



# The Quarter Note

Winter 2022

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## NEWSLETTER INDEX

President's Message	1
Calendar of Events	3
<b>NBRMTA</b>	
2021 60th Anniversary and AGM	4
Competitions	5
<b>CFMTA</b>	
General Dates and Updates	8
<b>Professional Development</b>	
Music As Medicine	10—11
NB Students COVID CD	13—14
<b>NBRMTA Archival Calendar</b>	15
<b>Provincial Executive and Council Listing</b>	16

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**Rita Raymond-Millett, President NBRMTA**

Greetings and Happy New Year to all NBRMTA members.

Although our 2021 teaching year hadn't completely returned to normal, hopefully you enjoyed any music making opportunities with your students. We, as teachers, have the responsibility and opportunity to partner with our students through these trying times, giving them positive experiences and an outlet to express whatever emotions they are feeling. I know if I'm having a day where the current situation is getting me down, my spirits are lifted by my students at their lessons!

I am hopeful that we will be able to gather in Fredericton for our belated 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of NBRMTA, as well as a concert and workshop with Edmund and Karla Dawe on June 17 and 18, 2022.

The past two years have been difficult and all of us have had to pivot numerous times, but I do truly appreciate the new skills learned. The willingness of educators from around Canada and beyond who openly share their expertise and resources has been appreciated. I know that we will continue to use the skills acquired throughout the past two years.

Wishing all of you happiness and health in 2022. Hopefully we will see many of you in June!

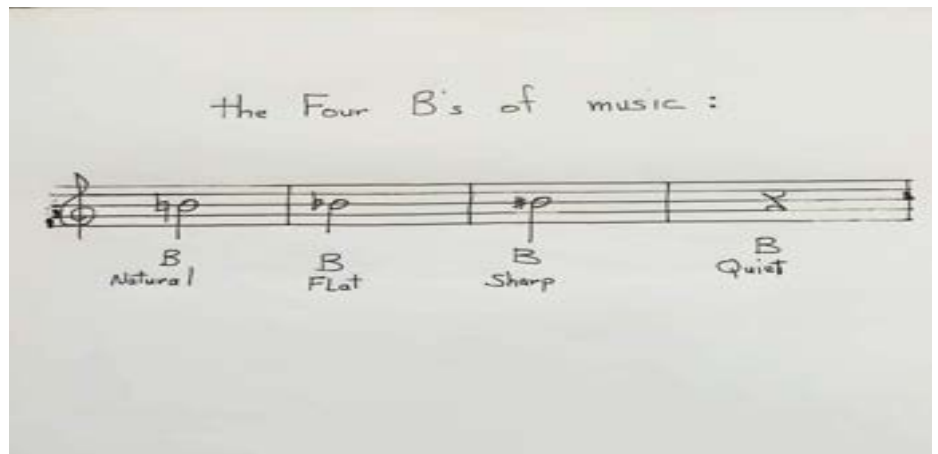
Rita

Articles or ideas for The Quarter Note Newsletter are welcomed!

Deadline for the next newsletter is  
March 15, 2022

Please email ideas and/or articles to:

**[editor@nbrmta.com](mailto:editor@nbrmta.com)**



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## MARK THESE DATES:

*If you have any dates for events that you would like to share with members at any time of the year, please send information to:*

[webmaster@nbrmta.com](mailto:webmaster@nbrmta.com)



### DEADLINES

**JANUARY 31, 2022:** Connecting Canada Virtual Professional Development 2022 Call for Proposals - January 31, 2022. Contact [publicrelations.marketing@cfmta.org](mailto:publicrelations.marketing@cfmta.org) or go to [Connecting Canada 2022](#) for information

**March 1, 2022:** CFMTA Call for Compositions

<https://www.cfmta.org/en/call-for-compositions/>

**March 15, 2022:** Atlantic Young Artist Competition Entry Deadline [http://](http://www.nbrmta.com/young-artist-series/)

[www.nbrmta.com/young-artist-series/](http://www.nbrmta.com/young-artist-series/)

**March 15, 2022:** NBRMTA Student Composer Competition [http://www.nbrmta.com/](http://www.nbrmta.com/nbrmta-student-composer-competition/)

[nbrmta-student-composer-competition/](http://www.nbrmta.com/nbrmta-student-composer-competition/)

**March 31, 2022:** Branching Out Initiative: Celebrating Multiculturalism and Diversity in our Communities.

<https://www.cfmta.org/en/branching-out/>

**MAY 1, 2022:** [National Essay Competition](#)

**June 17 & 18, 2022:** NBRMTA 60th Anniversary Celebration, Lecture/Recital, Conference and Annual General Meeting in Fredericton, NB. **Mark Your Calendars Right Away!**

**March 15, 2022:** Deadline to submit articles for the April 2022 NBRMTA Quarter Note

Newsletter to [editor@nbrmta.com](mailto:editor@nbrmta.com)



## NBRMTA's 60th Anniversary Celebration and AGM

We are thrilled to be able to state with a large degree of certainty that the third time trying to provide a 60th anniversary celebration, lecture/recital, workshops and Annual General Meeting in person is going to happen in 2022!

