



Executive Member and Committee Reports

for the

102nd Annual General Meeting

of the

**Manitoba Registered Music Teachers'
Association**

Sept 19, 2021

President's Report – Evangeline Keeley

The 2020-2021 MRMTA year began with the 101st AGM held online on Sunday, September 20, 2020. Due to the virtual nature of the meeting, we did not meet for lunch prior to conducting the business of the day however, the online format enabled Branch members to readily attend, without travel time and expense for the first time. Twenty members were honoured (8 were in attendance online) for 20, 30, and 40-year memberships. In lieu of a complimentary lunch, the honorees were mailed a copy of the book *A Century of Sound Connections: The Manitoba Registered Music Teachers' Association 1919-2019*. Early in September all members received via post a few MRMTA business cards, some brochures outlining membership benefits, new promotional posters, and the Fall issue of *Take Note* with its brand new look!

The following Executive Members were elected: Evangeline Keeley, President; Leanne Hiebert, Past President; Rachel Anderson, Vice-President (served from September to November 2020). There were no nominations for the position of Communication Coordinator; it remains vacant. At the close of the 2020-2021 year, total membership stood at 176.

The MRMTA continues to work with Vienna Badiuk from "The Buzz Communications Group" in Winnipeg. Vienna has been instrumental in procuring more air-time with Classic 107fm radio which has resulted in 7 interviews for executive members, committee convenors, teachers, and students. She has also assisted with *Take Note* advertising and in keeping communication lines open with major arts groups in Winnipeg.

In spite of the challenges thrown our way by changing public health orders, the majority of planned events took place last year. There were 2 Online workshops (September and April), Masterclasses in October (Virtuosi, rescheduled from Spring 2020) and January, as well as 2 video premiere concerts for Canada Music Week[®] and the Performance Scholarships Gala. There was a *wildly* successful Musicthon in February during which members and students raised double our initial goal! Serata was the only cancelled event on the calendar. It is amazing how adaptable and flexible we can be at times, and these last 18 months have shown over and over again that "We can do it!"

In addition to the above events many students applied for scholarships. In total over \$12,000 was awarded to deserving students including the Student Composition Competition winners.

For the second year in a row the CFMTA Annual Executive Meeting took place online in early July. Two MRMTA delegates, myself and Ann Germani, attended and were inspired by meeting other provincial and territorial colleagues from across the country. It was especially exciting to meet Susan Shantora, President of the newest member of the Federation – the Northwest Territories! On behalf of the MRMTA, Leanne Hiebert presented Tiffany Wilson with the "Hugheen Ferguson Distinguished Teacher Award" during the Opening Ceremonies of the virtual conference "Connecting Canada". This award recognizes Tiffany's years of excellence in teaching and her dedication and service to the MRMTA and the CFMTA. There are many national programs and initiatives available through the Federation – all to benefit you so why not go to cfmta.org and check them out!

My thanks to all the executive and committee convenors for keeping things running smoothly. I am especially grateful to Leanne Hiebert, Past President for her sage advice, and to Ann Germani who has stepped into the Vice-President position. Finally, I encourage you to read through the executive and committee reports in this package to have a better understanding of what the MRMTA has been able to accomplish during this challenging year!

Vice President's Report – Ann Germani

I began my appointment as Vice President in the Spring of this year, and was straight away welcomed by a Members Programming Committee chaired by Michelle LeClerc, to review a calendar of events and programming for the forthcoming year. I agreed to host the first event of the year with an informal “Chat”, via zoom on August 25th. The event was successful in that it allowed teachers to share and explore ideas for navigating the new teaching year, particularly in terms of addressing in person and online lessons. I hope we will have more of these types of conversations in the future, and hope as an executive, we can provide support to teachers as we find ways of keeping our studios and the musical future of our students strong.

In July, I was a Delegate to the CFMTA National Executive Meetings, followed by the Conference. This was a great opportunity to become better acquainted with the organization and its' initiatives; I have since agreed to sit on the CFMTA Committee for Social Media.

As Chair of the Membership Committee, two new applications have been received for full membership. One has been approved, and the other is currently under review.

I had the pleasure of inviting Megan Dufurat to be our guest speaker at the AGM and look forward to her presentation, along with our Competition Winners, and seeing everyone on September 19th.

Past President's Report - Leanne Hiebert

I would like to say a big “Bravo!” to President Evangeline Keeley on a great year, and a hearty welcome to fellow officer Ann Germani as our new Vice-President. As we didn't have a Vice President for much of the year, I corresponded and helped Evangeline with a variety of tasks including:

- checking the communication mailbox,
- serving on the nominations and membership committees.
- helped with setting up and hosting a few Zoom events at the beginning of the year.
- Did proofing for Take Note magazine and mailed out the fall issue.
- Helped with interactions with Publicist Vienna Badiuk regarding interviews with 107 Radio, Take Note magazine, and planning the 2021/22 year.
- Discussion regarding Covid-19 notices and protocols.
- CMW concert planning, Musicthon discussions, Student Group meeting, and Scholarship planning.
- Planning the Manitoba video montage that was presented at the CFMTA national virtual conference “Connecting Canada”

I put many of our interview videos up on the YouTube channel through our Google account. Documents can be shared in our Google drive, and interviews added to the YouTube channel as needed.

It was my honour on behalf of the MRMTA to put forth the documents required to nominate our colleague Tiffany Wilson for the Hugheen Ferguson Distinguished Teaching Award. Tiffany's years of dedicated (and continuing) service with both the MRMTA and CFMTA, as well as her work as a teacher, adjudicator, and examiner made her a deserving recipient. This award was presented at the CFMTA virtual conference this summer.

By-Laws – Tiffany Wilson

Over this past year, a few discrepancies have been found as the committee continues to scrutinize the specific wording of the By-Laws with the mission to render the document concise and clear to the reader.

A few additions were added in at the request of the executive and President Evangeline Keeley worked to make these changes in consultation with me.

