

Over 50 students performed in **Barrie** branch's Canada Music Week recitals, each of which began with singing O Canada. Piano and vocal students – beginner to advanced -- performed a wide range of repertoire from both Canadian and other composers.

Performers received a maple leaf gift packet – candies and a pencil.

Between the two recitals, Barrie students who received the highest marks in RCM exams during the past year received certificates and honorariums. Certificates were also handed out to many honourable mention students.

Many thanks to our CMW committee of Margot Hamilton and Megan Newcombe!

**Central Toronto** branch hosted an event at the Canadian Music Centre (CMC).

Participants and auditors began by perusing scores (which they could borrow) from the CMC library. After a tour of the facilities came a composition master class with Dr. John Burge, professor of theory and composition at Queen's University. Participants aged nine through adult brought compositions including works for various instruments (including choir). Some compositions were performed live; others were presented as recordings or video. Copies of scores were distributed to participants, and Canada Music Week pencils and stickers were given to all. Dr. Burge presented participants with a signed score of one of his piano collections.

The **Hamilton-Halton** branch held its annual Canada Music Week recital on Sunday, November 27 at the Anglican Church of the Incarnation in Oakville. This was a lovely performance venue and a resonant open space for music-making. The recital featured students of Diana Emery, Chris Foley, Diane Manojlovich, Warren Nicholson, Leslie Polci, Jana Skarecky, and Olga Tcherniak playing a program of diverse Canadian works. One memorable performance in particular was by Jana Skarecky, who played her own composition, *Down River*, for piano. A Canada-themed cake was brought by Diane Manojlovich and enjoyed by all following the concert.



The **Kingston** branch was thrilled to have local composer, conductor and piano teacher Martha Hill Duncan adjudicating for their 6th annual Canada Music Week festival, held in conjunction with Queen's Community Music. This year's event had several piano and

flute students performing a variety of Canadian pieces, including some by Hill Duncan as well as fellow local composer John Burge. The weekend concluded with a highlights concert with some outstanding playing, as well as a giveaway for merchandise from the local hockey team, in the theme of celebrating Canada.

It was a great celebration of Canadian music as students and teachers in **Kitchener-Waterloo** marked Canada Music Week on Saturday, Nov. 26. Master classes were held throughout the day for forty young pianists. In his comments, clinician Terry Kroetsch, WLU piano instructor and RCM examiner, emphasized the value of studying Canadian music. He commended the students for their colourful and imaginative playing, and encouraged them to use their music to tell a story.

In their recital, thirty-two students performed Canadian music while photos or drawings they had chosen were projected onscreen.



The **Newmarket and Area** Registered Music Teachers hosted two recitals on November 13, 2016 with lovely refreshments as a thank you to the parents and students who participated. Many Canadian composers were honoured by enthusiastic students.

**North Bay** branch celebrated the beginning of Canada Music Week a bit early but with great enthusiasm with their pre-Canada Music Week Recital, with over twenty five performers of piano, guitar, trumpet and voice. Later in the month, their “Honour Recital” recognized top students from the previous year’s RCM examinations. The church where this event was held was decorated with the North Bay Mayor’s “Canada Music Week Proclamation” as well as an oversized Canadian flag along with lots of red and white balloons. The mayor, MPP, and representatives of Elk Lodge #25 attended and presented awards.



On November 20, Orleans United Church was filled with a wonderful audience who braved the snowy weather to enjoy **Ottawa Region** branch's Canada Music Week Recital. Featured were forty-five students performing works by Canadian composers, including some of the students' own compositions. The audience was treated to performances from a variety of talented young musicians including harp, voice, and piano solos and duets. Each performer was presented with a beautiful certificate and treated to a cupcake, baked by member and council member Danielle McIntyre. Following the recital, a lovely reception was enjoyed by family and friends.



On November 18th, the **Owen Sound** branch celebrated Canada Music Week with a student recital. Twenty-two piano students performed pieces from Preparatory to Grade 9. The all-Canadian program included works by Debra Wanless, Andrew Harbridge, Beth Hamilton, Jen Smith Lanthier, and John Burge. Scholarships were awarded to students who obtained the highest mark in practical and senior theory examinations. A draw was held for a beautiful painting by Rémi Bouchard, and students received Canada-themed souvenirs. The evening concluded with a reception featuring a huge Canada cake and delicious punch.

**Peterborough** branch collaborated with the Peterborough Suzuki School of music in sponsoring *Second Nature*, an environmental opera for youth composed by Matthew

Aucoin and performed by the Canadian Opera Company. The capacity crowd of parents and children aged 7 and up enjoyed an informative afternoon with the young performers. A pre performance workshop and a question and answer period after the performance were enjoyed by all.

**Sarnia** branch's Canada Music Week program on November 20<sup>th</sup> began with the playing of "O Canada" arranged by Karen Rowell for 2 pianos/8 hands. This was followed by performances of twenty students from various studios. Teachers Dorothy Miller and Sharon Sedgeworth performed a duet, "C.S. Theme & Variations, Opus 6," by Randall Compton.

Jane Levesque, an MYC teacher, then led the students in various rhythmic activities using percussion instruments. A special guest, Jonathan Clarke, a grade 10 student of Jane Levesque, performed two of his own compositions.

Refreshments included a Canada Music cake and various other treats.



**Welland/Port Colborne** branch held a Presentation Recital, honouring students who received first class honours on their conservatory exams in piano and theory. Many students performed pieces written by Canadian composers. The branch also hosted two helpful and informative workshops: "Master Classes for All Levels" and "Comments and Observations after 10,000 Exams", with clinician Jennifer Knelman. Several students participated in the Master Class workshop, which was also attended by teachers from the **Niagara Falls** branch.