

The Opus

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President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

It is hard to believe we have reached December already! As we all know this is an extremely busy time for music educators and I wish you all the best in your upcoming holiday concerts and assemblies.

The Music Special Interest Council would like to express our gratitude to all those who helped make Resonate 2016 a resounding success! It was our biggest and best conference to date and we owe it to all those who presented, attended and helped organize the event. We are thrilled to have made the decision to make Resonate an annual event, taking a large step in ensuring that music educators receive adequate professional development to meet the needs of their ever evolving classrooms.

At this time the MSIC would also like to extend thanks to Executive and Full Board members who finished up their terms on October 31st. We appreciate all of the hard work and time you have put into our organization to ensure that we continue to remain a strong voice for music educators across our province.

Enjoy the holiday season and please make sure you take time to rest and recharge – you deserve it!

Happy Holidays,

Ashley Beresford
President, Music Special Interest Council



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www.nlmsic.com/

The New Website was launched December 05/15. Check it Out Now!

Getting to Know Your Executive



Ashley Beresford

President

Ashley holds Bachelor of Music and Music Education degrees from Memorial University of Newfoundland and a Masters in Music in Instrumental Conducting from McGill University. She is currently teaching classroom music, choir

and jazz band at Macdonald Drive Junior High in St. John's where she also maintains a small private studio of piano and clarinet students. Ashley is still an active performer and can often be found in the pit playing a variety of reed instruments for Atlantic Light Theatre's productions. After serving on the MSIC for four years as Treasurer and Vice President, Ashley is thrilled to be serving the membership as President.

held a deep love of music and taught in her hometown of Placentia for many years before attending Memorial's School of Music. Deanna continues to teach privately at her home studio. She has held several replacement positions with the Newfoundland and Labrador English School District, and is currently teaching at St. Catherine's Academy, Mount Carmel. During the summer, Deanna teaches at the Piano Camp, teaching efficient and effective learning for solo and ensemble piano performance. She is a curriculum developer with The Music Classroom (themusicclassroom.com) and serves as the treasurer on the NLTA Provincial Music Special Interest Council.



Michelle Collins

Vice President

Michelle holds a Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Music Education as well as a Masters in Educational Leadership from Memorial University. Michelle has had the opportunity to teach in St. John's and surrounding areas and is currently

working with kindergarten to grade 9 students at Fatima Academy in St. Bride's. There, she teaches classroom music, choral music as well as a junior band program. Michelle strives to bring her enthusiasm and excitement for music to her students through a wide variety of approaches such as world drumming, movement and dance and technology. In addition to teaching in the public school system, Michelle enjoys teaching private voice and piano lessons from her home studio in the west end of St. John's. She has been involved with the NLTA Music Special Interest Council as Communications Officer and is excited to serve as Vice President for the upcoming term.



Bethany Porter

Secretary

Bethany graduated from Memorial University in 2011 with a Bachelor of Music (Vocal Performance), in 2012 with a Bachelor of Music Education, and is currently working towards a Masters in Educational Leadership Studies. She

has taught voice and piano privately in St. John's for six years and works as a music teacher with the Newfoundland and Labrador English School District at Newtown and Goulds Elementary. She has completed up to grade 8 Royal Conservatory of Music examinations for piano and became a certified Kindermusik instructor in 2013. Her studies in university and many years of her own enrollment in private lessons have instilled in her a passion and enjoyment for teaching music. She is really enjoying her position as Secretary on the NLTA Music Special Interest Council and is looking forward to another rewarding year in this role.



Deanna Higdon

Treasurer

Deanna received her Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Music Education from Memorial University in 2011, studying piano with Timothy Steeves. In 2015, she completed a Masters degree at Memorial University in Educational Leadership

Studies. Deanna has won numerous awards including the TD Canada Trust Scholarship for Community Leadership, valued at \$60,000, and the NLTA Music Special Interest Council Heather McDonald Memorial Scholarship. She has always



Rebecca McDonald

Communications Officer

Rebecca is a music educator from Bishop's Falls. Over the last six years, she has taught music, choir, and band from K-12 in Labrador, Central NL, and Eastern NL. During 2016-2017 she is teaching K-6 music and choir at Mary

Queen of the World School in Mount Pearl. Rebecca attended Memorial University of Newfoundland where she obtained a Bachelor of Music in Voice and Music History/Literature and a Bachelor of Music Education. Over the years she has also taught private piano and voice lessons, worked as a choral scholar with Shallaway Youth Choir, and worked as a church choir conductor. She has been a member of Lady Cove Women's Choir since 2005. Rebecca has a huge passion for

technology and content creation. She feels strongly about the ability of social media to connect educators around the globe. She is delighted to join the MSIC as Communications Officer and looks forward to all the exciting opportunities and challenges ahead!