The changes are not ready for the 2021 AGM to be voted on and so, the additions to the By-Laws that were made in the last few months will eventually be sent out (for a second time) this year to be voted on in an e-vote once the wording is found satisfactory to all.

Nominations Committee - Leanne Hiebert (assisted by the MRMTA executive)

Pleas for vacant positions were published regularly this past year in Take Note and in our bi-weekly emails. Ann Germani accepted the appointment of Vice-President this past Spring, for which we are all very grateful and excited. The position of Communication Coordinator remained vacant for the entire year, and the work was done mainly by Evangeline Keeley, with assistance from myself.

The following have been nominated to serve in MRMTA Provincial Executive positions for a 2-year term:

Student Programming Coordinator – Stephen Haiko-Pena
Members' Programming Coordinator – Michele Leclerc
Events/Social Coordinator – Rachel Dueck
Member-at-Large – Laura Liu
Member-at-Large – vacant

No nominations have come forward for Communication Coordinator at this time. There is one year remaining in this term.

There will be a Call for Nominations during the business portion of the Annual General Meeting. Anyone nominated must hold Full Membership in the MRMTA, and must consent to letting their name stand for election.

Registrar Report – Gina Wedel

As of September 5, 2021, there are 156 MRMTA members.

131 Full members
12 Retired members
3 Honorary Life members
3 Auxiliary members
7 Student members

New members:

Jason Vanwynsberghe
Nikita Labdon

Reinstatement:

Krystena Krahn
Donna Beaulieu

Deceased member:

Dr. Kenneth Nichols

Transfers to other provinces:

April Gibson

SPECIAL RECOGNITION:

20 years:

Elena Levina
Susan Maclagan
Dianna Neufeld
Tuesday Royko
Jacqueline Ryz
Marla Winters

30 years:

Rita Dyck
Melody Koop

Treasury – Lori Jede

For the 2020-2021 fiscal year, many events were not able to be held in person. This resulted in a lower amount of funds available through lack of door fees, which were supplemented through our savings account. A summary of the yearly transactions is provided as an appendix to the AGM booklet, with income and expenses detailed for all administrative costs and events hosted throughout the year.

MRMTA's savings account balance as of July 30/21 is \$38,898.99.

The last statement with Investor's Group on June 30/21 reflects an account balance of \$37,701.79.

As non-profit organizations are recommended to have approximately two to three years of all monies used to support their yearly expenses and programming, we are once again in a good financial position looking ahead to next year.

Secretary Report – Lori Jede

I took, prepared and distributed minutes for the MRMTA Executive meetings on October 19/20, Jan 11/21, Feb 22/21, April 12/21, and Aug 18/21.

The following are all motions that have been passed since the Sept. 20, 2020 AGM.

MOTIONS PROPOSED – ACCEPTED Oct. 19, 2020 AT EXECUTIVE MEETING

MOTION 1: THAT ALL MRMTA MEMBERS CONTINUE PURCHASING INSURANCE COVERAGE THROUGH THE NATIONAL PLAN SET UP THROUGH CFMTA AS PART OF THEIR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE. MOVED BY RACHEL A. SECONDED BY LINDA. ALL IN FAVOUR. CARRIED.

MOTION 2: TO ALLOW LORI AS TREASURER TO NEGOTIATE A NEW ANNUAL RENEWAL DATE WITH MARSH INSURANCE FOR JULY 1. MOVED BY MICHELE. SECONDED BY LAURA. ALL IN FAVOUR. CARRIED.

MOTIONS PROPOSED – ACCEPTED Jan. 11, 2021 AT EXECUTIVE MEETING

MOTION 1: IN LIGHT OF THE SITUATION WITH COVID 19, MRMTA WILL COVER \$10 OF THE \$20 INCREASE FOR INSURANCE PER MEMBER FOR THE 2021-2022 YEAR. MOVED BY LEANNE. SECONDED BY MICHELE. ALL IN FAVOUR. CARRIED.

MOTION 2: WITH REGARDS TO THE INSURANCE BRIDGING PACKAGE COVERING THE MONTH OF JUNE/20 WITH MARSH INSURANCE, MRMTA WILL COVER THE ADDITIONAL \$5 PER INSURED MEMBER. MOVED BY LEANNE. SECONDED BY LINDA. ALL IN FAVOUR. CARRIED.

MOTION 3: THAT THE MRMTA CREATE A YOUTUBE CHANNEL TO SHARE CONTENT ONLINE AS UNLISTED OR PUBLIC VIDEOS/PLAYLISTS, AS REQUIRED ACCORDING TO THE NEEDS SPECIFIC TO EACH EVENT. MOVED BY LEANNE HIEBERT, SECONDED BY RACHEL DUECK. ALL IN FAVOUR. MOTION CARRIED OCTOBER 29, 2020.

MOTION 4: TO SEND A DONATION TO VIRTUOSI CONCERTS INC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$200 TO SUPPORT THE PARTNERSHIP OF THE VIRTUOSI ANNUAL MASTERCLASS WITH MRMTA. MOVED BY MICHELE. SECONDED BY ELEANOR. ALL IN FAVOUR. CARRIED.

MOTION 5: TO RAISE THE SUBSCRIPTION RATE FOR 2021-2022 TO \$18 FOR A YEARLY TAKE NOTE SUBSCRIPTION OR \$7 PER SINGLE ISSUE. MOVED BY RACHEL. SECONDED BY MICHELE. ALL IN FAVOUR. CARRIED.

MOTIONS PROPOSED – ACCEPTED Feb. 22, 2021 AT EXECUTIVE MEETING

MOTION 1: FUNDS WILL BE USED FROM THE OPERATIONAL BUDGET OF MRMTA TO COVER THE COST FOR THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD FOR 2020-2021 SINCE SERATA HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO HOLD THEIR FUNDRAISING EVENT. THIS COULD BE APPLIED TO A MAXIMUM OF 2 RECIPIENTS EQUALING A TOTAL OF \$398.00 SHOULD THE RECIPIENT CHOOSE TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE OF 2021 AND/OR 2023. MOVED BY MICHELE. SECONDED BY LEANNE. ALL IN FAVOUR. CARRIED.

