Minutes of ORMTA AGM

2016 Convention Photo Gallery

CONTRIBUTION TO TEACHING AWARDS

2016 PROVINCIAL COMPETITIONS
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Calendar of Events 2016-2017

October 22
Provincial Council Executive Meeting

October 23
Provincial Council Meeting

November 20-26
CANADA MUSIC WEEK

December 31
Deadline for Amendments to By-Laws

December 31
Branch concerns to Zone Representatives for presentation to Council Meeting

February 1, 2017
"NOTES" DEADLINE FOR SPRING ISSUE

February 6
Provincial Executive Electronic Meeting

February 10
Provincial Council Electronic Meeting

March 1
Deadline for requests for membership status updates to Provincial Registrar

March 15
Deadline for Music Writing Competition submissions to CMW Chairperson

March 15
Branch concerns to Zone Representative for presentation to Council Meeting

April 15
Deadline for OCTA submissions

April 22
Provincial Council Executive Meeting

April 23
Provincial Council Meeting

April 30
DEADLINE for ALL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT requests for 2017-2018

May 1
"NOTES" DEADLINE FOR SUMMER ISSUE

May 31
Deadline for Zone entries in the Provincial Competitions to Provincial Chairperson

June 15
Nominations for Zone Representatives, to Provincial Secretary

June 15
Branch Delegate names re Annual Meeting, to Provincial Secretary

July 1
Membership fees are due

July 1
Deadline for BRANCH EXECUTIVE LISTS for 2017-2018

July 1
Branch concerns to Zone Representative for presentation to Council Meeting

July 21
Provincial Executive and Council Meetings

July 22
Provincial Annual General Meeting, Awards Luncheon and Competitions

THE ONTARIO REGISTERED MUSIC TEACHERS’ ASSOCIATION PRIVACY POLICY

The Ontario Registered Music Teachers’ Association respects your privacy. We protect your personal information and adhere to all legislative requirements with respect to protecting your privacy. We do not rent, sell or trade our mailing lists. The information you provide will be used to deliver services and to keep you informed and up to date on activities of the Ontario Registered Music Teachers’ Association, including workshops, clinics, conventions, recitals, competitions and other special events, funding needs, opportunities to volunteer or give, newsletters, NOTES magazine, membership, brochures, and web-site information. If at any time you wish to be removed from our mailing list or discuss our privacy policy in greater detail, simply contact us through our Secretary-Registrar at 705-267-1224 or via e-mail at ormta@ntl.sympatico.ca and we will gladly accommodate your request. For more info please visit www.ormta.org and click on “Privacy Policy” at the bottom of the page or contact Provincial Secretary-Registrar, Ron Spadafore.
Welcome to our Fall issue of NOTES. The landscape is changing from its lush period of growth and entering a period of hibernation. Colours are bright, the air is crisp – marking the beginning of another year of inspiration and study.

As teachers we’re all ready to sow those seeds of inspiration in our students and dedicating time to making them the most engaged musicians they can be. And ORMTA is here to help - sharing best practice and encouraging new talent.

Some outstanding performances were on display at the 2016 Provincial Competitions, making it quite a challenge to select the winners. You can find the competition results on page 24.

Be sure to check out the 2016 Convention photo gallery on page 18 and make sure you don’t miss an opportunity for some great discounts using our MemberPerks Program – details on page 26.

The Music Writing Competition is gearing up again so please support and encourage your students to enter their work and become the Canadian composers of tomorrow.

I wish everyone a happy holiday season and all the best for 2017!

Yours in music,
Patrick McCormick
Editor

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From the President

Fall brings so many things that I love; beautiful colours, warm days, crisp nights, the holidays and the start of a new teaching year. By the time you are reading this, the intense rush of September with its whirlwind of new schedules, changing students, fresh ideas, and the seemingly endless list will have slightly diminished.

As I reflect on our Association, I’d like to say it is an honour to have the opportunity to serve for the next two years as your President. I am grateful to those past Presidents and Council members who have worked and devoted their personal time and talents to help make ORMTA the successful organization it is today. As I assume this role as President, I realize how fortunate I am to have such a strong and supportive Executive, Past-President Sue Jones, Vice-President Kathy Schmidt, Secretary/Registrar Ron Spadafore and Treasurer Nancy Dale. Their expertise, dedication and wisdom are truly valued.

We are welcoming two new Zone Representatives to Provincial Council this year. Shirley Walgate Mueller, from Eastern Zone will be taking over the Professional Development portfolio and Alde Calongcacong from Western Zone will be taking over the Competitions portfolio. Alessandra Matthews from New Market is a Member at Large who will be managing the Communications and Website portfolio. We look forward to having them join our amazing team. Your Zone Representatives are there to help you and to answer any questions so please do not hesitate to email or phone.

Congratulations to Convention Chair, Charline Farrell and the Chatham-Kent Branch for a well planned Provincial Convention. Attendees were treated to three exciting days filled with workshops, competitions, and sessions. As well there were numerous exhibitors and ample time to converse with friends and celebrate colleagues’ achievements. The number of positive emails and letters I received following the event was a testament to its success. Plan to attend the 2018 Provincial Convention in Ottawa, hosted by Ottawa Region Branch.

Stay connected by visiting the ORMTA website to find out what events and programs are available for you and your students. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. Write an article for NOTES. Share ORMTA news with your colleagues and your friends and encourage them to engage, join or even renew their membership. Stay connected!

All the best for an inspiring, creative and rewarding teaching year.

Respectfully,
Elizabeth Tithecott
ORMTA President
**From the Branches**

**BARRIE**

As the leaves begin to change and teachers return to regular teaching schedules, our Barrie Branch ORMTA is off to a fantastic fall start. A warm welcome is extended to our new members Nancy Graham, Wing Chow and Pamela Cioroch. Many heart-felt congratulations to Nissita Francis, Student of Cheryl Graham who represented the Barrie Branch and North Central Zone at the Provincial Competition. Nissita was Runner-Up and received the Piano Technician’s Guild $500 scholarship.

As a Branch we discussed how to inspire our students through a carefully chosen workshop that would bring all of our studios together. As a result, we are very excited to announce our upcoming Fall Workshop featuring Clayton Scott on Saturday, October 22. Ms. Scott will be presenting two workshops entitled: “Motivation” and “Music as a Story”. We are looking forward to an amazing afternoon that will be both exciting and educational for our students.

Our Branch is pleased to collaborate with Innsisfil Public Library, Lakeshore Branch, to provide an afternoon concert on Saturday November 5th, in celebration of their new grand piano!

Our Canada Music Week Awards Recital will be held on November 19th. Teacher’s from our Barrie Branch will come together to celebrate our students and their accomplishments in Theory and Practical Examinations. Awards are given to students with the highest marks within our Branch from the past year. These are in memory of long time ORMTA members Joyce Langford and Maude Fleming who contributed significantly to Barrie Branch ORMTA, in the development of local music festivals and the growth of arts in our community.

We wish all teachers a wonderful autumn as music fills the air.

– Sarah Lawton

**CENTRAL TORONTO**

The Central Toronto Branch has big bold plans for an exciting year ahead. We have a vision of greater exposure of our programs to the general public, more professional PR as well as expanding our programming to meet the needs of our large membership.

To get some of these ideas off the ground we have several events in the works for fall. First on the agenda is our Fall General Meeting on October 3rd which will feature a PR workshop with one of our very own members Liz Parker (www.lizpr.com). While not teaching music, Liz is a branding and social media consultant for musicians in Toronto. To follow this informative workshop, we will be offering an opportunity for our members to book a head shot photo session at the Canadian Music Centre on November 7th. This will include makeup and image direction with Liz and a professional, touched up photo by photographer by Shayne Gray whose work is featured in both Vogue and GQ.

As the annual falling of the leaves and sales of pumpkin spice lattes begin, so does the planning of our Children’s Halloween Recitals and the Fall Scholarship Auditions. The Halloween Recitals continue to be a very popular event so we will be expanding the day as needed to accommodate all of students that wish to participate.

Detailed information about our upcoming events can be found on our branch website at www.ormtactb.com. Please also like our Facebook page (ORMTA Central Toronto Branch) for instant updates and branch member news.

– Liz Craig

**ETOBIKOKE- MISSISSAUGA**

The Etobicoke-Mississauga Branch once again welcomed Joe Ringhofer for a three day workshop in August - “Exploring History 3 with the YouTube Generation and a peak at the new Theory Syllabus 2016”.

It was our most well attended summer workshop to date and we will again be hosting Joe for another workshop on October 31 - “The Theoretical Pianist: Understanding Piano Literature from the New RCM Piano Syllabus Gr. 1-5”. Filling out a very busy fall is another workshop led by Dr. Penny Johnson on September 26 - “From The Pianist’s Toolbox: Techniques for Effectively Practicing The Music of J.S. Bach”, our annual Halloween Recital on October 30, and the Young Artist Recital on November 26.

