

Lethbridge Branch Minutes Thursday, May 4, 2023, Zoom Meeting

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

Brenda called the Zoom meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and welcomed those participating. There were 6 members present: Brenda Lockmuller, Lorrie Wittke, Betty Jo Radley, Deanna Oye, Carmen Letourneau, and Christine Rogers.

Brenda moved the approval of the agenda and minutes as prepared, seconded by Lorrie.

Christine gave the Treasurer's report. The account balances as of May 4th: Awards Account: \$5,925.55 and Operating Account: \$1,717.04. Practise-a-thon deposits totalling \$4265.20 have been deposited to the Operating Account and transferred to the Awards Account. Practise-a-thon prizes of \$200 purchased by Christine have been reimbursed from the Operating Account. The \$100 Honorarium for the Troyanda Ukrainian Dance Club for the March recital has been cashed. \$278.70 from the silver collection from the March Recital has been deposited and 2 donations of \$140 each have been made to the Canada-Ukraine Foundation and to Project Sunflower. A receipt has yet to be received from Project Sunflower. Lavinia is following up. Reimbursement has been made to Christine for the online donations. The Branching Out grant of \$100 has been received from CFMTA and deposited. Branch fees of \$778.09 have been received from ARMTA and deposited. (Credit card fees are deducted from the total.) The acceptance of the Treasurer's report as presented was moved by Christine. Seconded by Betty Jo.

Nothing new for the Secretary's report.

Lorrie gave the ARMTA report. Insurance certificates will be coming in the mail to members. Lorrie reminded members of the new protocol for requesting insurance certificates. The information below can be accessed on the ARMTA website in the Members Area:

<https://armta.ca/member-entrance-page/>

- [ARMTA Liability Insurance details](#)
- **Insurance certificates:** Hard-copies will be mailed to you directly from Marsh Insurance at the end of April each year. If you require an electronic copy, you can email admin@armta.ca
- **Certificates of Insurance for events:** Our insurance company will provide an insurance certificate with the location named as an additional insured to extend their coverage from the \$500,000 tenant's liability included in your policy to the full \$5,000,000. Contact the Marsh certificate team at winnipegcertificates@marsh.com and cc Danielle.blaich@marsh.com and bob.shaver@marsh.com with all the information required.

- As for the events where the general public is able to join the audience, your policy will not cover it, but Marsh does have a specialty placement through an alternative insurer. It requires an application process and there would be an additional premium at that time. Contact Danielle.blaich@marsh.com and cc bob.shaver@marsh.com with all the information required and they will provide a quote.
- Alcohol & Insurance: ARMTA's current general liability policy does not include an Alcohol endorsement. If ARMTA members plan on serving alcohol as part of their teaching activities, they need to do their due diligence to obtain proper licensing and insurance.

Members are encouraged to review upcoming ARMTA scholarship deadlines.

<https://armta.ca/scholarships/> Information regarding a new bursary designed for newcomers to Alberta will be posted shortly.

Lorrie also reminded members of the upcoming CFMTA National conference in Edmonton this summer. CFMTA 2023 ***Our rhythm runs through it*** will take place in Edmonton, July 5-7 at the Chateau Lacombe Hotel. For more information: <https://cfmta2023.ca> The 2023 Conference will be a hybrid event. Some sessions and events will be offered online. ARMTA will be subsidizing **in-person** registrations. When registering, use the code **ARMTA100** to receive \$100 off your in-person registration. There will also be a draw of ARMTA members who attend, for one attendee to receive a full refund on their registration fee. We encourage you to take part in this wonderful professional development event, right here in our province!

Registration: <https://cfmta2023.ca/register/>

In addition, volunteers are needed for the event. If you are interested, please email: volunteer@cfmta2023.ca

Christine shared thank you cards from 3 students who received prizes in the Practise-a-thon.

Christine continues to share information about upcoming community and Lethbridge Branch events on our Facebook feed.

Deanna (and Brad, by email) confirmed our booking for the May 27th recital at the University of Lethbridge. Information will continue to be circulated regarding the Lethbridge Piano Intensive. Music at Noon recitals are finished for the semester but will begin again in the fall. They are scheduled for Tuesdays at 12:15 p.m. in the University of Lethbridge Recital Hall. Complete information for Music at Noon: <https://www.ulethbridge.ca/fine-arts/study/music/concerts-and-recitals> click on *See the Lineup*. Information regarding University of Lethbridge Fine Arts events can be found here: <https://www.uleth.ca/fine-arts/event-season> Ticket information for events can be found at the following link: <https://uleth.universitytickets.com/>

After a brief discussion, it was decided that a meeting to discuss collaboration with the University of Lethbridge for opportunities for students would be scheduled. Ideas shared

included inviting students to provide feedback and having students involved in convening recitals.