**Please save the date of Saturday, June 17 & 18, 2022 now!**

Friday evening, June 17th, 2022 at Christ Church Parish Church in Fredericton, NB will be a lecture/recital with Edmund Dawe.

Saturday morning, June 18, 2022, also at Christ Church Parish Church in Fredericton, NB will be workshops with both Karla and Edmund Dawe.

There will then be a cake and time of celebration of the more than 60 years of music teaching excellence that the New Brunswick Registered Music Teachers' Association has helped bring to the province.

Immediately following will be the Annual General Meeting.

Details of the events of the weekend will be distributed as the time approaches, but please do mark this extra special event in your calendars now!

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professeurs de musique  
du Nouveau-Brunswick



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## The Atlantic Young Artists 2022

**When:** Saturday, April 23, 2022

**Where:** Marjorie Young Bell Conservatory, Mount Allison University, Sackville, New Brunswick

**Who:** Musicians in all disciplines studying with a Registered Music Teacher

**Entry Deadline:** March 14, 2022

**Website:** [www.nbrmta.com/young-artist-series/](http://www.nbrmta.com/young-artist-series/)

**Rules & Regulations and Online Entry Form:** <http://www.nbrmta.com/2022-aya-pdf-info-and-entry-form/>

## NBRMTA Student Composer Competition 2022

**Entry Deadline:** March 15, 2022

**Rules & Regulations:** <http://www.nbrmta.com/nbrmta-student-composer-competition/>

**NBRMTA Student Composer Online Entry Form:** <http://www.nbrmta.com/nbrmta-student-composer-competition-online-entry-form/>



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**LOOKING FOR NEW CANADIAN MUSIC? CHECK THIS OUT:** As part of the Piano Music She Wrote project that I've been working on since 2020, my first 2 Piano Music She Wrote anthologies have been published by Debra Wanless, and are now available for you to purchase! The volumes include 43 pieces by 24 composers from Baroque to 20th century, and are all categorized according to level. The Early Elementary book includes pieces for students of preparatory level, grades 1 and 2, while the Late Elementary book is for grades 3 and 4 RCM levels. Music from 14 countries (including Canada) across 4 continents.

You can order the books at this link: <https://www.pianomusicshewrote.com/anthologies> & they will be sent out within 2 business days.

I'm so excited to get this music into the hands of piano students and teachers. These composers really deserve to be played and heard much more than they have been. I think you'll really enjoy these pieces, as well as the beautiful artwork on the covers. Please feel free to share this announcement with pianists and piano teachers alike.

All 43 pieces are available to listen to on our Youtube channel: [https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLYB2GaNp7qNykybyldSg\\_EwMsLKsD](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLYB2GaNp7qNykybyldSg_EwMsLKsD)

Be well & safe...best from here!

Sandra

[www.sandramoqensen.com](http://www.sandramoqensen.com)



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## News from the CFMTA

~ Did you know that the CFMTA website has a video library that is always being added to for your continuing education purposes? Go to [Video Resource Library](#). Remember, the Video Library is password protected so please contact [admin@cfmta.org](mailto:admin@cfmta.org) if you need the password. There are 4 new videos now available: 1) Expanding the Musical Canon: Achieving Equity and Diversity through a Critical Examination of the String Repertoire – Andrew Kizas 2) Proper Piano Pedagogy: Using Teaching Props – Karen Gerelus 3) Piano Resources by BIPOC Women Composers – Olivia Adams 4) Diversifying the Repertoire – Amy Boyes

~ A reminder that the Branching Out initiative is “Celebrating Musical Multiculturalism and Diversity”. CFMTA will donate \$100 to each branch that hosts an event by March 15, 2022. Applications and details are available at <https://www.cfmta.org/en/branching-out/>

~ Connecting Canada Virtual Professional Development 2022 has a Call for Proposals open until January 31, 2022 for the Virtual Professional Development opportunity to be held July 8 and 9, 2022: Choosing Change: The Post-Pandemic Music Studio. Contact [publicrelations.marketing@cfmta.org](mailto:publicrelations.marketing@cfmta.org) or go to [Connecting Canada 2022](#) for information.

