



London Branch

Fall 2011

Letter from the President

Dear members,

It has been a real privilege to work with such a gifted team of visionaries this past year. ORMTA London Executive is working hard to prepare a strong vision for the future. We started off with building some local branch Code of Ethics to ensure our foundation to work as a team was embraced by all.

These core values are:

- We respect differences, including different qualifications of our members.
- We nurture and support Fellowship and Professional Growth among members
- We share and support in a kind ways which inspire one another.
- We challenge and provide opportunities for students in our communities.
- We are progressive thinkers busy doing things for our communities.
- We advocate for music and arts education in our communities.
- We work together to promote and market our organization.
- We build partnerships with other organizations both artistic and non-artistic to help strengthen the quality of life in our communities.

Brainstorming for future projects has included:

- Implement more regular performance classes with presentations by teachers/musicians on subjects like style, composers, aural skills sight reading, improvisation, performance anxiety etc.
- Present more artists in concert with possible master-classes in cooperation with organizations in town such as Orchestra London, Kiwanis, Conservatories and Music Schools.
- Explore fundraising opportunities to provide more scholarships and bursaries for students as well as more opportunities to present artists and clinicians.
- Give more opportunities for professional development including workshops, literature, forums, web-based interaction and information.
- Build strong partnerships with organizations and individuals in London to help promote music education in the classroom.
- Begin campaigns to put together instrument purchases for the classroom and private students.
- Produce literature to help promote teacher professional development and student resources.
- Promote Music Composition with students and professional composers; contests, publications and promotion.
- Build stronger and healthier relationships between colleagues and teachers.
- Establish a local set of core values to help grow and maintain our organization.
- Find incentives to engage members who do not fully participate in meetings and professional activities to get more involved.
- Encourage teachers without qualifications to get back to study and get those qualifications.

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First Branch Meeting and Brunch

Come and join us for a delicious meal followed by our first meeting of the year!

When: **Sun., September 18**

Time: **1:00 PM**

Location: Shelly's Tap and Grill located inside Best Western Lamplighter Inn
 Address: 591 Wellington Rd.
 On 13 Wellington route

Western Zone Convention in Sarnia

When: **Fri., October 28**

Where: Sarnia Golf and Curling Club
 More info about the Convention is coming soon!

Halloween Recital

Teachers, make sure to mark your calendars and enter your students into one of our most popular recitals!

When: **Sat., October 29**

Time: **2:00 PM**

Location: Siloam United Church
 Address: 1240 Fanshawe Park Rd East
Entries due October 19th

Sylvia Novak Pedagogy Weekend

This will be an exciting weekend filled with workshops, presentations and performances. What will be unusual about this weekend is that it will be free to everyone who would like to attend.

When: **Sat.-Sun., Nov. 5-6**

Time: all day

Location: Aeolian Hall
 Address: 795 Dundas Street

September 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Brunch	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 Zone Convention	29 
30	31					

November 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5 Sylvia-Novak
6 Pedagogy Weekend	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

ORMTA London events - 2011-2012 - Year at a glance

Fall

September 18th - First Branch Meeting
 October 29th - Halloween Recital
 November 5-6 - Sylvia Novak Weekend

Winter

January 21st - Second Branch Meeting
 February 18th - Winter Student Recital

Spring

March 3rd - Baroque Mini-Festival
 March 24th - "Pre-Festival" Student recital
 March 24th - Third Branch Meeting
 April 10-27 - Kiwanis Festival
 May 26th - Spring Student Recital
 Late June - Annual General Meeting

Student Recitals

NEWS FROM THE RECITAL COMMITTEE:

We are very excited about this upcoming season of events with ORMTA LONDON!

We listened carefully to your concerns and suggestions that arose during the lively discussion about recitals at our June 2011 annual meeting. This summer our committee discussed these issues and have tried to address and implement as many of your ideas as possible for the 2011-2012 year. We have added more recitals, including a senior recital and amended the recital policy sheet and the recital entry form. Please make note of these details and keep these sheets handy for future reference. Check the website for any updates or be ready for your phone caller to keep you updated.

