed an opera and finds himself increasingly drawn to music for the theatre. Academic honours include a Queen's University Prize for Excellence in Research in 2013 and, for both his success as a composer and service to the Arts in Canada, he was elected to the Royal Society of Canada in 2014.

A Juno-winning composer with a large number of works for choir and orchestra, his music is regularly performed across Canada and internationally. He is a member of the Red Leaf Pianoworks' composers collective, and a number of his piano compositions can be found on conservatory syllabi.

A passionate advocate for Canadian music, he was a member of the Executive Council of the Canadian League of Composers for fourteen years, holding the position of President from 1998- 2006 and currently sits on the SOCAN Foundation board. Burge enjoys working with young musicians and is in demand as a music festival adjudicator in the areas of piano and composition.

For more information check out: www.johnburge.ca





BCRMTA Student Composer Winners - 2020

PREPARATORY: 8 years & under

Pre 1 An original work for solo instrument or any combination of instruments

1 st place	Thomas Ivanović	<i>Monsters Under the Bed</i>
2 nd place	Hannah Pulman	<i>Black Widow</i>

DIVISION A: 11 years and under

A 1 An original work for solo instrument or any combination of instruments

1 st place	Isidora Uhlman	<i>Swans</i>
2 nd place	Stella Ivanovic	<i>Faeries</i>
3 rd place	Peter Lu	<i>Creepy Closet</i>

DIVISION B: 15 years and under

B 1 An original work for solo instrument or any combination of instruments

1 st place	Antoine Villegier	<i>North Shore Waltz</i>
2 nd place (TIE)	Rafael Brisebois	<i>Duet</i>
	Houtian Zhong	<i>Hunlun Mountains - Where the Legend Begins</i>
3 rd place	Alexander Ross	<i>Galactic Suite</i>

DIVISION C: 19 years and under

An original work for any instrument, voice, or combination of voices and instruments, with or without accompaniment.

No Entries

DIVISION D: Open

An original work for any instrument, voice, or combination of voices and instruments, with or without accompaniment.

1 st place	William Lin	<i>Elegy</i>
2 nd place	Christie Morrison	<i>Lost Nursery Rhymes of Innocent Children</i>
3 rd place	Angie Tran	<i>Missing You</i>

*Thank you to all the entries
Congratulations to the winners for 2020*



BCRMTA Student Composer Winners - 2020

PREPARATORY: 8 years & under

Pre 1 *An original work for solo instrument or
any combination of instruments*

1st place

Thomas Ivanović

Monsters Under the Bed

I started playing piano at age 4, drums at age 6, and violin at age 7, and also sing in my school choir. I have successfully participated in the North Shore Music Festival and the Archbishop Carney Speech Arts Festival. In addition to music I enjoy skate-boarding, soccer, basketball, rock climbing, and making comic books. 🌟



Monsters Under the Bed

Thomas Ivanović
(b. 2011)





BCRMTA Student Composer Winners - 2020

DIVISION A: 11 years and under
A 1 An original work for solo instrument or
any combination of instruments

1st place **Isidora Uhlman** **Swans**

Isidora started playing the violin two months before her 4th birthday. She liked to improvise music at age five and wrote down her first song when she was six. Isidora is in her first year in the Strings Junior Collegium at the Victoria Conservatory of Music. She enjoys her composition lessons with Christine Donkin in Victoria. Isidora performed her composition Wolf Night at the 2019 Canadian Music Week and submitted her piece Swans as a composition entry to the 2020 GVPA Festival. She likes to create stories and express them through her music. Isidora is 10 years old. She likes to read and draw and is interested in animals and astronomy. 🌟



Swans

(Note to adjudicator: music composed by student; score created by instructor with input from student)

Happy trumpeting swans

senza misura

Isidora Uhlman



Swans "dancing" on the water in synchronized rotations

Andante





BCRMTA Student Composer Winners - 2020

DIVISION B: 15 years and under
B 1 An original work for solo instrument or
any combination of instruments

1st place Antoine Villeger

North Shore Waltz

Antione is thirteen years old and is a graduate of DipLCM in Performance of the Royal College of Music, University of West London; and an ARCT student of the Royal Conservatory of Music. He

first studied composition with Alexander Pechenyuk and now works under the guidance of composer Michael Conway Baker. He studies piano with Svetlana Ponomareva. ✨



CFMFTA/FCAPM
Competition
2nd place

To Michael Conway Baker
North Shore Waltz
Op. 12

Antoine Villeger

Moderato ♩ = 120

Piccolo
Flauti
Oboi
Clarinetti in A
Fagotto
Piatti
Glockenspiel
Piano
Violini I
Violini II
Viole
Violoncelli
Contrabbasso



BCRMTA Student Composer Winners - 2020

DIVISION D: *Open*
An original work for any instrument, voice, or combination of voices and instruments, with or without accompaniment.

1st place **William Lin** *Elegy*

William is currently a third year Pharmacology student at UBC. He is currently studying for ARCT level piano. In his free time, he enjoys cooking and playing piano. His favourite composers include Debussy, Scriabin, and Rachmaninoff. ✨



Elegy

William Lin

Andante ♩ = 90

Piano

pp dolce

mp

con pedale

dim.





Musical Community Service Awards Spring 2020

Maple Ridge/Coquitlam	Hana Chung	Timothy Min	Bronze
		Jonathan Zu	Bronze
Mid-Island	Donna Falconer	Alexandra Segreto	Bronze
		Alexandra Segreto	Silver
		Alexandra Segreto	Gold (289)
		Michaela Segreto	Bronze
		Michaela Segreto	Silver
North Island	Cynthia Taylor	Michaela Segreto	Gold (289)
		Danielle Bae	Bronze
		Danielle Bae	Silver
		Danielle Bae	Gold (160)
		Michael Robert	Gold (61)
Richmond	Lillian Chan	Andreas Gervacio	Bronze
		Sky Han	Bronze
		Aden Li	Bronze
		Keren Li	Bronze
		Angie Tran	Bronze
		Joanne Tung	Bronze
		Tony Xiao	Bronze
		Alexander Wong-Ma	Bronze
		Alexander Wong-Ma	Silver
		Rachel Hovestad	Silver
		Ryden Hovestad	Silver
		Yolanda Yan	Silver
		Tian Cong Xu	Bronze
		Tian Cong Xu	Silver
		Tian Cong Xu	Gold (133)
South Fraser	Yvette Rowledge	Annie MacEwan	Bronze
		Annie MacEwan	Silver
		Annie MacEwan	Gold (308)
		Robert MacEwan	Bronze
		Robert MacEwan	Silver
		Robert MacEwan	Gold (210)

Congratulations to all of you! Thank you for your musical service to your community. A special mention goes to:

- Tian Cong Xu who has volunteered 133 hours
- Daniella Bae who has volunteered 160 hours
- Robert MacEwan who has volunteered 210 hours
- Alexandra Segreto who has volunteered 289 hour
- Michaela Segreto who has volunteered 289 hours
- Annie MacEwan who has volunteered 308 hours!



Musical Community Service Awards

Fall 2020

Abbotsford

Calvin Dyck	Anna Krahn	Bronze
	Anna Krahn	Silver
	Anna Krahn	Gold (167)

Richmond

Lillian Chan	Paulina Lee	Bronze
	Paulina Lee	Silver
	Janice Chung Hei Leung	Bronze
	Janice Chung Hei Leung	Silver
	Janice Chung Hei Leung	Gold (183)
	Fiona Yuan	Bronze
	Fiona Yuan	Silver
	Fiona Yuan	Gold (308)

South Fraser

Kevin Thompson	Kaitlyn Lu	Bronze
	Kaitlyn Lu	Silver
	Ryan Yang	Bronze
	Ryan Yang	Silver
	Ryan Yang	Gold (126)
Yvette Rowledge	Ava Tasha Jung	Bronze

Vernon

Melissa Sutherland	Ridley Kane	Silver
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Congratulations to all of you! Thank you for your musical service to your community.

A special mention goes to Ryan Yang who has volunteered 126 hours, to Anna Krahn who has volunteered 167 hours, to Janice Chung Hei Leung who has volunteered 289 hours, and to Fiona Yuan who has volunteered 308 hours!

Joyce Janzen - BCRMTA Registrar





Heritage Fund

This magazine is highlighting events held in the year 2020.

Our fiscal year end is February 28. Therefore, we have a cross over from 2 fiscal years.

For the Heritage Fund for 2020 / 2021 we used the same project as the 2019 / 2020 project.

2019 / 2020

The BCRMTA Finance Committee Project for 2019 / 2020 is a Branch Continuing Education Project. This project is supported through the Heritage Fund and will assist branches at the local level to conduct continuing education events/workshops/masterclasses for their membership and community.

This Subsidy is available to all branches of BCRMTA regardless of size. This Subsidy program is separate from the Professional Development Grant/Bursary available to branches with 40 members or less.

Amount of Subsidy: Up to \$200.00 per branch

Guidelines:

1. Applications for the Branch Continuing Education Project must be received BEFORE the event being applied for. A decision on the application will take place before the event.
2. The deadline for the 2019/20 Branch Continuing Education Project applications is February 1, 2020
3. The event must be complete prior to March 1, 2020
4. The \$200.00 subsidy is in addition to any Professional Development Bursary/Grant already approved/being applied for the 2018/19 fiscal year. The Subsidy may be added on to the Bursary or used for a separate event.
5. Application forms are available on our website: www.bcrmta.bc.ca
6. Following completion of the approved event, reports and photos (if possible) should be sent to Elizabeth Munro – address located on application form.

The deadline for the Branch Continuing Education Project applications is February 1, 2020.

2020 / 2021

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Heritage Fund

Branches that used the Heritage Fund for a Branch event in 2020

Abbotsford

Coquitlam / Maple Ridge

East Kootenay

Mid Island

North Island

North Shore

Richmond

Sunshine Coast

Vancouver / Burnaby

Vernon

Victoria



Heritage Fund - Abbotsford

Workshop - How to make teaching composition to our students easy and fun.

Workshop was held on February 7, 2020 at Abbotsford Community Music School.

Led by composer Katya Pine, each 2-hour workshop explains and inspires teachers to think creatively about the repertoire they teach. Katya takes the mystery out of the composing process; illustrating how using the right tools will develop students' musical ideas. Fun and interactive, using recorded and live performance, the workshop encourages teachers to use compositional tools and approaches to stimulate students' imaginations and creativity; resulting in new student compositions. Teachers are taken through a succession of incremental approaches from simple concepts, to more complex musical ideas.

Applicable to all instrumentalists, the workshop is presented using piano repertoire examples. All participants will receive a 16-page handout of Canadian and other modern piano compositions that illustrate repertoire for discovery into compositional thinking.

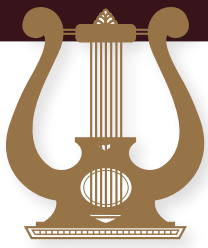


Katya Pine, Composer

A published composer/arranger, Katya Pine has composed music for production studios, independent films, documentaries, television, musical theatre, opera and the concert stage in a variety of commercial and non-commercial styles, ranging from solo to full orchestral. Her works have been performed in Canada, U.S.A and the U.K. Katya writes extensively for the voice. She is currently composing the opera "More than a Queen", with Vancouver librettist, Felicia Klingenberg.

An affiliate composer of the Canadian Music Centre (CMC), the Association of Canada Women Composers (ACWC), the Screen Composers Guild of Canada (SCGC), BCRMTA and SOCAN, Katya is a recipient of the prestigious Floyd Chalmers Award. Katya received a composition degree from the University of Toronto, with postgraduate studies in London, England and in Calgary Alberta, where she completed the MRU Jazz and Contemporary Music program.

Dina Pollock



Heritage Fund - East Kootenay

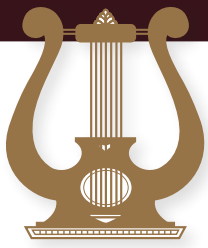
Nine East Kootenay Music Teachers and one adult student attended a workshop on Thursday, February 27th that was presented by Dr. Kendall Hafermehl from Calgary, Alberta. Two tables were covered with various instruments and tools to help us understand the complexity of the piano and the vital connections between excellence in piano performance and piano technology. It was a two hour interactive workshop and fortunately, time was allowed for our curious and delighted teachers to ask many questions. The following comments were shared after the workshop:

"I never realized how many joints and working parts there are in a piano - key/ hammer - and the full action needed to create sound. It is amazing how intricate the inside of a piano is. It was also interesting to learn how much a technician can do to change the quality of sound a piano makes." "Kendall was very informative in a positive way. He made us realize the taking care of our pianos is more than tuning."

"His details were practical yet fascinating. Who knows what is really beyond the black and white keys?? It's incredible really. Kendall was very sensible and approachable."

Katherine Nimmert





Heritage Fund - Mid Island

Students submitted original compositions for adjudication by Christine Donkin. It is for the Joan Gosselin Music Writing Celebration. She was one of Mid-Islands first music teacher. Amber Pitre did a workshop first on October 5, 2019 for us teachers to explain "How to prepare your students for Composition. Then students sent their compositions to Amber before December 15, 2019. Amber then forwarded them to Christine Donkin for Adjudication. Each student will receive a Certificate with their Adjudication. They all were invited to perform their Compositions at our Winter Recital February 9, 2020, which I (the president) will present the Certificate.

