



MANITOBA MUSIC EDUCATORS' ASSOCIATION
L'ASSOCIATION MANITOBAINE DES ÉDUCATEURS
DE MUSIQUE

May 2020

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

VIRGINIA HELMER

Dear Colleagues,

As we welcome a different kind of spring in Manitoba, a spring without Honour Bands, school musicals, Band and Choir trips, Orff Days, the MCGA's Creative Music Festival, or the hundreds of school concerts that give us the opportunity to celebrate a year full to the brim with music learning and music making, there is still much to celebrate, look forward to, and be thankful for.

May is Music Month! The MMEA is thrilled to launch a new online initiative for our celebrations this year. More details are to be found in this newsletter. Thank you to Karen Tole-Henderson, Les Chalmers, Amanda Ciavarelli, Jordan Laidlaw, Pauline Courcelles-Chabot and Leanne Jensen for their work on this. I am excited to see their plans come to fruition! You will also see in connection with this project that MMEA has acquired a stronger social media presence. You can follow us now on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Teaching from home has brought many challenges, but also many rewards. When we finally emerge from the restrictions of Covid-19 social distancing protocols, we will all be a little more tech savvy (unless you were pretty tech savvy to begin with), and you may have made some unexpected connections with a few people, places and ideas you didn't have the time to consider before. If nothing else, I think we can all say that we have been reminded of just how much making music together means to us, and to our students, and what a big part of our lives music occupies in times of joy, but also in times of crisis.

I am happy to say that I think the importance of music has been recognized by our government as well. Although we will not see any results of the Education Review for some time, I see it as a hopeful sign that the arts are represented in the Learning at Home plan on the MET website under French immersion, and that plans are in place to include learning in the arts on the English pages in the near future. Many school divisions have included music as part of their more specific plans as well.

There's a story I always tell my students when they first hear the snare drum in the band room respond to the sound of a French horn, a trombone or a tuba. At first they are annoyed, and we always run back and turn the snare off, muttering under our breaths that the percussionists should be doing that as a matter of course. But I like to point out that the sound of the horn has actually caused the snares to *move*, from across the room! Through vibration, we have been able to touch something without being in close physical proximity to it. How a propos is that in the current situation. Music has the power to move from a distance like no other force on earth. I'll leave you with that idea, and an encouragement to have a look at our plans for Music Month. Stay safe everyone, and for the time being, stay home!

Ginny

MMEA – Calendar of Events and Activities

MBA events - <https://www.mbband.org/calendar>

MOC events – www.manitobaorff.org

MCGA events - <http://www.manitobaguitar.ca>

MCA events - <https://www.manitobasings.org>

Concerts and Other events – check each event website for updated information.

Due to COVID19 cancellations it is advised that members check with sponsoring organizations about the status of future events.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>
*****2020*****			
May	MMEA sponsored Manitoba Music Month		MMEA
May 4	Music Monday – Coalition for Music Education in Canada This event has been moved to a virtual format		
June 1	Creative Music Festival Plans are under way to showcase remote performances		MCGA
June 16	Tried and True – Sharing Effective and Tested Repertoire Plans are under way to make this a virtual event		MCA
August 19-21	Summer Jazz Camp		MBA
August	Summer Band Camps		MBA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prairie Percussion Workshop Aug 4-7 • Band Camp MBCI Aug 9-14 • Band Camp VMC Aug 10-14 • Band Camp Oakbank Aug 10-14 • Band Camp Garden City Aug 17-21 • Band Camp S. James Aug 17-21 • Band Camp Dauphin Aug 24-28 		

October 23 **TEMPO:** Manitoba Music Conference

Please contact the sponsoring organization directly to confirm event times, locations and registration information.

Manitoba Choral Association

“It is with great regret that due to the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing guidelines, MCA must announce the cancellation of our first-ever summer choral leadership camp, INSPIRE, set to take place August 18-20. We know that many senior high students were looking forward to registering for the camp, and we are disappointed that we are not able to hold it this year. The health and safety of all participants in MCA workshops and events are always our top priority. We look forward to holding the camp next summer instead, after we are able to resume normal choral activities. Watch for details about that for next year!”

MCA has decided to close our office temporarily as we do our part to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). The health and safety of our members, volunteers, staff and community are our highest priority. We will continue to monitor guidance related to COVID-19 from the Province of Manitoba and the Public Health Agency of Canada.

During this time, our staff and volunteers will be working remotely. If you have music to pick up or return, please contact us at mca@manitobasings.org to make an appointment. We will do our best to

accommodate the needs of our members during this time. We wish all our members, volunteers and donors health and safety during this time.



MANITOBA MUSIC EDUCATORS' ASSOCIATION
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April 23, 2020
Manitoba Music Month - Online!
Dear Music Colleagues,

The Manitoba Music Educators' Association (MMEA) is pleased to announce our intention to continue celebrating Music Month for May 2020! While school closures may negate the possibility of showcasing students' performances in a traditional public venue, MMEA will begin an online presence to celebrate music-making through distance learning.

