

Progressions

Inside this issue:

- *Coming - BCRMTA Piano Competition 2018*
- *Meet the Branch Representatives*

And so much more.....



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Published by the Provincial Council of BCRMTA. Any material included with the magazine does not necessarily have the endorsement of the Provincial Council.

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We are perfectly happy to co-operate, but we don't want quotations to appear out of context.

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PUBLICATION INFORMATION

Next Issue: **FALL 2018**
Copy Deadline: **JULY 15, 2018**

Advertising rates:

Back Cover	\$ 30.00
Inside Cover	\$ 130.00
Full Page	\$ 110.00
Half Page	\$ 70.00
Third Page	\$ 55.00
Quarter Page	\$ 45.00
Business Card	\$ 35.00

Circulation: 1175

The Editor reserves the right to edit submissions. Send all advertising inquiries and material to the editor:
editor@bcrmta.bc.ca





The President's Message



Joanne Lougheed
president@bcmrta.bc.ca

By virtue of the blue sky and sunshine outside my window this morning, it would appear that spring has finally arrived – an eagerly anticipated event to be sure. In addition to ‘April showers and May flowers’, Spring is that time of year when students and teachers are making that final push toward completing the goals set at the beginning of the year – whether that is preparing for theory and/or practical exams, recitals, competitions, auditions or simply learning new music for its own sake. Whatever your goals are, may you achieve the end results you are aiming toward.

At the recent BCMRMTA Provincial Council meeting, elections were held to fill the various committee head positions. I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all those who allowed their names to stand for election/ratification:

- Mary McKinney – Board of Examiners
- Canada Music Week – Sonia Hauser
- BC Piano Competition – Maureen Hollins
- Young Artist Tour – Sonia Hauser
- Archives – Susan Olsen
- Professional Development – Elizabeth Munro
- Progressions Magazine – Dina Pollock
- Web Administrator – Dina Pollock.

Congratulations to all of you – your interest and commitment to BCMRMTA is truly appreciated.

The BC Piano Competition will be held in September 2018 in White Rock, BC. Details surrounding the competition, adjudicator and competitors are contained later in the magazine. I encourage you all to consider adding this to your list of ‘Must Attend’ events. The winner of the competition will represent British Columbia at the CFMTA/FCAPM National Piano Competition being held in Winnipeg, MB in July 2019. Thank you to the South Fraser Branch for hosting and organizing the competition.

One of the more pleasurable aspects of the role of President of BCMRMTA, (not that there are non-pleasurable aspects!) is proofreading the Progressions Magazine prior to sending it to the printers. The Spring issue contains the annual branch reports. Many interesting and unique opportunities for

growth and development are described – both for students and teachers. I continue to be amazed at the diversity of the programs and of the energy that is needed to ensure success. It would appear that BCMRMTA is alive and well across the province. Please take the time to read these reports – perhaps there is something there that will spark new ideas for your branch to use in future planning.

During the online membership renewal process for the 2018 – 2019 year, BCMRMTA members were asked for their preferences regarding the distribution of the Progressions magazine – digital versus paper. In spite of being an acknowledged reluctant reader of magazines in digital format, it did not come as any surprise to me that a large majority of our membership preferred receiving their magazine in some sort of digital format. One of my goals is to become more familiar and hopefully more comfortable with reading material on a screen rather than just paper. Having said that, I will not be giving up my paper books and magazines regardless of the ability to read the digital format without having to turn on a light! My thanks to Dina and the rest of the membership in continuing to gently nudge those of us reluctant users towards trying to become more comfortable!

The annual meeting of the CFMTA/FCAPM Executive Committee will be held in Toronto ON in July 2018. This year’s meeting is being extended by one day to allow Delegates and Officers to participate in a Strategic Planning session. The goal of this session is to clarify the priorities and responsibilities of CFMTA/FCAPM and allows for the development of a clear plan to move forward. There will be six people from BCMRMTA attending: First Delegate Joanne Lougheed; Second Delegate Mimi Ho; Past President of CFMTA/FCAPM Cindy Taylor; Secretary of CFMTA/FCAPM Anita Perry; Treasurer of CFMTA/FCAPM Lois Kerr and Canadian Music Teacher Editor/Web Administrator of CFMTA/FCAPM Dina Pollock. We are hoping that there will be many ideas that we can use as we work to determine the priorities and responsibilities of BCMRMTA going forward.

I wish you all the opportunity to take time for yourselves over the coming summer months.





Hello from the Editor & Webmaster



Dina Pollock

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Hi Everyone,

Summer is almost here - we just have to make it through exams and recitals. Stay strong - we can do it. Lots of great news to share:

Magazine - thank you to everyone that entered the book draw and the winners were: Drum roll please.....

- Ewa Telega - Abbotsford Branch
- Wendy Maggiora - Victoria Branch
- Lillian Chan - Richmond Branch
- Jean Ritter - Abbotsford Branch

Thank you to all the members that answered the questions about the magazine during the online renewal. We have answers for everyone. The results: 705 members responded as follows

- Digital - 276
- Paper - 261
- Both - 168

At the Council meeting in April, these results were discussed and the decision was made that for the 2019 - 2020 renewals we will offer members the choice of getting their magazine in either Digital or Paper (Paper would include access to the Digital).

The Question of how to get the digital magazine - download or the app:

- 54% download
- 23% the app
- 23% N/A

There is interest in the app so the Council decided to keep it. The cost of the app would mostly be covered with the saving of producing less paper copies. Do check it out - it really does make accessing the magazine on your phone or tablet very quick and easy. The app is listed as **Progressions Magazine** in both the Apple and Google Play stores.



Apple Store Icon

I also suggested a new project documenting our current projects for future archives. I have started this with CFMTA and we have our first issue - it is available through the CFMTA magazine app and is titled "A Year in Review 2017". We will be discussing this at the September meeting so do look at it and let your branch delegate know if you agree or not with this new project.



Google Play Store Icon

Website - we added an SSL certificate to the website to keep any info (names, address, etc) entered in, encrypted and safe. So all is good.

Have a great summer and see you in September at the Piano Competition.

Thanks

Dina



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- Thank you!



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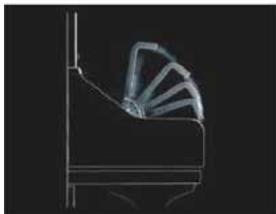
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Annual Branch Reports

ABBOTSFORD

Our membership for 2017 consisted of twenty-eight members and two student teacher auxiliary members.

The coordinator positions in place of a vice-president continue to work well and keep more members involved.

In January we began the year with five enthusiastic members ready to start the year!

The February AGM meeting had treasurer and president's reports presented and the coordinator positions filled! The treasurer and president positions were unchanged with Kathleen Feenstra continuing as treasurer and Jean Ritter remaining as president. The secretarial position was filled with Jocelyn Dyck.

The March we discussed: the CMW recital, the composition booklets, and the proposed Young Artist Concert. Calvin Dyck led an enthusiastic discussion that ended with definite support from the branch. Festival updates were given. Dina Pollock gave us important information about our website.

April....our annual festival! Always enjoyable to have the 'hands on' meeting where we prepare the festivals boxes and deal with all the final details.

We were privileged to have Peter Ing adjudicate our string players. Murray Nichol and Marjory Purdy adjudicated the piano candidates. Another successful festival was enjoyed by all!

Our May and June meetings were combined into a luncheon when a social time was enjoyed by everyone!

In September we took a brief look at the coordinator roles and began our Canada Music Week recital discussion. The incredible composition books celebrating Canada's 150th birthday were given out by Joyce. We decided that the CMW recital would consist of performances of the music from the booklets. Each participant received a booklet. With Kathleen moving to Chilliwack we needed a new treasurer: thank you Ewa Telega for stepping in!

The successful Young Artists Concert was held on October 28th. Thanks Calvin!

Dina showed us how to sign up for the festival on the new website with the changes made for registration in November. We were informed that the Valley Concert Society once again wishes to collaborate with our branch in the spring of 2018 when Jane Coop is coming to Abbotsford.

The CMW Recital was hugely successful! We won one of the William Andrew awards for our event!

Our December luncheon was at a restaurant and enjoyed by all present!

Jean Ritter

COQUITLAM / MAPLE RIDGE

Two Canada Music Week[®] Recitals were held on November 19. This year the Branch commissioned Jordan Nobles to compose a piece for the Branch. It was a suite of three pieces for grade 4/5 level and several students performed the various sections at the recitals. Jordan also gave a workshop about his music before the recitals and met with students between the recitals. Performance and Theory Awards were presented as part of the recitals.

The Student Teacher Auxiliary within the Branch has folded due to lack of participation. If more interest is expressed in the future, it will start up again.

Information sharing workshops within the Branch were held. Informal discussions included topics about useful apps for teaching, and teaching ideas. Formal workshop sessions included member Jean Brown leading a workshop for teachers on selected Grade 9 and 10 pieces, as well as Justin Krawitz from the University of Northern Colorado presenting a Master Class for students.

The North Fraser Music Festival will be held April 23 - 27.

Greg Hartley





Annual Branch Reports

EAST KOOTENAY

The biggest news for our teachers is that with SNOW on April 12th in the East Kootenays, we have not lost hope that Spring is on its way!!!

This noteworthy year began in September with a meeting followed by a luncheon to schedule events for the entire music year. The Schedule of Events includes dates for meetings, deadlines, workshops, recitals, exams and Symphony of the Kootenays concerts.

On October 19th a Performance Anxiety Workshop was presented by Anita Stushnoff of Creston, B.C. This was a fun workshop and there were many opportunities for laughs and sharing. Our gift of \$150 to Anita was promptly donated to the Festival of the Arts. Thank you Anita! The joyful Canada Music Week[®] and Canada 150 Celebration, held November 26th, included 32 performers, decorations, cake, pizza party, distribution of scholarships and recognition for compositions. Our local newspaper gave this event full coverage.

In March, we were pleased to assist in organizing the Cranbrook Festival of the Arts and securing the following adjudicators:

- Voice - Allison Nystrom
- Strings - Maria Medlow
- Piano - Allen Reiser.

Both students and teachers benefited from the many years of experience shared by these exceptional adjudicators. This was the second year that entry forms were completed online and our hard working members, Ivana Ferraro, Penny Long and Marta Zeegers donated many hours organizing

the online performance schedule. We look forward to April 19th, when member, Arne Sahlén presents a workshop on Ornamentation. Our final event of the year, Technique Olympics is scheduled for June 7th.

The East Kootenay branch sends a huge thank you to the British Columbia Registered Music Teachers' Association for its never ending support and encouragement.

Terry Lynn Jeffers

KELOWNA

The Kelowna Branch currently has nineteen members. Graham Vink is our President with Jessica Crawford as Secretary and Marla Mesenbrink as Treasurer.

We have had two coffee shop meetings that were a time to get together, share ideas and network. Our AGM was in September.

For Canada Music Week[®], each teacher was responsible for their own way to celebrate Canadian composers. Some had CMW recitals and/or composition contests, and others had studio classes promoting Canadian music.

Several teachers have used our piano at the Okanagan College Theatre for their studio recitals.