We have also launched our own branch website and look forward to getting to know several new members to the branch.

– Abigail Freeman

**HAMILTON-HALTON**

The branch held its AGM on May 27, 2016. Through the Executive reports on financials, programs, and media / public relations activities conducted in the 2015-2016 year these highlighted the triumphs and challenges that charted’ another successful year in the Organization’s operations. Election and re-election of the 2016-2017 Executive included members moving on to a 2nd / 3rd Term, and new individuals taking over key roles from those individuals who completed their applicable terms of service. Following the meeting, a buffet lunch, catered by the RBG’s restaurant staff, gave branch colleagues the opportunity to mix and mingle in a more informal and relaxed social atmosphere. After lunch, my colleague Sandra and I took time out to walk the pathways of the beautifully renovated rock gardens, and visited the new David Braley and Nancy Gordon Rock Garden Centre.

The definitive information source for Ontario Registered Music Teachers
The momentum continued as incoming President, Dr. Christopher Foley hosted his first Executive meeting at his home in Oakville on July 11th. The focus was planning out the 2016 - 2017 Calendar. In securing dates and venues for upcoming student recitals, workshops, branch and zone competitions, general and executive meetings, festivals, it is going to be another busy year for our teachers and their students. New in the student recital line-up is “Plays Well With Others” - an initiative of branch member / saxophone teacher, Sarah Anne Walkowski - to encourage students to perform in a collaborative ensemble platform. More details on this recital to be posted on www.hhormta.org and Facebook page.

Eight members attended 2016 ORMTA’s convention in Chatham, ON; July 23 - 24 sessions; some of us took the opportunity to be at the Pre-Convention Session. The wine tour and tasting, followed by a meet and greet at the hotel was a wonderful way to end a very productive day. Personally, it was a very uplifting “get-away” weekend; highlighted by celebrating with our branch OCTA winner, Francine McIsaac her outstanding achievements as a Music Educator.

The Branch was off to a good program year on August 25th with Jennifer Smel’s workshop presentation The Challenge and Rewards of Teaching Transfer Students. Based on her first hand experience narratives, Jennifer gave great insights on her resourcefulness in the above scenario.

The first General Meeting and President’s Welcome on September 1st featured once again the “Convention in a Bag”; an effective alternative to promoting our Members in their ‘business of teaching’.

– Kamara Hennessy.

HANOVER-WALKERTON

The Hanover-Walkerton Branch was pleased to host our Zone’s Young Artist competition last May in Hanover. Congratulations to our winner, Nissita Francis, who was runner-up in the instrumental competition at last summer’s ORMTA convention. Gwen Beamish led a workshop at the Zone Competition. The topic was Tips For Performance Preparation and Advanced Repertoire.

Also, at last summer’s ORMTA Convention, we are happy that our branch’s own Megan Kunz was the recipient of the ORMTA Pedagogy Award, and also the CFMTA Award. Congratulations to Megan and to her teacher Margot Hundt.

Our June meeting was held at the home of Elaine Pearce in Walkerton. Following the meeting, we held an informal discussion about registering students, studio policies, and recital ideas. We then enjoyed a potluck lunch on Elaine’s patio.

Our September meeting was held at the home of Dawn Toombs in Goderich. After the meeting, the teachers prepared a short video explaining the significance of our Branch Awards for students who have achieved First Class Honours (and beyond) in their exams. We called out the first names of the students and followed that up with a big round of cheers and applause. This has been posted on our branch’s Facebook page. This page is our branch’s initiative to embrace technology and in doing so help to make a connection amongst our students who are spread over a large geographical area. On it we are sharing events, videos, student performances, award presentations, or anything that we hope may be of interest to our students and their families.

In October we hosted a workshop in Hanover: “New Canadian Piano Music with Debra Wanless”. Admission is free. All area teachers were invited. This is a branch outreach for other teachers in our community with a focus on music used for the MidWestern Ontario Rotary Music Festival.

– Dawn Toombs

KITCHENER-WATERLOO

Our 2015-16 year ended on a party note combining the Spring Recitals and Awards events with a special celebration of ORMTA’s 80th Birthday-Anniversary Year!

Donna Mak organized the festivities at The Great Hall of Conrad Grebel College, which began with over 100 students from 20 teaching studios performing in multiple scheduled recitals. Students shared solos and ensembles, piano and guitar, classical and “not so” classical music! Each student performer received souvenir “K-W ORMTA” and music pencils, but more importantly, each gained a valuable learning experience.

At the end of the recital day, award ceremony recipients - one student per teacher - proudly accepted their K-W ORMTA Award of Recognition: a beautiful framed certificate ready to display; a personal letter of acknowledgment written by the teacher; plus a music store gift card.

As a surprise, piano students of Donna Mak performed a “Birthday Medley” arrangement, and the audience was able to win giant bags of popcorn by guessing which composer each of the Happy Birthday variations was in the style of.

Following our September meeting we enjoyed wonderful summer weather at our picnic at Goderich’s beach.
From the Branches

Prize draws also added excitement and support: Over $300 worth of raffle prizes (toys and games that foster imagination and creativity) were donated by Donna Mak. Two local music stores - Music Plus, and Opus II - also donated prizes, won on chance by lucky audience members.

Since no celebration is complete without party decor, balloons and cake, yes - we had lots of those too!, with extras being sent home with many happy families!

K-W’s executive team in 2016-17 is Donna Mak continuing as President; Paul Coates as Past President; Carolyn Pratt as Treasurer; Susan Robinson as VP; and Fiona Mendes as Secretary. Our first (Fall) general meeting on September 19 welcomed some new members, and included a visit from RCM Chief Examiner Dr. Thomas Green, who presented an informative workshop on Celebrating Theory. Reuniting with and meeting new music enthusiasts was also a fun part of the day for everyone, and hospitality volunteers Jane Trafford and Helena Liew ensured attendees were well refreshed before heading back on the road.

Joanne Bender hosted a small group session in her home at September’s end, offering to help any members feel more comfortable with selected Canadian music. She reported that those who attended had an enjoyable time sharing ideas, and she is always encouraging of participation in CMW opportunities.

We look forward next to the Young Artist piano recital of Andrew Fu on October 15 with the enthusiasm of Edith Covach convening, and the popular annual costumed Masquerade Recitals for fun-loving students of any age on October 29 organized by Donna Mak!

Wishing all our colleagues at all the branches many stimulating, inspiring musical moments and memories -in-the-making!

– Donna Mak

NEWMARKET AND AREA

The Newmarket and Area Branch started the Fall season with a stimulating workshop by Sarah Buckley: “Building a Community of Musicians: A Group Class Planning Workshop”.

After introductions, and our Branch agenda, Sarah discussed the advantages of regular group classes, the logistics of setting up a group class program to compliment private lessons, lesson pacing, and tips for planning.

Group workshops or classes are included in Sarah’s year piano program, approximately every 6 weeks or so replacing one single lesson with a group experience. Groups are age oriented, e.g. 4 - 6 years which benefit from social interaction and some active approaches to learning, including games.

Members also shared ideas and materials.

Sarah Buckley is a new member residing in Keswick and teaching piano, pedagogy and theory. She is active in social media, e.g. hosting a Facebook community for piano teachers working to become thriving entrepreneurs.

She has taught piano for 20 years, including 5 years as a professor at the University of Missouri.

The Newmarket and Area Branch wishes everyone a great start to the Music Year.

– Dianne Hughes

NORTH BAY

The 2015–16 season wrapped up with our traditional Barbeque meeting hosted by Beth Chartrand on June 17. The summer months were busier than usual for a number of our members as we continue other musical pursuits as well as our fundraising in order to purchase a grand piano for our students’ use at recitals and examinations.

Frances and Gunars Balodis and Nancy Hughes represented us at the provincial convention in July. Sue Nicholson and Brian McDowell both played in a fourteen piece pit band for the musical “West Side Story” held at the Capital Centre in North Bay.

We are grateful to the Kiwanis Aktion Club for including us in their fundraising night held August 14 at Boston Pizza. Our “Monster” Yardsale on August 20 raised over $1,400.00 towards our grand piano purchase. We are in debt to Nicole McDowell, the wife of member Brian McDowell, for her tireless work in organizing and pricing all of the items...
From the Branches

which filled our garage as well as that of our next door neighbor. Thanks also to members Beth Chartrand, Jessica Wadley, Sue Nicholson and Dan Roveda, the husband of member Cynthia Roveda, for their assistance on the day of the sale. Thanks also to branch members, relatives and friends who donated items for sale.

