

Lethbridge Branch Minutes Thursday, January 11, 2024, 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 11:04 a.m. and welcomed those participating. There were 4 members present: Brenda Lockmuller, Carmen Letourneau, Brad Parker, and Christine Rogers.

Brenda moved the approval of the agenda. Seconded by Brad. Brenda moved the acceptance of the November minutes as circulated, seconded by Carmen.

Christine gave the Treasurer's report. The account balances as of January 9th: Awards Account: \$4692.02 and Operating Account: \$5185.65. There are 3 outstanding awards cheques. Christine will contact teachers to remind students to cash them. A generous awards donation of \$250 we recently received from former member Isabelle Slater has been deposited to the awards account. We will designate awards in her honor for that amount next November. A cheque for \$250 from our awards account has been sent to the Lethbridge and District Music and Speech Arts Festival for the 5 awards that we sponsor annually. We were approached a few months ago by the Little Lethbridge Opera Theatre to act as a community partner for a funding request to the City of Lethbridge for operating funds for their co-production of the Sound of Music with the Lethbridge Symphony. A grant of \$2500 was approved by the City of Lethbridge and a cheque was issued for the Lethbridge Branch which has been deposited in our operating account. A cheque for the corresponding amount has been written to the Little Lethbridge Opera Theatre. A total of \$1129.00 has been deposited to the operating account from the donations of the sale of Doreen Laing's music. A committee will make recommendations for using this money for awards in Doreen's memory. The silver collection of \$159.70 from the Canada Music Week recital has been deposited. Upcoming expenses include our website domain renewal from HostGator for 19.99 USD and our AAC annual membership fee of \$75, as well as rental fees for upcoming recitals. As a note, \$200 is left from an ARMTA Continuing Education grant to be used for a voice workshop. The acceptance of the Treasurer's report as presented was moved by Christine. Seconded by Brad. There was nothing new to report from the Secretary.

Carmen gave the ARMTA update. The next ARMTA board meeting will take place at the end of February. Carmen will prepare and submit a report of our branch's recent activities. She reported that ARMTA is forming a committee to work on increasing ARMTA's social media presence. Christine offered some information that had been prepared for our local branch that might be helpful.

Christine shared thank you cards written by students of Linda Dickey for awards presented in November.

Christine reported that members might want to consider joining APTA, the Alberta Piano Teachers Association, in addition to being members of ARMTA. There are lots of benefits and opportunities. Please follow the link for more information. <https://aptaonline.net>

Brad reported on the upcoming University of Lethbridge workshop on January 27th for students preparing for the Music Festival. The masterclasses will be free for participants and take place at the University from 9 am to 4 pm at the University. Details will be finalized after the Music

Festival registration closes. A link will be available to students after they have completed their registration. An email with information will be prepared and sent out to teachers. Brad also informed members of upcoming Music at Noon performances. Pianist Sarah Chan will perform on Tuesday, January 23rd and Fourtitude will perform on Tuesday, February 27th. All performances begin at 12:15 in the University of Lethbridge Recital Hall. A complete listing can be found here: <https://www.ulethbridge.ca/notice/events/374>

Brenda and Christine reported that the executive will be preparing the next steps for our Branch moving forward regarding the new ARMTA branding and our historical logo.

A committee will be formed to determine how to honour long-time member Doreen Laing who recently passed away. So far over \$1100 has been raised from the sale of her music. There are still 15 banker boxes of music left and further opportunities for teachers to view the music will be arranged before the final disbursement of whatever is left. If you wish to view the music by arranging an individual time, please call Christine Rogers at 403-327-2073 or email at c4rogers@telus.net

A discussion followed concerning the need to find a vice-president and president for the 2024-2025 term before our annual meeting in April. Brad indicated that he is interested in contributing as part of the executive but will be taking a study leave in a year. We are still looking for other volunteers to ensure continuity of leadership for our group. If you feel that you could serve our Branch in a leadership role, 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. There is lots of guidance and support available and the president can control the amount of work they are willing to take on.

We plan on holding our May meeting in person at a central venue. Brenda will look into possibilities.

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. A recital with a Valentine's theme will take place on Saturday, February 10th from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. at St. Michael's Health Centre at [1400 9 Ave South](#). The program will take place in a room on the west side of the Centre. 30-40 St. Michael's residents are expected to attend this program. St. Michael's is not able to accommodate additional audience members beyond St. Michael's residents, but chaperones to help with younger children are welcome. Parking is at the rear of the facility and participants can enter through the back entrance. A list of all participants/attendees for security will be required. Masking, although not currently required, may be necessary for participants on the date of the performance. A coat room will be available for performers' belongings. Programs will not be printed, but a program order will be prepared. Please have your names and titles to Betty Jo by Friday, February 2nd. Contact her at bettyjoradley@gmail.com Thank you to Lavinia for arranging this opportunity!

A Festival Preparation Recital and practise will take place in the Community Room at Casa on Sunday, March 3rd, 2024. The rehearsal time will be from noon to 2:00 p.m. and the recital will start at 2:30. Teachers will be given an opportunity to book a time slot for their students during

the allotted rehearsal time. Arrangements will be finalized at the February meeting. Please note the change to a Sunday date for the recital.

Keys to Piano will take place March 1-2, 2024, at Casa. Clinicians are [Derek Chiu](#) and [Dale Wheeler](#). A detailed information email will be sent to teachers. Registration is now open on the Conservatory website. Click on **Events for the Community**. <https://www.ulethbridge.ca/music-conservatory/concerts-and-events>

The [Lethbridge and District Music and Speech Arts Festival](#) dates are March 11-23, 2024. Registration opens on December 1st and closes on January 12th, 2024, at 11:59 pm. Junior Piano (March 19-20 at Casa) adjudicator is Eric Nyland and Senior Piano (March 13-15 at Casa) adjudicator is Akiko Tominaga. Adjudicators and their bios can be found here: <https://lethmsf.org/adjudicators/>

We are planning our final general recital for May in the University Recital Hall. Brad has checked on availability and has sent an email to Operations Manager, Amanda Berg. We will request May 25th as our first choice and May 11th as our second choice.

Brenda will look into venues for a community recital for early June. We will invite all teachers in the community to submit students and offer refreshments after the recital. If you are interested in helping, please contact Brenda at bjlockmuller@gmail.com

Our next Coffee and Conversation will take place on Thursday, February 8th at the [Little Nicaragua Coffee Company at 359 Stafford Drive](#) North at 11:00 a.m. Contact Betty Jo at bettyjoradley@gmail.com by Wednesday, February 7th if you are able to attend, but walk-ins are welcome!

Our April meeting will take place on Thursday, April 11th instead of the first Thursday of the month because of the Easter break.

The deadline for application for the ARMTA Student Composer Competition is April 1st. Please see complete details on the ARMTA website at <https://armta.ca/student-composer-competition/>. Registration will be open shortly. Please contact Christine if you have any questions at c4rogers@telus.net

The meeting was adjourned at 12:21 p.m.

Our next meeting date is scheduled for Thursday, February 1st, 2024, 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. 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.

The University of Lethbridge Music at Noon recitals 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/>