Marla Mesenbrink

NELSON

The Nelson branch year started with the planning of a collaboration of our students playing at three separate senior citizens homes. The students all learned a wide variety of pieces that truly gave our audience a variety of all the talented composers Canada has to offer! Next came a impromptu Christmas carol performance and sing along ramping us up for our Kootenay of the arts music festival which our students have been participating avidly as I write this. In closing at these points of reflection I find myself filled with gratitude to have such a group of colleagues to share our students hard work and love for music.

Ellie Hedges

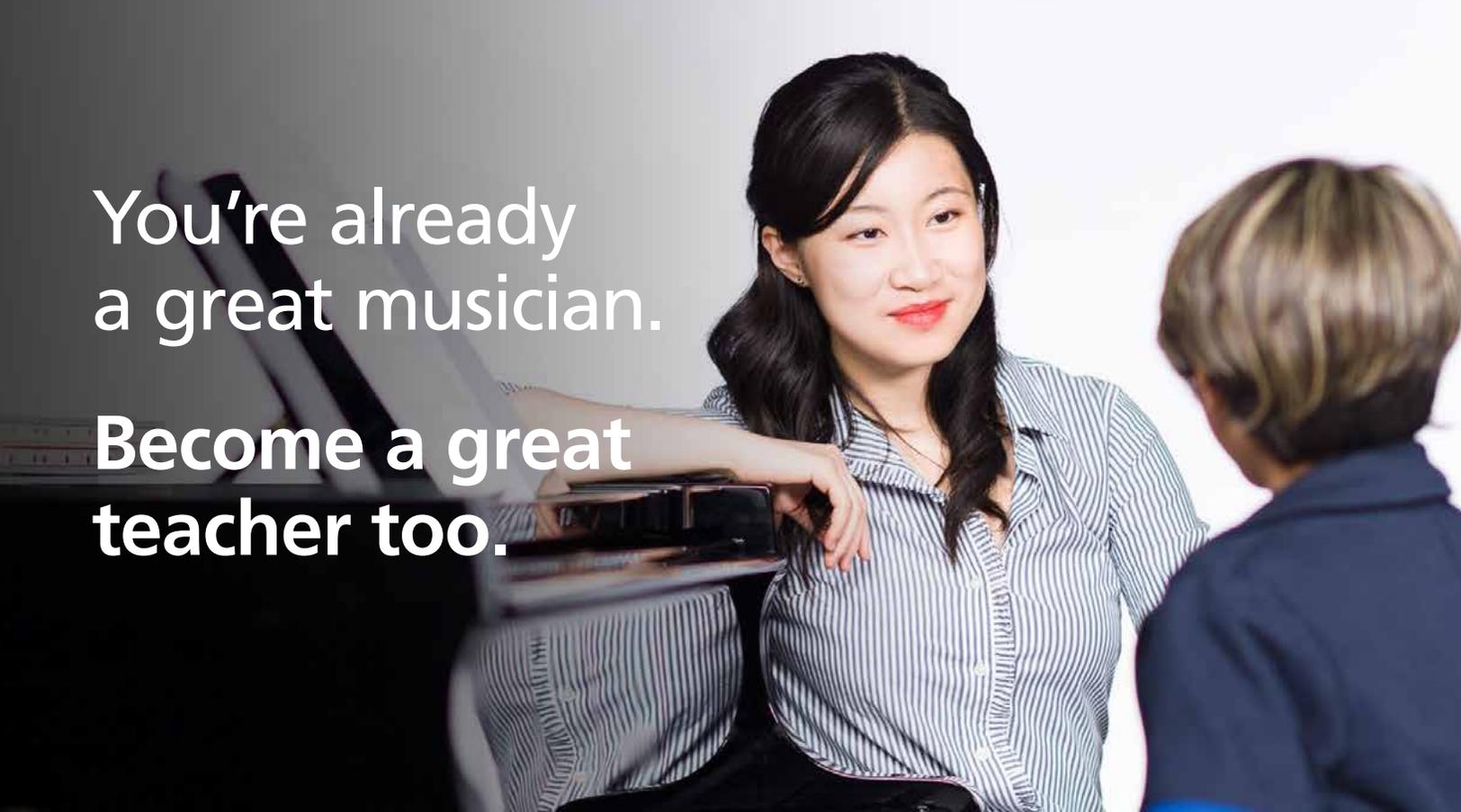
NORTH ISLAND

Our teaching year started in full stride as we prepared for a very extensive celebration of Canadian Music for our Nation's 150th Anniversary.

The Programme for our September Branch Meeting was a discussion of the issues which could be dealt with in our yearly 'Studio Policy Letter'. Some of the suggestions included:

- Having the September fees remitted by July 1st before the Summer Holidays. This helps to avoid last minute cancellations and guarantees teachers income for September.
- Make-up lessons only happen if the teacher has an open spot.





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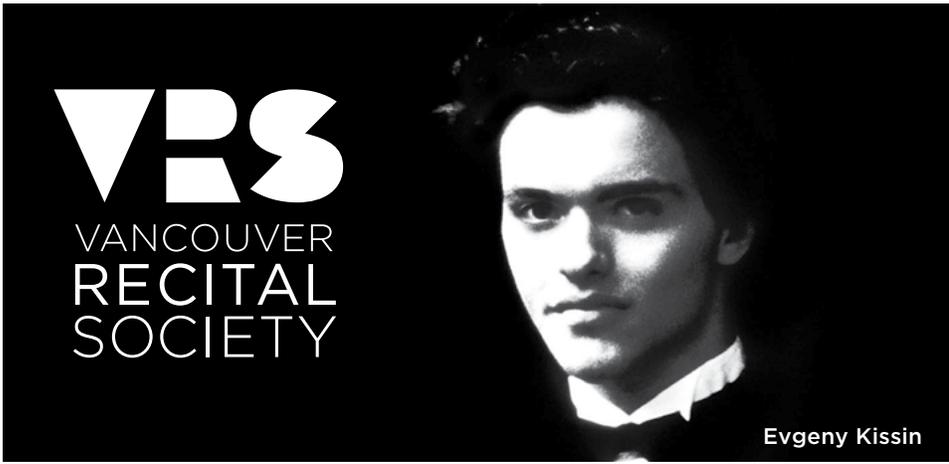
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Annual Branch Reports - cont.

NORTH ISLAND - cont.

- Parents may be told that they are paying for a particular time slot in the studio and not an hourly rate. Fees are annual and broken up into ten monthly installments.

In October, one of our members made up carded copies of several types of dice which could be used as teaching aides. Imagination is the only limiting factor in their use! The New Theory Books were the subject of conversation during the November meeting. After much discussion, it was decided that the materials in the New Books is 90% similar to the old versions, except for the use of new terminology and being spread differently among the levels. November also saw a Composition Workshop by Ms Christine Donkin, well known and loved Canadian Composer. This was followed by our main Recital which was very well attended and received. Two mini-recitals performed at two Senior Care Homes in Campbell River preceded this event. Along with this, we edited and published a book containing compositions by our students as well as our local Theory Specialist!

In keeping with the Season, our Branch enjoyed a discussion of the use of Seasonal Music as a pedagogical tool. Needless to say, this was followed by a most delicious assortment of goodies and coffee!

The New Year started with a discussion of the Programme, Master Teachers and affiliated Competitions which accompany our May Music Week occurring in Campbell River. The following month saw many of our

group preparing students for the Courtenay North Island Festival of the Performing Arts. Along with this, our Branch Programme was a discussion of the Pros and Cons of use of Electronic Instruments. Although there are many advantages to their use, we concluded that it would be ideal to own both acoustic and electronic pianos, but if a choice must be made, the overall preference was the acquisition of an acoustic instrument.

In March, we participated in a Programme called *Teaching Composition in the Private Studio*. This was presented by one of our members and obviously dealt with a miniscule aspect of this subject. Our members were encouraged to come to the piano and compose some very simple compositions as was suggested and delineated in the series of books called Creative Composition Toolbox, Levels 1 to 6. Those asked to participate did very well indeed and were extremely good sports - much to the enjoyment of the Branch! Our Theory Specialist, Sandy Havelaar, shared her six *Variations on the National Anthem*. We were all very favourably impressed!

Our last meeting, prior to the BCRMTA general Meeting, had us consider the use of teaching chording and the use of lead sheets for teaching Popular Music. The advantages are many and include:

- Having very young students play pieces they find interesting, using a I or V one note left hand, or the use of fifths in the left hand.

- Use of a Lead Sheet with chordal representations teaches theory in manner that is both subtle and reasonable to the student,.
- Embellishing a student's experience of Music lessons such that they can benefit from them into adulthood.

Over-all our year has been very busy and enjoyable. We will close the teaching year with a *Brainstorming Session* about next year and a delightful lunch at one of our enjoyable Restaurants!

Sonia Hauser

Thank you to all of the **Branches** for sending in your annual branch report. Unfortunately not every branch included a report.

For the next issue of *Progressions*, I will need a Branch highlight. Photos are welcome, if you have a photo release.

Please note - I do not need the release, please keep it in your files.

Deadline July 15, 2018.

Thank you,

Dina





Annual Branch Reports - cont.

NORTH SHORE

2017 - 2018 has been a very busy year with many events highlighting students and teachers.

This year's big highlight is the Lions Gate Sinfonia Collaboration Week. This is the 4th time Maestro Clyde Mitchell and Lions Gate Sinfonia has invited North Shore students to play with Sinfonia Orchestra. Fifty-four students auditioned in February. Sixteen students will perform with the orchestra at the Centennial Theatre on April 21. This year a violinist, a clarinetist and a vocal duet were invited in addition to twelve pianists ranging from grade 2 to ARCT.

In addition to the main event the collaboration was expanded to include a solo piano masterclass with Jaden Izik-Dzurko, a masterclass with Clyde Mitchell with participation of a string quartet from LGS, and a concert of sixteen piano students

performing with a small ensemble. There are almost fifty students and twenty-one teachers participating in all collaborative events.

To celebrate the 150th birthday of Canada a student – composition competition *Reflections of Canada* took place in November 2017. Twelve students – composers submitted and performed new compositions. Bruce Sled adjudicated.

The 2017 Exam Awards Recital and Awards Presentation took place on November 26, 2017. It was inspirational to hear so many excellent performances. The Lucille Little Award, four scholarships, fourteen trophies, and twelve medals were awarded.

The 47th North Shore Music Festival and Workshops were held February 25 – March 9, 2018. More than forty teachers participated. This year there were around 430 entries in piano, strings, guitar, winds, voice, ensembles, non-competitive and family classes, workshops and mini-classes. The festival ended with three final concerts featuring the best of the non-competitive students and all trophy winners.

There was a very high level of student performances at all of the above events, as well as at our Sunday monthly recitals. This is a testament of the excellent work, professionalism and dedication of the teachers from the North Shore branch of BCRMTA.

As an outreach project to the community, the branch entered and decorated a Christmas Tree at Lynn Valley Parade of Trees. The proceeds were donated to the Harvest Project.

The Christmas Luncheon at the Northlands Golf Course was a lovely opportunity to socialize in a more relaxed atmosphere. Another informal social event is our Walking Group that meets weekly and explores different trails around the North Shore.

Stanislava Delicheva

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Annual Branch Reports - cont.

SOUTH OKANAGAN

The South Okanagan Branch had another busy and productive musical year. On top of our five Branch meetings, we arranged two professional development initiatives, two recitals, and participated in the local music festival.

