

REPORTS

AGM March 17, 2014

President's Report

Submitted by Beth Olver

During my year as president, the ARMTA Calgary Branch executive committee has made several initiatives

- We recommended that members with a minimum of 5 years of teaching experience set a lesson fee of at least \$60 per hour. We feel that every teacher should be charging a fee that enables a single person to earn a reasonable living from their teaching. We believe that families value what they pay for.
- The minutes of our meetings are now available on our website (www.ARMTA-calgary.com). They are no longer published in Impromptu freeing newsletter space for more professional articles.
- At student events (master classes, recitals) families are asked to contribute towards expenses with a suggested \$10 donation per family.
- At our October general meeting we celebrated 20 years with CASSA (Calgary Arts Summer School). CASS was begun by ARMTA member Linda Kundert-Stoll and friends with seed money from Calgary branch. We continue to support the summer school which offers professional development in the form of adult camps and pedagogy days.
- We supported the professional development offering of Alberta Piano Teachers Association (the APTA conference) with a gift of \$100. It is my hope that we will continue to support the professional development opportunities presented by fellow professional music education organizations.
- We worked with Alicia Romero and the Piano Pedagogy Group (PPG) to develop a grant plan to encourage professional development and membership in ARMTA
- The Canadian Federation of Music Teacher Associations (CFMTA) encourages branches to hold public events during February. Although we did not meet the requirements (paperwork) for receiving the grant from CFMTA, our branch had 3 recitals and a master class during February.

Thank you to departing conveners: Mila Brandman (workshops and master classes), Looi Tan (liaison with other music education groups in Calgary), Priscialla King (long-time treasurer and a past president), Lynne Dale (publicity)

Thank you to all the conveners and officers who are continuing to serve: Barb Robertson, Karen King, LaDona Ahenda, Tanya Foster, Lisa Ng, Josee Robitaille, Amy Essenburg, Karen Gloge, Katrina Thompson-Fost, Marilyn Newbury, Natalie Brodsky, Ron Proctor, Alicia Romero, Melodie Archer

Welcome to Nathene Arthur, Sharon Carne, Madeline Hubbard, Dorothea Johanson, Zoe Ko, Maury Michi.

Past President Report
Submitted by Rita Thurn

This past year we have been assessing the job descriptions and upgrading information from present conveners. This information has been forwarded to our Webmaster Tanya Foster.

A great contingent of ARMTA Members attended the CFMTA Conference in Halifax in July 2013. It was wonderful to see our group in action! Rhona-Mae Arca received the Roland Award (Technology Teacher of the year) for 2013.

I assisted preparations for the Honours Recital, which was held at Riverside United Church on January 27, 2013, in acquiring an accompanist for participants of the Recital. I organized a specific time for refreshments which was made available to the technicians of Shaw Cable. This also included the organization of the Reception that followed this event. Congratulations to Marilyn Newbury for involving Shaw Cable again for the second televised Honours Recital which was scheduled during the last week of February.

I was able to have John Reid of CMC as our Speaker at the AGM for March 2013. More teachers are now aware of what CMC does and provides for us as musicians. It is our aim in the future to work hand in hand with CMC & NATS to promote future events within the Calgary music scene.

The Nominating Committee is happy to welcome the following new members to our executive:

Barbara Robertson, President

Nathene Arthur, 1st Vice President

Karen King, 2nd Vice President

Sharon Carne, Treasurer

Dorothea Johanson, Liaison Convener

Lisa Ng, Newsletter Editor

Ron Proctor, North Calgary Student Recitals; Maury Michie, South Student Recitals

Alicia Romero is returning as Mentor for PPG. Gillian Siddall is President.

We are pleased to announce the following individuals who have become ARMTA members in the past year: Anne Scott, Carol Cowie, Gideon Choi, Elizabeth Scriggns, Madeline Hubbard, Brent Tucker, Janet Porter-Chaudhry and Marc Houde.

Thanks to all those who have served this year! This organization could not exist without such dedicated volunteers.

First Vice-President Report
Submitted by Marilyn Newbury

In addition to attending ARMTA-Calgary Executive and General meetings, my primary area of involvement was the Honours Recital Convenor. In my role as the Honours Recital Chair, I chaired the Honours Recital Committee meetings and worked together with the committee members to organize all aspects of the event. The application was expanded to include entries for both the Honours Recital and the Outstanding Student Recital. I also acted as the off-site producer for the SHAW TV taping of the Honours Recital, which will air ten times between February 15th and June 30th, 2014.

