



NEWSLETTER - October 2016

Dear Members of CMFAA:

Our Executive met on Monday, May 30, 2016. I am pleased to inform you that our organization is growing and evolving! We are doing things in new and different ways. There were a number of decisions made on your behalf at the Executive Meeting that I (and other members of the Executive) want to share with you. Note: Some of the details in this Newsletter are reminders of recent changes...you may have read them before, but this is a way of keeping everyone informed.

1. Membership (Names supplied by Dr. Gregory Butler, Vice-President, Membership)

Our membership now totals 211 Adjudicators from across Canada! Approximately 70 of these are new Adjudicators who have joined the roster over the past five years! They come with excellent academic qualifications and truly superb recommendations from at least three different Festivals. We use a standard Evaluation Form to create a level playing field for all applicants.

Here are the names of our newest members. We welcome them to CMFAA and wish them many years of assisting young musicians at Festivals large and small, across our country.

It has been a rewarding year for CMFAA in the number of applications and new members. The Online Reference Form has been a terrific addition to our process and with a few minor exceptions, has worked flawlessly. My thanks to all referees who make this work so meaningful and contribute significantly with their candid references to the standard of our organization. There were over twenty-five applications in 2015 - 2016 with the following confirmed new members.

Please welcome and support our new members:

Ms. Caron Allen, Chamber Music/Concert Band/Woodwinds/Strings/String Orchestra, 963 Vanier Drive, Mississauga, ON L5H 3T8, caronallen@rogers.com.

Dr. Bianca Baciu, Piano, 505 Carse Lane, Edmonton, AB, T6R 2L7, baciub@macewan.ca.

Ms. Elaine Choi, Piano/Choral/Strings/Church Music, 17 Letchworth Crescent, Toronto, ON, 3M 1Y7, elaine.choi@mail.utoronto.ca.

Ms. Liz Craig, Piano, 1401-111 Raglan Avenue, Toronto, ON, M6C 2K9, lizcraig17@gmail.com.

Mr. Alan Crane, Piano, 472 44th Avenue East, Vancouver, BC, V5W 1W3, westcoastchambermusic@hotmail.com.

Dr. Caron Daley, Choral, 446 44th Street, Unit 1, Pittsburgh, PA 15201, carondaley@gmail.com.

Ms. Cheryl Duvall, Piano, 5 Millbrook Crescent, Toronto, ON, M4K 1H2, cheryl_duvall@hotmail.com.

Dr. Corey Hamm, Piano/Chamber Music/Composition/Organ, 1132 Haro Street, #502, Vancouver, BC, V6E 1C9, corey.hamm@ubc.ca.

Mr. John Kraus, Chamber Music/Concert Band/Band/Woodwinds/Wind Ensemble/Percussion, 30 Facendi Drive, Peterborough, ON K9J 6V1, jkraus30@gmail.com.

Mr. Mark Ramsay, Piano/Choral, 504-115 Richmond Street East, Toronto, ON, M5C 3H6, bmr8010@gmail.com.

Mrs. Lynette Sawatsky, Piano, 1 Souris Court, Saskatoon, SK S7K 1C1, jlsawatsky@gmail.com.

Dr. Laurel Swinden, Chamber Music/Concert Band/ Woodwinds/ Wind Ensemble/ Brass, 233 Main Street, Cambridge, ON, N1R 1X2, lswinden@gmail.com.

Dr. Shosana Telner, Piano, 180 Codsell Avenue, Toronto, ON, M3H 3W7, shoshana4@hotmail.com.

Dr. Christine Tithecott, Piano, 206-460 Wellington Street, London, ON, N6A 3P8, christinetithecott@gmail.com.

Ms. Michèle Wheatley-Brown, Piano, 423 8 Street SW, High River, AB, T1V 1B9, michele@mindbodymusic.ca.

Mr. Graham Yates, Piano, 16306 Kendons Way Lane, Cypress, TX 77429, graham.yates@gmail.com.

Note: 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. Please use the "Member Contact Update Form" (http://cmfaa.ca/?page_id=85) to make your updates.

2. Code of Conduct

The Executive felt it is time to update the Member's code of conduct to deal with the growing importance of social media, consequently the following has been added to the Code of Conduct:

Adjudicators should never use social media to discuss music festivals or any performer/ performance. Furthermore, they should not post pictures of any students involved in festivals.