Our first meeting of 2016–17 took place September 16 and was hosted at the home of member Catherine Frair. A highlight of this meeting was the presentation to Sue Nicholson of her O.C.T. Award in that she was unable to attend the presentations at the provincial convention. The following weekend members Nancy Hughes, Cynthia Roveda, Deborah Bandy and Brian McDowell attended the ORMTA North East Zone Convention held in Timmins. We were wonderfully hosted by Audrey Wells and Ron Spadafore of the Timmins Branch. Frances Balodis, our North East Zone representative to provincial council, was frustrated and saddened in that she was unable to be present. The date of the convention was set without her input and as conductor of the “Muskoka Men of Song”, Frances was committed to a performance on the evening of our convention. The location of the convention was fully 488 kilometres away (according to Google Maps) making it impossible to be present for both events. Clinician Clayton Scott was outstanding in several workshop presentations over the course of the day.

Twenty seven teachers from North Bay and area, Sudbury, New Liskeard and Sault Ste. Marie attended a RCM Theory workshop in North Bay on September 30. The workshop was presented by Francine Mclsaac RCM Ontario West and North Representative. We are very appreciative of the efforts of our local RCM Representative, Cynthia Roveda who did a masterful job of organizing this important event for us.

– Brian McDowell

OTTAWA REGION

The Ottawa Region Branch’s teaching year commenced with our September General Coffee meeting, held at Resurrection Lutheran Church. Thirty-one members gathered to reconnect with each other in anticipation of announcements and upcoming events within the membership.

During the meeting, we had the pleasure of hearing from two special guests. Sophie Reussner-Pazur, Music Education Associate of the NAC, addressed opportunities for student-participation in NAC events, and Mitchell Wright, of Ottawa Pianos, discussed our exclusive partnership and the benefit of this to members.

The first event on our fall calendar was an Information Sharing Session on September 26th at the home of Paulette Price. In a collaborative environment, attendee’s discussed how to go about integrating the new RCM musicianship requirements into their teaching.

On Saturday, October 29th, our branch will be hosting the Young Artist Recital at Kanata United Church, featuring pianist, Andrew Fu. We’re gearing up to make this a well-supported and wonderfully successful event for Andrew, and are looking forward to an evening of inspiration for teachers and students alike.

November will bring with it another Information Sharing Session, on the 14th, where Steve Boudreau will discuss jazz piano as it relates to teaching piano students of all ages. This topic will be further broken down into; melodic improvisation, jazz harmony and rhythm, and a look at the Conservatory Canada Contemporary Idioms technical requirements. We’re also anticipating our Canada Music Week Recital, hosted by the wonderful Tania Granata, which will take place on November 20th at Orleans United Church.

Wishing all ORMTA teachers a cozy fall season,

– LaDawn Ouellette
The High Note in Music Learning

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Calling all Student Composers -
Music Writing Competition 2017!!

Students of ORMTA members are welcome to submit their compositions to the 2017 ORMTA Music Writing Competition. Students will receive a helpful written adjudication from a knowledgeable adjudicator. Students awarded 1st, 2nd or 3rd place in various classes will win scholarships. First place submissions will have part of their score featured in a later issue of NOTES Magazine and will represent Ontario in the CFMTA Student Composer Competition. So let those creative juices flow - encourage your students to participate! Deadline is March 15, 2017.

Online application, payment and submission available February 1 to March 15, 2017. See http://ormta.org/competitions-awards/music-writing for more info.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>FEE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P1</td>
<td>8 years &amp; under</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>An original composition for solo instrument or any combination of instruments. Music must be composed entirely by the child, but may be scored by an adult.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P2</td>
<td>8 years &amp; under</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>An original composition for voice(s) with or without accompaniment. Music must be composed entirely by the child, but may be scored by an adult.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A1</td>
<td>11 years &amp; under</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>An original composition for solo instrument or any combination of instruments. Music must be composed entirely by the child, but may be scored by an adult.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2</td>
<td>11 years &amp; under</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>An original composition for voice(s) with or without accompaniment. Music must be composed entirely by the child, but may be scored by an adult.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B1</td>
<td>15 years &amp; under</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>An original composition for solo instrument or any combination of instruments. Music must be composed and scored entirely by the student.</td>
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<tr>
<td>B2</td>
<td>15 years &amp; under</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td>An original composition for voice(s) with or without accompaniment. Music must be composed and scored entirely by the student.</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>19 years &amp; under</td>
<td>$35</td>
<td>An original composition for any instrument or combination instruments, voice(s) or combination of voice(s) and instrument with accompaniment when accompaniment is required for performance. Music must be composed and scored entirely by the student.</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>open</td>
<td>$40</td>
<td>An original composition for any instrument or combination of instruments, or voice(s) or combination of voice(s) and instruments with accompaniment when accompaniment is required for performance. Music must be composed and scored entirely by the student.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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NOTE: Please be advised that Class E (Electronic Music) is no longer offered.

2017 Rules & Regulations (please read carefully; changes have been made):

1. Competitors may submit entries in the categories listed above. No composition may be entered in more than one class. A student may enter more than one composition and more than one class, but may only receive one prize per class.
2. The contestant must be eligible in his/her age group as of June 1, 2017.
3. Each entry is assumed to be the original work of the individual whose name appears on the entry form attached to the manuscript. Any infraction of this regulation will result in nullification of the offending entry.
4. A student shall not submit a specific composition more than once. However, a re-orchestration of a previously submitted composition is acceptable.
5. All competitors will receive a written adjudication of their work.
6. All rights to his/her original work will be retained by the competitor, but winning compositions may be displayed or employed by the ORMTA and CFMTA for publicity purposes.
7. Scores must be submitted online and should reach the Music Writing Competition Convener (as indicated on the entry form) no later than March 15, 2017. Only first place winning manuscripts at the provincial level will be forwarded to CFMTA for national adjudication (which takes place after June 1, 2017).
8. Students can only submit compositions that have been approved by their teacher, an ORMTA member in good standing. If a student submits a work that is later rejected by their teacher, then the composition will not be included in the competition and the application fee will not be refunded.
9. All compositions must be sent in .pdf format. Scores may be computer generated or handwritten neatly and legibly.
10. Scores should include all necessary details of dynamics, editing and tempi, with the first bar of every system numbered.
11. The student’s name must be included on their composition. The teacher’s name must not appear on the composition.
12. A recording of the composition (.mp3 format) MUST be included for compositions longer than four pages.
13. A recording of the composition (.mp3 format) MAY be included for shorter compositions if desired.
14. Please name files with class entered and student’s name, as follows: P1_Smith, Johnny_The Lake.pdf or P1_Smith, Johnny_The Lake.mp3.
15. The adjudicator’s decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into after final judging. The following adjudication standards will be applied: FIRST Place - minimum mark of 90, SECOND Place - minimum mark of 85, THIRD Place - minimum mark of 80.
16. All entrants who move after June 1, 2017 must advise the ORMTA Music Writing Competition Convener of their change of address, including postal code.
17. An entry fee is required to enter the competition. Please refer to the entry form for fees per class. When paying, please make it clear the name of the student entrant the fee is for. Winning entries will have the entry fee for the CFMTA Student Composer Competition covered by ORMTA.

For more information, please email ORMTA Music Writing Competition Convener, Alice Dearden: alicedearden@look.ca.
Two of the Ontario Winners at the CFMTA National Student Composer Competition

(More winners will be featured in the next issue of Notes magazine)

LEO NEDIAK

Class B1 (15 years and under - instrumental solo) - Fantasie No. 1

Leo Nediak is a 13 year-old pianist and composer who has already received many awards and prizes in both disciplines. To date, Leonid has had eight concerto performances with orchestras such as the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, Quebec Symphony Orchestra, and Canton Symphony Orchestra in USA. Remarkably, at the age twelve Leonid successfully performed Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 3 and Rachmaninoff’s Piano Concerto No. 2 within three weeks. In 2015, Leonid was selected as the youngest of the “30 hot Canadian classical musicians under 30”. Leonid has studied piano with Michael Berkovsky from 2012, and with Ilya Itin from 2015. Currently, Leonid is a full scholarship student in the Taylor Academy in Toronto under James Anagnoson and Michael Berkovsky. He has been studying composition and theory privately with Dr. John Burge through the Queen’s University Community Music Program since 2013.

Leo Nediak also won the Helen Dahlstrom award, given annually to the best national composition as selected by the adjudicator. Helen Dahlstrom was the founder of Canada Music Week®.

TROY LEBANE

Class B2 (15 years and under - voice) - Heartbeat

Troy is extremely honoured that his song Heartbeat placed first in this year’s competition.

He has always had a passion for music and has been composing since he was ten years old. Troy lives in Toronto and participates in numerous productions in and around the community singing, dancing and acting and also assisting behind the scenes. He currently attends the Etobicoke School of the Arts majoring in musical theatre.

Troy thanks all of his family, friends and teachers who are so supportive of his musical journey, including his former piano teacher, Katya Pine and his current piano teacher, Laura Sgroi.
Call to Order
The President called the meeting to order at 9:16 a.m. He welcomed the 49 members present.
A Treasurer’s Report was distributed to each member attending the Annual General Meeting.

