

**ORMTA Ottawa Region Branch Minutes
September 23rd, 2024**

Regrets: Daisy Li, Robert Dvorkin,

Attending via Zoom: Victor Avila, Sabrina Tang, Amélie Langlois, Debra Grass, Elaine Keillor, Joel Daze, Sabrina Tang, Patricia Wang.

In person: Olivia Ridell, Maria Lobo, Susan Blyth-Schofield, Abigail Sanchez Rojas, Carol Ann Wood,

Nothing to Report:

The following portfolios had nothing to report:

Reports:

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 9:40 by Olivia Ridell, and she welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Carmen Papalia owner of Ottawa Pianos was here to offer support the ORMTA Association.

2. Review of the Minutes: Joel presented a Motion to review the AGM minutes at our general meeting, seconded by Ann Babin.

3. Executive Reports:

President: Victor Avila –

I am pleased and honored to serve in this position for the next two years. I look forward to collaborating with the council and the community.

The executive met on July 17th to finalize the annual budget. Over the summer, I responded to various emails and calls regarding the new portfolios. Our first council meeting was held on September 16th.

Past President: Olivia Riddell- NTR

Very grateful to be here and we happy to have a full council.

First Vice-President: Robert Dvorkin - NTR

Second Vice-President: Joel Daze – NTR

Treasurer: Susan Blyth-Schofield

Treasurer's Report: Council Meeting Fall GM- 23 September 2024

In keeping with my practice of 2023-24, I will be reporting on our assets to the last day of the month prior the meeting. As of 31 August 2024, we hold assets of \$85,11.47 broken down as follows:

BMO Account: \$10,184.72 as of 31 August 2024.

IG Investments: \$74,930.75 as of 30 June 2024 (last statement from IG Investments).

PayPal Account: \$0.00 as of 31 August 2024.

A deposit cheque for \$50 was sent to Resurrection Luther Church in early July and has been cashed. The balance of \$100 will be paid the day of. A cheque for \$250 has been sent to Bethany Baptist Church to pay for the venue for the CMW recital. We have received a cheque from ORMTA for \$5,014.85 for the Branch portion of the Membership Fees (not to be confused with the Branch Levy that we did not charge this year). All three of these items will be reflected in next month's report.

On 7 August members of your executive met to draw up the budget you have in front of you. I'd like to go through it line by line so that everyone is comfortable with our decisions and then I will ask for a vote on it.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Blyth-Schofield

ORB Treasurer

Move a motion by Susan that the budget for 2024-2025 be accepted as presented. Janie Smith seconded. All in favor.

Move to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded by Joan Clarkson. All in favour in person and online. The report was carried.

Secretary/Notes Reporter: Daisy Li – NTR

Zone Reps: Gloria Jean Nagy and Susan Blyth-Schofield

Zone Rep Report: Fall GM, 23 September 2024

The summary of the minutes of the July 16th Provincial Council meeting was sent to the membership on the 26th of August.

The next Provincial Council meeting will be held on October 26th. If you have any questions or concerns that you would like Gloria Jean or me to put forward, please email one or the other of us by October 5th. You can send anything for Zone Rep to me at s.blyth-schofield@ormta.org.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Blyth-Schofield

We had a little break from the reports, and we have a special presentation by Jane Arrowsmith's new book. She wrote this book for the uneducated parent on what to expect when your child is preparing for an RCM exam. From level 1- 8. \$29 per book. General book you can find it on her website, amazon and Long \$ McQuade.

4. Assistant Treasurer: Debra Miller-Cushon - NTR

5. Canada Music Week Recital: Maria Lobo

CANADA MUSIC WEEK 2024 - ORMTA ORB Report
(Mon.) September 23rd, 2024

Recital:

Date & Time: (Sat.) November 23, 2024: 2.30 pm

Venue: Bethany Baptist Church, 382. Centrepointe Drive

Applications:

Application Deadline: (Sat.) October 26, 2024

Application to be emailed to orbcanadamusicweek@ormta.org

Auditions:

Date & Time: (Sun.) November 10, 2024: 1.30 – 4 pm

Venue: Ottawa Pianos, 1412. Bank St.

Website:

The Poster, Application form, Video Waiver form, and Media Waiver form were sent to Sabrina Tang on Sep. 14, 2024.

Facebook:

The Poster was sent to Abigail Sanchez on Sep. 14, 2024.

I am happy to resume this portfolio for ORMTA – ORB...and am truly grateful to belong to a council with so many helpful members, who have supported me wholeheartedly last year, and who, I sincerely hope, will be there for me again this year, should I run into problems along the way!

Bethany Baptist Church has a very nice Yamaha C2 5'8" Grand Piano, which we enjoyed last year. Their lovely sanctuary had been booked for 3 hours again this year, but for a slightly higher rate of \$250.00...and with a specific condition that we will not be able to move the piano from its position in the sanctuary. Last year, we had centred the piano in the sanctuary. I went to check the position of the piano, a few days ago, and it was off centre, and a bit to the left. I sent photos of this to our President, Victor Avila, who gave me the OK to go ahead and book everything.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Lobo

Canada Music Week Recital Coordinator
ORMTA – Ottawa Region Branch

6. Competitions: Susan Blyth-Schofield

Competitions Report: Fall General Meeting, 23rd September 2024

Congratulations to our Zone winners and their teachers. They did very well at the Provincial Competitions.

