



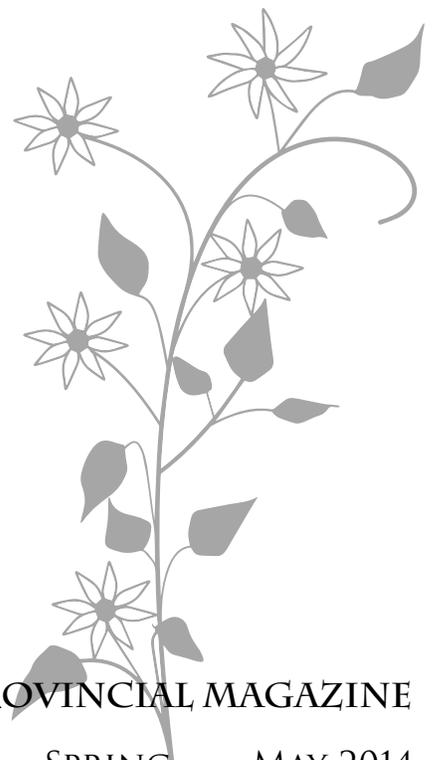
# *Progressions*

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

*BCRMTA Piano Competition 2014*

*BCRMTA Associate Teacher Awards*

*And so much more.....*



B.C. REGISTERED MUSIC TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION PROVINCIAL MAGAZINE

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THE

# PRESIDENT'S

## MESSAGE



*Cynthia (Cindy) Taylor*

Spring is finally here! There is a revitalization in the world around us with fresh green leaves bursting forth and flowers in abundance. This is the time of year when we take stock of the progress of our teaching and our students while digging deep for that extra energy to motivate them through festivals, exams, competitions and year end recitals. That revitalization of energy is so important for musicians because our chosen passion of teaching is that of “giving” of our time, our talents, our souls, and our energy.

Most recently I am reminded of the “power” of music; the power to make us laugh and cry; the power to transcend us to faraway places of our imagination or to memories of our past; the power to heal.

Many years ago while in Victoria I purchased a CD of Andras Schiff performing Bach’s Chromatic Fantasy and Fugue. While travelling home over the Malahat I listened to my new treasure in the car. A recent snowfall had snow hanging from the trees and the sky was a beautiful blue. The music touched me in such an overwhelming way that the image of that day has stayed in my mind ever since. Music transcends us.

Those of us who have shared our music at senior homes and senior care facilities will agree that music breaks through recesses of the mind of those living with dementia when they sing those old hymns that we sang as children. A few years ago a friend of mine had a stroke and had great difficulty speaking, however, she could “sing” every word clear as a bell! Music heals our spirits. An area often forgotten as a career path for musicians is “Music Therapy” which is a vitally important way of sharing our gifts.

We all have our favorite music that makes our spirits leap and our favorite music that makes us cry. It may be a song our parents sang to us, or a piece of music that was heard at a significant time in our lives. I can still remember what was playing on the car radio when we were in a car accident one foggy night – *Bye, Bye Miss American Pie*. ☺ A music box that I had as a child played *Over the Sea to Skye*, the music which still to this day fills me with a sense warmth and peace.

Every year at this time it is exciting to see the growth and progress of our students since beginning their studies in September. I am always reminded at my student year end recital how fortunate I am to have chosen a career doing something that I “love”!

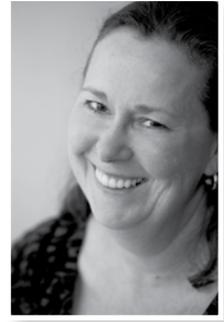
So, when we are trying to find that last ounce of energy to inspire our students through the final months of the year, let us take time to listen to our own favorite music; find time to play our instrument of choice; and remind ourselves what brought us to this lifelong love affair with music so that we can, in turn, inspire that love in those we teach.

Many of you know that through the past few months I have been caring for my ailing father who had moved into our home to spend his last days with us. Recently his life in this world has passed, however, the healing power of music will always have him close in my heart. I would like to *sincerely* thank all those of you who have been so supportive by your thoughts, kind words, and emails.

Cynthia Taylor



# HELLO FROM THE EDITOR



*Dina Pollock*

Hello Everyone,

It is hard to believe it is Spring and we are almost into exams - where does the time go? Too much to do and so little time.

Lots of great reports in this issue and lots to catch up on, please enjoy !

To all the branches that sent in reports, to the committees that submitted a report, to all the members that did book reviews - thank you! Without your support, this magazine would not be what it is.

I had a request from one of the branches to explain the photo releases. To keep the releases short, there are only two statements and this is how I interpret it.

*1. BCRMTA is granted the right to publish and use any photographs and to exhibit audio or video in which I or my works appear for the purposes of BCRMTA archives, marketing, publicity and public relations projects.*

Photos, audio or video taken can be used by BCRMTA or by a Branch for

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*2. In signing below, I guarantee that any material recorded during this event will not be used in any commercial endeavor whatsoever without the written permission of BCRMTA and all persons involved in the performance/recording.*

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I should mention that this release does not apply to someone else using the recording they have made or photos they have taken at an event or concert without our permission. We are only controlling and protecting ourselves

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I hope this helps, if not, please contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Thanks

Dina



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# BRANCH REPORTS

These are all the Annual Branch Reports for 2013.

## ABBOTSFORD

Our membership currently consists of thirty members and six Student Teacher Auxiliary members.

My first year being president has underlined for me the huge task that others have carried so well before me. Thank you former presidents for preparing the way! Diane, thank you for leading us the last couple of years!

January saw us launch the branch's own website: [www.abbotsfordmusicteachers.com](http://www.abbotsfordmusicteachers.com). This has been an exciting exercise for us and we are fortunate to have Dina Pollock look after all our monthly updates.

Elections in February saw the following: treasurer position is shared by Kathleen Feenstra and Heidi Buhler; Joyce Janzen moved to the secretary position and Charity Koop took the position of vice-president. A great highlight of our meeting was the workshop presented by Sandra Joy Friesen on prepared piano techniques.

March and April were busy months planning for our 14<sup>th</sup> annual Abbotsford Music Festival. The festival ran between April 29<sup>th</sup> and May 17<sup>th</sup>. We decided to go to 2 weeks for 2014: May 5 - 16. There were 372 entries in the festival. Our adjudicators Darlene Brigidear, Murray Nichol and Andrew Dawes helped to make this a worthwhile event for everyone involved. The Honours Concert is always the exciting culmination of all the love and work that goes into hosting a festival. Sixty-five awards were presented to students as chosen by our esteemed adjudicators. Although the committee runs the event, it would never succeed without the support and assistance of all the other members of the branch. Our festival is truly a "branch festival".

In June, when teachers are exhausted and so ready for summer break, our branch explored the new initiative: The Toonie Event. The purpose was to provide a performance experience for students 3 and older that weren't festival or exam students. Leona Porth, aka "Miss Manners" taught stage deportment and our Paul Williamson wowed these youngsters by performing one of his convention pieces. The students left with goodie bags and a great experience! Sixteen of our members attended the June luncheon held at Brambles Bistro at Tanglebank Nursery. It was a lovely time of relaxation and sharing as well as fine tuning our plans for the benefit concert for Paul Williamson that was held June 21<sup>st</sup>. Paul's concert was a great success with wonderful financial support for Paul's trips to the Halifax convention as well as to The Federation of Canadian Music Festivals in Ontario.

September saw us all scrambling to once again lock ourselves into a routine that would rule our lives for the next 10 months. Lunch was enjoyed by the twelve members attending as we worked out branch tasks, Canada Music Week<sup>®</sup> recital details, and the festival requirements. In an effort to involve all branch members, lists of volunteer opportunities for our annual events and the festival were circulated. Each member is responsible for a couple of tasks.

In October we were provided with a fascinating Ear Training Workshop by one of our members, Eileen Deros. She had us intrigued as she introduced us to Mark Harrison's Contemporary Ear training program; a very practical workshop indeed.

November: time for Canada Music Week<sup>®</sup> recital. We decided to have a recital/composition workshop. All the pieces performed were either compositions of David Gordon Duke or those of our branch's students. Dr. Duke provided explanations about each of his compositions and engaged the student composers in conversation about their creations, at times offering helpful ideas that they could implement. We were thrilled to have Mr. Duke, not only come to the event but to emcee it and help us with awards. After the branch awards for the highest marks for the past year's RCM exams in each discipline, lovely refreshments were enjoyed.

In December we met for our annual Christmas Luncheon at the home of Leona Porth where we relaxed and had great discussion and shared teaching ideas.

I want to thank my incredible executive! You've really helped make my first year as president worthwhile and rewarding! Joyce, as you pass the baton of secretary to Celeste-tina, I want to thank you for all your support and encouragement. To Celeste-tina, welcome aboard! Fellow members, let's continue to collaborate, encourage and inspire each other to be the best teachers we can be and to further great music education in our community!

*Jean Ritter* ✨

# BRANCH REPORTS

## CHILLIWACK

It's been a productive year of learning and growing to be the best we can be. Franz Schubert said "Some people come into our lives, leave footprints on our hearts, and we are never the same".

I think of us teachers and how we influence the lives of our students - we are leaving footprints. We are instilling the love of music and living as examples to many young people. Let us strive to leave positive footprints that will last a lifetime.

This past year, we were involved with the Chilliwack Lions Festival and the Provincial Festival (Performing Arts, BC). Thank you to everyone who made these events a success. We organized our annual Spring Recital and had our first Student Teachers Recital.

We participated in a musical question period before each of our monthly meetings - thought provoking and stimulating for all. Esther Neufeld gave us an informative workshop on Pedagogy. At our Canada Music Week® recital, Robert Baker spoke about the Canadian Music Centre and distributed CDs and brochures about the services offered by CMC. We celebrated Christmas with a relaxed luncheon. We have given the go-ahead for another Piano Extravaganza event with the CSO and look forward to the excitement this event will generate. I'm looking forward to our upcoming year as the possibilities are endless!

*Sherrie van Akker* ✨

## COQUITLAM/MAPLE RIDGE

Coquitlam/Maple Ridge Branch is proud to feature some of our talented colleagues as workshop clinicians. In March, Dr. Rudy Rozanski presented a workshop on Pedalling. Our May workshop will be presented by Teresa Richert, on Composition. Our 13<sup>th</sup> annual festival was held April 21-25 with the following adjudicators:

Jennifer Condie - Junior  
Bernard Doerksen - Intermediate  
Ellen Silverman - Senior.

*Liz Munro* ✨



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## EAST KOOTENAY

The East Kootenay Branch, though a small group, committed many hours to present several successful events since November of last year. Our piano master class/workshop featuring Linda Kundert-Stoll from Calgary, Alberta, was partially funded by a Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance grant. A catered lunch including wraps and salads gave those who attended an opportunity to share their teaching experiences. Students prepared pieces from grades 5 – 10 for Linda's insightful instruction.

The Canada Music Week® Recital is our first recital each year and it opened with a history of the event intended to help students realize that they are part of a national celebration. *O Canada* was sung by a mother/daughter duo and this was followed by a very entertaining program of singers, violinists and pianists. Composers through to grade 9 were mostly classical but included our highly esteemed Canadian jazz composer, Oscar Peterson. Fifteen deserving students received scholarships totaling \$500 from grades one to ARCT; ribbons and Canada pins were handed out for compositions and 6 sets of music books donated by a local teacher were gifted at this event. We are pleased to see that students are developing much poise and confidence from year to year as they are also expected to introduce themselves, their piece and the composer.

February is a busy month as we present three performing opportunities for our students: the All Girls, the All Boys and the Fur, Feather and Friends Recitals. The biennial "Fur, Feathers and Friends" Recital is always a popular choice for students who draw pictures

to match their pieces. These are shown on a screen for the audience to enjoy as their music is performed. Students once again develop their confidence as they introduce themselves, their pieces and a fact about the animal characterized by their music. Those in attendance bring donations for the SPCA. On February 28th, 4 of our members drove from Cranbrook to Creston to attend a workshop given by Susan de Burgh from the Victoria Conservatory, who gave us many tips on teaching Sonatinas. This was a fun and inspirational presentation with Susan's dry wit keeping us entertained as well as alert to all of her wise teachings. The remaining events which keep our focus to the end of the year are the annual April East Kootenay Performing Arts Festival and our June Sonata Sunday Recital.

Our meetings are almost always frenetic and we are grateful for our secretary, Penny Long, who manages to create organized minutes from the spirited monthly meetings. Penny moved to Cranbrook a few years ago and teaches violin and cello and performs with the Symphony of the Kootenays. This spring Penny attended the presentation of a Gold Medal RCM award to her student, Anna Cain for her preparatory level violin exam.

