

# The Opus

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September 2017

## President's Message

Welcome Back! It's hard to believe summer is over and we are back into the swing of things for another wonderful year of music making. During this busy time make sure you are taking care of yourself! Take time to rest and recharge on the weekends. You'll be the best teacher when you are at your best!

We are thrilled to be offering you a one day conference on October 27th. Based on feedback over the last few years we are trying out a new strategy of a one day conference EVERY year. We want to bring as many learning opportunities to our membership as possible! We planned the conference based on the suggestions given from you, our members, after the 2016 conference. Please take time to register and pick from the amazing sessions we are pleased to be offering.

While I am not joining you in the trenches this year (I'm on maternity leave) I am always available via email should you have any questions or concerns.

I wish you all the best for a wonderful and successful year!



## NLTA Music Special Interest Council 2016-2018

### Provincial Executive

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

### Members-At-Large

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

# Resonate 2017

Friday, October 27, 2017 • Holiday Inn Hotel St. John's

Registration: 8:00 a.m. • Sessions 8:45 - 3:30 p.m.

**Registration now open! [www.nlmsic.com](http://www.nlmsic.com)**

## Costs:

\$65.00\* – Early Bird Registration (*open until September 30, 2017*)

\$90.00\* – Registration after September 30

\* *Must be a member in good standing to register.*

Full time students can attend **FREE** with an MSIC membership!

Steve Giddings from PEI will be our special guest presenting sessions on *Rock Band in the Elementary Classroom*, *Creativity in the Music Classroom*, *The By-Ear-Learning Process* and *Song Writing for Performance!* Other sessions include *Music Moves: Exploring Dalcroze Eurhythmics*, *Stress Management for Music Teachers* and *The Inspired Music Classroom*, just to name a few! Please note the schedule in the registration portal is tentative and still subject to change.

## Website – [www.nlmsic.com](http://www.nlmsic.com)

Don't forget to check the members only section of our website! We are regularly adding resources for music teachers. Last year's songwriting PD session with Tim Baker is still live as well as handouts from many of the presenters from Resonate 2017!

## Registration Help

To register for the conference, you must first have your MSIC membership paid. You can access this through the "Membership" page on our website. Payment can be made directly to Deanna Higdon, or via credit card or Paypal on our website. You will not be able to register for the conference unless you have first paid your membership. As noted this fall, memberships now expire on August 31st of each year; they are **not** active one year from the date you pay your membership. A reminder of the membership costs:

**Full Member:** 1 year (\$50); 2 year (\$100)

Available to all members of the NLTA and supervisors or directors of music. Includes voting privileges, NLTA Music Council Publications, CMEA membership, journals and newsletters. \$25.00 CMEA, \$25.00 MSIC

**Associate Member:** 1 year (\$35); 2 year (\$70)

Available to all private music teachers or any person interested in music education. Includes voting privileges, NLTA Music Council Publications, CMEA membership, and newsletters only. \$12.50 CMEA, \$22.50 MSIC

**Student Member:** 1 year (\$22.50); 2 year (\$45)

Available only to full-time students. Includes all privileges of full membership, except voting privileges. \$12.50 CMEA, \$8.00 MSIC

Once you are in good standing (your membership is paid), you can proceed to the conference registration. To register for the conference, go directly to our website and follow the link to register. From there you will fill out some information about yourself and then pick the sessions you would like to attend. **Note: registering for sessions is required.** You can always edit your choices before the conference if you change your mind. Due to attendance caps for each individual session, we will be checking our registration list at the door of each session. If you are not registered, you may not be able to attend the session.

The last step is payment. Payment can be made directly to Deanna Higdon, or via credit card or Paypal on our website.

**We strongly encourage sending your payment prior to the start of the conference.**

If you have any issues with registration, please contact **Rebecca McDonald** or **Deanna Higdon**.