Joyce Qui (Piano), student of Heather Norian, represented us for the 8/9 Provincial Instrumental Competitions and took 2nd place,

Sophie Letcher (Mezzo-soprano) with Ioulia Brechun (Collaborative Pianist), student of Carol Ann Wood, represented us for 8/9 Provincial Vocal Competition and was awarded the German Lieder Prize,

Muyang Li (Piano), student of Dr. Chunson Park represented us for 10/Associate Provincial Instrumental Competition and took 1st place,

Jane Hayes (Soprano) with Ioulia Brechun (Collaborative Pianist), student of Carol Ann Wood, represented us for 10/Associate Vocal Competition and took 1st place, and

Adam Zheng (Piano), student of Dr. Chunson Park, represented us for The Provincial Young artist Competition and took 1st place. Adam will be doing the Young Artist Tour and Gloria Jean and Elaine will have more to tell you about that.

We have a yet unconfirmed booking at the University of Ottawa for the weekend of 3-4 May 2025. I will be in touch with Hali in October to see if I can confirm yet. This is normal and we often don't get confirmation until January or February.

About our dates. I don't see that there is really an option for when we hold our Competitions, but I would like to mention that any university students who are not from here but are studying with one of us as their principal teacher find it hard to stay after term to compete. I know that I am in the minority here, but I can't be alone.

Once the Province has approved and posted its 2025 rules and regulations, I will update ours and send them to Sabrina for posting on our website. Probably early-to-mid November. Provincial Competitions is my portfolio so I will try to get it done as quickly as possible.

I would like to ask Council for its recommendations for adjudicators. Please email me at orbcompetitions@ormta.org.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Blyth-Schofield

Competitions Convenor

7. First Class Honours Recital: Maria Lobo

FIRST CLASS HONOURS RECITAL 2025 - ORMTA ORB Report

(Mon.) September 23rd, 2024

Recital:

Date: (Sat.) Feb. 1, 2025

Time: *TBD*..but the venue has been “tentatively” booked from 3 – 6 pm. Venue: Bethany Baptist Church, 382. Centrepointe Drive

Applications:

Application Deadline: (Sat.) Jan. 4, 2025

Auditions:

Date & Time: (Sun.) Jan. 19, 2025...*TBD*

Venue: Ottawa Pianos, 1412. Bank St....*yet to be booked.*

Website:

Once all the information has been confirmed, I will send it to Sabrina Tang for the website.

Facebook:

Likewise, once all the information has been confirmed, I will send the Poster to Abigail Sanchez for the Facebook page.

Our President, Victor Avila, has been very helpful so far, with communicating about the First-Class Honours Recital (*his former portfolio of a couple of years?!*) Thanks, Victor. There are still several items that I have to learn about, in order to coordinate this event properly. Please stay tuned.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Lobo

Canada Music Week Recital Coordinator

ORMTA – Ottawa Region Branch

8. First Class Honours Scholarships: Patricia Wang

For First Class Honours Scholarships: the deadline for applications is December 15th, 2024.

9. iFunding: Amélie Langlois

I am happy to be back with the funding portfolio. An email was sent out as of Sept. 15th, 2024, to last year's donors inviting them to support ORMTA for this coming year.

10. Junior Piano Master Class: Debra Grass

Junior Adventurers Piano Masterclass

Theme: “Try Something New”

With Elaine Keillor and Steve Boudreau
Saturday, February 8th, 2025, 3:00 p.m.

Application Deadline: January 12th, 2025
Location: Loeb Building, Carleton University
For students 13 and under, any level

This year, we encourage teachers and their younger students to participate in a masterclass that will focus on trying something new. Explore a new composer, new genre, style, or perhaps a new skill like playing from a lead sheet, including improvisation, or tackling a duet with a new friend. Traditional sonatinas and minuets are very welcome, along with jazz, movie, Broadway, etc., any type of piano performance that teachers and their younger students would like to prepare.

The atmosphere will be casual. Parents and teachers are welcome. Non-participating, teachers are encouraged to audit.

Interested? Have questions or suggestions? Don't hesitate to contact Debra Grass debra.e.grass@gmail.com

11. Public Relations and Social Media: Abigail Sanchez Rojas

For Social media:

- I have received information regarding Canada Music Week and Piano Junior Masterclasses. I will post that this week. I will also post about the competition's winners and the increase on the first honours scholarships.

12. Social Convenor: Carol Ann Wood

FALL ORB ORMTA MEETING

Thanks to those who have contributed to this meeting:

- Ann Babin for opening the church this morning and organizing the room set-up.
- Abigail Sanchez Rojas for designing a meeting poster for our ORMTA Facebook page.
- Sabrina Tang for sending out an E-blast re meeting today.
- Randle Wilson for Executive Council nametags.
- Susan for submitting payment for our Venue.
- Volunteers who contributed to the buffet table and who helped with the set-up.