MOTION 2: THAT WE DONATE \$1000.00 TO SUPPORT THE 2021 VIRTUAL CONFERENCE OF CFMTA FROM OUR INVESTOR'S GROUP FUND. LAURA MOVED. MICHELE SECONDED. ALL IN FAVOUR. CARRIED.

MOTION 3: THAT WE HOLD A SEPARATE ADVANCED VOCAL COMPETITION TO NOMINATE A COMPETITOR FOR THE NATIONAL COMPETITION INCLUDING ADJUDICATOR COSTS AND A \$500.00 LOCAL PRIZE TAKEN FROM OUR ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION FUND. MOVED BY RACHEL. SECONDED BY MICHELE. ALL IN FAVOUR. CARRIED.

MOTION 4: THAT THE MRMTA NOMINATE TIFFANY WILSON FOR THE HUGHEEN FERGUSON DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARD AS PART OF THE 2020-2021 CONFERENCE. THIS NOMINATION REQUIRES A \$250 CONTRIBUTION. MOVED BY LEANNE. SECONDED BY MICHELE. ALL IN FAVOUR. CARRIED.

MOTIONS PROPOSED – ACCEPTED Apr. 12, 2021 AT EXECUTIVE MEETING

MOTION 1: TO ACCEPT THE REQUEST TO CHANGE ARLINE COLLINS' MEMBERSHIP STATUS FROM FULL MEMBER TO RETIRED. MOVED BY MICHELE. SECONDED BY LINDA. ALL IN FAVOUR. CARRIED.

MOTION 2: TO ACCEPT THE REQUEST TO CHANGE REGINA ANGELEAU'S MEMBERSHIP STATUS FROM FULL MEMBER TO RETIRED. MOVED BY LEANNE. SECONDED BY WES. ALL IN FAVOUR. CARRIED.

MOTION 3: THAT WES KEELEY BE HIRED TO FIX THE MRMTA WEBSITE UP TO A MAXIMUM COST OF \$500. MOVED BY ELEANOR. SECONDED BY MICHELE. ALL IN FAVOUR. CARRIED.

MOTION 4: TO PUT IN PLACE A \$5.00 LATE FEE FOR STUDENT MEMBERSHIPS IF PAID AFTER JUNE 1ST. MOVED BY MICHELE LECLERC, SECONDED BY LEANNE HIEBERT.

MOTION 5: THAT THE MRMTA DISCONTINUE ITS ROLE AS ADMINISTRATORS OF THE FUNDS RAISED BY MUSICTHON. MOVED BY LEANNE. SECONDED BY MICHELE. 4 IN FAVOUR. 1 ABSTAINED. CARRIED.

MOTION 6: THAT MRMTA HOLD \$4500 FOR TINY TUNES TO USE FOR THE YEAR OF 2022-2023. MOVED BY LEANNE. SECONDED BY ELEANOR. ALL IN FAVOUR. CARRIED.

MOTIONS PROPOSED – ACCEPTED BY E-VOTE June 7, 2021

MOTION 1: THAT ANN GERMANI BE APPOINTED TO FILL THE VACANCY OF MRMTA VICE-PRESIDENT. MOVED BY LEANNE HIEBERT. SECONDED BY MICHELE LECLERC. ALL IN FAVOUR. CARRIED.

MOTION 2: THAT RACHEL DUECK'S CONTRACT BE AMENDED TO READ: THE MRMTA AGREES TO PAY THE TAKE NOTE MAGAZINE EDITOR AN HONORARIUM OF \$500.00 PER ISSUE TO BE PAID AFTER THE COMPLETION OF EACH MAGAZINE. MOVED BY LEANNE HIEBERT. SECONDED BY LINDA DE PAUW. ALL IN FAVOUR. CARRIED.

MOTION 3: THAT BEGINNING IN 2022 THE CMW STUDENT COMPOSER COMPETITION AWARD AMOUNTS BE AS FOLLOWS:
PREPARATORY CATEGORY - \$50 (NO CHANGE)
CATEGORY "A" - \$75; CATEGORY "B" - \$100; CATEGORY "C" - \$175; CATEGORY "D" - \$250.
MOVED BY LEANNE HIEBERT. SECONDED BY MICHELE LECLERC. ALL IN FAVOUR. CARRIED.

MOTION 4: THAT GLORY ST. GERMAIN BE GRANTED RETIRED MEMBERSHIP STATUS IN THE MRMTA. MOVED BY LEANNE HIEBERT. SECONDED BY LINDA DE PAUW. ALL IN FAVOUR. CARRIED.

MOTION PROPOSED – ACCEPTED BY E-VOTE Aug 15, 2021

MOTION 1: TO ACCEPT NIKITA LABDON AS A FULL MEMBER OF THE MRMTA IN THE DISCIPLINE OF SINGING. MOVED BY ANN GERMANI. SECONDED BY GINA WEDEL. ALL IN FAVOUR. CARRIED.

MOTIONS PROPOSED – ACCEPTED Aug 18, 2021 AT EXECUTIVE MEETING

MOTION 1: TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED BUDGET. MOVED BY LORI. SECONDED BY LAURA. ALL IN FAVOUR. CARRIED.

MOTION 2: TO WITHDRAW CURRENT BY-LAW AMENDMENTS AT THE AGM PENDING A MORE DETAILED LOOK BY THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE. MOVED BY EVERETT. SECONDED BY ANN. ALL IN FAVOUR. CARRIED.

Communication Coordinator - Leanne Hiebert and Evangeline Keeley

As stated in the Nominations report, pleas for this position were published regularly this past year in *Take Note* and in our bi-weekly emails. However, it remained vacant and the work has been done by Evangeline Keeley with assistance from myself. No names have come forward for nomination at this time.