~ For those that may not be aware, the Canadian Music Teacher Magazine is now available online through the CFMTA Website. Located near the top of every page on the CFMTA website, between the tabs and the page content, you can access the magazine page directly using this address: <https://www.cfmta.org/en/canadian-music-teacher-magazine/>

~ The Essay Competition has FOUR levels of competition: high school, undergraduate, graduate degree and Doctorate level. The Dr. Lorna Wanzel Prizes are awarded to the first-place recipients in both the Doctorate and Master's level categories. The prizes for the undergraduate and high school levels this year are generously provided by the Parr Academy of Vocal Arts, the Northwest Territories Music Teachers' Association, Joanne Lougheed and Dr. Stephen Runge. This competition is open to any Canadian student, whether or not they are studying with an RMT. For more information, go to [National Essay Competition](#) or contact the [Essay Competition Chair](#). Deadline for entry is May 1, 2022.





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## PIANO & VOICE EXAMINATIONS

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** April 1  
**EXAMINATIONS:** Late May – Early June

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## Music As Medicine: Singing In Hospitals and Care Homes

from Pump It UpMagazine <https://www.pumpitupmagazine.com/music-as-medicine-singing-in-hospitals-and-care-homes/>



*For those with brain diseases such as dementia, music and song can unlock memories and emotions that are otherwise unattainable. In fact, music therapy is now a widely acknowledged method of helping people living with dementia to form connections to their past and manage behaviours*

Few people understand the healing power of music better than Phoebe Gorry, a jazz singer who performs in hospitals, care homes and special needs schools.

Gorry works with Music in Hospitals & Care (MiHC), an organisation that provides live concerts in healthcare settings. “To perform for people who can’t get out and see live music is incredibly rewarding,” she says. “You realise just how powerful music is. It really can make people feel special.”

While MiHC is a charity, its performances are strictly professional. The singers and instrumentalists on its books are all pros who are paid for their services. Singers are accompanied by a pianist or guitarist (no backing tracks here) and draw on a broad repertoire. Gorry, who studied pop and rock at the Academy of Contemporary Music before branching out into jazz, can turn her hand to everything from jazz and dance hall, to pop, funk and Disney favourites. This versatility is essential as every MiHC concert is tailored to suit the audience.

***Article continues on next page...***

*...Continued from page 10...*

“You need to leave your ego at the door and think about what the audience wants to hear,” explains Gorry, who also works as Concerts Co-ordinator for the charity.

“You’re there to make them feel better. It’s very important that you read the room and ask the audience what they would like to hear. You need to be able gauge your surroundings and think on your feet.” These surroundings could be anything from a crowded hospital wing to a neo natal ward or mental health facility. The audience may be instantly receptive, or shy and reticent. Whatever the situation, it’s up to the singer to build a rapport.

### **The Power of Song**

Gorry has witnessed all sorts of reactions to her performances; some people listen with their eyes closed (a smile gently forming on their lips), others shed a tear or two or merrily sing along. And sometimes the response is even more dramatic. One of Gorry’s most unforgettable experiences took place in a children’s ward. After singing for young people with cancer and premature babies, nurses beckoned her into a side room to perform for a ten-year-old girl in a comatose state.

“Her mum said to me ‘please sing something upbeat’ so we performed the Pharrell Williams song Happy.

“To everyone’s amazement, and for the first time in weeks, the girl opened her eyes. Her mum and sister started crying. It was incredibly moving. But as a performer you can’t let emotion overwhelm you. You have to keep singing.”

### **Professional Development**

As well as being personally rewarding, the MiHC concerts have helped Gorry develop professionally.

“I’m now a more well-rounded performer. I’m prepared for all eventualities and can sing at the drop of a hat, as opposed to taking hours to prepare for a gig. “It’s also broadened my vocal skills and repertoire and helped me become more empathetic. I used to be quite shy about talking to the audience, but I’ve gotten much better at it over time.”

### **“I Now Know Why I Sing”**

Her music philosophy has crystallised too. “When I was younger, I was very concerned about how I looked and how many gigs I was getting. The pop and jazz worlds are very competitive and as time goes by you can forget why you started performing in the first place.

“Now I know I’m here because I love singing. It brings me joy and to share that joy with people who are struggling is a privilege.”

**Cause:** Tony practices the piano 20 minutes every day.



**Effect:** he is

a big

nerd

## New Brunswick Music Teacher Help Students

### Produce COVID-19 Music CD

by Shelley Steeves, Global News June 4, 2021

<https://globalnews.ca/news/7921755/petitcodiac-regional-school-covid-19-cd/>



Students at the Petitcodiac Regional School in New Brunswick have poured their hearts out helping to write, produce and cut an album all about life during COVID-19.