Dolores Antonsen



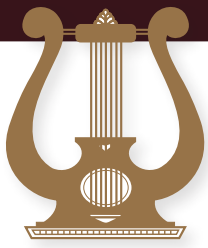


Heritage Fund - North Island

On February 7th, 2020. Joan Ryan presented our Branch with a workshop titled 'Interpersonal Skills Training'. Nine of our members participated in a very instructive and revealing questionnaire which served to reveal each members' personality traits which determined their style of interacting with each other as well as to their students. The four categories describing one's over-all interpersonal skills were : 'Expressive', 'Driver', 'Analytical', and 'Amiable'. The theory is that each of us had two predominant traits which characterized our relationships with colleagues, students, friends etc. (but that these do not exclude the other two from playing a part in our relationships). A discussion of how these characteristics may be perceived by our students as well as a recognition of the characters of our students was very enlightening. A consideration of how each deals with stress as well as the steps to personal growth which can be considered .A great Workshop!

Sonia Hauser





Heritage Fund - Coquitlam / Maple Ridge

Coquitlam/Maple Ridge branch had a zoom workshop with neuroscientist Tara Gaertner on “The Science Behind Reading Music”. Learning to read music is one of the most difficult challenges facing music students and Tara investigates the science behind it by starting with a look at our eye movements and what they reveal about how we take in the visual display of music on the page. The visual information is then processed through the Brain, to the visual cortex and into the two major visual processing streams” the “what”stream and the “where/how” stream. She ended the talk by reviewing the pedagogical research on ways to improve students’ sight-reading and gave us some take-home thoughts on practical ways we can help our students better learn to read music.

Liz Munro



Heritage Fund - North Shore

In spring of 2020, Maestro Clyde Mitchell, conductor and music director of the Lions Gate Sinfonia, invited the North Shore Registered Music Teachers' Association to take part in what is now our fifth collaborative event. This time, however, we made it the largest event yet with seventy-five students participating! We added more opportunities for teachers with students in beginner RCM levels through to ARCT to work with a conductor and concert artist.

We began with auditions in January 2020, where students were then awarded an opportunity to participate in one of the following three events: a masterclass, as a soloist with a string ensemble or as a soloist with the Lions Gate Sinfonia. These events took place from Feb 24-March 7, 2020, featuring pianists, piano ensembles, vocalists, violinists, and woodwind players. Two of our teachers also had their original compositions performed.

Maestro Clyde Mitchell played an enormous role in mentoring, preparing and supporting the students in this musical journey. In addition to conducting the ensembles and soloists, he also composed more than forty eight orchestral arrangements of students' chosen repertoire for this event!

The first of our events was a masterclass where twenty five students performed for Dr. Libby Yu, who was the chosen clinician and concert artist. She was present at each event and rehearsal where she played an integral role in preparing the students for performance. She spent time with each student, giving valuable feedback and useful advice on their chosen piece of study. In addition to this, Dr. Yu worked with each of the string ensemble and orchestral soloists during rehearsals before their respective performances. She expertly gave each student relevant tips on ensemble performance and effective practice tips for now and the future.

The second event, the string ensemble concert featured twenty nine performers. Maestro Mitchell conducted the student soloists and string ensemble of professional musicians from LGS. This concert was very well received and for all the students, it was their first experience with an ensemble and a conductor.

The final concert took place on March 7th at Centennial Theatre. This concert featured twenty-two performers - a vocal trio, a piano trio, a violinist and fifteen pianists performing as soloists

with the Lions Gate Sinfonia. Local piano dealer, Showcase pianos supported this concert by generously providing a Fazioli piano for our students to play. What a fantastic treat for them!

Overall, these events were a big success for our branch, giving plenty of opportunities for our students and teachers to learn, grow as musicians and be part of a community event. It is definitely worth a mention that in order to audition, students had to have submitted a short bio and answer a few questions, one of which was why this would be important to them. Just about every one of the students had some comment about how music is important in their life as a means of expression. As teachers, we could see the impact these types of opportunities have on them and reinforces how impactful our work is. For some students, it's life changing. Their confidence improves, and the sense of pride in their work shines. Many of them sent letters of appreciation to Maestro Clyde Mitchell for the opportunity to play under his direction. One of the most wonderful things was seeing how the students in each group became friends, cheering each other on during rehearsals, reassuring each other backstage and forging new friendships outside of the practice room.

There were also many professional development opportunities for our teachers. Many had not previously prepared students for performance with an orchestra so there was much to learn from choosing repertoire, to clothing choices, stage presence, to teaching students how to be part of an ensemble as the soloist. In addition, having the opportunity to explore repertoire through the orchestral arrangements made by Maestro Mitchell proved an interesting way to learn about stylistic and musical elements in the solo pieces. These are all unique and valued perspectives. We were also pleased that two of our teachers took the opportunity to showcase their own compositions!

Looking back now, we feel fortunate that our event could come to fruition as mid March saw the beginning of the COVID-19 lockdown. We now look forward to a time where this can happen again but for now we treasure these incredible musical memories.

Celine Cassis





Heritage Fund - Sunshine Coast

Organ Day. We are renting the OrgelKidsCan kit from the Royal Canadian College of Organists. Students will build a miniature working pipe organ in the morning and in the afternoon, have the opportunity to have supervised practice on the Casavant Pipe Organ at St. Hilda's Anglican in Sechelt. This event is co-hosted with St. Hilda's.

Katherine Hume

**Cancelled
due
COVID-19**



Heritage Fund - Richmond

Jarred Dunn, Yamaha Artist and Teacher at McGill University, has presented two workshops via zoom from Montreal for our Branch this fall. This is a rare positive outcome of our COVID-19 world: we are able to bring such world-class artists into our meetings and our studios.

Workshop 1. "Chopin Etudes: Repertoire of Technique"
(Wednesday November 4, 2020)

This workshop explains the Chopin pianistic tradition, including fingerings, technical movements, and interpretations (whether Chopin did or did not approve). The main connection to be explored is the connection between Etudes Op. 10 and Op. 25 as repertoire pieces included in both evaluations and concerts. It is recommended that workshop participants use the National Edition of the Chopin Etudes (J. Ekier) and consult at least two contrasting recordings of the complete cycle of Chopin Etudes (M. Lisak, N. Lugansky, Z. Raubo/T. Shebanova, A. Cortot, V. Lisitsa, J. Lisiecki, B. Berezovsky) including historical pianos and modern pianos.

Workshop 2. "Meddling or Pedalling: Chopin, Debussy, Messiaen"
(Wednesday December 2, 2020)

This workshop examines the types of pedalling that lead to flattering sound effects in Chopin, Debussy, and Messiaen. A link between these three composers is their interest in expanding the possibilities the pianist can hear when interpreting the piano (breathing of singers, chamber music, overtones, etc). We will examine inappropriate pedalling choices and find ways to communicate them to students. Teachers interested in early 20th Century repertoire will enjoy delving into Messiaen's communicative structures. Exploring these pedalling choices transforms lessons into a laboratory of (almost) endless experimentation that deepens comfort on stage and in the studio.

These seminars complemented each other perfectly. Jarred supplied us all with supporting documents to enable and direct our involvement and future learning. He also provided an extensive bibliography for us to pursue on our own. Both these workshops were exceptionally well-attended and we are grateful for this amazing experience for our professional development.

Jarred Dunn <http://www.jarredunn.com>
dunnjarred@gmail.com

Victoria Warfield

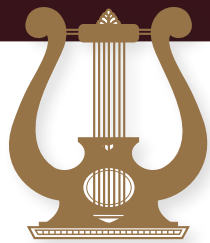




Heritage Fund - Vancouver / Burnaby

Due to restrictions in 2020, the Vancouver/Burnaby Branch decided to hold an online Composers' Forum on Sunday, November 22 instead of our CMW Festival. In honour of our Centennial Anniversary, registration was open to all teachers, students and music enthusiasts to share in the experience without cost. Three prominent Canadian composers were invited to the Forum, Christine Donkin from Victoria, Alexina Louie from Toronto and David L. McIntyre from Regina. Each composer was featured in a 60 minute interview where they graciously shared their time, giving the audience a fascinating glimpse into this process of composition and their thoughts on music. Questions were submitted in advance, although participants could ask more through the chat. Among many captivating topics we heard about Christine Donkin's inspiring Composition Clubs for students. Alexina Louie's virtual release of Take the Dog Sled for Inuit throat singers and ensemble and David McIntyre's composition-in-progress Towns, inspired by the places one drives through on the way to bigger cities. The entire afternoon was an absolute delight, thanks in large part to the truly engaging and generous personalities of our guests.

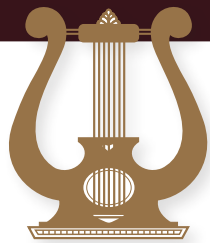
Karin Wang



Heritage Fund - Vernon

On Sunday February 16th Vernon RMTA members were treated to a high level masterclass given by local pianist and teacher Alex MacArthur. Held at the Vernon Community Music School, three advanced students performed works by Beethoven, Chopin, and Rachmaninoff. This important lesson pushed each student beyond their comfort zone in an attempt to find deeper meaning and different tones to match the changing moods. The class began with the powerful performance of Rachmaninoff *Prelude in c# Minor* by Noah Wessells. Mr. MacArthur was quick to delve into both the importance of patience and control with this piece, while pushing Noah for deeper expression and meaning as the piece progressed. As each section was explored, Noah was encouraged to explore different arm weights and voicing so the sound could be more diverse. Craig Matterson followed with the dramatic Chopin *Nocturne in c Minor*. Here MacArthur highlighted the need for restraint and balance when presenting the opening motives. Often a simpler approach to a piece is the correct one! This also leaves room for more rubato and dynamic expansion to follow. Craig was also pushed to create space between bigger intervals so that the listening can feel the distance. As Craig is auditioning to university, these refining points were indeed helpful. Dionne Martyn (pictured with Mr. MacArthur) is an adult student with unfinished business at the piano. Returning to complete her ARCT after a 20 year absence, Dionne played the first movement of the Moonlight Sonata by Beethoven. Again, Mr. MacArthur would not accept a standard interpretation of this often played piece. The lesson began with listening to the dramatic chord progressions used in this piece, and how they can dictate shaping of the phrase. Mr. MacArthur also encouraged Dionne to use the inside triplet figures to help create more drama instead of just floating in the background. Balance, both vertical and horizontal, was also explored to help create a more well-rounded sound. While both teacher and student had different versions of this piece in mind, Dionne was excited by the world of possibilities presented to her.

Geoffrey Barker



Heritage Fund - Victoria

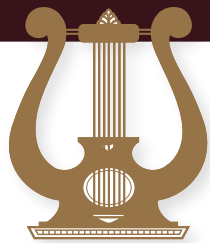
If changing circumstances demand adaptability and creativity, then the Victoria Branch Canada Music Week®, celebrating our 90th Anniversary year, certainly came up to the mark. Covid-19 did not stop us from having an on-line celebration of Canadian Music.

Canada Music Week® chair, Sylvia Richard, introduced Christine Donkin, this year's adjudicator of the Murray Adaskin Composition Competition and featured composer. Christine then gave an illuminating talk on her approach to becoming a composer and composition teacher with her laissez-fair philosophy in finding one's own path.

Her talk began with seven minutes of recorded excerpts of her non-pedagogy music: *Migration*, from 3 Autumn Scenes, performed by the New Brunswick Symphony, *I Am Here* from Following the Moon Road - poet Lozan Yamolky, performed by the Da Cap Chamber Choir director Leonard Enns and *One Step at a Time* is Good Walking from *The Light that Remains* - based on a book of the same title written by Lyse Champagne and performed by Dr. Elaine Keillor, pianist.

She maintains that not all student composers should have teachers - but teachers are needed when students have questions. The goal of a composing teacher is to keep the student composing. Christine finished her presentation with some examples of her students' compositions.

Pat Williamson



Professional Development Bursary/Grant

A Professional Development Bursary/Grant is available to assist branches with less than 40 members to conduct ongoing professional development. This fund is for programs that benefit the branch - masterclasses, workshops, clinicians, videos etc.

An eligible branch may apply every two years for an amount up to \$300. The deadline for application is February 1 of each fiscal year.

Abbotsford

Vernon

Abbotsford

Our branch hosted a two part zoom workshop with Jarred Dunn.

November 6, 2020

Part 1 - Chopin Etudes, Technique and Repertoire Development

December 4, 2020

Part 2 - Piano Pedalling - Chopin, Debussy

The workshops were informative - presented well with handout and included a list of music to listen to before the event.

We, as a branch would highly recommend these workshops.

Dina Pollock

Vernon

On February 22nd 2020 members of the Vernon RMT Branch gathered for an enlightening and thought-provoking 4 hour seminar with master teacher Lucy Feldman. Topics included the 7 levels of learning, and how this approach helps the student become one with the music. Ms. Feldman provided engaging stories from over 40 years of teaching, including many success stories from students who have benefited from her unique and holistic approach. After 3 hours of learning just some of Feldman's approach, a masterclass was held with 3 teachers as they attempted to incorporate this approach with their own playing. This was both enlightening and humbling for those participating teachers! Attempting to incorporate the physical, mental, and indeed spiritual approach was inspiring to those who took part. It really was a clear example of the importance of lifelong learning, even for those who have been teaching for many years.

