

Lethbridge Branch of ARMTA Minutes Thursday, February 6, 2025, Casa Meeting Room

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

Brad called the meeting to order in the Meeting Room at Casa and welcomed those participating. There were 7 members present: Betty Jo Radley, Carmen Letourneau, Honorary Branch Member Marilyn Sinclair, Christine Rogers, Linda Dickey, and Brad Parker. Lavinia Kell Parker joined online by Zoom.

Christine moved the acceptance of the agenda as prepared. Seconded by Carmen. All in favour. Carmen moved the minutes be adopted as circulated. Seconded by Lavinia. All in favour.

Christine gave the Treasurer's report (as of February 5, 2025).

Awards Account Balance: \$3,714.21

- All award cheques have been cashed
- Cheque written and delivered (but not yet cashed): \$250 for Lethbridge and District Music and Speech Arts Festival Awards that we sponsor
 - 1) \$50 annual award to a deserving piano student in a junior piano class
 - 2) \$50 annual award to a deserving piano student in a senior piano class
 - 3) \$50 annual award to a deserving brass or woodwind student
 - 4) \$50 award to a deserving voice student
 - 5) \$50 award to a deserving violin student

Operating Account Balance: \$1,665.24 (February 5)

- CFMTA donation to ARMTA Recognition Fund in memory of Ruth Ringland \$75 has been cashed
- Upcoming Reimbursements: total \$253.70
 - Hostgator Website Domain Renewal completed \$37.46 CAD. Currently in Christine's name. In the process of updating so that we use our Branch's email address.
 - Venue rental for Festival Prep Recital and Festival Rehearsal (March 1): \$84
 - Piano rental for Festival Prep Recital and Festival Rehearsal (March 1): \$66.15
 - UPS 1000 pre-paid copies plus Practice-a-thon copies: \$66.09
- Upcoming Expenses:
 - Allied Arts Council Annual Membership (\$75)
 - Young Artist Recital

Christine moved the acceptance of the Treasurer's report as presented. Seconded by Linda. All in favour.

Please report any changes to your contact information or website teaching listing by contacting our Branch email address with your request. lethbridgebranchofarmta@gmail.com

Carmen gave the ARMTA update. An ARMTA Board meeting which includes approval of the annual provincial budget will be this weekend. Carmen will be taking a question to the meeting based on the conversation at our January Branch meeting regarding ARMTA's sponsorship of scholarships for non-ARMTA events. She will gather information at the Board meeting and report back to us. Betty Jo commented that she is now hosting her website through ARMTA and is very pleased with the outcome. Thank you to Carmen for acting as our Branch's rep to ARMTA!

The Allied Arts Council (AAC) AGM will take place on Tuesday, March 25th in the Casa Community Room. Carmen volunteered to attend as our rep. Thank you to Carmen! Christine will RSVP.

A conversation followed regarding recent RCM in-person exams. Teachers commented on their students' experiences. It was decided that we write a letter recommending evaluation opportunities for students, parents, and teachers following exams. Christine will draft a letter and bring it to the membership.

Christine reported on the progress of the design for our new Branch banner. A discussion followed building on the conversation at our January meeting regarding the slogan for our new banner. During the initial banner design process, Christine was able to include both the ARMTA slogan *Cultivating Music in Life* and a secondary slogan on the banner design. Carmen brought an additional suggestion for the secondary slogan that during discussion at the meeting evolved into:

Leadership and Excellence in Music Education in Our Community

It was decided that we present the original (*Providing Leadership in Music Education in our Community*) and the new version of our secondary slogan for a final email vote. Following the results, Christine will complete the design of the top two banner choices and send them out to teachers to make their final choice. Christine will prepare an email and circulate to members.

Upcoming recital information was reviewed.

- Our Spring Recital will take place at Casa in the Community Room on **Saturday, March 1st at 2:30 p.m.** Betty Jo will help with the program. Christine will check if Brenda is available to help. Entries are due one week before on Saturday, February 22nd. Please email Betty Jo at bettyjo-radley@gmail.com with your entries. Please include student name, composition title, composer, grade level, length of piece, and whether the student's performance would make a suitable beginning or end to the program if applicable. Christine and Betty Jo are available to convene the recital and Brad and Lavinia will be in attendance to help if needed. Brad will check in with Deanna to see if a U of L student might be interested in performing as a guest artist on the recital.
- Brad has booked the University of Lethbridge Recital Hall for our final recital on Saturday, May 24th at 2:30 p.m. An insurance certificate will be needed and can be arranged after the new ARMTA membership year begins.

Keys to Piano 2025 presented by the University of Lethbridge Conservatory of Music and the Lethbridge Branch of the Alberta Registered Music Teachers' Association will take place Friday, March 14 and Saturday, March 15, 2025 at Casa at 230-8th St. S. Lethbridge. Clinicians this year are [Cheryl Emery-Karpaita](#) and [Carolyn Herrington](#).

The Friday evening session from 5:30 to 7:00 pm is open to registered teachers and registered senior students and includes the following presentations by the clinicians: "Thinking Orchestrally at the Piano" and "ADHD and the Wiggly Student".

Saturday sessions run from 9:15 to 4 pm. Students can choose a half day or full day option, perform for clinicians up to 2 times, participate in break-out sessions, listen to the noon-hour clinician recital, and enjoy a catered lunch. All ages and skill levels are welcome.