We have met regularly with publicist Vienna Badiuk from The Buzz Communications Group in Winnipeg to help promote the MRMTA. Vienna helps to communicate, set dates, and plan content for interviews with Classic 107fm, as well as put together promotional material to distribute online and in paper copy, and create ad-swaps with other arts organizations. With Vienna's guidance there is no end to what could be done by someone with passion for spreading the news about the MRMTA. i.e. - grant applications, posting on social media regularly, finding advertising opportunities, writing press releases, etc.

This year's interviews included:

- October – The “healing art” of music - Evangeline Keeley and Leanne Hiebert
- November—advertising CMW virtual concert- interview with CBC's Sunday morning radio show with Nadia Kidway- Melissa Gingrich and composition competition winners Alexa Pitz and Anna Schwartz
- January – Musichthon – Christina Hutton and Evangeline Keeley
- February – Performance Scholarship Competition winners - Norinne Danzinger Dueck with Micah Buenafe, Chiara Wilson, Thomas Kroeker, and Anna-Lucia Shevchenko
- March – Winnipeg Music Festival winners of MRMTA teachers, and MRMTA awards - Valdine Anderson and Leanne Hiebert with Sophie Caron, Estella Roberts, and Alice Nie
- April – One Hundred Years of Music Education in Manitoba – Dr. Muriel Smith
- June – CFMTA National Conference “Connecting Canada” – Evangeline Keeley
- August - The upcoming year with MRMTA – Ann Germani and Evangeline Keeley

This year's advertising to other arts organizations was severely curtailed. The groups we have been swapping ads with did not print programs during the 2020-21 season. However, all MRMTA members received a package in September 2020 which included a free print copy of *Take Note* featuring its new look, MRMTA business cards, promotional brochures, and posters to distribute when possible although this was difficult due to public health orders and restrictions.

Brandon/Westman Branch - Everett Hopfner

Our branch has worked hard to maintain a sense of camaraderie, support, and celebration through a challenging year of music education. The Covid-19 pandemic has been an opportunity to re-evaluate our operations: how we serve our members, how our events can meet students where they are, and how to present a welcoming and encouraging program to those new to our community.

We were pleased to welcome Robert Richardson, Jr. as a branch member in 2020. He offered valuable perspectives to a working group of members committed to expanding access to our events and discussions. We are very excited to have members Wing Chow, Donna Beaulieu and Heidi Peters joining our branch for 2021-22.

Canada Music Week events are a huge highlight for our branch every year, and 2020 was no exception. More than 30 student performers played Canadian works in a series of recitals hosted on Zoom. These streaming recitals allowed family members and supporters to tune in from around the world - including composers Julianne Warkentin, Sid Robinovitch and Ken Nichols. We received many enthusiastic messages from our audience, who were grateful for the opportunity to celebrate the dedication of these young performers.

On March 13, pianist Daniel Tselyakov presented a virtual masterclass available to all MRMTA members. Students appreciated his positive, constructive approach and enjoyed the opportunity to learn together. It was inspiring to invite participants from outside our branch, and we look forward to more opportunities to collaborate and share with our partners around the province.

Our AGM was held May 21, 2021. We invited teachers to share stories of their experiences in the past year, and were very glad to meet music teachers in the community who were interested in learning from our experiences. Ann Germani, longtime Branch president, was invited to join the Provincial Executive as Vice President. We are excited for her to bring her experience, positivity and professionalism to that board, and thank her for her tremendous leadership and inspiration. Ann generously agreed to remain on our branch executive as Past President - a new position. The 2021-22 branch executive consists of:

Past President: Ann Germani
President: Dianna Neufeld
Vice-President: Everett Hopfner
Treasurer: Lara Mason
Secretary: Maureen Baird
Registrar: Alison McNeill-Hordern
Young Artist Convener: Marla Winters
Program & Concert Convener: Alla Turbanova

Everett Hopfner has taken over branch representative duties on the provincial executive from Eleanor Epp. We are grateful for her years of service.

We are looking forward to an exciting mix of familiar and new events this year. After the success of last year's Canada Music Week event, we look to provide a similar experience in November with a focus on Manitoban composers. In addition to a winter festive recital and spring masterclass, branch members will have the opportunity to meet in monthly pedagogy discussions led by their peers, and join a book club. We appreciate the support and encouragement that we can lend one another in this time of isolation.

Our branch mourns the passing of Dr. Kenneth Nichols on August 6, 2021. A revered composer, pianist, and music educator who made Brandon his home for most of his professional career, Ken was a past president of our branch and impacted many young musicians' lives as a Professor of Music Theory at Brandon University. We will honour his memory at our Canada Music Week event this November, with immense gratitude for his inspiration.

Southern Branch – Wes Hamm

In many ways, 2020-2021 has been a year marked by frustration, anxiety and exhaustion. However, the silver lining has been significant for SMRMTA.

- We have all learned many new computer skills. We've often learned these skills from other teachers in the branch, so communication has been more frequent.
- Our branch has grown by four members this past year: two by transfer, and two newly registered teachers.
- Our branch has met (albeit by Zoom) more often than we have in recent years.
- We were able to partner with Douglas Kuhl School of Music, and three of the festivals in our region to present Cadenza Spring Music Festival, a two-week online festival that featured resource persons from Newfoundland, Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta and Michigan. There were over 100 entries, and the response has been very positive.
- We met with Derek Chiu, regional rep for RCM in April. Derek presented information on the Teacher Portal on the RCM website. There was also a Q & A time, with most questions related to exams. We met most recently on Aug. 26. We discussed our plans for fall in light of Covid-19 restrictions, renewed the terms of current executive members, recommitted to working together with music teachers in our communities who are not registered, and discussed possible workshop topics.

