

LRMTA Minutes February 2nd, Long and McQuade

Christine called the meeting to order at Long and McQuade. There were 6 members present: Karen MacDonald, Christine Rogers, Betty Jo Radley, Joan Milton, Doreen Laing and Linda Dickey.

The agenda was approved by Karen and seconded by Linda Dickey. The November and January minutes were approved as circulated by Linda and seconded by Karen.

Christine gave the treasurer's report in Brenda's absence. The balance as of February 2nd was \$473 in our operating account and \$2145.88 in our awards account. Christine reported on upcoming expenses--reimbursements for the examiner lunch and the \$100 Future Shop gift card for the Practise-a-thon grand prize for the most money raised, the Yellow pages ad, and the Library recital rental. Christine will ask Brenda if there are any outstanding awards cheques. Karen MacDonald is considering the treasurer's position. Brenda's term is finished in April.

Kiwanis Festival dates for 2015 are March 16th to 28th. Adjudicators will be as follows: Evette Rowledge for Junior Piano and Janet Scott-Hoyt for Senior. Our \$100 contribution for the two Kiwanis Festival awards has been submitted.

ARMTA news: Christine is the new convenor for the ARMTA Student Composer Competition. The deadline is April 1st. This is a great opportunity for students to receive positive feedback. The adjudicator this year is Jesse Plessis. For more information (including entry categories, regulations and prizes) please go to the ARMTA website at <http://www.armta.ca/index.php/programs-and-events/armta-student-composer-competition/>

Annual fees are due. Print the renewal form from the website (unless you receive yours by regular mail), review your information, sign it and mail to ARMTA with a cheque (made out to ARMTA) for provincial fees for \$130 (or \$140 after Feb. 28th); and also a cheque for LRMTA fees (made out to LRMTA) for \$35. Cheques can be post-dated April 1st, 2015 if you wish. The LRMTA cheques will be returned to our branch for deposit once the provincial fees have been processed. Receipts will be issued. **Each member will be responsible for mailing in their own fees before the Feb. 28th deadline to receive the early bird rate. Remember: if you let your ARMTA membership lapse, there will be a \$50 reinstatement fee.**

The Allied Arts Council annual membership fee of \$75 has been submitted.

Christine reported on the RC Meet and Greet with provincial rep, Derek Chiu that took place Tuesday morning, January 27th. Other teachers agreed that it had been a very positive event. Lunch followed at Georgio's with examiner Dr. Tom Greene and local rep Monica Baczuk. If you have any comments, suggestions or concerns regarding examinations, please feel free to contact Derek. He indicated that he would be most happy to respond. Derek Chiu: derek.chiu@rcmusic.ca

Our next coffee and conversation is set for Thursday, February 19th at 9:30 a.m. at Linda Davies' home at 1260-5th Ave. S. (Not 5A). Please call Betty Jo at 329-1655 or Linda at 328-6085 to let them know if you will be attending. Betty Jo requested that Kate repeat her presentation on music apps. Christine will check in with Kate.

It was reported that the Lethbridge Business License fee has risen to \$172.

Christine has renewed our website domain name through Hostgator. The charge was \$15 U.S.

Karen reported that Magdalena von Eccher will be the adjudicator for the Piano Class Festival this year.

Christine reported on advertising. Our Yellow pages ad will be renewed this year by Brenda. The cost is approximately \$220. Christine reported that she had contacted the Lethbridge Symphony. A quarter page ad in all the programs for the Master Series would be \$250. This is a fairly small ad: approximately 2" by 5" horizontal or 2.5" by 4" vertical. In addition the Symphony would be willing for us to display our brochures on the tables in the entry way of Southminster Church before concerts. After discussion it was decided that we should take advantage of having another venue for our brochures. It was also suggested that if finances allow, we could try advertising in the Symphony programs. Casa was also suggested as another venue for brochures. Christine explained that space at Casa for brochures and posters is reserved for organizations that are housed there but if there is room left over they will accommodate other groups' activities and brochures. Christine will follow up with brochures.

Thanks to Lorrie Wittke who arranged for an interview with Shaw Cable. It is now available for viewing on the Shaw site and on Cable Channel 9—*Go Southern Alberta*. Follow the link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lb6XJUEwWYg&list=UUwEVed0UXLeePKvB5tHeCFg>

<http://shaw.ca/shawtv/lethbridge/shows/gosouthernalberta/>

Christine reported that she and Kate had made updates to the website. Check it out at www.lrmta.com

Our Festival Prep Recital is booked at the Lethbridge Public Library for Saturday March 14th at 2:30 p.m. Karen MacDonald agreed to take the names and put together the program. Christine and Betty Jo will also be there. Christine has the banner. A recital featuring Movie, TV and Broadway selections will follow at 4:00 p.m. Lorrie Wittke and Joan Milton will be convenors. A silver collection will be taken at both recitals. Thanks to Lorrie for initiating this recital.

Our final adult student get-together will be Saturday, May 30th at 3:00 p.m. at Betty Jo's studio. Linda Dickey and Doreen Laing will be convenors. The date for our final recital will be determined later.

The *Keys to Piano* Workshop will take place February 27th and 28th, 2015 at Casa. Glen Montgomery and Merlin Thompson (from Calgary) are the clinicians. Brochures are now available from Christine or at Casa. A number of changes have been incorporated from last year's feedback to improve the event. Please reserve these dates and plan to support our group by attending yourself and promoting it to your students. Follow the link to the Conservatory website for more information or to download the brochure: <http://www.uleth.ca/music-conservatory/keys-piano-workshop>

Doreen will make a presentation on ensemble music for piano at our May meeting beginning at 10:30. We will shorten the business portion. An invitation will be circulated to teachers in our community.

Our Practise-a-thon begins today. Forms and money are to be handed in at the March meeting. Prizes will be determined and presented at the March 14th recital. Christine was happy to announce that the Lethbridge Community Band Society has donated vouchers for concert tickets as prizes.

This year the CFMTA Branching Out initiative (grant for \$50) is for workshops featuring Canadian music or composers. Jesse Plessis will be performing and working briefly with students at a masterclass from 2-4 p.m. at Betty Jo's studio on Saturday, April 25th. The charge for students to play will be \$10. We will pay Jesse a \$100 honorarium. All music selections must be by Canadian composers.

Christine passed around changes to the Branch Submission Form for approval.

Our next meeting will be March 2nd, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at Long and McQuade. Everyone is most welcome to attend.