Secretary's Report
Submitted by LaDona Ahenda

In my capacity as secretary I have taken and distributed minutes of the 3 levels of meetings, photocopied minutes and agendas for meetings, and collected and filed correspondence.

Additionally, on behalf of the ARMTA executive, I send Thank-You cards to those who have served ARMTA Calgary Branch in a number of areas, as well as cards to those who are ill or grieving.

Special thanks to outgoing president Beth Olver for the patience, understanding, competence, and wisdom she has shown over the last year. It has been a pleasure working with her.

Treasurer's Report
Submitted by Priscilla King

I would like to thank Sharon Carne for taking over the treasurer job. It's been a pleasure to serve ARMTA Calgary and I appreciate the patience, understanding and support that the members of the Executive have given me in the past years. Many thanks also to Denise & Madeline for patiently going through the financials in detail every year.

My best wishes to you all.

See also Financial Statements.

Annual Report for Calgary Branch Administrator/Web Maintenance
Submitted by Tanya Foster

- This past year ARMTA – Calgary branch welcomed 9 new members. As of February 28th, we had 173 members. Of those, 1 is honorary and 2 are retired.

- I have not received any renewal forms as of yet from Vicki Martin (provincial administrator) so it remains to be seen what our membership will be like in the coming year. As in the past I imagine there will be a handful of members who neglect to renew and will need to be contacted.
- We streamlined our renewal process even more this year. Reducing paperwork down to one extra form for Calgary members (Authorizations and Permissions). Our other form (Honouring a Member) was published in Impromptu instead.
- I was only contacted by one member this year with issues regarding renewal in comparison with several last year. I'm taking this as a good sign that members are becoming more confident with their online profiles and the new renewal process.
- We have continued to send Impromptu electronically (via email) to members requesting and also added a few advertisers to that list with help from Josée.
- I have requested from provincial a small change for member's profiles. When wanting to update an address online, members can only change their street address, city etc. I would like to add a box for 'Neighborhood', since that is how teachers are divided on the public website. This would eliminate a member's need to contact me and request the change.
- Continue to update Executive Branch list as necessary.
- Updating regularly 'Upcoming Events' and Calendar of Events
- Uploading or deleting forms and minutes as necessary.
- Thank-you to convenors that have been patient with me this year when I've been delayed in responding or managing the website(s)

ARMTA INTERNAL COMMUNICATION REPORT

Submitted by Barbara Robertson

Approximately 130 members receive, on average, at least one e-mail a week from me. This communication keeps them informed of ARMTA meetings, recitals, workshops, master classes, deadlines, and ARMTA Calgary member information, as well as information about instruments for sale, requests for teachers, accompanists, and performers, scholarships, CD releases, etc. I have sent out information on behalf of the following organizations: ARMTA provincial, CFMTA, AMEF, CASSA, Contemporary Showcase, C3, Honens, NATS, Ambrose University, Mount Royal University, Canada New Music Forum, Cowtown Opera, etc.

I have become a link to our members and try to respond to and/or forward their queries.

I update my contact information about once a month from the ARMTA web site. If your e-mail changes, you need to change this information on your own profile. If you do not get my e-mails, and would like to receive them, please contact me. I do not know that the e-mails do not get to you if you do not let me know.

Members without an e-mail address are phoned prior to ARMTA Calgary meetings. I thank Judith Elliot and the phoners: Carol Moore, Blanche Coreman, Ethel Huber and Barb Tetzlaff.

Impromptu Editor's Report 2013

Submitted by Lisa Ng

As new editor to *Impromptu* since September 2013, my immediate mission was to have a complete makeover of the newsletter. Starting from scratch, I redesigned the logo, restructured the newsletter and revised the content. My goal was to develop a newsletter that would be more than just a publication of reports and announcements, but a platform for the teachers to share innovative ideas and interesting stories. I envisioned the newsletter as a medium for projecting the professional image of ARMTA.

After the publication of three issues, I have received many positive feedbacks. No doubt, there are rooms for improvement, but thanks to those who have contributed articles to the newsletter, our content has been enriched. *Impromptu* now includes areas of professional development, innovative teaching ideas and interesting stories.