Kathy Conway

Past President

Raised in the beautiful West End of St. John's, **Kathy** teaches K-7 classroom and choral music at St. Matthew's Elementary in St. John's. She holds Bachelors degrees from Memorial University in Music and Music Education, and received her Master

of Education degree from MUN with a focus in Teaching and Learning in Music Education. Kathy plays oboe with the Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra and sings with Lady Cove Women's Choir. She previously served as President of the NLTA Provincial Music Special Interest Council and is Director of Public Relations with the Canadian Music Educators' Association. Kathy currently lives in downtown St. John's with her husband, Josh, and their cats, Teena and Lucille Two. She was once a seat filler on the Dr. Phil show.

Travel Grant Report: Silvern Voice Institute

Janet Campbell

During the week of August 8-12, 2016, I attended the Silvern Voice Institute. The Greene-Fraize Music Studio presented the workshop which was held at the Gower Street United Church and featured clinicians Alanna Fraize, Noreen Greene-Fraize, and Heday Inoue. Workshop hours were 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

The workshop consisted of five days of workshops, master classes, and private lessons with the clinicians. I worked on a musical theatre piece entitled "There's a Fine, Fine Line" from the musical "Avenue Q".

Each morning began with a warm up of light physical activity, stretching and breathing exercises. Morning workshops focused on acting technique and how to prepare your body for singing and performing. About half of the daily workshops were focused on sound production. Vowels, diction, and projection were the main topics. There was

also a very informative workshop on singing in different languages. This workshop included information on the IPA and song interpretation.

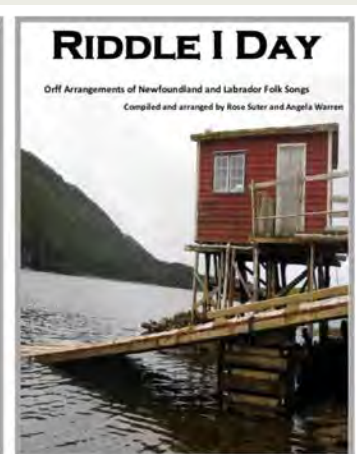
Along with these, there were a number of acting workshops. The focus was on scene preparation and interpreting a character or situation as your own. At first I was a bit hesitant about the value of these workshops. However, each performer worked on one song during the week. The difference that these activities and preparation exercises had on the renditions of these same songs at the end of the week was astonishing.

In addition to this, I had four private voice lessons with Heday Inoue. In all, the week was a wonderful opportunity to develop my own skills while gaining new knowledge to share with my students. Thank you for your assistance in providing funding for this endeavor.

Book Release

Angela Warren and **Rose Suter** are thrilled to announce the release of their first publication "**Riddle I Day.**" This collection of traditional Newfoundland and Labrador folksongs set to Orff Instrumentarium was fuelled by their passion to preserve the folk music of their province and their love of the Schulwerk.

This resource will provide teachers not only with arrangements of Newfoundland and Labrador folksongs, but also a step-by-step guide of the Orff process. It is hoped that educators may use this collection as a means of increasing cultural content in their schools' curriculum.



Teacher Profile: Ryan Wiltshire, French Shore Academy

Ryan Wiltshire is currently teaching K-12 music at French Shore Academy in Port Saunders. He has served on a variety of professional teams at the provincial level developing and piloting new curriculum with CDLI, focusing on technology in music education, and also at district level as a team member, team leader and in-service facilitator.



In 2006 Ryan was awarded the Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence Certificate of Achievement. Philosophically, he believes in providing culturally relevant music education that is linked to the local community. This belief is evident throughout all levels of his program from the classroom to the rehearsal room.

1) Where did you complete your Music/Education degrees?

Graduated from Memorial University in 1999 with a Bachelor of Music and a Bachelor of Music Education. Later returned to Memorial and completed a Master of Education degree through correspondence and summer sessions.

2) Where and what do you teach?

Began teaching in the fall of 1999 when I moved to Port au Choix. At that time I was teaching music in two schools: K-6 at St. Theresa's Elementary (Port au Choix); and 7-12 at Roncalli Central High (Port Saunders). A music education

program was already somewhat established at St. Theresa's, but a program had to be built from scratch at Roncalli Central High. Currently, I teach at French Shore Academy (Port Saunders). This is a K-12 school that was created after a restructuring process that saw the closing of St. Theresa's Elementary and Roncalli Central High School.

3) What has been the most memorable moment of your career?

One of my most memorable moments happened a number of years ago when considering accepting a position in another community. My students' reaction to the news was powerful and confirmed that I was on the right path and making a difference. I call on this memory often when things become challenging.

4) If you could give one piece of advice to a new teacher what would it be?

Always remember why you became a Music Educator, stay true to your beliefs and always strive to connect with students.

5) What is the best part of your job?

The best part of my job is having the opportunity to instill in my students an appreciation of music in its many forms.