Half Day (choose 9:15-1pm or 12-4pm): \$40 (includes lunch, concert, opportunity to perform 1 piece, & break out sessions)

Full Day (9:15-4pm): \$60 (includes lunch, concert, opportunity to perform up to 2 pieces, & break-out sessions)

Student Observer (9:15-4pm): \$40 (includes lunch, concert & break-out sessions)

Performance spots are limited, so please encourage any interested students to register as soon as possible. It is anticipated that the program will fill up quickly.

Registration is now open. Teachers are free with a registered student, otherwise the fee is \$25.

<https://communityprograms.ulethbridge.ca/Program/GetProgramDetails?courseId=54ad9c23-603a-47fb-8a6d-7ea07f5e3eaa>

Once you sign in or create an account, you will be redirected to the registration page. You may need to click on Programs, then Music Conservatory, and then scroll down to the Keys to Piano icon.

Christine updated teachers on the Practice-a-thon which is taking place this week. **All Practice-a-thon forms and money are due at the next meeting, Thursday, March 6th.** All teachers are encouraged to participate and contribute to our Awards Program. If you have questions please contact Christine at c4rogers@telus.net.

Coffee and Conversation will take place on **Monday, February 24 at 10:30 a.m.** at the home of Marilyn Sinclair at [335-20th Street North](#). Coffee will be provided. Christine will send out a reminder email. For more information email Betty Jo Radley at bettyjoradley@gmail.com

The [Lethbridge and District Music and Speech Arts Festival](#) dates are March 31-April 12, 2025. The 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

A Festival rehearsal will take place before the recital on **March 1st from Noon to 2:00 p.m.** in the Community Room at Casa. An email will be sent out inviting teachers to sign up their students for a time slot. Christine will be there to host and monitor the rehearsal.

Brad informed teachers that since there is still space for senior pianists, they can contact Brad directly if they would like to participate in the February 8th Festival Preparation Workshop at the University of Lethbridge. Contact Brad Parker at bradley.parker3@uleth.ca

Brad invited Linda Dickey to share the story of her musical journey. Because her father was in the RCMP, Linda's early life included moves to Edmonton, Lethbridge and several small rural towns. Piano lessons from local teachers prepared her for her first RCM exam which was with examiner Earle Moss, noted pianist, teacher and composer. Linda remembers that he was very excited that she had prepared one of his compositions for her exam. In Lethbridge, she studied piano from Bea Foster and theory from A.K. Putland and Bruce Barrow, (all early members of our Lethbridge Branch of ARMTA) and began teaching piano in her neighbourhood at the age of 14. Her aunt and uncle Mary and Fred Leister operated Leister's Music in Lethbridge and Linda has many good memories of trips to the music store. After her marriage to her husband Gerry, they settled in Lethbridge to raise their family—Lisa, who works as a radiation technologist, and Tara who teaches piano and early music classes for young children. Linda is proud of her grandson Lucas who is taking piano lessons and is a member of his school band. Linda has been a member of ARMTA for over 50 years and has held the Lethbridge Branch positions of Corresponding Secretary (1982-84), Vice President (1986-88) Treasurer (1988-2000), and President (2000-2002). She continues to teach a full studio of both piano and theory students who regularly take exams and participate in the Lethbridge and District Music and Speech Arts Festival. Along with friend and colleague, Doreen Laing, Linda travelled to many conferences and became a Nationally Certified Teacher of Music (NCTM) through the MTNA (Music Teachers National Association) Professional Certification Program.

Carmen passed around copies of piano music by Marie Jaëll. Carmen plans to organize an event in May featuring her music since this year is the 100th anniversary of her death. Here are links to Marie Jaëll's intermediate works.

[https://imslp.org/wiki/Les_Beaux_jours_\(Ja%C3%ABII%2C_Marie\)](https://imslp.org/wiki/Les_Beaux_jours_(Ja%C3%ABII%2C_Marie))

[https://imslp.org/wiki/Les_Jours_pluvieux_\(Ja%C3%ABII%2C_Marie\)](https://imslp.org/wiki/Les_Jours_pluvieux_(Ja%C3%ABII%2C_Marie))

Teachers who are interested can please email Carmen at coachcarmen@gmail.com for a copy of the Seven Easy Pieces collection which is no longer available online.

CFMTA's Branching Out theme this year is: **Choose Your Own Adventure**. We will be holding a "Harpsichord Adventure" the afternoon of **Saturday, February 15th** from 1:15 to 5:00 p.m. at the home of Christine Rogers at 1621 Lakeshore Road South. There is one time slot left. Please contact Christine Rogers at c4rogers@telus.net before February 9th if you have a student who is interested.

The Provincial Round of the CFMTA Young Artist Piano Competition took place on Sunday, January 26. The winners have been announced: 1st Place — Jaydon Zijia Zhuang, 2nd Place — Charlotte Giraudeau, 3rd Place — Derek Lee, 4th Place — Joel Cook. Branches will have the opportunity to host the winner as part of the Young Artist Tour.

Our next meeting will be **Thursday, March 6, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.** in the meeting room at Casa. An online Zoom option will be made available.

Minutes prepared by Christine Rogers

Other items of note:

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.

University of Lethbridge Music at Noon Concerts take place in the University of Lethbridge Recital Hall. They are free and open to the public and take place Tuesdays from 12:15 to 1:00 p.m.

Complete information for The University of Lethbridge Music at Noon Series: <https://www.uleth-bridge.ca/fine-arts/study/music/concerts-and-recitals>

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/>

ARMTA: Certificates of Insurance for events: if the place you are holding an event requires a COI, you may request one from the Marsh certificate team at winnipegcertificates@marsh.com and cc danielle.blaich@marsh.com. Include your name, the date and location of event, mailing address of the party requesting evidence of your coverage. Please allow 24 to 48 hours to have your request processed.