A guideline regarding the sanctioning of adjudicators failing to maintain professional standards at all times:

Adjudicators must be professional in all dealings with music festival committees. In addition, they need an excellent ability to communicate in the spoken language of the festival. Membership should never use profanity in their adjudications.

Reminder: *By applying and being a member of the CMFAA, you agree to uphold the code of ethics of the organization, or risk sanctions.*

3. Awards

Congratulations to **Saudade Trio (Eric Auerbach, violin; Minja McKenna, viola; Jerry Crane, 'cello)** from Alberta, who placed First in the Chamber Music category at the Nationals, winning our CMFAA Prize of **\$1,500.00**. This prize was awarded at the closing Gala on August 13, 2016. Their picture is on our website!

The CMFAA strongly supports the National Music Festival.

- The CMFAA gave a total of **\$7,000.00** to the National Festival this year, held in Edmonton, Alberta. Next year the National Festival is in Ottawa, as part of the 150th celebrations for our country. Again, in 2017 CMFAA will give a total of **\$7,000.00** to the National Festival.
- For 2017 we will continue to offer the First Prize in the Chamber Music category in the amount of **\$1,500.00**.
- For 2017 we will continue to offer the Provincial Award of \$500.00 to assist travel of competitors to Nationals, for a total of **\$5,000.00**.
- For 2017 we will continue to offer the Piano Duet Prize of **\$500.00**.

Note: We are looking at procedures to possibly change the allocation of the \$5,000.00 for the 2018 Festival.

4. Website (from Dr. Greg Caisley, Secretary)

Our website has received considerable recognition for being user-friendly and attractive, since its inception in 2014. *Be sure to refer to Adjudicator Guidelines for current information. I recommend that both festivals and adjudicators alike check on the Guidelines for assistance in planning and negotiating of contracts.*

The website is constantly being improved. Since January of 2014 when it was unveiled, it has undergone significant development.

- Phase I Building the new site, adding multimedia, editing existing material, and reworking the core of the website – the membership directory, making it searchable and easier to update.
- Phase II Adding the ability to apply for Membership on-line and retain the same level of confidentiality.
- Phase III Adding the ability to pay our dues on-line, using PayPal.
- Phase IV New this year .. our members can now include the link to their own website as part of the 80 word profile they have in the Directory.
- Phase V The Executive would like to use the website to build on the historical significance of the CMFAA. For example, many of our members have studied with nationally recognized teachers, or are themselves, critically important to the history of music education in Canada. Some have long educational histories, or have had special experiences in various music festivals.

For many of these people, there is very little online documentation available, because their careers (and sometimes lives) predate the internet. So, we need your assistance to make this happen. We are looking for pictures (and possible shorter, small file sized video clips) that help document the teachers, adjudicators, and even important locations for music festivals of national importance. We are planning a web page as part of our website dedicated to this important history.

Where appropriate, all music materials must have permission (in writing) before we can put them on the website. The Executive reserves the right to edit/ not use/ any materials that are submitted, and if you have questions, please email me at the address below.

*Finally, the Executive encourages all members to update their biographies on the website each year. Please try to keep your entries relatively short (i.e. 80 words) and note that new this year, you can **add your own link to your own website** in your CMFAA biography - thus making all of your online materials available with the click of a link within our site.*

If you have any questions about these new initiatives, or any other questions or feature requests about the website, please email me directly gregcaisley@me.com.

5. Duet Capital of Canada!

This initiative has sparked much interest across the country! There were 22 entries this past Spring from Festivals everywhere, large and small! The \$500.00 Prize went to the Norfolk Musical Arts Festival in Simcoe, Ontario, Emma Depner, Administrator.

The winner and runners-up are:

1st Place	Norfolk Musical Arts Festival, Simcoe, ON, 16.9%
2nd Place	Lakehead Festival, Thunder Bay, ON, 15.1%
3rd Place	100 Mile Festival of the Arts, BC, 13.3%
4th Place	Central Saskatchewan Festival, Davidson, SK, 12.2%
5th Place (tie)	Prince George, BC, 11%
5th Place (tie)	Pembroke, ON, 11%

There is a page on our website with the specific details for 2017, showing the deadline for the submission of Entries.