Brenda will confirm with our local RCM rep, Monica Baczuk, if the August in-person exam session in Lethbridge has been cancelled. Betty Jo will contact Monica to confirm the location of the Lethbridge June in-person exams. Please contact Monica with any RCM exam questions at monicab1961@hotmail.com

The Annual General Meeting followed. The following executive positions were moved by Brenda, seconded by Carmen, and confirmed by unanimous vote.

- President: Brenda Lockmuller
- Vice President: vacant
- Secretary and Treasurer: Christine Rogers
- Corresponding Secretary: Mary Lee Voort
- ARMTA Branch Representative: vacant

Carmen Letourneau will consider the ARMTA rep position and get back to the Executive.

Since Lorrie Wittke is unable continue her duties as Vice-President and assume the President's position in 2024, and to ensure continuity of leadership for our group, we will need someone to step into this role. If you feel that you could serve our Branch in this capacity, contact Brenda at bjlockmuller@gmail.com. Without a president, our Branch will be dissolved, and our funds will revert to ARMTA. Members will then become ARMTA Members-at-large. Brenda plans to approach members individually in the coming weeks.

Since the motion to approve the changes to the Policies and Procedures was missed during the meeting, an email vote will be circulated.

Summer auditors are needed to review our financial records. Brenda volunteered and Christine will ask her Mom.

The University of Lethbridge Conservatory of Music will be holding a 10th Anniversary Celebration marking 10 years since it moved to Casa on May 12th at 7:00 p.m. in Casa's Community Room. The event will include a short concert and reception. This concert will feature Ventus Women's Choir, Dale Ketcheson (guitar), FOURtitude (8 hands, 2 pianos), music with trombone, cello, and piano, plus student performances by a young violinist, pianist, and graduated vocalist. Christine, Brenda, and Betty Jo will attend.

McKillop United Church is holding a retirement celebration for Marilyn Sinclair for her contribution of 40 years as the organist and pianist. They will also be providing opportunities for her to be recognized for her many other contributions to our community. The celebration will take place at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 11th at McKillop United Church at 2329 15 Ave S. and will include a short recital of music presented by family, friends, colleagues, and former students, followed by a reception. If you would like to perform on the recital, please contact

Christine at c4rogers@telus.net. Also, if you have any memories or messages you would like to share with Marilyn, please contact Christine at c4rogers@telus.net.

Christine has received 21 banker boxes of music from Doreen Laing's grandson. Brenda has offered to help Christine sort the music. Once this is completed, it will be offered for sale by donation to members of our Branch and then the wider community. Half of the proceeds of the sale will go to our Branch Awards Program. Information will be sent to members when details are finalized.

Our final recital will take place on Saturday, May 27th at 2:30 p.m. in the University of Lethbridge Recital Hall. There will be no charge for rental or staff since either or both Deanna Oye and Brad Parker can be in attendance. Betty Jo, Christine, Brenda, and Lorrie will help with the recital. Betty Jo and Brenda will prepare the program. Please contact Betty Jo at bettyjoradley@gmail.com by Friday, May 19th with submissions. Please include student name, composition, composer, grade level, length of piece and whether the student's performance would make a suitable beginning or end to the program if applicable. Complete details will be circulated by email including parking instructions and directions to the University of Lethbridge Recital Hall. An insurance certificate from ARMTA will be required. Brenda will check in with Tamara regarding the certificate.

The date of the final Adult Get-together is Friday, May 26th, 6:30 p.m. at Betty Jo Radley's home at [810 Kodiak Bay N](#). Please contact Betty Jo by Monday, May 22nd at bettyjoradley@gmail.com if you have students who would like to participate. This is an informal gathering for adult students to share music or just observe if they prefer. Thanks to Betty Jo for offering her studio for our adult gatherings!

Our next Coffee and Conversation will take place on Thursday, May 11th at [Live Better Café](#) at 235 12B Street North at 10:00 a.m. Contact Betty Jo at bettyjoradley@gmail.com by Tuesday, May 9th if you are able to attend.

Our CFMTA *Branching Out* event was combined with the Festival Preparation Recital on Saturday, March 11th at Casa in the Community Room. The Troyanda Ukrainian Dance Club performed at the event. Nearly \$280 was collected at the door for Ukrainian Aid. 2 donations of \$140 each were made to The Canada-Ukraine Foundation <https://www.cufoundation.ca> and Project Sunflower <https://www.projectsunflower.ca/home> Christine submitted the CFMTA Branching Out application and we have already received the \$100 Branching Out grant from CFMTA. An honorarium of \$100 was given to the Troyanda Dance Club. Thank you to Lavinia Parker, Betty Jo Radley, Brenda Lockmuller, and Christine Rogers for their efforts and to those teachers who supported the event by submitting students.

