



## Yukon

The Yukon Registered Music Teachers' Association hosted a special online concert to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Canada Music Week. The concert was pre-recorded at the Yukon Arts Centre theatre on November 14<sup>th</sup> and was released online on November 28<sup>th</sup>. We had 11 students perform pieces from Canadian composers such as Nancy Telfer, Connie Penner, Susan Griesdale, Simon Riopel, Christine Donkin, Morris Surdin, and many others! We also had a few respected local musicians and composers join our concert this year to give some very inspiring performances. This year we had local newspaper and radio coverage of our Concert. Special thanks to the Whitehorse Concerts, Yukon Arts Centre, and PJ Productions for sponsoring our concert this year. We are very happy to be able to celebrate and share such wonderful Canadian Music with everyone.

Here is the link to our CMW concert:

<https://www.yrmta.ca/concerts-events>



## British Columbia

Due to the Pandemic which has plagued the planet in 2020, most BC Branches did not submit a CMW event Report. This report encompasses the nine reports I received this year.

**Abbotsford, Coquitlam/Maple Ridge and South Okanagan** Branches, each prepared a virtual Concert for their students and Branch members. Both Abbotsford and Coquitlam/Maple Ridge Branches prepared a video featuring students who excelled in their various exams. South Okanagan presented over \$1300 worth of scholarships this year. The prestigious Madam Janisch Award was granted to Anna Mitchell.

The **Sunshine Coast** Branch held an E-Festival in honour of Canada Music Week. There were eight string participants and four piano entrants. Two students were given awards due to their 'Distinction' marks in grade seven and ten RCM piano exams.

The **Mission** Branch worked collaboratively to provide students with information about a variety of Canadian Composers. Stephen Chatman and Linda Niamath were featured and this information was shared with students at their weekly lessons.

**Richmond** Branch created a survey to find their 'favourite' Canadian Composers. Ultimately, it was determined that Linda Niamath placed first. The Branch will be creating a new Memorial Scholarship in her name this year.

The **Trail/Castlegar** Branch presented award winners with certificates. They also interviewed Andrew Harbridge then uploaded it on Youtube. The interview concluded with a beautiful performance of his composition *Springtime in Paris*.

The **North Island** Branch hosted an on-line Recital in conjunction with the Edmonton Branch of ARMTA. Two members of the Edmonton Branch had seven students play their own compositions. The NI Branch enjoyed a performance by its own student composer. In all, 37 students from both Branches



Winter 2021



# British Columbia - cont.

performed from the safety of their own homes, then exchanged copies of the music that had been performed.

The **Vancouver/Burnaby** Branch held an on-line Composers' Forum on Sunday, November 22 in honour of their *Centennial Anniversary*. Three prominent Canadian Composers were invited to the Forum; Christine Donkin, Alexina Louie, and David L. McIntyre. Each composer was featured in a 60 minute interview where they shared a glimpse into

their process of composition and their thoughts on music. Among many captivating topics, they heard about C. Donkin's Composition Clubs for students, A. Louie's virtual release of *Take the Dog Sled* for Inuit throat singers and ensembles, and D. McIntyre's composition in-progress, *Towns*.

Thank-you all for sharing your Covid experience of CMW 2020!

**Sonia Hauser - BCRMTA CMW Convener**

# Manitoba

COVID-19 may keep us from gathering, but it can't keep us from sharing music with each other. And while we're at it, why not share it farther and wider than usual with the internet?

The whole province went online this year, with **Winnipeg area** students submitting their performances of Canadian compositions and their own compositions to a pre-recorded Video Recital. The online recital premiered Sunday November 22<sup>nd</sup> on YouTube and featured interviews with Manitoba celebrity composers Sid Robinovitch and Matthew Schellenberg and 2020 Student Composition Competition Winners Alexa Pitz and Anna Schwartz. Special mention to Anna whose composition *Prairie Sunset* recently went on to take Second Place in the National Student Composition Competition!



