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#### **Calgary Branch Board Meeting**

Date: October 21, 2024

Place: Zoom

#### **MINUTES of MEETING**

**CHAired BY:** Sandra Joy Friesen

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Maryellen Pankratz

#### **NAMES OF ATTENDEES AND ABSENTEES**

**Members Present:** Lorna Sewell, Beth Olver, Angela Frankowski, Barb Robertson, Alexandra Andrievsky, Sandra Joy Friesen, Mandy Loban-Jordan, Nathene Arthur, Carolyn Steeves

**Late Arrivals:** Mandy at 9:35, Nathene at 9:41, Carolyn at 9:49

**Early Departures:** Angela Frankowski at 11:04

**Regrets:** Erika Gomez

**Guests:** Colleen Athparaia

#### **OPEN ARMTA CALGARY MEETING**

ARMTA CALGARY meeting called to order at 9:32 am.

### **SECTION 1: MEETING MINUTES pages 1-3**

#### **2. Approval of Agenda**

AMENDMENT: Moved 4.5 to 6.6

MOTION: Beth moved to accept the agenda as amended. Barb seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **3. Approval of Minutes from September 16, 2024**

MOTION: Alexandra moved to approve the September minutes. Lorna seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **4. Approval of Consent Agenda (reports for information, no discussion required)**

MOTION: Barb moved to approve the consent agenda as amended. Beth seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **5. Business**

##### **5.2 Student Recitals Convener**

MOTION: Alexandra moved to increase the maximum limit of recital venues to \$300. Beth seconded the motion. Five in favour. Two against. Motion carried.

ACTION: Maryellen will send the Events Location & Contact List to Alexandra

##### **5.3 Conference Grants proposal and motion (Beth)**

MOTION: Beth moved to accept the MTNA Conference grant as presented. Lorna seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ACTION: Maryellen will create a registration form and update the website and event calendar.

MOTION: Beth moved to accept the presented proposal to offer member teachers grants to attend conferences other than MCA, CFMTA and MTNA. Alexandra seconded the motion. Six in favour. Two abstained. Motion carried.

ACTION: Maryellen will create a registration form and update the website and event calendar.

MOTION: Beth moved to add to all conference grant descriptions that applicants must attend in person. Nathene seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ACTION: Maryellen will add to all conference grant descriptions: "Applicants must attend in-person" and "The Branch Administrator will transfer funds to the recipient within 2 weeks after the article and receipt are received."

MOTION (WITHDRAWN): Beth moved to amend the MCA grant to offer it every year, just even numbered years. Carolyn seconded the motion. After discussion, Beth withdrew the motion.

#### **5.4 Policies & Procedures update (Beth)**

The board agreed to add the following amendment to 7.7 (Branch Board) of the P&P. In order to add to this section of the manual, it must be approved by presented to the general meeting.

"At the end of the term in May, the Administrator will reimburse branch membership fees from the past year to Members at Large who have fulfilled their commitment on the Branch Board over the past year."

ACTION: Sandra Joy will start an agenda for the May AGM and Maryellen will also make note of this plan for the AGM.

ACTION: Maryellen will add the new statement to 7.7 of the P&P Manual and will then update the website.

### **6. New Business**

#### **6.1 Administrator Report, teacher education application approval (Maryellen)**

ACTION: Maryellen will advise Kimberley Yim that her application is approved.

ACTION: Barb will send a congratulations card to Kim.

#### **6.2 Monthly Newsletter on official ARMTA Calgary letterhead / Parent Portal**

Point of clarification: this is a new project and doesn't change Barb's communication job.

ACTION: Maryellen will get started. This may eventually have to be added to the administrator job description.

#### **6.3a Brain-Gym Workshop (Colleen Athparia)**

Workshop will be booked for 2 hours at Cspace at \$100 per hour. The clinician fee is \$300. Minimum enrollment is 10 people. November 19 was discussed, but official date and time of workshop to be determined via email between Colleen, Dana and Sandra Joy. We will advertise this to APTA and charge a fee the same amount as the September workshop plus \$5 to cover the credit card transaction fee.

