

LRMTA Minutes October 7th, 2013, Long and McQuade

Christine called the meeting to order at Long and McQuade. There were 8 members present: Kate LaRocque, Marilyn Sinclair, Christine Rogers, Linda Dickey, Doreen Laing, Cheryl Hudak, Betty Jo Radley and Brenda Lockmuller.

The agenda was approved by Doreen Laing with Linda Dickey seconding. The September minutes were approved as circulated by Linda Dickey, seconded by Brenda.

Brenda presented the Treasurer's report. Our operating balance is \$408.10 and our awards account balance is \$4210.76. Christine reported that a copy of the annual financial report is to be submitted to ARMTA for presentation at the annual provincial AGM. Members were curious as to why this information is required at the provincial level. Christine will check in with Joan and ARMTA administrator, Bev Moore. Brenda moved the acceptance of the treasurer's report. Seconded by Doreen.

Kiwanis Festival dates for 2014 are March 31st to April 12th. The deadline for entry is January 15th.

ARMTA news: The ARMTA provincial fee will increase \$5 to \$140 per year. There will still be a \$10 discount for the early bird fee bringing it to \$130. Music Conference Alberta will take place November 1-2 at the Sheraton Hotel in Red Deer. For more information visit the ARMTA website at <http://www.armta.ca/> To register visit the AMEF website at <http://www.amef.ca/mca.php> You do not have to be a member of AMEF to be able to register for the conference.

Christine passed around the most recent *Artsbridge*, the Allied Arts Council publication.

A brief discussion followed relating to the recent Royal Conservatory Exam sessions. Many teachers and students had difficulty reading the comments of the examiner. It was suggested that concerned teachers and parents contact our RCM rep Lou Joss (phone 403-328-1730) or the RCM directly at

phone: 416.408.5019

Toll Free: 1.800.461.6058

Email: candidateservices@rcmusic.ca

The RCM teacher directory is up and running. Please visit <http://www.rcmusic.ca/teacher-directory-guide?mcclnkrk=8> for more information. Only teachers who have submitted students for exams in the last 5 years will be eligible for the directory. Once you register and have students taking exams you will be included. If 5 years pass and you haven't submitted any students for exams, your listing will be dropped. Once you submit students again, you will be added.

Our next coffee and conversation is set for Thursday, October 17th 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. If you wish, please bring a favorite Christmas book to share. If time permits, we will also discuss *CFMTA Branching Out to Students* and decide on possible activities for February.

If you have any ideas or changes for our website, please contact Christine or Kate. If you have photos of students from lessons or recitals that would be appropriate for the scrolling photograph feature at the top of our website, please submit the photo and the release forms to Christine. Christine and Kate will work on updates.

Kate will look into a Facebook page for LRMTA.

Christine circulated the sign-up sheet for recital convenors. We still need one convenor for our Festival prep recital tentatively set for Saturday, March 22nd, and two convenors for our Final General Recital which will take place in early May.

Our Canada Music week recital and awards presentation is set for Saturday, November 23rd at 2:30 p.m. **Since the October meeting we have found out that there has been a mix-up with the booking at CASA and the November 23rd date is no longer available to us there. In consultation with RMT executive members, it was decided to keep the date and look for a new location. Both the Library Theatre Gallery and McKillop United Church are available on Nov. 23rd. We will finalize the location at our Nov. 4th meeting. If you have a preference but are not able to make it to the meeting, please email Christine beforehand.** Convenors will be Marilyn Sinclair and Joan Milton. Marilyn Sinclair will take the names. **Please have your entries in at least one week before. Please indicate which composers are Canadian.** Recital etiquette will be printed on the back of the program. Christine will take care of printing the First Class Honors results. She will make 60 copies and include information about contributing donations to our awards program. At the conclusion of the recital and awards presentation, Christine will be asking participants and awards winners to pose for a photo which will be submitted to the Lethbridge Herald. It was suggested that students might feel more comfortable participating in a photograph if they know ahead of time. Teachers can notify their students as needed. Names of students will need to be submitted to the Herald as well, so a sign-up sheet will be available at the recital.

Our Adult Student Get-together will take place at 9:30 a.m. on December 7th at Betty Jo's home. Betty Jo and Brenda will be the convenors. A drop-in Christmas program will follow from 10:30 until noon. Please contact Betty Jo at 403-329-1655 to let her know how many students will be participating. Betty Jo's address is 810 Kodiak Bay North. Please contact her if you need directions. Thank you to Betty Jo for offering her studio for our use!

Our Festival prep recital is tentatively set for Saturday, March 22nd at 2:30 p.m. Betty Jo will look into the availability of the Library.

Dates for our final recital and final adult activity will be determined at a later meeting.

Christine will arrange a meeting with Peggy Mezei to explore collaborative possibilities between our branch and the University Conservatory now that it has moved to its new home in CASA.

Thank you to Linda Dickey and Doreen Laing who have volunteered to disburse the branch awards this year. We annually present between \$1100-1300. Christine and Brenda will write the cheques when the awards have been determined. Awards will be presented following our Canada Music Week recital. Christine will do up the handout for the recital.

Next followed a discussion concerning repertoire for our Canada Music Week (CMW) recital. It has been proposed that we only accept submissions by Canadian composers for performance. Over the last few years, we have been encouraging teachers to focus on Canadian music, but have been accepting other repertoire for performance. Teachers at the meeting felt that it was too late to ask teachers to focus only on Canadian music for this year's CMW recital. Also, some teachers were very concerned that a performance opportunity for exam repertoire (which might not necessarily be Canadian) still be available to students. It was decided for this year, to encourage teachers to make every effort to focus on Canadian music, and as a compromise, have this year's recital divided into 2 sections: the first for Canadian Music and the second section for other composers. We will evaluate after the recital and make a decision regarding next year's CMW recital.

CFMTA will be sponsoring "CFMTA Branching Out" in February of 2014. The theme will once again be "Branching Out to Students." A \$50 sponsorship will be available to each branch for a student themed activity. Some suggestions were a stage deportment master class and a composing workshop. Time permitting, we will discuss ideas at our next coffee and conversation meeting.

Christine suggested that membership might be one of things we could focus on this year. In May of 2008 we hosted an open house meeting with a short workshop presentation by Deanna Oye. Teachers from the community were invited to attend. A presentation for University students could also be organized. Please forward any ideas to Christine.

Next followed a discussion regarding make-up lessons for sports activities, initiated by Cheryl Hudak. Members shared their practises with regard to rescheduling lessons.

Our next meeting will be **Monday, November 4th**, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at Long and McQuade.