Geoffrey Barker





Canada Music Week®

William Andrews Award - North Island

On November 28th, 2020 the North Island Branch co-hosted a virtual concert with the Edmonton Branch in honour of Canada Music Week®. We had never before considered such a collaboration with a Branch in another Province, but the current pandemic forced us to think outside of our usual box! We feel that this was so successful and enjoyed by the participating students that it opens up multiple avenues of collaboration with other Canadians in the celebration of our Nations' music in future years!

Our Branch featured music composed by Artists hailing from British Columbia, while the Edmonton Branch featured Alberta Composers. All in all, we co-hosted a concert featuring 36 performers ranging in complexity from early beginner to ARCT levels. The Edmonton Branch presented 19 performers, while we in B.C. offered the remaining 17.

In order to adhere to the recommendations of our Provincial Medical officers' all of the students performed on their own pianos in the safety of their homes. Since most, if not all of our students experienced virtual piano lessons since last March, they were all equipped with the necessary technology to accomplish such a 'Zoom' concert.

Although most of the compositions were for piano performance, one young lady from Edmonton delighted us with a clarinet solo composed by Juno award winner D. Ross entitled *Dooti'n Doodily Bonk Bonk*. An Alberta colleague, C. Garritano prepared seven of her students to play Hallowe'en themed pieces which were composed by herself as well as her cousin, K. Puckerin. Kristopher Benoit who hails from the North Island composed and performed his jazzy piece, *621 PM*, so called because of the many ninths inhabiting the composition! We viewed six video performances by students who could not attend on the day of the concert, but who wished to participate nonetheless.

The Branches purchased copies of each of their students' performances and sent these to the other participating Province. As an extra bonus for each performer, our Branch purchased and distributed Canada Music Week® pencils and stickers for all of the students who participated in this unique experience. Our receipt of the William Andrews Award, which

was shared with Edmonton, was *most* appreciated as it assisted us in defraying the costs mailing and purchasing music and miscellaneous goodies for the students!

I have included a photo of the copies of music sent to Alberta.

Although this method of celebrating CMW was foisted upon us, we see it as the ideal means of sharing music and performances with other students and teachers from all over our great country! This will make our celebration of Canadian music truly a national experience!

*Sonia Hauser, President of the North Island Branch of BCRMTA ,
Chair of the BC Canada Music Week®*





Our Branches

Abbotsford
Chilliwack
Coquitlam / Maples Ridge
East Kootenay
Kelowna
Mid Island
Mission
Nelson
North Island
North Shore
Prince George
Richmond
Shuswap
South Fraser
South Okanagan
Sunshine Coast
Trail / Castlegar
Vancouver / Burnaby
Vernon
Victoria
Provincial Members
Life Members



Abbotsford

Founded in 1971

Members in 2020 - 18

www.abbotsfordmusicbcmrta.com

Student Teacher Auxiliary - 0

What a year 2020 has been, felt more like a roller coaster, never knowing exactly what was coming next, and we held on (and we are all still holding on) for the ride of our lives.

We had to learn so much this year, we had to:

- teach differently
- hold recitals differently
- hold branch meetings differently
- hold festivals differently
- have exams differently

I am so pleased with our branch, overcoming so much, we did ourselves proud.

In January we cancelled our meeting due to an unexpected storm that dumped too much snow to drive safely in and moved the workshop we had planned to February.

Katya Pine presented her workshop on composing in February - *thank you to BCRMTA Heritage Fund for making this possible*. We held our AGM in March, reports were given and plans were made for workshops/festival and meeting, and then COVID-19 hit and everything changed. We held our meeting in April by zoom, trying to make our festival work, within the Government guidelines. I have to commend and thank Beth Nickel, our Festival chair for pulling this off. I cannot even guess at the hours she put into this, to make it work for our students.

We, in a normal year, would have a luncheon in June; this year we had to settle for a zoom meeting. It was great to see members.

In September we were fortunate to hold the meeting in a park, practice social distancing and could see everyone - in person, this was a great gift. Coffee, cookies, and lots of catching up, then on to the meeting. Planning how we could move forward with the festival - coming up with a plan of either face to face (if allowed) or a virtual festival.

October we went back to zoom meetings - the one great thing about this format - we do have more members attend meetings.

We held our Canada Music Week® Recital by zoom. We normally would present awards to the students that received the highest mark in each practical and theoretical exams. How we did it this year, is we asked each student to take a photo and send it in and these were presented in a slide show - worked really well.

For November and December we had a 2-part workshop presented by Jarred Dunn from Montreal (by zoom) - *thank you to BCRMTA Professional Development Grant for this*. Jarred is an amazing presenter, and very comfortable and knowledgeable on this subject of Chopin Etudes.

I am looking forward to whatever 2021 throws at us.

To everyone - as Dr. Bonnie would say - *be kind - be calm - and be safe*.

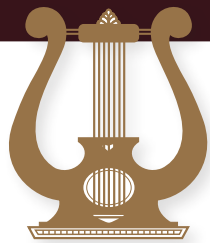
Dina Pollock - President





Abbotsford - cont.





Chilliwack

Founded in 1947

www.chwkmusiclessons.com

Members in 2020 - 28

Student Teacher Auxiliary - 1

Our 73rd annual Music and Dance Festival was held from February 13 – March 11. Participants in Band, Choral, Dance, Guitar, Piano, Strings, Orchestra, Vocal, Ensembles, Woodwinds, and Percussion competed in multiple venues around town with most activities held at the Cultural Centre. The full sized program booklet weighed in at a hefty 126 pages with seven very full pages listing all the bursaries and awards generously donated by local businesses, churches, citizens, teachers' organizations, etc. Due to Covid-19 the final honours concert was cancelled. Performing Arts BC also cancelled the provincial competition that our local winners would have been part of last June in Cranbrook.

Our monthly branch meetings were suspended last spring and then resumed via Zoom. The Christopher Norton weekend scheduled for May was cancelled. We hope to rebook for next spring. Our CMW activities have also been post-poned to next fall.

2020 has been a year like no other.

Nita Pelletier - Secretary



Coquitlam / Maple Ridge

Founded in 1985

www.registeredmusicteachers.com

Members in 2020 - 65

Student Teacher Auxiliary - 1



The Coquitlam - Maple Ridge Branch had a very productive year, despite the many challenges created by the unforeseen events which unfolded as the year progressed. Of course, the pandemic made us revamp planned activities. Unfortunately, the North Fraser Music Festival scheduled for the end of April had to be cancelled, but other events were able to be adjusted and took place using an online format. A big thank you and heartfelt congratulations are extended to the various convenors within the Branch who worked very hard to make the events possible. In the end, the events were very positive for the members, and they created an important opportunity for staying in contact with colleagues during this difficult time of social distancing.

The January and March Branch meetings were held in-person this year. From May onwards, all meetings were conducted via Zoom, and the online format worked better than anticipated.

Several workshops were held during the year. In January, the Historical Performance Ensemble presented insights into Baroque music and dance. The March workshop featured Branch member Ingrid Fast discussing the method books 'Tales of a Musical Journey' created by Irina Goran from the Russian School of Pedagogy. In May, we were fortunate that our scheduled clinician, Tara Geartner from UBC, was able to adapt easily to the online format in order to present insights into research dealing with 'The Science Behind Reading Music'. In November, the workshop was an in-house discussion by Branch members focussing on 'issues of teaching on-line including how to hold concerts'. This very relevant discussion helped everyone share ideas about how to adjust to dealing with the ongoing situation created by Covid-19 restrictions.

In March, The Branch hosted a masterclass with Alan Crane from the VSO School of Music as clinician. Students performed piano works from levels 8 and up.

The Music Share initiative lead by Vice-President Lorna Yeates continued to raise funds to help assist in the rental of band instruments for school students. Funds raised are audience donations collected by members' students who put on small recitals. By the end of 2020 the amount raised since this initiative began totals \$1765.

The Branch held its Canada Music Week® Recital in November. This year the event was presented virtually, with students submitting their video performances. A total of 34 students participated, and the editing of the videos into a seamless programme was expertly done by Ingrid Fast. The Branch extends congratulations and many thanks to coordinators Ingrid Fast and Karen Wood for their hard work in creating this virtual event which showcased the participating students' achievements very effectively.

Looking back on 2020, it was a year like none other that any of us have experienced. We had to adapt quickly in order to continue teaching and working with students, and of course, we look forward to a return to more normal conditions once we are able to do so. Certainly, this year has been a remarkable learning experience for us all. Most of all, during this difficult time of social distancing, we realize how vital it is to be part of BCRMTA. We are part of an important professional organization, and we can reach out to colleagues and friends who are willing to offer advice, help, and comforting thoughts and support when needed as we all cope and deal with the social distancing during this difficult time.

Greg Hartley - President



East Kootenay

Founded in

Members in 2020 - 6

Student Teacher Auxiliary - 0

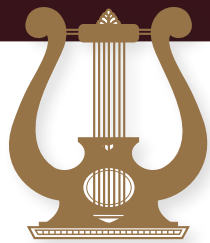
Greetings from a different 'literary voice'. After two splendid decades as our Branch Delegate to BCRMTA, Terry Lynn Jeffers has stepped aside to focus on family and a well-earned rest. Terry Lynn has been a veritable Rock of Gibraltar in countless (and we do mean countless!) East Kootenay projects and presentations. Within her RMT service period, she worked also as General Manager for the Symphony of the Kootenays, and as one endeavour anchored an immense Symphony on the Mountain concert to great acclaim at Kimberley Alpine Resort.

With Covid-19 clearly settling in for a long haul, our branch chose to suspend operations for the 2020-21 teaching year. This was decided in large part because a majority of our members are deeply involved with one or both of two upcoming festivals: the annual East Kootenay Performing Arts Festival (EKPAF) this March, then the 2021 BC Performing Arts Festival (BCPAF) set for June. Cranbrook had been chosen to host the latter in 2020, then - when delay proved inevitable - this year instead. East Kootenay residents continue with BCPAF planning, though it is now to be a fully online event. Cranbrook, ever optimistic, is in line to host BCPAF 2022!

Since EKPAF is closely intertwined with our Branch, a summary seems in order regarding choices made since last fall for our regional festival. Entrants will arrive separately at the venue (at-home recording accepted for those who prefer) with no listeners present; exacting anti-Covid protocols followed; each entrant, apart from those sending from home, recorded by the EKPAF-engaged professional videographer; the videos sent away online, confidentially, to esteemed adjudicators; adjudications and award-related details to be returned promptly; and performance videos archived for a possible online Highlights Concert of selected entries.

East Kootenay will provide funds for its many festival awards given annually, and also for highest marks in the 2020-21 examination season. Hoping for better times ahead, we will keep monitoring things toward resumption of Branch activities. In the meantime, we continue to support each other in the fine East Kootenay atmosphere of co-operation and friendship.

Arne Sahlen - President



Kelowna

Founded in

Members in 2020 - 16

Student Teacher Auxiliary - 0

Kelowna Branch Report 2020—what a year!

On March 6th just before the world changed we enjoyed Ian Parker with the Okanagan Symphony. He also gave a well-received Masterclass at Kelowna Community Music School on March 7th.

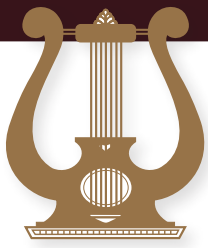
The Kiwanis Music Festival was able to complete the Dance and Choral Music events in March, but all other events were cancelled following the Covid19 protocols.

Our AGM was held in May via Zoom. We had a good discussion concerning how each teacher quickly learned Video Chat skills and kept lessons going and how each was coping with exams being online. It was a good time to share and gather support. Election of officers was held:

- President Graham Vink
- Treasurer Marla Mesenbrink
- Secretary Jessica Crawford

We currently have 17 members.

Marla Mesenbrink - President



Mid Island

Founded in 1965

Members in 2020 - 35

www.musicnanaimo.com

Student Teacher Auxiliary - 1

Our membership for 2020 consisted of 38 members and 1 student teacher. We have had a year of changes and adjustments in looking for new ways to continue giving the gift of music to our students.

In January we started the year enthusiastically looking forward to the SoundVision 2020 Conference. Due to circumstances beyond our control, it was postponed to September, 2022.

Before the list of cancellations and postponements, Amber Pitre organized the Joan Gosselin Music Writing Celebration with Christin Donkin adjudicating in January. In February, Dolores Antonsen organized the Winter Recital. It was a lovely recital with voice, piano and composition students.

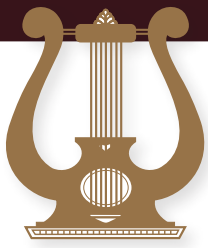
From March 2020 to June 2020, our list of cancellations and postponements began. In March, the Upper Island Music Festival went on-line. In April, our Bruce Vogt workshop was cancelled. In June our yearend Recital was cancelled. However, students receiving scholarships, bursaries, and book awards received them through the mail instead of the recital. For most of our students, they took their exams on-line for the first time. As teachers, we learned new ways in teaching our students.