Introduction of Council Members
The President introduced each of the Council members.

Minutes of the last Annual Meeting (July 2015)
The Minutes of the July 25, 2015 Annual General Meeting held in Toronto, Ontario were published in the Fall Edition of NOTES.

MOTION: S. JONES, OTTAWA REGION BRANCH / J. BAIGENT, OXFORD COUNTY WOODSTOCK BRANCH
BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE 2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING BE ACCEPTED AS CIRCULATED.
APPROVED.

Matters for Voting
MOTION: O. RIDDELL, OTTAWA REGION BRANCH/ B. BARRETT LONDON BRANCH
BE IT RESOLVED THAT WE ACCEPT SCRUTINISERS DAVID HOME AND GUNARS BALODIS AS SCRUTINEERS FOR THE 2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.
APPROVED.

The President invited any member holding Ballot to hand them into the Secretary-Registrar.

All ballots were then delivered to the scrutineers.

Election of Zone Representatives
The President announced that Shirley Muller, Eastern Zone and Alde Calongcagong, Western Zone were the incoming Zone Representatives for 2016-2019.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT
This Annual General Meeting caps off a very busy school year for our organization. Members of ORMTA’s 33 branches continued to work so hard in providing quality music education to their communities and support to each other.

With representation from every corner of the Province, your Provincial Council has worked very hard to maintain many amazing projects, events and initiatives while even making time to think ahead with new ideas to help us move forward.

One of your handouts shows that our number of total members increased again this past fiscal year. We were blessed to have 121 new members join our organization in that time period. This is quite significant for one year.

This spike in new membership is partly the result of our 80 Years of Excellence – Membership Drive. As you heard a bit about last night at the Gala Banquet, we had many enticing initiatives this past year. Coordinated by Eric Shaw, it’s nice to see that some of these initiatives worked!

As usual, Secretary-Registrar, Ron Spadafore, and Treasurer, Nancy Dale, continued to manage ORMTA’s day-to-day affairs with their regular efficiency.

ORMTA’s financial house continues to be in very good order. Under the wise management of Treasurer, Nancy Dale and the watchful eyes of VP and Finance Chair, Elizabeth Tithecott, new cost saving measures were put into place this past year in order to ensure your membership fees are spent wisely. Provincial Council approved the 16-17 budget earlier this year so we anticipate another good year ahead. And to ensure we’re doing things right, we always have the oversight of independent auditors to ensure everything is maintained well. You can see a detailed Financial Report for our last fiscal year by reading the Spring 2016 issue of NOTES Magazine.

ORMTA was blessed to have a variety of advertisers purchase ads in our NOTES Magazine this past year. Demand is high for advertising in our magazine especially since it is easily available and shared online. 1st year Provincial Council member, Laura Gray, has managed all of our clients masterfully.

Olivia Riddell joined Council this past year and took on the Affiliate Teacher Liaison position. Olivia’s expertise helped shaped many of our initiatives. How we proceed as an organization with the Affiliate Teacher Liaison position will be dependent on the results of the vote that will be announced shortly.

And speaking of votes, ORMTA was lucky to have Past Provincial President, Judy Home, be part of our team again this year helping us navigate through the tricky nature of bylaws, after all, we’re musicians, not lawyers!! But Judy’s continuing guidance to ensure that we’re in compliance with the Provincial government’s future ONCA legislation is so important. Judy’s 3-year term on Provincial Council has come to an end. Judy, thank you so much for your years of service again…you will be missed!

ORMTA’s dedication to celebrating Canadian music and encouraging creativity continued this year. Alice Dearden was both Canada Music Week and Music Writing Competition Convener this past year. Last November’s Canada Music Week was celebrated by 11 branches across the Province. This Spring’s Music Writing Competition garnered over 60 submissions from students of ORMTA members all across the Province. Our adjudicator, Karen Rowell, applauded the quality of the work.

Jacquie Huffman-Krisza was our College/University Liaison this past year. In partnership with the University of Toronto and the University of Ottawa Faculties of Music, this pilot project took the next step in connecting with the teachers of tomorrow. Again, based on the result of the upcoming votes, we will see if this initiative will become a permanent fixture for our organization.
Between social media posts, putting together our monthly e-newsletter and helping members with technical issues online, Ian Green has been Mr. Everything for ORMTA! Ian’s also wrapping up his 3-year term. Ian, thank you for your help and always with a smile, you as well will be greatly missed!!

Our 1st Vice President, Elizabeth Tithecott, held the position of Convention Convener this past year. It’s thanks to her, former ORMTA President, Charline Farrell, and the rest of their Chatham-Kent Branch colleagues that we’re enjoying such a great Convention here this week.

Following this Convention, I am happy to announce that we are looking forward to congregating in Ottawa for our next Convention in 2018! Stay tuned for more of the exciting details. A team headed by Amy Boyes will surely put on a great show.

Frances Balodis oversaw the Fundraising portfolio. Thanks to Frances’ efforts, our student award winners yesterday and today will not be going home with empty pockets.

The ORMTA Contribution to Teaching Award, otherwise known as the OCTAs, continues to be one of ORMTA’s most important feel-good initiatives. If you plan to attend today’s luncheon, you will see many of our members honoured for their dedication to teaching and this organization. We are privileged to have Tania Granata continue to coordinate this important program.

We will also feature the recipient of our Pedagogy Award today at lunch. Awarded to the student of an ORMTA member with the highest mark in a written associate pedagogy exam in a calendar year, this continues to be a superb way to support excellence in the study of pedagogy. Many thanks to Irene Fong Leung for her work in coordinating this award.

Our current Past President, Sue Jones is our rock in overseeing our Performance Competitions. Our Provincial Competitions continue to be one of our jewel initiatives allowing advanced students of our members to nurture their skills.

Our 2nd VP, Kathy Schmidt, oversees Professional Development. Without Kathy, branches would not be able to access funding for their local workshops. Having someone with great ideas like Kathy around the table is so important as we move forward in finding new ways to nurture growth and learning amongst our members.

Susan Robinson is in charge of overseeing ORMTA’s Young Artist Tour. The latest installment of the tour took place last fall by Johann Derecho. The prodigious Johann visited 7 ORMTA branches across the Province and the reviews were glowing!

As an ORMTA member, did you know that you are also a member of the CFMTA? That means you are part of a wider network of registered music teachers all across Canada. Part of your dues goes to fund initiatives and projects on a national level, so I encourage you to visit www.cfmta.org regularly so you can also take advantage of all that your membership has to offer.

And speaking of member benefits, as ORMTA members, you can now take advantage of MemberPerks, with access to discounts to over 1200 products and services. Visit the Members Only section of www.ormta.org for more info.

There’s so many great initiatives here. The hope is that it is making the experience of our members more engaging. We live in times where some teachers talk of declining numbers of students. We all know music is such a valuable skill. That’s why ORMTA’s role is so important, as an advocate for quality music education while assisting our members to prosper in this constantly changing world. Keep the dialogue going and keep sharing the ideas.

On a concluding note, I would like to thank all my Provincial Council colleagues, both past and present, for all their dedication to ORMTA. This is my final day as ORMTA President. I will be officially passing on the gavel to our incoming President, Elizabeth Tithecott, at the Awards luncheon later today. A special thanks to our Past President, Sue Jones, who a number of years ago, asked me to stand for nomination as 2nd VP.

I’m not sure what she saw in me but having someone like that approach me with such an offer really touched my heart and made me feel like I can boldly go in a direction I never did before.

Normally, a departing President stays on Council in the position of Past President. Unfortunately, I have had to break this tradition due to some health concerns. But thankfully, Sue has agreed to stay on for an additional year to serve next Year’s Council. This is typical of the selflessness and good that our organization possesses.

I’ve heard that volunteerism is fading away. Based on my 17 years of volunteering within ORMTA, I can safely say that can’t be farther from the truth. We have something really good going on here – the next 80 years looks quite promising. From the bottom of my heart, thank you to each and every one of you for a truly blessed life experience that I will never forget.

OPEN FORUM

Liz Craig, Central Toronto Branch
Liz spoke to the issue of using the letters R.M.T. with respect to the Registered Massage Therapists.

Judy Home responded to this question by saying that she had looked into this problem many years ago. She discovered that RMT Registered Massage Therapist is a National title. Therefore, it would be a large cost to ORMTA to change our Act to have the Registered Music Teacher letters changed in any way.

Adrienne Booth, Ottawa Region Zone
Adrienne Booth asked if it were possible to tweak the current letters to make them more noticeable. It was reported that we cannot touch our current letters in any way.

Susan Pajor, Barrie Branch
Susan stated that at her last branch meeting it was felt that ORMTA was not in the public eye enough. Frank stated that Provincial Council had applied to Google to establish a
campaign for ORMTA. They accepted our request so now we have a large number of advertising words available for those interested in searching the web. Frank also stated that these advertising words are being used by the public. The President also stated that members should stay tuned for more initiatives that Council will be working on.

