



Canada Music Week®

Semaine de la musique canadienne

Newfoundland & Labrador

The NLRMTA 2022 Canada Music Week® celebrations took place from November 20 - November 26, 2022. The committee members that helped create and organize this event were: Jennifer Benson (committee chair), Alyssa Hicks, Lisa Giles, and Alison McHugh.

The following list includes highlights from our Canada Music Week® celebrations:

(1) Canada Music Week Recital

The annual Canada Music Week® recital was held on Sunday, November 20 as a 'kick-off' event for Canada Music Week®. The recital saw 14 performances representing 9 different Canadian composers. The performers included 13 pianists and one violinist from local private teachers. One student performed his own composition.

Canadian composer Christine Donkin attended our recital via Zoom. After the performances, she spoke to the performers and audience about her compositions that were performed, and about her approach to composing. After her address, there was a brief Q&A session with Christine.

(2) Canada Music Week Video Performance Project

After the recital, the NLRMTA continued our Canada Music Week® celebrations with our annual 'Canada Music Week® Video Project'. This project was formed in an effort to promote Canadian music and composers, and also to allow 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 7 videos and media consent forms from parents. From sharing the videos on Facebook and our website (www.nlrmta.ca), thousands of people were reached, and our goal of promoting Canadian music to the community was certainly reached.

Jennifer Benson - Committee Chair

Nova Scotia

Halifax Chapter

William Andrews Award Winner - see page 15

Valley Chapter

Kentville United Baptist Church was the setting for the NSRMTA Valley Chapter's Canada Music Week® Recital the afternoon of Sunday, November 20. Nineteen students from beginner to intermediate levels presented a delightful program of Canadian music featuring composers Lavalée, Niamath, Markow, Crosby Gaudet, Maxner, Richart, Chapman, Campbell, Donkin, Kenins and Burge. There were piano solos and duets and two traditional fiddle sets.

Rev. Devin Johnstone welcomed us to the church and then Marlene Jackson spoke to us about Canada Music Week®. She asked the performers to introduce themselves and their pieces before they played and to bow when finished. The children were excited to be performing, especially on a grand piano! Nathan Woo opened the program by accompanying our singing of *O Canada* and Brian Johnstone ended the program with his accompaniment for *God Save the King*.

Before the end of the concert a special presentation was made by The Annapolis Valley Music Festival's President Wendy LaPierre and General Manager Misty Banyard-Kelley.

Submitted by Heather Pineo Regan

Yarmouth

Teachers in Yarmouth, NS presented a Canada Music Week® recital with 25 students who all performed pieces by Canadian composers.

Diana Torbert - Coordinator



Québec

L'Association des professeurs de musique du Québec a célébré la «Semaine de la musique canadienneMD» en invitant tous les professeurs de l'association à inscrire leurs élèves à une série de quatre récitals qui se sont tenus au cégep Saint-Laurent, le dimanche 20 novembre 2022.

Lors de ce « marathon » de récitals, les élèves ont interprété des œuvres de 35 compositeurs canadiens. Tous ont reçu un certificat de participation. Le pianiste et pédagogue Julio Gonzalo, juge invité pour l'année 2021, a pris plaisir à auditionner tous ces jeunes et a fait une sélection de ses plus grands coups de cœur. Les élèves qui ont été sélectionnés se sont produits à nouveau lors du gala qui a toujours lieu le samedi qui couronne cet événement. Ce magnifique concert fut un grand succès. La salle était remplie à pleine capacité ! Ce fut un moment mémorable ! Les jeunes et parfois très jeunes musiciens ont tous reçu un prix en argent donné par la Fondation québécoise pour l'éducation musicale. Ces jeunes artistes nous assurent une relève impressionnante

Je remercie sincèrement tous nos bénévoles, qui ont fait de cet événement une réussite: Solange Bellemare coordonnatrice adjointe, Danielle Langevin registraire et coordonnatrice Web, Patrycia Meunier trésorière de l'APMQ.

Longue vie à la Semaine de la musique canadienneMD !

Christiane Claude - coordonnatrice

The Music Teachers' Association celebrated, the Canada Music Week® by inviting all its teachers to register their students for a series of four recitals held at Cégep Saint-Laurent on Sunday, November 20, 2022.