We are thrilled to say that after taking a year off to rebuild the Symphony of the Kootenays, concerts have been well received. The audience is delighted with the hiring of new and enthusiastic Music and Artistic Director Jeff Faragher from Nelson and as East Kootenay teachers, we look forward to continuing our partnership with the

Symphony. French horn player, Dale Green this year donated Symphony tickets to deserving East Kootenay students.

We are pleased to introduce the area's new RCM representative, Katharine Nimmert who has been our treasurer for over 25 years. Best wishes from the East Kootenays.

*Terry Lynn Jeffers* ❁

## KELOWNA

The Kelowna Branch has experienced a very busy year of activity! There are currently 18 insured members. For the November 17<sup>th</sup> Canada Music Week® Recital, twenty-six students of five teachers participated. Even though there is each year less active involvement from member teachers, there remains a strong desire of those participating to host this annual important event that supports and promotes music educational excellence.

Our branch co-presidents pursued the matter of the RCM Centre and brought about a positive change for the winter session with a new venue and excellent grand piano for the Kelowna Centre.

Thanks to the educational partnership with Lorna Paterson of the Kelowna Community Music School (KCMS) along with two teachers from the local school and two teachers from our branch, two student performance master classes were hosted at KCMS: October 26<sup>th</sup> with clinicians Crystal Doughty and Graham Vink, Kelowna Branch co-President, and Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> with clinicians Andrea Brown and Claudia Kargl, Kelowna Branch co-President.

# BRANCH REPORTS

## KELOWNA - cont.

On February 14<sup>th</sup>, the ongoing educational collaboration with the Okanagan Symphony Orchestra (Maestro Rosemary Thompson) and KCMS provided students the opportunity to attend an enlightening 3 hour open rehearsal event with the OSO and the sensational 18 year old Canadian pianist Jan Lisiecki. Students were mesmerized by Jan's musical and technical brilliance and had a rare chance to talk up close with Jan and Rosemary about a variety of most interesting music matters. Rosemary has already assured that more such highlight educational events are planned for next season.

On February 28<sup>th</sup>, as part of our "Branching Out" contribution, five students (Haley Malish, Skye Miller, Shea Carson, Ciara Myers and Ilfe Zuri) of vocal teacher Nicole Desson treated 70 residents at the Regency Retirement Resort in West Kelowna to hits from the 50's and 60's. The program included *Summertime Blues*, *Da Do Ron Ron*, *And Then He Kissed Me*, *Don't Get Around Much Anymore*, *When I Saw Him Standing There*, *And Feelin' Good*. David Sproule hit the piano keys by playing short instrumental interludes as well as accompanying all the singers and playing *Route 66* and *Take 5*. The concert was enjoyed by all residents and the girls were treated with much praise and cookies from the residents.

A great deal of organization and preparation took place for the all-day March 1<sup>st</sup> teacher development workshop and two student performance master classes: intermediate Grades 5 - 7 and senior Grades 8 - ARCT.

Ten students, selected from the Kelowna branch, performed. Our branch had as special guest clinician Dr. Terence Dawson, Chair of the Keyboard Division of the UBC School of Music. Dr. Dawson's lecture "Playing the Difficult Ones" and demonstration featuring excerpts of thirteen grand choice pieces of the piano repertoire were all about practical ideas and approaches to help build secure technique into repertoire. The very successful event took place at an ideal venue, the art gallery and home studio "Children's Piano-Arts Corner" of Claudia Kargl. Due to the popularity of the event and limited space availability, some teachers and students had to be turned away. From across the B.C. interior, twenty-seven teachers attended including seven student teachers who audited the full day event. Custom designed certificates created by Claudia, were given to teachers as well as student performers. Many thanks to Debbie Batycki for bringing all her fine cutlery, dishes and mugs, Marla Mesenbrink for organizing, bringing and preparing a diverse variety of delicious food for a fantastic lunch, and Claudia Kargl for her homemade assortment of Viennese desserts along with a delightful original strawberry ice cream torte with "The Art of Music Making" designed on it. Results from the questionnaires indicate an overwhelming desire to host a follow-up event at our branch. Dr. Dawson has already agreed to return. (see photos)

In May our branch is hosting something exciting and brand new, "The Entertainers", a unique arts fusion event for students who are keen on



March - teachers workshop



Terrence Dawson and Gene Hayer

performing creatively their music with flair – a costume, some drama, dance, art, video, or perhaps even personifying a composer or performer – the sky is the limit...

Indeed an amazing record year of energy, productivity and community spirit!

*Claudia Kargl* ✨



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# BRANCH REPORTS

## MID ISLAND

It has been an exciting and productive 2013-14 season for our Mid-Island Branch. What fun to close out the old year with our Christmas Luncheon honouring Mary Skipsey, our elegant founding branch member of 1965! Mary treated us to a number of historical branch memories and 'moments from the past'. We also paid tribute to Lynne Gauthier who has recently retired from a very successful teaching career in Nanaimo.

We are soon to launch our new Website and Facebook page. A huge bouquet of thanks to the team of Christine McMahon, Dianne Bohn, and Jenn Lehtovaara, who have put so much into creating a more up-to-date image for us. Look for us at: [musicnanaimo.com](http://musicnanaimo.com)

Our initial and very exciting 'Branching Out' Event took place Saturday, Feb. 8, 2014 at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Nanaimo. Entitled 'Beautiful Baroque' the event was a stunning collaboration between BCRMTA music students and young dancers from the Kirkwood Academy of the Performing Arts. Conceived by BCRMTA member Jacinthe Laramee, and assisted by the production team of Dianne Bohn & Margret Wesemann, this performance offered musicians and dancers a chance to work together exploring artistic expression in the Baroque style.

Christine McMahon, Mistress of Ceremonies, provided an entertaining and educational commentary on the history and composers of the Baroque Period (1600 – 1750), and explained what kings, queens and princes have in common with minuets, jigs and gavottes. The delightful multimedia performance of music, song, dance, and

costume charmed the eye as well as the ear of the 'sold-out' audience.

The program included twelve beautiful young dancers, a vibrant string ensemble, four singers with piano and 'basso continuo' accompaniment, a harp trio, and twelve solo pianists performing music by Bach, Handel, Telemann, and Vivaldi, amongst others. The forty-two performers who took the stage for the final bow were greeted with warm and enthusiastic applause. It was an 'awesome' concert!

This event proved successful in bringing together two different arts groups and audiences. Not only did it build community, but also provided classical music and ballet students an opportunity to share their creativity and their art form in a professional manner and setting. Our BCRMTA Branch wishes to thank the teachers of the Kirkwood Academy of Performing Arts for their wonderful work and look forward to future collaborations.

We look forward to sharing more with Progressions as we plan our Branch 50th Anniversary celebrations in 2015!

*Marjorie Munro* ✨



**DANCERS:** Sarah Anderson - Britta Olesen  
Madison Hovey - Taryn Pinder  
Seamas Finnerty (piano) - Limin Yu (tenor)



**DANCERS:** Josie Hargitt - Taryn Pinder  
Jessica Langelier - Shae Jones - Abby Dishkin Kiara  
Dodd - Sansan Clavora - Alexis Harley  
Justin Hu (piano)



Final Bow

# BRANCH REPORTS

## MISSION

We are a very small group but we meet regularly every two months and with the help of our Student Teachers, enjoy a lively meeting. We are planning a Spring Recital on April 25<sup>th</sup> and will have 40 entries. We will also have a luncheon in June at the Heritage Park Blackberry Kitchen which boasts a chef and is considered one of the best in Mission. We look out from the porch over the valley. A lovely view! We hope to welcome a new Missionite to our luncheon as there is a new baby due to one of our Student Teachers. We wish everyone a warm, healthy, fun, summer.

Florence Graham ✿

## NELSON

The **Kootenay Festival of the Arts 2014** ([www.kootenayfestivalofthearts.ca/](http://www.kootenayfestivalofthearts.ca/)) was held April 1 - 12<sup>th</sup>.

Students of area teachers of piano, vocal and choral arts, strings and guitar, speech and dramatic arts, and dance received an adjudication at this performing arts festival, ending each week with a concert at the Capitol. The event was sponsored by the Nelson Musical Festival Association.

Registered Music Teachers are pleased that most schools in the area have financially supported the **Overture Music Series** at the Nelson Capitol. This has enabled area students to attend and hear many fine concerts for free throughout the year.

The year has had several musical evenings for adult students, hosted by Donna Goodwin-Wilson. Donna is the author of a recently published book: **Discovering Harmony**. Email [donna.nutini@gmail.com](mailto:donna.nutini@gmail.com) to learn more.

After Canada Music Week® which included a hands-on workshop for teachers on Logic proX using Mac with the Kootenay Music Academy, RMT teachers performed in a concert called **Piano Power** at Shambala Theatre. This was hosted by Selkirk College teacher and music programmer, Giles Parenteau.



So far, it has been a full year of music-making for students and teachers.

Dorothy Fraser ✿

## NORTH ISLAND

We have enjoyed a very busy and productive year to date. In September, one of our members, Alissa Fisette, shared with us her foray into the world of on-line resources for music teachers. Among the sites she discussed were:

1. *Susan Paradis* ([susanparadis.com](http://susanparadis.com)) has many holiday compositions with free down-loads of music and teaching materials.
2. *La Dona's Music Studio* ([ladonamusicstudio.com](http://ladonamusicstudio.com)) which includes assignment sheets, and RCM Technique Worksheets.
3. *Color In My Piano* ([colorinmypiano.com](http://colorinmypiano.com)) which has many free down-loads.
4. *Pianimation* ([pianimation.com](http://pianimation.com)) resources for seriously fun educators.
5. "The Practice Revolution", an article by Philip Johnston ([insidemusicteaching.com](http://insidemusicteaching.com))

With this programme, we started the year running!

Our second programme for the year dealt with the subject of Technique. Such subjects as the importance of proper body position, making this activity 'fun', as well as emphasizing that all technique should be played musically. We all left with at least a few ideas that we could incorporate into our teaching practice.

November was a very busy month for our Branch. Our Canada Music Week® project was an all-day event featuring two workshops for both teachers and students given by composer Teresa Richert. These were followed by a concert at which fifty students participated! Many of Ms. Richert's compositions were performed. Our programme for the month was, of course, new Canadian Repertoire!

We perused over thirty individual pieces as well as entire books. The programme saved us all a lot of research time as well as being very inspirational.



## NORTH ISLAND - cont.

Unfortunately, weather conditions forced the cancellation of our usual pre-holiday get-together.

The first meeting of 2014 proved very challenging as well as thought provoking! Once again, Alissa Fiset presented us with her thoughts on alternate ways of speaking to students and motivating them. Much of her programme was based on her reading of the article- 'Five Reasons to Stop Saying "Good Job"' by Alfie Kohn. His belief is that this term manipulates children, creates 'PraiseJunkies', causes children to lose interest and robs them of a sense of achievement (to name a few). These ideas were quite new to most of us, and were certainly worthy of contemplation!

In February, many of us were swamped with putting students in the North Island Music Festival in Courtney. The programme, therefore, consisted of sharing our favourite CD's with our colleagues.

Susan Cook, a Physiotherapist and Somatics instructor led March's meeting. She guided us in a sensory exploration of movement in our hips (since this is so vital to the art of music-making at the piano). She contends that 'You move as well as you sense.' Most of us realized that we are not as aware of our body position and comfort as we should be optimally. The information she presented will be most useful to our teaching practice!

Currently, we are engaged in preparing our students for participation in the Campbell River Music Week, as well as working on getting the students ready for exams. To date, our Branch has been very busy both Musically as well as Intellectually. We look forward to the remainder of the Teaching Year!

*Sonia Hauser* ✿

## NORTH SHORE

The North Shore has been very busy as usual. Our year opened with a flurry of activity as we prepared for another collaboration with Lions Gate Sinfonia in October 2013. Our students were a hit as usual, performing with poise and polish with the orchestra under Clyde Mitchell.

This was followed by an unusual twist on our Canada Music Week® festivities in November. The recital began with Anna Levy performing an impressive programme of Canadian virtuoso piano music spanning the centuries from Calixa Lavallée to Michael Conway Baker. Our students followed with a mix of Canadian piano and vocal repertoire, including pieces by our guest composer Frank Levin, who also mentored some extremely talented young composers who premiered their own new works.

Our Christmas lunch was held at Brown's Social House for the second year. It was a good social time for all of us and we were particularly pleased to be able to catch up with several of our retired members.

By the New Year we were busy preparing for the 43<sup>rd</sup> annual North Shore Music Festival, which took place early in March and was blessed with excellent adjudicators and a high standard of performance in the piano, vocal and strings divisions.

Our April meeting was followed by an intriguing workshop by Teresa Richert on encouraging creative composition in young students. We learned all kinds of creative and amusing ways to explore music-making. Teresa was also able to highlight some of her own published compositions and those of her colleagues at Red Leaf Piano Works.