# Resonate 2017

## Tentative Schedule

<b>Room</b>	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	Check-in	Check-in	Check-in	Check-in
<b>8:45 a.m.</b>	Music Moves: Exploring Dalcroze Eurhythmics (Buley)	Song Writing for Performance (Giddings)	Title TBA – Topic: Social Media & Stu- dents (Flores)	What the NLTA Can Do For You
<b>9:45 a.m.</b>	Break	Break	Break	Break
<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	The Colours of Mu- sic (Suter/Warren)	Rock Bands in the Elementary School Setting (Giddings)	Using Google to Create Your Own Online “Arts Café” (Nakashima)	Flutalicious! (Sheppard)
<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	Managing Teacher Stress and Wellness (Tansley/Campbell)	Creativity in the Music Classroom (Giddings)	Using Google to Create Your Own Online “Arts Café” (Nakashima)	Brass Worksho (Klaus)
<b>12:00 p.m.</b>	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
<b>1:30 p.m.</b>	The Inspired Music Classroom (Sheppard)	Basics of PA Sys- tems and Sound Boards (Lily, Spon- sored by Long & Mcquade)	The By-Ear-Learning Process (Giddings)	Five Things More Important Than Getting a Gold at Festival: Balancing Proficiency, Growth, and Awards With Your School Ensem- bles (De Cinque)
<b>2:30 p.m.</b>	Exploring Music Literacy Blocks (Porter/Dalton)	Basics of PA Sys- tems and Sound Boards (Lily, Spon- sored by Long & Mcquade)	Panel Discussion With High School Teachers... Topic TBD (De Cinque)	Only Boys and Men Aloud – Uniqueness of the Boy’s Voice in a Choral Settin (Martinec)

## Teacher Profile: LeighAnn Ryan

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

I started off at the University of Prince Edward Island where I completed my B.Mus. majoring in Music Education. Following that, I spent a couple of years at Grenfell Campus studying Acting in their Fine Arts Program. After that, I obtained my M.A. in Musicology from the University of Ottawa and finished it all up with a B.Mus.Ed. from Memorial University of Newfoundland.

### 2. Where and what do you teach?

I teach Classroom Music Grades 1-4, as well as the Beachy Tones Musical Theatre Ensemble at Beachy Cove Elementary School in Portugal Cove-St. Philip's.

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

It was a simple thing, really. An unsigned note left on my desk. "You make me feel confident when I am nervous. When I walk in the classroom I feel loved. I love...you." It's not just that the gesture was touching and personal...the actual words confirmed that I was teaching students first and music second – something that is very important to me. I still keep that note in my desk.

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

Create meaningful relationships with all of your students. Once they begin to connect with you, it establishes trust.

It's a little different than in other subject areas: if students don't trust you and the safe environment of the music room, they will never take the kinds of risks that are the key to deeper musical understanding and

great performances. If they fall, it's OK. In fact, it ultimately helps them to find the magic in what they're doing. What is most important is that they know that you believe in them and in their success.



### 5. What is the best part of your job?

Every year, I see many students completely transform. I don't just mean becoming better singers or more animated actors – I'm talking about real, lasting growth. Character building stuff. Often, I will see a student and I know that all they need is a little bit of confidence and support. And truthfully, even though they are vulnerable and nervous, the opportunity to perform and share their self through music is exactly what was needed. When I know students have taken risks and done things better than they thought they ever could, I burst with pride.

## NSO Chevron Symphony Goes to School and...Beyond Program

For **FREE** and **READY** to use teaching and learning resources go now to [nsomusic.ca](http://nsomusic.ca) and simply click and go! For all grade levels, we have instrumental and choral arrangements, PowerPoints, listening and viewing activities and reproducibles, all matched to the NL Curriculum Outcomes for Music.

**NOTE:** We can arrange school/grade level /studio visits from our conductor, NSO guest artists and/or musicians; you can attend live masterclasses at MUN or view them with your class on livestream; we can arrange performance opportunities for your students including both pre-concert cameo performances and/or our Matinée "Play and Sing-in" with the NSO musicians and Principal Conductor.

Email: Jennifer Brennan at [jb@nsomusic.ca](mailto:jb@nsomusic.ca) or call 722-4441 to make arrangements. **Bonus:** we can customize any of the above to suit your particular needs!

