

The Opus

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President's Message

Despite the snow still on the ground it is finally, officially spring! We have almost made it to Easter break! I hope you all take the time off to relax and recharge and prepare for the final push to the end of June! It seems like a distant dream at the moment but before we know it, summer will be here!

Your executive has been quite busy over the past few months and there is lots of exciting information coming out so please take the time to read through this newsletter closely. We are thrilled to be offering a PD opportunity to west coast teachers on May 12 and hope that this is an initiative we can continue each year in other regions of the province. We mentioned in our last newsletter that we would be offering a one day conference in October 2017. We have had to move the date to October 27 in order to secure conference space at the Holiday Inn Hotel. Our call for presenters closed March 1 and we are now working through to put together an exciting program of events for you all. We submitted a document on your behalf to the Premier's Task Force on Improving Educational Outcomes, bringing forward our concerns with education, specifically within the music classroom and we are also working on another online PD session to be posted in the coming months since last year's songwriting workshop with Hey Rosetta's Tim Baker received such rave reviews!

Please consider nominating a colleague for a Builders Award! We have so many amazing teachers across our province, we would really like to recognize one each year, beginning in 2017 at our conference! All of the details are in this newsletter or please contact me for more information.

All the best over the coming weeks and enjoy a well-deserved Easter break.



Save
the
Date!

Resonate 2017

October 27, 2017

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 27, 2017** at the **Holiday Inn in St. John's** (please note the date change). Our call for presenters has now closed so stay tuned for exciting announcements. If there is a particular type of session or concept you would like to see presented please feel free to drop us a line and let us know!



CANADIAN MUSIC EDUCATORS' ASSOCIATION
L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES MUSICIENS EDUCATEURS

CMEA Updates and Info

CMEA Builder's Award Nomination

In co-operation with its Provincial and Territorial Affiliates, the Canadian Music Educators' Association seeks to recognize those who advance music education in any Canadian province, through building community or establishing significant collaborative efforts, with the CMEA/ACME Builders Award and the CMEA/ACME Builders Award for Newer Teachers.

The CMEA/ACME Builders Award and Builders Award for Newer Teachers are presented annually to a music educator who brings honour to the profession by demonstrating one or more of the following:

- Building a more unified community of music educators
- Raising the profile of the value of music education in Canada
- Making a significant contribution to inter-provincial or national initiatives in music education
- Establishing sustainable collaborative initiatives in music education
- Developing mentorship initiatives for newer and/or pre-service music educators

If you know of a music educator deserving of one of these awards please contact Ashley Beresford (ashleyberesford@nlesd.ca) with their name and a short write up explaining why they are deserving. The MSIC can nominate one person for each award. **Deadline is April 30, 2017.**

Save the Date! Atlantic Regional Music Education Conference

The Music Education Associations in Atlantic Canada, including the MSIC, with support of the CMEA are teaming up to offer an Atlantic Regional Music Education Conference. This conference will take place over three days in the fall of 2018 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Stay tuned for more information!



CALL FOR APPLICANTS

for the CMEA - Appointed Project Coordinator for the International Society of Music Educator's (ISME) 2022 World Conference on Music Education

The Biennial ISME World Conference brings together ISME members working in all contexts and levels of music education to share best practices, issues relative to practice, industry, advocacy and research relevant to their professional community. The last ISME conference held in Canada was hosted by Edmonton in 2000.

A motion was passed by the CMEA Full Board to pursue placing a bid to host the 2022 ISME World Conference in Canada. ISME has made the additional request that we investigate site options within Francophone Canada.

We are currently seeking a candidate who would be willing to investigate site options and initiate the development of a bid package. This candidate would work on behalf of CMEA, and potentially in partnership with Strategic Site Selections and the tourism board of the selected city. Upon completion of this initial investigation, this candidate could be invited to allow their name to stand as one of three appointed Co-Chairs for the conference.

For more information about this position please visit the CMEA Website: www.cmea.ca

Teacher Profile: Janine White, Holy Cross Elementary in Holyrood

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

I completed my Music and Music Education degrees at MUN. I also have a B.A. in English from MUN and a Masters in Literacy Education from Mount St. Vincent University.

2. Where and what do you teach?

I teach K-6 Music, 6 Language and 6 Religion at Holy Cross in Holyrood. I have been here since 2001.