We have already kicked off on our Canada Music Week® plans for 2014. Mark Armanini brought two Chinese musicians from the Vancouver Intercultural Orchestra to demonstrate the erhu and dizi (Chinese stringed instruments and flutes) to students and teachers. I personally can't wait to hear what the student composers will create for the stunning and evocative sounds of these ancient classical instruments. They will have a chance to workshop their compositions with Mr Armanini and the players in the fall in advance of the November CMW recital. Once again, many thanks to Carolyn Finlay for pushing the envelope and expanding our ears and minds!

We will soon be off for the summer but will still be keeping busy with plans to host the BC Piano Competition in September. This is a first for our branch and we are looking forward to greeting many of you here in beautiful North Vancouver.

*Kelly Nobles* ✿

# BRANCH REPORTS

## SOUTH OKANAGAN

We presently have fourteen members. Our branch meets every two months from September to May. We have experimented with a new meeting day in hopes to attract better attendance. Our meetings are now the second Monday of every second month. We had a transfer of leadership this year with Janet Marcotte handing over the gavel to our new President Anita Perry. Janet was honored and thanked for her 22 years of dedication as president of our branch.

### **Bergmann Duo Master Class**

On November 8, 2013 in collaboration with the South Okanagan Concert Society in Oliver, there was an amazing performance by the two piano Bergmann Duo. Admission to this concert was free for all students. On November 9, the Bergmanns gave a master class on duet repertoire to all interested teachers and students. Three senior level duets including one student composition were prepared for this two hour master class. The students and teachers were thrilled to play on a Fazioli Grand Piano worth \$180,000. It was truly inspiring to witness the changes in the performances of these duets with the guidance given by the Bergmanns. We were very appreciative of the BCRMTA Professional Development Grant that helped us with the financing of this event.

### **Canada Music Week® Recital**

This year we had our traditional Canada Music Week® celebration on November 24, 2013.

All the music was by Canadian composers with two selections being incredible student performances of their own compositions.

We presented awards and scholarships provided by our branch and the Diamond Jubilee Chapter of the IODE to deserving students for their conservatory exam results in 2013. There was a reception afterwards that was very well attended.

### **Branch By-Laws**

It seemed like it would be a daunting task! We were able to complete our branch by-laws as well as our branch policies and procedures guidelines thanks to the expertise and guidance of our new life member Lynn Carmichael. We now have a very comprehensive resource to guide us into the future of our branch.

Plans are underway for the following before we break for the summer:

### **Spring Recital for Exam Students Sunday May 25, 2014**

For the first time South Okanagan branch has booked the Shatford Centre auditorium in Penticton for this exciting year-end recital. The auditorium setting will allow for great stage performances for vocal, string and piano students. Allowable time per teacher will be approximately 7 minutes. All the music must be memorized as this is in preparation for the practical exams in June.

### **Year-end Lunch Meeting Friday, May 12 at 9:30 AM**

We all look forward to this meeting that combines business with companionship and good food before we approach the busy year-end activities of conservatory exams and recitals.

Retiring president and now past president Janet Marcotte will be the host.

*Janet Marcotte* ❁



### **The End of an Era for South Okanagan**

January 10, 2014 marked the end of an era for the South Okanagan Branch of the BCRMTA. After twenty-two years at the helm, Janet Marcotte of Osoyoos stepped down as president and passed the gavel to Anita Perry of Summerland. With the help of long-time member Ernst Schneider and teacher members from Osoyoos to West Kelowna, Janet was responsible for raising the profile of the organization by providing:

- Scholarships for students
- Performance opportunities
- Community outreach incentives
- Workshops and seminars for teachers
- Master-classes for students
- Sponsorship of performing artists to give concerts and work with students.

Janet was presented with a commemorative wall plaque and a gift certificate for Art Knapps, as a thank you for her time and energy spent educating and nurturing teachers and students alike. The now Past President had these parting words of wisdom:

*"I do remember my first meeting as President and the panic I felt when I saw that our books were in the "red". It is a tribute to this fine group of teachers that we were able to rise above these challenges and build a strong and vibrant group of very professional and qualified teachers. Our master classes, student scholarships and bursaries, student*



## SOUTH OKANAGAN - cont.

*recitals and professional development workshops over the years are a true testament to our philosophy to put the growth of the student first. Support for the teacher is paramount for this to be a success. I have complete confidence in our new executive and know that we all will support them in the same manner that you all supported me. We are such a gifted group that has varied talents that complement each other. Our most treasured gift is the respect that we have for each other and our willingness to cooperate in whatever way we can."*

Thank you for your exemplary work, Janet. You will be a hard act to follow!

Anita Perry ✨

## PRINCE GEORGE

A highlight of our year was the November workshop with clinician Catherine Bundt. She gave great master class lessons to the students and an excellent lecture for teachers on performance anxiety.

The branch meets six times a year with several presentations by various members who shared their knowledge. In October we were very fortunate to have Dr. David Duke talk to us about 20 and 21<sup>st</sup> century composing.

Student recitals are held in May, November, and February at a local church. Theory awards were given out in February for high marks on the 2013 written exams. We support the local Music Festival by entering our students, working on the committee and by donating a \$150 scholarship.

Louise Phillips ✨



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# BRANCH REPORTS

## RICHMOND

The Richmond Branch of BCRMTA resumed its busy activities in the year 2013.

Standing to our tradition, each year we award medals to the highest mark in each grade, with a minimum requirement of 80 marks, from Prep A to LRCM, of the Royal Conservatory Examinations in the disciplines of piano, strings, woodwinds and voice. A separate category has also been created for the Grade 10 Split Exam with a minimum mark requirement of 85 and above. Medals were awarded to winners of the August 2012, January 2013, and April/June 2013 examination sessions. Medals were presented at the First Class Honours Recitals to winners who were available to perform.

We had seven recital dates booked from January 2013 to December 2013, a total of eleven individual recitals. Special recitals included three 1<sup>st</sup> Class Honors recitals honouring students from the January, April, June and August RCM examinations featuring Strings, Woodwinds, Voice & Piano. Three recitals featuring pre-grade students, and the Scholarship recital featuring the Winifred Proud Memorial Scholarship Winners for the Grade 9 and 10 and our Community Service Award Recipients. Our November recital focused on Canada Music Week®.

Other public performances included our yearly Winter Wonderland Recital held at the Richmond City Hall, and the yearly Christmas Recital, which remains in the Aberdeen Centre Mall and featured over a hundred students this year.

Our branch also held several workshops throughout the year. In February, Bill Nilsson from Atkinson & Terry Insurance explained to us the details of the Insurance policy for Music Teachers. In March after our AGM & General Meeting, Mitchell Marcus from Optimum Group Benefits & Insurance Services Inc. talked to us for Insurance and Benefits for Music Teachers. In April, Dr. David Duke & Helen Hall from Vancouver Community College informed us about Classical Options at the School of Music at Vancouver Community College. In May, Shirley Lecker presented an interesting workshop on Prevention and Management of Musicians' Injuries. In October, Esther Neufeld, member of the South Fraser Branch talked to us on her experiences with the RCM Pedagogy Certificate Program, and in November, Christie Smith (from Long & McQuade) on Christmas Books etc. for Sale.

We had two luncheons this year, one in June and one in December, for connecting with our branch teachers. In June, we had our Year End Luncheon at the Mad Greek Restaurant, and in December, we had a Christmas Luncheon at the ABC Country Restaurant. Both luncheons featured lots of raffle prizes for the attending teachers, plenty of great food, and of course great memories for all of our members.

We also put up a library display to promote our Branch locally. The library display was put up in the Richmond Minoru Library in the months of June and September.

*Mimi Ho* ❁

## SHUSWAP

Greetings from beautiful Shuswap. At present we are 12 members strong.

In November we had a great recital celebrating Canada Music Week®. Also that month, we were saddened by the passing of one of our own voice and piano teachers, Grace Dunford. Grace made significant musical contributions throughout the province of BC in the various cities she had lived. Her funeral was a wonderful tribute to a fine teacher and wonderful lady. She will be greatly missed.

Once 2014 hit, we found ourselves headlong into festival preparations. Even though we have a fantastic board made up of hard working Rotary and community people, much of the work still falls upon the music teachers. Our festival begins April 22 and runs through to the Night of Stars concert on May 2. The festival adjudicators for this year are:

- Band/Instrumental: Peter Stigings
- Junior Piano: Cynthia Goddard
- Senior Piano: Dan Wardrope
- Strings: Sharon Stanis
- Choir/Vocal: Alexandra Kosachukova Babbe

In May our Shuswap Branch will get together to recap the year and plan for the next. We will enjoy a great visit amongst friends and colleagues.

Could there be a better profession than this?

*Ruth Anne MacKnee* ❁



## SOUTH FRASER

Our Branch began the year with a large group attending the **Marjory Purdy Fall Workshops**. Continuing on from her workshops last fall, Marjory gave us two beautifully prepared sessions which contained practical advice on “Tools for Practicing” and “Challenges of Sonatina Playing”. Her warm manner and enthusiastic delivery were inspiring to all.

Our February “Branching Out” event was an **Honours Recital** where we had an opportunity to award certificates and scholarships to students who achieve high honours in their 2013 music examinations.



South Fraser Branching Out

In February and March, we hosted the **South Fraser Festival** (Strings, Jr. Piano and Sr. Piano) and enjoyed hearing our adjudicators working with the students: Sharon Stanis, Miranda Wong, MeiJane Quong, Rita Attrot and Allen Stiles.

We are looking forward to our **Terence Dawson Spring Workshop** in mid-April.

We are pleased to be congratulating our active and enthusiastic member, **Margaret Brew**, who has been awarded her 50yr. pin by BCRMTA.

*Susan Olsen* ❁

## SUNSHINE COAST

Our branch is moving in some new directions this year beginning with our piano teachers collectively taking responsibility for the Piano Discipline Chair of the Sunshine Coast Festival of the Performing Arts which begins this month. We also ratified our by-laws and are excited to have our delegate, Carl Montgomery present them at the April Provincial Council meeting.

We continue to hold three student recitals each year including a Canada Music Week® Recital in November. This year's Canada Music Week® activities included a composition workshop for students by Pender Harbour composer, Kenneth Norman Johnson.

In May, we will hold our Annual General Meeting at the home of member Patricia Greenfield who will host a lunch and chamber music rehearsal for the teachers. We will be preparing pieces by BC Composer Imant Raminsh for performance at the 2014 Canada Music Week®.

The year will conclude with our June luncheon to be held at a local restaurant and we are looking forward to socializing with each other and several prospective new members at that time.

*Katherine Hume* ❁

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# BRANCH REPORTS

## TRAIL/CASTLEGAR

Our Trail/Castlegar Branch of music teachers consist of seven members and one student member. Terry Simpson, who has been a member and Treasurer of our branch for many years, retired this past year. She contributed a tremendous amount to our branch over the years and she will be missed! However, we gained a new member this year. Anna King, who transferred from the Vancouver Branch, moved to this area and joined our group. We are very pleased to have her!

Throughout the year, as a group, we host a regular list of recitals. We host a Youngest Artist Recital, a Funtastic Recital, a Canada Music Week® Recital and also, one or two Pre Exam Recitals.

Our Youngest Artist Recital, when our youngest students perform and for many, their first performance, took place in February. This became our "Branching Out" event when we bought specialty cupcakes for the student performers with our CFMTA subsidy.

Our Funtastic Recital in May, is a recital that gives our students a chance to play their "popular" repertoire and is a popular one for our students to play at.

During our Canada Music Week® Recital, this past November, a special mention was made to Helen Dahlstrom. Helen, who passed away this past summer, was a member of our branch for many years and is remembered as a very well respected educator. Mrs. Dahlstrom will, also, be remembered as the founder of Canada Music Week® and someone who was instrumental as an organizer for this event. It was an evening when our students performed Canadian compositions and our student awards and scholarships were presented.

Because the Kootenay Festival of the Arts was cancelled last year in Trail, our branch hosted a small festival in April. We were gratefully fortunate to have Anne MacDonald, from the Nelson Branch, to adjudicate for us. Overall, it was a great success!

We regularly hold five meetings a year; September, October, January, February and April which we usually hold in each others' homes. A very enjoyable Year End June dinner was held at "Gypsy at Red", a local Red Mountain restaurant.

Our branch sends our regards and we wish everyone another great year of teaching music!

*Dawna Kavanagh* ✨

## VANCOUVER

The Vancouver branch has accepted to host the 2016 BCRMTA Provincial Convention to be held from September 23<sup>rd</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> at The Empire Landmark Hotel on Robson Street.

On October 21, we invited Dr. Corey Hamm to give a piano master class on contemporary music. It was held at the presentation room of Long & McQuade.