Performance Scholarships Competition – Norinne Danzinger-Dueck

Scholarships Competition was held virtually from January 25th to January 29th. Expenses were low this year due to the online format. Adjudicators were Edmund Dawe – Piano, Lara Secord-Haid – Vocal, Elation Pauls – Instrumental. We were privileged to have many talented performers in the various levels making adjudicating and choosing a winner difficult. The winners of each category are as follows:

Vocal

Junior: Chiara Wilson (Tracy Dahl)
Runner Up: none
Intermediate: Jayden Fraser (Stephen Haiko-Pena)
Runner up: Shae Carter (Monica Huisman)
Senior: Nada Hajin (Monica Huisman)
Runner up: Selene Sharpe (Tracy Dahl))
Advanced: None

Instrumental

Junior: Audrey Marche (Laurel Howard)
Runner up: Camilla Emmers (Lori Jede)
Intermediate: Bella-Sophia Rogers (Laurel Howard)
Runner up: Vivian Zhao (Lori Jede)
Senior: Thomas Kroeker (Natalie Dawe)
Runner up: none
Advanced: none

Piano

Junior: Micah Angeli Buenafe (Jacqueline Ryz)
Runner up: Megan Pang (Jane Petroni)
Intermediate: Andy (Yangyuce) Chen (Jacqueline Ryz)
Runner up: Vivian Liang (Karla Fillion)
Senior: Anna-Lucia Mena Shevchenko (Yaroslava Shevchenko)
Runner up: Eric Wang (Jane Petroni)
Advanced: Angela Suet Kee Ng (David Moroz)

Runner up: Seanne Buenafe (Jacqueline Ryz)

Number of participants:

Vocal: Junior – 1, Intermediate – 4, Senior – 7 (1 withdrawal), Advanced – none = 12

Instrumental: Junior – 7 (flute, cello, violin, viola), Intermediate – 3 (flute, violin), Senior – 1 (cello),
Advanced – none = 11

Piano: Junior – 14 (1 withdrawal), Intermediate – 12 (2 withdrawals), Senior – 14, Advanced – 7 (2
withdrawals) = 47

Total applications – 70. Total competitors - 64

Wes Keeley prepared the Gala concert by splicing the piece of the winner's choosing. This was
premiered to the membership and families on YouTube, March 7, 2021.

Angela Suet Kee Ng student of David Moroz represented Manitoba in the CFMTA National Piano
Competition.

Thank you to the following volunteers for their time during the scholarship: Tracy Sawatzky, Nancy
Nowosad, Andrea Bell, Laurel Howard, Margot Harding, and Jacqueline Ryz.

MRMTA Advanced Voice Competition – Linda De Pauw

Committee Members: Linda De Pauw, Leanne Hiebert, Evangeline Keeley

This Ad Hoc committee was formed in order to hold an Advanced Level Vocal Competition separate from
the Performance Scholarships Competition. The Provincial Executive wanted to offer this additional
opportunity to select a representative from Manitoba to compete at the CFMTA National Voice
Competition. Unfortunately, the National Voice Competition was not confirmed until after the November
2020 deadline for the MRMTA Performance Scholarships Competition applications.

The committee met and discussed eligibility and repertoire requirements, and put together a timeline for
the competition. This was a virtual competition, with video recordings sent to the adjudicator for
evaluation and a written adjudication.

This information was sent to all MRMTA voice teachers via email. Two students submitted applications to
compete. The adjudicator was Marcia Swanston, retired Professor of Voice from Fountain School of
Performing Arts, Dalhousie University.

Ashley Schneberger (student of Tracy Dahl) was named the winner of the MRMTA Advanced Vocal
Competition with an award of \$500. She was recommended to compete at the CFMTA National Voice
Competition. Kathleen Murphy (student of Mel Braun) was the runner up.

Ashley was subsequently awarded second place and \$3,000 in the CFMTA National Voice Competition in
July 2021. She also received the Diversity Prize of \$500.

Paper Scholarship Awards - Eleanor Lwiwski

There was a total of 22 applicants for 6 scholarships awarded this year. It was a bit disappointing that
there were no applicants for the Harry Reginald Rowlin Memorial String Award, and the Judith Ritchie
Memorial Music Scholarship. These are sizable awards.

Congratulations to the following students and their teachers.

Grace Rich-Bastin Keyboard Award

Alice Nie

Student of Jane Petroni

Madeleine Gauvin Scholarship

Yewon Chang

Student of Andrea Bell

Nita Eamer Memorial Scholarship Award

Angela Ng

Student of David Moroz

Grace Lu

Student of Jane Petroni

Dorothy Lothar Scholarship

Kendra Palles

Student of Jane Petroni

Grace Rich-Bastin Memorial Award

Benjamin Coles

Student of Lee Houghton Stewart

Marian Nelson Memorial Piano Pedagogy Award

Mary Barton

Student of Marianne Hofmann

While many of the scholarship funds are well established, there are some that would provide a more generous award if donations were made to the fund. Donations can be made directly to The Winnipeg Foundation where these funds are held on behalf of the MRMTA. Any amount is welcome. Please note that The Winnipeg Foundation provides receipts for \$10 or more.

Webmaster – Bernadette Geras

We are finally at a stage with the website where things should flow along smoothly. A recent change to having a Google Calendar instead of the Events calendar that we have been using will still take a while to switch over, but event coordinators will now have access to the details of their event and change things as needed.

Spammers are monitored daily and most of them have been permanently blocked. Email addresses are gradually being changed over to Javascript so that the email harvesters will not be able to hunt for the 'mailto' code in html.

Aside from the regular plugin updates and page building, the year has not been too eventful. Covid caused most events to move online and that meant less website edits.

In March 2021 I approached Wes Keeley to see if he would consider helping us to lower our SSL Certificate costs and help improve our Search Engine Optimization (SEO). After giving us a free audit, he came back with a lengthy report showing the things that we could be doing and quoting a very reasonable price. The Executive approved of the request and Wes has been working on these changes. The goal is so that any time a person wants to find a music teacher in Manitoba, our website should show up at the top of the list.