On a cold and blustery Saturday morning in November 2017, the branch hosted Penticton jazz pianist/composer/music educator Justin Glibbery in a workshop on the basics of teaching jazz/blues improvisation. Using the basic 12 bar blues as a template, Glibbery demonstrated better voicings for 7th, 9th, and 13th chords, as well as chord substitutions and embellishments. Finally, and with a smile on his face, Glibbery reminded us *Time spent is the only way we're going to get this*. In other words, don't write about or talk about it, play!

A scant two weeks later found us enthusiastically celebrating Canada's 150th birthday in style! Our recital featured diverse selections from many B.C. composers from Ruth Watson Henderson, Stephen Chatman and our own local composers, Anita Perry and Ernst Schneider! The front of the stage had a new 60 flag montage built specifically for this sesquicentennial celebration. At the end, deserving students were presented with over one thousand dollars worth of scholarships.

After cocooning for one of the coldest winters on record, we welcomed clinician Sarah Buckley, who presented an informative workshop on *Six in-lesson Tweaks for Sky High Retention* and *Three tips to use improvisation in the lesson to sharpen theory and performance skills*. This three-hour session was well received by seven branch members and five non-RMT's as we are striving to attract new members to the South Okanagan Branch

We are currently looking forward to our Annual Spring Recital held at the Shatford Centre in preparation for the exam session, and then a well-deserved break to enjoy the fruits and wines of the sunny Okanagan.

Anita Perry

PRINCE GEORGE

The Prince George Branch began our season with a breakfast meeting at a local restaurant. In September we had a booth at the Active Living Market in the Pine Centre Mall to promote piano lessons and music study. We received grants for the booth from the Branching Out project (CFMTA) and Canada 150 (Provincial Heritage Fund). We had a keyboard on hand for students, teachers and mall customers to play, and we displayed BCRMTA brochures and information. Branch members were pleased with the excellent advertising and exposure this gave us, and it was a valuable way to connect with the Prince George community.



At the October meeting, RMT member Maria Mikic gave a talk on security in the studio. In November we had a Masterclass with Bernard Duerksen. The students learned a great deal from Bernard's excellent guidance and suggestions on all styles of repertoire. Bernard also gave an interesting and informative lecture/demonstration on Tone Production.

We held a Student Recital in February in preparation for the Prince George and District Music Festival. Many students from RMT studios participated in the Music Festival, with numerous students being chosen for the Showcase and Gala Concerts, as well as the Performing Arts BC Festival in May. Our adjudicator this year was Murray Nichol.

A second Student Recital will be held in May. At our May meeting we plan to have a book presentation by Lori Elder. Our June meeting will be hosted at the home of Peggy O'Brennan.

Lori Elder





Annual Branch Reports - cont.

RICHMOND

This year we chose a back-to-basics approach to guide our planning. We spent time reflecting on the history and roots of the Richmond Branch. Then we worked hard to showcase the very best the branch has to offer our members. Our extensive recital performance program is unique, and we updated and renewed our policies and structure with an eye to being even more welcoming and inclusive. We were successful in increasing the number of teachers who enter students to perform. This year, we offered a series of ten recital dates, including a special Canada Music Week® celebration, recital and reception in honour of Canada 150. Our students were the opening performance at the *Winter Wonderland Festival* held at Richmond City Hall throughout December, and they performed again on the Aberdeen Mall Christmas stage. We worked hard to revamp our Scholarship awards and award amounts to celebrate our teachers' successes and support the musical journeys of their students. We continue to be mindful of keeping a healthy work/life balance as we teach. This summer we started a drop-in walking group that has explored the diverse parklands of our island city. At the same time, we continued to offer the best in professional development. We have challenged our members with master classes on ways to include composing, jazz improvisation, and keyboard accompaniment into weekly lessons. We also invited an emergency room specialist to empower and educate us to be able to manage unexpected medical emergencies at our studios and performances. As a group, we want to be inclusive and social. Teaching music can be an isolating experience and this organization works hard to create opportunities to meet, chat, and share ideas and experiences. We update links to important resources on our website regularly. Check out and follow us on Facebook where we post photos and stories of our current activities – and be sure to Like & Share to help connect us to your community.

Victoria Warfield

SHUSWAP

Canada Music Week®, which was held in November, was a great opportunity to help celebrate Canada's birthday. Each teacher held their own Canada Music Week® recital, with special emphasis on local student composers. Many students rose to the challenge to write their own compositions which was most inspiring to us as teachers.

A wonderful beginning to 2018 was to welcome Amy Wangler to our branch. Amy is a Professional Theory Instructor as well as a piano teacher. We are so pleased to have her and her much needed expertise.

Now each member is gearing up for our annual Shuswap Music Festival. Our adjudicators for this festival are:

- Karl Schwonik, Bands
- Andrea Case, Strings
- Jane Hayes, Senior Piano
- Joe Berarducci, Junior Piano
- Alexandra Babbel, Vocal/Choir

We are anticipating that we will see (and hear) the "fruits of our labour"!

Ruth Anne MacKnee

In Memoriam

Edward Parker

member of BCRMTA (Vancouver) since 1953



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



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ABOUT THE PROGRAM

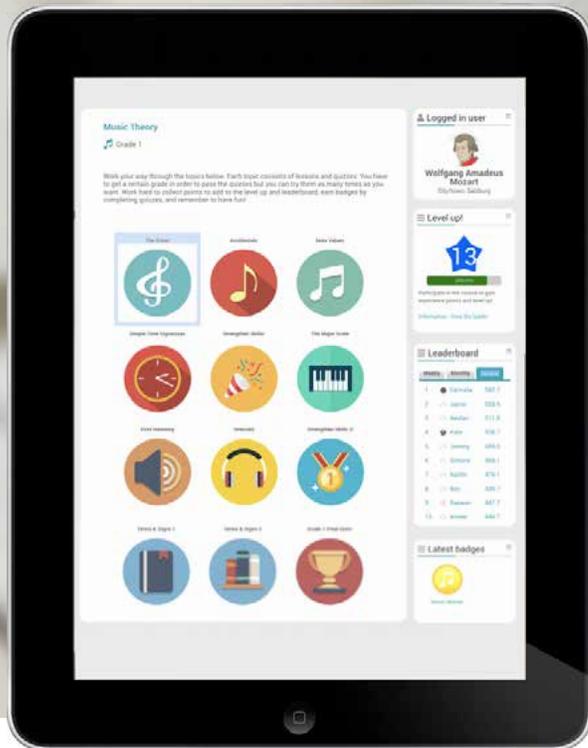
- Graduates of this program will be able to conduct choral and instrumental ensembles.
 - Most classes are offered in the evening over an 8-month period, with small class sizes (max. 18).
 - This 20-credit* certificate program is designed to allow currently active teachers and musicians to complete this program while continuing to work.
 - Core conducting courses will focus on fundamental techniques including patterns, cues, cut-offs, phrasing, tempo changes, expressive gestures, use of the left hand, baton technique, choral and orchestral conducting.
 - Conducting pedagogy will include watching and discussing recorded performances, attending live performances, observing rehearsals and discussing various approaches to conducting.
 - Hands-on experience working with an ensemble.
 - This certificate credential includes two semesters of languages and singing in one of the University choirs.
- * Conducting and ensemble credits count towards upgrading of TQS levels for teachers.

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Annual Branch Reports - cont.

TRAIL / CASTLEGAR

Greetings from the Trail/Castlegar Branch. Our small branch consists of four members and one student member.

We hosted four recitals last year, as a branch. In February we had our Youngest Artist Recital which is always such an enjoyable event, to watch and listen to the youngest of our budding pianists. In January and June we had our Pre Exam recitals. And in November, we hosted our Canada Music Week® Recital, celebrating Canada's 150th birthday.

In April, we had the pleasure of Christopher Norton visiting our area. We joined up with the Nelson Branch to have Chris present a number of workshops, catering to the various levels of students. It was real treat for the students, who have played many of his compositions, to meet and work with the composer!

Also in April, many of our students participated in the Kootenay Festival of the Arts which was hosted by the Trail Festival committee. In addition, the adjudicator, Catherine Bundt presented a very helpful and well attended workshop for students and teachers on performance anxiety and how to overcome it.

As teachers, we know that many of our adult students, especially those that haven't had any training in their younger years, do not feel comfortable performing in a typical recital setting. We've started to host a few adult student get togethers in our homes, where the students meet and play for one another in a casual environment- a Piano Parlour Party as such. It's been well received and I believe we'll host more in the future.

We culminated our year of teaching last June at Gabriella's Restaurant at the Prestige Hotel. It was a lovely evening, enjoyed by all.

Our branch wishes everyone all the best in 2018!

Dawna Kavanagh

VANCOUVER

Since the last meeting, Vancouver Branch members have enjoyed a variety of activities.

In the Fall - Our September meeting was originally to feature *Creative Keyboard Accompaniment Skills* with Gayle Dunsmoor, unfortunately the presentation had to be cancelled and a general discussion on Branch goals and events was conducted instead. In October, a masterclass was held with Michelle Mares, a recent addition to the Vancouver musical scene. Ms. Mares gave excellent advice, and both teachers and students appreciated her expertise. For November, the Branch hosted a Canada 150 Concert that included: Argentine Tango, Deas Island Dance, the BC Chinese Orchestra, the West Coast Fiddleheads and more. Full details are noted in our Canada Music Week® report. As usual, there was a luncheon in December where new and veteran members had a chance to mingle.

In the New Year - A new Branch website was launched and although some additions are still pending, it was a welcome update. January was a busy time with a closed audition adjudicated by Ellen Silverman to choose our BC Piano Competition Candidate, a Branch student recital, and finally our AGM. February was a quiet month as the new executive took time to adjust to their roles. In March, the annual Celebration of Excellence Recital was held. This event recognizes students who have received "first class honours with distinction" in their RCM exams; certificates, trophies and scholarships were awarded.

For the Spring - In April, there will be a student recital as well as a general meeting with visiting pianist John Dupuis on Schubert's smaller works. In May, we've planned a morning with Elizabeth Munro on the Level 9 Keyboard Harmony. The Student Performers' Guild Festival, normally held in this month, is currently on hiatus as the Executive works to restructure the format for the coming years. In June, we'll finish the year with another Branch luncheon and, if all goes according to plan, the executive will have a summer barbecue in July 2018 as a reward for their efforts.

Barbara Siemens





Annual Branch Reports - cont.

VERNON

To start our year we bid a sad farewell to Judi Folk and Pat Metcalfe. Both are long time members, and their contribution to the Vernon musical community cannot be overstated. We wish them both well in their future endeavors and adventures in retirement.

In the fall of 2017 Vernon RMT celebrated Canada Music Week®. We began with an Canadian composers masterclass with local teacher Alex MacArthur. Several weeks later we held our Canada Music Week® Concert. This enjoyable evening honoured Canadian music, and achievements in RCM exams in piano, theory, and voice. RMT teacher Malinda Sunderland set a fine example of professional development by achieving the BC Gold Medal in grade 9 voice. Chris Dlouhy scored a remarkable 99% in ARCT History. With so many wonderful performances and achievements, there was much to rejoice.

Vernon RMT's enjoyed several great workshops and masterclasses this past year. A Body Mapping workshop addressed issues of alignment and body awareness that benefited all those attended. A Magnetic Attraction seminar with Sarah Buckley was also a great success. Not only did the important issue of building an appropriate clientele, the discussion amongst the teachers was inspiring.