We organized a semi-annual student recital for our students on November 3 at Tom Lee Music Recital Hall.

Our yearly Student Performers' Guild festival was held from November 11<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> at Tom Lee Music and at the Wesley Music and Arts Academy to coincide with Canada Music Week®. The SPG Festival Honour Recital was held at the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts in Burnaby on Sunday, December 8, 2013.

We held our annual general meeting on January 27, 2014 and elected a new president, Toni Meyer, vice president, Elisabeta Podut, and treasurer, Martha Brickman. Mary McKinney and Cindy Leung are staying on as recording and correspondence secretaries. Our past co-presidents have elected to resign to focus their efforts on the 2016 BCRMTA Provincial Convention that our branch is hosting.

On February 16, students of our members gave a memorable performance at the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts at a piano recital hosted by the Clef Society of Burnaby.

The Celebration of Excellence recital was held on March 1<sup>st</sup>, Saturday. This is the yearly recital hosted by our branch to award students of our members who

CANADA MUSIC WEEK®  
NOVEMBER 17 - 23, 2014



## VANCOUVER - cont.



Celebration of Excellence recital held at Shadbolt Centre for the Arts.

have received a mark of 90% or more at the different music conservatories. It was a well-attended event and certificates, medals, trophies and scholarships were given to the students. Scholarships from Grades 1 - 7 were generously donated by Tom Lee Music. The senior scholarships were given by the branch.

On May 25 we will hold our semi-annual student recital at Tom Lee Music, Recital Hall. Our year-end lunch will be held at the Shaughnessy Restaurant on June 9.

*Toni Meyer* ✨

## VERNON

The Vernon branch has nineteen members teaching piano, voice and violin. Many regularly have students register for exams with the Royal Conservatory of Music or Conservatory Canada. We are happy to have our own Registered Music Teacher's festival for piano and voice which was held this year from February 28 through March 7. On November 24<sup>th</sup> of this past year, a gala concert was held for Canada Music Week®. At this time, scholarships were presented to students who received top marks on their exams during the previous year. Also in November, we enjoyed a fabulous workshop on improvisation presented by our own Pat Metcalf. We learned a lot and were motivated to introduce our students to improvising.

*Melissa Sutherland* ✨

## VICTORIA

Once again we had a busy year including our Gala Luncheon with our provincial president in attendance, our Canada Music Week® Breakfast Meeting, The Murray Adaskin Composition Competition, and six student concerts, one of which was to encourage young composers to present their own compositions. Our featured Canadian Composer in 2013 was member Diane Berry and she gave us a wonderful live presentation of her flute with recorded loon calls.

This year we have established a new monthly event that is an informal gathering of teachers who get together to discuss whatever might be of concern. As everyone knows teaching tends to be a very solitary profession and this allows them to share with and support each other. A young member, Gillian Lemire-Elmore, has been spearheading this group.

We are looking forward to a quieter summer after a busy term.

*Pat Williamson* ✨

### **Thank you to all the Branches for sending in the reports**

**To all Branches** - for the next issue of *Progressions*, I am looking for a highlight of an event your branch held that you would like to share in more detail.

If you have any questions - please let me know



# IN MEMORIAM

**GRACE LORRAINE DUNFORD** passed from this world into the arms of her best friend and loving savior, Jesus, on November 4, 2013, at the age of 78.

From a strong Roman Catholic background, Grace followed her family's plan for her and entered the convent on her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. While there she earned her Associate in Music of the University of Saskatchewan (AMUS, 1959), both in piano and voice.

In 1963 she received her Licentiate in Music for voice, also from the University of Saskatchewan and that year created the first Ursuline Academy Music Festival, which continued with great success for decades.

Her music was the love of her life and took her all over the country eventually settling in B.C. In 1985 she became a member of the BC Registered Music Teachers Association and taught both voice and piano in Horsefly, Creston, William's Lake, and then finally in Enderby. In May of 2003 she was awarded the Amy Ferguson Award in the capacity of Choral Director and Vocal Teacher.

She met and married Ivan in 1984, living in William's Lake, Horsefly and Creston before moving to Enderby in 2006. In April of 2013 Grace saw her final dream come true: her story told in her published book, *Shattered Dreams of a Runaway Nun*. Grace leaves behind her loving husband of 29 years, Ivan, and numerous extended relatives.



Grace Lorraine Dunford  
member of BCRMTA since 1984  
Shuswap Branch



*Our thoughts  
and prayers are with  
the families and friends  
at this difficult time*



# 25 & 50 YEAR PINS AWARDED IN APRIL

## 25 YEAR PINS

ABBOTSFORD

Carol Walsby

VERNON

Marjorie Close

COQUITLAM-MAPLE RIDGE

Julie Lemon

VICTORIA

Cherry Baines

KELOWNA

Joseph Berarducci

Kristine Beny

Elizabeth Goh

MID ISLAND

Lavern Hillier

Mary Jackson

Jean Grant

David Paulson

Linda Patterson

Sharon Welch

Mary M. Rogers

NORTH SHORE

Leslie Anne Harland

Marcia Meyer

PROVINCIAL

Mary Robertson

## 50 YEAR PINS

RICHMOND

Lois Kerr

Holly Wong

CHILLIWACK

Suzanne Gibson-Coulthard

SOUTH FRASER

Colleen Branson

Carol Fyffe

Karen Noot

Sharon Poon

Heilwig Von Koenigsloew

Karen Warwick

NORTH SHORE

Juanita Ryan

SOUTH FRASER

Margaret Brew

SOUTH OKANAGAN

Ernst Schneider

VICTORIA

Paloma de la Guerra

VANCOUVER

Gaye Alcott

Jean Brown

Lisa Hansen

Clemie Hoshino

Toni Stanick



# B.C. PIANO COMPETITION REPORT

*by Susan Schleppe*

The B.C. Piano Competition will be held September 27, 2014 at the Holiday Inn in North Vancouver. This year is unusual in that there is no Provincial Conference. There are eight entries in this years competition. Since there are only eight entries it will not be necessary to have a CD round. All eight entrants will perform in the semi-final round. The intention is to have piano try-outs from 12:30 pm - 1:50 pm. The Semi-Final Round will begin at 2:30 pm and the Finals at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$20 for a single event, \$35 if you go to both.

The entrants are:

Wesley Hawkins representing Chilliwack  
Catherine Xu representing Coquitlam/Maple Ridge  
Melissa Tao representing Kelowna  
Matthew Krell representing North Island  
Linda Ruan representing Richmond  
Jaeden Izik Dzurko representing Shuswap  
Michelle Lin representing Vancouver  
Keaton Ollech representing Victoria.

The order of performance will be:

- **Vancouver - Michelle Lin**
- **Richmond - Linda Ruan**
- **Coquitlam/Maple Ridge - Catherine Xu**
- **Victoria - Keaton Ollech**
- **North Island - Matthew Krell**
- **Shuswap - Jaeden Izik Dzurko**
- **Kelowna - Melissa Tao**
- **Chilliwack - Wesley Hawkins**

The adjudicator will be Ian Parker.

In addition to prizes for - First (\$800.00) - Second (\$450.00) - Third place (\$250.00)

Westland Insurance have generously provided a \$250.00 award for the best performance of a work by a Canadian Composer.

## YOUNG ARTIST REPORT

While the Young Artist will not be selected until September 27, 2014 now is the perfect time to consider hosting a Young Artist concert as part of the Young Artist Tour 2015. A Young Artist Concert is a fabulous means of introducing high caliber music into your community. Costs are minimal as these tours are a partnership between

the branch and CFMTA with CFMTA providing a stipend for the Young Artist, underwriting travel costs and creating and printing posters for use in advertising the concerts. Costs are further reduced when neighbouring branches each schedule concerts. Branch responsibilities include securing the venue for their concert, publicizing

the event, overnight accommodation and meals for the Young Artist, and printing programs.

If you are interested in hosting a concert or getting more information, please contact Susan Schleppe at [schleppesmusicstudio@shaw.ca](mailto:schleppesmusicstudio@shaw.ca)





## ***B.C. PIANO COMPETITION 2014***

Hosted by the North Shore Branch of the BCRMTA

Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites

North Shore Ballroom

700 Old Lillooet Road

North Vancouver, B.C. V7J 2H5

**Adjudicator: Ian Parker**

Semi-Final Round: 2:30 p.m. - Final Round: 7:30 p.m.

Tickets: Pre-order by mail (below) or at the door. (ALL tickets will be available at the door – CASH OR CHEQUE ONLY).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone or e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Single Event: \$20                      Number of tickets: \_\_\_\_\_

Semi and Final Rounds: \$35                      Number of tickets: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT OF CHEQUE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail cheque (addressed to North Shore Branch BCRMTA) to:

Pat Holme, 953 Beaumont Avenue, North Vancouver, B.C. V7R 1P7

Info or questions: [valeriecook@shaw.ca](mailto:valeriecook@shaw.ca) or 604-988-9313

# HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE APRIL 2014 ANNUAL GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

## **Finance Committee Report - Joanne Lougheed**

The Finance Committee met on April 5 and the Finance Committee Guidelines were reviewed and approved.

Thanks to our BCRMTA Treasurer, Lois Kerr, our financial position continues to be strong. *The Heritage Fund Project* for 2014-2015 is the Branch Advertising Subsidy program which was approved at the September 2013 Provincial Council meeting. The information sheet has been updated and has been emailed as an attachment to the April 2014 Provincial Council minutes that were sent to each branch delegate.

Please remember that the deadline is December 31, 2014 to submit your application for the funds.

## **Registrar's Report - Susan Olsen**

The Branch tallies on March 31, 2014 - a total of 958 members on our BCRMTA current Roster. Susan announced she will be stepping down as registrar at the end of her term in April 2015.

## **Canada Music Week® - Sonia Hauser**

The BCRMTA Student Composer Writing Competition has a total of 63 entries this year with registration funds totalling \$739.00 Well done BC for encouraging our composers to enter this competition!

## **Piano Competition 2014 - Valerie Cook**

The competition will be held at the Holiday Inn and Suites in North Vancouver on Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. The semi-finals will start at 2:30 p.m. and the final competition at 7:30 p.m. Ian Parker was thrilled to be contacted to adjudicate this competition and is confirmed to be at this event.

The hotel has lots of free parking, pools, a spa for massages, manicures and pedicures, a pub, and a restaurant as well as free WiFi in the rooms.

• see page 25

## **BC Piano Competition - Susan Schleppe**

• see page 24

## **Young Artist Tour - Susan Schleppe**

• see page 24

## **Progressions Magazine - Dina Pollock**

Progressions is doing well – ads sales are very stable. This implies that teachers are reading and enjoying the magazine and that businesses see this publication as an asset.

## **Professional Development - Joyce Janzen**

Five branches have applied for grants in the past year, have held successful events and have received \$300 each in funding.

Awareness of this opportunity seems to be greater and more branches are taking advantage of it. The goal for this year is to compile a more current list of clinicians as a resource. Please send recommendations of successful topics and/or clinicians to: [bcrmtaprofdev@gmail.com](mailto:bcrmtaprofdev@gmail.com)

## **BCRMTA Conference 2016 - Keiko Alexander**

The 2016 BCRMTA Provincial Conference will take place September 23 – 25, at the Empire Landmark Hotel in downtown Vancouver. Workshops, master-class, trade show and the BC Piano Competition are planned for this event. We will host a Gala Dinner at the Cloud 9 Revolving Restaurant. The Provincial Council Meeting will be held on Sunday September 25, 2016.

## **Associate Teachers' Award - Anita Perry**

A warm welcome to new members:

Karen Pei Ju Wu

Royal Conservatory of Music

Kathryn Thomas

Victoria Conservatory of Music.

• see page 36



### **Advertising Project 2013/2014 - Cynthia Taylor**

The 2013 BCRMTA Heritage Fund Project was an Advertising Campaign to reach a wider demographic throughout the Province.

We advertised in four different magazines, placing our ad in two editions of each.

- **Senior Living**
- **Island Parent**
- **Okanagan Child** – *the BCRMTA ad is in their online Fall edition magazine 2013 and the BCRMTA “website” is listed in their online Resource Directory – Fall 2013 and Spring 2014*
- **BC Parent** – *the BCRMTA ad is on the home page of the website bcparent.ca*

Three different articles were written and published:

#### **The Power of Practice**

North Island RMT Wendy Dyck  
Island Parent - September 2013  
*(Included in this issue of Progressions)*

Also listed on the website islandparent.ca under “articles” and has had 492 views

#### **Practice, Play Perform**

Prince George RMT Lori Elder  
Okanagan Child - Fall 2013  
*(Included in Winter issue of Progressions)*

#### **Practice Play Perform**

Prince George RMT Lori Elder  
BC Parent - Fall 2013  
*(Included in Winter issue of Progressions)*

#### **Music to Soothe the Senior Soul**

South Fraser RMT Susan Olsen  
Senior Living (website)  
*(Included in this issue of Progressions)*

This article can be found on the website seniorlivingmag.com and has had 730 views.