## Podcast: The Band Room

The Band Room main objective is to bring a greater awareness of wind ensemble repertoire, it's composers, conductors, teachers and performers. During the podcast, 2-3 pieces (movements of a larger work) will be played and intertwined with interesting stories connecting them to the show's specific theme. Other topics that will be explored are music education, conducting and performance. If that isn't enough, there will be monthly interviews with the movers and shakers of the wind world. Their first guest was Dr. Gillian MacKay, talking about Being the Best Musicians You Can Be | A Conductors Perspective.

<https://soundcloud.com/user-281126580/ep-2-coast-to-coast>

Podcast Website:  
[www.dylanrookmaddix.com/thebandroom](http://www.dylanrookmaddix.com/thebandroom)

# My Experience with MUN ED6504: Musicianship, Pedagogy and Learning

This past spring, I was looking for a relatable and valuable education elective to complete for the Masters in Education (Leadership) program at Memorial University. ED 6504: Musicianship, Pedagogy and Learning was that and much more! Dr. David Buley was the instructor of this course; he is a new and excellent addition to the MUN Music Education faculty. My fellow classmates included music educators with varying levels of experience and diverse careers in music education. Dr. Buley used many creative approaches which helped us explore our collective ideas about musicianship, teaching and learning. Discussions were formed using the STLWFM (Save the Last Word for Me) approach which prompted classroom interaction and cooperative group discussion regarding the literature surrounding musicianship. As well, our final class project required us to creatively think about our own musicianship and we were challenged to represent it using a metaphor.

We spent time being introduced to the aspects of the music teaching methods fostered by Émile Jaques-Dalcroze (often called Eurhythmics or Dalcroze Eurhythmics). Throughout the Dalcroze workshops we focused on rhythmic movement, ear-training and improvisation. If you looked in to view one of our sessions with Dr. Buley, you would most likely find us bare foot, swaying, walking, jogging, leaping, throwing balls and moving with scarves to the music!

This course was very thought provoking and enlightening. I learned so much and was given many relevant pedagogical tools and activities which I am hoping to bring to my own classroom to share with my students. This course is a graduate level music education course offered at MUN, however, you do not have to be enrolled in a current graduate program to register for this course. I believe this course offers an opportunity for professional development and pedagogical growth for all music educators.

I encourage those of you attending the MSIC conference, Resonate 2017, to attend Dr. Buley's session titled, "Music Moves: Exploring Dalcroze Eurhythmics".

*Bethany Porter  
Music Specialist, Newtown Elementary & Goulds Elementary*

# Getting to Know Your Executive

**Leah Antle** – Member-at-Large, Avalon East & Treasurer, Eastern Executive

**Jonathan Hicks** – Member-at-Large, Avalon West

**Deanna Higdon** – Treasurer, Provincial Executive

## Q. Who or what inspired you to become a music teacher?

**Leah:** I initially began studying music because, after I spent my first term at MUN doing general studies, I found that I missed music in my life too much not to pursue it full time. I suppose I was initially inspired to teach because the simple act of singing has given me so much joy, and I wanted to share that joy with everyone!

**Jonathan:** I would say a combination of my private drum teacher (Rob Lee) and my high school band teacher (Dave Brown) were the two people that most inspired me to become a music teacher.

**Deanna:** Kathy (Joy) Bennett inspired me to become a music teacher. She was my elementary music teacher and brought so much energy, enthusiasm and life into an already fabulous program. Her love of music was contagious, and that's when I set on becoming a music educator. As well, one of my private music teachers, Michael Collins, shared his love of music with me. He was always encouraging and made me want to practice and grow as a pianist. I also owe my career path to him.

## Q. If you had to pick a new profession, what would it be?

**Leah:** If I was not a music teacher, I would love to be an entertainment reporter. I love movie news, good television, and celebrity gossip!!!

**Jonathan:** If I HAD to pick a new profession I would probably go into engineering.

**Deanna:** I'm not sure what else I would be doing if I wasn't a music teacher! I worked at TD Canada Trust for a number of years, so perhaps I'd be a banker!