The Vernon BCRMTA Piano and Voice festivals ran successfully in March 2018. Our thanks go to our festival committee members for the countless hours of festival preparation and execution. We had a total of 187 entires (139 piano and 48 voice), with a total of \$2960 given out in scholarships. The Vernon Vocal Festival was adjudicated expertly by Mia Harris from Penticton. The festival concluded with an adult student workshop. Concert Pianist Sarah Hagen adjudicated our piano students with skill and humour. Special mention goes to Jenny Sunderland who achieved the top mark in grade 9 voice in both classical and musical theatre categories, and top grade 10 piano student. Following the festival Hagen gave many students private lessons to further outline her inspiring musical ideas. Vernon teachers wish to thank Sarah for the generosity and caring she has shown our students.

Vernon BCRMTA members are looking forward to their spring luncheon to plan for the future!

Geoffrey Barker

VICTORIA

The Victoria Branch of the BCRMTA had a fun and busy 2017. There were fourteen student concerts held on seven different days. Our new concert chair is Ina Dykstra, and she has implemented several changes to streamline our student concerts, including running two concert start times per afternoon and eliminating the need to announce each performer and piece. The number of performers continues to grow each year.

During the year many awards, scholarships, and bursaries are given out. Our students really appreciate the financial support, and we received many lovely thank you letters and cards that were read out at meetings.

Our membership numbers remain steady at 126 regular members, 6 student members, and 14 associate members, and this year Dr. Allison Star received her 25 year pin from our President Stella Barbon.

Gayle Dunsmoor was the pedagogy speaker at our March General meeting, and she introduced us to her books on creating keyboard accompaniment. At our General Meeting in May, members Ina Dykstra and Jan Randall gave a presentation on their method book series, *Let's Play*, to an appreciative audience. At our September General Meeting we heard from Oliver Robinow, grandson of European concert pianist Ilona Eibenschutz, who was the last student of Clara Schumann and close friend of Brahms. Oliver told us of Ilona's life, and played a few recordings of her voice and performances for us. He also brought along concert programmes and letters in Brahms' handwriting for us to see. It was remarkable to have that window into the past, and to hear her renditions of pieces which are played today without the rubato that was originally intended.

The Canada Music Week® Breakfast meeting was held at the Cedar Hill Golf Course on November 24th and Tony Booker was our featured speaker, adjudicator of the Murray Adaskin Composition Competition, and clinician. He presented a retrospective on his life and work, and performed for us with his group Jamshed. Sylvia Rickard chaired the CMW committee and assisted with introductions.

Wendy Maggiora





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Annual Branch Reports - cont.

MID ISLAND

It was announced to the branch at the January 12th special general meeting that we will be hosting the 2020 Provincial Conference. Susan Schleppe and Dianne Bohn are co-chairing the committee. The search for a suitable venue is underway.

Our President Erika Wilson met with Barbara Livingston from the Nanaimo Conservatory of Music and Jim Thorpe from Tom Lee Music in March. They discussed collaborating on bringing well-known clinicians to Nanaimo for annual events, including workshops and concerts. The goal at this time is to recruit Christopher Norton for the inaugural event.

After several months of canvassing the membership, a candidate has stepped forward to fill-in for Erika as she takes time off from her executive duties for the birth of her first child this coming August. Dolores Antonsen will become our Vice President at the annual general meeting on May 27th.

Dolores organized the branch inaugural Winter Recital held on February 4th. The recital was created with the intention of allowing students the opportunity to polish their performances in preparation for the annual Upper Island Musical Festival.

The branch was able to provide \$750 in bursaries to the festival, including the addition of a \$250 Helen Ruth Martin Memorial Bursary for piano. The branch will be awarding a further \$1,000 in bursaries from the newly established memorial fund to piano students at the Spring Recital on June 9th.

Susan Wood

SOUTH FRASER

In May of 2017, we had a compositions workshop by Katerina Giumon. This was well attended by branch members. Our June meeting ended with a luncheon, teachers enjoyed great food and camaraderie. Helga Murray has hosted a number of senior masterclasses with artists from the MuzeWest concert series: Michael Noble on July 30, Wayne Weng, October 21 and Asiya Korepanova, November 26. All were well attended and a great help for our senior students.

Our Canada Music Week[®] event was quite exciting. Teachers were asked to get their students composing. In total we had

SOUTH FRASER - cont.

thirty-seven compositions come in, which were then published in a book and a free copy given to each of the students. The books were handed out at two recitals, featuring some of these original works as well as other Canadian compositions. Each recital ended with cake!

South Fraser partnered with Tom Lee Music in a Practice-a-thon. This was to help raise money for the Surrey school district music programs. Over \$10,000.00 was raised.

Our annual festival was a huge success again this year. Our junior adjudicators were Alan Crane and Barbara Siemens. Senior adjudicators were Corey Hamm and Donna Symons.

We are eagerly looking forward to hosting the BC Piano Competition and are already generating teacher and students excitement.

Kevin Thompson

MISSION

The Mission Branch just completed the final stage of Canada's 150th Birthday Celebration Event with a huge Birthday Party.

Early in 2017, each student was encouraged to prepare a small set of their favorite pieces to eventually perform in 'Mini Concert Format' for Family and Friends in honor of Canada's 150th Birthday.

Initially when we presented this plan, the students were told that if collectively their total number of 'Mini Concerts' would reach 150, we would host one big Birthday Party complete with music games, cupcakes, ice cream, popcorn and presentations for our students.

However, before we even knew if we would reach that target number, it was soon evident that we would be having the Birthday Party Event, judging from the favorable comments coming in from parents.

This has been a happy and memorable experience.

Plans are now focused on Mission's 125th Birthday.

Laura Webster





BCRMTA - Council Meeting Highlights and News

from the REGISTRAR

This year we have the pleasure of recognizing 20 members who will receive their **25 year pin**: (These members joined in 1993)

Coquitlam/Maple Ridge - Florence Noh

Kelowna - David Sproule

Mid Island - Lisa Brown, Teresa Marusarz Borek

North Shore - Haruko Ogawa, Sylvia Pagdin

Richmond - MaryAnn Cayetano, Dorothy Lau

South Fraser - Loretta Braun, Kathy Kelbert

Vancouver - Katherine Au, Teresa Ho, Amy Paster,
Dr. Mei-Jane Quong, Barbara Zielinski

Vernon - Lisa Parsons

Victoria - Donald Conley, Sandra Fletcher, Ingrid Henderson,
Joanne Lambert

We have the privilege of recognizing 1 member who will receive her **50 year pin** having joined in 1968:

South Fraser - Darlene Brigidear

We have a unique opportunity to recognize a member who has been part of BCRMTA for **60 years**, joining the organization in 1958:

Abbotsford - Hilda Reimer



Please note: It is a BCRMTA requirement for non-renewing members to return their membership certificates to the registrar. According to our bylaws (Article 3 #6) members who permanently retire from teaching are allowed to keep their membership certificates.

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BCRMTA - Council Meeting Highlights and News

Meet our new BC PIANO COMPETITION - CHAIR



Maureen Hollins - our new BC Piano Competition Chair

As read by Kevin Thompson at the council meeting

When Susan Schleppe announced she was stepping down from the BC Piano Competition chair last September (2017), the first person I thought of who

would be a great fit for this job was Maureen Hollins.

Maureen has adjudicated around the province for many years, she has a detailed knowledge of the senior repertoire, she knows who is who in the musical community and has wonderful 'people skills' when working with students.

Maureen has an intuitive ability in being able to get to the root of a problem, which is a great help when working towards a resolution.

Maureen has a way of calming even the most nerve-racked students. And she has fantastic public speaking skills. Maureen has helped organize many events in South Fraser over the years, and I know she will be a wonderful fit for this position.

Thank you both for taking on these two important projects of BCRMTA

Meet our new YOUNG ARTIST TOUR - CHAIR

Sonia Hauser - our new Young Artist Tour Chair

Musical Education

Received my ARCT in 1998.

- Taught as a Student Teacher for 7 years prior to completing my ARCT
- Taught preliminary Rudiments (up to a grade 8 requirement) almost every year with from 5 to 10 students per session.
- Taught Baroque, Romantic and Classical History for one semester.
- Have had an average of 25 students per year who ranged in age from 5 yrs to 72 yrs of age.
- The highest RCM grade I have taught is grade nine.
- I have also put students through Canada Conservatory Exams.
- I have successfully prepared many students for exams (Practical & Written) and Festival Performances.
- Have attended and participated in many Conventions, Workshops and Master Classes over the years.



Service to the North Island Branch:

- Served as President for one term
- Am currently serving as Vice-President (second term)
- Spearheaded four 'Young Artist Concerts' with all necessary duties associated with these performances.
- Helped co-ordinate Canada Music Week events for many years
- Edited and had published two books of Compositions by our branch members' students.
- Have written-up many applications for Bursaries and Grants for our Canada Music Week® events.
- Served as Branch Representative for BCRMTA for several years.
- Have written numerous reviews of new music publications as well as several articles for the Provincial and National Music Magazines.

Service to BCRMTA:

- Currently serving as Chair of the BC Student Composer Music Writing Competition
- Currently serving as Canada Music Week® Co-ordinator.



BC PIANO COMPETITION

Saturday, September 22, 2018

White Rock Baptist Church



Competition will be held at:

White Rock Baptist Church 1657 - 140 Street Surrey BC

Semi-finals 1:00 pm Finals 7:30 pm

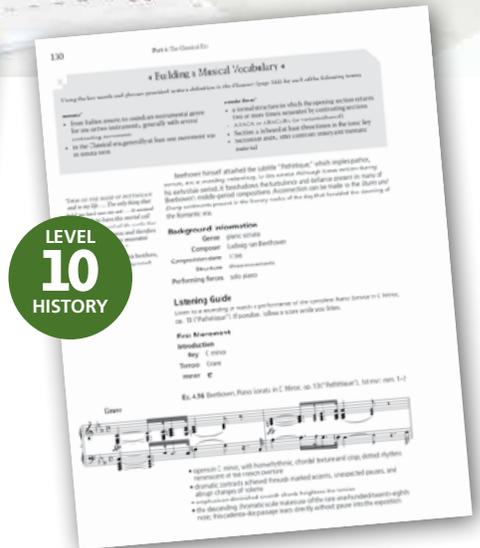
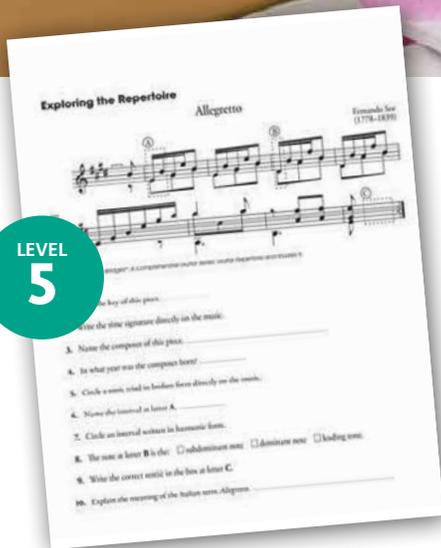
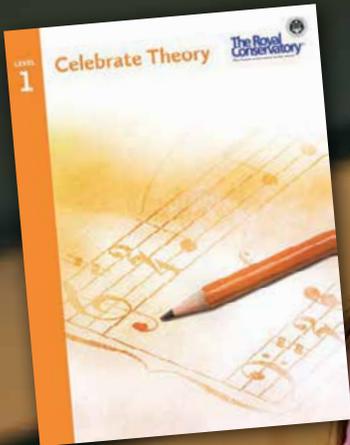
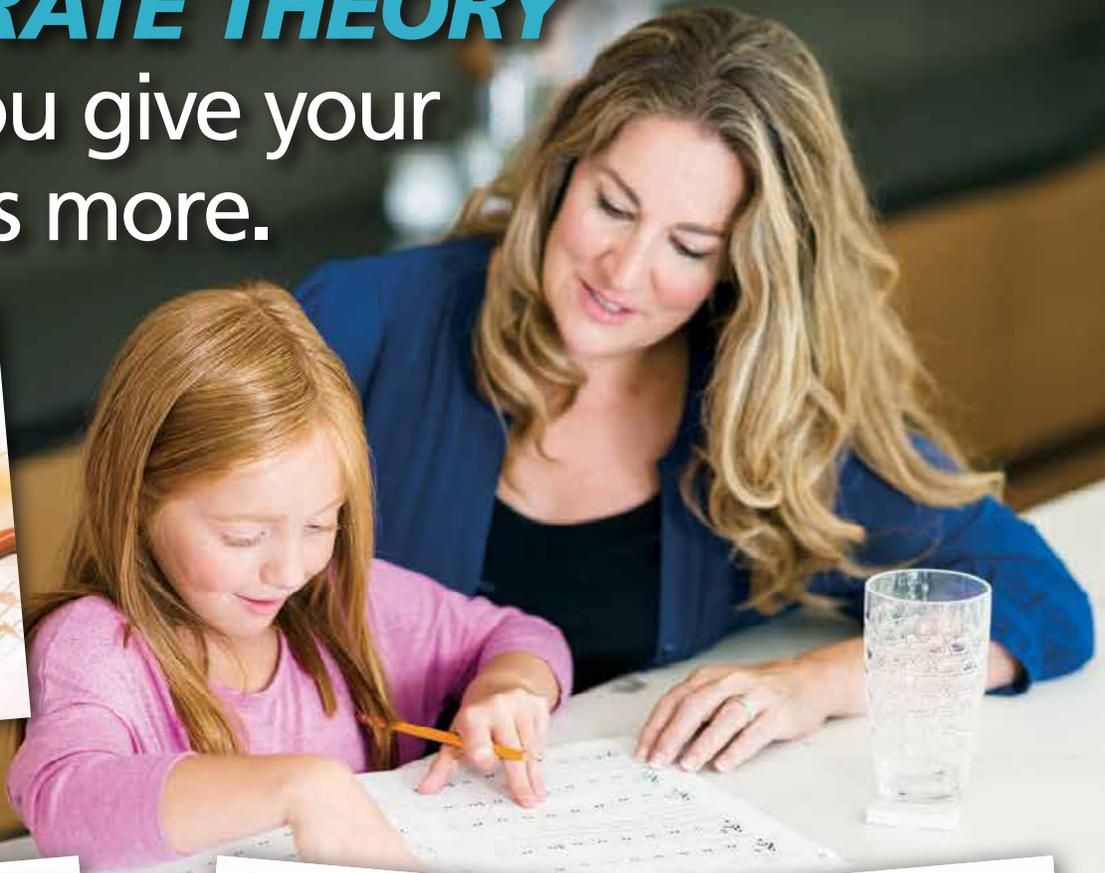
TICKETS:

Semi-finals	Adult \$20	Student \$ 15
Finals	Adult \$20	Student \$ 15
Semi-finals & Finals	Adult \$20	Student \$ 15

Tickets available at the door, or in advance from the South Fraser Branch and the BCRMTA website.

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BCRMTA - Council Meeting Highlights and News

BC PIANO COMPETITION

Please welcome our new BC Piano Competition Chair - **Maureen Hollins**

BC Piano Competition 2018 adjudicator is Kay Zaviskal
(bio on page 26)

Bios and photos for the branch representatives are on page 27

The order of performers:

1. Victoria - Ya Ping Huang
2. South Fraser - Emma Høglund
3. Coquitlam/Maple Ridge - Lucas Hung
4. Vancouver - Annie Cao
5. Abbotsford - Rebecca Toews
6. North Island - Towa Stewart
7. East Kootenay - Emma Penner
8. Richmond - Qiyang Hong

A complete list of performer programs will be posted on the website when available.

More information will be included in the next issue of Progressions.

YOUNG ARTIST TOUR

Please welcome our new Young Artist Chair - **Sonia Hauser**

If your branch is interested in hosting a Young Artist Concert there is a complete step by step process on the website:

<https://bcrmta.bc.ca/how-to-host-a-young-artist-concert/>

If you are interested please contact Sonia at youngartist@bcrmta.bc.ca

PROGRESSIONS & WEBSITE

Please read my "From the Editor & Webmaster" on page 5
If you have any questions or comments - please send them to editor@bcrmta.bc.ca Thank you.

ARCHIVES

For our archives Susan Olsen is looking for photos or programs from:

- a) 1985 CFMTA 50th Conference held at UBC Vancouver Branch hosting
- b) 1994 BC Provincial Conference - Kamloops (Jon Kimura Parker clinician)
- c) 1998 BC Provincial Conference - Penticton (Angela Hewitt clinician)

If you do have any of these - please send an email to Susan at archives@bcrmta.bc.ca Thank you

HERITAGE FUND 2018

Upon approval from the Professional Development Chair, the Heritage Fund Branch Continuing Education Project will provide each branch of BCRMTA with \$200.00 to help cover costs incurred for the continuing education of our teachers.

For details on how to apply, go to the BCRMTA website: www.bcrmta.bc.ca under Programs for Branches

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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

An eligible branch may apply every two years for an amount up to \$300.

The deadline for application is February 01, 2019.
Application for the grant and approval of the same must take place before the event to qualify for the bursary.

For details on how to apply, go to the BCRMTA website: www.bcrmta.bc.ca under Programs for Branches





BC Piano Competition 2018

Adjudicator - Kay Zavislak, DMA, NCTM

American pianist Kay Zavislak enjoys a multi-faceted career as a performer, teacher, adjudicator and clinician. Spending her formative years in Japan, Dr. Zavislak attended the

Toho Gakuen High School of Music, one of the most prestigious conservatories in the country. She continued her education in the United States, earning the degrees Bachelor of Music, Master of Music, and Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Michigan.

Known for her colorful and expressive playing, Dr. Zavislak has been featured frequently as a soloist and a collaborative pianist in the region. In addition, she has given solo performances and chamber concerts, nationally, and internationally in countries such as Australia, the Czech Republic, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, and Japan. In collaboration with flutist Leonard Garrison and saxophonist Bill Perconti, Dr. Zavislak has also recorded two commercial

CDs for Centaur Records. Her awards and honors include first prize in the Frances Walton Competition, second prize in the Richardson Young Artist Award Competition, second prize in Japan's All-Tohoku Piano Competition, third prize in the William Byrd International Concerto Competition, and the Alice Kern Pedagogy Award.



Many of Dr. Zavislak's university and pre-college students have received top prizes and honors in a number of regional piano festivals and competitions, including the Music Fest Northwest in Spokane, Sonata-Sonatina Festival in Ellensburg, Northern Idaho Piano Festival, Music Teachers National Association Idaho State Competition and MTNA Northwest Regional Competition.

Dr. Zavislak's students have enjoyed great success, with offers of full tuition scholarships for master's programs in piano performance nationwide. She is passionate about teaching and sharing ideas with students of all ages as well as piano teachers and community music enthusiasts, especially in the area of performance practice and interpretation. As a result, she is in high demand for workshops, master classes, master lessons, and adjudication in regional festivals and competitions.

Before joining her family in Bellingham in 2013, Dr. Zavislak served as Assistant Professor of Piano and as the Keyboard Area Coordinator at the University of Idaho Lionel Hampton School of Music. She is currently a member of the music faculty at Western Washington University and Whatcom Community College.

Dr. Zavislak studied piano under the guidance of Arthur Greene, Logan Skelton, Yoshie Kora, and Miyoko Hamamoto, harpsichord with Edward Parmentier and organ with Marilyn Mason.

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BC Piano Competition 2018

Branch Representatives



Abbotsford - Rebecca Toews

Rebecca has had a passion for music from a young age. She currently studies piano in Abbotsford and is a violinist in the Abbotsford Youth Orchestra, with whom she has performed as a piano soloist in 2011, 2012, and 2017. Recent concerts have included performing with the Vancouver Island Symphony and the Valley Concert Society, from whom she received the Paul Moritz Bursary in 2017. This past February, Rebecca had the opportunity to perform Grieg's *Piano Concerto in A Minor* with the Fraser Valley Symphony as a winner of their biennial Young Artist's Solo Competition. In 2016 Rebecca received RCM Elementary Piano Pedagogy Certification receiving First Class Honours with Distinction. She frequently participates in local music festivals and has won numerous awards. Her plans are to continue her studies in piano, teaching, and performing as a collaborator and soloist.



Coquitlam/Maple Ridge-Lucas Hung

Lucas is currently working toward his Performer's Diploma. He started playing piano at age four, and since has been awarded five Conservatory Canada Medals of Excellence for the highest exam mark in BC for grades 2, 5, 6, 7 and 8, and the Linda Rehder Kennedy Memorial Medal of Excellence for the highest mark in Canada for grade 9 piano.

Lucas has also won several scholarships and trophies for piano exams and festivals. In November 2016, he was awarded the Caroline Conron/Marguerite Geiger National Piano Travel and Study Scholarship, and attended a master class with Peter Longworth in London, Ontario, along with performing at the 2016 Conservatory Canada National Convocation.

In his spare time, Lucas enjoys fencing, playing trumpet, singing, acting, and reading.



East Kootenay - Emma Penner

Emma Penner of Creston BC began Music for Young Children training at age 5, piano lessons at 7, and violin studies at 9. At age 12 she bought a Kawai grand piano from a teacher moving away, and worked in food service for three years to pay for it herself (choosing to be home-schooled due to the time demands of working.)

Emma was recommended to the BC Provincial Festival in 2016 as a Violin entrant and Piano observer, then in 2017 as a Piano entrant and Violin observer. Following her piano-concerto movement performed in the 2017 East Kootenay Performing Arts Festival, the adjudicator said: "You are not a student; you are an emerging artist." She has piano lessons with a teacher 120 km away, often on Skype because of winter-weather issues in mountainous rural BC. She has served also as an orchestra violinist for two musicals presented in Creston.





BC Piano Competition 2018

Branch Representatives



North Island - Towa Stewart

Towa Stewart is passionate about music. He has won numerous awards and scholarships including the \$2000 Virginia Graczak Piano Scholarship, and the Ruth Scott Memorial Chopin Competition. In 2013, Towa won first place for Junior Canadian Piano at the B.C. Festival of the Performing Arts, then in 2014 won the Junior B Category at the Provincials. Towa has represented the North Island at the Provincials for the past 7 years. In 2014 he made his orchestral debut with the North Island Choral Society Orchestra performing a Mozart concerto. Towa has attended the Victoria Piano Summer Academy for the past 7 years. Towa has been awarded the Gold Certificate from the B.C. Registered Music Teacher's Association for volunteering over 100 hours of musical service for his community of Courtenay. A Grade 11 French Immersion student, Towa is fluent in English, Japanese and French. He plays trumpet in his school's jazz band. Towa also enjoys reading and history.



