

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

South Fraser Branch of BC Registered Music Teachers' Association

**Wednesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018**

Northwood United Church, 10am

### Attendees:

Helga Murray	Yvette Rowledge	Maureen Hollins
Kevin Thompson	Berva Warkentin	Paulette Nielsen
Leslie Chen	Catherine Bundt	Carmen Roberts
Sylvia Leigh	Christy Kuettel	Colleen Branson
Calla Strain	Jennifer Condie	Léa Tsui
Esther Neufeld	Sandra Starek	Kamela Vinjau

**Welcome:** New member: Susan Green – piano (Langley) (absent)

**Minutes** of the September 19<sup>th</sup> meeting are posted on our website.

*Moved by Leslie Chen, seconded by Catherine Bundt to adopt the minutes as circulated.*

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Total General Account: \$26,974.72

Total Festival Account: \$6,231.18

### **Committee Reports**

#### **1. Website Report:** Kevin Thompson

I hear from time to time of members who have not received branch notices. Please make sure that you have [bcrmtasouthfraser@gmail.com](mailto:bcrmtasouthfraser@gmail.com) in your address book as I think the reason some notices do not get delivered is the email client views this a spam.

I have had several requests from teachers to use the mailing list to advertise their courses. These are declined as the mailing list is for branch events and things of interest to our members. We have always avoided letting the list be used for business advertising.

I have a suggestion that could use some discussion. What if we set up two notices, say August and September, as an ad notice event. Teachers could submit ads and they would all be put together into one list and sent out in one email. This list could also be kept on the website for the public to check out. Thoughts?

## **2. Junior Festival:** Christy Kuettel

The Junior Festival will be held February 25 – March 2<sup>nd</sup>. We have Jean Brown and Bernie Duerksen coming as our adjudicators. The registration deadline is December 3<sup>rd</sup>. There is no limit on class entries, but they must all be different categories! Preliminary students still only enter 1 piece.

## **3. Senior Festival:** Leslie Chen & Maureen Hollins

The Senior Festival will be held March 4<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>. Our adjudicators will be Miranda Wong and Michael Noble. The deadline is December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please remember to read the revised Syllabus! There is no limit on class entries. Students need to have entered 2 solos to be eligible for solo scholarships. For ensembles awarded Gold, the student does not need to have entered solo pieces in order to perform at the Recital and be eligible for Ensemble scholarships.

Jennifer Condie, Leslie, and Maureen visited Marlene and her husband, Brad, to ask about fundraising. He's used to fundraising millions of dollars. We're looking for \$5000.

One way is Tapestry and Tom Lee, where they get something in return. The other way is straight-up benefactor/patron, where you get nothing in return. We'd like to do both, but we don't have any of the second.

Brad advised us to start with understanding why this group is important. Is there any excitement about being in a collegial teacher group? Enthusiasm? I'd like you to come to the January meeting and brainstorm.

We would like to fundraise for the Senior Festival because we need money to keep bringing in out-of-town adjudicators.

Also, another reason is publicity – getting the word out there about this festival.

Is there enthusiasm for this festival? If so, why? Why do you have people enter the festival? Blank white paper to brainstorm with, in January.

Next piece: he advised us to find stories, where (the festival) we've supported a young person to go on and do something great.

What's something we did that was great that was to promote somebody (our students)?

Here is one story:

7 years ago, in 2011, we had our Canada Music Week Recital. Carter Johnson had just been BCRMTA rep for CMFTA in 2011. He came second in the Nationals. Now, Carter (from McGill's Schulich School of Music) recently won the Grand Prize in the OSM (Orchestre Symphonique de Montreal) Manulife Competition for 2018, coming away with a \$10,000 Manulife scholarship, multiple concert engagements scheduled, and a performance with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra for January 16, 2019.

South Fraser has a piece of the future.

If you would be willing to write down stories from students, Jen and I would be happy to receive them.

#### **4. Strings Festival:** Rick Dorfer, read by Helga Murray

Erika, Heilwig, Erin and I had a meeting last month discussing the 2019 String Festival. We have confirmed dates of February 17-18, 2019 and Friday, Feb 22 for the Gala Concert. We have a confirmed adjudicator with Lucy Shaw. She was our original adjudicator last year and had to withdraw because of her husband's health. A miracle happened and her husband recovered. We are happy to have her for this year's festival. I've attached a projected budget.

We are asking for branch approval to go ahead. Following that, I will contact all of our string teachers and have the entry form updated.

#### **5. Professional Development:** Catherine Bundt

We are having the Bergmanns Duet/Duo Workshop on Monday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, from 10am to noon. They will also be giving some repertoire suggestions for duets/duos. The deadline to register is January 10<sup>th</sup>. It will be held at the Tom Lee in Langley. There is room for 40 people. The cost is \$20 per person. We are encouraging teachers to also participate as duet/duo partners. There is no restrictions on grades, although ideally more intermediate and senior level.

The Tara Gaertner workshop was cancelled because not enough people registered. Reasons why people were interested but did not make it:

- Lots of teachers were away on that particular day.
- It was a hectic time of the year.
- It was on a Sunday, which is "family day" for young families.

The interest was there, so we should give it another go. Maybe we'll try to give teachers lots of notice and see if that would help the attendance.

#### **6. Sept 2018 BC Piano Competition: Kevin Thompson**

This event was a great success and felt by all to have run smoothly. Thanks to all the branch members who make this work so well. Many of us were surprised by the judge's decisions. Our rep, Emma Hoglund played very well, but did not receive any recognition. Her playing certainly stood out. However, a few weeks later, she was awarded the RCM national gold medal for her ARCT performance exam. Go figure!

We did make a profit and I will be sending to Dianne Szarapka an eTransfer for \$1,900 which will help with our festival costs this year.

#### **Business:**

##### **1. Canada Music Week: Maureen Hollins**

Canada Music Week recital is this Saturday at 7pm! There will be a big celebration cake and cookies! Come support our students!

##### **2. January Elections: Helga Murray**

We will be having the elections for the executive positions at our January meeting. It's been 2 years. Susan Olsen will be present to preside over that, as Past-President. All the current executive are willing to stay on in their positions. Kevin will be stepping down as Director from the Board. He's been of service for many years and his presence will be missed! We are looking for 1 or 2 people to join the Board.

The job of the Director is to advise, give your opinion and ideas. (It's pretty relaxed.) It would be a gentle way of starting to be more involved. This is a good opportunity to get more young blood involved. Let us know if you have a name to put forward. The time commitment would be 1 – 2 hours Wednesday morning before the Wednesday of the branch meeting. This is also good experience for getting ready to be provincial rep. Directors are volunteer.

The only elections are for the executive positions.

### **3. Pedagogy Discussion:** Esther Neufeld

(Esther Neufeld gave us a quick overview of the Pedagogy program, as well as insights from having compared the two ways of getting the certificate.)

### **2. Announcement:** Helga Murray

There will be a house concert at my home on Saturday, Dec. 8, hosted by Bing and Eric. Doors open at 7pm, and the concert starts at 7:30pm. The artist is Lukas Mikolajczyk, who was the first to receive the Krystian Zimmerman award for young artist in 2014. In 2015, he advanced to the second round of the International Fryderyk Chopin Piano Competition in Warsaw, Poland. In 2017, he won the Vancouver International Music Competition.

It is \$25 per person for the concert. There will be a reception afterwards too. All the money goes directly to the artist.

He will be performing Beethoven Op.111, a couple Brahms Intermezzi, and a few Chopin Etudes.

*Kevin Thompson moved to adjourn the meeting.*

Adjournment

Our next meeting will be January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019.