We have moved our branch meetings to Zoom, so far so good. We have tried a couple of coffee zooms too. In November 2020, Miriam Duckworth organized the CMW Recital on-line. Being our first Zoom recital, it was a learning curve, but enjoyed by all.

We are looking forward to a fresh start for 2021. We are taking our new skills and ideas to what we love doing, teaching music!!

Dolores Antonsen - President





Mission

Founded in 1998

Members in 2020 - 3

Student Teacher Auxiliary - 1

The small but mighty Mission branch had several events planned for 2020, but many were cancelled or transitioned to online platforms. A notable workshop that we cancelled was a drum circle workshop with Boris Schisson. We hope to hold that workshop sometime in 2022. We have also started to discuss and schedule workshops via Zoom during 2021.

To keep students engaged over the summer, we used an activity chart whose template was designed by Ariana, and we were able to adapt and change the items for our own personal studios. Some items were as simple as asking students to go out into nature and listen the music around them (birds singing, leaves rustling, etc) ranging up to learning a new piece over the summer months.

We welcomed a new member, Elisa Wolff, who transferred in from the Coquitlam-Maple Ridge branch just in the nick of time, as we were not sure we could continue with just two members! Her arrival meant that our number is up to three, and one STA member as well. We have discussed how to expand our membership in the coming years and look forward to that growth!

Laura Webster





Nelson

Founded in 1980

Members in 2020 - 4

Student Teacher Auxiliary - 0

The show must go on!

And it did, using the new Zoom software society has resorted to during the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic. That was the method to communicate used by students who normally perform before adjudicators during Kootenay Festival of Arts. The event was to have been held in early April.

However, the COVID-19 forced organizers into the difficult decision of having to cancel the 2020 festival.

That did not stop the students and instructor/owner, Ellie Hedges, at Nelson Studio 88, who decided to assist inspired students by celebrating their hard work with a Zoom festival benefit concert. Students were also treated to a guest performance by Alan Crane who was supposed to be the adjudicator for this year's Kootenay festival of the Arts.

Before organizers realized, the benefit concert not only celebrated students' accomplishments, but also helped the local community foodbank — raising \$1000 toward assisting the Nelson Food Cupboard.

Mallard's Source for sports would like to salute the more than 40-plus Nelson Studio-88 Benefit Concert performers with Team of the Week honours.

Coordinated by Ellie Hedges, were more of the students from Nelson Studio 88 performing during the benefit concert by Zoom.

Ellie Hedges - President



studio88 benefit concert #1



Studio 88 benefit concert #2



Canadian Music zoom



North Island

Founded in 1976

Members in 2020 - 20

Student Teacher Auxiliary - 6

Despite the restrictions placed upon us due to the Pandemic, we have managed to maintain many of our Branch activities.

In September, we met face to face and outside, at the residence of one of our members. Despite the wearing of masks, and maintaining social distancing enjoyed seeing each other in a 3D situation. Further to this we planned our year while enjoying a gorgeous view of the ocean! This was our last face to face meeting for the year!

In October, we enjoyed the video submission of Michael Robert (our Branch Rep) for the BC Piano Competition. November was quite busy as we also shared a video Concert with the Edmonton Branch for a Canada Music Week! Further to that, one of our members presented a very extensive book report on 'Mozarts' Brain and the fighter Pilot'. This volume by R. Restak MD was very useful to our professional as well as our personal lives!

We availed ourselves of the generosity of the Vancouver/ Burnaby branch in December by viewing their interview with John K. Parker. This was part of their celebration of the Branches' 100th Anniversary, which they made available to all Branches in the Province! It was a very enjoyable and informative experience! A lovely introduction to the Holiday Season!

To start the New Year, we had a zoom presentation by Allison Bergen who is a registered Music Therapist. She was very well prepared and addressed many of the facets of her profession. This demonstrated to us that a student could pursue a career in music without aiming for the concert stage or teaching.

This month, (February) Jean-Pierre Calitz will present a programme titled 'Positive Psychology: An Introduction to a New Science of Well Being'. This is a subject which fascinates him and for which he has done extensive research. We are fortunate to have him as member of our Branch!

Apart from meetings. we are in the midst of sponsoring a "Practice-a-Thon". The proceeds of which will go towards either the Food Bank or the SPCA (have not decided which

as yet) Also, we are encouraging our members to invite their students to enter a composition to a proposed publication titled 'Music in the Time of Covid'.

We look forward to enjoying a video performance by Johnathan Devey, the young man who won the BC Piano Competition and who will be representing our Province at the National Competition. Although a video performance misses the atmosphere of a live performance, it does offer several benefits which make a Young Artist Concert very appealing!

In June, we hope to be able to meet face to face with the same criterion we experienced in September! Perhaps, we might even be able to hug!?

Sonia Hauser - President





North Shore

Founded in 1971

Members in 2020 - 66

www.northshoremusicteachers.com

Student Teacher Auxiliary - 0

2020 is a special year we will not forget.

Our branch started the year with great energy and momentum, only to have to entirely change direction and adapt to the new realities of the global pandemic.

We feel extremely fortunate to have been able to complete our two biggest annual projects of the year, The North Shore Music Festival and The Collaboration with the Lions Gate Sinfonia, before the health restrictions were put in place in March.

Pre-Pandemic

The 49th annual North Shore Music Festival was held earlier than usual from February 1 – 14, 2020. This year it offered competitive and non-competitive classes in piano, voice, strings, and guitar.

Despite the early date, classes were full and well-organized. The festival ran smoothly for 8 days, followed by 3 excellent Final Concerts in the second week, one for the non-competitive section, and two for the trophy winners. The audience was treated to many memorable performances.

The adjudicators were: Piano – Michelle Mares, Wayne Weng, Yvette Rowledge; Strings – Calvin Dyck; Vocal – Sheila Christie; Guitar – Itamar Erez.



The 5th Collaboration with Lions Gate Sinfonia (LGS) grew into a mini-festival that included many events over the course of two weeks in February and March 2020.



Photo: Yan Timoshenko

Seventy-five students applied and auditioned for Clyde Mitchell and Andrea Siradze (the Concertmaster of Sinfonia). Violin, saxophone, flute, piano, and vocal students, including a few ensembles, presented a wide variety of styles and proficiency levels. The youngest participant was 5 years old. Two of our teachers, Marcia Meyer and Serah Strandberg presented their own compositions.

After auditioning over 70 applicants, Maestro Clyde Mitchell invited a group of these young musicians to participate with Lions Gate Sinfonia in one of the orchestra's regular season's concerts. And after listening to all students, he wrote arrangements of their short solo pieces, to be performed with either the LGS orchestra or with a string quartet. This year, Dr. Libby Yu was the Sinfonia piano soloist, who also coached the young performers.

Eighteen performances were selected to perform with Lions Gate Sinfonia on March 7, 2020, at Centennial Theatre in North Vancouver. The young performers had the amazing opportunity to experience the thrill of sharing the stage with professional musicians. In preparation for the big moment, the students participated in a practice recital, a masterclass with Dr. Libby Yu and Maestro Clyde Mitchell, and two rehearsals with the



North Shore - cont.

orchestra. It was amazing to observe the passion for music and the growing camaraderie between the students. All students played with confidence and flair. They truly enjoyed the moment.

All of the students that auditioned were given an opportunity to participate in one of the planned events. Some were invited to take part in one of the two masterclasses that Dr. Libby Yu conducted with warmth and inspiration. Another group of students were invited to play a concert with the Lions Gate String Quartet on March 1. This was also a wonderful opportunity for young musicians to experience being part of a professional ensemble.

The enormous contributions of all volunteers are greatly appreciated, and particularly the efforts of Celine Cassis, who was the main driving force behind planning the branch events, organizing the auditions and programs, choosing the venues, communicating with everyone, and countless other things.

During the Pandemic

After the health orders were announced in March, we quickly had to adjust to the new realities of social distancing. We are very grateful to the Provincial Council for providing timely, extensive, and detailed information on all aspects of government programs and the transition to online teaching activities. Thank you for the great leadership!

The North Shore branch's online GM meetings that followed were mostly centred on helping each other through this difficult period of transition and insecurity. Without the prospect of live events anytime soon, we focused on improving our familiarity with different technologies, the effectiveness of online teaching, and the safety of in-studio teaching. The silver lining is that we will be able to use these newly acquired tools in our future work after the pandemic is over.

Every year we celebrate the best exam results of our students in a dedicated event in November. We still wanted to honour our students and teachers this year again despite the restrictions in place. The day of the event was Sunday, November 29, 2020.

After many deliberations, we decided on a live event using the Zoom platform. Our goal was to have the personalized

experience of a live event but without the unpredictability of online streaming. For that purpose, all participating students sent a high-quality video of their performance to the organizer accompanied by a short bio. The trophies and medals were collected in advance by a family member to be formally given to the student during the event. A few technical rehearsals took place involving the organizers. This was another interesting learning experience.

This year we had 25 student performers and award recipients. Almost all achieved marks above 90 on their exams, including one student who won RCM Gold medal, and another the RCM Scholarship.

Each student was introduced by sharing some of his/her non-musical interests and hobbies. It was interesting to hear that many students have high accomplishments in many areas in addition to music. After the performance video was played, a parent or a relative presented the student the award.

The event was very well received, and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. The skilful way the MC, Kelly Nobles, communicated with the audience created an atmosphere of warmth and festivity. Thank you to all the teachers who participated in the organization of the event and in preparing their students!

Unfortunately, because of the high level of time commitment of organizing an online event, we had to scale back most of our usual projects, like Sunday recitals and Canada Music Week. We are hopeful that with the new knowledge and experiences acquired over the last year, we will be able to revisit these events in 2021.

Keeping our spirits high, our small, but dedicated **walking group** is still exploring the beautiful North Shore in rain and shine while following the social distancing guidelines.





North Shore - cont.

We remain confident that together in distance, we will come through stronger and wiser than ever before.

Respectfully,

Stanislava Deltcheva - Co-President

Photos from LGS Collaboration Events. Photographer Yan Timoshenko.
Concert with LGS String Quartet:



Rehearsal for Concert with Lions Gate Sinfonia:

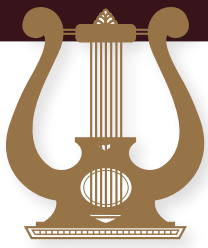




North Shore - cont.

Concert with Lions Gate Sinfonia:





Prince George

Founded in 1978

Members in 2020 - 9

Student Teacher Auxiliary - 0

Prince George Branch was fortunate to hold a student recital on January 31st, 2020. Also, the local music festival ran from February 21st up the Junior Showcase and Gala Concerts on March 7th, 2020. Many of our members had students entered.

Our June 1st and September 14th meetings were held by Zoom, discussing what options might be available for the Fall season. A Zoom meeting on October 26th had a very good presentation by Swan Kiezebrink and Maria Mikic on Marketing and Online Resources.

We had planned an in person recital for November 20th with a limit of 50 people and 2 meter distancing for each household. Students were to indicate exactly who in their household was attending when they registered to play so chairs could be arranged in advance. Masks and hand sanitizer use were also indicated. Unfortunately, new restrictions came in on November 19th so we had to cancel.

Hopefully, in 2021 there can be some online and also some in person events.

Submitted,

Louise Phillips





Richmond

Founded in 1971

Members in 2020 - 89

www.bcrmta.com

Student Teacher Auxiliary - 0

Greetings from the Richmond Branch

Even in these unusual world circumstances, the members of the Richmond Branch are proud of their commitment to musical excellence and education. From the very start, we have embraced the guidelines for health and safety. Most importantly, we were able to run the programs we could safely, following public health protocols every step of the way. We continued to find ways to showcase the absolute best that BCRMTA has to offer. This year brought us all new challenges and opportunities. Indeed, some of the changes we made have led to new methods and efficiencies, allowing us to create a better experience for our members and their students.

Our extensive recital performance program is unique in B.C. Unfortunately, we have been unable to mount any live recital

performances since March. These events are as important now as they were at the start of the pandemic. Therefore, this year we will begin to offer online virtual recitals so our young performers can once again be in the spotlight.

It is important for us to present opportunities for professional development. We were able to challenge ourselves with interesting educational presentations. We invited a varied group of presenters to the General Meetings via the online platform Zoom. Subjects as diverse as RCM exam prep, new music publications, and a two-part conversation with Jared Dunn from Montreal highlighted our year. Long & McQuade was able to create a trendy but virtual "Pop Up" store event showcasing their hand-picked selections of new and seasonal music.





Richmond - cont.



February Recital

Our annual scholarships and sessional highest mark medal awards were continued. This year we awarded over \$1700 to our students. We are excited to celebrate the successes and support the musical journeys of our talented and hard-working students and their teachers.

We continue to be mindful of keeping a healthy work/life balance as we teach. Teaching music in this time of COVID-19

is an ever-increasingly isolated experience, but the safest place for our students and their families is still at home. We have worked hard to increase our correspondence with our members to share the latest information and techniques on teaching and managing a studio virtually. Our General Meetings via Zoom have given us the opportunity to meet, chat, and share ideas and experiences. We look forward to being able to offer opportunities to be social and active together again.