South Fraser - Emma Hoglund

Emma began studying music at age four and at ten made her debut with the Lions Gate Sinfonia Orchestra, under the direction of Clyde Mitchell. She has been a consistent winner of scholarships and trophies at the South Fraser Registered Music Teachers Festival. In June of 2017, at the age of fourteen, Emma won the Senior Division of the VSO School of Music Future of Excellence Concerto Competition, one prize of which was to play with the VSO in the Orpheum on January 4, 2018 under the direction of Maestro William Rowson. During the summer of 2017, Emma was selected to play with the Perugia Orchestra (Italy) in the San Pietro Basilican at Music Fest Perugia. Most recently, Emma was included in the "30 hot Canadian classical musicians under 30, 2017 edition."



Richmond - Qiyang Hong

Qiyang began playing piano at the age of 5. Her achievements include receiving the Richmond Music Festival 2016 Gala Award and Trophy for the best overall performer in the festival, receiving the Showcase Pianos Provincial Delegate Award Kiwanis Fraser Valley 2016 and 2017, and receiving second place for the BC Bosendorfer piano competition 2017. Qiyang also enjoys composing music and teaching, receiving the highest mark in BC for Intermediate Piano Pedagogy in 2016. Since grade 3, Qiyang played piano accompaniment for her school's choir. Besides music, Qiyang enjoys playing soccer.





BC Piano Competition 2018

Branch Representatives



Vancouver - Annie Cao

Annie Cao is a Grade 12 Student at Steveston-London Secondary School in Richmond, British Columbia. She started learning piano at the age of 4 and has since exponentially grown into a young, eager performing pianist.

Since 2010, Annie has been participating in multiple local festivals per year, consistently taking first prizes, including the Kiwanis Music Festival, etc. The past three years has been extraordinarily successful including provincial and international level wins.

In 2014, Annie was chosen as a finalist to the Canadian Music Competition. Also, she has received her ARCT diploma for piano performance achieving a mark of 93%. Moreover, in 2017, Annie was chosen as a representative to compete in the BC Performing Arts and placed first. Furthermore, she competed in the Vancouver International Music Competition and obtained Best Performance of a Canadian Composer. Additionally, she competed in the Pacific Youth International Piano Competition and placed First Place and obtained the highest mark of all.



Victoria - Ya Ping Huang

Ya Ping Huang is currently a third-year music student majoring in classical piano at the University of Victoria. Ya Ping started piano at the age of five. She entered the Dun-hua Elementary School in Taiwan to study in the music academy. Since then, she received many awards at the local, provincial and national levels. Highlights included performing solo with the Kuangjen Catholic High School Orchestra as well as competing at the National Piano Competition in Taiwan. She has received numerous awards since coming to Canada to study including the Madeleine Till Competition in 2017 and the Mary Adamson competition in 2018. Ya Ping has also performed as a soloist with the Sooke Philharmonic Orchestra in 2017.

Competition will be held at:
White Rock Baptist Church
1657 - 140 Street Surrey BC

Semi-finals 1:00 pm
Finals 7:30 pm

TICKETS:

Semi-finals

Adult \$20 Student \$ 15

Finals

Adult \$20 Student \$ 15

Semi-finals & Finals

Adult \$20 Student \$ 15

Tickets will be available at the door, or in advance from the South Fraser Branch and the BCRMTA website.

Competitors programs will be available on the BCRMTA website after June 15th.

Order of Performers:

1. Victoria - Ya Ping Huang
2. South Fraser - Emma Hoglund
3. Coquitlam/Maple Ridge - Lucas Hung
4. Vancouver - Annie Cao
5. Abbotsford - Rebecca Toews
6. North Island - Towa Stewart
7. East Kootenay - Emma Penner
8. Richmond - Qiyang Hong





BCRMTA Associate Teachers' Award

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

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

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

This year we have two award winners:

Geoffrey Barker - Vernon
The Royal Conservatory

Karen Megumi Wood - Coquitlam/Maple Ridge
Conservatory Canada



Geoffrey Barker achieved his ARCT in Piano Performance in 2008 studying piano and theory with Amy Wangler. Studied Piano Pedagogy with Pat Metcalfe, and was proud to receive the BC Gold Medal for Elementary Pedagogy in 2015, and the National Gold Medal for Advanced Pedagogy in 2017.

He currently teaches piano, theory, harmony, and pedagogy at the Vernon Community Music School in Vernon BC. Geoffrey is a BCRMTA member and President of the Vernon Branch. He enjoys teaching students of all ages and levels, and believes music can be pursued and enjoyed at any age.



Karen Wood resides in Coquitlam with her husband and their three teenage children. She is a member of the BCRMTA Coquitlam/Maple Ridge branch and has an ARCT with the Royal Conservatory of Music and a Bachelor of Sacred Music from Ambrose University. Recently, she has completed an ACCM Teacher's diploma with Conservatory Canada. Karen enjoys helping all of her students foster a life-time enjoyment of music through encouraging a strong foundation of musical skills and a discovery of different musical styles. This recent diploma has been very instrumental in refining her skills as a teacher and has brought new growth as a musician.





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Thank you to Marilyn Glazer

Marilyn Glazer is now officially retired from the BCRMTA and is no longer Chair of the Board of Examiners, but she contributed a lot of time and effort during her years of active membership. We look back on her early years, her many contributions to our association, and her dedication to the art of teaching.



How did you get started as a teacher?

One day a good friend asked me to teach her, as she had just taken delivery of her childhood piano and couldn't remember how to play. I told her I didn't really know how to teach, but she was insistent - so I decided to give it a try and went to Ward Music where the staff helped to outfit me with books and supplies. Right from the first lesson I gave, I realized that I loved teaching! Another 'lucky' thing happened in those early days, as I happened to see an advertisement in the Vancouver Sun for a three-day Kelly Kirby Course led by Eleanor Patch Harkness and decided to enroll. Needing guinea pigs to try out what I'd learned, I got my youngest daughter and her three little cousins as my first class. When that worked, I sent them all to school with the message about the class. Within six months, I had 28 students and absolutely loved my new career in my home studio. After many years, we sold our house in 1988 and moved to a townhouse where I was supposed to be able to carry on teaching. This didn't happen, so I moved my studio to the Arbutus Shopping Centre (where they kindly took pity on me and repainted and carpeted a large storage closet where they stored their Christmas décor!) A year later I was offered a much larger office space and I stayed there until my retirement in 2013.

Where did you spend your early musical years?

Our family lived in New Westminster and I was influenced to study music by my mother, who was a wonderful player. I still play *The Rustle of Spring* that was her signature piece. Now it's mine and I've even played it on cruise ships. In later years, I often performed with my aunt, Beatty Zack. My first teacher was Garda Custance (mother of Barbara Custance Kerr) but after a short time, I switched to Audrey Mallinson. I spent many wonderful years with Audrey, studying for my ARCT Diploma.

And after high school?

I went to UBC Music (Phyllis Schultz was my teacher) and was being encouraged to specialize in performance. But I knew I wasn't comfortable with this - it just wasn't me. After this, I moved to Winnipeg and took a job as a secretary in a clinic. While there I studied with Jean Broadfoot, and met my future husband, Derek. We moved to Vancouver in 1966.

What else influenced your development as a teacher?

I had studied advanced theory with Cecilia Maclean for many years and have wonderful memories of my time with her. I met Marnie Carter when a friend suggested her as a teacher for my daughter. She encouraged me to join the Vancouver ARCT Alumni and the BCRMTA



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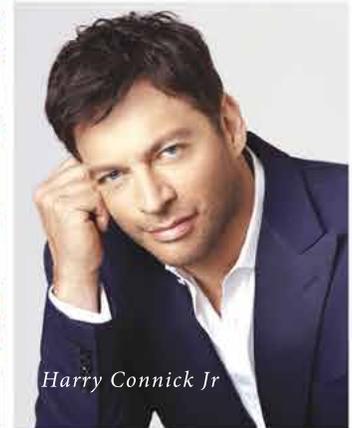
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Thank you to Mailyn Glazer - cont.

Vancouver Branch. Now I had colleagues to associate with and places for my students to perform. The professional development offered made a big difference to my studio, as I began to acquire more and more experience in preparing students for festivals and exams. I really loved my work and I think this spurred me on to be enthusiastic about all my students.

When did you become an RCM Examiner?

In 1992, when the Royal Conservatory of Music decided to expand their examiner base to include musicians from across the country, my friend and piano partner Lester Soo and I decided to apply....we both were accepted, and as they say, the rest is history! I still do assignments a few times each year. Being an Examiner has been one of the most satisfying parts of my musical life...my hope is always to make the students' experiences as positive as possible, and help them do the best they can.

You served as the Chair of the BCRMTA Board of Examiners. What did you enjoy about this job?

I especially enjoyed working with my two colleagues (Sharon West and Mary McKinney) who investigated the applications and helped to initiate our discussions and ultimately our decisions. It is important to uphold the standards of the organization and yet be a bit flexible when a candidate obviously has valuable experience and much to offer the organization.

What positions have you held in the Vancouver Branch?

When I first joined the Vancouver Branch, the Vice-President at the time asked me if I would take over the Student Performers Guild – so technically, I did not actually ‘volunteer’ – but because I’m the kind of person who wants to be involved in whatever group I join, I said yes. I inherited a box of stuff and soon I was in charge of this big event at Langara College. I remember that I was so nervous that there might be a problem over our rented rooms that I would arrive at 7am every day. Ellen Silverman was already hired as our adjudicator when I took over and I enjoyed working with her as I gained experience. Robin Wood was always one of my favourite adjudicators and we often had Winifred Wood’s valuable adjudications as well. I also remember a lot of the students in those early days – one was a very young Sasha Starcevich, who played in our evening classes that ran well past his bedtime! I served as the SPG Chair for 3 years and also served as Vancouver Branch Co-President with Sharon West for 3 years

What else have you volunteered for?

As a teenager and an adult, I helped with the Hadassah Bazaar for many years and more recently, I have joined the “Green Coats” at the Vancouver Airport International Terminal. (My husband has been a volunteer there for 20 years.) We meet a lot of interesting people from all over the world and it is fun to answer their questions and offer our assistance.



HAVE YOU MOVED ?

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- Thank you!



Ask Lori – Teaching Tips for Everyday Lessons

by Lori Elder

Q. Do you have any advice for students (like me) who have an electronic piano only? At the festival I found I couldn't play as intricately and detailed as needed, and now I'm concerned with my Level 10 Exam coming up.

A. Good for you getting all the way to Level 10 with a keyboard, but now there is really only one answer – you need to buy a piano! Many people are selling pianos now so there is a brisk second-hand market. Some pianos are being practically given away. See if it can be worked into your family's budget, or at least into your dreams for the future!

In the meantime, try finding somewhere to play your pieces on a real piano as often as possible. Many community centres have pianos, and seniors centres also often have at least one piano. Some churches have pianos in meeting rooms that are not being used. Perhaps some friends wouldn't mind you coming by now and again to play their piano. Or maybe your teacher has some free time in the studio when you could practice. I have students who also drop by the local music store and play their pieces. The customers really enjoy this! If you ask around at these various places hopefully you can get some practice time on a piano. I agree that soft colours, subtle pedal effects and dynamics are not the same on an electronic keyboard. Good luck!