During these recitals, students performed pieces by 35 Canadian composers. All received a certificate of participation. The pianist Julio Gonzalo, guest judge for the year 2021, took pleasure in auditioning all these young people and made a selection of his greatest favorites. The students who were selected performed again at the gala that still takes place on the Saturday that crowns this week. This magnificent concert was a great success. The concert hall was full to capacity. It was a memorable moment.

Young and sometimes very young musicians all received a cash prize given by the Quebec Musical Education Foundation. Those young artists are the promise of an impressive next generation of musicians.

I sincerely thank all our volunteers who made this event a success: Solange Bellemare Assistant Coordinator, Danielle Langevin Registrar & Web Coordinator, Patrycia Meunier QMTA Treasurer.

Long Live Canadian Music Week !

Christiane Claude - Coordinator



Ontario

CMW continues to thrive in Ontario.

The **Ajax/Pickering** Branch began CMW with two successful live concerts with performances by 50 students at various levels.

The **Barrie** Branch celebrated CMW with their first, in-person recital in 3 years. Sub-divided into two recitals, they showcased performances by 70 students (piano and vocal) which was highlighted with an awards ceremony recognizing exam excellence.

We congratulate **Central Toronto** Branch on being a 2022 William Andrews Award recipient for their hands-on workshop by Avila Lotoski for members and non-members to explore teaching composition techniques. *More on page 10*

Hamilton-Halton's CMW professional development included Martha Hill Duncan's virtual "Canadian Composers" presentation and Dr. Amelia Yates' Ann Southam podcast. For their Recital, eight teachers registered thirty elementary to diploma level students at which Aidan Lao, ORMTA's 2022 Young Artist delighted the audience with his performance of Alexina Louie's *Fast Forward*.

Kingston was thrilled to host a live mini-festival. Nearly 50 students performed an eclectic range of Canadian music for piano, voice, flute and violin, including pieces by local composers and an original student composition. Local composer, Daniel McConnachie adjudicated and was inspired by the potential in these eager musicians.

The **Kitchener-Waterloo** Branch began CMW with a day of masterclasses adjudicated by Amber Morphy. Midday, she performed a recital of composer Jennifer Lanthier Smith's book, "Cottage Country". They concluded the day with a recital featuring complimentary student selected images.

ORMTA's **London** Branch hosted virtual and in-person events adjudicated by Joanne Bender and Rebekah Maxner which culminated in a final CMW recital that recognized high exam achievers.

The **Newmarket and Area** Branch provided, "A Celebration of Canadian Music and Composers". Thirty three performers, featuring piano, violin and vocals gathered at Newmarket's Old Town Hall to once again perform in-person. Thank you was extended to all for making this a wonderful success.

The **North Bay** Branch was pleased to display their Mayor's "Proclamation of CMW November 20 - 26, 2022 in North Bay". This ORMTA Branch annually celebrates CMW in February as part of their "Honour Recital".

This year, ORMTA's **Ottawa** Branch had 11 teachers' 53 students perform pieces by 28 different Canadian composers in celebration of CMW. The Branch was appreciative of the hard work of individual participants and of the opportunity to provide this live performance celebration.

The **Whitby** ORMTA Branch held a professional development meeting to celebrate CMW. Each teacher presented a work by a Canadian composer, giving biographical information as well as pedagogical perspectives on each work. It was an engaging and informative session, celebrating composers from our country.

The ORMTA Council shared ten social media posts of performances of works by Canadian composers: Leon Dubinsky, Martha Hill Duncan, Linda Fletcher, Susan Griesdale, Frank Horvat, Sophia Huang, Ally Jiang, Marjan Mozetich, Christopher Norton, and Jana Skarecky.

Each Branch's CMW contributions were commendable and appreciated.

Jacqueline Huffman-Krisza - Coordinator



London Branch



Ottawa Branch

Manitoba

Manitoba Registered Music Teachers celebrated Canada Music Week® with student learning and performance events in Brandon and Winnipeg. The **Brandon and Westman** Branch held a workshop and recital on November 25th, in Brandon University's Lorne Watson Auditorium. The workshop was comprised of two sessions broken into younger and then more advanced students and was conducted by Theresa Thordarson a composer, collaborative pianist and performer who currently lives and works in Winnipeg. Ms. Thordarson's creative workshop used an interactive format to help students develop their musical ideas into compositions and then work together with other students in a joint compositional activity. At 7pm, eighteen students came together to present a recital of music by Canadian composers. The pieces varied from beginner to advanced with involvement from a wide age range of students. This enjoyable event was broadcast via ZOOM to anyone interested in tuning-in.



