

LRMTA Minutes Monday, January 7th, 2019, Southminster United Church Lounge

Check out the website for updates and information regarding upcoming events and meetings at www.lrmta.com

Christine called the meeting to order in Southminster United Church Lounge. There were 6 members present: Marilyn Sinclair, Christine Rogers, Linda Dickey, Brenda Lockmuller, Cheryl Hudak, and Tracy Bozzi.

Brenda moved the approval of the agenda with Linda seconding. Tracy moved the acceptance of the November minutes as circulated with Brenda seconding.

Christine gave the Treasurer's report. (Karen was unable to attend for health reasons.) The account balances as of January 7th are: Operating Account: \$471.80 and Awards Account: \$4369.23. The CFMTA Branching Out grant of \$100 has been received. Christine has renewed our domain name (lrmta.com) through HostGator-\$15 USD. The \$100 contribution for the two Registered Music Teachers' Music Festival awards has been received by the Festival. This amount comes from our awards account. There are a number of reimbursements that will come from the operating account including the gift for James Ringland, the website domain renewal, and pre-paid copies at the UPS Store. There are a few outstanding awards cheques that Christine will follow up with teachers. Christine moved the acceptance of the Treasurer's report with Cheryl seconding.

Karen MacDonald will be retiring from the Treasurer's position, so at our next annual meeting in April, we will need a replacement. Our accounts need two signers (the other is the President). This position works closely with the president and would involve 1-2 hours a month. Most of the work could be done at a meeting with the president once a month at a time convenient for the treasurer. No special skills are required—we use a simple ledger and filing system. Please consider contributing to our group by volunteering.

The dates for Music Festival are **April 1-13, 2019**. Application dates are December 1st, 2018 to January 31st, 2019. The piano adjudicators are Ian Parker and Evette Rowledge. We will look into the possibility of booking a rehearsal time for senior students at the Yates.

A discussion followed regarding police checks which will now be required by ARMTA for every member. Please see the following information from the November ARMTA email update:

Criminal record check required for all members every five years effective April 1, 2020.

It was in 2009 that ARMTA began to require new and reinstating members to submit a police check as part of their membership application. This means that currently just over 40% of our membership has submitted a police check at some point, but that's not enough for ARMTA to be able to advertise that our members have been cleared as a benefit of studying with an RMT. It is now standard practice for employees and volunteers working with children and vulnerable populations to show that they don't have a criminal record, and the vast majority of our teachers work with children. Because of this, the board has just established the new requirement that all members will need to maintain a police check on file with ARMTA every five

years. Current members will have until April 1, 2020 to submit theirs if they have not already done so, not including those with a Retired membership who will be exempt from this requirement. Members can use records checks obtained for volunteer work, and if it is currently three years old, then their next one would need to be submitted in two years' time. Systems are still in the process of being set up so that members can know the date of their last police check and be reminded of when they need to submit their next.

We have the Lethbridge Public Library Showcase booked for the month of August through the Allied Arts Council.

Coffee and Conversation will not take place this month.

Thank you to students and teachers who made our Canada Music Week Recital and Awards Presentation such a success! In conjunction with the CFMTA Branching Out Initiative, *Making a Difference* we collected non-perishable items for the Food Bank. We collected 4 boxes of food worth approximately \$225.

Brenda and Cheryl reported on the Christmas recitals at Betty Jo's studio. Thanks to Betty Jo for creating such a festive and welcoming atmosphere for students! Brenda encouraged teachers to have their students participate next year, especially beginners who may need a more supportive setting for their first performances. Thank you to Brenda, Cheryl and Betty Jo for their help in organizing these opportunities for our students!

The Festival Prep Recital is booked for **Saturday, March 23rd, 2019, 2:30 p.m.** at the Lethbridge Library. Marilyn, Brenda and Christine will convene. **Please send your entries to Christine by Wednesday, March 20th.** All students are welcome to participate, not just those preparing for Music Festival. Christine will invite teachers who have senior students (grade 10, ARCT) to see if any would be available to participate as guest performers. We will decide the dates of our final recitals later in the year.

Keys to Piano will take place March 1-2, 2019 at Casa. The clinicians will be Akiko Tominaga and Magda Adamek. Please set aside this date for yourself and encourage your students to attend. This is a wonderful opportunity for teachers and students right in our community! No travelling or conference fees! Teachers who have students participating are free to attend. Brochures and registration details will be circulated as they become available.

A Voice Workshop with Rachel Goldenberg will take place on Saturday, March 30th, 2019 at the Lethbridge Public Library from 1:00 to 4:30.

A discussion followed regarding the amount we have set for our annual awards. The current amount is listed as up to \$1500 annually. This year we used \$1595 and rather than take the time to redistribute the reduction among the recipients, the committee decided to go over the recommended allotment. After discussion it was suggested that we add a \$200 discretionary amount to give the committee a little more flexibility to accommodate for the ties and the number of senior awards which fluctuate every year. Christine will draft a proposal and bring it to the next meeting for a vote.

Christine has submitted a proposal for ARMTA Continuing Education funding for our events for this year. So far, the Piano Yoga shortfall and the Keys to Piano requests have been confirmed. We are still awaiting confirmation of funds for the voice workshop with Rachel Goldenberg. (Since the meeting we have received confirmation that we will receive a portion of funding for the voice workshop.)

Centric MusicFest dates are tentatively set for June 19-22nd this year. A recital sponsored by Centric MusicFest, the University of Lethbridge Department of Music and the University of Lethbridge Conservatory of Music featuring Phillippe Sly, bass-baritone, and Michael McMahon, pianist, in a performance of Schubert's iconic Winterreise, will take place Sunday, January 20, at 2pm in the ATB Community Room, Casa. Tickets are \$30 and are available for purchase starting Tuesday, January 8 in person at Casa or by calling (403)327-2272.

We will plan for an RC examiner's lunch with RC rep, Monica Baczuk and examiner, Chris Foley, on Friday, January 25th at 12:30 pm. Christine and Betty Jo are not available this month, so Cheryl Hudak offered to attend. Earls was suggested as a venue. More details will be circulated by email. Please set aside the date and call Christine if you will be able to attend. The examiners really appreciate the welcome and conversation from our local teachers.

We will hold a Practise-a-thon February 4-9, 2019 to raise money for our Branch Awards Program. Mark your calendars and encourage your students to participate! Thank you to Linda Dickey, Tracy Bozzi, Deanna Oye and Mary Lee Voort who helped with organizing donations for prizes! Thank you to Brenda, who offered to sponsor iTunes cards as additional prizes with Christine. Members are invited to sponsor other prizes as well. Please contact Christine with any prizes you might wish to donate. Practise-a-thon materials were handed out at the meeting and will be delivered by hand as well as circulated by email. If any teachers need hard copies, please contact Christine. Helpful hints to get students and teachers engaged were discussed. Tips will be circulated by email again this year.

Dale Jackson, Mark Mitchell, Brad Parker, Terrence Dawson and Leila Viss have been suggested as clinicians for future workshops. Christine will pursue.

Christine and Betty Jo have been working on a possible History Listening Activity for Prep to Level 3 students.

We will plan for a fundraising recital in 2019-2020. Christine will approach LRMTA members to see if anyone is interested in putting together a program for performance. So far Megan Wittig has volunteered to approach singers for all or part of a performance. Other ideas are welcome!

Our next meeting will be Monday, February 4th at 10:00 a.m. at Southminster United Church. Please use the west entrance in the alley off 4th Ave. We meet either in the Lounge or the Board Room up the stairs to the right just past the office, depending on which is available.

Minutes prepared by Christine Rogers