*Anna Schwartz describes how she wrote her piece Prairie Sunrise.*

In the composer interviews, we received some insight on how the act of composing can be both personal expression and exploratory in nature. Each musical voice is unique with a beautiful blend of experience, culture, and personality. The Canadian music scene is rich with diverse stories and unique languages as was evident in the musical performances. As the pandemic and its restrictions roll on, it is a privilege to give our musicians this online opportunity to share their work in this first ever MRMTA Virtual Recital! - *Melissa Gingrich*

**Brandon/Westman Branch**, in collaboration with teachers and students of the Brandon Suzuki Talent Education Program,

hosted its CMW Concert on Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup> in the afternoon. Three short recitals celebrated Manitoba's 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday and CMW's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Each recital was cohosted by two teachers with a total of 33 student performers. The recitals were very well done technically, showcasing performances from the students' homes as well as from a dentist's office and a YouTube video from China! Thanks to the students who participated, and a special mention of those who played their own creations! All were enjoyable and well-prepared.

Thank you to the many supportive parents attending this first Zoom recital and making it possible for their children to participate. Also attending and much appreciated were grandparents and friends from out of province including former member Mary Jo Carrabre (now living in BC), MRMTA President Evangeline Keeley, and composers Dianna Neufeld, Julianne Warkentin, Kenneth Nichols and Sid Robinovitch whose pieces were performed by several of the students. All-in-all, comments resulting from the experience were very positive and "It was FUN!" - *Eleanor Epp*



*Sid Robinovitch, MB composer being interviewed by Melissa Gingrich, MRMTA's CMW convener*





# Canada Music Week® Semaine de la musique canadienne<sup>MD</sup>

## Nova Scotia

**Yarmouth Chapter** - In common with teachers right across the country, the teachers of the Yarmouth Chapter of NSRMTA were constrained by Covid-19 restrictions in place for our area. It was great to see, however, that the students' interest in Canada Music Week® had not waned from previous years.

For the most part, students performed the music of our Canadian composers in our teaching studios and for immediate family households. Some teachers, however, took the opportunity to record students' efforts and put them on our social media platforms so that a much larger audience could learn of those composers through reading short biographies and hearing their music played.

There is always a way to get the music out! - *Karen Turpin*

**Dartmouth Chapter** - Our celebration of Canada Music Week® was different than usual this year. We were unable to have our traditional afternoon of music in the Helen Creighton Room. However, a zoom recital was held that featured much Canadian music. Students were asked to give a bit of information about the composer at the beginning of their video. There was also a video performance by a former student of Kathy Andrew who is now a second-year piano major at Mt Allison University. Teachers in general aimed to include Canadian music into

their student's repertoire and to help them appreciate the significance of Canadian composers. - *Kathy Andrew*

**Halifax Chapter** - The Halifax Chapter hosted a Canada Music Week® recital and presentation on Sunday, November 22. We were pleased to have as our guest speaker, Ian Green from Ontario who talked to us about "Inspiring Creativity". He also shared some of his own piano compositions for students of all levels. Ian is a well-known teacher, composer and performer who is very passionate about guiding students on their creative journeys! His music can be found through Debra Wanless Music or [ianjgreenpiano.com](http://ianjgreenpiano.com).

The format for this event was a first for us! We started with a live zoom recital with 9 students, followed by the live zoom presentation with Ian Green and then a pre-recorded video featuring 25 more students. All students performed either Canadian composers or original compositions on the two recitals. The event was a success and we will certainly try more of this format in the future. - *Diana Torbert*

**Diana Torbert - NSRMTA CMW Convener**



Sound Advice Theory  
and Ear-Training



The perfect resource for your

On-line or In-Person Teaching

"supporting teachers - not apps"

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



# Alberta

In our province, many branches have postponed their celebrations. However, Lethbridge and Edmonton branches found virtual ways to celebrate Canada Music Week® this year. Here are their reports.