**Derek Oger, Thunder Bay**
Derek first of all congratulated Provincial Council for all of the hard work done on behalf of the ORMTA members. He also wanted to thank Provincial Council for their work dealing with CFMTA. Derek asked what Council was intending with respect to the results of the voting which was to be done today.

Incoming President, Elizabeth Tithecott, stated that we would have to wait until the votes have been tabulated. She stated that Council will be looking into this entire matter at the October meeting.

Frank gave a brief explanation to those present regarding the relationship between CFMTA and ORMTA.

Judy Home stated that she felt that Ontario was in a very unfair position with CFMTA with respect to voting. Judy stated that it would be fair if Ontario paid the same amount as all of the other Provinces. She felt that at some point Council will have to decide and put it to the membership if Ontario should stay within CFMTA or not.

**Hannah Salamon, London Branch**
Hannah stated that she felt that ORMTA was doing for its members was very valuable. She thanked Provincial Council for all of their hard work.

**Kathy Normandeau, Ajax - Pickering Branch**
Kathy requested clarification regarding the use of the logo.

Frank stated that using the letters were quite acceptable. However, for any member wishing to use the logo, permission must be obtained from their Branch Executive or Provincial Council.

Kathy stated that teachers were free to use the RCM logo with no approval.

Chris Foley clarified that it was only the RCM Certification logo that can be used by the member.

Kathy asked if members could establish links on the ORMTA website. The answer to this question was definitely yes.

Kathy also spoke to the CFMTA issue. She stated that as Ontario is a profitable Province, therefore Ontario should be willing to give more than the smaller Provinces.

**Charline Farrell, Chatham Branch**
Charline asked if members were breaking the law if a Branch used business card using the ORMTA logo.

Frank stated that if this were a Branch initiative and the Branch Executive gave permission, then it was acceptable to use the ORMTA logo.

**Francine Regaudie Mclsaac - Hamilton-Halton Branch**
Francine asked if the Branch Executive could give permission to use the ORMTA logo. Frank stated that all Branch Executive could give permission to use the ORMTA logo.

**Results of Voting as Presented by Scrutineers**

David Home announced that quorum was made with respect to the 2016 Ballots.

The President reminded those present that Item # 1 from the Ballot was removed.

It was reported by the scrutineers that 31 Branches had cast Ballots. Of the 31 Ballots were 2 were void. 311 votes were counted.

The President announced the results of the Matters for Voting as tabulated by the scrutineers.

All items listed on the Ballot were approved.

**MOTION : F. BALODIS, NORTH BAY BRANCH/J. KELMAN, ETOBICOKE - MISSISSAUGA BRANCH: BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BALLOTS FROM THE 2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING BE DESTROYED. APPROVED.**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Sandra Pisani, Etobicoke - Mississauga Branch**
Sandra announced that the Etobicoke Mississauga was hosting “The Joe Show,” with RCM Chief Examiner Emeritus, Joe Ringhofer. The topic will be Exploring History 3. The workshop will take place on August 22 - 24, 2016. For further information, please contact Virginia Taylor at virginiataylor@sympatico.ca, or 416 742-6429.

**Chris Foley - Hamilton-Halton Branch**
Chris announced that there will be a workshop on Thursday, August 25 with Jennifer Smele. The topic will be, Transfer Students. For more information please contact, hhormta.org.

**Frances Balodis - North Bay Branch**
Frances spoke to the issue of fundraising. Frances stated that donations for all competitions were still being accepted. Anyone interested was to see Frances following this meeting.

**Ian Green - Hamilton Halton Branch**
Ian Green announced information on a workshop to be held on August 2, 2016. Gerard Dune will present a workshop on Beethoven Music.

**Charline Farrell Chatham Branch**
Charline requested clarification on the CFMTA vote. Frank stated that the intent of the ballot was that Ontario would consult with CFMTA with our concerns. In no way would the vote mean that ORMTA would be leaving CFMTA.

**Laura Gray, Hanover Walkerton Branch**
Laura stated that Branches could send all information regarding workshops to the ORMTA Facebook page. Frank gave information on how to do this.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Spadafore
Provincial Secretary-Registrar
Yamaha has been a strong supporter of the Ontario Registered Music Teachers Associations and would like to thank all teachers for their dedication to the arts and music education. Yamaha continues to support music festivals, music education and art foundations and is proud to have Yamaha pianos featured in international piano competitions, played by top artists and found in top institutions and concert halls around the world.

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ORMTA Convention 2016

Chatham-Kent Branch ORMTA hosted Provincial Convention July 21-23. Two and a half days were filled with Workshops, Meet and Greet, Winery Tour, Trade Show, Awards Luncheon, RCM-hosted breakfast, Annual General Meeting, Gala Banquet, Competitions and Reception.

Events were held at the John D. Bradley Centre only steps away from the Holiday Inn Express.

Western Zone Convention  Martha Hill Duncan, Clinician.

“Treble in Paradise” Gala Entertainment.

ORMTA AGM 2016.

Convention Supporters (left to right) Olivia Riddell, Gunars Balodis, Frances Balodis.

“Giocoso” Gala Cocktail Hour Entertainment.
ORMTA Convention 2016

Lunch at the Trade Show.

Early Acres Winery Hosts Kristen Korpan and Sue Korpan.

ORMTA Past Presidents Judy Home, Nancy Hughes, Charline Farrell, Sue Jones.

Adjudicators (left to right) Kim Barber, Dr. Jennifer Snow, Dr. Chris Foley.

Trade Show.

Passing the Gavel.
ORMTA Convention 2016

Pedagogy Award Winner Megan Kuntz.

Grape Vines.

ORMTA Awards Luncheon.

Workshop  Kim Barber, Clinician.
ORMTA Convention 2016

RCM Breakfast, Dr. Janet Lopinski.

OCTA Winners Elizabeth Tithecott, Francine MacIsaac, Susan Pajor, Susan Griesdale.

Registration Desk Treasurer Nancy Dale, Secretary Registrar Ron Spadafore.

Trade Show Session Darlene Irwin, Clinician.
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is November 20 - 26, 2017!

What is your branch doing to celebrate Canada Music Week? “Red-and-white” recitals of Canadian music, composition workshops, student research projects, special recordings...the list goes on!

Celebrate music and composition in Canada, and let us know what you’ve done -- whether it’s a multi-media extravaganza or a small event.

Please send info on your branch’s event to ORMTA’s Canada Music Week convener, Alice Dearden (alicedearden@look.ca) – then look for a future write-up in Notes and Canadian Music Teacher magazines. (Word docs or plain text preferred; pictures very welcome!)

For more information on Canada Music Week, including downloadable posters and other resources, see cfmta.org/en/posters/.
The 2016 Provincial Competitions were held on July 22 and 23 at The John D. Bradley Chatham-Kent Convention Centre in Chatham with adjudicators Kimberly Barber, Dr. Chris Foley and Dr. Jennifer Snow.

The results are as follows:

**Young Artist**

**First Place** (Yamaha Canada Scholarship - $1,000)
Andrew Fu, Greater Toronto Area Zone
Teacher: Koichi Inoue, Bolton-Brampton-Caledon Branch

**Runner Up** (Provincial Council Members’ Alumni Scholarship, ORMTA Scholarship - $750)
Kieran Kane, Central Zone
Teacher: Marion Samuel-Stevens, Kitchener-Waterloo Branch

**Provincial Instrumental**

**First Place** (Hugheen Ferguson Memorial Scholarship - $750)
Spencer Klymyshyn, Ottawa Region Zone
Teacher: Zhanna Gumenyuk, Ottawa Region Branch

**Runner Up** (ORMTA Scholarship - $500)
Nissita Joy Francis, North Central Zone
Teacher: Cheryl Graham, Barrie Branch

**Provincial Vocal**

**First Place** (Court Stone Memorial Scholarship, ORMTA Scholarship - $750)
James Coole-Stevenson, Ottawa Region Zone
Teacher: Charlotte Stewart, Ottawa Region Branch

**Runner Up** (Music for Young Children Scholarship - $500)
Alina Barnett, Southern Zone
Teacher: Dr. Joan Heels, Hamilton/Halton Branch

**Esther Su Memorial Award**
(awarded to the performer who has shown special promise in any of the competitions)
Spencer Klymyshyn, Ottawa Region Zone
Teacher: Zhanna Gumenyuk, Ottawa Region Branch

**Congratulations to both students and teachers!**

ORMTA is very grateful to our donors: Yamaha Canada Music Ltd., Bridgman and Durkson, Craig Ferguson, Judy Home, Music for Young Children, Provincial Council Members’ Alumni and ORMTA branches and individuals.
CFMTA President Cindy Taylor and Young Artist winner Andrew Fu.

Vocal Runner Up Alina Barnett and 2nd Vice-President Kathy Schmidt.