The **Winnipeg and Area** region hosted two events bracketing Canada Music Week®. On Sunday November 20th, eighteen students performed Canadian compositions highlighted by our 2022 Category C 19 and under Student Composer Winner Caeli Palmer performing her winning flute composition *Meadow*. Performers gave introductory comments on their pieces and the composers, and it was wonderful to discover all the points of connection we have in common with the composers as fellow Canadians. To close the week, local composer, instructor, and clinician Julianne Warkentin gave a masterclass for intermediate level piano students with a focus on compositional techniques and personal expression. Students shared Canadian compositions and Julianne guided the group through compositional techniques used by the composers and helped students explore how to improvise and expand their pieces. It was impressive to witness these young musicians' ability to improvise on pieces they knew so well. Julianne pointed out that being a Canadian composer may not be so far away for these young, but capable performers.



Melissa Gingrich - Coordinator

Thank you to all the branch and Provincial Coordinators that sent in Canada Music Week® reports, unfortunately, no reports were received from:
Alberta, British Columbia, New Brunswick,
Northwest Territories and Yukon.

When received they will be included in
The Year in Review 2022

Prince Edward Island

The PEIRMTA Canada Music Week® Recital was small but mighty with piano, voice, and violin students from five studios. Audience members were treated to some Canadian classics such as *Freddie the Frog* by Anne Crosby Gaudet and *Goodnight, Dolls* by Linda Niamath, while everyone's toes were a-tapping as we listened to *Little Sombbrero* by Samuel Dolin and *Peace Country Hoedown* by Christine Donkin. *Halley's Comet* by Nancy Telfer and *Little Sparrow* by Alexina Louie had us feeling dreamy, and performances of Allistair MacGillvray's *Song for the Mira* and Gordon Lightfoot's *Pussy Willows, Cat-tails* made at least one audience member feel more than a little nostalgic. It was a delightful event made all the more special as it was a first recital experience for several of the students. Everyone went home with a little thank you package with CMW pencils and stickers.

Suzanne Campbell - Coordinator



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More For Your Music

Saskatchewan

The Registered Music Teachers of **Swift Current** held their Canada Music Week® concert on Nov 27/22 at the Swift Current Art Gallery. We have not held a concert for a few years so it was refreshing to have students able to perform for an audience. The concert was short as several students were ill and had to cancel. We did have ten performances with three teachers entering their students to play and sing. Five of the selections were by Canadian composers. Notable was a piano piece entitled *Wet Shoes* by Janet Gieck, a member of our branch. We were delighted by a performance of *Clair de Lune* by Michael Liu. Michael has received a RCM Gold medal for his Level 8 Performance exam in combination with his Level 8 Theory Co-requisite. Congratulations to teacher Marilyn Kin.

At Contemporary Showcase in **Saskatoon** this year, we had another record level of entrants to celebrate Canada Music Week®. Over 110! We were delighted to have our adjudicator Kathleen Lohrenz Gable inspire our students with new and fun ideas. Preparatory through Advanced levels were represented and students showed a high calibre of ability and preparedness in sharing their music, several students being nominated for national scholarships. The hard work of organizers and

volunteers ensured a smooth running and successful event. We recognize Hannah Marple, Lynette Sawatsky, Bernadette Fanner, Willette Neijmeijer, Bonnie Nicholson, Nick Arsenaault, Jhena Dela Cruz, and Adrienne Bank for their contributions.

On the following weekend, the Saskatoon Branch hosted a Canada Music Week® Recital to cap off the festivities with many wonderfully varied pieces and Canadian compositions once again on full display. We were treated to performances of piano and vocal students, representing several different studios within the branch. Many of the performers from the Showcase Festival received recommendations from the adjudicator to play again in this recital – a valuable performance experience for them. Thank you to Matthew Praksas, Lynn Ewing and Laurien Gibson for organizing and facilitating this recital.

The **West Central** branch had a great time celebrating Canada Music Week® together this year, hosting the Contemporary Showcase on Nov. 18-19 in Rosetown. It was our first live showcase since COVID, and we were honored to have Gregory Chase from Regina as our clinician and adjudicator.

Patricia Niekamp - Coordinator



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