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

Our Grade 5 and 6 Choir is preparing for a Newfoundland concert in May, and we're choosing songs. One of the children suggested "Grey Foggy Day," and about a third of the kids said they knew and liked it. So during choir, I said we'll have a listen and see what you think. As soon as the music began, a Grade 5 girl jumped up and said, "Come on, miss, let's dance!" So we did. And with that, another couple of kids got up. Pretty soon, about three-quarters of the choir



were up dancing on the floor, girls with girls, boys with boys, boys with girls, you name it. And while they danced, those that knew the chorus belted it out. It was one of those moments that you could never plan; if I had asked them to dance, it would have been a different result! Everyone, including me, left with a smile and a happy heart.

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

Take a deep breath, go with your best instinct, and smile every day. Enjoy and connect with your students. That's the ball game. It's how they learn best, and why we come back every day.

5. What is the best part of your job?

That one's easy. I get to work with some amazing kids every day. They quickly make you forget that "I-don't-want-to-get-out-of-bed" feeling (that I have just about every day of my life), and when they open their mouths to sing, ahhhhhhhh!!!!!!

MSIC Updates/Info

Professional Development Travel Grant Report

Dear MSIC members,

I would like to extend a huge thank you to you for your financial support in helping me attend the American Orff Schulwerk Association (AOSA) conference in Atlantic City, NJ. *Sailing the Seven C's* was this year's conference theme. The wonderful lineup of outstanding presenters and exciting concerts certainly inspired the imagination, creativity and vision of the participants, making the conference a powerful experience.

The importance of professional development cannot be emphasized enough, especially in a field as vital as education. Only by continually equipping yourself with the latest research, techniques and knowledge in the profession can you hope to strengthen your effectiveness as a teacher. The professional development offered by our district is very valuable; however, the opportunity to see national and international presenters is important for a global perspective of the research-based strategies and kid-tested materials available. Attending the AOSA conference is the only opportunity I have to receive this level of professional development as an elementary music educator. Additionally, the presence of over 1,100 music educators offers the unique opportunity to collaborate with and learn from other educators in my discipline.

Attending these conferences over the past few years has helped me gain the knowledge and skills necessary

to develop innovative approaches to successfully achieve learning outcomes in the classroom. In order to help my students grow musically I must provide opportunities for each individual to interact with the music personally, to practice various kinds of thinking skills and to use his or her knowledge in meaningful ways. I believe it is important to structure a classroom learning environment that fosters a life-long appreciation for music and offers a wonderful opportunity to explore, learn and create through this medium of music.

Participating in conferences such as these has also allowed me to share my knowledge of the Orff-Schulwerk approach with other teachers and teachers in training through facilitating workshops for the NLTA Eastern District, Department of Education, and Memorial University.

Thank you so much for your support in recognizing the importance of these amazing PD opportunities.

Sincerely,

Rose Suter
Music Educator
École Holy Family Elementary



Choral Connections PD Review

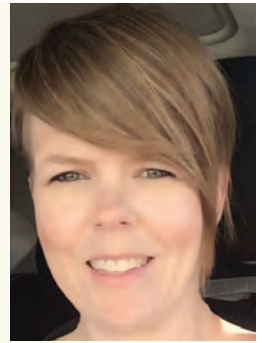
On Friday, March 3, I, along with other choral teachers, was given the opportunity to attend a professional development that had me on the edge of my seat. Heck, it had me dancing on my feet. Thanks to funding from the Bruneau Centre for Choral Excellence, special guests Scott Leithead and Nelson Nagenda provided a session like no other.

The morning started with the performance of six local high school choirs, each performing one piece before working hands on with both Mr. Leithead and Mr. Nagenda. The critiquing given to these choirs was delivered with such wisdom and praise. Although the level of each group varied, I felt as though all choirs were praised for their outstanding work while also being given incredible suggestions for improvement. As an observer, I felt as though each choir member was lifted up by the critique they were given. While working with Mr. Leithead, one choir member publicly expressed his overall feeling as "ecstatic". The morning ended with the audience, consisting of all observers, choir members and directors, divided into four vocal parts learning traditional African songs and dances.

The afternoon session welcomed several elementary and junior high aged students to the audience. After being shown some videos of children in Africa singing and dancing to traditional music this music was then taught to the massive choir of a thousand – the biggest ever instructed by Mr. Nagenda, he admitted. With the addition of some simple dance moves, the children in the audience were pleased to be recorded for the purpose of sharing the video with the children from Africa featured in the previously mentioned video.

What an inspiring day, so much learned, so much taken away, and so much to be excited about! We are so lucky to have support for the music programs in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador from places such as the Bruneau Centre for Choral Excellence. This was such a beneficial professional development day to have had the opportunity to be a part of.