Total cost of the advertising campaign: \$5,370  
Amount Budgeted: \$5,500.

### **CFMTA Convention 2015 - Joanne Lougheed**

We have confirmed 3 adjudicators/clinicians. They are:

- Jamie Parker from Toronto
- Janet Scott Hoyt from Edmonton
- Sara Davis Buechner from Vancouver

Look for their photos and biographies in our upcoming issues of *Progressions* and *The Canadian Music Teacher* magazines and our website.

Keep up to date with information as it becomes available on our conference website

**[www.cfmtavancouver2015.com](http://www.cfmtavancouver2015.com)**

#### **Policies and Procedures Revisions**

- **Joanne Lougheed/Keiko Alexander**

The revisions and formatting are complete.

The 2014-15 version of the Policies and Procedures will be posted in the **Members Only** section of the website shortly.

#### **Appointment of Board of Examiners**

We are happy to reappoint Marilyn Glazer, and Mary McKinney as members of the BCRMTA Board of Examiners

#### **New Webmaster Appointment**

Congratulations to Dina Pollock our new Website Administrator.

#### **Elections for Standing Committees**

Canada Music Week®

Sonia Hauser by acclamation

BC Piano Competition

Susan Schleppe by acclamation

Young Artist Tour

Susan Schleppe by acclamation

Archives

Susan Olsen by ballot

Professional Development

Joyce Janzen by acclamation

*Progressions* Editor

Dina Pollock by acclamation



# CFMTA/FCAPM Vancouver 2015



*Pathways to . . . Collaboration - Performance - Wellness*



July 8 - 11, 2015

Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel

7551 Westminster Hwy

Richmond, BC

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- Piano Competition
- Workshops
- Trade Show
- Meals and Gala Banquet

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☼ *Registration rates will be the same for members of CFMTA/FACPM and MTNA*

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# Pathways to...

Collaboration - Performance - Wellness

July 8 - 11, 2015 CFMTA/FCAPM Vancouver BC

## CFMTA/FCAPM CONFERENCE SESSION PROPOSALS

*PROPOSALS MUST BE SUBMITTED VIA EMAIL BETWEEN MAY 1 AND NOVEMBER 1, 2014  
BY MIDNIGHT PACIFIC TIME*

Submission of proposals to the conference committee: [proposals@cfmtavancouver2015.com](mailto:proposals@cfmtavancouver2015.com)

ONLY WORD OR PDF SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED

- Conference sessions are available in 45 or 60 minute lengths, and are to include introductory and closing remarks plus Q & A.
- Membership in CFMTA/FCAPM is not a requirement to submit a proposal or present a session.
- Presentations should reflect the themes of Performance, Collaboration and Wellness as closely as possible without being commercial in nature.
- Opportunities for commercial presentations are available through the Trade Show link at [www.cfmtavancouver2015.com](http://www.cfmtavancouver2015.com)
- Selected presenters may present only for 'no charge'. Presenters that plan to attend any other part of the conference will be required to pay fees commensurate with their level of participation.
- Proposal title and equipment needs should not be part of the 250-word proposal or 35-word description.
- Resumés / Biographies should include presentation experience if possible.

Please include the following information in your submission:

- Contact mailing address and e-mail.
- 250-word proposal (full description of the proposal).
- 35-word session description (description that will appear in the program book).
- One-page resume for each presenter as well as a 35-word biography.
- Color photograph of each presenter.
- Total time length of your workshop (45 or 60 minutes).
- List of audio/visual equipment needed.

If you have any questions about the conference proposal process contact us at  
[proposals@cfmtavancouver2015.com](mailto:proposals@cfmtavancouver2015.com)



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# CLARIFYING MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT COPYRIGHT

## WHAT EVERY MUSIC EDUCATOR NEEDS TO KNOW

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<http://www.frederickharrismusic.com/FHMCsite/capricorn?para=showPage&docId=clarcopy&section=CAABOUT>

### ***What is copyright?***

The term “copyright” refers to the property/ownership rights of the creator of an intellectual work such as music. Although not always tangible, a creative work is still property. The Canadian Copyright Act protects the rights of creators to retain control over, and be compensated for, the use of their intellectual property. Many people don’t realize that the reproduction of copyrighted materials such as print music is in essence theft of property. As music educators, we all recognize the value of creativity. Music teachers can play an important role in encouraging their students to respect composers’ efforts by ensuring that students are made aware of the intent of the Canadian Copyright Act.

### **Misconception # 1:**

**A teacher may copy music for educational purposes.**

FALSE.

Many teachers may be under the impression that photocopying for educational use is legal. Although teachers in institutions may have paid for a licence to enjoy special copying privileges in some situations, print music is excluded from this arrangement. This means that teachers are not authorized to photocopy print music. A publisher is often the composer’s representative, and should be contacted directly to obtain permission to make copies for any purpose. In Canada, CanCopy is typically able to quickly handle requests to photocopy.

### **Misconception # 2:**

**It’s okay to photocopy music in order to facilitate a page turn.**

FALSE.

Permission must be granted by the holder of the copyright (the publisher) on the composer’s behalf in order for a copy to be made for any purpose, including the facilitation of page turns.\*

### **Misconception # 3:**

**It’s legal to photocopy music from an out-of-print publication.**

FALSE.

Copyright does not cease to exist just because a book is no longer for sale. It is only legal to make a copy of out-of-print music if permission is granted by the copyright holder. On occasion, a teacher may wish his or her student to study a particular piece of music which is no longer available from music retailers. Contact the publisher of the music for permission to make a copy.

### **Misconception # 4:**

**Permission isn’t required to copy works of long-dead composers.**

FALSE.

Copyright exists both in a musical composition and in the physical notation of a musical score. This means that even if a composer’s works are in the public domain (as Bach’s are), a particular publisher’s edition of those works is still protected property. So, if you wish to write out a particular Bach Invention by hand, then you may do so; however, you may not photocopy it from a music book without the publisher’s permission. (Note: The compositions of a living composer or a composer who has been dead for fewer than fifty years may not be copied without permission, either by hand or otherwise.)

*\* Frederick Harris Music allows festival, recital, and examination participants to photocopy one page per publication in order to facilitate a page turn.*

Please print this public notice and bring it with you to your festival, recital, or examination.

[http://www.frederickharrismusic.com/wcm/ContentMgr/images/page\\_turn\\_public\\_notice.pdf](http://www.frederickharrismusic.com/wcm/ContentMgr/images/page_turn_public_notice.pdf)



# MUSIC TO SOOTHE THE SENIOR SOUL

by Susan Olsen

It's very rare to find a person who does not enjoy some form of music. Every culture in the world has a musical tradition that can bring people together for a sense of community throughout their lives. Instrumental skills and songs are passed from generation to generation – both as a form of identity and a means of expression. The memories created by music last a lifetime.

Many people study music in childhood and make use of their skills throughout their life - but what about those who didn't have this opportunity? Many seniors enjoy music and have always wished to be able to play. Is it too late to enroll in lessons and begin to learn more about singing or playing an instrument in our senior years?

Researchers have ample evidence that there are many benefits, both physical and psychological, for seniors who take up the study of music. It is never too late to start to gain the additional skills and personal satisfaction that music provides.

The most popular instrument to learn to play is the piano. Here are some reasons why this is so:

- it provides a full range of sound, with music reading in both treble and bass clef.
- both melody and accompaniment can be learned near the beginning of study
- lessons are one-to-one and the teacher can tailor each lesson to match the student's ability
- while all musical instruments are challenging to learn, the piano tends to provide musical rewards after a shorter period of time, thus increasing the interest level in learning more.

Pianos come in all shapes and sizes. An acoustic piano that is well cared for will last for 100 years or more, but a neglected piano is often unplayable. It is important to have a piano that is working properly and is in tune, as an inadequate instrument will not produce a pleasing sound, no matter how much one practises!

Modern keyboards are a good substitute if an acoustic piano isn't already available. Keyboards usually take up less space and do not need tuning. Professional teachers most often have acoustic pianos in their studios, so students who are learning on a keyboard will still have exposure to an acoustic piano as they progress.

There is a huge advantage in learning to play by taking lessons from an experienced professional teacher. Sometimes adult students think that because they are beginners, they don't really need a professional teacher. However, a trained teacher knows a great deal about:

- introducing each skill with patience and a sense of logical and useful order
- giving practicing assignments that will ensure steady progress
- providing a variety of music to accommodate the student's interests
- overcoming possible frustrations by offering practical solutions
- giving positive feedback that encourages the student to take on challenges

All of these qualities help to ensure that the student is gaining the full advantage of the lessons and receiving a meaningful education for developing musical skills, to whatever level is desired. Many seniors have surprised themselves with what they were able to achieve, once they got started!

*The following article was written for the BC Senior Magazine as part of BCRMTA Advertising Project for 2013 (funded by our Heritage Fund).*

*The article is posted on the magazine's website and has been viewed many times, perhaps reflecting a growing interest in music study by seniors.*



Singing in a choir is another popular form of music-making for seniors – and those who sing in a community choir are quick to point out the benefits:

- an increase in lung capacity and energy levels. (Singing requires an additional intake of oxygen and this is a known stress reliever)
- sharing experiences with a group of musical friends to help combat loneliness
- learning to memorize words (much easier when done to music) and thus providing
- stimulation to the brain

- following a director's instructions so that concentration is improved and new skills emerge.
- being rewarded with concert performances that are shared with family and friends

In our senior years, we are often faced with physical challenges as our bodies age, but a good attitude and a new interest can provide the stimulus for a happier and busier life in spite of the aches and pains. There is much to be said for the feeling of pride when something new and challenging is learned well!

Being involved in music-making can provide a means of self-expression that gives solace and enjoyment for many happy years.



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*Hello Members - I thought this may be a great resource.*

*Thank you Lillian Chan from the Vancouver Branch for sending this to me - Dina*

- Jazz improvisation  
(started April 28 - 5 weeks long)
- Introduction to guitar  
(started April 28 - 6 weeks long)
- Song writing  
(started April 28 - 6 weeks long)
- Introduction to music production  
(started April 28 - 6 weeks long)
- History of rock, part 1  
(started May 9 - 7 weeks long)
- Fundamentals of music theory  
(July - 5 weeks long)
- The music of the Beatles  
(starting July 6 - 6 weeks long)
- Introduction to digital sound design  
(starting July 21 - 6 weeks long)

The following courses are already done.

Might offer it again in the future:

- Exploring Beethoven's Piano Sonatas

Future courses:

- Fundamentals of audio and music engineering: Part 1 musical sound and electronics
- Introduction to programming for musicians and digital artists
- From the repertoire: western music history through performance
- Fundamentals of rehearsing music ensembles
- Write like Mozart: An introduction to Classical music composition
- History of rock, part 2
- Introduction to classical music
- Survey to music technology
- Listening to world music



# THE POWER OF PRACTICE

by Wendy Dyck

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There is something magical about the piano—maybe it’s the beautiful curves of a baby grand, the complexity of sound it can produce, or the wonder of fingers moving with speed and accuracy across the keyboard. And while it’s certainly not portable and can cost a small fortune to move or maintain, the romance continues. Parents spend hundreds of dollars on lessons, hoping that their son or daughter will make the dream come alive, but the results are mixed. Every year I watch bright, music-loving, musically-gifted children slouch their way through the year making minimal progress despite my best efforts during our lesson time and I am humbly reminded that I am not central to their success—you are.

Success at the piano exists in direct relation to practice at home, and with children, parents play the most obvious role in making sure this happens. Very few children are self-directed enough to pursue music on their own, but many more who love music also need the full support of a parent to practice. How?

You will notice waves of interest in practicing—surf them! These are critical times for students because the intensity they bring to practicing can help them make significant leaps in their technical expertise, reading ability and playing strength, which feeds back into their desire to practice. Make sure your child has music that she enjoys playing, buy a new book

or download some fun sheet music. Join them at the piano and play a duet, even if it’s only Heart and Soul. Get out a guitar or a drum and play with them. Arrange a mini-concert for friends, take a picture of them at the piano and frame it. Record them playing and send it to family—make a CD!

But don’t be surprised when the interest wanes. Seemingly low interest times are the plateaus where students are consolidating new skills, playing music that they really love and don’t want to give up, or just taking the space they need in a life that is full of other interests. Another wave will come. Watch and be ready!

At our house, practicing is linked to other activities—no screen time until practicing has been done. One child loves to practice first thing in the morning so he’s “done” and can use all of his after school time to play. The other child prefers playing in the evening when he’s more likely to have an audience. Is your child a morning person? Does she prefer a quiet household when practicing?