Beginning in May 2020, we will post videos on social media platforms (Instagram, YouTube, Facebook) of students' music creations. The project is open to all students in K-12 school programs. Examples of showcased videos may include solo performances, duets (e.g. guitarist/singer), small ensembles (e.g. brass quintet), larger groups (e.g. wind ensemble, concert band, choir) or anything else you can think of! There is no prescribed repertoire for this occasion; all genres of music are welcome.

How to Proceed

To participate in the Online Music Month project, be sure to do the following:

1. Prepare students for an at home music project where they may interact digitally (e.g., Zoom).
2. Have students submit their completed music video to you.
3. Contact parents asking for consent to share the video publicly.
4. If required, contact your school administration for approval.

How to Submit

Videos should not exceed five (5) minutes in duration. MMEA welcomes all submissions but cannot guarantee all videos will be showcased. Videos may be submitted throughout May - MMEA would encourage early submissions.

Please submit your students' music video to manitobamusiceducators@gmail.com.

Thank you everyone for your continued dedication to music education. We look forward to submissions!



Manitoba Music Educators' Association



@Manitobamusiced



MMEA



MANITOBA MUSIC EDUCATORS' ASSOCIATION
L'ASSOCIATION MANITOBAINE DES ÉDUCATEURS DE MUSIQUE

23 avril, 2020

Le mois de la musique au Manitoba- en ligne!

Chers collègues en musique,

L'association manitobaine des éducateurs de musique (MMEA) est heureuse d'annoncer son intention de continuer à célébrer le mois de la musique en mai 2020! Quoique la fermeture des écoles pourrait annuler la possibilité de faire valoir les performances d'élèves dans un contexte traditionnellement publique, MMEA débutera sa présence en ligne afin de célébrer la production musicale par l'enseignement à distance.

Au début du mois de mai 2020, nous publierons des vidéos des créations musicales des élèves sur les médias sociaux (Instagram, YouTube, Facebook). Ce projet est ouvert à tous les élèves des programmes scolaires de la maternelle à la 12^e. Des exemples de vidéos publiés pourraient inclure des performances solos, des duos (ex. guitare/voix), des petites ensembles (ex. quintette de cuivres), des grands groupes (ex. harmonie, chorale) ou n'importe quelle autre possibilité! Il n'y a pas de répertoire prescrit pour cette occasion; tous les genres de musique sont bienvenus!

Comment procéder:

Afin de participer au projet du mois de la musique en ligne, assurez-vous de suivre les étapes suivantes:

1. Préparez un projet de musique à domicile pour les élèves où ils/elles peuvent interagir de façon digitale (ex. Zoom)
2. Demandez aux élèves de vous soumettre leur vidéo complétée.
3. Contactez les parents afin de demander la permission de partager publiquement la vidéo.
4. Si nécessaire, contactez l'administration de votre école pour leur consentement.

Comment soumettre une vidéo

Les vidéos ne devraient pas dépasser une durée de cinq (5) minutes. MMEA accueillera toutes les soumissions mais ne peut pas garantir la publication de chacune. Les vidéos peuvent être soumises à travers le mois de mai- MMEA encourage les soumissions précoces.

Veuillez SVP soumettre les vidéos musicales de vos élèves à manitobamusiceducators@gmail.com.

Un grand merci à tous pour votre dévouement continue à l'éducation musicale. Nous avons hâte de recevoir vos soumissions!



Manitoba Music Educators' Association



@Manitobamusiced



MMEA

Music Monday Virtual 2020: Comfort, Connection and Community through Music

On Monday May 4, Canadians from coast to coast to coast will join #TogetherInHarmony in celebration of Music Monday. During this time of uncertainty, the Coalition for Music Education in Canada is working to provide the nation with comfort, connection and community, through music.

Every year on the first Monday in May, the Coalition hosts Music Monday, our signature advocacy event and annual celebration of music education. Comprising over a thousand grassroots celebrations - and a dozen large scale events - it's an opportunity to shine a spotlight on the phenomenal work of teachers, students, community allies, and arts organizations, while advocating for equitable access to quality music education within our public schools. Now more than ever, Canadians understand the vital role that music plays within our culture. We must work together to ensure that future generations will have an opportunity to join in our song.

In 2020, Music Monday will go virtual, allowing every Canadian to celebrate safely. The Coalition is planning a full day of streaming content which will showcase the diversity, creativity and resilience of the nation. Music Monday #MMVirtual2020 will feature live performances, never before seen footage, favourite memories, and special messages from prominent Canadians. We look forward to raising our voices for the Music Monday anthem, Oscar Peterson's icon "Hymn to Freedom," in a new bilingual arrangement. At a time when our world can seem divided and fractured, the anthem espouses a message of unity, harmony and togetherness.