ACTION: Maryellen will add this workshop to the website, event calendar and Jotform.

#### **6.3b Three online presentations (Merlin Thompson)**

Since we don't have a workshop convener, we will proceed with all three of Merlin's sessions. Minimum enrollment is 10 people.

ACTION: Sandra Joy will ask Merlin to propose a different date than November 21 for the first session.

ACTION: Maryellen will add workshops to event calendar and will create registration form and update the website.

#### **6.4 Piano Heist (Barbara)**

ACTION: Barb has a cheque donated for \$500. She will give this to Sandra Joy to pass along with some other items to Maryellen.

#### **6.5 Possible Conference Grant Deadline Extension (email from Barb)**

TABLED

#### **7. Other Business**

Sandra Joy agreed to be a board rep.

ACTION: Sandra Joy agreed to be a board rep and will reach out to Rose He.

ACTION: Carolyn will notify Tamara Bowie that Sandra Joy is our new provincial rep.

Branch Board meeting adjourned at 11:21 am.

#### **Endowment Society Meeting called to order at 11:21 am.**

#### **9.1 Endowment Project Discussion (Nathene)**

MOTION: Nathene moved to add a third place prize to DETSA in each of the two categories for a total of \$250. Carolyn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ACTION: Maryellen Dual Excellence Superstar webpage and will amend the budget.

#### **9.2 Endowment Society Bylaws (Maryellen)**

It was reiterated that we should continue to hold off until such time as there are other changes to present to the Provincial Registry.

ACTION: Sandra Joy will review the bylaws to see if there are any other changes that should be made.

Endowment Society meeting adjourned at 11:29 am.

## **SECTION 2: AGENDA pages 3-4**



Calgary Branch Board Agenda

October 21, 2024, 9:30 AM

Chair: Sandra Joy Friesen

Past Chair: Beth Olver

Vice Chair: Alexandra Andrievsky

Administrator: Maryellen Pankratz

Members at Large: Beth Olver, Lorna Sewell, Barbara Robertson, Carolyn Steeves, Angela Frankowski,

Sandra Joy Friesen, Erika Gomez, Mandy Loban-Jordan, Alexandra Andrievsky  
Treasurer: Lorna Sewell  
Bookkeeper: Maryellen Pankratz  
ARMTA Provincial Board Rep: Carolyn Steeves  
Endowment Society: Nathene Arthur, Carolyn Steeves

## **1. Welcome, Call to Order**

## **2. Approval of Agenda**

## **3. Approval of Minutes** from September 2024 (September Minutes included)

## **4. Approval of Consent Agenda** (reports for Information only)

- 4.1 Branching Out (SJF, Nathene)
- 4.2 Treasurer Report (Lorna)
- 4.3 Chair Report (SJF)
- 4.4 Bookkeeper Report (Maryellen)
- 4.5 ~~Member Communications (Barb)~~ moved to 6.6
- 4.6 Student Recitals Report (Alexandra)
- 4.7 New Member Report (Melodie Archer)

## **5. Follow-up Business from September**

- 5.1 Archives update
- 5.2 Student Recitals Convener
- 5.3 Conference Grants proposal and motion (Beth)
- 5.4 Policies & Procedures update (Beth)

## **6. New Business**

- 6.1 Administrator Report, teacher education application approval (Maryellen)
- 6.2 Monthly Newsletter on official ARMTA Calgary letterhead / Parent Portal (Tabled from last month)
- 6.3 Workshop Proposals
  - 6.3a *Brain Gym* (Colleen Athparia, separate document attached)
  - 6.3b Three online presentations (Merlin Thompson, document below)
- 6.4 Piano Heist (Barbara)
- 6.5 Possible Conference Grant Deadline Extension (email from Barb)
- 6.6 Member Communications (Barb)

## **7. Other Business**

## **8. Announcements**

Next meeting November 18, 2024; 9:30 am  
Provincial AGM, Friday October 25, 12:00 in person or via zoom, registration required