“We talked about (how) we are all in this together,” said Christopher Mersereau, a music teacher at the school who helped to guide students through the process. He said they also talked about what things might be like when the pandemic is over. Mersereau said students from kindergarten to Grade 12 had a hand in writing, producing, playing instruments and singing on the 15-track CD entitled Distantly Close.

Mersereau, who was a full-time musician before he became a teacher, played guitar, bass and percussion on the tracks. He also enlisted some professional musicians to help write and play the songs, including: Keith Mullins (guitar, voice, harmonica) Christian Kit Goguen (voice, guitar), Louise Vautour (violin), Jesse Mea (accordion, piano, B3, Wurlitzer), Iz Ouellet (voice).

“Some people that I used to play with and who are still good friends decided to help out. So where there was a void in the song we kind of filled it with the professionals,” he said.

He said the lyrics are a reflection of how the kids have been feeling amid the pandemic.

*Article continues on next page...*

**...Continued from page 13...**

“It was a way of checking in with them so I feel like there was a therapeutic component as well,” he said.

Thirteen-year-old Dawson Chase, who is in Grade 7, played his ukulele on some of the tracks and said it was like a dream come true working with professionals in the industry. “Music is my dream and what I have wanted to do and getting to do this and making our own song and having our own album it is pretty cool,” said Chase.

“I thought this was really cool because we got to write our own song and it is actually on a CD,” said 13-year-old Sadie Lewis. Lewis also said that she connected with the words in the title track.

Despite being separated from friends and family, she said technology has helped her maintain a closeness with people amid the pandemic, “messaging and face timing every day.”

Proceeds from the CD will be used to support the school’s music program. The students are currently working on producing a music video for each song on the CD.

Mersereau hopes those who listen to the lyrics in the songs will find a common connection. “We wanted a deeper reflection and something that would stand the test of time so when you listen to the record 10 years from now it is still pertinent”



## NBRMTA Yearly Deadline Calendar

### Newsletter

#### **Submission deadlines**

August 15  
December 15  
March 15

#### **Publication dates**

August 15  
January 15  
April 15

### Community Volunteer Award for students

Dates to send in accumulated points for certificates: May 1 and October 1 of each year

### Memorial Scholarship

Fredericton	2001	2005	2012	2015
Moncton	2002	2004	2006	2016
Sackville	2003	2007	2013	
Saint John	2004	2008	2017	
Victoria County	2009			
Carleton County	2010			
Festival of Musical Arts	2011			

### CFMTA Magazine submissions

Winter Edition: Submission deadline – December 1

Publication – January

Spring Edition: Submission deadline – April 1

Publication – May

Canada Music Week Edition: Submission deadline – August 15

Publication – September

Submitted by: 1<sup>st</sup> Delegate

### CFMTA Piano Competitions (biennial)

Regina		July 2011
Halifax (Piano and Voice)		July 2013
Vancouver		July 2015
Baltimore, Maryland (CFMTA/MTNA Commemorative Conference)	March 2017 (Vocal competition also)	
Winnipeg		July 2019
Virtual Competition “Connecting Canada 2021”	July 2021 (Vocal competition also)	
Edmonton	July 2023 (Vocal competition also)	

### Young Artist Competitions – (biennial)

Sackville 2006	Dieppe 2008	Sackville 2010
Sackville 2012	Sackville 2014	Sackville 2016
Sackville 2018	Sackville 2020 - Cancelled due to Covid-19	

### NBRMTA Music Competition (biennial)

Dieppe 2008	Moncton 2015	Woodstock 2010
Fredericton 2016	Fredericton 2012	Virtual 2018

### Annual General Meeting, Conference and 60th Anniversary Celebration

June 17 & 18, 2022, Fredericton, New Brunswick

**New Brunswick Registered Music Teachers' Association  
Provincial Executive and Council  
2021-2022**

**EXECUTIVE**

President, first delegate to CMFTA and Archivist: <a href="mailto:president@nbrmta.com">president@nbrmta.com</a>	Rita Raymond-Millett	Quispamsis, NB
(Acting) Vice President, Competitions Chair & AYA Co-Convenor: <a href="mailto:vicepresident@nbrmta.com">vicepresident@nbrmta.com</a> or <a href="mailto:competitions@nbrmta.com">competitions@nbrmta.com</a>	Lynn Johnson	Moncton, NB
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AYA Co-Convenor: <a href="mailto:srunge@mta.ca">srunge@mta.ca</a>	Stephen Runge	Sackville, NB
Student Composer Competition Convenor: <a href="mailto:christian@nbrmta.com">christian@nbrmta.com</a>	Christian Berube	Fredericton, NB