\$4265.20 was raised in our recent Practise-a-thon held in February. 85 students from 12 teachers practised over 370 hours. This was our most successful Practise-a-thon since the first one was held in 2000. Prizes were awarded for the most money raised and the most time practised in 4 age categories. Thanks so much to everyone who supported the Practise-a-thon!

If anyone is interested in helping with the Practise-a-thon in the future, please contact Christine at c4rogers@telus.net The Practise-a-thon is usually held as a biannual event. The next Practise-a-thon will take place in 2025.

Keys to Piano was presented in March by the University of Lethbridge Conservatory of Music in collaboration with The Lethbridge Branch of the Alberta Registered Music Teachers' Association (ARMTA). It featured clinicians Jani Parsons and Allen Reiser. This event included a Friday evening presentation for teachers. Jani Parsons presented *Technique through Repertoire* which featured the use of repertoire excerpts to introduce students to specific skills. Allen Reiser presented his ideas on approaching challenges with transfer students.

On Saturday, students performed in masterclass sessions and received comments and direction from the clinicians. Students and teachers also participated in breakout sessions including Collaborative Piano with FOURtitude piano ensemble members, Spice Up Your Technique with Christine Rogers, Recording Studio Basics with Juan Anez, Fiddling 101 with Alina Khvatova and Ukulele 101 with Harry Maxwell.

Between the morning and afternoon Saturday sessions, the clinicians performed a wonderful program of French works by Claude Debussy, Georges Auric, and Camille Saint-Saens. Special guest piano ensemble FOURtitude (Cheryl Emery-Karapita, Deanna Oye and Brad Parker) also performed the Barber of Seville Overture for 6 hands, 2 pianos at the conclusion of the recital. Over 45 teachers and students participated in the weekend event. Thanks to everyone who supported this event!

Lethbridge Piano Intensive 2023 will take place July 9-15 for 18 years and under participants, and on June 3 and 10 for adults. Information is posted under Courses and Programs on the University of Lethbridge Conservatory website: <https://www.ulethbridge.ca/music-conservatory/programs>

Brenda reported that since being interviewed by Lethbridge Herald reporter Alejandra Pulido-Guzman, the article regarding our Branch student award winners has not yet appeared in the Lethbridge Herald. She sent another email recently which has not been answered and recommends that we no longer make the effort to have our events covered by the Herald.

At the request of ARMTA President Rosemarie Horne, Brenda and Christine will be meeting with her on May 18th to discuss the Lethbridge Logo and the new ARMTA Branding. Information will be circulated to members for response after the meeting.

The winners of the ARMTA Young Artist Competition have been determined. Results can be viewed under *Competitions* on the ARMTA website: <https://armta.ca> We have notified ARMTA that we are interested in hosting a recital as part of the Young Artist Tour. No date has been set yet. Tamara is willing to organize. Christine will help with promotion if needed.

A Zoom voice workshop will take place on Sunday, May 28th at 3:00 p.m. MDT featuring [Dr. Bethany Turpin](#). Information will be circulated to teachers. Funds from an ARMTA Continuing Education grant received before the Pandemic will support the presentation.

There was nothing new to report regarding professional development. [Gloria Chu](#) has been suggested as a clinician as well as [Rebekah Maxner](#). We are looking at a workshop in late September or October 2023 if there is interest and volunteers to organize.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Our next meeting date will be Thursday, September 7, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. by Zoom.

Minutes prepared by Christine Rogers

Other items of note:

The [Lethbridge and District Music and Speech Arts Festival](#) General Manager is Jaimee Jarvie. If you have any comments, feedback or suggestions regarding the Festival phone: (403) 381-6512 or email: generalmanager@lethmsf.org

Our local RCM Rep is Monica Baczuk: 403-942-4321(h); 403-715-6051(c,) monicab1961@hotmail.com and our Provincial Rep is Derek Chiu: derek.chiu@rcmusic.ca.

Donations to CFMTA to provide professional development for music teachers and prizes for students competing in National competitions. Charitable receipts will be sent. Follow the link to make your own donation: <https://cfmta2023.ca/donations/>

Please visit our website (www.LRMTA.com) regularly and notify Christine if you would like any updates for your listing.

Brenda has initiated an RCM book exchange program for students. Contact Brenda at bjlockmuller@gmail.com if you or your students have RCM books to sell or if you have students in need of used books.