## **9. Endowment Society Meeting called to order at 11:21 am.**

- 9.1 Endowment Project Discussion (Nathene)
- 9.2 Endowment Society Bylaws (Maryellen)

## SECTION 3: REPORTS pages 5-13

### 4.1 Branching Out (SJF, Nathene)

Our CFMTA Branching Out *Random Acts of Music & Speech* event took place on Sunday, September 29, 2024, at the most appropriate outdoor interactive music stage in the *Quinterra Legacy Garden*. If you have not yet visited this lovely garden, you should put it on your to-visit list. It is situated within the South Glenmore Park, along the Elbow River and Reservoir. The open-air music stage is surrounded by an outdoor music instrument installation, free for all to make beautiful sound and music that drifts through the park - how wonderful!

Our event was intended to be an afternoon of bringing music to the community, to those strolling, biking, playing, picnicking, in the park. We were of course hoping for a beautiful day based on the morning sunshine, but with Calgary weather, hope only gets you so far...

In any case, ARMTA and CFMTA trooper-teacher Nathene Arthur, and her significant-roadie-husband Rick, brought the keyboard and sound equipment. Thankfully, we also had generous help from one of our newer ARMTA Calgary members, Sandra Narvaez (and her roadie husband Mauricio) for setup and take down. By 1:00, the winds and clouds were making their way to the garden, but we held out hope. We started the recital with several students performing piano and violin selections. Unfortunately, by 1:35 the rain and cold forced us to pack up.

We had a good turnout of students doing their best under these less-than-ideal conditions and I am pleased that we pushed through it. I am also very grateful that teachers, parents and students participate in our ARMTA events that benefit the greater community outside our teaching studios. The staff at Quinterra are wonderful to work with so I want to thank them as well.

This particular event of *music in the garden* is such a perfectly appropriate event, so I plan to do it again in May 2025, stay tuned!

### 4.2 Treasurer Report (Lorna)

I contacted Fish Creek United Church regarding forwarding donations or queries re donations made in memory of Trevor Bennett to our administrator as his obituary listed the address of the church as the location for any donations to be directed. I was unable to contact them by phone as their phone seemed to be out of service. Consequently, I sent emails regarding this issue. I have not heard back from the most recent message at the time of writing this report.

### 4.3 Chair Report (SJF)

Early September kick-off event was an engaging workshop and information session with ARMTA Speech Arts specialists Frances Ewington and Donna Holstine Vander-Valk. Small turnout with approximately a dozen interested teachers. Students of Frances and Donna gave examples of speech arts requirements at different levels from the younger age category to teenager level. I appreciated the information and the chance to see and hear Speech Arts *in action*.

Our CFMTA Branching Out event titled *Random Acts of Music & Speech* happened on Sunday, September 29. Nathene and Rick set up the keyboard and equipment, and we had help from a new ARMTA member Sandra Narvaez for setup and take down. We started the recital at 1:00 but by 1:35, we had to quickly pack up due to rain. Good turnout of violin and piano students doing their best under less-than-ideal conditions. Hope to do it again in May 2025.

Reached out to Looi Tan regarding her proposal for student teachers signed up in her online academy to shadow experienced music teachers. She will draft a *proposal to invite experienced teachers to open up their studio for a student teacher to observe up to 5 hours of teaching*, to which we can consider if and how to go forward with this idea.

Corresponded with teachers interested in giving workshops:  
 Colleen Athparia, workshop *Brain Gym*  
 Merlin Thompson, presentation  
 John Burge (from Ontario, for Fall 2025) masterclass for all music students

#### 4.4 Bookkeeper Report (Maryellen)

**Bank balances** as of October 7, 2024:

\$29,472.91 ARMTA Calgary Branch  
 \$12,073.69 Endowment Society

#### ARMTA Calgary GICs

Name1	Name2	Amount	Purchased	Matures
GIC1	Cdn Bank Market Smart	\$8,000	Nov 17, 2023	Nov 17, 2025
GIC2	Cdn Bank Market Smart	\$16,000	Nov 17, 2023	Nov 17, 2028
		<b>\$24,000</b>		