Since September, *Impromptu* has also been delivered either online or via Canada Post, according to the preference indicated by the members. Although a majority of members has chosen to receive a web copy, as editor, I also worked hard to ensure that a black and white print version, comparable in quality to the web version, is delivered to the remaining portion of our members. Some technical issues are still to be resolved, but the effect has been improving in every issue.

My vision for *Impromptu* is to make it become an excellent source of news dissemination within our organization, a unifying communicative tool for teachers and a dynamic professional newsletter that will help us reach out to other professionals in the music industries in Calgary.

Advertising Coordinator's Report March 17, 2014

Submitted by Amy Essenburg

Impromptu had 7 advertisers at the beginning of the April 2012 to March 2013 year, down 4 from the previous year. The lost advertisers included several long-standing organizations that have now closed, including Rideau Music and Steinway Pianos of Calgary. All previous advertisers were asked if they were interested in advertising in the *Impromptu*, as well as several new organizations including Harmony Music School and RPM Piano Moving. By January 2014 Rocky Mountain College asked that their ad be suspended due to changes in their music program. Kenginston Sinfonia included an advertisement in the January edition. The total list of organization that advertised in the Calgary *Impromptu* for the 2013 to 2014 year include:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Kensington Sinfonia | 5. Music Makers |
| 2. Long & McQuade | 6. Precision Piano Movers |
| 3. Mount Royal University | 7. Rocky Mountain College |
| 4. Music for Young Children | 8. Yamaha |

Publicist Report
Submitted by Lynne Dale

I had twelve ARMTA signs made. For future reference, these were done at Digital Post. I brought in the information on a memory stick to get the signs done. They only took about four days. I had two of the signs put into a metal frame. Also for future reference, the frame was a lot more expensive than the signs. I also bought – at Michael’s – another 4 much cheaper frames to put our signs in.

We had advertising presence at two symphonies – one in September and the sing-along Messiah in December.

For the future:

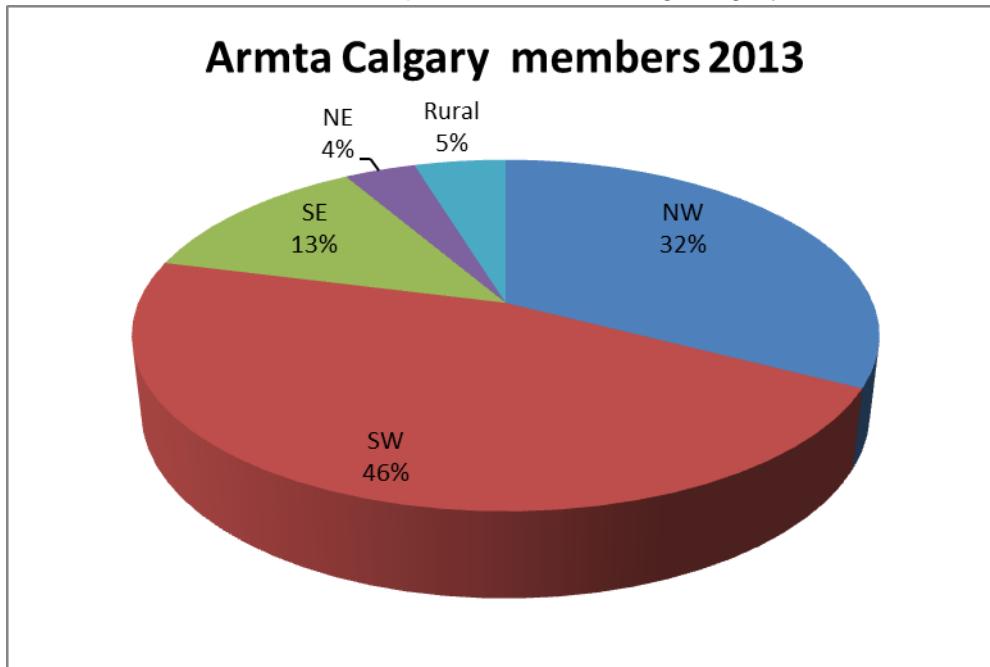
- 1) I would suggest that you keep track of who has the large signs.
- 2) Beth and I tentatively agreed NOT to have more brochures made, given that the Internet seems to have made brochures less necessary. You may wish to discuss.
- 3) We may need business cards, however, for people (e.g., at the Symphony) to take with them. If you decide to make business cards, I would have them done in the same colours as the signs.
- 4) I would say that the two symphonies were worthwhile. Perhaps you could add a symphony in May.
- 5) I thought that the Honours Concert was very efficiently run.
- 6) If you do not have contacts at the symphony, I would be pleased to do that for you. It is a very comfortable environment for me since I have been a CPO volunteer for about 10 years.
- 7) I decided not to join ARMTA this year. I may join again next year. If you need manpower for anything, just let me know.
- 8) The main reason that I am withdrawing from the position of Publicist is that I think the job needs a technical hand and I do not see myself with the skills required.