Here are some of the statistics for the website traffic in the past 365 days (as of August 31, 2021):

	2019	2020	2021
TOTAL (All Time)	11,202	26,644	42,903
Home	4,830	4,844	5,918
Select a Search and Find a Teacher	2,477	3,091	2,268
Scholarships	1,025	1,677	1,769
Musicthon	Not known	373	991
About Us	472	720	742
Membership	477	725	433
Calendar	334	549	331
Take Note Magazine	366	450	331
CMW Student Composer Competition	104	179	281
Winners of the MRMTA Performance Scholarship Competition	Not known	250	189
Piano			188
MRMTA Community Service Awards			176

As ever, we are continuing to make improvements and I hope that you are enjoying the site.

Young Artist Tour – Rachel Dueck

Due to COVID-19, the tour was cancelled in 2020. Although there was discussion of having a virtual event instead of the tour, we decided that playing the recorded performance would not fit the purpose of the YA tour program. In January 2022, we will have a new Young Artist to tour in Fall 2022. We could consider a collaboration tour between the 2020 winner and 2022 winner. This will need further discussion in the near future. Then, when we have more detailed plans, I will contact the CFMTA representative and ask her opinion on that.

After this year, it would be a good idea to prepare the next person who could be in the position. Also, we could consider and suggest alternating the duties with a Saskatchewan representative.

Young Artist Competition – no report

Archives – Muriel Smith

The archival material from 2020 was not submitted to the Archives of Manitoba due to COVID-19. I will continue to work on the accrual by adding the 2021 material and will submit when possible.

Members Programming Coordinator/Students Group Report - Michele Leclerc

This season 2020-2021 was special, as all our workshops and masterclasses were presented online, due to the COVID-19 situation. For each event, we had a plan A, in person, and a plan B, in a virtual format. We have learned to adapt and to move on! This new reality brought a new opportunity: to present a guest from anywhere. Our first clinician was from the Florida State University, College of Music, Diana Dumlavwalla, DMA. Diana presented a Zoom Workshop called “Adapting to online lessons: a virtual transformation”, on September 27, 2020. At the beginning of last year, this workshop was more than

welcome and Diana gave us lots of information, tips and tricks on how to teach our students with this new approach. A big Thank You to her for her great presentation! Nancy Nowosad wrote an informative article in *Take Note* Winter 2021 about this workshop, if you need more documentation.

Subsequently, we presented the Virtuosi Piano Masterclass on October 17th, 2020, featuring Thomas Sauer, international American pianist. Originally, this masterclass was planned to be in Spring 2020 when Thomas was in the middle of his tour, stopping in Winnipeg in April. Rescheduled in the Fall, due to the pandemic, Thomas presented his masterclass in a Zoom format from his studio in New York. Four students played for him: Anna-Lucia Shevchenko (Yaroslava Shevchenko), Angela Suet Kee Ng (David Moroz), Seanne Buenafe (Jacqueline Ryz), and Anica Warkentine (David Moroz). A beautiful moment! Thomas could really combine his expertise as an international performer and his experience as a teacher to offer an amazing masterclass. The feedback from our 4 students was very eloquent: they loved it and wanted more opportunities like this. So we are still working in partnership with Virtuosi Concerts to present another Virtuosi masterclass in Spring 2022.

Then came the beginning of 2021, still in the storm of the pandemic. We made the decision to present the U of M Masterclasses in a Zoom format: 5 simultaneous masterclasses featuring the professors from the Faculty of Music. In total 19 students played. The Piano class was conducted by David Moroz, the Voice class by Laura Loewen and Mel Braun, the Violin class by Oleg Pokhanovski, the Cello class by Minna Chung, and the Flute class by Laurel Ridd and Layla Roberts. We would like to thank all the profs and teachers from the Faculty for their dedication and generous contribution. A special Thank You to Dr. Ed Jurkowski, Dean of the Faculty of Music, who always supports this event. To make this possible, we had one MRMTA teacher in charge of each class: Linda De Pauw for Voice, Natalie Dawe for Cello, Tianhao Wang for Violin, Lori Jede for Flute, and myself for Piano. A sincere Thank You to all of you for your commitment! Finally, I would like to thank all the students who played and the teachers who prepared them with this word from Mel Braun that tells everything: "The students were all so well prepared and responsive, a joy to work with...All the best!" This event is coming back this season on January 23rd, 2022.

Finally, we presented one last Zoom workshop on April 18th, 2021: "Sing, Move and Play, the ORFF Way!" with ORFF specialist Amanda Ciavarelli, music teacher at elementary level schools in Winnipeg. This workshop was scheduled for April 2020, then cancelled due to COVID and rescheduled a year later. So, we were more than happy to present Amanda and her workshop on that Sunday! We sang with her, practicing the exercises that we could apply to our teaching, and it was fun! It's always good to try new ideas, to bring something fresh to our lessons, especially with the kids, and Amanda was the perfect clinician for this!

The Students Group (formerly called Pre-Diploma Group) had a great year, with the Virtuosi Masterclass being the highlight of this season for our student members. They are invited to all MRMTA Workshops and Masterclasses, but definitely the 2 masterclasses, Virtuosi and U of M, are their favourites. Membership for 2020-2021 was stable with 10 members. Virginia Heinrichs and Eleanor Lwiwski are still the 2 liaisons guiding the group. Christina Hutton is the Vice-President, Somer Kenny, the secretary, and myself, the President. The regular business meetings of the Group were cancelled this year, due to the pandemic, but we remained active, keeping the connections with the students through emails and presenting a regular season of 4 events.

Student Programming Coordinator – Laura Liu

The new project which is the MRMTA Community Service Awards has been in operation since 2019. In the academic year 2020-2021, there were eighteen recipients. All students have received a Bronze Certificate, and are encouraged to work toward a Silver Certificate.

The following suggestions are from Stephen Haiko-Pena:

1. MRMTA teachers are the contact point for awards; they should verify and submit completed applications.

2. To encourage long-term commitment to community service, the three levels of the MRMTA Community Service Awards must be awarded in succession. Volunteer hours for silver or gold only count moving forward from the date on the previous certificate.