We are thrilled to see the inviting, detailed and exciting recital posters created by Natalia for each recital. Hopefully you will want to print off each poster prior to the

recital to display in your studio so that your students and parents are aware of the opportunities available to YOU as a London branch ORMTA member and to THEM as your student. These posters are great advertisement for our organization and help to make the musical community more aware of our presence in London..

The deadline for recital application entries and the details for each recital are available on each recital poster, in the newsletter and on our website. Don't delay - get your applications in early so that your students don't miss out. Please note the specific time allotments per teacher so that as many of our members as possible can take advantage of this marvelous performing opportunity. The newsletters and our new website will keep you up to date about the specifics of each recital. If you have not entered a student in these recitals, why not consider making it one of your initiatives this year!

We realize that our branch members

probably offer one or more studio recitals a year at a community venue or recital hall, plus other in-studio performing opportunities as part of the studio agenda each year. While many of our students thrive in the Kiwanis music festival experience, as an ORMTA member, it is great to offer such alternatives as our branch recitals and the baroque mini-festival to hone their performance skills & recital etiquette. These experiences introduce students to new repertoire played by their peers. and to new performing venues.

We hope that you too are getting excited about the upcoming year and its opportunities. We trust that your summer has given you time to relax and be refreshed and that your love of music and its powerful effect upon the soul can energize you and be shared with your students

Elizabeth Corbett & Joan Celestin

ORMTA London online!

Modern technology, even though confusing at times, provides us with a great opportunity to stay in touch and connect with each other.

Our website www.ormtalondon.com has been updated - now it has a new look, it is easy to navigate and it is going to be regularly updated. There you can find not only ORMTA London teachers directory and the calendar of upcoming events, but also download application/entry forms (ex. Student recital entry form) and past newsletters.

Do you want to connect with other ORMTA London teachers, share teaching tips and resources, participate in discussions, promote your events, get support and encouragement from the fellow teachers? Then join our **ORMTA London Yahoo! Group**. You can follow http://ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/ormta_london/ and click "Join" at the top of the page. You might be required to create a yahoo profile, but after you do that you can forward all the group emails/messages to your current email address.



**ORMTA
LONDON BRANCH**

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Letter from the President (continued from page 1)

- Shift the focus of meetings to involve discussions around professional development and creative projects.
- Encourage teachers without qualifications to get back to study and get those qualifications.
- Promote the private music lesson as well as private group lessons.
- Promote the use of REAL pianos and quality instruments!
- Promote the value of quality music education including wide style exposure with strong traditional foundations.
- Encourage teachers to learn more about the contemporary status of pedagogy, modern styles and keeping students interested in music study.
- Increase the VALUE of the ORMTA brand.
- Endow some funds for operations to ensure consistency in year to year offerings and the financial health of the organization for the future.
- Apply for grants, corporate sponsorships and private donations to increase opportunities.
- Support the purchase of print music and recorded music to ensure the future of these industries and the composers/performers.
- Establish with other key organizations a reference library for members and a site for this library.
- Encourage students and teachers to attend live concerts.
- Encourage teachers to perform so that the quality of their teaching will be enriched.

Some of these projects are under way now. We are currently planning the programming of the **Sylvia Novak Pedagogy Weekend** to be held November 5th and 6th 2011 at The Aeolian Performing Arts Centre. This will be an exciting weekend filled with workshops, presentations and performances. What will be unusual about this weekend is that it will be free to everyone who would like to attend. This expands the vision of ORMTA to give back to the community and help show the leadership we are taking enriching all lives with music. It also gives us the opportunity to build more partnerships and potentially attract new members.

Another project under way is a brochure to promote music education. If you have any ideas which you think would be good content for this brochure, please send them along to us!

I look forward to sharing an exciting year with all of you!

Sincerely,

Clark

ATTENTION TEACHERS:

If you would like to participate in taking directories to your local schools, businesses and libraries please contact Beverley Barrett.
E-mail: bandbarrett@sympatico.ca or call: 519-471-9520

Belle Air has agreed once again to hold several copies at the downtown store. You can easily gather what you need while shopping for music books. Informing your treasurer avoids duplication thus maximizing our supply.

Thank-you,

Beverley

*"The woods would
be very silent if
the only birds that
sang were those
who sang best..."*

*— Henry David
Thoreau*