#### Endowment Society GICs

Name1	Name2	Amount	Purchased	Matures
GIC2	Cdn Bank Market Smart	\$5,750	Nov 26, 2021	Nov 26, 2024
GIC1	Peter Turner Scholarship	\$3,570	Nov 20, 2020	Nov 20, 2025
GIC3	Morning Musicale Scholarship	\$5,000	Nov 28, 2022	Nov 28, 2025
GIC4	Cdn Bank Market Smart	\$11,000	Dec 1, 2023	Dec 1, 2026
		<b>\$25,320</b>		

**Donations in Memorandum** Trevor Bennett recently passed away and we have been receiving donations in his name. I sent a thank you to the donors through Canada Helps.

\$100 cheque  
 \$301.64 Canada Helps

**Piano Heist** Last month after Barb requested a flyer for APTA, we started receiving ticket sales. Provincial has allowed us to use their Stripe account for credit card purchases. The event is Feb 16/25 and our year-end is Feb 28/25, so Tamara Bowie will send me one cheque between those two dates, along with a log of all sales and transaction fees.

**Unite for Change CauseFund** Canada Helps manages the majority of our donations and keeps a small percentage for their service. Last month, we received 13.64 from *CauseFund Calgary Fund by Unite for Change* through Canada Helps. Because we are in Canada Helps' database, we are automatically included as a charity in the Arts & Culture category of this fund. Donations made to a Cause Fund are split equally amongst all the charities in the fund.

In my curiosity, I searched and found some information from these two websites:

<https://uniteforchange.com/en/fund/calgary-fund/>  
<https://uniteforchange.com/en/how-we-create-our-cause-funds/>

#### **4.5 Member Communication (Barb)**

There have definitely been a lot of emails in the first weeks of teaching. It is definitely an important way to keep in contact with members.

I have sent a card to Fern Bennett. I think we need to have some sort of policy. She has asked for his obit to be put in impromptu. I was already asked to send it out via email. Do we do the same for all members?

I have heard that Brian Cross is not well - I don't think he is still a member. He was a well known teacher, but never involved with the executive in the last 30 years. (nor was Trevor).

#### **4.6 Student Recitals Report (Alexandra)**

So far, these are the recitals that are confirmed, they are organized by the same people who organized recitals last year:

1. An online recital organized by Gloria Chu on Sunday Nov 17;
2. A student recital for Alena Naumchyk's students that will also be open to ARMTA students on Sunday, Dec 15th;
3. An adult student recital organized by Kaylee, on February 19 at the Asylum for Art.

Additionally, Marissa Feria is planning to organize a recital in the South of Calgary, and Sandra Joy is exploring the possibility of a recital in the NW, but there is no date yet for either. Also, Sandra Narvaez said she will try to organize a recital and I offered to help, but so far there has not been much happening. Marissa raised the point that, with a budget of \$150 per recital, which requires booking a performance space for two hours, it is hard to find a space for rent that will have a good piano. She added that retirement homes are affordable but often do not have a good piano or enough seating for an audience.

#### **4.7 New Member Report (Melodie Archer)**

As the new member convener, I receive the names and information for new members, their teaching subjects and contact information. I also send bio's and pictures to Maryellen Pankratz to be highlighted in the website under "New Members" for 3 or 4 months in Impromptu.

I also ask a member of the board to personally contact the new member and welcome them to our branch.

The following 5 people have joined ARMTA Calgary since May 2024.

Cathie Kernaghan (May 2024)

Bianca Sarbu (August 2024)

Lorraine Carpino (August 2024)

Sandra Navraez (Sept 2024)

Desiree Arthur (Sept 2024)

#### **5.3 Conference Grants proposal and motion (Beth)**

Sandra Joy Friesen, Nathene Arthur, Beth Olver

**MOTION** to accept the following proposal to offer member teachers grants to attend conferences other than MCA and CFMTA:

##### **MTNA (Music Teachers National Association) conference grant**

- Preference will be given first to applicants who are attending the MTNA conference for the first time, and second to those who have not benefited from this grant in the previous five years.