Vice-President Elizabeth Tithercott and Vocal Winner Kieran Kane.

Provincial Instrumental Competitors

President Frank Horvat and Vocal Winner James Coole-Stevenson.

Jennifer Snow, Andrew Fu, Kimberley Barber, Chris Foley, Kieran Kane.

CFMTA President Cindy Taylor and Young Artist winner Andrew Fu.
MEMBERPERKS PROGRAM

Don’t forget that as an ORMTA member, you are entitled to amazing discounts on countless products and services! You can save hundreds of dollars on restaurants, businesses and stores in your area as well as travel discounts on car rentals and trains.

Simply go to: http://www.ormta.org/become-a-member and click on the link “MemberPerks Discount Program”. It will take you to the Venngo webpage. You will then create a user name and password and off you go! The webpage tailors even itself to where you live and what interests you. There is also an informational video on the Venngo homepage.

There is also an app that you can conveniently add to your smartphone or tablet.

Do make sure to take advantage of this as the savings generally go way beyond what you pay for your ORMTA memership! I personally saved over $450 just on a Goodlife gym membership last year.

Eric Shaw
MMus RMT
2017 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Commemorating the 10th Anniversary of the 2007 Collaborative Conference

Evening Concerts

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Saturday, March 18

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David Cutler
Tuesday, March 21

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- Musician Wellness
- Recreational Music Making
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(all information subject to change)
BARRIE
Susan Pajor

Susan Pajor was born and educated in Hungary, Europe. She has a Bachelor of Music in Education in classroom music and piano. She studied at the music art school: Kodály Zoltán Conservatory of Music in Debrecen. Her teaching and training as a musician includes the famous Kodály method. She received her musical and pedagogical studies at the Szent István University in Jászberény, Hungary. She has been teaching music since 1983. 10 years in Hungary at the Palotásy J. Music School where she taught piano and music theory. Her active presence in choir work for 30 years not only as a soprano, also as teacher, soloist as well as accompanist helped her develop a deeper understanding what musicianship is about. The highlight accomplishment in choir work was winning a national choir competition in high school with the Kodály Conservatory Choir. Travelled to Finland and also later with the Palotásy Choir traveled to Bulgaria for a performance tour. In 1992 she changed her life and came to Canada with her husband and daughter and was committed to enrich the music education with her special teaching, giving lessons to children and adults. She has been an active member of the ORMTA Barrie Branch since 1999. She received the CFMTA certificate of Recognition of Professional Achievement twice: in 2010 and in 2013. Susan Pajor had been the treasurer for several years and again accepted the treasurer position this year in her Barrie Branch ORMTA. Her special teaching was recognized in December, 2015 by the Royal Conservatory of Music granting her the Elementary, Intermediate and Advanced Specialist in Piano as well as Elementary and Intermediate Specialist in Theory after all her students’ achievements in RCM exams. She sends about 20 students a year for their graded exams with much success. She has been teaching in Canada since 1993 as a private music teacher and established Accent Piano School in Barrie in 1999. Her knowledge, enthusiasm, encouragement, commitment and love of music inspire her students. Her students are winners of many music competitions. Many of her students participated at the provincial level. Year after year they bring in 25-30 awards. Her highest achieving students are honoured with scholarships by her branch of ORMTA for their accomplishments on the Royal Conservatory of Music Exams in piano and music theory.

BRANTFORD
Donna Chapin

Music was always part of Donna’s life. Her Grandpa conducted an orchestra, her father played the drums - beautiful music was heard on the radio. People and community became important early in her life. In 1945, she began to study piano with Mrs. H. Fair, and in 1947 participated in Brantford Kiwanis Music Festival’s inaugural year with the school choir. Donna had the privilege of accompanying the Brantford Public School Orchestra with Conductor Frank Holton. She played the organ/piano at Mt. Pleasant United Church and was always called on to sing. After marrying Buff Chapin in 1956 they had 3 boys and 1 girl. This year they are celebrating 60 years of marriage. She studied voice with Dr. Gladys Whitehead of Hamilton and piano/ theory with Markwell Perry of Brantford. She received her ARCT in voice in 1974 and completed her Grade 10 piano. She was honoured to perform twice as a Young Artist with the Brantford Music Club. The 1970s were a very busy time for Donna. In 1970, Donna entertained for the 75th Convention of the World’s Women Institute. In 1974, to celebrate the “Year of the Woman” the Brantford Expositor selected 12 women of which Donna was chosen. As a member of Zonta International she helped raise money to serve the needs in Africa. In 1974 as Zonta Club of Brantford President she organized the Big Sisters of Brant County. Donna has a love for Broadway which she used to entertain various organizations. In Brantford, she performed in the original production of, “Oh! What a Lovely War” written by Arthur J. Kelly. In the 1990’s, Donna performed in “Oklahoma!” In the 1990’s, Donna was honoured as “Volunteer of the Year” for Social Services in the City of Brantford. In 1994, she became a member of ORMTA and has been President twice, a workshop convener, produced recitals and has been on the Board of the BKM. Donna has taught voice, piano and theory in the Brantford area for 50 years. Her students have received many accolades. Donna has inspired many of them to continue at the university level. She was also Director of Music at Echo Place United Church and then New Covenant Christian Fellowship Church for 23 years where she had 2 choirs and an orchestra. Donna would like to thank her family for allowing her to fulfill her goals while enjoying all the successes in their lives. She would like to thank the Brantford Branch for nominating her for the “ORMTA Contribution to Teaching Award.”

CHATHAM-KENT
Elizabeth Tithecott

Chatham-Kent ORMTA Branch is delighted to nominate Elizabeth Tithecott as recipient of this award. She is truly deserving of this honour as her contributions to teaching, and to ORMTA are numerous and valued. Elizabeth’s parents, Reverend Lloyd Coates and Mrs. Marion Coates, retired in Chatham, and were also valued members of this community; Marion Coates as an RCM Examination Representative in Chatham-Kent, and Reverend Lloyd Coates as minister at Dover Congregational. Elizabeth had the good fortune to live in several communities in Ontario where she studied with excellent music teachers: Mrs. Doan in St. Thomas, Shirley Hawkins in Owen Sound and John Paul Bracey at the University of Western Ontario.
She earned her ARCT, Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Education. Elizabeth married Dr. Gary Tithecott in Sarnia where they lived for a short time. They moved to Halifax, Nova Scotia, where Gary specialized in Pediatrics, and Elizabeth taught music in elementary school. After four years there, they moved back to Chatham, Ontario, where Gary set up his Practice of Pediatrics, and Elizabeth started her Piano Studio. Elizabeth and Gary have raised two children. Christine recently achieved her DMA in Piano Performance and Pedagogy in Iowa, and Michael received his Master's Degree in Entertainment Business in Florida. Elizabeth has held many positions at the Chatham-Kent Branch, including President. She has been a Western Zone Representative on ORMTA Provincial Council, and at the Awards Luncheon at ORMTA Convention 2016, she will be handed the gavel and become ORMTA Provincial President. For seven years, Elizabeth was an itinerant music teacher for the St. Clair Catholic School Board. She gradually acquired a large collection of drums, and many children in that school system enjoyed her drum circles. While raising her children, Elizabeth managed to build a reputation as an excellent and beloved music teacher. Her studio is full of enticing learning ideas for students from beginner level to ARCT completion. She enters her students in ORMTA recitals, Competitions, Festivals and Examinations, and their results are always top notch. She is admired by her students and their parents, her colleagues and her friends. Elizabeth never stops learning, and attends many conventions, including ORMTA, CFMTA, MTNA, OMEA, and the Frances Clark National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy held in the Chicago area. There is a very good reason why Elizabeth Tithecott has attained such incredible success as a musician, a teacher, and a human being. Her frequent comment sums it up perfectly – “I LOVE what I do.”

**HAMILTON HALTON**

**Francine Regaudie-McIsaac**

Francine, a native of Cochrane in Northern Ontario, began her musical studies at age 11, first in accordion then piano and eventually in high school many brass and woodwind instruments. By 13 she achieved her RCM Grade 8 and by 17 her ARCT. After several requests from parents, she agreed to teach local students and to her amazement she cherished the experience and found much fulfillment in teaching. She sought out opportunities to perform in festivals and area concerts both as solo pianist and concert band member. At 17, she decided to pursue an Honours Bachelor of Music at McMaster University followed by a Master of Arts in Musicology at UBC in Vancouver. In 1989 Francine founded McIsaac Music School in Hamilton and has been teaching in the area ever since. She specializes in teaching advanced piano students and advanced theory subjects. She has also taught students with various challenges such as autism, schizophrenia, visual impairment and brain injury. Many of her students have won awards for piano, pedagogy, theory and composition as well as numerous scholarships at both the provincial and national levels. Mentoring young teachers and helping them establish their own studios are of special interest to her. Francine has been a member of the College of Examiners at the Royal Conservatory of Music since 1992, examining both piano and marking senior theory & history subjects as well as other instruments. She has been a member of ORMTA Hamilton-Halton for over 25 years. In addition, she is actively involved in church music ministry and festival committees. Francine also works as an independent and RCM workshop clinician and festival adjudicator across Canada. One of her workshop specialties is “The Art of Painless Playing” and rehabilitating injured pianists. Francine’s relatively new appointment as RCM Ontario West and Ontario North representative has brought her to meet and assist teachers across Southwestern and Northern Ontario, to promote new materials and programs such as the new Teacher Certification program and online pedagogy courses and to act as liaison between existing new teachers and RCM. She is excited about this new venture and sees it as a marvellous outreach to teachers, parents and students. She continues to explore new ways to promote the benefits of music education through her involvement in various musical organizations.

