



## NSRMTA President's Report

June 22, 2019

Dear NSRMTA Members,

This has been a very busy year for our association, and I am proud to say, a very successful one! Congratulations to all of you and your chapters!

My report will be a recap and follow-up of the recent newsletter from April.

Currently we have 87 members and five active branches, Halifax, Dartmouth, The Valley, Cape Breton and Yarmouth. I would also like to welcome six new members, one being an international member, to our association. They are Bugra Gültek (piano), Garth MacPhee (organ), Sibylle Marquardt (flute), Jennifer Publicover (flute), Elizabeth Sircom (cello) and Megan Thibeault (piano).

The new **CFMTA E-Festival** was a great success with many participants and helpful adjudicators taking part. Dr. Lorna Wanzel, chair, and coordinator Terri-Lynn McNichol were fearless in their leadership and dedication. The festival featured Canadian composers exclusively. Entries were open from January 1 to February 15, 2019 inclusive. There were 53 entrants performing pieces by Canadian composers only. There were 19 different teachers enter 53 students from 7 different provinces. Entries were received from: Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Ontario, Prince Edward Island and Yukon. There was 1 violin entrant, 13 voice entries and 39 piano entries across all levels and stages of learning. The CFMTA/FCAPM E-Festival adjudicators awarded Gold, Silver, and Bronze Seals to the performers.

As many of you know, the **CFMTA Conference is being hosted by MRMTA in Winnipeg, Manitoba July 3-6**. Lorna Wanzel and I will be your attending delegates and plan to glean as much as we can, so we can share it with you! There will not only be a **National Piano Competition** but also a **National Voice Competition**. Our two competitors are pianist **Andrew Son**, student of Peter Allen and soprano **Natalie Mitchell**, student of Jennifer Farrell. In preparing for this wonderful event, some members of the NSRMTA Council formed a Fundraising Concert committee. This concert took place on **May 12 (Mother's Day treat!) 3:00-4:30 at the Maritime Conservatory of the Performing Arts (MCPA)** in Halifax. The money generated from this event helped offset the cost of airfare, accommodation and meals for our two competitors. Performers who volunteered their time and talent for this wonderful initiative were: Peter Allen, Simon Docking, Jennifer Farrell, Jennifer King, Catherine Little, Paula Rockwell, Andrew Son, Ifan Williams/Bonnie Romkey and Heather Pineo Regan. Door prizes, of which there were two baskets full of treats from local Valley artisans and CD's from your members, were awarded to our own, Michal King and longtime music supporter and concert goer, Joan Cunningham.

The **Composition Competition** was very well represented with 54 entries. The results can be found on our website. A huge thank you again to Skippy Mardon, coordinator, for her hard work and thank you to all the teachers who registered students in this year's competition. The **Scholarship Competition** was hosted by the Valley Chapter on **Saturday, May 25** at Kings Edgehill School's Fountain's Hall, Windsor. I was unable to attend due to another commitment, but I believe it was very successful. Marilyn Manzer,

Valley Chapter President, spent time writing up a report for the next chapter to refer to when hosting the competition. We will add that to our Policies and Procedures in the near future for reference.

The **Teacher of the Year Award** was very exciting with almost a unanimous response to this year's recipient. I am pleased to announce that Tietje Zonneveld is this year's winner of the prestigious award.

The NSRMTA Council continues to meet three times a year on the lovely Acadia University Campus and if there is anything you would like to suggest for our discussions, please contact your chapter representative.

I want to also thank the Dartmouth Chapter for hosting this year's **Convention and AGM**. The workshops, comradery and music making inspire us and create new pathways and ideas so we can move forward to another year of teaching and music making.

Thank you all for your hard work in providing excellent teaching and leadership in Nova Scotia this year. I will look forward to seeing you continue with your dedication and involvement in your local chapters and the NSRMTA. We would not be who we are without YOU!

Sincerely,

*Paula Rockwell*

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NSRMTA President