Be consistent. If you have a routine, tag practicing on to another task. Leave flexibility for weekends and accept that a day away from the piano can be helpful. One day, that is—more than one day away from playing can make the return an uphill slog as students struggle to recall skills that were only recently acquired. And any time at the instrument is good time, messing around is better than not being there at all and sometimes it’s all you can ask.

It’s great when the piano is centrally located. It’s easier to monitor what’s going on during the practice session and to offer lots of praise for a good performance. Resist the urge to correct—unless you’ve established a successful way of doing this with your child, it can be counter-productive. Practicing can be the time when your child is taking ownership of acquiring a skill, so leave the corrections to the teacher. The proviso here is that if there is a wrong note that is making the music sound terrible, an intervention can make everyone feel better. Accompany your child. If your piano is situated in a basement or side room, consider taking a book or some work and sitting in the room while your child practices. For many children, one of the hardest things about practicing is being alone.

And if the piano is in the same room as a stereo, computer or television—not a preferred situation—make sure there is a policy with regard to how these different media interact. What gets priority? Will there be resentment on the part of other family members when the practicing commences?



Rewards for practicing should be intrinsic—playing piano better is the best reward for time spent at the instrument. But sometimes an exterior motivator can be helpful. Knowing someone else is listening can be a strong motivator for some children (“I really like that song you play in a minor key. Can you play that one for me?”), as can praise (“That is the best I’ve ever heard you play that!”). Children can be encouraged to develop their own external rewards as part of taking ownership for learning their music, maybe taking time for a snack midway through practicing when they’ve finally mastered a difficult bit, or as a reward

for using correct fingering in a scale. And although parents are key to success for young musicians, the goal must always be to move children towards ownership. Playing piano is their skill and at some point, they must make the commitment. This doesn’t happen in one day, it’s a process whereby parents need to be constantly assessing how much they need to intervene, when they can back off and see what happens. It’s a function of maturity, of skill, of interest and lots of things we don’t see. Be patient, but encourage those moments when a child takes on something difficult without being told, or practices longer than is required.

Remember that music-making is a joyful experience and part of that joy springs from knowing that you’ve worked hard and the beauty you have to share is your own.

*Wendy Dyck has taught piano for almost 20 years and has a music studio that includes students ranging in age from seven to 87. She believes that making music is empowering and dreams of learning to play the accordion.*



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# ASSOCIATE TEACHERS' AWARDS

Each year, the BC Registered Music Teachers' Association presents an award to the student receiving the highest composite mark in the Associate Teachers Diploma offered by four conservatories:

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

The award consists of a \$125. scholarship and a one-year free membership in BCRMTA.

This year the winners are:

Karen Pei Ju Wu

- Royal Conservatory of Music

Kathryn Thomas

- Victoria Conservatory of Music

*Welcome to the BC Registered Music Teachers' Association*

## Karen Pei Ju Wu



Karen was born and raised in Taiwan. After moving to Vancouver, she began her formal piano training with Henry Waack and Dunja Bohinc, followed by advanced studies with Dr. Anna Levy. She currently holds an Associate Diploma from the Royal Conservatory of Music in Performance. With a love for teaching, she devoted herself to complete the A.R.C.T. in Piano Pedagogy with Kitty Yeung, where she achieved the highest mark. Karen has worked as a full-time piano teacher for over ten years and has a strong track record of success with her students.

## Kathryn Thomas



Kathryn Thomas has spent the last two years in the Diploma program co-run by the Victoria Conservatory of Music and Camosun College. In addition to her core curriculum as a flute major studying with Dr. Mary Byrne, Kate has taken courses in Flute Pedagogy, Conducting, Counterpoint/Post-1900 Theory, and Collaborative Piano. She is thrilled to be starting second year at Memorial University of Newfoundland in September, pursuing a Bachelor of Music with a double principal major – studying both flute and piano. Kate loves learning about music, and is excited about the possibility of sharing her knowledge with students in the future.



# SUMMER SUMMIT 2014: Inspired Teaching with Technology



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- Everyday Technology for Every Lesson
- To Infinity and Beyond! Imaginative Uses for Your Mobile Device
- Technology for Teaching Improvisation

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Mario Ajero



Shana Kirk



Janet Lopinski



Stella Branzburg Sick

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# Summer Programs



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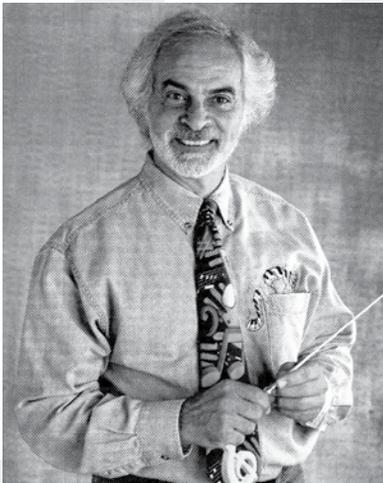
# BCRMTA Abbotsford Branch

Presents

## An Inspirational Workshop

September 20, 2014

9:00 am - 5:30 pm



### STEPS TO PARNASSUS:

*Guiding Young Musicians to Self-Regulated Practicing*  
Dr. John Picone

#### Description:

“Be sure you practice carefully this week, OK?” Imagine! I’ve just given this instruction to an 8-year-old and expect her to sustain independent learning for the next 6 days! My piano student understands everything in the notation. But does she know how to practice effectively? Will she meet with the success she expects? Or, eventually, will she say, “This is too hard!” and quit. Is learning the piano or clarinet really too hard? Or is my student trying to chop down a tree with a spoon? This presentation re-theorizes the practising musician, re-defines the music educator, and re-conceptualizes music education. This is a practical workshop. The session will demonstrate, through video recorded Guided Practice sessions - in both piano and band settings - pedagogical approaches that nurture self-regulated, effective musical practicing. Musicians mentoring musicians, and parents assisting with practicing at home are also among the practical ideas offered. Workshop participants will enjoy the opportunity to participate in some actual music teaching in the workshop. Key elements of intrinsic motivation and the self-system are also discussed. Teachers of ALL levels are welcome!

8:30 – 9:00	Registration
9:00 – 10:40	Workshop clinician 1
10:40 – 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 – 12:30	Workshop clinician 2
12:30 – 1:30	Lunch (Catered)
1:30 – 3:00	Workshop clinician 1
3:00 – 3:20	Coffee break
3:20 – 5:00	Workshop clinician 2
5:00 – 5:30	Q & A



### SOUNDS AND COLORS

Zuzana Ben Lassoued

#### Description:

Music inspires art and art inspires music. Sounds and Colors present music in art through Musical Oil Paintings of all musical periods: Medieval Age, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Impressionistic, Contemporary, Rock, Pop and Jazz based on research, performance, teaching and listening. Silence is the *idée fixe* in all paintings represented on canvas through the light, which changes the size and form depending on the development of each musical period. Music in colors focuses on historical development of Western music and influences of cultures such as: Ancient Greeks and Gypsies. Scientifically, sounds and colors have many parameters in common. Measured and compared are the frequency range of audible and visible spectrum, the wavelength of sounds and colors, the number of primary sounds and colors as well as the number of notes and colors in their systems. Oil paintings involve forbidden music, call and response and melodies with different names such as *vox principalis* or hooks. Furthermore, importance of harmonies and vertical thinking is implemented through the colors as a response to a simple concept of the human being which is a communication in a multicultural world.

**VENUE** - Best Western Regency Inn and Conference Centre  
32110 Marchall Rd - Abbotsford, BC

**FEES** - Early Bird deadline July 15<sup>th</sup> \$ 99  
After July 15<sup>th</sup> \$ 119  
STA Members \$ 50

[www.abbotsfordmusicteachers.com](http://www.abbotsfordmusicteachers.com)

# BCRMTA - Abbotsford Branch Presents



## An Inspirational Workshop September 20, 2014

**Clinicians:** **Dr. John Picone:** Steps to Parnassus: Guiding Young Musicians to Self-Regulated Practicing  
**Zuzana Ben Lassoued:** Sounds and Colors

**Venue:** Best Western Regency Inn and Conference Centre  
32110 Marshall Rd., Abbotsford, B.C.

**Time:** Registration 8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Workshop: 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

**Workshop fee:**      **Early Bird deadline July 15<sup>th</sup>**                      **\$ 99.00**  
                                 **After July 15<sup>th</sup>:**    **\$ 119.00**  
                                 **STA members**    **\$ 50.00**  
**(Includes 2 coffee breaks with refreshments and catered lunch)**

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Dietary needs: Vegetarian/Vegan \_\_\_\_\_  
Gluten-free \_\_\_\_\_  
Allergies \_\_\_\_\_

Interested in dinner following the workshop? (Not included in workshop fee) yes / no \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail registrations to: REGISTRAR: Celeste-tina Hernandez  
33348 Wren Cres.  
Abbotsford, B.C. V2S 5W1



# REVIEW OF PUBLICATIONS



Celeste-Tina Hernandez  
Piano, Theory  
Abbotsford  
Member since 2005



Katherine Hume  
Piano, Theory  
Sunshine Coast  
Member since 2001



Joyce Janzen  
Piano, Theory  
Abbotsford  
Member since 1983



Janet Marcotte  
Piano  
South Okangan  
Member since 1992



Nita Pelletier  
Piano, Theory, History  
Chilliac  
Member since 1988



Jean Ritter  
Piano, Theory  
Abbotsford  
Member since 2006

**Black Key Blast**  
by Wendy Stevens  
Early Elementary  
Six Pre-Staff Solos *With Accompaniment*  
The Willis Music Company  
(Hal Leonard) HL00123104



*Click Clock Click,*  
*I Am the Princess,*  
*Ninja Power* are a few  
of the titles in this  
book that provides

interesting supplementary solos for this level of playing. Note values are confined to the basic: quarter note, half note, dotted half note and whole note as well as the corresponding rests. All arrangements are shared between the two hands. Teacher accompaniment solos are provided to enhance the arrangement and help with listening and rhythmic skills.

JM

**Tasty Tunes Early to Mid-Elementary**  
by Wendy Stevens  
The Willis Music Company  
(Leonard Corporation) HL00121934

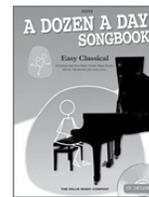


As I played through this music, I could imagine my little students singing the lyrics which are quite engaging and really fun! These ten “morsels”

increase in difficulty as you move forward through the book. Only two of the pieces move outside the reading range of bass C to treble C. The use of 8va and 15ma helps keep the reading simplified. No key signatures are written but accidentals are inserted in many of the pieces. The shortest note value is the quarter note. Ms. Stevens has creative ways of using rests and accents to add some challenge and fun. For the student that loves food this is an excellent way of adding flavor to music assignments!

JR

**A Dozen A Day Songbook - Mini**  
The Willis Music Company  
Easy Classical – CD included  
Hal Leonard HL00121743



This collection of well-known classics is a supplementary book to its corresponding Dozen A Day technique book by Edna Mae

Burnam. It can also be used on its own. This level uses simple melody lines mostly in middle C position using alternating hands. They are arranged so they progress gradually applying concepts and patterns that are introduced in the exercise book. The enclosed CD split track that provides a piano and accompaniment track or an accompaniment only track.

JM

**Happy Time Book 2 - Elementary**  
by Alexandre Tansman  
Hal Leonard HL00123105



What an interesting collection of 13 pieces designed to hold the musical interest of the student! The modern harmonies

and dissonances as well as modern rhythms are there to develop the student's musical understanding. When I approached the book, I was thinking “elementary” as we know it in our Western music method books. This book is for the beginning piano student but according to the levels we're accustomed to this would be about Grade 5 difficulty. The music is interesting, vital and musically alive. Some of the pieces show strong evidence of Mr. Tansman's chamber music writing. Many techniques are explored in these works from rhythmic to sustaining the longer value notes in one voice while the others change around them. A delight to review.

JR

# REVIEW OF PUBLICATIONS - CONT.

## **FJH Federation Favorites Book 1 Early Elementary/Elementary The FJH Music Co. Inc. FJH2079**



This volume of music is a compilation of the 14 best-selling solos from the National Federation of Music Clubs bulletins all in one book. This level

offers pieces with melodies shared between the hands and very little hands together arrangements. Most songs include a teacher accompaniment duet. Fun titles like *Crazy Cars*, *Cheerful Chimes* and *Circus Tumblers* provide ideal repertoire for performance in a variety of styles by FJH's leading composers.