On Saturday, November 28, 2020 students from the **North Island** branch of BCRMTA and the **Edmonton** Branch of ARMTA participated in a collaborative Zoom recital to celebrate Canada Music Week®. This was organized by Carolyn Garritano from Edmonton Branch and Sonia Hauser from North Island Branch. There were 36 performers in total. 19 students representing 7 teachers from Edmonton Branch and 17 students from North Island Branch. There were 35 piano students ranging from beginner to advanced level and 1 clarinet student. The students from BC played pieces written by BC composers L. Niamath, R. Benedict, D. Duke, B. Pentland, T. Richert, J. Coulthard, L. Patterson, N. Fairbank, K. Benoit, J. Ethridge and A. Louie. The students from Alberta played pieces written by Alberta composers Garritano & Puckrin, V. Archer, D. Ross, P. Rudzik, LJ Purves and C. Donkin. Carolyn Garritano and Cindy Taylor took turns showing pictures and sharing some information about each composer. The students took turns performing from their own homes. There were 6 students who had a previously recorded video performance shared. Each performing student was “pinned” by using the spotlight feature of Zoom so the performer would be easy for everyone to see and hear. The recital lasted a little over 90 minutes. Soon after the recital was over, lots of good feedback was received from students and teachers. - *Carolyn Garritano*

To celebrate Canada Music Week® this year without holding an in-person concert, the Lethbridge Branch of the Alberta Registered Music Teachers’ Association produced a video of students playing works by Canadian Composers. The video was viewed by students, teachers and families by Zoom on Saturday afternoon, November 28<sup>th</sup>. The video recital featured twenty-nine students performing selections by Canadian composers including Anne Crosby Gaudet, Christine Donkin, Nancy Telfer, Linda Niamath, Clifford Poole, Andrew Markow, Pierre Gallant, Jean Coulthard, Stephen Chatman, Boris Berlin, and Alexina Louie. Slides with information about each composer was included between performances and students watching could also participate in a Scavenger hunt that asked questions about the composers. - *Tamara Bowie*

**Tamara Bowie - ARMTA CMW Convener**

# Newfoundland & Labrador

The NLRMTA 2020 Canada Music Week® celebrations took place online from November 22 - 28, 2020. The following list includes highlights from our Canada Music Week® celebrations:

## **Canada Music Week® Recital - Composer Video Initiative**

Prior to the final recital (which was held online via Zoom on Saturday, November 28<sup>th</sup>), members of the NLRMTA Canada Music Week® committee contacted all of the living composers of the music that was being performed in the recital via email or through their websites. We asked each composer to submit a short video clip talking about each particular piece being performed (their inspirations, thought process during composition, etc). The NLRMTA was very fortunate to receive videos from Anne Crosby Gaudet, Alexina Louie, Donna Rhodenizer, Andrea Dow, Wayne Chaulk, and Paul Reed. These videos were shared with our virtual audience directly before the performance of the piece of which the composer was describing.

## **Canada Music Week® Recital**

The annual Canada Music Week recital saw 24 performances representing 17 different Canadian composers. The performers included pianists, vocalists, a guitarist, and a violinist from local private teachers across the province.

## **Canada Music Week® Video Performance Project**

Canada Music Week® celebrations began on Nov. 12, 2020 with our fifth annual ‘Canada Music Week® Video Project’. This project was formed in an effort to promote Canadian music and composers, as well as promote our participating performers. In addition, the project allows for teachers from rural areas of Newfoundland to more easily contribute to the CMW celebrations and showcase their students and studios. Teachers of the NLRMTA were invited to send video clips of young artists performing Canadian works to NLRMTA Canada Music Week® committee members. We received 13 videos and media consent forms from parents that were shared on our website and social media page.

## **Creating Canadian Composers workshop**

Canada Music Week® 2020 included our annual ‘Creating Canadian Composers’ workshop which took place on Sunday, Nov. 22, online via Zoom. This workshop was with Canadian composer Bekah Simms, who has ties with Newfoundland and Labrador and is currently based in Montreal. This professional development workshop for our members offered tangible instruction on how to introduce approachable composition to students in the lesson. Six teachers attended the workshop. The workshop was recorded (with permission from Bekah and the participants), and will be used for further professional development opportunities for our members.

**Jennifer Benson - NLRMTA CMW Committee Chair**





# Canada Music Week® Semaine de la musique canadienne<sup>MD</sup>

## Québec

Pour souligner le 60<sup>e</sup> anniversaire de la Semaine de la musique canadienne® en cette année 2020, l'Association des professeurs de musique du Québec a dû repenser ses façons de faire et s'adapter à une nouvelle réalité en organisant un événement entièrement virtuel!