**KINGSTON**

**Penny Kingsbury**

Penny Kingsbury is a dedicated teacher who inspires students with her love of music. When she was young, family friends played the piano for her and awakened her desire to play. When a piano arrived with a John Thompson beginner book, she sat down immediately and figured out how to read notes and fingerings. At age 11 she started lessons. She was fortunate to have patient, kind, and soft-spoken teachers who taught with gentle encouragement and positive criticism, a teaching style that Penny models. At age 16, Penny received her RCM Grade 8 certificate and in 1966 she attended Peterborough Teachers’ College. In 1968, she married the love of her life, Bill, and taught elementary school in the Kingston area before starting her family. In 1972, Lisa was born. In 1973, the family moved to Ottawa and Erin was born in 1975. When Erin was four, Penny started supply teaching. She occasionally played the piano at school and when parents approached her to teach their children piano, she took more lessons most notably from Dina Namer.

Penny moved back to Kingston in 1983 and supply taught while teaching piano and working on Grade 9 piano with Helen Glenn. Helen encouraged Penny to teach piano. That was a turning point from which she focused on developing her piano skills. She studied with Elsie Keates until achieving her ARCT in piano pedagogy in 1996. Penny’s love of piano teaching has never waned and she has a successful career. She has taught piano in local schools and while living on Amherst Island for 6 years she maintained a private studio. She instills her love of music in her students and provides them with countless performance opportunities not just in private recitals and at seniors’ homes, but also in the Kiwanis Music Festival. Recognizing the tremendous lifelong benefits of music, Penny embraces the Suzuki philosophy of positive motivation and teaching to students’ learning styles. Always an advocate of music education, she enjoys sharing her knowledge of the benefits of music education for the brain and for the emotional and behavioral maturation of
children. She also shares her talents by playing at church events and at retirement homes. Penny lives in Kingston with Bill and her rescue dog Abby. She has fewer students now in order to pursue her other interests, painting and photography. In addition, she loves spending time with her family, including 5 grandchildren.

KITCHENER WATERLOO
Paul Coates
Paul Coates holds ARCT diplomas in both piano and voice as well as a Bachelor of Music and Masters of Music from the University of Western Ontario. He also studied at the Chautauqua Institute and the Banff School of Fine Arts. He was privileged to perform for Elisabeth Schwarzkopf in London England and has attended Master Classes with Gwendolyn Koldofsky, Elly Ameling and Rudolph Jansen. Since his graduation he has enjoyed an active and varied performing career as both singer and accompanist including solo concerts, chamber music, appearances with orchestras, CBC and TV Ontario broadcasts. Paul has been a faculty member of the School of Music of Windsor and the Royal Conservatory of Music where he taught in both the Community School and the Glenn Gould Professional School. Currently he maintains a private studio in Stratford. He is also active as an adjudicator and a clinician for ORMTA and is excited about his new series of talks for any organization on “FINDING A KINDER WAY – to BE who YOU ARE!” Some of his philosophies include: the importance of being mindfully present in the now while celebrating the whole student, the importance of being mindful of your own limitations in life, you should have no limits when it comes to your imagination, however there is value in having a process that Acknowledges – Empowers - Inspires. Mr. Coates has examined for RCM & CC has been travelling across Canada presenting a workshop for teachers, parents and students entitled: “Calming the Practice Monster.” He has launched a new workshop “The Studio Monster Experience” – Practice Tips & Tools that make a Difference. Paul believes that if you “CREATE THE FUN, RESULTS WILL COME!”

NEWMARKET
Zuzana Gabor
Zuzana feels fortunate to have had such a musical upbringing in her home in Bratislava, Czechoslovakia, as she comes from a family which includes a number of respected musicians, one of whom is her uncle, a conductor of the Slovak Philharmonic orchestra. She attended the prestigious Komensky University in Bratislava, where she studied piano performance, history of music, and completed her Masters degree in Ethnomusicology. Zuzana Gabor has been teaching piano in Canada since 1991; and continues to spread the love of music through her music school, The Piano Music Studio, in Bradford, Ontario. She has been a member of the Ontario Registered Music Teacher Association since 1995. Among Zuzana’s many accolades, she has been awarded by the Bradford Board of Trade for the best “Home-Based Business Excellence Award (2012)” and the best “Quality Micro Business (2010/2011)”. She prides herself on delivering not only a solid performance and theory foundation for her students, but an in depth knowledge of music history. With a curriculum rooted in the Royal Conservatory of Music, students from Zuzana’s Piano Music Studio have always been highly regarded at exams, recitals and competitions. Every year, students prepare for Royal Conservatory of Music exams, and some compete in local music festivals. Zuzana teaches the way her teacher taught her. Her students seem to enjoy studying music at her school which includes writing reports on movies about the famous composers, and listening to tapes to identify the musical style. The Piano Music Studio has been a staple in the community of Bradford, and has inspired the lives of many young pianists. Zuzana hopes to enrich her community by continuing to promote music education to young musicians so that they can appreciate the joys that come with listening and playing the piano. Zuzana has been an active ORMTA member since 1995 first in the ORMTA North York Branch and now in the Newmarket and area Branch. Her sunny personality and wonderful sense of humour has been a delight to branch members.

NORTH BAY
Susan Nicholson
Susan came from a musical family and studied piano from age 7 to 16. Her first teacher in Sault Ste. Marie, Jean Douglas, sparked her interest in piano with her kind sensitivity and diligent attention to each aspect of musicianship. After grade 9, Jean sent Susan to Joseph West in SSM, a younger teacher she trusted to bring her to the next level in her practical piano studies. After earning an Honours degree in Family Studies and a teaching degree, Susan worked briefly in the social service field as coordinator of a respite care program for families of children with special needs in North Bay. She then returned to her musical studies and taught piano part-time while raising four children. At this stage, she studied harmony with Sister Jacqueline Facette (who graciously allowed her to bring her first baby to lessons!) The history subjects she tackled with Elsa Tafel who remains a valued friend, colleague and mentor. She eventually completed the piano teacher’s ARCT in 2001 with Elsa coaching the remaining students.
Sandra Menard

OTTAWA

Sandra Menard

Sandra Menard began her first piano lessons at the age of 7, at the convent near her home in North Bay, which she attended for more than thirty years. Her students perform successfully in Kiwanis, Contemporary Showcase and RCM exams. Some have become church musicians or accompanists for musical theatre. In 15 years as a member of ORMTA, Sandra has written North Bay’s “Notes” Magazine submission for several years, held the position of President and currently serves as Workshop Convener. She has set out many practical opportunities for lifelong involvement in community music including playing for church services and accompanying for soloists, choirs, musical theatre, weddings, funerals and background music for events. Outside of music, Susan enjoys cooking for family gatherings, the outdoors, reading, knitting, sewing, old movies and spending time with three small grandchildren.

With her branch presidency (2011-2013), Sandy represented the Ottawa region on Provincial Council where she served as convener for the Pedagogy Award.

Jennifer Knelman modulates . . .

input for individual pieces or full exams (I've decades of adjudicating and RCM examining).

Feedback right over student's recorded performance. Many ORMTA teacher references available!

Email knelman@bellnet.ca for details.