NEXT ORMTA EVENT CELEBRATION OF EDITH ORTON'S 100TH

- A birthday card for Edith is being circulated for your personal greeting.
- Presently working in conjunction with LJMC Executive and several ORMTA members, to put together a 100 Birthday Celebration for ORMTA.
- Need to establish a date for event to take place at Red Oakes Retirement Home.
- Plan to present a short concert in Honour of Edith which would include a few performances from LJMC performers, a junior music club to which Edith is the Patron and a staunch supporter of the Club for many years.
- In addition to a few young performers, we are also planning on an Online or In-Person birthday greeting from past LJMC Alumni, Angela Hewitt and/or the Cheng Duo.

- Please contact me at orbsocialconvenor@ormta.org if you have any suggestions or comments.

JANUARY 2025 AND MAY/JUNE 2025

- January 2025 Meeting to be held Online because of inconsistent Winter weather.
- May/June 2025 AGM is to be discussed at future Executive Meetings. If you have any suggestions or comments, please add them to the spreadsheet or contact me at orbsocialconvenor@ormta.org

In past years, the spring in-person AGM consisted of a morning meeting, followed by a catered sit-down lunch at the Cedarview Golf and Country Club. As part of this meeting, the Special Teacher's Award was presented and the biennial passing of the gavel to the next President took place. So, the format of the Spring AGM in a West-end venue, is under discussion; and options are: an-person Meeting & Lunch; a Breakfast meeting like our meeting today; or simply Online?

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Wood

13. University Master Classes: Victor Avila –

The usual masterclasses at uOttawa will be held this year. The times and dates will depend on the university's schedule, and I will post them as soon as they are confirmed.

14. Young Artist: Elaine Keillor - NTR

Contacted Roland and Gloria Jean about the Young Artist

15. Website and Email: Sabrina Tang- NTR

Tab on the website on what's happening in other partners and Associations, this will be sent to Victor Avila and Sabrina.

16. Ex-Officio Reports:

Archives: Ann Babin

ORMTA Archives September 2024

This is my last report from the ORMTA Archives chair. I started in the position in 2012, after Anna Gault announced she would be moving from Ottawa. As the new Past President, I thought it would be a good project for me to take over. It has been an amazing 12 years collecting, reading, and sifting through ORMTA material in preparation for deposit. We have a very rich history and are in debt to the many teachers who over the years have contributed and continue to contribute to the group's success. We stand on their shoulders. I wish to especially note Gloria Jean Nagy who was such help in my early years and remains a memory person that I occasionally consult. It has been a pleasure for me to share tidbits of ORMTA history at general meetings or as requested by executive members over the years.

Much ORMTA archive material has safely deposited. Bins of books and binders were dropped off at Ottawa City Archives in September 2015, in May 2020 and recently in August 2024, I have the lists of material donated along with the acknowledgement from the City Archivist.

There is material left to assemble for the years 2014 -15 to the present. I have a few collated binders today for anyone interested and extend a warm invitation for someone new to meet with me to get the last of the paper material assembled and deposited.

Now that we're well into the 21st century it's time to start thinking about a transition from paper to digital storage. Thank you all for the support and encouragement – and the bins and crates of paper. It has been a wonderful 12 years.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Babin

There was a question about registration forms, and books. Heart on the city (free piano lessons, they can take piano books).

17. Cards & Flowers: Carol Ann Wood

CARDS/FLOWERS

In late June, Edith Orton suffered a bad fall and had to be hospitalized. I visited Edith in the Queensway Carleton Hospital at that time on behalf of us.

On Edith's return to Red Oaks Retirement Home in July, I also took a flower arrangement to her.

I have submitted for reimbursement: an Alta Vista Florist invoice for \$84.69: and a subscription renewal for Jacquie Lawson E-Cards in the amount of \$45.00.

I am continuing the Tradition of sending out Birthday Greetings to our Ottawa Branch Members with E-Cards by Jacquie Lawson.

LOOKING FORWARD

Will Cedarview Golf and Country Club to secure a date for our May 2025 AGM.

Will inquire about a RLC Wi-Fi connection for our Online members.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Wood

Information Sharing Sessions:

New Business:

- University Masterclasses, trying to include Carleton
- New website, Victor Avila is inquiring and getting quotes to revamp the website

- Bring back Professional Development- inviting the membership to present their ideas, submit an actual proposal.
- Laurentian Junior Music Club Carol Ann Wood
- Conservatory in Canada has a webinar every Friday at 12pm. Online
- Is there anything happening for singers? Council discussed the option to have one of the masterclasses to be singers or in collaboration with NATS.
- Social events teacher's meeting teachers.
- Canadian Music Showcase November Rideau Park, Application deadline end of October, November 15th, 16th. Masterclass, to follow with the Recital.

Olivia Ridell moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:24 am.

Respectfully prepared and submitted by Abigail Sanchez.