Hopefully, the new project will keep growing in the next stage. Volunteering is the responsibility of every Canadian. This project will inspire and motivate more students using music to give back to the community. It is not only for improving their abilities in performing, but also for their social study.

Many thanks to Stephen, Leanne and Evangeline!

CMW Student Composer Competition -_Jane Duerksen

19 entries were received for the 2021 CMW Student Composer Competition. Numbers almost doubled this year from last.

Dr. Gordon Fitzell, Grammy-winning and Juno-nominated Composer, Publisher of Journal Articles, Artistic Director of Groundswell and University of Manitoba Music Professor, adjudicated. His written remarks were deemed encouraging and useful in guiding students' future activities as musicians and composers.

Winning compositions were once again sent for competition at the national level (CFMTA).

The following students were winners with the 2021 Competition. Again, keep your eyes open at the November Winnipeg Canada Music Week Concert for their performances. Congratulations to all entrants and their teachers who supported the competition.

2021 MRMTA CMW STUDENT COMPOSER COMPETITION WINNERS

CATEGORY "PREPARATORY" CLASS 1

WINNER: Mila Pitz

PRIZE: \$50.00

Entry: Dandelion Puffballs (piano solo)
Teacher: Leanne Hiebert

HONOURABLE MENTION: Sydney Richens

Entry: Fellowship (piano solo)
Teacher: Melissa Gingrich

CATEGORY "A" CLASS 1

WINNER: Thalia Zacharias

PRIZE: \$50.00

Entry: Serenade of the Gondolier (piano solo)
Teacher: Lori Jede

HONOURABLE MENTION: Alexa Pitz

Entry: The Cat on Catnip (piano solo)
Teacher: Leanne Hiebert

CATEGORY "A" CLASS 2

WINNER: Sarah Khalimov

PRIZE: \$50.00

Entry: The Fish Swims at Dawn (voice and piano)
Teacher: Melissa Gingrich

CATEGORY "B" CLASS 1

WINNER: Zoe Redekop

PRIZE: \$75.00

Entry: The Cheetah (piano solo)

Teacher: Everett Hopfner

HONOURABLE MENTION: Tessa Nachtigall

Entry: Inspire (piano solo)

Teacher: Lori Jede

CATEGORY "B" CLASS 2

HONOURABLE MENTION: Thatcher Coombs

Entry: Covid Blues (piano solo)

Teacher: Leanne Hiebert

CATEGORY "C"

WINNER: Tairan He

PRIZE: \$100.00

Entry: Autumn (piano solo)

Teacher: Everett Hopfner

HONOURABLE MENTION: Ella Gurr

Entry: A Waltz in the Storm (piano solo)

Teacher: Lara Mason

CATEGORY "D"

WINNER: Sierra Brooks

PRIZE: \$200.00

Entry: Summer Nostalgia (piano solo)

Teacher: Lori Jede

We just received word that one of our provincial winners was singled out in her category at the national CFMTA competition. **Mila Pitz (student of Leanne Hiebert)** received Honourable Mention in Category "Preparatory" Class 1. A big congratulations to Mila and Leanne.

It also gives us great pleasure to announce the new incoming CMW Student Composer Competition Provincial Coordinator, **Melissa Gingrich**.

Phone: 204-218-4907. Email: gingrich.melissa@ymail.com

Melissa will bring fresh energy and ideas to this position.

The deadline for the receipt of submissions to the CMW Student Composer Competition is APRIL 9, 2022. Please see the mrmta.org website for regulations and entry forms.

A big thank you to our webmaster, Bernadette Geras, for her beautiful work on the web, always tweaking details as needed and keeping our section up to date and attractive. And one more bouquet to Lori Jede, treasurer, for working with entrants and adjudicators in such an efficient and always expedient manner.

And finally, thanks to Evangeline Keeley, the Manitoba awards have **increased** in almost every category. See the competition regulations on our mrmta.org website for these increases.

Musicthon - Christina Hutton

Musicthon 2021 moved to a virtual format, adapting to Covid-19 related restrictions. It was a massive undertaking for all involved as everything was completed online: student registrations and permissions, donations (through Canada Helps, e-transfers and cheques) and uploaded video performances.

This year's event raised **\$9030.64**, well above last year's \$6098.23. **Since 1990 the total raised is now \$225,212.40.** Bravo to the teachers and students who worked especially hard to drive up the donations. The top two amounts were raised by the studios of Corey Francis (\$2,358) and Lori Jede (\$1,405). As a result of this year's generous donations *Tiny Tunes* inner city music programs will receive support for 2021-22 and 2022-23.

We are grateful for each of the **16 MRMTA teachers** who entered and prepared students for this event. These include Joanne Diplock, Corey Francis, Dr. Darryl Friesen, Annette Hay, Virginia Heinrichs, Leanne Hiebert, Marianne Hoffman, Christina Hutton, Lori Jede, Evangeline Keeley, Laura Liu, Nadia Orlov, Elizabeth Rotoff, Yaroslava Shevchenko, Gina Wedel, and Caron Whitlaw Hiebert.

There were **149 student performance videos** featured on MRMTA's YouTube channel. An additional **86 students** participated via private studio events or student's performance choice for a total of **235 participants**.

It takes many **volunteers and committee members** to make Musicthon a success. Thank you to Linda DePauw, Joanne Diplock, Corey Francis, Susan Goleski, Leanne Hiebert, Elizabeth Rotoff and Viktoriya Tuz. In addition, special thanks to Bernadette Geras, Lori Jede and Evangeline Keeley who put in countless extra hours to keep up with the ever-changing format and needs of this event.

The graphics created by *The Buzz Communications* team, the *Tiny Tunes* promotional video created by Wes Keeley and our interviews with *Classic 107* and *CBC Radio's Weekend Morning Show* presented our professional organization well on **social media** and most certainly informed and inspired the public regarding our fundraising drive. We are grateful for their expertise and support navigating the public face of this event.