Richmond - cont.





Shuswap

Founded in 1991

Members in 2020 - 9

Folded in 2020

Student Teacher Auxiliary - 1

History of the Shuswap Branch of the BCRMTA - by Jean Ethridge

October 31, 1991 was the inaugural meeting of the Salmon Arm Branch of the BCRMTA. (Later changed to the Shuswap Branch). The meeting was held at Nancy Leatherdale's home. Jean Ethridge, *President of the Provincial Council of the BCRMTA*, and Beryl Wiebe, *Secretary-Treasurer of the Provincial Council of the BCRMTA*, officially formed the new Branch at that meeting. Members at the meeting were Nancy Leatherdale, Jen Schellenberg (nee Dyck), Esther Dyck and Marjorie (Marge) Duncan.

Subsequent members:

- Jean Ethridge transferred from Vernon Branch, January 24, 1993.
- Laurie Shea joined March 18, 1994.
- Marilyn (Lynn) Wellwood (later Taron) joined March 18, 1994.
- Sarah Duncan (later Knutson) joined May 18, 1994.
- Carmen Moore joined June 20, 1994.
- Karen Edgell 1994.
- Twila Larson joined March 1, 1996.
- Carol Schlosar joined February 1, 1997.
- Tom Day, transferred from Saskatchewan, July 17, 2001.
- Jane Hein transferred from Williams Lake (Cariboo Branch), August 28, 2001.
- Ruth Anne MacKnee joined February 28, 2005.
- Carmen Stoney joined October 6, 2006.
- Grace Dunford.
- Wendy Collins.
- Anita Liebich (later Couch).
- Brenda Heywood.
- Judy Lilace (formerly Teto), 2013.
- David Izik-Dzurko joined March 28, 2016.
- Amy Wangler joined December 1, 2017.
- Student Teacher: Hannah Weston, April 11, 2017.

In **1995** the BCRMTA invited branches to apply for a one-time \$150.00 scholarship given in the name of Marjorie Tebo, The Shuswap Branch held a competition with Artur Lavertu as adjudicator, and two awards were given of \$75.00 each to Andrew Wedman, Senior category, and Natalie Muik, Junior category.

September 9, 1996, The Salmon Arm Branch had nominations for officers. They were:

- Laurie Shea, - President
- Nancy Leatherdale - Vice-President Lyn
- Wellwood - Secretary-Treasurer

1996 - 1997 our members were Marjorie (Marge) Duncan, Sarah Duncan, Karen Edgell, Jean Ethridge, Nancy Leatherdale, Carmen Moore, Jen Schellenberg (nee Dyck), Laurie Shea, and Lyn Wellwood.

2000 - We changed our name to BCRMTA Shuswap Branch. At the September Provincial Council Meeting, Carol Schlosar requested the change and it was accepted.

November 17, 2001 - We sponsored an Accompanying Workshop given by Arnold Draper, held at the Art Gallery in Salmon Arm.

January 7, 2002 - our new slate of officers were:

- President - Carmen Moore Vice President - Carol Schlosar
- Secretary/Treasurer. - Jane Hein Provincial Delegate - Carol Schlosar
- Alternate Delegate to the Provincial Council - Carmen Moore

The Shuswap Branch maintained annual membership in the Shuswap and District Arts Council. One year we had an unusual request. From the November, 2007, minutes. "The Shuswap and District Arts Council wants every member group to take one of the old windows from the Art Gallery and make an art work with it that will be available for silent auction March 2008 as a fund raiser. Marty Moore has volunteered to do it. He wants old piano parts. Jean will ask Kenneth Finlayson for spare piano parts." Marty Moore is Carmen Moore's husband.



Shuswap - cont.

Founded in 1991

Folded in 2020

Shuswap Music Festival

May 29, 2000, Wendy Collins made a motion that we, the Shuswap Branch, sponsor a Shuswap Music Festival in March 2001. The motion passed. Ernst Schneider was our first adjudicator. Wendy spent many hours and did much of the organizing to make sure the Festival ran smoothly. It was a great success. For the following year, the Shuswap Branch, along with the Rotary Clubs of Salmon Arm formed the Shuswap Music Festival Board, with three of our Branch members sitting on the Board. They were Wendy Collins, Artistic Director, Carol Schlosar, Programme, and Jean Ethridge, Archivist. Board members spent many volunteer hours which became a Herculean task as the Festival grew. Special thanks to Marge Duncan and Jane Hein for their years of dedicated involvement.

Several notable musicians have emerged from Salmon Arm. Stephanie Nakagawa has become a professional singer. The Rotary Clubs of Salmon Arm sponsored Stephanie and her accompanist, Jodi Chang, in a recital **March 11, 2012** at the SAGA Public Art Gallery in Salmon Arm, BC, as a fund-raiser for the Shuswap Music Festival.

September 27, 2014, Jaeden Izik-Dzurko represented the Shuswap Branch in the BC Piano Competition and he is well on his way to becoming a concert pianist, as he will complete his music degree at Julliard in New York in due course. Recently he played a concert which was video-taped by the Vancouver Recital Society and is available on Jaeden's website, jaedenizikdzurko.com.

The Shuswap Branch held workshops and masterclasses, sponsored concerts and Canada Music Week® Recitals. At the latter the Branch recognized students who, in the previous year, had completed Grade 8 and up, either RCM or Conservatory Canada, with a book prize or gift certificate. Our June meeting was traditionally followed by a luncheon.

Occasionally we had something special to celebrate, such as Nancy Leatherdale's 100th birthday! On **October 5, 2015**, we treated her to lunch at Aquatico Bay and gave her yellow roses. She recently celebrated her 105th birthday on **September 27, 2020**.

Colin Miles from the Canadian Music Centre gave a workshop at the SADAC Public Art Gallery from 1-3 P.M. on October 20, 2002. Jean Ethridge organized it and participated by discussing her piano duets, Haiku I and Haiku II, which were performed by Jean and Jane Hein.

September 2009, Carol Schlosar became President of the Provincial Council. Ruth Anne MacKnee was our delegate.

Joseph Dansereau was the Shuswap Branch representative to the Provincial Piano Competition at BC Vibes in Abbotsford, BC, **September 28-29, 2012**

Jean Ethridge, Salmon Arm's very own composer, received her 50-year pin as a BCRMTA/CFMTA member in 2020.

The Shuswap Branch contributed greatly to the success of a concert at the Art Gallery to celebrate Jean's 60th birthday, **January 31, 2003**. Jean gave workshops in composition, and was featured composer at the Canada Music Week® Recital in 2005. Jean was honoured with a "Jean Ethridge Celebration Concert" in Vancouver **October 27, 2017**, given by the BC Region of the Canadian Music Centre. It is a small world, as Stephanie Nakagawa, sang Jean's soprano songs, and soprano arias from her opera, The Ballad of Isabel Gunn, at the concert. The Kamloops Symphony commissioned Jean to orchestrate four of her Elements which were premiered **September 27 and 28, 2019**, in Salmon Arm and in Kamloops.

Final Meeting

The Shuswap Branch members in 2019-2020 were Wendy Collins, Jean Ethridge, Jane Hein, David Izik-Dzurko, Sarah Knutson, Carmen Moore, Carol Schlosar, Carmen Stoney, and Amy Wangler.

At the final meeting (by Zoom) **June 22, 2020**, Jean Ethridge moved that we initiate the dissolving of the Branch. It was passed unanimously.

Having only a small number of active members, we felt that being part of a larger branch would be a positive move forward. We have joined the Vernon Branch. The Shuswap Branch thrived for 29 years and we have many good memories!





Shuswap - cont.

Founded in 1991

Folded in 2020



The "Art" window decorated by Marty Moore.



Jean Ethridge and Dina Gilbert, Music Director of the Kamloops Symphony, after the premiere of *Elements for Orchestra*, Salmon Arm BC September 27, 2019.



Stephanie Nakagawa and Jodi Chan, March 11, 2012.



Marjorie Duncan, Ruth Anne MacKnee, Laurie Shea, Joseph Dansereau, Jean Ethridge, Carmen Stoney, and Wendy Collins. Joseph was the Shuswap Branch representative for the Provincial Piano Competition at BC Vibes in Abbotsford, BC, September 28-29, 2012



Shuswap - cont.

Founded in 1991

Folded in 2020



Ernst Schneider and Wendy Collins at the First Shuswap Music Festival, 2001.



Jane Hein, Jean Ethridge, Carmen Stoney and Nancy Leatherdale, October 5, 2015.



Marjorie Duncan and Stephanie Nakagawa, March 11, 2012.



The Shuswap Branch treated Nancy Leatherdale to lunch, October 5, 2015, and gave her yellow roses for her 100th birthday, which was September 27, 2015.




Shuswap - cont.

BC Registered Music Teachers' Ass'n, Shuswap Branch
and the Cambodia Support Group
(CSG - est. 1983)
present

A Tribute to CHOPIN


and music of Romantic spirit



ARNE SAHLÉN
piano

and

**CHANTHAVOUTH
(VOUTH) HY**
tenor



Wednesday
October 15, 7:30 pm at
THE SHUSWAP ART GALLERY
70 Hudson Avenue NE, Salmon Arm BC

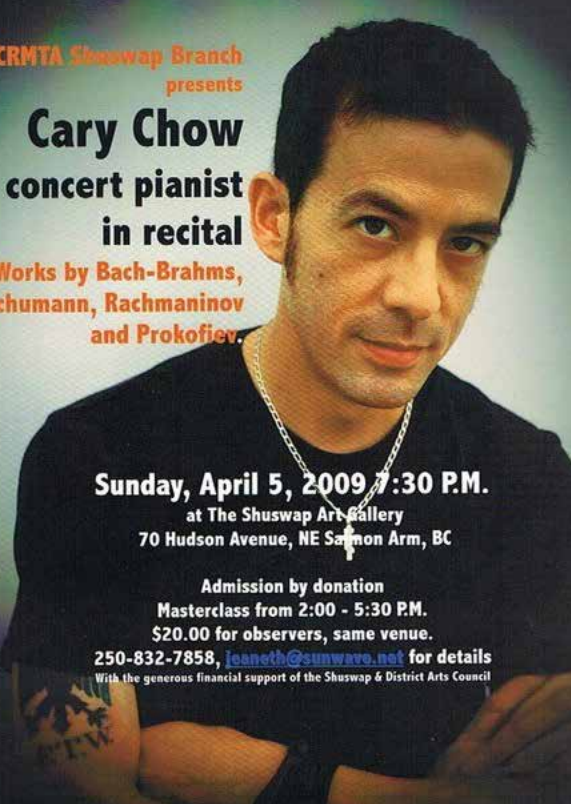
Admission by donation to CSG
250-832-7858, jeaneth@sunwave.net for details

BCRMTA Shuswap Branch
presents

Cary Chow

concert pianist
in recital

Works by Bach-Brahms,
Schumann, Rachmaninov
and Prokofiev.



Sunday, April 5, 2009 7:30 P.M.
at The Shuswap Art Gallery
70 Hudson Avenue, NE Salmon Arm, BC

Admission by donation
Masterclass from 2:00 - 5:30 P.M.
\$20.00 for observers, same venue.
250-832-7858, jeaneth@sunwave.net for details
With the generous financial support of the Shuswap & District Arts Council

SHUSWAP MUSIC FESTIVAL SOCIETY PROUDLY PRESENTS

14TH ANNUAL SHUSWAP

MUSIC Festival

Encouraging Young Musicians

Night of Stars

Friday May 2, 2014
7:00 pm



FIRST UNITED CHURCH
450 Okanagan Ave, Salmon Arm B.C.




Stephanie

Soprano, Stephanie Nakagawa, from Salmon Arm, BC, is an alumnus of the UBC Opera program and winner of the prestigious UBC Medal. Her voice has been described "as clear as-a-bell and soaring" and her characterizations as "near-perfect [...]" and her acting adroit."

In concert, Stephanie has sung as a soloist in Ginastera's Cantata para América Mágica at the Aspen Music Festival, in Vancouver Opera's Pacific Rim Concerts, in Paul Chihara's Amatsu Kaze with the Indiana University New Music Ensemble, and in Mozart's Requiem with the Indiana University Chamber Orchestra. Last summer, Stephanie was engaged as a Gerdine Young Artist with the Opera Theatre of Saint Louis. Her stage credits include Miss Wordsworth in Albert Herring, Amy in Little Women, Gretel in Hansel & Gretel, Musetta in La Bohème, Adele in Die Fledermaus, Zerlina in Don Giovanni, 2nd Gossip in The Ghosts of Versailles, and Yvette in La Rondine. She has sung with many ensembles including the Indiana University Opera Theater, Bard on the Beach, UBC Opera, Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, Westcoast Symphony Orchestra, Oberlin in Italy, Prince George Symphony, Aspen Music Festival, and the North Bohemian Philharmonic in the Czech Republic.