JM

## **Faber Studio Collection Selections from PlayTime Piano Level 1 arr. by Nancy and Randall Faber Hal Leonard HL00119433**



This volume of music offers a mix of styles with a sampling from the Popular, Jazz & Blues, Classics, Rock & Roll and other favorite books

presenting an array of genres all in Level 1. When a style resonates, the student can pick up just the right book for a follow-up. This volume has finger melodies that reinforce note-reading skills. Teacher duets for each melody provide vitality, color and ensemble experience. Online support is available for this book.

JM

## **Premier Jazz, Rags & Blues Books Book 2A and 2B by Martha Mier Alfred Publishing 42425 42426**

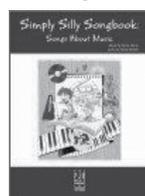


I am a huge advocate for the Alfred Premier Piano Course! I encourage my pedagogy students to consider this method as they prepare to be successful teachers. The addition of Jazz, Rags & Blues books filled with original pieces that reinforce concepts introduced in the Lesson Books 2A and 2B adds even greater variety to the student's music choices. The pieces correlate page by page with the materials in the lesson books and can be assigned alongside or as review material after the designated pages are completed. Now students can enjoy ragtime, blues, boogie and jazz and strengthen their rhythmic skills while having a great time! In the levels 1A and B, the duet accompaniment contained the rhythm; now the student gets to experience playing it! These books could be used with any method and the music would be superb for a recital and other performance opportunities!

These books are a great source of enjoyment for everyone!

JR

## **Simply Silly Songbook: Songs About School Music by Kevin Olson Lyrics by Kenn Nesbitt The FJH Music Co. Inc. FJH2221**



Here are 10 fantastic, high beginner/low intermediate songs about school. There are titles like *I Sort of Have the Sniffles*, *This Morning Is Our History*

*Test, Calculator, Calculator, My Dog Ate My Homework, My Book Report Is Due Today*, and more. They all made me smile! The lyrics are fun, and together with the music, would be motivating for students to learn. All the keys are very easy, and there are not many hand position changes within each piece. The music really sounds like the titles. For example, the *Calculator* song is repetitious, like a machine, and *Time Machine* reminded me of outer space. Most of the pieces are only two – three pages each. The cover is colourful and eye-catching as well. I recommend this book!

CH

## **One of a Kind Solos - Book 3 Early Intermediate 9 Unique Piano Pieces by Wynn-Anne Rossi Alfred Publishing 42376**



This is an excellent resource that provides a variety of styles in one book. It exposes the student to boogie, swing, jazz, tango, irregular rhythms in nine fun solos at a Grade 3 – 4 level. Such descriptive titles as *Midnight Snow*, *Prankster* and *Hero Variations* give the student an idea of the interpretive challenges they face in order to play each piece well.

JM

A black and white photograph of Jeremiah Brown, an Olympic rower. He is wearing a dark cap with a Nike logo, sunglasses, and a white athletic shirt with a Canadian Olympic team patch on the shoulder. He has a determined expression and is looking slightly to the right.

# Be An ATHLETE.

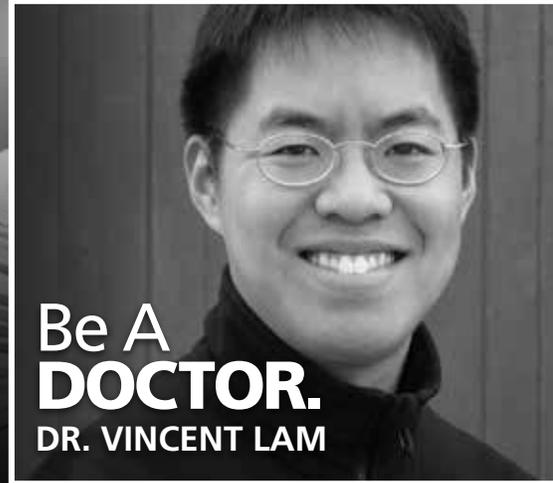
“Both music and sports provided limitless long-term development possibility. We all find ourselves gravitating toward some core interests in life... I think there’s so much intrinsic, meaningful experience in really focusing on what you enjoy doing.”

## JEREMIAH BROWN

Olympic Rower  
2012 Silver Medal Winner  
Royal Conservatory alumnus

A black and white portrait of Annabel Lyon, a woman with dark, wavy hair, looking slightly to the right with a neutral expression.

Be An  
**AUTHOR.**  
ANNABEL LYON

A black and white portrait of Dr. Vincent Lam, a man with glasses, smiling broadly.

Be A  
**DOCTOR.**  
DR. VINCENT LAM

A black and white portrait of Piya Chattopadhyay, a woman with dark hair, smiling.

Be A  
**JOURNALIST.**  
PIYA CHATTOPADHYAY

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The finest instrument is the mind.

# Premier Piano Course

Dennis Alexander • Gayle Kowalchyk • E. L. Lancaster • Victoria McArthur • Martha Mier

## Jazz, Rags & Blues 1A–3

All New Original Music by Martha Mier

Premier Jazz, Rags & Blues include original pieces that reinforce concepts introduced in the corresponding Lesson books.

- Martha Mier has composed all new music in a variety of styles, including ragtime, blues, boogie, and jazz.
- Each piece in Books 1A and 1B has a duet accompaniment that adds harmonic interest and rhythmic stability.
- The pieces in each book correlate with the materials in the corresponding Lesson book.



24 Lesson Book pages 34–35

### Half Step Blues

Martha Mier

Moderately slow

Premier Jazz, Rags & Blues 2A

28 Lesson Book pages 44–45

### Jazz Waltz in D Major

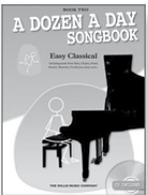
Martha Mier

Brightly

Premier Jazz, Rags & Blues 3

# REVIEW OF PUBLICATIONS - CONT.

**A Dozen A Day Songbook  
Book 2  
Easy Classical  
The Willis Music Company  
(Hal Leonard) 121742**



This is a collection of 10 well-known classical pieces that have been simplified to suit a high beginner/early intermediate level student.

The book can be used as supplemental material to the *A Dozen A Day* series by Edna Mae Burnam, or alone. The pieces progress gradually from the easiest, *Air* from *The Water Music* by Handel to *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik (1st Movement: Allegro)* by Mozart. Concepts and patterns from Burnam's technical exercises are often applied. Since students may not be familiar with the music, they can play along to the included CD. Each track is split; one can hear both piano and accompaniment or accompaniment only by changing the balance control on the CD player. The pieces are three – four pages long, and all are written in easy keys; no more than one flat or sharp is employed in the key signatures. Students will like the large, non-intimidating note size and the good use of white space; there are only four staves per page for most of the pieces. This book could be a good introduction to classical music for non-RCM students.  
CH

**Alaska Sketches  
by Lynda Lybeck-Robinson  
Eight Pieces for Piano Solo  
Intermediate Level  
Hal Leonard HL00119637**



Alaska Sketches is a delightful solo repertoire book that employs a variety of skills expected at the intermediate level. Each piece comes with

performance notes that describe the composer's intention for each composition. Such interesting titles as *Williwaw*, *Iditarod*, *Hungry Sea* and more spark the imagination to create these sound pictures. This would be an excellent volume for recital solos and sight-reading.  
JM

**One of a Kind Solos  
Book 4 - Intermediate  
by Wynn-Anne Rossi  
Alfred 42377**



This is one of those music books where, when you start playing through each of these eight unique pieces, you are drawn in and cannot stop until you've played them all. For example, the first piece, *Asymmetry*, alternates between 5/8 and 7/8 time, with lots of hand position changes, providing a fun challenge for the right student. The next piece, *Featherweight Waltz*, sounds just like the title; the melody is beautiful and the music approachable. What variety in this book! Some pieces are quirky, others playful, and others mysterious. My favourite is *Jazz Train*, which is played in swing time, and changes back and forth from 4/4 to 3/4 time. The music has helpful pedal

markings, dynamic markings, and suggested tempos. Bar numbers and fingerings add to the usability of this book.  
CH

**Famous & Fun Deluxe Collection  
Book 4 - Early Intermediate  
by Carol Matz  
Alfred Publishing 42437**



This is a wonderful collection of 23 selections of student favorites. The music is drawn from Fun & Famous Book 4s: Pop, Favorites, Duets, Classics, and Rock. This would wonderfully supplement any method used and the pieces are arranged with no more than two sharps or flats in the key signature. Accidentals are scattered about as the music modulates. In this level Ms. Matz has included arrangements in cut time and 6/8. Although the shortest value notes are eighth notes, the inclusion of triplets, syncopation, and swing keep the students on their toes rhythmically. The use of legato pedal is required in many of the works and numerous articulations are incorporated. *The Pink Panther* is in a duet arrangement that is sure to be a hit! For the Disney fan, the duet *Chim Chim Cher-ee* will be enjoyed. If you haven't had your fill of *The Entertainer*, this favorite is available here.

I find these deluxe collections to be a perfect fit for students wanting a variety of musical styles!  
JR

## REVIEW OF PUBLICATIONS - CONT.

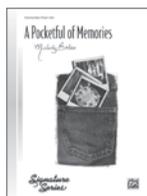
### Famous & Fun Deluxe Collection Book 5 - Intermediate by Carol Matz Alfred Publishing 42438



This is a collection of favourites in these four different styles as well as three equal-part duets. Arrangements include broken and arpeggiated chords, scale runs, dotted and syncopated rhythms, intervals of fifths and sixths but no octaves. There is such a variety of repertoire all in one volume. *Under the Sea, New York, New York, Clair de Lune, Habanera, Alexander's Ragtime Band, Maple Leaf Rag, Eye of the Tiger,* and *Imagine* are just a few of the titles.

JM

### A Pocketful of Memories Piano solo by Melody Bober Alfred Publishing 42409



A simple ballad with a gentle mood, it opens in D major,  $\frac{3}{4}$  time (marked Gracefully) with both hands in treble clef. The lilting melody moves to the LH in the middle section with chords in RH (good for teaching balance between the hands). The pedaling is marked and the dynamics range from p – mf. The main theme returns and a coda has both hands playing quiet chords in bass clef. I recently assigned this delightful piece to a grade 5 student who played it beautifully after only one week and said she loved it.

NP

### A Perfect 10 Book 5 - Late Intermediate by Melody Bober Alfred Publishing 42338



This is a book of 10 winning solos in 10 styles. Six original pieces in jazz, blues, ragtime, Latin, ballad, and showstopper styles are certain to provide great pleasure to the late intermediate pianist. Besides these original solos, Ms. Bober has included a piece from four stylistic periods with: works by C.P.E. Bach, Chopin, Kuhlau, and Tcherpnin. The student has plenty of opportunity to grow musically with the technical challenges and diverse styles to master.

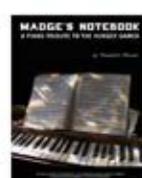
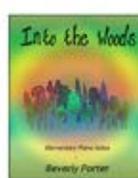
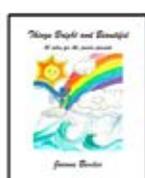
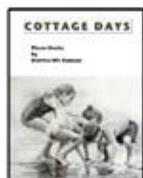
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They are met with mood contrasts, rhythmic challenges, hand crossovers, register changes, pedal opportunities, various articulations, contrasting dynamics, and key changes to provide expressive opportunities for musical growth. All of these piano solos would be entertaining at any performance! My students enjoy the compositions of Melody Bober and love to perform them! The contrasting styles offered in this book are sure to please!

JR

### Rhythm-a-Catta

**Piano solo by Dennis Alexander  
Alfred Publishing 42410**



This lively dance-like piece in A minor marked *Presto marcato* ranges over the whole keyboard. Challenges include staccato repeated chords,

hand over hand broken chords, syncopated rhythms that call for careful counting and changes of clefs for one or both hands. Opening in cut time, the time signature changes midway to  $\frac{3}{4}$  and then back to cut time for the *Dal Segno* al Coda. The repeats, first and second endings and D.S. are a good demonstration of the often complicated “road maps” that many popular pieces employ. A good choice for agile players at the grade 5 -6 level.

NP

**Piano Recital Showcase: Ragtime  
Early Intermediate/Intermediate  
by Boyd, Keveren, Klose, Linn,  
Rejino, Tsitsaros, and J.& M. Watts  
Hal Leonard HL00124242**



If you're at a loss as to what music to choose for your recital, consider this high energy, toe tapping ragtime music! These eight original rags will be a delight to both students and audience.

The *Butterfly Rag* is in A+ and that is the maximum number of sharps. Many of the pieces have chromatic passages and only two are played in swing style. The time signatures are either cut time or common time. This music is excellent for developing LH jumps and articulation.