The MRMTA Executive and Musicthon Committee are currently looking at options which will relieve them of the burden of financial accounting and disbursement of funds raised. Musicthon 2022 is scheduled for February 12-13 at Kildonan Place Shopping Centre.

Holtby Scholarships – Evangeline Keeley

Committee Members: Evangeline Keeley, Chair, Barbara Cornish, Joylynn Deeley, Linda De Pauw, Marlene Pauls Laucht, Tiffany Wilson

The Holtby Scholarship Committee met twice this year. The first meeting (November 26, 2020) was called to discuss a proposed change to the scholarship criteria put forward by an MRMTA member, specifically that students studying at the Licentiate level would be eligible to apply for a Holtby Scholarship.

After some discussion it was agreed that the criteria should be changed to allow students pursuing a Licentiate Diploma to apply for a Holtby Scholarship. The criteria wording was subsequently revised to reflect this decision.

The application process was entirely online this year. It was very convenient to share the applications and documentation with other committee members particularly since we could not meet in person due to Covid restrictions.

Two applications were received for Holtby Scholarships this year.

1. Grace Lu, piano Teacher: Jane Petroni
2. Jaden Tanner, piano Teacher: Leanne Hiebert

Members agreed at the May 6, 2021 meeting that both students were worthy recipients. They have since received their scholarships directly from The Winnipeg Foundation.

The 2019-2020 winners have all sent an update on the year's activities and studies which was printed in the Fall 2021 issue of *Take Note*. Those students are: Kathleen Murphy, voice (Teacher – Mel Braun); Kendra Palles, piano (Teacher – Jane Petroni); Evan Chan, piano (Teacher – Dr. Darryl Friesen).

Canada Music Week – Melissa Gingrich

Canada Music Week was celebrated entirely online this year. Having been involved in the past, I was asked if I might step in as coordinator when Lee Houghton-Stewart was not available.

Process: Through the MRMTA eNews, teachers were asked to encourage their students to record video performances of Canadian compositions or own compositions. Submissions required a Media Release Waiver. The submissions were assembled into a video recital released online Sunday, Nov. 22 which was released on MRMTA's Facebook, YouTube and website.

To round out our offerings, I invited our 2020 Student Composition Competition winners to submit video and background on their compositions, and I invited 2 Manitoba celebrity composers to do Zoom interviews with me. Sid Robinovitch and Matthew Schellenberg were very generous with their interviews. The full interviews were made available on Canada Music Week. Interview excerpts were worked into the Canada Music Week recital as well to make sure students were able to catch a glimpse.

Initially, the recital was to be unlisted and made available only by sharing with MRMTA teachers and participants. But as the excitement for the project built, we decided to release our media publicly on YouTube and Facebook, and our website.

8 Students submitted performance videos (all pianists): Arina Kovyazina, Delilah Prefontaine, Shayla & Noa Dupuis, Tyler & Zak Skakum, Anna-Lucia Mena Shevchenko, Seanne Buenafe.

2 Student Composition Winners shared their winning compositions: Alexa Pitz & Anna Schwartz, Alexa, Anna, and I were interviewed the morning of the Recital on CBC Radio by Nadia Kidwai!

Reflections: While the task was rather intense (a first run of any production is!), the actual participation was low. There could be many reasons for this. Regardless, I think we did a polished job of presenting what we had!

I think it was wise to make our offerings available publicly or else viewership would be low too.

Followup "thank-yous" were done with the participants to encourage them. Unlike at an in-person recital, it's entirely possible that their experience with this event ended after their parent stopped recording their performance at home. I hoped to have as much positive impact as possible on the students.

Thank you to: Leanne Hiebert and Evangeline Keeley for their support on the project.

Jane Duerksen for assistance with reaching out to student and professional composers.
Wes Keeley for assembling and posting the Recital online.
Thank you to teachers and students for their participation.

Take Note Magazine Editor – Rachel Dueck

We introduced a new look for *Take Note* from Vol. 18 Issue 1 (Fall – September 2020), and just published Vol. 19 Issue 1 (Fall – September 2021). Up to now a total of four magazines were published under the new format of covers and layouts. The magazine is created in two versions – one for printing and the other for the website. Currently, we have about eight to nine advertisement clients and we continue to work at the ad swapping process with other arts organizations.

Since the magazine is produced locally, there are some benefits:

- Communication between the editor and the local printer.
- Communication between the editor and article contributors
- Efficiency of following up and troubleshooting when some issues occur.

Moving forward, we would like to encourage members' participation and contributions in the areas of:

- Volunteering for proofreading and distributions (mailing)
- Providing pedagogical articles or reviews (books, CDs or performances)
- Maybe some Advertising (community music events, programs, and etc.)
- Submitting some good instrumental pictures or pictures that can represent MRMTA for the cover page.

When the Fall (September) 2020 issue was published, the magazine received good reviews. After distributing the Fall 2020 issue to all members, five additional subscription orders were made for the Winter 2020 and Spring 2021 Issues.

Event/Social Coordinator – Rachel Dueck

Due to COVID-19, it was not the best year to plan and organize events. Since there were already many other events happening virtually, it was felt that having more virtual social events could be a little too much to add on.

For the upcoming year, we will still be cautious to plan any in-person social events or gatherings. Depending on the situation, we can discuss having some social events either online or in-person.

Professional Development Award – Tiffany Wilson

This year, unfortunately there were no applications for this award despite advertising for it in *Take Note* and in the E-Newsletter.

It should be noted that the CFMTA is planning another online mini-conference this coming summer, 2022. It would be wonderful to award this prize to a deserving applicant.

Serata: An Evening of Musical Delights – Tiffany Wilson

Last fall, due to the continuing rules of the COVID pandemic and the inability to host in-person concerts, the 2021 concert and award ceremony was cancelled.

It has been decided that an in-person event will happen this coming year on Sunday May 1st. The time will remain at 7pm with the location still TBA.

Performers and helpers will all earn their volunteer hours at this event. To register, contact the chairperson at tiffanywilson@hotmail.com.