Q. I have an intermediate student who is very sensitive and musical, but she moves around a lot when she plays. How can I tell her that she is moving too much without crushing her emotionally?

A. It is nice when you can see that the student is really feeling the music. But sometimes students will move their upper body a lot but the sound coming out of the piano does not reflect this. Or they may feel like they are being expressive, but they are not moving their hands and arms in an efficient way, and all this physical effort is not transferring to the keyboard. So I say something like "It's clear that you are really feeling this passage. Try now to keep your torso still and put all that energy into your arms instead." So I try to redirect their musical feeling from their body into their hands and arms.

Placing a mirror beside the piano can be helpful for the student to see what they are doing, as often they are quite unaware of how much they are moving. Making a video on a cell phone can also be very useful so you can watch for habitual movements that are not technically efficient.

Q. I've heard that you occasionally do a "Housecall Lesson." Do you go to the homes of all your students? And is this a full lesson, or just a piano check-up sort of thing?

A. Yes, I do drop around sometimes to a student's house, especially if they just got a new piano they are proud of and want me to try. Or I may want to see why they're having problems with pedalling, or why their touch is weak, or something like that. I try the piano myself and then I can better understand how to help them. Usually we do a full lesson so I can hear what everything sounds like on their piano.

I can also see what the practice environment is like in terms of how quiet it is, and what kind of household activities are nearby. I don't do this all that often, but I have found it helpful and quite fun!



Lori Elder is well-known as a pianist, teacher, adjudicator and workshop presenter. She holds a Masters Degree in Piano Performance, a Bachelor of Music and an ARCT. Lori has performed in many regions of Canada and the United States, and she teaches senior piano and pedagogy in Prince George, BC.

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Charles Richard-Hamelin



Nikolay Khozyainov



Lukáš Vondráček



Tobias Koch



Nelson Goerner



Kate Liu

CONCERT 1 – **Charles Richard-Hamelin**, Nov 10, 2018 at 7:30 pm at Vancouver Playhouse

Programme: Schumann, Chopin

Vancouver audiences will remember his stunning debut in our 2016-2017 season. Ever since winning the silver medal at the 2015 International Chopin Competition in Warsaw, Richard-Hamelin has been going from strength to strength, delighting audiences in major musical centers with the polish of his playing as well as the depth and maturity of his interpretation.

CONCERT 2 – **Nikolay Khozyainov**, Nov 17, 2018 at 7:30 pm at Vancouver Playhouse

Programme: Debussy, Stravinsky, Chopin

Khozyainov's musicality and effortless technique have been thrilling audiences around the world. Following a New York recital, Timothy Gilligan of The New York Concert Review writes of his performance of Ravel's Pavane, "*The piano seemed to have acquired a bow to draw out with seamless legato while the accompaniment floated around like incense. This young man is a master of romantic tone.*"

CONCERT 3 – **Lukáš Vondráček**, Feb 3, 2019 at 3 pm at Vancouver Playhouse

Programme: Chopin, Beethoven, Schubert

The undisputed and unanimous winner of the 2016 Queen Elisabeth Piano Competition, Lukáš Vondráček stunned the distinguished judges with his performance of Brahms' Sonata in F minor. Don't miss the Vancouver debut of this remarkable young musician, already making musical waves everywhere he plays.

CONCERT 4 – **Nelson Goerner**, April 7, 2019 at 3 pm at Vancouver Playhouse

Programme: Brahms, Beethoven, Chopin

Those who attended Nelson Goerner's last Vancouver appearance with us will remember his staggering performance of Beethoven's "Hammerklavier" Sonata. So it is no wonder that Gramophone magazine awarded the pianist's recording of the work its sought-after "Editor's Choice."

CONCERT 5 – **Kate Liu**, May 19, 2019 at 3 pm at Vancouver Playhouse

Programme: TBA

Bronze medal winner of the 2015 International Chopin Competition in Warsaw as well as winner of the highly prestigious Polish Radio prize for best performance of a mazurka, Kate Liu was seen by many jurors and musicians as the Competition's most original artistic personality.

SPECIAL EVENT – **Tobias Koch**, Feb 22 and Feb 23, 2019 at 7:30 pm at Christ Church Cathedral

Programme: Friday recital - Chopin's last concert in Edinburgh in 1848

Saturday recital – The Polish Romantics

After our highly successful collaboration with Early Music Vancouver in the 2017-2018 season, we are happy to work with our friends at EMV to bring you another remarkable artist in a pair of recitals on a period piano. He is considered the foremost specialist in the field of historically-informed performance practice. Koch has also recorded more than 20 CD's, and is the author of many scholarly publications.

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C1. Saturday Nov 10, 2018 at 7:30 pm CHARLES RICHARD-HAMELIN	A S	38 30	30 24	23 18
C2. Saturday Nov 17, 2018 at 7:30 pm NIKOLAY KHOZYAINOV	A S	38 30	30 24	23 18
C3. Sunday Feb 3, 2019 at 3 pm LUKÁŠ VONDRÁČEK	A S	38 30	30 24	23 18
C4. Sunday April 7, 2019 at 3 pm NELSON GOERNER	A S	38 30	30 24	23 18
C5. Sunday May 19, 2019 at 3 pm KATE LIU	A S	38 30	30 24	23 18

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SE. Friday Feb 22, 2018 at 7:30 pm Special Event – Tobias Koch	A S	44 36	34 32	25 22
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A-Adult S-Senior/Student/BCRMTA members - 25% discount
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Review of New Publications



Joyce Janzen
Abbotsford - Piano, Theory
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Janet Marcotte
South Okanagan - Piano
Member since 1992



Nita Pelletier
Chilliwack - Piano
Member since 1988



Jean Ritter
Abbotsford - Piano, Theory
Member since 2006

Signature Solos

Book 3 Early Intermediate

9 All-New piano solos by Favorite Alfred Composers

Selected and Edited by Gayle Kowalchuk

Alfred Publishing 45049



This volume of solos has a variety of different musical styles. The titles for each piece are very descriptive – *Jazz Riff, Stomp! Looking Through the Mist, Dancing with Gypsies* and so on. At this level, key signatures include up to three sharps and flats. Time signatures are in simple and compound time. The intervals in the pieces range up to a sixth to accommodate smaller hands. All articulation including dynamics, pedaling, clef and hand position changes are well marked. There are some very showy recital style pieces included in this book.

Janet Marcotte

Signature Solos - Book 4 Intermediate

9 All-New piano solos by Favorite Alfred Composers

Selected and Edited by Gayle Kowalchuk

Alfred Publishing 45050



This book of solos is similar to Book 3 but is more challenging at this level. Pieces like *Tango Dance, Million Dollar Rag, Misty Moon* and *Piano Dreams*. Key signatures go up to four flats in one piece only. Time signatures are in simple and compound time with one piece in irregular time. Intervals of sevenths and octaves are used in half of the compositions and leger line notes above and below the staff are used liberally in many of the selections. This Intermediate level presents some challenges but it is worth the effort for these catchy melodies.

Janet Marcotte

Schaum Fingerpower POP - Level One

10 piano Solos with Technique Warm-ups

Hal Leonard HL00237510



This book introduces a new series with a variety of popular tunes including songs from today's pop charts, movie themes and Broadway tunes like *Reindeer Are Better Than People, Hallelujah, Yellow Submarine*. The arrangements progress in order of difficulty and many include optional accompaniments. Easy technique warm-ups precede each pop solo.

Janet Marcotte

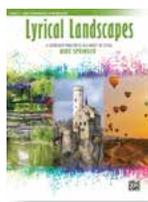


Review of New Publications - cont.

Lyrical Landscapes Books 2 & 3

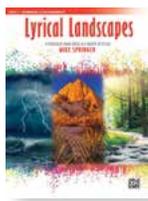
by Mike Springer

Alfred Publishing 46134 46135



Book 2 contains eleven expressive piano pieces in a variety of styles. Students in the RCM program get to experience some of the music of Mr. Springer in the latest series. The music in this book is sure to attract your

students' imagination and heart. When students enjoy the music they're learning, they're willing to put in the work to master it. All of these pieces contain pedal and many of them require register changes and hand crossovers. Both minor and major keys are explored as well as some modulation. Key signatures don't exceed 2 sharps or flats. The largest solid chord is a seventh and broken chords make up the harmony in a few pieces. Ten of the works are in simple meter along with one 6/8 piece. A few have syncopation. There are many skills for the developing musician to be learned here: projecting melody, balance between hands, rubato, and many musical nuances.



Book 3 is a collection of nine pieces in the same lyrical style of book 2, but more advanced. Again the titles immediately capture the imagination and the music strongly supports the titles. All of this music was inspired

by the Romantic era and the variety of character pieces left by those composers. The tempos move between slow ballads and upbeat. The pedal plays an important role in these pieces as well. The key signatures range up to 4 sharps and 5 flats. Some works are full of accidentals scattered about. Here too the time signatures are primarily simple time with one work in %.

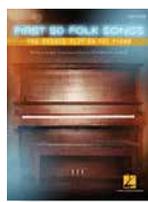
These books are great collections of interesting music for our students wanting to explore and develop musical playing!

Jean Ritter

First 50 Folk Songs You Should play on the Piano

Easy Piano

Hal Leonard HL00345867



Simply arranged, must-know collection of traditional melodies. What fun to look through these familiar pieces – many I had not heard or played for ages. Most of the folk songs are American in origin: *Home on the Range*, *Down in the Valley*. African – American spirituals include: *Sometimes I feel like a Motherless Child*, *Down by the Riverside*, *This Little Light of Mine*. A few English folk songs make an appearance: *Barbara Allan* and *Scarborough Fair*. American composer Stephen Foster's pieces are often thought to be folk songs: *Oh Susanna*, *Swanee River* and *My Old Kentucky Home* are some of his best known tunes. Pieces in a folk style include: *Will the Circle be Unbroken*, *She Wore a Yellow Ribbon*. Songs listed as Traditional include: *The Water is Wide*, *This Train*. Original sources and composers are listed. However, the arranger is not credited. The font is large and easy to read with never more than four measures of music per line or more than four lines per page. The lyrics are included in all but one piece - great to get students playing AND singing. Key signatures up to two flats or sharps, standard time signatures, and uncomplicated arrangements, keep this volume very accessible for Level 3 – 5 students. Chord symbols above the staff could assist adventuresome players to embellish the arrangements or a guitar player could join in. The glossy cover has a close up photograph of a vintage piano much like the well loved and well worn instruments many of us grew up with. The quality binding means the book lays flat on the music desk.

One feature of this book could be improved: the index page is black paper with white printing which makes it difficult to write in any notations or check off pieces. I like to use the index pages to write the year in which a piece was learned and what key it is in for quick reference.

This book is ideal for older adult students who likely would recognize many tunes or could be used for sight reading for younger students – many of whom tend to be unaware of the rich heritage of folk music and folk style tunes loved by generations past.

Nita Pelleter

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Review of New Publications - cont.