JR

**Inspirational Pop Hits  
Arr. by Carol Tornquist  
Alfred Publishing 39048**

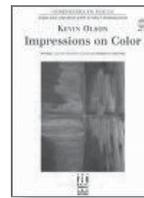


Drawn from popular inspirational pieces from 1967 through 2008, from well known to more obscure, from country, jazz, folk and pop, this

book of eleven pieces is somewhat eclectic in choice, style and range. The difficulty is designated ‘Early Advanced’ largely because of the key signatures which range from five sharps to five flats, accidentals of occasional white note flats and double flats, and a minimum of at least one key change in each piece. The arrangements themselves are not difficult or ostentatious with only one piece using some sixteenth note passages and seven note chords between two hands. The styling makes these pieces suitable for weddings and other celebratory events. Contents include *Because You Loved Me*, *Bridge Over Troubled Water*, *Only Hope*, *The Prayer*, *What a Wonderful World*, *You Raise Me Up* and more. Each pianist is bound to find at least one favorite here!

JJ

**Impressions on Color  
Late Intermediate/Early Advanced  
by Kevin Olson  
The FJH Music Com. Inc. FJH2182**



The concept of creating compositions on impressions of seven different colors is quite intriguing! Mr. Olson's exploration of the colors of the rainbow is

very fascinating and is designed to be a source of inspiration for the player to find interesting ideas and images for their own improvisation and composition. Each piece has a number of emotions that reflect the effect of the color. For example: *Impressions on Orange* is joyful, Enthusiastic, Spontaneous, and Optimistic. *Impressions on Violet* is Inspired, Artistic, Noble, Dignified. Each composition represents the emotions wonderfully. Mr. Olson incorporates the use of polymeter, intricate rhythms, frequent register changes, modulation, hand crossovers, and large range of dynamic contrasts. An extra bonus is the CD recorded by Mr. Olson that is sure to inspire and entertain.

I thoroughly enjoyed this music!

JR

**Collected Piano Solos - Advanced  
Dan Coates Popular Piano Library  
Alfred Publishing 41405**



Collected here in this book are 47 of Dan Coate's popular arrangements for advanced piano, divided into four sections: Popular Standards, Ballads, Movie

Solos and Broadway Hits. These diverse arrangements will provide accomplished pianists with challenges and enjoyment as they learn such songs as Cole Porter's *Night and Day*, Josh Groban's *Let Me Fall*, Aaron Zigman's *The Notebook*, Lerner & Lowe's *I Could Have Danced All Night* and many more!

JM

# REVIEW OF PUBLICATIONS - CONT.

## SACRED

### Praise Hits Level 2 & Level 3

Arr. by Tom Gerou

Alfred Publishing 40072, 40073



*Praise Hits Levels 2 and 3* are part of the *Alfred's Basic Piano Library* and as such, are carefully graded to work as supplementary material alongside the Lesson Books. Each piece increases in difficulty and has instructions as to when it should be assigned. These books are easily used with the series or on their own. In Level 2 *Forever* divides the melody between the RH and LH requiring each hand to bring out the melody and to play accompaniment in turn. *You are my King* is written in half notes and quarter notes with some eighths, making it easier to read. The tempo, however, is quite quick. *Blessed Be Your Name, Forever Reign, Holy is the Lord, Revelation Song* and *Our God* are written mostly with eighth notes. Other pieces in the Level 2 are *Lord, I Lift Your Name on High, The Wonderful Cross, Blessed by Your Name, Hosanna* and *Here I am to Worship*. In each arrangement RH plays a single note melody with an occasional accompanying note in the same hand. LH consists of two notes at the most with the exception of two pieces which are accompanied by solid triads in the LH. Level 3 introduces more syncopation, more LH chording and slightly more use of a second note along with the melody in the RH. LH uses broken chords in *Indescribable* and *Hosanna. 10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)* deals with difficult rhythm with

a change of meter for one bar. Other pieces in this level are *Everlasting God, From the Inside Out, In Christ Alone, Jesus Messiah, Mighty to Save, One Thing Remains, The Stand* and *Your Grace is Enough*. Each piece in both of these books is well known and published within the last decade. In spite of the fact that contemporary Christian music with its complex rhythms and melodies is difficult to arrange for lower levels, these arrangements are idiomatic to the style and are well done.

JJ

### Sunday Morning Special Services Companion

Arr. by Victor Labenske

Alfred Publishing 42366



This is the sixth in a series of *Sunday Morning Companion* coil bound books of about one hundred and thirty pages. The others are

*Hymns, Christmas, Holiday, Praise and Styles* – all of which are worth checking out. The *Sunday Morning Special Services Companion* contains thirty four selections for weddings, funerals, communion, confirmation, and baptism. The wedding music comprises about a third of the book and is traditional in nature. An interesting feature is adaptable lengths for processions – shorter, medium and longer versions. Another item of interest is two versions of Wagner's *Bridal Chorus* and two versions of Mendelssohn's *Wedding March* – one traditional and one contemporary. Also included are two incidental interludes, one thirty seconds long, the other one minute long. Other favorites include Bach's *Bist du bei mir*, and *Jesus, Joy*

*of Man's Desiring, Prince of Denmark's March, Largo (Xerxes)* and *Canon in D*.

The music for funerals and memorial services is drawn from hymns and spirituals. Some of the selections are *Abide with Me, He Hideth my Soul, In the Garden* and *Let's Go Down to the River*. Dr. Labenske is no stranger to arrangements of sacred music. His collections are eminently pianistic and playable. His arrangements sound professional yet, at an intermediate to late intermediate level, require minimal preparation. The layout of the Alfred's Sacred Performer Collections is spacious and legible with bar numbers and approximate performance times. This is an excellent resource that the church pianist will reach for again and again.

JJ

### A Glorious Wedding Celebration

Arr. by Marilyn Ham

Alfred Publishing 40564



Ten pieces in this book take the pianist from the prelude through the postlude and everything in between. Each piece is suggested for various parts

of the wedding ceremony and comes with approximate performance time. The level of Advanced Piano is accurate as the arrangements feature octaves or running sixteenth passages in the LH and four note chords, octaves, sixteenth or thirty second note passages in the RH. Five of the pieces are traditional and five are more contemporary. The Wagner *Bridal Chorus* and the Mendelssohn *Wedding March* are treated to virtuosic arrangement as is the *Doxology*, a piece which moves through several key signature and time

signature changes. *O Mio Babbino Caro* combines four notes chords and thirds in sixteenth note values in the RH with a continuous sixteenth note accompaniment in the LH. The Bach/Gounod *Ave Maria* is also embellished in similar manner. *How Beautiful, I Will be Here, The Prayer* and *You Raise Me Up* are drawn from contemporary Christian or inspirational repertoire, while *You Light Up My Life* (Brooks) is an older pop piece. Arrangements are pianistic and appealing and provide another great resource for the wedding pianist.

## DUETS

### Masterwork Classics Duets

Book 4, 5 & 6

Selected and Edited by

B. Kowalchyk, E.L. Lancaster, J.

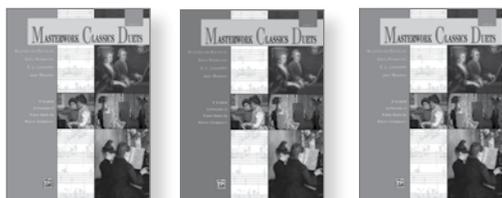
Magrath

Alfred Publishing

40839

41275

41276



In six volumes, the first two volumes are teacher/student duets. Volumes 3 – 6 range from approximately grades 4 – 6 and feature well chosen selections by mainly Classical German composers. Primo and Secondo parts, of equal interest and level of difficulty, are printed on facing pages. Primo parts avoid using ledger lines by using 8va notations above the RH. Edited and fingered (no pedal markings), the music

is easy to read with good page layout. In **Volume 4**, all 13 pieces by seven composers are in easy keys and simple in style, often with typical classical gestures such as Alberti bass. *Sonatina in C* by Diabelli is a good complement to the List B pieces in grade 4. *Mysterious Story* by Kirchner, a charming one-page duet, could introduce students to the character pieces of Schumann. *Katy-dids* by Amy Beach marked *Vivace* and *sempre staccato* features lots of repeated notes and *marcato fortissimo* passages – great for students who like to play fast and loud!

A greater variety of forms is introduced in the 12 selections by nine composers featured in **Volume 5**. *Rondo* by Mozart may be a bit long (6 pages) for students at this level but has a fun cross-over of the hands (LH primo over RH secondo). *March* by Wohlfahrt (from “The Children’s Musical Friend”) sounds like Sousa: bright, cheerful and happy. *Venetian Boat Song* (Op. 19 #6) by Mendelssohn, arranged by Czerny, *Barcarolle* by Fibich and *Am See* by Poldini are similar in style: excellent for teaching phrasing and as an introduction to Mendelssohn’s *Songs without Words*.

**Volume 6**, containing 14 pieces by 11 composers, includes excerpts from larger collections. For example: *Pavane de le belle au bois dormant* is from Ravel’s beautiful *Ma mère l’Oye* suite. Cui’s *Russian Dance* is from “10 pièces pour cinq touches”. Daniel Türk’s *The Storm*, similar in style to the popular etude *The Avalanche* by Heller, is in C minor and has fast moving 16<sup>th</sup> notes for both players. Chromatic and dramatic, it would make an outstanding festival piece. Grace notes and ornaments are featured in

the spirited *Polonaise* by Türk. *March* by Niels Gade has ensemble challenges with alteration of dotted rhythms between the parts. *Fugue on a Russian Theme* from *Six Children’s Pieces* by Anton Arensky is a fine introduction to contrapuntal playing. With dynamics ranging from *p* to *fff*, there is drama and lots of detailed passage work with varying articulations and syncopated rhythms.

Overall, the “Masterwork Classics Duet” collections could work very well for adult pleasure playing and could also serve as marvelous repertoire development for younger players.

KH - NP

### Every Time I Feel the Spirit

Arr. by Timothy Brown

one piano, four hands

FJH Music Co. Inc. E1092



In a rousing, entertaining gospel style, this arrangement of the African-American Spiritual begins with in D major in 4/4 time with

a 4 bar intro marked “moderately, expressively.” Secondo then launches into a phrase of the melody (“with Spirit”) in LH and carries on with mainly staccato chords and octaves. Primo now carries the melody to the end of this short (less than two minutes and only 37 bars), jazzy piece. Great fun for recitals or for modern church services, it would appeal to all ages at the grade 8 level.

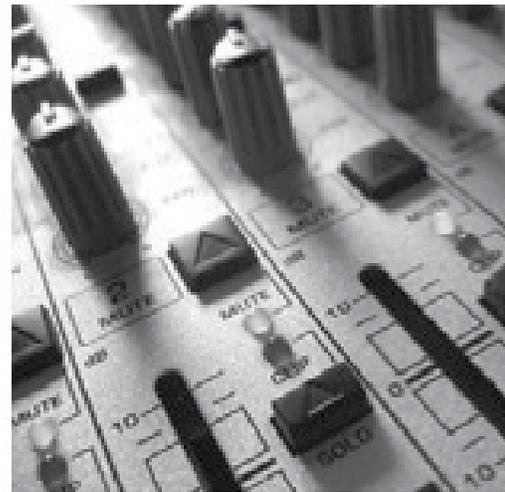
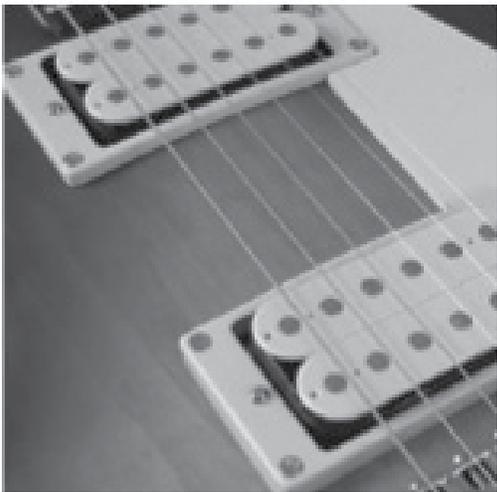
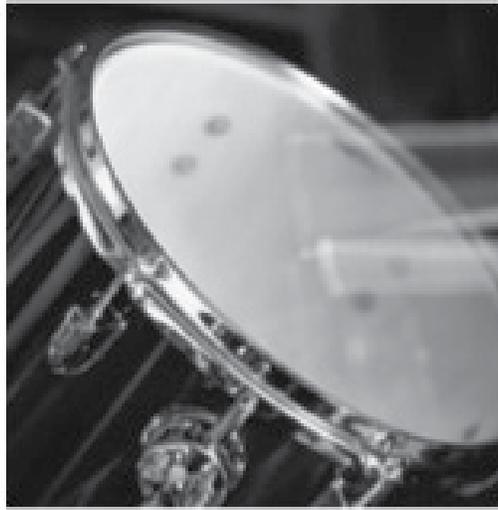
NP



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