



## NEWSLETTER - November 2015

Dear Members of CMFAA,

Our Executive met on June 15, 2015, and I want to inform you of several decisions we made, on your behalf.

### 1. New Initiatives

#### a. Adjudicator Fees

The Executive is concerned about the challenges that Adjudicators have:

- in maintaining their professional standards
- the loss of regular pay while away adjudicating
- schedules of teaching being changed/cancelled
- travel days to and from a Festival
- the expense of comparable expertise in other areas
- no increase in fees for several years (I believe seven or eight years!)

Consequently, the following motion was presented:

*That adjudicator's fees be increased from \$300.00 per day, to \$400.00 per day effective the beginning of the music festival season in 2017. (We would have liked this to be for 2016, but since budgets are already fixed for 2016, this gives FCMF a year's notice.) Further, that a working day may consist of 1, 2, or 3 sessions, and that there [would] be no partial payment days, to allow adjudicators to be compensated for travel time. Finally, the CMFAA is not changing the existing guideline that states that adjudicators would be given no more than 5 sessions in a row, without a break. Moved by Mel Hurst, seconded unanimously.*

#### b. Duet Capital of Canada !

The CMFAA is initiating the Duet Challenge, with an annual Award of **\$500.00**. The executive believes that Duet playing is highly desirable, and therefore is starting the "Duet Challenge". The "Duet Prize" will be awarded starting in 2016 to the Music Festival with the highest percentage of *piano duet entries* relative to the total number of *piano solo entries* in that Festival. The prize will be \$500.00 per year, to be presented to the winning Festival, which will then be able to offer it as a Scholarship in the following festival season. Each Festival can submit their numbers to the CMFAA through our website after the festival season in 2016. There will be a special webpage available on our website regarding this.

## 2. **Membership** (A note from Dr. Gregory Butler, CMFAA – Vice-President, Membership)

CMFAA has received many applications since July 2015 due in no small way to our exciting new website and the very efficient reference form and immediate response. Sixteen applications have been received and we have welcomed four new members to our organization. Thank you referees for your quick responses to our request for recommendations. Your contributions are integral to the CMFAA process and we at CMFAA are most grateful for the thoughtful consideration you provide.

From the receipt of applications, prospective members are very involved in doing their best to assure that CMFAA receives recommendations from referees in a timely fashion. Presently, this process is working very efficiently and, as Vice-President, Membership, I thank all involved from those who created our new website to those completing that final reference.

Members are reminded to keep their bios updated. We now have an “80” word limit, (previously “70”) so if you need to re-visit your bio, now is the time! We are trying to tighten up the Directory contents, giving it a ‘crisper’ look and to be more succinct.

**New! Please show only the Festivals adjudicated in the last five years, then group the others, under “Previous”.**

### **Example:**

2015 Sarnia, Newmarket, Bellville

2014 London, Parry Sound

2013 Pembroke

2012 Barrie, Newmarket

2011 Halifax

Previous: Cornwall, Chatham, Parry Sound, Manitoba Provincials, Saskatoon, Ontario Provincials

## 3. **Awards** (A Note from Dr. Ireneus Zuk, CMFAA Treasurer)

Congratulations to **the AJA Trio (Alexander Chernata, clarinet; Julie Lin, violin; Andrea Pedro, piano)** from British Columbia, who placed First in the Chamber Music category at the Nationals and received the **\$1,500.00 Prize sponsored by the CMFAA**. This Prize was awarded at the closing night Gala of the National Music Festival in the Winspear Centre, Edmonton, on August 15, 2015. Their picture is on our web-site.

This First Place Award in the Chamber Music category will be offered again by CMFAA at the National Music Festival next year in 2016.

We are also pleased to announce that in 2016 the CMFAA is offering a **\$500.00** award to **each** province to subsidize the travel costs of young musicians going to Nationals.

The motion reads:

*The CMFAA realizes the critical importance of scholarships for each province so that students are able to attend the National Festival. For 2016 the amount of **\$500.00** will be available to each of the provinces. The CMFAA is doing this as a way to promote the national ideals of the CMFAA by assisting young candidates to travel to the National Festival, and at the same time help promote our national membership. Any province not using the monies toward student travel to the National Festival may use their portion towards another scholarship of their choosing, using the name CMFAA. Moved by Mel Hurst, seconded by Ireneus Zuk.*

*Note: The Provinces do not apply for this money. \$10,000.00 is sent automatically to the National Office, to be distributed to each Provincial Festival. This will be done in the Spring of 2016, so the Provincial office can count on it for their budgeting purposes.*

Our members are reminded that the new Fiscal year is the Calendar Year, January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>! The annual membership dues for 2016 are due **between January 1st and February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016.**

#### **4. Website** (A note from Greg Caisley, Secretary)

Our new website has received a good deal of positive attention. Members and Festivals alike can check on the Guidelines for assistance in their planning and negotiating of contracts. Since it is always being updated, members may want to refer to it on a regular basis.

We are moving into Phase Two of the Website. The two new changes/additions that should be noted are:

**The Duet Challenge** - The Application Form for the Duet prize will show up on the website by January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. Festivals will not be completing it and submitting it until their entries come in in the Spring time.

**On-line Payment of Dues** - In order to streamline the payment of Membership Dues, we anticipate making this option available on-line, again by January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. Needless to say, if this option is not working, by then, everyone can continue to use our traditional 'snail mail'!

#### **5. FCMF in Edmonton, August 12 – 15, 2015**

Also, I had the privilege of attending the National Music Festival in Edmonton, Alberta in August. While there, I spoke at the Annual General Meeting of FCMF giving them updated information about our organization and engaged in dialogue with Festival representatives from across Canada.

It was truly exciting to see and hear the youth of our country performing at such a high level of artistry. It speaks [well for] volumes about our teachers and their commitment to the Arts in Canada. CMFAA commends the FCMF for the outstanding on-going work which makes the National Festival such a great success [that it is]. We have much to be proud of across the country.

I wish all of our membership a wonderful season of music ahead, and days of delight as you adjudicate Festivals, large and small, across our country. Your professional presence is valued.

Best regards,



Mel Hurst, President

CMFAA