NLTA Music Special Interest Council 2016-2018

Provincial Executive

President	Ashley Beresford	Macdonald Drive Junior High	ashleyberesford@nlesd.ca
Past President	Kathy Conway Ward	St. Matthew's Elementary	catherineconway-ward@nlesd.ca
Vice President	Michelle Collins	Fatima Academy	michellecollins@nlesd.ca
Treasurer	Deanna Higdon	St. Catherine's Academy	deannahigdon@nlesd.ca
Secretary	Bethany Saunders	Goulds Elementary	bethanysaunders@nlesd.ca
Communications	Rebecca McDonald	Mary Queen of the World	rebeccamcdonald1@nlesd.ca

Members-At-Large

Avalon East	Leah Antle	Virginia Park Elementary/ St. Mary's Elementary	leahantle@nlesd.ca
Avalon West	Jonathan Hicks	St. Anne's Academy	jonathanhicks@nlesd.ca
Central	Catherine Hoven	Fogo Island Central Academy	catherinetaylor@nlesd.ca
Western	Catherine Rogers	Burgeo Academy	catherinerogers@nlesd.ca
Northern Peninsula	Katie Barrett	Canon Richards Memorial Academy	katiebarrett@nlesd.ca
Labrador	Christopher Ryan	Eric G. Lambert School	christopherryan@nalcorenergy.com
Independent	Vincenza Etchegary	St. Bonaventure's College	vetchegary@stbons.ca
Associate	Vacant		
Student	Emma Clark	Memorial University	emmalclark@gmail.com

MusiCounts Band Aid Program

MusiCounts Band Aid Program is intended to equip school music programs with the necessities to give students the chance to discover their talent, empowering them with skills that will help them excel both in the classroom and beyond! These grants have the potential to be transformational and impact thousands of young Canadians and support diverse music programs in communities across Canada.

For more information:

www.musiccounts.ca/band-aid-program/

CMEA Elections Announcement

Membership in the NLTA MSIC also covers membership in the CMEA. On November 15, 2016 nominations open for several positions on the CMEA Board of Directors. Please take the time to visit the following website and consider nominating someone! Nominations close December 15 and voting will begin in the Spring.

<http://us3.campaign-archive1.com/?u=18f0ffd18780f39bef3641531&id=ea05cac4be&e=7c5df194a5>

Save the Date!

The MSIC is pleased to announce that our conference will now move to a one day format and become an annual event! Mark your calendars for Resonate 2017 on October 13, 2017. A call for presenters will come in early 2017.

Membership Update

Effective the 2016-2017 academic year, all MSIC memberships will expire on August 31, regardless of when membership was paid. To help grandfather in this new

program, all current one-year memberships will expire on August 31, 2017 regardless of their scheduled expiry date. For example if your membership was set to expire April of 2017 it will be extended through to August 31. The same will occur for current two-year memberships.

Resonate 2016

We'd like to send out a huge thank you to everyone who helped make Resonate 2016 our biggest and best conference to date. We were thrilled to have partnered with Memorial University for the first time and it proved to be a great venue. We had great attendance and fantastic presenters. Copies of many presenters' handouts are now available online in the Members Only section of our website! We can't wait for Resonate 2017!

PD Travel Grants

We are happy to again this year offer travel grants to teachers travelling for professional development opportunities. The purpose of the MSIC Professional Development Travel Fund is to assist members who are travelling to conferences and/or professional development opportunities over 250 km from their residence. This grant can be combined with other travel grants such as those from the NLTA. To be eligible for funding applicants must be an active member of the NLTA MSIC. All projects must focus on the professional development of educators. For more information or to apply please check our website or see the application form.

<https://goo.gl/forms/R69UBCmTN8tP50ec2>

Travel Grant Report: Voices of Ascension Conductors Academy

Shawn Bennett

I attended the Voices of Ascension (VoA) Conductors Academy from June 6-10, 2016 in New York City. The Voices of Ascension Conductor's Academy provides the opportunity for experienced conductors to focus on and improve their conducting technique with Maestro Dennis Keane. Participants are allotted a one-hour private lesson, 25 minutes' podium time with each of the VoA Chamber Choir and VoA Chamber Orchestra, and one final session with both forces combined. Participants observe each other's sessions, and are given the opportunity to share their thoughts with each other in one final closing discussion.

At Exploits Valley High, I will be spending ample time on the podium directing the several ensembles Mr. Mike Snelgrove has worked so hard to grow and maintain over his career. Skilled conducting technique is a fantastic way to make

effective use of time in a rehearsal setting, and I believe my time at VoA was hugely beneficial in this regard. Being able to show musical intentions through gesture, as opposed to halting rehearsal for verbal explanation, is now something I feel much more comfortable with. As an educator, I believe one of my strengths to be my conducting ability, and feel it could be a field I will be able to study further in a future Masters Degree setting. Not only did the VoA Conductor's Academy provide me with a well connected mentor in Maestro Dennis Keane, I also had the opportunity to network with a multitude of other Conducting Master's and Ph.D students from various programs in Canada and the United States. I would certainly recommend a program such as this one to any other educators who feel themselves to be in a similar situation to mine!