Ridiculously affordable and enjoyable . . .
WELCOME
TO NEW MEMBERS ACCEPTED SINCE OUR LAST ISSUE OF NOTES

David Warwick - Sarnia Branch
Karen Warwick - Sarnia Branch
Connie Newland - Sarnia Branch
Ineke Helby - Ottawa Region Branch
Stacey Ingrey - Ottawa Region Branch
Taisha Lesser - Ottawa Region Branch
Lindsay Foster - Ottawa Region Branch
Alison Kranias - Ottawa Region Branch
Serhii Vyhovskyi - Ottawa Region Branch
Olena Vyhovskyi - Ottawa Region Branch
Sara Traficante - Hamilton - Halton Branch
Benita Wiebe - Hamilton - Halton Branch
Michelle Pereira - Hamilton - Halton Branch
Zoe Barnett - Hamilton - Halton Branch
Ellen Moore - Central Toronto Branch - Primary Branch;
Etobicoke - Mississauga Branch - Associate Branch
Douglas J. Rice - Central Toronto Branch - Primary Branch;
Belleville Branch - Associate Branch
Sarah Westbrook - Central Toronto Branch
Elizabeth (Young-ah) Bang - Central Toronto Branch - Primary Branch; North York/York Region, Associate Branch
Megan Worthy - Central Toronto Branch
Sympascho Young - Central Toronto

Laila Haight - Brantford Branch
Maureen E. Smith - Active: Barrie Branch
Nancy Graham - Active: Barrie Branch
Wing Chow - Active: Barrie Branch
Sandra Poolton - Kitchener - Waterloo Branch
Rebecca Diderrich - Kitchener - Waterloo Branch
Grace Pham Vanstone - Kingston Branch
Olivia Whiddon - Kenora Branch
Deyi Ye - North York/York Region
Emily Sun - North York/York Region
Matthew Tozer - London Branch
Katy Clark - London Branch
Christiana Le Rose - Niagara Falls Branch
Breanne Rourke - Niagara Falls Branch
Cristina Pisani - Etobicoke - Mississauga Branch
Diana Currie - North Bay Branch
Marie-therese Gummer - Oshawa and District Branch
Eleanor Gummer - Oshawa and District Branch
Paul Dingle - Sault Ste. Marie Branch
Margaret Elizabeth Fox - North Toronto Branch
Susan Beth Barak - Newmarket & Area Branch
Jennifer Swanson - Windsor - Essex County Branch
Branch lists and cheques have been sent to the branch treasurers and the follow-up cheques will be issued in January 2017 to include any membership fees received after September 2016. Thank you, as always, to our efficient branch treasurers.

**Branch levies included in the membership fee invoice:**

The **Special Projects fee** is a small portion of the Provincial fee designated annually for a specific project or event. The chosen 2016-17 Special Project: MemberPerks Program for ORMTA (Year 2)
If you haven’t already done so, please visit ormta.venngo.com to access your perks. The perks are specifically tailored to your geographical area and may be accessed by setting up an account using your ORMTA profile email address.

For **tax receipt information** and a **generic studio receipt**:
On the home page of www.ormta.org, scroll down the left menu to Members Only. Click Child Tax Credit Form in drop down menu.

April 2016 message below from Canada Revenue Agency on **phasing out the tax credits**:
“Budget 2016 proposes to phase out the children’s fitness and arts tax credits:
Effective for the 2016 taxation year, the maximum eligible amount per child will be reduced to $500 from $1,000 for the children’s fitness tax credit (which will remain refundable for 2016) and to $250 from $500 for the children’s arts tax credit. The supplemental amounts for children eligible for the disability tax credit will remain at $500 for both credits for 2016.

Effective for the 2017 and subsequent taxation years, both credits will be eliminated.”

**Congratulations to ORMTA’s new 50 year Provincial Honorary members 2016-17:**
Beryl Finlay-Hamilton-Halton branch
Dorothy Miller-Sarnia branch

**Thank you to all the individuals, branches and organizations who generously contributed to the success of the 2016-17 July ORMTA Competitions held in Chatham-Kent**

Yamaha Canada Music Ltd.
Music for Young Children
Bridgman & Durksen Accountants
Judy Home
Hugheen Ferguson Memorial Fund
June McBey Memorial Fund
Esther Su Memorial Fund
Court Stone Memorial Fund
Provincial Council Members’ Alumni

Etobicoke-Mississauga Branch
Hamilton-Halton Branch
Kenora Branch
Kingston Branch
Kitchener-Waterloo Branch
London Branch
Newmarket Branch
North Bay Branch
Ottawa Region Branch
Timmins Branch

**Nancy Dale ORMTA Provincial Treasurer**
nanjd@hotmail.com
# ORMTA Provincial Council 2016-2017

## Executive

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRESIDENT</td>
<td>Elizabeth Tithecott</td>
<td>34 Gladstone Ave., Chatham, N7L 2C1</td>
<td>519-351-6387</td>
<td><a href="mailto:etithecott@sympatico.ca">etithecott@sympatico.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VICE PRESIDENT</td>
<td>Kathy Schmidt</td>
<td>588 Riverview Dr.; Thunder Bay; P7C 1R7</td>
<td>807-577-6999</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pianokathy50@gmail.com">pianokathy50@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAST PRESIDENT</td>
<td>Sue Jones</td>
<td>259 Crocus Ave., Ottawa, K1H 6E7</td>
<td>613-523-5317</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lsusan.jones@gmail.com">lsusan.jones@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TREASURER</td>
<td>Nancy Dale</td>
<td>Box 1639; 58 Shakespeare Ave.; Niagara</td>
<td>905-468-5639</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nanjd@hotmail.com">nanjd@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECRETARY-REGISTRAR</td>
<td>Ron Spadafore</td>
<td>Box 635 Timmins, P4N 7G2</td>
<td>705-267-1224</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ormta@ntl.sympatico.ca">ormta@ntl.sympatico.ca</a></td>
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## Zone Representatives

### CENTRAL (year 3)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Young Artist Tour</td>
<td>Susan Robinson</td>
<td>147 Brookside Cr.; Kitchener, N2N 1H2</td>
<td>519-742.4129</td>
<td><a href="mailto:susan@everywhere.ca">susan@everywhere.ca</a></td>
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### EASTERN (year 1)

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<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shirley Walgate Mueller</td>
<td>4 Paradise Rd, Bolsover</td>
<td>705-328-6543</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:shirleywalgate@bell.net">shirleywalgate@bell.net</a></td>
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### GREATER TORONTO (year 3)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alice Dearden</td>
<td>2 Norval St., Toronto</td>
<td>M6N 3Z2</td>
<td>416-763-0490</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alicedearden@look.ca">alicedearden@look.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irene Fong Leung</td>
<td>Box 23552 Dexter</td>
<td>5899 Leslie St., Willowdale, M2H 1J0</td>
<td>416 496-9680</td>
<td><a href="mailto:irenefongleung@yahoo.com">irenefongleung@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Shaw</td>
<td>172 Redpath Ave.; Toronto</td>
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<td>416-884-4846</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ericshaw@sympatico.ca">ericshaw@sympatico.ca</a></td>
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### NORTH CENTRAL (year 2)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laura Gray</td>
<td>- Harriston, Ontario</td>
<td>Phone: 519-338-5891</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:lkgray@wightman.ca">lkgray@wightman.ca</a>.</td>
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### NORTH EAST (year 3)

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<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Frances Balodis</td>
<td>1204 Ed Briese Rd.</td>
<td>(Ullswater) R. R. #1 Utterson; P0B 1M0</td>
<td>705-769-3449</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fbalodis@c-i-u.ca">fbalodis@c-i-u.ca</a></td>
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### NORTH WEST (year 4)

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<tr>
<td>Kathy Schmidt</td>
<td>- 588 Riverview Dr.; Thunder Bay; P7C 1R7; Phone: 807-251-0572</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pianokathy50@gmail.com">pianokathy50@gmail.com</a></td>
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### OTTAWA REGION (year 3)

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tania Granata</td>
<td>89 Switch Grass; Nepean; K2J 5Z3</td>
<td>613-447-2618</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:tania5@sympatico.ca">tania5@sympatico.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olivia Riddell</td>
<td>Ottawa, Tel: (613) 680-2996</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Olivia@myc.com">Olivia@myc.com</a></td>
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### SOUTHERN (year 3)

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<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jacqueline Huffman-Krisza</td>
<td>1026 Earl Cres.; Burlington</td>
<td>L7T 3P9</td>
<td>905-333-3128</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jjhk@cogeco.ca">jjhk@cogeco.ca</a></td>
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### WESTERN (year 1)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alde Calongcagong</td>
<td>2740 Radisson Ave., Windsor</td>
<td>N9E 1Y3</td>
<td>519-250-7873</td>
<td><a href="mailto:acalongcagong@hotmail.com">acalongcagong@hotmail.com</a></td>
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### MEMBER AT LARGE (year 1)

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<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alessandra Matthews</td>
<td>175 Dean Burton Ln, Newmarket</td>
<td>L3X 3C4</td>
<td>416-271-6326</td>
<td><a href="mailto:amatthews.piano@gmail.com">amatthews.piano@gmail.com</a></td>
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### BOARD OF EXAMINERS

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Nancy Hughes, Derek Oger, Audrey Jean Wells</td>
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Agnes McCarthy and Sarah Gartshore: Voice and Musical Theatre
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Rob Ollikkala: History, Theory, Native Music
Paul Dingle: History, Collaborative Piano, Algoma U Choir
Rino Zorzi, Ken Piertoniem, Erin Greenwood: Winds and Brass
Stephen Mallinger: Piano
Duo Turgeon (piano duo): Artists-in-residence

FOR AUDITIONS CONTACT:
Dr. Edward Turgeon, Director of Music
P: 705.989.6879  E: edward.turgeon@algomau.ca