Quelle belle expérience pour une première! Nous avons reçu une abondante participation de la part d'élèves âgés de 5 à 18 ans, en piano et en violon. Tous ont apprécié y participer.

Durant la semaine, notre juge invité, le pianiste, compositeur et pédagogue montréalais Frédéric Issid, a pu visionner les prestations à partir de son bureau à Valence. En effet, M. Issid poursuit présentement sa carrière en Espagne. Ça aussi c'est une première d'inviter un juge de l'extérieur du pays!

Mr. Issid a enregistré un message personnel à chacun des participants et tous ont reçu un certificat de participation.

Les « coup-de-cœur » du juge, sélectionnés parmi les vidéoclips soumis ont été les vedettes du récital virtuel qui a été présenté sur une des plateformes Web de l'APMQ le dernier jour de la Semaine de la musique canadienne, soit le 28 novembre. Ces derniers ont également reçu une bourse.

Je tiens à remercier les membres de l'équipe APMQ du Festival virtuel: David Côté président, Patrycia Meunier trésorière, Gayle Colebrook et tout particulièrement Danielle Langevin, registraire et coordonnatrice Web, sans qui cette version des activités de la SMC n'aurait pu être possible.

**Christiane Claude - coordonnatrice de la SMC**

*Northern Lights* Canadian National Conservatory of Music

**Shaping Canada's  
Vast Musical Landscape**

**1-866-889-8807**



**www.cncm.ca**

To mark the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Canada Music Week®, the Quebec Music Teachers Association had to rethink its ways and adapt to a new reality by organizing an entirely virtual event!

This first time experience using this platform was enjoyed by all! We were happy to have many students ranging in age from 5 to 18 involved with this year's event. Instruments played included the piano and the violin, and everyone enjoyed participating.

During the week, our guest adjudicator Montreal born pianist, composer and educator Frédéric Issid, was able to watch the performances from his office in Valence. Mr. Issid is currently pursuing his career in Spain. This is also a first for us, being able with this technology to invite an adjudicator from outside the country!

Mr. Issid recorded a personal message to each of the participants and they all received a certificate of participation

The judge's "favorites" selected from the music videos submitted were the stars of the virtual recital. This recital was added to one of the QMTA's Web platforms on November 28, the last day of Canada Music Week®. Performers selected for the recital also received a bursary.

I would like to thank the members of the QMTA Virtual Festival team: David Côté President, Patrycia Meunier Treasurer, Gayle Colebrook and in particular Danielle Langevin, our Registrar and Web Coordinator, without whom this version of CMW activities would not have been possible.

**Christiane Claude - CMW Coordinator**



# Ontario

Together we, the Ontario Registered Music Teachers' Association, met the challenges of Canada Music Week® with a variety of celebrations. Fond memories of all the activities continue to linger on.

Of the thirty two ORMTA Branches across the province, the following shared reports: Barrie, Bolton-Brampton-Caledon, Brantford, Hamilton/Halton, Hanover-Walkerton, Kingston, London, Newmarket, Niagara Falls, North Bay, Oshawa & District, and Ottawa Region.

Individual branches were able to rely on technology to virtually host Student Awards/Honours Concerts; a Mini-Festival with almost 70 participants; a Virtual Festival with adjudicated performances of one Canadian composer and one own choice attracting 95 applicants; performances in CFMTA's e-Festival; workshops; a composition challenge to add a Variation based on an Iroquois folk song and record the collection as a video; new awards supporting students' endeavours; a Young Canadian Composers Competition; plus artwork and poetry based on individual selections and a thought provoking questionnaire to enhance our Canadian attitude and understanding. Many from across Canada

listened and provided an attentive, appreciative audience. Specific details will be shared in ORMTA's Notes magazine and the forthcoming CFMTA Year in Review Magazine.

