

Lethbridge Branch Minutes Thursday, October 5, 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 11:02 a.m. and welcomed those participating. There were 7 members present: Brenda Lockmuller, Betty Jo Radley, Linda Dickey, Carmen Letourneau, Lavinia Kell-Parker, Brad Parker, and Christine Rogers.

Brenda moved the approval of the agenda with 1 addition: 4h) In-person meeting venue update. Seconded by Linda. Brenda moved the acceptance of the September minutes as circulated, seconded by Betty Jo.

Christine gave the Treasurer's report. The account balances as of October 5th: Awards Account: \$5,925.55 and Operating Account: \$2,557.72. A deposit of \$814.00 has been made to the operating account from the donations of the summer sale of Doreen Laing's music. The cheque written to CFMTA for \$189.67 for half of the profits from the Young Artist Recital in June has yet to be cashed. \$77.70 has been reimbursed to Christine for the rental of the venue and piano for the Canada Music Week recital. As a note, \$200 is left from an ARMTA Continuing Education grant to be used for a voice workshop. Something will be planned for later in the spring. The acceptance of the Treasurer's report as presented was moved by Christine. Seconded by Linda.

Christine reported that she had printed Branch teacher contact posters and placed them at the Allied Arts Council office, Chapters Starbucks, Analog Bookstore, and Streetside. The YMCA, pools and arenas were suggested as other possible places to post. Christine moved the Secretary's report be adopted as presented. Seconded by Brenda.

Brenda welcomed Carmen Letourneau as our new ARMTA rep and thanked her for volunteering. Carmen has prepared the Branch report for the upcoming ARMTA Board meeting and will be attending in October. She will send a copy of the report to Christine and Brenda for our records and will send future reports for input from Brenda and Christine.

Brad reported on the success of *The Lethbridge Piano Intensive* this summer and thanked the Branch for their support. He requested that notices be placed in Branch recital programs once again this year to help spread the word for next year. The University of Lethbridge will also be offering a free workshop for students preparing for the Music Festival, most likely early in the new year. Details will be circulated to teachers. The University of Lethbridge Music at Noon recitals will begin on October 10th. 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 the **Music Events Listing** tab: <https://www.ulethbridge.ca/notice/events/374> 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/>

Brenda recognized the passing of long-time member Doreen Laing and initiated a conversation regarding honouring her contribution to our group. A Music Festival memorial scholarship/award in her name as well as memorial donations to our awards program and a donation from our Branch to the ARMTA recognition fund were suggested.

MOTION: Brenda moved that we explore possibilities for honouring former member Doreen Laing who recently passed away. Seconded by Lavinia Kell-Parker. Carried.

A small committee will look into these possibilities and bring back information for a decision from the members. Linda will contact Doreen's grandson Mark Weiss and see if the family is interested in contributing to a Music Festival scholarship/award.

Branch student awards submissions have been collected and once the information has been confirmed by teachers, Megan and Christine will begin the disbursement process.

Brenda informed members of new member Carolyn Herrington and welcomed her to the Branch!

Our Canada Music Week (CMW) Recital is scheduled for Saturday, November 25th at 2:30 p.m. in the Casa Community Room. Betty Jo will collect the names of students. Please contact her at bettyjoradley@gmail.com by Friday, November 17th 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. **Compositions must be by Canadian composers.** Brenda will prepare the program. Christine has prepared a poster for circulation. CD's and Canadian Music from Doreen Laing's collection will be set out for students to take. Brenda has the pencils and Betty Jo has the banners. Brad said he would be able to help with moving the piano. Lavinia is waiting on scheduling to confirm when she is available that day. A volunteer is needed to help hand out the awards. **Please contact Brenda at bjlockmuller@gmail.com if you are available.** Once the awards are finalized, teachers are asked to call Brenda at 403.894.4481 and leave a message with the pronunciation of any award winners' names that might be difficult to pronounce. It was suggested that during the awards presentation, students remain at the front after receiving their awards to make taking a photo of award winners easier and quicker to organize. A discussion followed regarding photo permissions, since not all of the awards submission forms were filled out when submitted. Lavinia will check in with the Lethbridge Herald and see if an article is possible. Christine will send her publicity information.