New Members Convener
Submitted by Josée Robitaille

As of January 2014, there were a total of 195 members (22 are inactive).
There are a total of **173 active members**.

Compare to March 2013 - there were a total of 184 members (25 inactive).
There were a total of **159 active members**.

Two more members are in the process of becoming Calgary members.



Archives Report

Submitted by Karen Gloge

Over the past year, I have collected items for archives including agendas and minutes of meetings, executive reports, Impromptus, recital programs and any other documents pertinent to the history of ARMTA Calgary Branch.

Joint Recital Initiative

Submitted by Katrina Thompson Fost

No applications were received for this program in the last year. It's been advertised in Impromptu, and on the website. Some interest has been generated amongst members this year. Teachers have emailed me to ask for a recital partner, and I forward names to others when I can. However, I would encourage teachers to also contact members in their area on their own.

Honours Recital Report for 2013-14

Submitted by Marilyn Newbury

83 applications were received. The whole application package was available on our website (www.ARMTA-Calgary.com). This was announced in Impromptu. For 2013-14, I will recommend the whole package still be published in Impromptu as well.

35 students received scholarships ranging from \$40 - \$125. \$2255 came from ARMTA (the Endowment fund). In addition, \$350 was given on behalf of Eileen & Elgar Higgen Scholarship, Peter Turner Memorial Scholarship, and Piano Diploma Association Scholarship.

16 donations (\$1270 – includes the 3 special scholarships, plus music) towards scholarships were received: 10 from ARMTA members, 3 from Calgary businesses (Music Makers, VA Hill Fine Strings, St. John's Music). The funds received from the Calgary Foundation (interest on our investment) are in addition to these donations. Fundraising from the community grows more difficult each year. Over 50 letters were sent to music businesses in Calgary, and over 20 follow-up phone calls were made. It may be wise to review our practices for awarding scholarship money with a view to our branch's ability and willingness to subsidize the scholarships.

32 of the students performed at the recital on January 27 at River Park Church 3818 14A St SW. The performances were very strong and audience pleasing.

12 teachers were represented.

Marilyn Newbury arranged for Shaw Cable to record the recital. This required chasing down publishers for permission for Shaw to broadcast the individual performances. There was an additional cost to us for Shaw's set up time in the venue. It is hoped that the broadcasts will raise the profile of music study and of ARMTA within our community.

Silver collection bowl was set out with a note that donations over \$20 would be receipted. The response was low. Suggest doing more to "charge" each family \$5.

Thank you to committee members and volunteers: Marilyn Newbury, Rob Whitworth, Rita Thurn, Ethel Huber, Lai See Cheng, Joan Bell, Melodie Archer, Barb Robertson, Christine Ernst, Elaine Case

Revenue:\$1330

\$1270 donations (separate page)

? Calgary Foundation

\$60 silver collection

**Outstanding Students Recital
Submitted by Natalie Brodsky**

On February 2, 2014, ARMTA once again honoured Calgary students for their outstanding achievements. The recital was held at St. Peter's Anglican Church and featured 19 students.

In all, 11 ARTMTA teachers were represented. The submissions were primarily pianists, and 3 vocalists. All the performers were presented with a Certificate of Achievement on behalf of ARMTA Calgary and were treated to a reception following the recital, compliments of the teachers who submitted students for the recitals. Thank you to everyone for your contributions.

I would like to extend a special THANK YOU to Beth Olver, Barbara Robertson and Josée Robitaille for their invaluable assistance with recital and refreshment table and to Esther Bing for her expertise and time in arranging the programme.