Deanne Coady
Music Specialist
Holy Trinity Elementary



Professional Development Opportunity

May 12, 2017 • 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. • S.D. Cook Building, Corner Brook

(Free with MSIC Membership)

We are pleased to be offering this exciting professional development opportunity to teachers on the west coast thanks to sponsorship from the NLTA and the Teachers Talking to Teachers Program. Follow the MSIC Facebook page and our website for registration information.

Co-teaching With My Video Twin

(Creating Videos to Enhance Teaching and Learning in the Classroom)

Sometimes we wish there was more of us to go around, especially in a classroom setting with beginning instruments. Through a Learning Partners initiative, Sarah Comerford and Lisa Gillam have done just that, created a way to be in two places at once. Discover how to use short, self-made videos in the classroom (and at home) to assist teaching or co-teaching your students.

Sarah Comerford currently teaches classroom, choral and instrumental music at Leary's Brook Junior High School in St. John's. She has received undergraduate degrees in music and music education and holds a master's degree in instrumental conducting from Memorial University of Newfoundland. Active in the music community, Sarah has served on various music festival committees, is Past-President of the NLTA Music Special Interest Council, and performs with the Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra and Lady Cove Women's Choir.



Using YouTube to Encourage At-Home Practice

Ask any student about their Internet habits and the majority of the time you will hear “watching YouTube” as a top answer. For over ten years, YouTube has been a great resource in the classroom. With just a little bit of effort, we can make YouTube work for us outside of school.

Starting a channel

YouTube is owned by Google, and every teacher in the district has their own Google account. All you have to do is connect your account to YouTube and you are ready to start. You can also sign up with your own personal email, or create a new Google account just for your YouTube channel.

Making a video using your phone’s camera

The simplest way to make a video is to use your phone’s camera. If you want to record yourself playing an instrument, try putting it on a music stand at the height of the instrument. If you are singing, you can record your beautiful face (or point the camera away if you are feeling shy!) **Tip:** Don’t record in “selfie mode” – the quality will be much lower. Record with the back of the phone facing you. I also suggest filming in landscape over portrait – the “long way” is better than the “tall way”.

Making a video with software

Almost every computer comes with video editing software. Typically, a PC has Windows Movie Maker and a Mac has iMovie. There are also free apps and websites available – one that I can suggest is called Kizoa. Using software will be more complicated than just recording from a phone, but allows you to add pictures, lyrics, and provide specific information visually.

Being cautious of copyright

Typically, if your video is noncommercial, for largely private purposes, makes a transformative use of the content (puts it to some new use) and doesn’t harm the market for the original, it is considered fair use. Use your judgement!

Don’t be afraid to dig

Before you spend the time recording and uploading, always check to see if someone else has posted it before you. I can’t tell you how many times I have found exactly what I’m looking for after a few minutes of searching.



Getting students to tune in

There are lots of ways to encourage students to watch and practice with a video. I made little “business cards” (printed on regular paper, nothing fancy!) with my e-mail, Twitter, website, and YouTube channel. I pass them out to my students at every opportunity. Because of this, I have students that will actually come and say, “Miss, you didn’t upload the song yet!” when I am slack.

Be creative! I have also hidden passwords in songs and if a student can come to me with the “secret password”, they get a prize. You can make the video interesting – the sillier you are, the more they will love it! Put your channel in the school newsletter. Communicate the channel to parents. My students LOVE checking the number of views on each video – challenge them to get the video to 100 views in a week. The options are limitless!

A word of advice

YouTube does keep track of the videos you are watching. It will suggest videos based on your previous views, and these videos will show up on your home page when you sign in. Be aware of this when connecting your channel to your NLSSED account – you may want to keep them separate. I don’t know about you, but I don’t need my students knowing just how many funny cat videos I watch in a night.

Rebecca McDonald
Music Specialist
Mary Queen of the World Elementary

2016-2018 MSIC Full Board

Avalon East



Leah Antle holds a Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Music Education from Memorial University. Following five years of substitute teaching, she returned to MUN to complete her Master of Music in Choral Conducting. She currently teaches K-6 classroom music and choir at Virginia Park Elementary and St. Mary's Elementary in St. John's. Leah is a member of Lady Cove Women's Choir and is an active participant in music making with the Salvation Army. She maintains a private studio of voice and piano students. Leah is thrilled to be joining the MSIC as a provincial member at large and the treasurer for the Eastern Region Executive.

Avalon West



Jonathan Hicks completed his Bachelor of Music (in percussion) and Bachelor of Music Education degrees at Memorial University. Upon graduation, he taught band, 7-12 music and several other subjects for a year at Botwood Collegiate. Currently, Jonathan is working at St Anne's Academy in Dunville where he teaches K-6 music and math. Outside of the classroom, Jonathan teaches private drum lessons. He also plays bodhran and percussion with the Celtic Fiddlers and recently toured Ireland with the group.