She has won numerous awards including the Western Canada District Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and the British Columbia Provincial Festival of the Performing Arts. She holds ARCT Performance Diplomas in both piano and voice and is the winner of the Gold Medal for Voice from the Royal Conservatory of Music. Stephanie has also been awarded the UBC Wesbrook Scholar, Johann Strauss Foundation Scholarship, British Columbia Arts Council Award, June Goldsmith Scholarship, Vancouver Women's Music Recital Society Bursary, Jeunes Ambassadeurs Lyriques Laureate, and the BMO National Scholarship. Having completed her Master's Degree at Indiana University, Stephanie is now pursuing her doctorate.

BC PIANO COMPETITION

SHUSWAP - JAEDEN IZIK DZUKO



Fifteen-year-old Jaeden Izik-Dzurko is a resident of Salmon Arm, where he is currently beginning grade ten. He began his piano studies at age five.

In the past year, Jaeden has performed with the Kamloops Symphony and toured with members of the Okanagan Symphony. For the last five consecutive years, Jaeden has been recommended to the Performing Arts BC Provincials. There, he is a four time winner, having won the Canadian Composer class on three occasions and the Junior piano category in 2013. In 2014, he was awarded the Tom Cuff award for the most outstanding performance of a Canadian piano composition at the Provincial festival. In June of 2014, Jaeden competed as a finalist in the Canada Music Competition in Quebec City. For the past two summers, Jaeden has taken part in the Morningside Music Bridge at Mount Royal University in Calgary, an international program for gifted young musicians from Canada, the United States, China, and Poland.

Semi-final Round

Chopin - Barcarolle in F Major Op. 60
McIntyre (Canadian) - A Wild Innocence

Final Round

Beethoven - Sonata No. 17 in d minor Op. 31 No. 2
(2nd and 3rd mvts)
Bach - Prelude and Fugue No. 4 in c⁺ minor BWV 849
McIntyre (Canadian) - A Wild Innocence



South Fraser

Founded in 1963

Members in 2020 - 86

www.southfrasermusic.com

Student Teacher Auxiliary - 5

On September 2, 2020, Maureen Hollins hosted a socially distanced outdoor garden meeting where the discussion included the effect of RCM marketing strategies on private music studios, our hopes and dreams for our South Fraser Festival for 2021, and teaching strategies in the midst of Covid!

Throughout the Fall and Winter, branch executive meetings and general meetings continued to be held online via the Zoom platform.

The BCRMTA Provincial Piano Competition was held virtually and much support and appreciation was extended to our representative, Braden Eguia, who performed a beautiful program.

Much thanks is given to Alison d'Entremont as the organizer of our Canada Music Week® recitals, which went forward on Zoom! She hosted two recitals of works by Canadian composers and the students were so happy to be performing since our featured guest was Canadian composer, Christine Donkin, of Victoria, B.C.





South Fraser - cont.

Our membership participated in many online Zoom presentations:

1. Muzewest hosted an online workshop for our membership with Dr. Laszlo Nemes entitled "Teaching Baroque Keyboard Works the Kodály Way."
2. Kevin Thompson, our branch member, very generously donated all of his collective teaching resources to the branch. We are so appreciative for this wealth of material! Kevin also hosted an online workshop for our membership so that we could familiarize ourselves with how the files were organized and how best to utilize them in our teaching. Thank you, Kevin!
3. Conservatory Canada presented an online workshop to our membership so that those of us that were not familiar with their syllabus would have the option to explore it!
4. Thanks to Michelle Bumpus, we had an excellent workshop given by a chartered accountant that focused on how to structure our finances within the specific area of how that pertains to private music studio teachers.

Sadly, the 2021 South Fraser Music Festival has been cancelled due the restrictions imposed by Covid-19 public health orders. This decision was made because the majority of our membership preferred the in-person festival format. Instead, we are planning to hold small group master classes for the senior students and Zoom recitals for students in levels 1 to 8.

Our branch remains connected through Zoom and other social media. Members share tips for in-person studio procedures and the challenges of online teaching. We continue to try and support one another as best we can as we do our utmost to provide encouragement and inspiration to our students.

Helga Murray - President





South Okanagan

Founded in

Members in 2020 - 11

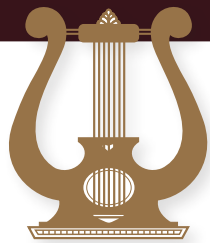
Student Teacher Auxiliary - 0

Our Spring Recital in late May of 2020 was cancelled entirely. We made up for it at our CMW November 'virtual' Recital. Teachers sent in their student videos to our most able colleague, Jacki Kliever who compiled them beautifully and timely with Ernst Schneiders' Okanagan photo of mouth watering grapes to create a compelling montage for all to enjoy. Part of this virtual recital was live with the presidents welcoming and scholarship award words in between. We were not going to let the virus win as we managed our first production and gave over \$1000 in scholarship funds! Our meetings are now through Zoom. On February 5th we look forward to a virtual professional workshop with Andrea Unrau on Music and Brain Development, with an outreach to other branches and non members. We appreciate our BCRMTA Heritage Fund Grant in continuing to provide support to our members as well as CFMTA Branching out initiative.

Respectfully submitted

Carmen Leier





Sunshine Coast

Founded in

Members in 2020 - 12

Student Teacher Auxiliary - 0

A report highlighting the activities of our branch for the 2020 Season is indeed unusual. This is because of all the challenges that have resulted from Covid. Challenges that have touched all of us.

However, our small group of twelve managed to continue with regular monthly Zoom Meetings with more than half of the membership participating on a regular basis. We shared teaching tip ideas, learned to relate to one another through our devices and made plans to keep an active presence in our community. We have been successful and many exciting plans will come to fruition as 2021 continues with Covid still a huge part of how we create our teaching programs. It has been both heartwarming and difficult for many of us. We remain optimistic, creative and committed to learning. We did participate in the Canada Music Week® Event and found it to be, by all accounts, a fine experience for our students and participating teachers. 2020 was also the second year of our present executive and soon we begin a new two year term with members willing to assume roles to continue with our virtual meetings and make plans for the time when in-person activities such as fund raising, concerts and workshops can once again happen. We wish everyone well on behalf of our branch on the Sunshine Coast of BC.

Patricia Greenfield - President





Trail / Castlegar

Founded in 1947

Members in 2020 - 5

Student Teacher Auxiliary - 0

Greetings from the Trail/ Castlegar Branch!

Well, what a year this has been! 2020 has been a year that has been challengingly difficult but on a positive note, it has forced us to push our comfort boundaries and think outside the box.

The year started as normal for us and in February, we hosted, in person, our "Youngest Artist" Branch Recital, a recital that showcases our youngest budding musicians. This was to be the only recital, as a branch, that we put on for the year. Other teachers in our group, Nicole Zimmer and Tammy Francis, successfully hosted their own recitals through Zoom later in the year. And voice teacher, Christina Allen, directed her choir in a few inspiring virtual performances.

After the March Break, we all took up the challenge of teaching online. Tammy Francis, who had had some experience of online teaching beforehand, thankfully, sent us a package of helpful advice as to how to get started. Once restrictions were lifted in May, Deborah Detmold and myself went back to in person lessons with strict protocols and mask wearing. We are fortunate to live in an area of B.C. where covid cases have been consistently very low in numbers. Nicole Zimmer, Tammy Francis and Christina Allen continued successfully with their online lessons.

During Canada Music Week®, in lieu of hosting a CMW Recital and as an example of thinking outside the box, Tammy Francis did a great interview online with Canadian composer, Andrew Harbridge. The scholarships that we usually present at our recital, are displayed on our branch Facebook page with pictures of the students that received them.

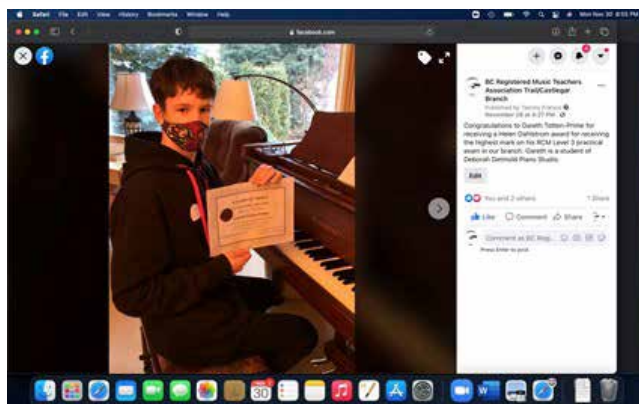
Throughout the year, we continued to hold our branch meetings but through Zoom. Since in many ways this is easier than in person meetings, this is a practice we may continue to adopt. We had our year end "Get Together" in June at Millennium Park where we each sat distanced from each other and brought our own bagged dinner.

Moving forward into 2021 and hopefully, to the end of this pandemic, we wish our fellow music teachers all the best! Even through trying times, we are so fortunate to be part of this honourable profession.

Sincerely,

Dawna Kavanagh







Vancouver / Burnaby

Founded in 1920

bcrmta.org

Members in 2020 - 185

Student Teacher Auxiliary - 4



With little idea of what was to come, 2020 began in the regular fashion with the January Annual General Meeting. This was followed in February by a workshop entitled “Detecting and Preventing Issues Affect Musical Performances” with Registered Massage Therapist and pianist Rachel Shiu; for two hours we moved and stretched to learn how to ease tension in order to play in a more relaxed manner. Our usual “Introductory Alexander Technique Lessons” with Martha Hunter were held in February; these are four subsidized sessions and have been very popular with members wanting to know more about the technique. March started with the “Celebration of Excellence Recital” at the Shadbolt Centre where high achievements in the 2019 exam season were recognized with certificates, medallions, and scholarships. A few days later, the Branch hosted a 4 hour workshop on Dalcroze Eurhythmics with Jared Ballance of Washington State; the afternoon gave us a fascinating glimpse into this innovative method of developing musicianship in students through rhythmic movement, ear-training and improvisation. We were lucky with the timing of the event as Covid restrictions came into effect shortly after and the remainder of our Spring events had to be cancelled including the SPG Festival, the Student Recitals, and a workshop on tempo indications with Dr. Irene Setiawan.

In April, online teaching became the only option to continue running our studios. After the initial shock of going into lock down, the Executive began meeting on Zoom where we formulated how to best help our members adapt. We forwarded information via email as much as possible and then hosted “Virtual Coffee Breaks” in May and June. These turned out to be a great way for teachers to submit questions, exchange ideas on virtual teaching, and just visit with colleagues. In May, auditions for our BC Piano Competition performer were held via video with Allen Reiser adjudicating; Ivy Lin went on to represent the Branch at the Provincial level.

Over the summer, we were surprised to discover that 2020 marked the 100th Anniversary of the Branch! Since then, we have updated the website to reflect this substantial milestone. Additions include: AGM minutes and Financial Statements as far back as possible (1982) on the “Members Only” page; four articles on prominent Branch members on the “Memory Project” page; and a page entitled “Our History” where all

relevant archival material is listed. More will be added to this last page once we have a chance to visit the Provincial Archives in Victoria. A large celebration is being planned for December 2021 at which time we hope to see as many current and past members as possible.

In September, we were extremely fortunate to meet the incomparable Jon Kimura Parker in a zoom interview/ Q&A; his equalling entertaining sister Elizabeth Parker as well as their mother and BCRMTA member, Keiko, were also in attendance. In honour of our 100th anniversary, all Provincial members were invited to join us - it was a wonderful way to launch the teaching year. For October, we met again in a Virtual Coffee Hour. November was another busy month, starting with the Celebration of Excellence Recital; the performances were live on Zoom and the awards as well as certificates were distributed via the teachers afterwards. Next, there was a collaborative workshop with Müzewest presented by Dr. Laszlo Memes of Hungary; his dynamic lecture on teaching rhythm in Baroque pieces was very helpful and we were happy to take advantage of the opportunity. For CMW, the Festival was cancelled and replaced by an afternoon with three Canadian composers: Christine Donkin, Alexina Louie and David L. McIntyre. They each participated in a 60-minute zoom interview where they gave a fascinating glimpse into their process of composition and their thoughts on music. Once again, we invited all BCRMTA members and their students to tune in, the audience was very enthusiastic. In December, we held one last virtual meeting, this time as an evening cocktail hour!

In late 2020, there was much discussion about exam systems. To give our members a broader perspective, a series of six 1 hour presentations was scheduled for early 2021. January was focused on Canadian systems (Conservatory Canada, BC Conservatory of Music, Canadian National Music Conservatory) and February continued with international systems (Associated Board, Trinity College Of Music and London College of Music). It was encouraging to realize how many varied and valuable options exist for our students.



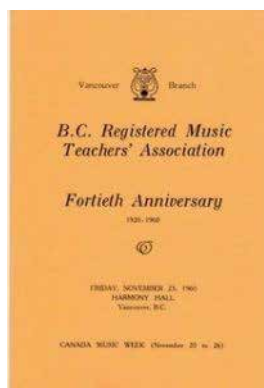


Vancouver / Burnaby - cont.

At the direction of the membership at the 2020 AGM, three surveys were sent to members to gather information. The first dealt with the possibility of a "Teachers' Performance Group"; the response was very positive and the group will likely start meeting in the Fall of 2021. The next survey was on "Policies for Missed Lessons". Members were interested in developing a suggested Branch policy to support them in their studios and give parents a frame of reference; the results are posted on the "Find a Teacher" page. Finally, there was a survey on the rates members charge for private instrumental/vocal instruction. Using the information from the survey, the Branch Executive decided to create a tiered system of suggested fees that balances years of experience with educational background; this document is posted on the "Members Only" page.