*Note from the Minutes: The Executive believes that Duet playing is highly desirable, and therefore the executive is starting the "Duet Challenge" Festival Scholarship. 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 per year to be presented to the winning festival, which will then be able to offer a Scholarship the following festival season. Each festival can submit their numbers to the CMFAA through our website after the festival season in 2016. The executive has made a special webpage available on our website regarding this.*

6. Financial Statement (from Ireneus Zuk, Treasurer)

The CMFAA finds itself in a solid financial position at the outset of this 2016-17 season. Through prudent expenditure policies and careful management, the Executive is able to act on a number of initiatives in support of the Festival movement, and the National Music Festival in particular.

In the current year, the Association continued to fund the First Prize in the Chamber Music category, which it has now done for several years. Because of a healthy balance, the Executive decided that it would make a donation of \$ 5,000.00 to assist travel of the competitors to Nationals.

Also new, this year, was the Duet Challenge – an initiative to determine which festival has the highest proportion of duet participants in its annual classes. The 2016 winner, Norfolk Musical Arts Festival, received \$500.00 to be used for scholarship purposes in next year's edition of the festival.

I believe that all members will agree that the Annual Dues have been put to good use. In addition to maintaining the excellent new website and providing music festivals with contact and other information about CMFAA members, our prizes and travel bursaries constitute a significant contribution to the festival movement. We may not be able to match the current year's contribution in every year, but we will continue to do our best to cooperate with the National Music Festival and the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals.

The following is a brief (interim) Financial statement:

Financial Overview – October 2016

Balance May 2015	\$24,995
Income	\$11,898
Expenses	\$17,108 (Web design & maintenance, travel, accommodation)
Donations and Prizes	\$ 7,000 (National Festival, Scholarships)
Current balance	\$12,785

7. Police Check for Adjudicators (from John Hansen, Past-President)

Police Records Check Update. Some members have contacted the Executive regarding the issue of requests by festival committees for contractual requirements to undergo a police check. Your Executive considered this issue in 2014. A decision was reached based on a number of factors.

GVEN THAT adjudicators are never in a one-to-one situation with student participants, and
GIVEN THAT all interactions between adjudicators and participants occur in a public setting, and
GIVEN THAT all festivals include a statement in their programs to the effect that no student, teacher, or parent is allowed to approach the adjudicator,
BE IT MOVED THAT the policy of the CMFAA is that a vulnerable sector police check is **not** required of members of the CMFAA in fulfilling their duties as music festival adjudicators.

Additionally, the Executive sought input from the police and learned that police departments are virtually swamped by requests for vulnerable sector checks and that many such time and resource consuming checks are found to be unnecessary. Your Executive concluded that adequate safeguards are already in place and in the resolution stated above, and dated October 20, 2014 indicates our position. This policy was forwarded to all members of the association and to members of the Canadian Music Festivals Association in 2014.

We recognize that regulations and cost vary somewhat from province to province. There are individual Festivals that may ask for this, and the Adjudicator can handle it on an individual basis. Since the Festival is asking for it, perhaps they are prepared to pay for it.

When this issue was brought forward at the AGM of the FCMF this past August, it was not a widespread concern or issue. Nevertheless, there were a few festivals that required the police check.

8. Adjudication Fees

The executive is concerned about the challenges that adjudicators have in maintaining their professional standards, as well as with the loss of regular pay, schedules of teaching being changed/cancelled, travel days to and from a festival, not to mention the expense of comparable expertise in other areas, with no increase for several years, (seven or eight years) the following motion was passed:

Motion:

*That adjudicator's fees be increased from \$300 per day to \$400 per day effective the beginning of **the music festival season in 2017**. Further, that a working day might 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.*

This motion was presented at the AGM of the Canadian Federation of Music Festivals in 2015, allowing Festivals a year of lead time, as they prepare their budgets a year in advance. Note: **The new rate is in effect in 2017.**

9. In Conclusion

It was inspiring to attend the National Music Festival in Edmonton again this past August. To see and hear our young people from across Canada performing at such a high level of artistry was pure joy! And seeing them interact with each other, who also care deeply about their instrument, was seeing young Canadians at their best. This all speaks well for our teachers and their commitment to the Arts in Canada.

It was a privilege to speak at the AGM of the Federation of Canadian Music Festivals. I was able to speak to Festival Administrators from across Canada and give them current information about our organization.

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

Best regards,



Melvin James Hurst, President