Bonjour Piano

Elementary, Upper Elementary, Early Intermediate, Intermediate, Upper Intermediate

Durand Salabert Eschig

by Various composers

Hal Leonard HL50565848 HL5056549 HL505850 HL505851 HL505852

This set of five books contains a total of eighty-eight piano solos composed solely by French composers! The nine composers I've never heard of, make up 40 percent of the music and this made for delightful music exploring! The works are mostly from the 20th century including composers C. Debussy, C. Koechlin, F. Poulenc, M. Ravel, Erik Satie, and Alexandre Tansman to name a few.

The music in each book is in progressive order. A wonderful addition is the section on composer biographies followed by points for practice and teaching! Editorial suggestions in the music appear in brackets. Another great point is the quality cream coloured paper making reading easier and clearer.

Elementary Level: there are sixteen pieces that would fall between RCM levels 1 – 3. The shortest note value is the eighth note.

Upper elementary Level: again there are sixteen solos that would fall between RCM 3 – 5. More hand independence is needed here as well as voicing. Coordination for many of these pieces is a necessity!

Early Intermediate Level: here we have nineteen works featuring different notation, some use of pedal, some Alberti bass, many dotted rhythms, waltz

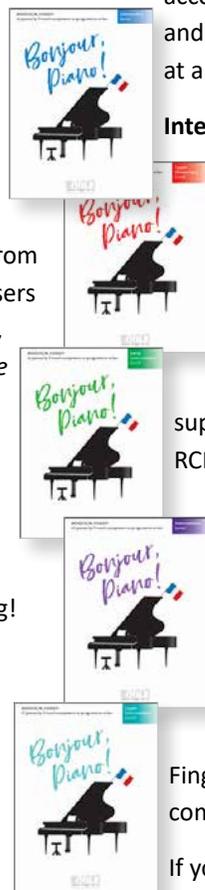
accompaniment, sequences, and grace notes. The music would be at a RCM 5 -6 level.

Intermediate Level: this book has twenty pieces. Some of the works have no bar lines and in others the texture thins to single lines. Dynamic changes are fairly dramatic. There are more unconventional harmonies and melodies. The titles are clearly supported by the music. This is about RCM levels 7 – 8.

Upper Intermediate Level: seventeen pieces make up this final book. A number of these works are more challenging and reach the RCM levels 9 – 10. The rhythms are more demanding as are many of the tempos. Fingering and articulations are more complex.

If you have students that enjoy the French music of the 20th century these books would be particularly fascinating! I enjoyed exploring the sounds and colours of these works!

Jean Ritter



Movie Blockbusters

Intermediate Piano Solos

Arr. by Mona Rejino

Hal Leonard HL00232859



Another fantastic book from the Popular Songs Student Piano library, this volume really pulls out all the stops on high voltage entertainment

with eight pieces from favourite movies in a wide variety of styles. *Can't Stop the Feeling* from Trolls shows off a catchy funk/groove beat. *Finding Dory* (main theme), is a minimalist composition with time signatures of 5/4, 3/4 and 3/4 with continuous 8th note movement. *How Far I'll Go* from Moana and *Just Like Fire* from Alice through the Looking Glass are pop ballads. *The Imperial Suite* from Rogue One and *Rey's theme* from Star Wars are bold and rhythmic - sure to please teen boys. *Mia & Sebastian's Theme* from Lala land is gentle and reflective. *Set It All Free* from Sing has a driving rock beat. In short, there is something here for everyone. With key signatures up to three sharps and four flats, ranging in length from one to six pages, these skillful and imaginative arrangements would appeal to students of all ages at Levels 7 – 9. Layout is intelligent with never more than five measures per line or five lines per page. Four of the pieces include lyrics – written within the grand staff rather than the two treble clefs, one bass clef format often used for piano/vocal music. Mona Rejino, a gifted composer and pianist is co-author and contributing composer and arranger for Hal Leonard. You and your students will love her arrangements.

Nita Pelletier



Review of New Publications - cont.

Sea Diary

(Early Intermediate)

Christos Tsitsaros

Hal Leonard HL00364586



Hailed as “a strong and eloquent voice in the contemporary world of piano music,” Tsitsaros, DMA, maintains a teaching position at the University of Illinois, concertizes widely as piano soloist, is the editor for Schirmer Performance editions

and is also a featured composer in the Hal Leonard Composer Showcase piano library. The nine pieces in Sea Diary were composed while on sabbatical in the composer’s native Cyprus. The unique and varied seascape of the port city of Larnaca is the setting for this beautiful musical diary: the noise of the harbor, the shouting of the fishermen, the cawing of the seagulls, the clouds before a storm, the shells on the beach and the changing colours of the sky and sunsets. The composer describes how he came to a “blessed internal quiet that allowed a total connection within myself and with nature” and hopes that “students will be able to relate to my spiritual experiences through their own imagination.” With keys ranging from two sharps and 3 flats, note values never shorter than eight notes and accessible style, this collection would be suitable for students of all ages at Levels 3 – 5. Pieces range from one to four pages. The *Wondering Whale* would be a great choice for students whose attention tends to wander. Marked *Allegro con spirito*, the toccata-like opening gets off to a bold start with hands alternating on open fifth intervals. A more sonorous passage follows with some chromatic movement and syncopation. Many performance directions: light and energetic, with wonder, with expression, somewhat agitated, joyous, with drive make this a creative piece that students will love. The last piece in the book appropriately titled *The Seagulls’ Farewell* has a feeling of gentle serenity such as one would feel after a relaxing vacation at the ocean.

Nita Pelletier

Sheet Music

Hot Dog! from MICKEY MOUSE CLUBHOUSE

Elementary Level 2

Words and Music by John Flansburgh and John Linnell

Arranged by Lynda Lybeck-Robinson

Hal Leonard HL00263205



This piece is written in middle C position on the grand staff with the melody shared between the hands. It is lively and retains the integrity of this fun song even in this simple arrangement often described as easy big-note. It is well notated with fingering and 8va markings. An older student or adult accompaniment is provided.

Janet Marcotte

Willis Music Spectacular Solo

The Magical Musical Clock

Later Elementary

by Naoko Ikeda

Hal Leonard HL00253765



This piece tells the story of a tiny marching band that lives in this very special clock and appears every afternoon at 3 o’clock. It is written totally in the treble clef on both staves except for one measure at the end for the LH in the bass clef. Written in simple quadruple time with a repeated pattern. The rhythmic upbeat, accents, phrasing and dynamics

bring this piece to life.

Janet Marcotte

*Thank you to Janet, Jean, Joyce and Nita
for all the reviews - they are amazing.*



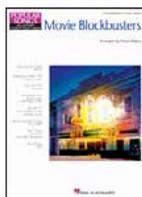
Review of New Publications - cont.

Duets

Easy Disney Duets: Late Elementary/ Early Intermediate

Arranged by J and M Watts

Hal Leonard HL00243727



This collection is made up of eight arrangements for one piano and four hands. Disney duets are always an easy sell to students because they're

familiar and relatable! A number of these duets have the melody shared between the parts which I know many secondo players appreciate. The book's format has 4 staves connected and only two sets per page. I find that I need to highlight the brace for the secondo so that the students' eyes know where to move after each line is completed. The key signatures don't exceed two sharps or one flat. Six of the pieces are in 3/4 time and one in cut-time and of course the Pirates Medley is in 2/4. I love the variety of articulations used as they bring character to the duet. The rhythms are manageable for the student at this level and the relaxed swing will be enjoyed in Cruella de Vil. Only *How Far I'll Go* utilizes the pedal.

My students really enjoyed playing these duets with me and some sang along while we played. There are no lyrics but familiar music is always a hit! Well arranged!!

Jean Ritter

"I love the holistic and thorough approach."

"This has given me an appetite for more harmony study."

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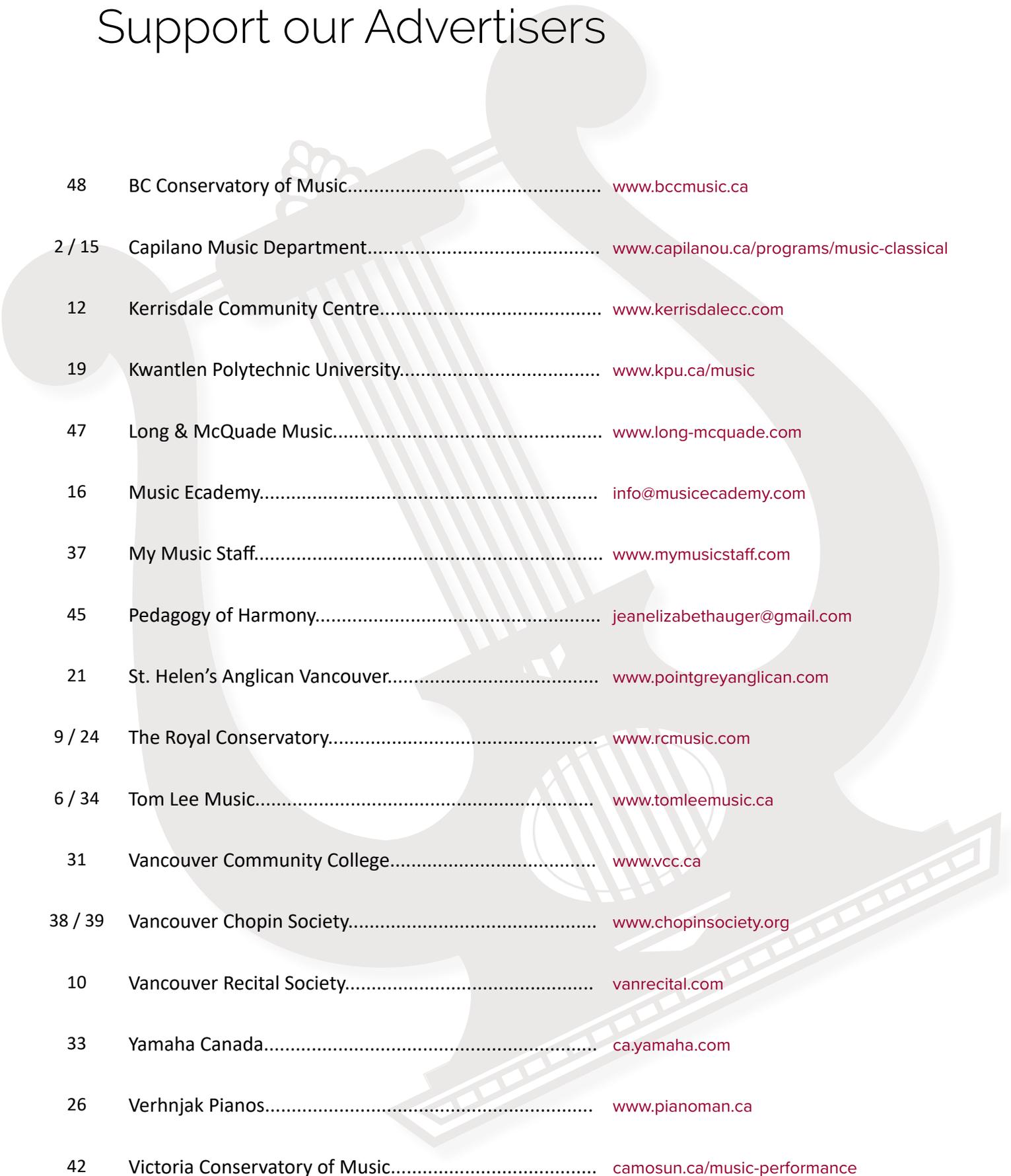
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