ARMTA Calgary North Student Recitals
Submitted by Ron Proctor

The North Student Recitals continue to be well-attended, with 24 performers in November '13, and 29 performers this past February. The range of ages and grades is diverse, and provides for interesting programs.

We have a very good working relationship with St. David's United Church, and it is a wonderful venue for our young performers. The fees collected have exceeded our costs (\$ 150.00 per date). Our last recital of this teaching year will be held in May.

South Recital Convenor Report
Submitted by Karen King

There have been two South recitals organized this year. Our first was held Sunday, February 2nd at Steinway Pianos of Calgary. There were a total of 16 students who performed in a program around 40 minutes long. There was a nice emphasis on Canadian composers. Thank you to the 7 teachers who submitted students to this recital.

The next recital is scheduled for May 11th at Steinway Pianos, however due to their recent move the address will need to be confirmed and changed on the registration form. Please look for these future updates.

The February recital brought in \$120.00 in door admissions. Approximately the same amount is expected for the May recital. Receipts for food and drinks were submitted to the Treasurer and reimbursed. Total revenue from the February recital was around \$106.00.

I suggest that we send a thank-you gift and card to Brent at Steinway for allowing us use of the space at no charge.

New this year has been the ability for emailing recital registration forms. If you log into the "Members Only" section of the ARMTA Calgary website, go to "Documents", and download the South Student Recital Form, there are fillable text boxes to enter all student information. Then, save this file to your computer and send as an email attachment to karenashleyking@gmail.com.

This was my first year in the role of South Recital Convenor after having transferred my membership from Saskatoon Branch. I have enjoyed the opportunity to serve our organization in this capacity.

PPG Report 2013-2014

Submitted by Alicia Romero

This has been a year of new topics of study for the group. Twelve members out of 18 attend meetings regularly.

The topics the group has explored this season so far are as follows:

Teaching styles presented by Alicia Romero; Panel on examination boards presented by Joan Ritchie, LaDona Ahenda, Robyn Cabrera and moderated by Alicia Romero; Distance Education and music instruction presented by Alicia Romero; Jazz for the classically trained musician presented by Kay Alexander; The business side of piano instruction presented by Alicia Romero; PPG Festival.

For the months of April and May work will be devoted to completing a music studio business plan as well as a presentation via web conferencing with Paul Sheftel.

In June the group will take time to reflect on the experiences of this season and agree on their topics of study for the 2014-2015 season.

Liaison Convener's Report

Submitted by Looi Tan

Armta exchanged advertising with Kensington Sinfonia. The dimensions for the ad is: 4.5"w x 3.625" h in high res jpeg or pdf. Contact person: Jenn. Email: kensingtonsinfonia@gmail.com

C3 - Connected with Manon Mitchell, ex- President of Calgary Civic Symphony. New president is Byron Beswick. Email: Byron.Beswick@ca.ey.com. www.calgarycivicsymphony.ca. We cross-promoted in our newsletter and calendar of events.

ARMTA Provincial Report

Submitted by Barbara Robertson and Melodie Archer

The provincial ARMTA Board Meeting, (including Budget), was held February 8, 2014, in Red Deer. Our new administrator is Vicki Martin.

The fax line will be cancelled. Policies and procedures have been updated. Please check the web site for updates. ARMTA Provincial is looking into expediting improvements to our web site.

The ARMTA application form has been revised. Please see the web site for updated forms.

Renewal forms will be revised so that it will be more efficient at the provincial and branch level to give permission for publication of names, phone, e-mail, and pictures on the web site.

Renewal cheques will be deposited ASAP in the future. A motion has been forwarded to CFMTA that CFMTA be given permission to contact members, via e-mail, directly, so that we can receive important information in a timely manner.

There are funds in the ARMTA recognition fund that local branches can access for scholarships. New awards will be established for those who have been members for 50 years. Teachers are encouraged to prepare their students for the 2015 Provincial, and then National competitions. Prizes are very generous, and there are often very few participants. Repertoire should be at the ARCT level or higher.

Teachers are encouraged to attend MCA (Music Conference Alberta) Oct. 24-25 at the Westin Hotel in Edmonton. Ben Heppner will be the headliner.

ARMTA Provincial is looking for a new editor for TEMPO.