Despite the challenges experienced over the year, the Branch was able to maintain most of our activities, albeit in a modified form. We intend to continue taking advantage of the newly discovered digital/virtual opportunities but in general, we very much look forward to returning to some kind of normal.

Barbara Siemens



1936 CFMTA Convention hosted in Vancouver

Historical Highlights

- 1936 Host of the First CFMTA Convention
- 1960 40th Anniversary Celebration
- 1985 Host of the CFMTA Convention
- 1992 *A Musical Soiree: Performances by Branch Members*
- 1995 Gala Dinner with guest Peter McCoppin
- 1996 75th Anniversary Commission *Bonne Fete!* by Ramona Luengen
- 1996 *Mozart and Musicianship Event*
- 1997-98 International Workshop Series
- 2016 Host of the BCRMTA Convention *Music: Where We Belong*
- 2017 *Canada 150: A Multicultural Music Celebration*

Celebrating a Century

After 100 years, the Vancouver/Burnaby Branch is still going strong and we definitely plan to celebrate.

In 1960, the Branch counted from 1920, the year of inception, to hold a 40th Anniversary; in 1996, it used 1921, the year of incorporation, to mark the 75th Anniversary.

Given the current circumstances, the Branch will be taking advantage of both precedents. In the Fall of 2020, there will be a series of online offerings and in 2021 we hope to have an in-person event to mark the occasion. Details will be available in September.

In the meantime, visit bcrmta.org for more historical information including: a full list of the Boards of Directors, programs of past events and documents as well as the score for *Bonne Fete!*



Vernon

Founded in

Members in 2020 - 22

Student Teacher Auxiliary - 0



The Registered Music Teachers' Association of Vernon is pleased to share the many achievements and events we had in 2020, despite the Covid-19 pandemic. As always, we held our annual Vernon RMT spring voice and piano festivals. Our piano festival was held during February 28th - March 1st and the Voice Festival on March 5th at All Saints Anglican Church in Vernon, with a Gala Concert on March 7th 2020. We were thrilled to have Catherine Bundt as this year's adjudicator for piano and Norene Morrow as the adjudicator for voice, who both offered outstanding feedback to our students. There were 39 voice entries and 164 piano entries in this year's festival.

Our Vernon association also welcomed 10 new members from the Salmon Arm and area this spring, boosting our total membership to 33 members strong! We hosted our first online meeting on May 22nd of this year and since then we have continued to meet online as group. We also held two workshops this past year. On February 16th we welcomed Alex MacArthur to the Vernon Community Music School where he conducted master classes with several students in Level 10 and ARCT piano. As well, on February 22nd, one of our members Lucy Feldman gave a teacher's workshop on 'the seven levels of knowledge relating to how we learn'.

Under special teacher recognitions, I would like to congratulate Karen Goebel who was awarded the 2018/2019 Gordon Hallett Memorial Scholarship in 2020 for the highest aggregate mark in the Royal Conservatory of Music in both the written and Practical ARCT Piano Teacher's examinations! This is a tremendous achievement! (and one that her teacher, Vernon RMT Geoffrey Barker, must be very proud of!)

Here are the Festival Gala Concert for the piano and voice festival award winners:

Respectfully submitted by Vernon's RMTA, President

Emerald Holt - President



Pictured above are the winners of voice awards



Pictured above are the winners of piano awards



Pictured above are the additional winners of piano awards



Victoria

Founded in 1930

Members in 2020 - 109

www.bcrmtavictoria.webs.com

Student Teacher Auxiliary - 4

This, the 90th year of the formation of the Victoria Branch, has been a year of learning in more ways than one. Due to the Covid pandemic members and their Executive have had to learn new ways of teaching and connecting with our students and each other. Instead of the usual five general meetings the Branch held four. The May meeting was cancelled. Guest speakers were Bruce Vogt (in March), Mark Anderson (in September) and Christine Donkin (in November). At the January Annual General meeting we invited John Evans, one of our award winners, to give us a piano performance. Five executive meetings were held. The last three of the year by zoom conference. At the September executive meeting we enjoyed a virtual performance by our M. Till/Mary Adamson and representative to the Provincial Piano Competition Johnathan Devey. We were very pleased to see him win a few weeks later at the Provincial Piano Competition. Five concerts were held (again, less than normal) in February, March, October, Costume Capers, and November Canada Music Week®. The October and November concerts were held virtually. Two piano Masterclasses were held. One with Anna Cal and the other with Dr. Yoomi Kim. We continue our Award and Scholarship programs:

1. The Helen Gibson Award to deserving students working towards their piano ARCT was a tie this year and awarded to: Johnathan Devey and Rafael Edora.
2. The Madeleine Till open performance competition (any discipline) was awarded to Johnathan Devey.
3. The Madeleine Till student teacher award to a deserving member of the Branch Student Teacher Auxiliary.
4. The Mary Adamson piano competition was awarded to Johnathan Devey (student of May Ling Kwok) who became our entry in the Provincial Piano Competition held September 2020.
5. RCM level 8 theory award to students of members who achieve 100%
6. Hilda King Harmony / History awards for top mark in RCM exams levels 9 & 10 to students
7. RCM Alumni Awards for top mark (any discipline) for students of members for levels 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10

8. Donation to the Victoria Performing Arts Festival of \$1100. for various awards.
9. Summer Bursary (in memory of Mackenzie Barry) program to deserving students of members to aid with summer study projects.

Thanks to donations and interest from legacies bequeathed to the Branch we are able to give out a little over \$3000 annually.

Our major event this year was the Canada Music Week® Celebration held November 20. Our guest speaker and adjudicator for the annual Murray Adaskin Composition Competition was member/composer Christine Donkin. To make this 90th Anniversary special, the Branch commissioned Christine to compose a work. She composed a vocal solo with piano accompaniment titled *GRATITUDE*. This work was performed by students of member Charlotte Hale at both our virtual general meeting and at our concert.

After a brief business meeting, Branch President Evelyne-Deschenes Godbold congratulated Monica Tse, Gabrielle Tong and Catharine Kemp-Roth for receiving their 25 year pins and 50 year pin recipient Louise Holland.

Christine Donkin gave an illuminating talk of her approach to becoming a composer and a composition teacher. Included in this talk were portions of three of her orchestral works for our listening enjoyment.

The Canada Music Week® concert November 21 featured the compositions of the students who entered the branch Murray Adaskin Composition Competition plus other students who wished to play their compositions. The adjudicator, Christine Donkin, selected winners in the Junior, Senior and Open categories. The winners received gift cards donated by Tom Lee Music. This was followed by virtual performances of two of Christine's Compositions The VCM Composition Club (*A Journey Through Canada*), and the Amati Composition Club (*Cupcake Serenade* for 3 violins). The finale was the commissioned work *Gratitude*.



Victoria - cont.

To address member's concerns about the many changes the Royal Conservatory of Music has made in interaction with exam students, the Victoria Branch conducted a survey of its membership under the direction of Vice President Susan Kadatz. The results were sent on to the Provincial Executive of the BCRMTA. After discussion at the April 2020 Provincial Council meeting the survey and accompanying information sent by the Victoria branch was emailed out to all the Provincial branches and to the CFMTA/FCAPM council. Communications are being held with the RCM as to the member's concerns. Other branch programs continue such as the monthly pedagogy get togethers (currently held virtually), weekly emails to the members updating them on events as well as quarterly printed newsletters that are emailed. Events are promoted on our Branch Facebook page. Our Associate group continues currently having 23 retired members. This group receives all our Branch event notices and are welcome to attend Branch events. Our Student Teacher Auxiliary continues with 5 members.

Wendy Maggiora – Branch Archivist





Provincial Members

These members live in areas not covered by a Branch

Ashcroft 1

Burns Lake 1

Fort St. John 1

Golden 1

Grand Forks 2

Kamloops 8

Nakusp 1

Prince Rupert 1

Quesnel 2

Revelstoke 1

Smithers 2

Williams Lake 3

Wynndel 1

100 Mile House 1



Life Members

The following members were honoured with Life Memberships (year in brackets) from the BCRMTA for their outstanding service to our organization.

Reginald Cox	(1960)
Mary Adamson	(1962) (also Honorary Registrar 1988)
Helen Dahlstrom	(1975) (also Honorary President of CFMTA/FCAPM)
Murray Adaskin	(1981)
Meryl Shether	(1994)
Robin Wood	(1995)
Winifred Scott Wood	(1995)
Ernst Schneider	(1998) Current (also current Honorary President of CFMTA/FCAPM)
Carol Shinkewski	(2001) Current
Lynne Carmichael	(2007) Current
Susan Olsen	(2015) Current





Our Executive



Past President
Cynthia (Cindy) Taylor



President
Joanne Lougheed



1st Vice President
Mimi Ho



2nd Vice President
Barbara Siemens



Registrar
Joyce Janzen



Secretary
Anita Perry



Treasurer
Matthew Chan





Our Committee Chairs



Archives
Susan Olsen



BC Piano Competition
Maureen Hollins



Canada Music Week®
Young Artist Tour
Sonia Hauser



Social Media
Victoria Warfield



Professional Development
Elizabeth (Liz) Munro

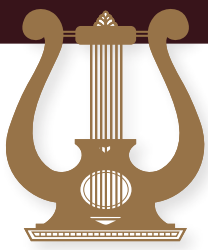


Progressions Editor
Webmaster
Dina Pollock



Bylaw, Policies and Procedures
Deborah Detmold





Semi-Annual General Meeting September 20, 2020



1st row Left to Right: Evelyne Deschenes-Godbold - *Victoria*, Dina Pollock - *Abbotsford*, Teng Mackay - *Chilliwack*,
Kathy Bartel - *Vernon*, Cindy Taylor - *Past President*, Louise Phillips - *Prince George*

2nd row Left to Right: Laura Webster - *Mission*, Dolores Antonsen - *Mid Island*, Jennifer Condie - *South Fraser*,
Patricia Williamson - *Victoria*, Karen Wang - *Vancouver/Burnaby*, Carl Montgomery - *Sunshine Coast*

3rd row Left to Right: Gloria Cristobal - *Richmond*, Barbara Irschick - *North Shore*, Sonia Hauser - *North Island*,
Wendy Maggiora - *Victoria*, Joanne Loughheed - *President*, Victoria Warfield - *Social Media*

4th row Left to Right: Deborah Detmold - *Trail/Castlegar*, Maureen Hollins - *South Fraser*, Carmen Leier - *South Okanagan*,
Hailey Wong - *Vancouver/Burnaby*, Greg Hartley - *Coquitlam/Maple Ridge*, Anita Perry - *Secretary*

5th row Left to Right: Queenie Yang - *Richmond*, Stanislava Deltcheva - *North Shore*, Lillian Chan - *Richmond*,
Mimi Ho - *1st Vice President*, Barbara Siemens - *2nd Vice President*, Sandra Lee - *Coquitlam/Maple Ridge*

6th row Left to Right: Joyce Janzen - *Registrar*, Terry Lynn Jeffers - *East Kootenay*, Matthew Chan - *Treasurer*,
Helga Murray - *South Fraser*, Elisa Rolston - *Nelson*, Marla Messenbrink - *Kelowna*





Members we have lost this year



In Memoriam

Donna Fishwick

member of BCRMTA (Vancouver / Burnaby) since 1963



Anne Mackey

member of ORMTA 1996 - 2003

member of BCRMTA (North Island) since 2003



Linda Niamath

member of BCRMTA (Vancouver / Burnaby) since 1984



Janice Skipsey

member of BCRMTA (Mid-Island) since 1981



You will be missed



Members we have lost this year

Donna Fishwick

Eulogy for Donna Fishwick

written by Jules Campeau, son-in-law (June 2020)

Donna Marie Hauser was born on November 30th, 1938 in Penticton, British Columbia to her parents, Sterling and Evelyn Hauser. Donna grew up on her parents' orchard and farm, which her father managed. Both Sterling and Evelyn were musicians, and Donna soon fell in their footsteps. She started piano lessons at age 3 with Trudy Silvester. Donna was entered in many competitions and was hailed a child prodigy at a tender young age. She continued her music studies and as a teenager, Donna was asked to perform on CBC radio. She also received her A.R.C.T. in piano performance from the RCMT. Donna and Sterling had to take an overnight train to Vancouver every time she had a radio appearance or competition. It was at one of these competitions that Donna was awarded a chance to audition for the Royal College of Music in London, England. Donna's talent perhaps was only equaled by her determination. Upon receiving the invitation to London, Donna took a chance, packed up everything, took a train across Canada, then down to New York, where she boarded the USS United States and sailed to England.

So I mentioned that Donna was determined, what was truly inspiring was that the acceptance to the college was predicated on a successful live audition. Failure at this point was not an option as she literally had no funds to return home. Of course Donna's brilliance shone brightly at her audition and she was accepted with a scholarship.