Betty Jo will be having an informal fall gathering for her adult students on Saturday, October 28th at 9:30 a.m. at her home at [810 Kodiak Bay N.](#) Please contact her by Monday, October 23rd at bettyjoradley@gmail.com if you have students who would like to participate.

Our Christmas programs will take place on Saturday, December 16th at Betty Jo Radley's home at [810 Kodiak Bay N.](#) The Adult Get-together is at 10:00 a.m. and the general Christmas program is scheduled for later in the afternoon at 4:00 p.m. Brenda will be available to help. Please contact Betty Jo by Monday, December 11th at bettyjoradley@gmail.com if you have students who would like to participate. Thanks to Betty Jo for generously offering her studio for these events! It is recommended that parents and students park on the boulevard.

Keys to Piano will take place March 1-2, 2024, at Casa. Clinicians are [Derek Chiu](#) and [Dale Wheeler](#).

The [Lethbridge and District Music and Speech Arts Festival](#) dates are March 11-23, 2024. Registration and deadline dates are to be announced.

We are looking at Saturday, March 9th at 2:30 p.m. for our Festival Preparation recital. The availability of a venue will be looked into. It was suggested that we check with the Music Festival to see which venues are being used for piano classes.

CFMTA's theme for Branching Out this year is *Random Acts of Music*—bringing music and performances to different venues and audiences in the community. Events need to take place by March 15th, 2024, and the application needs to be submitted before March 31st. Follow the link for more information. <https://www.cfmta.org/en/branching-out/> A conversation followed regarding possibilities. A small event was suggested for February with a Valentine's theme. Lavinia will check in with St. Michael's Health Centre. She will bring information back to the next meeting. Ideas for upcoming workshops/professional development involving [Gloria Chu](#) or [Rebekah Maxner](#) will be considered at a later time.

Our next Coffee and Conversation will take place on Friday, October 20th at the [Little Nicaragua Coffee Company at 359 Stafford Drive](#) North at 9:30 a.m. Contact Betty Jo at bettyjoradley@gmail.com by Wednesday, October 18th if you are able to attend.

A discussion followed regarding the search for a venue for in-person meetings. Brenda reported that she had checked in with Southminster and the charge for rental has increased to \$25 per meeting—a big jump from the \$10 before the pandemic. Lavinia will check in with St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church to see if they have an available space and what the charge would be.

Christine reported that there are still 15 banker boxes of Doreen Laing's music. So far \$814.00 has been collected from teachers who viewed the music in the summer. Half of the proceeds of the sale will go to our Branch Awards Program. Christine will organize more music sale dates for teachers to look at the music. We will also have CD's and Canadian Music from the collection available at our Canada Music Week recital in November for students to choose from as gifts for performing.

Since we are currently without a vice-president and Brenda's term as president will finish in May of 2024, we will need volunteers to step into these roles to ensure continuity of leadership for our group. If you feel that you could serve our Branch in either of these capacities, please contact Brenda at bjlockmuller@gmail.com. Without a president, our Branch will be dissolved, and our funds will revert to ARMTA. Lethbridge Branch members will then become ARMTA Members-at-large. Brenda reported that she has not found the experience of being president as difficult as she thought it would be. There is lots of guidance and support available and the president can control the amount of work they are willing to take on.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

Our next meeting date is scheduled for Thursday, November 2nd, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. by Zoom.
Minutes prepared by Christine Rogers

Other items of note:

The [Lethbridge and District Music and Speech Arts Festival](#) dates are March 11-23, 2024. Registration and deadline dates are to be announced. 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.

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