To support the ORMTA membership and inspire their creativity, President, Laura Gray and Canada Music Week® Convener, Jacqueline Huffman-Krisza reached out and recommended ideas of opportunities to encourage participation not only with other teachers but also with politicians, students and our own personal and professional community. ORMTA Provincial Council provided members with 10 social media posts spotlighting Canadian composers and performers on November Mondays and each day throughout Canada Music Week®, November 22 to 28 to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

As an active provincial member of CFMTA, we delight in supporting Canada Music Week® and in fostering the love of music, especially Canadian works in the lives of others.

We look forward to Canada Music Week® 2021 with eager anticipation.

*Jacqueline Huffman-Krisza - ORMTA CMW Convener*

## Federation of Canadian Music Festivals 2021 NATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

August 6-14 | VIRTUAL COMPETITION



Contact Barbara at [info@fmcf.org](mailto:info@fmcf.org)  
for more information

### Developing Artist Stream

Intermediate Level | 18 years & under  
RCM/CC Grades 8-10 Repertoire  
Piano and String Classes

NEW

### Emerging Artist Stream

Advanced Level | 30 years & under  
Vocal, Piano, Strings, Guitar, Woodwinds, Brass,  
Percussion, Musical Theatre, Chamber Ensemble

[fcmf.org/syllabus/](http://fcmf.org/syllabus/)

Available Now  
in Western Canada  
and Ontario

The Local Stream Qualifying Round is a virtual competition for teachers who want the opportunity for their students to seek recommendation to the FCMF National Music Festival.



# Canada Music Week® Semaine de la musique canadienne<sup>MD</sup>

## Saskatchewan

This year Canada Music Week® celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The E-Festival CMW celebration was created to provide a safe space for music students to participate by recording a video featuring their performance. The criteria for the recording could be a performance of a Canadian composers work, a cover of a Canadian artist, an arrangement of a Canadian folk tune, or something of their own creation.

In the monthly memo from the CFMTA, we were encouraged to download the compositions that were the winners of this year's Call for Compositions from the CFMTA website and share them with our students to include in our own CMW virtual concert.

Lynette Sawatsky, a local composer in Saskatoon offered a special music promotion in the month of November. There was a YouTube link to listen to the music from each of her collections and there was also a special November pricing in honour of Canada Music Week®. There were selections ranging from first year to grade eight students.

The **West Central** Branch held it's contemporary showcase November 21 and it was a debut Z (zoom) festival. It included 38 pianists and one singer with Nicole Wilton as the adjudicator. On the same day there was a meet and greet session with two Canadian composers who were Christine Duncan and Andrew Harbridge. From the same branch Peggy L'Hoir had a junior and an intermediate group of piano students perform monster piano ensembles composed by Lynette Sawatzky. These multi level arrangements were performed at Biggar's virtual Canada Music Week® concert. The rest of the Biggar CMW concert performances were recorded separately at the Majestic Theatre. They were compiled and presented on social media.

The **Regina** branch also hosted an online Contemporary Showcase. The students performed their pieces on their Facebook page.

Hannah Marple and Matthew Praksas hosted the Saskatoon Contemporary Showcase with over 75 participants in a live event as well as a virtual portion of the festival. Several students of both of junior and senior levels were nominated to submit videos to the HCNMP awards. Following the showcase a recital was held with up to 35 devices tuning in. There were 25 performers from five different Saskatoon RMT studios. A big thank you goes out to Michelle Aalders for her zoom expertise and a mention must be made of Olivia Adams who was the adjudicator. Well done.

**Patricia Niekamp - SRMTA CMW Convener**

Winter 2021

## Prince Edward Island

The PEI Registered Music Teachers' Association celebrated Canada Music Week® with a "Virtual Recital Hall". Fourteen students made video recordings of works by Canadian composers, which were combined into a recital that premiered on November 21<sup>nd</sup>. The program included pieces for flute and solo piano by composers Christine Donkin, Elizabeth Raum, Anne Crosby Gaudet, Renee Christopher, and Nancy Telfer, and several students performed their own compositions.

**Andrea Ellis - President**

## New Brunswick

No Canada Music Week® recitals were held in New Brunswick due to government and health COVID pandemic restrictions.

**Barbara Long - NBRMTA CMW Convener**



Canada Music Week®  
2021  
November 21 - 27



The Canadian Music Teacher