This would only be the first of many adventures where Donna did not take no as an option. Many of us have spent an evening being regaled by the adventures of Donna. The one that always comes to mind is when Donna rented a car and drove to Southampton to visit friends who were leaving on a ship headed to New York. In those days, you could board the ship for a visit before it set sail. Of course Donna and her friend missed the announcement that the ship was leaving, and when they realized that it was time to go home, the ship was several miles out to sea. Instant that she could; A..not go to New York as she had to return her rental car, or B..she could not afford the journey. Donna was told that she could return back to port on the Pilot Boat. The challenge was in those days, they did not have access at the water line, and the only thing that stood between Donna and her way back, was a 100 foot rope ladder



climb down the side of a moving ship. Undaunted, Donna and her friend made the climb to the cheers of "GO Canada!!" from the passengers watching on board. When they finally returned to the port, they picked up the car, and crawled back to London in thick pea soup fog. This special adventure was dear to her heart, and we never tired of listening to it.

It was around this time that her soon to be love Keith, was working as a general manager for GB Olivant Import/export company in West Africa. Keith was a friend of the twin sisters that Donna lived with. Keith returned to London on leave, and dropped by the apartment to say hello to the twins. That day, he met Donna. He treated her to a beautiful dinner (so rare for starving student) and Donna decided that Keith was worth a second date. The rest was history.

Donna and Keith were married on July 27th, 1960 at Worksop Abbey in Nottinghamshire. Soon after, Donna received her degree from the Royal College of Music, as well as a Licentiate degree from the Royal Academy of Music.

Donna and Keith decided it was time for a great adventure and they immigrated back to Canada, a few months later, Keith's parents Duncan, Grace and brother Robert also immigrated.

In and around the same time when Donna and Keith were contemplating moving back to Canada, Sterling and Evelyn were living in Whonnock, B.C. Sterling was a salesman at the time, and one day wandered down the driveway of Doreen



Members we have lost this year

Donna Fishwick

and George Skorah, who lived in Burnaby, but owned a summer home in Whonnock. Doreen mentioned that she had 3 daughters, all of whom were studying piano, but they did not have an instrument to practice on over the summer. Sterling invited the girls to use Donna's piano to practice. When Keith and Donna came back to Canada, the two families became instant friends. Donna became a mentor and teacher to Doreen and George's daughters, Penny, Patsy, and Wendy, and it was Doreen who found Donna and Keith a suite to rent close to their home in Burnaby.

Donna began actively teaching piano in the Burnaby neighbourhood. She would drive to people's houses to teach lessons, and she would teach in Doreen's basement. Having gotten acquainted with the Burnaby Heights neighbourhood, Donna and Keith purchased a home on Yale Street, a stone's throw for Doreen and George. As Donna's classes grew, she needed someone to take over the young students. She persuaded Doreen to take the Kelly Kirby teacher's course and thus started a lifelong partnership and friendship.

Donna's mother Evelyn passed away shortly before Marshall was born, so it was Doreen who supported Donna through motherhood of which she was always grateful. Doreen, or Auntie Dodie as she was known to us, became a friend and confidant and sometimes a means to an end. I remember being in Las Vegas with the family, and Donna and Doreen. Some of you may know that the blocks are long in Vegas, and it can get quite hot. Well, Donna had had enough of walking in the heat and she would let us know in no uncertain terms that "Auntie Dodie was tired and needed a taxi back to the hotel". Of course, Doreen was quite fine and would look at Donna with a conspiring smile as the two climbed in the taxi.

Now Having a home Donna set up her studio on Yale Street in Burnaby where she would begin her inspiring career as one of Canada's greatest piano teachers. It was also at Yale Street where Donna and Keith started their family with son Marshall in 1964, daughter Camilla in 1968, and daughter Keitha in 1971.

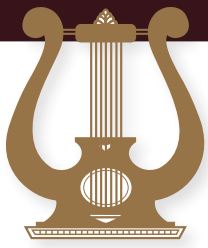
Donna's successful studio thrived, and she became a much sought after teacher and adjudicator. Donna also became a senior examiner for the Royal Conservatory of Music. She was considered one of their top examiners, and also mentored many young examiners.

Donna built an amazing piano studio with extremely successful students. Many of her students won gold and silver medals for their piano examinations, and won many competitions both locally and internationally. Former students, Sasha Starcevic and Wayne Weng have both received Doctorates in Music. Many of her former students are now successful teachers, and have received bachelor and master degrees from prestigious universities. Of this, Donna was always very proud.

In the early 90's, Donna realized how powerful it was for her young students to experience performing in front of an audience, so Donna founded the Donna Fishwick Young Artists in Recital Society. She toured all over the world with her piano group; including New York, California, several European tours, Egypt, and Musicfest Perugia. Donna was a fan of ensemble music. Her students often write to her and thank her for their experience in the ensemble. It gave the kids a fun side to their music that inspired confidence and pride as well as creating life long friendships within the ensemble.

Donna's children followed in her artistic footsteps; Marshall is a bass guitarist and pianist, Camilla is a gifted ballet dancer and teacher, and Keitha is a classical singer and teacher.

Donna knew that her daughters needed the same foundation in the arts as she did and it was through this pursuit that Donna met Dolores Kirkwood. When Camilla was 3, Donna began looking for "the best" studio for her, it was obvious that the best teacher in the lower mainland was Dolores Kirkwood, an amazing dance instructor. Donna attended Dolores' recital and decided that this was the place that Camilla should go. Another life long friendship ensued between Donna and Dolores. Donna played the piano for the RAD ballet exams and taught piano at Dolores's studio in Nanaimo on the weekends. Donna and Dolores had an amazing friendship with many fun adventures and tales. I had the honour of attending several dance trips to the island and soon discovered it was rarely the kids that had to be supervised but rather Donna and Dolores at the ferry lineup. Unbeknownst to them, everyone in my truck was watching as Donna and Dolores snuck around to the back of their car, opened the trunk, pulled out a bottle of rum and some coke and proceeded to have a little cocktail before noticing all of us laughing hysterically in our car. Of course, they joined in the hilarity.



Members we have lost this year

Donna Fishwick

One day in 1989, Dolores and Donna were having a visit and Donna said "I think we should start a ballet company". Dolores thought this was a great idea, and this was the beginning of the Royal City Youth Ballet. Donna was the president of the society and Dolores was the Artistic Director for over 25 years. The company started with 2 Nutcracker performances at the James Cowan Theatre, and grew to travelling all over the lower mainland with a lavish Nutcracker production, and later, Coppelia, Cinderella, and La Fille Mal Garde. The Ballet company travelled and performed to Disneyland, Disneyworld, and on several Royal Caribbean, and Princess Cruises.

To say that Donna kept herself busy was like saying Mozart could carry a tune. Not being satisfied with teaching full time, running a charitable piano ensemble and prolific dance company, Donna decided to found the Music Man Piano Festival, which would later become The Festival on the Lake. The annual festival continues to take place every year at the Shadbolt Center in Burnaby, and is sponsored by Tom Lee Music and the Steinway society of B.C.

Donna maintained a very high level studio until the very end. She loved her students, and spoke fondly of them with unabashed pride. Teaching was her life's passion; she cherished her relationships with students and their families, both past, and present.

She adored her children, their spouses and her grandchildren; Alisha, Andrew, Madeleine, Tristan and Aurora and was so full of happiness to know that she had just become a great grandmother of a beautiful little boy named Logan.

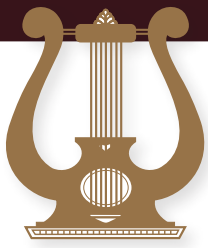
Donna was a fiercely proud mom and grandmother, always talking about her children's, and grandchildren's accomplishments. Alisha, a hard working brand new mom, Andrew, and incredible hockey player, Madeleine, an amazing singer and Musical theatre performer, Tristans a fantastic musician and snare drummer in the RMM Pipe Band, and Aurora, the most beautiful ballerina. Can you see a theme here?

We were all blessed to have Donna in our lives who would always travel with us all over the world often exhausting us with her passion to see and experience as much as she could while travelling or cruising the oceans.

Donna enjoyed the finer things in life; shopping, travelling, and long lunches and dinners at Le Crocodile, pink champagne, laughter, funny stories, hugs and so much love. Just having friends over and sitting around the table enjoying the warmth and love of her families and friends. Always dressed impeccably adorned with diamond and Miu Miu shoes.

Donna was a brilliant light. But like her memory, that light is inextinguishable. It shines in the successes of her children, the bright futures of her grandchildren and in the music that fills hundreds of households, studios, stages and concert halls. A music that sings her name everyday reminding us of how blessed we were to have known Donna Fishwick.





Members we have lost this year

Anne Mackey

MACKEY, Anne (nee Fairchild)

November 8, 1942 - November 23, 2020

On November 23, 2020, our beloved Anne/Annie/Nana (Mary Anne Mackey) peacefully passed away at her home in Comox at the age of 78, surrounded by her family. (Mary) Anne Mackey was born on November 8, 1942 in Galt (Cambridge), Ontario to John (Jack) Howard Fairchild and Mary Evelyn Fairchild (nee Scrivener). She is survived by her husband Barry (almost 54 years of marriage), children Chris (Meg), Laurel (Laura), and Steve (Sandra), and three adored grandsons, Keenan, Elliot and Wesley. She also leaves her brother John (Cathy), sister Ellen (Kelly), and ten nieces and nephews. Anne led a rich and cross-cultural life. After completing her teacher training in Ontario and teaching three years of elementary school, she followed Barry to India where she married him and joined him in youth mission work while raising their three children over the years. While in India, she completed her LRSM, the highest level of piano education, and subsequently imparted her technical knowledge and musical expertise to hundreds of piano students across the globe, over a span of four decades. Listening to choral and classical music, attending concerts, and teaching piano were the greatest joys of Anne's life, along with spending time with her family, and her deep and lasting faith in the Lord Jesus. Our beloved Annie will be loved and missed forever. Many thanks to her wonderful care team of doctors, nurses and care aids at home, at the cancer clinic in the CVH, the Comox Valley Hospice Society, and the RJH in Victoria.





Members we have lost this year

Linda Niamath



Saying goodbye to a celebrated Canadian composer and a dear friend of the Richmond Branch.

Linda Niamath passed away peacefully on September 16, 2020 in Vancouver, BC, at the age of 81. She is will be sadly missed by her husband of 55 years, Kent, daughters Wendy and Cheryl, and son-in-law Paul Lesack.

Linda was born and grew up in Vancouver, British Columbia. When she was five years old, she begged her parents for a piano, and started composing with the encouragement of her first piano teacher. At the age of sixteen, she composed the score for a ballet, Stanley Park Sketches, which was performed at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre. After earning her ARCT in piano performance from the Royal Conservatory of Music, and her Bachelor of Education degree from the University of British Columbia, she taught elementary school in Vancouver as a music specialist.

Linda was a kind and compassionate person with a wonderful sense of humour, and the best mother anyone could hope to have. She had many strong and enduring friendships and took great pleasure in connecting with others. She and Kent always had fun together, no matter what they were doing, but Linda especially enjoyed gardening, travelling, cooking, reading (and underlining the important parts!), listening to music, and visiting with friends and family.

Linda was a highly-regarded composer and Honorary Fellow of the Royal Conservatory of Music; several generations of children around the world have learned to play her wonderful and expressive pieces at their piano lessons. She is best known for her eleven albums of piano music for the young pianist—her legacy for future generations.

No service or celebration of life is currently planned. In lieu of flowers, donations in Linda's memory may be made to your favourite charity. Condolences for the family may be left at www.kearneyfs.com.



Members we have lost this year

Janice Skipsey

April 29, 1958 – May 31, 2020

Janice Marie Skipsey (nee Edwards) passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by her family, on May 31st, 2020 after a brief illness.

She is survived by her husband David, daughters Katherine (Miguel Nacenta) and Laura (Craig Horncastle), four grandchildren (Owen, Benson, Miguel, Ada), and sisters Jude (Don Staffanson) and Susan.

Janice was born on April 29th 1958 in Regina, SK, grew up in Saskatoon, SK before moving to Victoria in 1977. She graduated from the Victoria Conservatory of Music and was an accomplished pianist and teacher, with Mozart being her favourite composer to play after she thought the kids had gone to sleep.

After marrying David in August 1980, they spent the next 40 years living on the BC coast; first in Victoria, then raising their family in Port McNeill, Sechelt, and finally Nanaimo in 1994, and traveling to Hawaii, Europe, and Tofino.

Professionally, Janice was a dedicated piano teacher for 42 years, a member of the BCRMTA, and served as president of her local branch. Always generous with her spare time, Janice played for church services and children's choirs, volunteered with Girl Guides of Canada, and cared for her mother-in-law Mary and father Brian in their final years. In her free time, she enjoyed the Chemainus Theatre, Friday Night Coffee, and being surrounded by the chaos of her family in her beautiful home. Although always a prairie girl at heart, Janice loved skiing at Mount Washington and watching the waves on the West Coast. Janice was a devoted mother and wife, a kind and generous friend, and an inspiring teacher. She was the centre of her family's world and her loss is devastating.

We would like to thank Palliative Care at NRGH and Home and Community Care for their support. A private celebration of Janice's life will be held (details to follow). In lieu of flowers, please donate to Pancreatic Cancer Canada.



