



William Andrews **Award** Announcement 2022

Annonce du **prix** William-Andrews 2022

Joyce Hein

Congratulations to **Central Toronto Branch of ORMTA** and the **Halifax Branch of NSRMTA** for receiving the William Andrews Award for their innovative Canada Music Week events. Please read their full reports and details of their creative events in this issue.

This year we received three innovative and creative applications. An independent panel of three RMT's from outside the applicant's Province made the decision for the recipient of the William Andrews Award.

Central Toronto - ORMTA

For the last several years, ORMTA Central Toronto Branch has held a Composition Master Class during Canada Music Week®, with highly accomplished composer/educators as clinicians. At the request of member teachers, the branch decided to move the master class to January and prepare for it with a composition workshop for teachers. This workshop, held during the 2022 Canada Music Week® and led by branch member Avila Lotoski, showed teachers how to introduce composition projects into regular music lessons. Avila outlined guidelines for designing composition projects and described past projects from her studio. Participants studied some of Avila's past studio composition projects, played through examples of completed student works, and watched videos of performances of some of these student works. The workshop ended with teachers creating composition prompts and starting to look for inspiration for their own studio composition projects. Emphasis was placed on listening and exploring; differentiating between theory assignments and composition assignments; and being a gentle guide in the composition process.

With new skills in hand, branch teachers will be able to encourage composing in their studio, in a manageable amount of time, and then be able to enter their students into the branch

Félicitations à la **ORMTA (division Toronto Centre)** et à la **NSRMTA (division Halifax)** pour les événements innovateurs qui leur ont mérité l'attribution du prix William-Andrews. Lisez le compte-rendu complet de leurs idées créatives dans le numéro d'hiver du magazine « Le professeur de musique canadien ».

Cette année, nous avons reçu trois idées créatrices et originales. La décision a été rendue par un panel indépendant formé de trois professeurs de l'extérieur des provinces des concurrents.

Composition Master Class. The next step for these students is the provincial Music Writing Competition in March. With these three, connected composing events, students will be able to create and connect with Canadian composers throughout the teaching year.

The workshop took place in a newly established Avenue Road Music & Dance Performance Academy in central Toronto, which has a brand-new keyboard lab perfect for this kind of event, allowing teachers to work individually and in groups. A fortuitous Canada Music Week® connection: most teachers showed up early and were treated to a tour of the venue, which included viewing Gordon Lightfoot's signed grand piano, the star of an intimate performance space at the front of the school.

Next year and beyond, ORMTA Central Toronto Branch plans to replace the composition workshop for teachers with a composition workshop for students. Both the CMW Composition Workshop and the January Composition Master Class would then feature the same composer clinician, giving the students even more time with the people that are creating Canada's inspiring musical landscape!

Respectfully submitted by Avila Lotoski - Convenor



Halifax - NSRMTA

Halifax Chapter of NSRMTA celebrated Canada Music Week® this year with a special concert on Sunday, November 27, 2:00 PM at the Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts.

This concert was a collaborative event with the Contemporary Showcase Festival - Maritimes, and we were delighted to join forces and to be able to perform in the lovely Lilian Piercey Concert Hall.

Our joint recital featured twelve student performers from the Festival, including a wonderful traditional ensemble performance from the Halifax Institute of Traditional and Early Music.

The second half of the program featured twenty performers from nine teachers of our Halifax Chapter, including three young composers and a vocalist.

The repertoire included compositions from nine different Canadian composers as well as three of our young composers who had won awards in the Student Composer Competition this year.

We also presented our guest artist Jennifer King, a well known pianist, educator and recording artist. She is also a member of NSRMTA. Ms. King introduced and performed excerpts from her latest recording - *O Mistress Moon: Canadian Edition*. This recording features twelve contemporary piano works, some of which Ms. King commissioned. The pieces are linked to the monthly full moons and their names in both folklore and Mi'kmaq culture and tradition. We were so delighted to have Ms. King present and perform this important Canadian music!

The Halifax Chapter is thrilled to have received a Williams Andrews Award this year for our Canada Music Week® program! Thank you for encouraging and supporting our efforts and celebration of Canadian music!

The **Contemporary Showcase Festival** was initiated by the Alliance for Canadian Music Projects and is held every year across our country during Canada Music Week®.

It is the only festival of its kind in Canada, devoted entirely to music by Canadian composers. It is non-competitive in that no marks are awarded, no ranking given and the adjudications take place in a master class atmosphere designed to be informative and supportive. Outstanding performers are further encouraged through scholarship recognition. Many scholarship recipients of the past festivals have gone on to make their mark in the music world.

Here is more about **Jennifer King**, In 2022 - 2023 Jennifer is curating, hosting and performing in eight Cecilia Concerts Sensory Accessible Concert Series and also performing chamber music at Sunday in the Garden Room Series at Acadia University, Music at Trinity and the Scotia Festival Chamber Players Series in Nova Scotia.

Respectfully submitted by Diana Torbert - Convenor



◀ Jennifer King