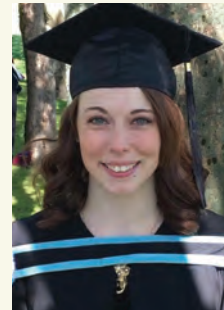
Central



Born and raised in Middle Musquodoboit, Nova Scotia, **Catherine Taylor** was always a lover of music. From the time she could sing she was performing in church, picked up piano and waited with great anticipation to be old enough to join the Grade 6 Band. When the time came to pick instruments, she had her heart set on the flute because it fit in her book bag! When she started Band, she knew right away she was going to be a Music teacher. She was a member of many different ensembles including Nova Scotia Junior Wind Ensemble, Nova Scotia Youth Wind Ensemble, various Flute Ensembles, Pit Bands and every band possible at MRHS (she even learned the Alto Sax just so she could join the Jazz Band fulltime). Her Music teacher, Diane Clarke, is a huge influence in her life and was the one who told her about the great Music School at MUN. After completing her B.Mus. and B.Mus.Ed. conjointly at Memorial University she moved beyond the overpass to

find a teaching position at Fogo Island Central Academy. What she thought would be a short-term thing has turned into eight years. Now an active member of the community, married and a house bought, it has turned out to be Fogo for Life and she couldn't be happier.

West



Catherine Rogers of Wabush, Labrador, is a K-9 classroom music teacher on the Island's southwest coast. From her "home base" at Burgeo Academy, she also teaches children in Ramea, Grey River, and Francois via Polycom technology. Catherine attended Memorial University and graduated with a Bachelor of Music (hons.) on Horn in 2014, followed by a Bachelor of Music Education in 2016. During her time at MUN, she enjoyed many concert seasons with the Wind Ensemble, Chamber Orchestra, Festival Choir, Chamber Choir, and several small chamber groups. In connection with her interest in rural outreach, Catherine arranged an educational tour with her brass quintet, Apollo 5, in the spring of 2014. After several performances in St. John's, they flew to Western Labrador for showcases and workshops at three local schools. Catherine hopes to continue bringing meaningful musical experiences to the children of rural Newfoundland and Labrador.

Northern Peninsula



Katie Barrett is a first-year music teacher with NLESD working at Canon Richards Memorial Academy and Viking Trail Academy on the Northern Peninsula. She holds a Bachelor's degree in trumpet performance and music education from Memorial University. Katie has a huge passion for music and is so grateful to be able to share this through teaching. It is an honour for her to be a rep for the NLTA Music Special Interest Council for the Northern Peninsula.

2016-2018 MSIC Full Board (cont'd)

Labrador



Christopher Ryan received a Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Music Education from Memorial University, where he studied piano with Timothy Steeves. He currently teaches at Eric G. Lambert School in Churchill Falls, Labrador. There, he teaches K-12 music, along with conducting Elementary Choir, Elementary Band, Senior Choir and Senior

Band. Christopher also operates his own private piano studio in Churchill Falls. He is excited to be a part of the NLTA Music Special Interest Council, and representing Labrador.

Independent



Vincenza Etchegary is a native of Filadelfia, Italy. She completed a Music Education Degree at the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario and did graduate studies at Brandon University in Manitoba. Vincenza has taught instrumental music in St. John's for the past 30 years. She is currently the instrumental music specialist at St.

Bonaventure's College. At the College, Vincenza directs 180 students in eight instrumental ensembles. She has

been the recipient of both a Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence, as well as a Provincial Government of Newfoundland Teacher Excellence Award. Ensembles under her direction have received many prestigious awards including the Canadian Jazz Report Award, 12 Kiwanis Instrumental Group Rose Bowls and first places in the CBC Radio School Band Competition and the Long and McQuade National YouTube Performance Competition.

Student



Emma Clark is a student in the Bachelor of Music Education program at Memorial University, where she completed her Bachelor of Music (Honours) in 2015. She is a trumpet specialist and performs regularly in St. John's. Emma's recent engagements as a performer include Atlantic Light Musical Theatre Company's *Sister Act* (2016) and

Billy Elliot (2017), and Opera on the Avalon's production of *Sweeney Todd* (2016). She is a reservist musician in the Royal Newfoundland Regiment Band with the Canadian Armed Forces and is the orchestra manager for Opera on the Avalon. Emma is also the choral and music director of the St. James United Church Senior Choir.

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

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Avalon West	Jonathan Hicks	St. Anne's Academy	jonathanhicks@nlesd.ca
Central	Catherine Taylor	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