Tune in on May 4 to hear this stirring piece of Canadian history, including a virtual choir version of the anthem led by Alexander Shelley, Music Director of Canada's National Arts Centre Orchestra. The day-long livestream will include a specially curated Spotlight Celebration, highlighting some of our favourite content from across the country, a series of exciting regional broadcasts, fresh performances from our Youth4Music Ambassadors, and an epic afterparty.



The broadcast will be available on our website, social media, and through partner organisations. It will be accompanied by a series of at-home resources, tools and activities to enhance celebrations and support at-home learning.

For more information on the event and accompanying resources, visit our [website](#), or contact musicmonday@coalitioncanada.ca for more information.

Children in the classroom

Innovative exercise brings life and discovery into music course

By Nicolien Klassen Wiebe, CMU



If you had walked into Dr. Janet Brenneman's Early Musical Development course last semester, you might have been surprised at what you would have found: a group of preschoolers.

Brenneman, Associate Professor of Music at Canadian Mennonite University (CMU), invited children from Assiniboine Castle Daycare to come to her university class for five weeks, so her students could gain hands-on teaching experience.

The students of Early Musical Development explore pedagogy, the philosophy of education, and musical development in children. As in any other class, they do readings, write papers, and have discussions. But they also put their learning into action, observing in classrooms throughout the city and taking turns teaching each other in class.

This year, Brenneman wanted to try something new. The daycare, which operates on CMU's campus, was the perfect connection. "We're teaching about music education for children and there are children one floor down. It's a no brainer; we should connect," she says.

The students took turns leading half hour lessons for the eight children, ages four and five. They marched and danced around the room, sang, played games, and learned actions to music alongside puppets. One of the great benefits was that they could teach and have fun with the kids without the pressure of being evaluated in the same way as a teaching placement.

"I hope we can do it again, because I think it was very valuable for [the students]," Brenneman says. "Even though it's not necessarily the population that they're going to be working with, it was just really important that they got to experience first-hand the amount of preparation it takes to teach, even just that little bit."

And the exercise wasn't just useful for those planning to teach young ages. "I always say that, really, the methodology you use for teaching is essentially the same," she says. "Good teaching is just simply good teaching; it matters not the size of your student."

Even so, students who weren't previously interested in early years education became more open to the possibility. Many of them didn't have much prior experience with the age group and came out of the experience surprised and proud of what they discovered they were capable of.

Brenneman says beginning music education early in children's lives is vital. Research has reported that babies show signs of recognizing music played to them in the womb and that music increases brain activity and benefits brain development. But the benefits of music for young people go far beyond these, she says. "I believe that music takes a stronger role in developing our sense of belonging in the world, in the improvement of our social skills and attitudes, and in giving our children opportunities to take real pride in achievement and accomplishment for which they've mastered challenging skills."

Brenneman's passion for music education and teaching others how to be educators is clear. After almost 20 years of teaching at CMU, she's still learning and finding ways to change up her methods. "I think my passion lies in the collaborative aspect of teaching. I love learning from my students, as much as I love facilitating their learning. I love discovering together with them new ways of doing things, new possibilities for repertoire. There have been students over the years who I would say have become much better teachers than me, and I think that's great—that's the whole point... That's the kind of thing that excites me, is watching students grow in their own way."



Manitoba Orff Chapter

MUSIC FOR CHILDREN - CARL ORFF CANADA - MUSIQUE POUR ENFANTS



The Manitoba Orff Chapter presents:

Navigating our Music Classrooms Online!

Three Sessions of Sharing and Support, featuring Three Popular Platforms:

SeeSaw, Microsoft Teams, & Flipgrid

Each Zoom session will be facilitated by MOC Board Members and Guests who will give tips and ideas for navigating each platform.

Although our meeting hosts are not experts (we're all still learning!), we will offer tips for lesson creation, maneuvering tricks, and will also allow room for participants to ask questions and share ideas.

Tuesday, April 28, 7:00 - 8:00 pm - SeeSaw
Wednesday, April 29, 7:00 - 8:00 pm - Microsoft Teams
Thursday, April 30, 7:00 - 8:00 pm - Flipgrid

Registration is limited! Deadline for registration - Monday, April 27, 4:00 pm

For More Information and to register, please visit

<http://www.manitobaorff.org>

WEBSITE LINKS & RESOURCES

The MOC Board has created a list for its members of tried and true on-line resources to access during this time of teaching music from home.

There are many lists of resources out there, and we are as overwhelmed by it all as you are. This is what we have found helpful and inspiring and what we have used in our classrooms.

<http://www.manitobaorff.org/website-links---materials-to-share.html>

Returning Next Year!

Please note that Children's Day and the Orff Level Courses at the University of Manitoba will not be happening in 2020. Although these events have been canceled this year, stay tuned for information about our 2021 events.

<http://www.manitobaorff.org>