- \$400 CDN is offered annually.
- Each year one Calgary Branch member attending the MTNA Conference may receive \$400. If there is more than one applicant, applications will be placed in a draw.
- The application deadline is November 1 and is for the MTNA conference the following March. The recipient will be announced by November 30.
- Recipients will be asked to provide an article to be published in Impromptu and posted on our website and social media. Please submit the following by April 15:
  - Your name
  - a few words about the conference (around 100 words) (e.g. describe something that inspired or amazed you)
  - a photograph taken at the conference
  - copy of receipt from conference
- The Branch Administrator will transfer funds to the recipient within 2 weeks after the article and receipt are received.

**Background:**

- A member requested funding to attend MTNA conference
- MCA and CFMTA have been given preference over all other conferences because they are conferences where ARMTA has a place at the table (financial support, planning support).
- MTNA and CFMTA have agreements with each other.
- Although \$400 for MTNA is more than what is offered for MCA and CFMTA, the amount recognizes the higher cost of attending a 5–6-day conference in the US.

**Members may apply for funds to attend other conferences:**

- Applicants must have attended in person at least 3 MCA or CFMTA conferences in the past five years.
- There is no fixed deadline nor fixed dollar value to this grant.
- Apply to Branch Board through the Administrator. Include:
  - Name
  - Contact information – email, phone, street/mailling address
  - List of MCA and CFMTA Conferences in the past 5 years
  - Dates of the conference
  - Location of the conference
  - Conference fees
  - What you expect to gain from attending the conference
- The Branch board will consider each application, with attention to the value of the conference to our Branch as well as to the member attending. The Board will determine the amount of the grant on a case-by-case basis.
- Recipients will be asked to provide an article to be published in Impromptu and posted on our website and social media. Please submit the following within 4 weeks of the end of the conference:
  - Your name
  - a few words about the conference (around 200 words) (e.g. describe something that inspired or amazed you)
  - a photograph taken at the conference
  - copy of receipt from conference
- The Branch Administrator will transfer funds to the recipient within 2 weeks after the article and receipt are received.

**Other possible amendments to the conference grants page**

- Applicants must attend the conference in person --- add to all conference grant descriptions.
- Amend the MCA grant to offer it every year --- not just even number years.
- The Branch Administrator will transfer funds to the recipient within 2 weeks after the article and receipt are received. -- add to all conference grant descriptions.



#### **5.4 Policies & Procedures update (document included, Beth)**

Proposed amendment to P &P: Include as 5.4 (membership dues) or as 7.7 (Branch Board) or as 16.2 (Remuneration). *I like section 7 best but it must be approved by the general meeting.*

At the end of the term in May, the Administrator will reimburse branch membership fees from the past year to Members at Large who have fulfilled their commitment on the Branch Board over the past year.

#### **5 MEMBERSHIP DUES**

5.1 Branch dues are to be paid directly to the Provincial Administrator along with provincial dues. The Provincial Administrator forwards branch dues back to the branch.

5.2 The annual membership dues of the Calgary Branch are established by the general membership at the Annual General Meeting.

5.3 The branch fee shall be paid by March 31 of each year.

#### **7 BRANCH BOARD**

7.1 The Board will consist of four to nine Members at Large including the officers (but not the administrator), ARMTA board members (1 for each 100 branch members), CFMTA delegate, and an (paid, non-voting) Administrator.

7.2 The Members at Large will be members in good standing and are elected by the membership at the Annual General Meeting.

7.3 The Members at Large will determine among themselves who will be the Chair and Vice-Chair. In the event that there is not an Administrator, Members at Large may serve as Treasurer and as Secretary.

7.4 The Administrator

7.4.1 may serve as the Secretary,

7.4.2 may serve as the Treasurer; or if the Treasurer is a Member at Large, may serve as the Bookkeeper under the Treasurer,

7.4.3 may serve as the Webmaster.

7.4.4 is not required to be a member of ARMTA.

7.5 This Board will be the governing body of this Association and will have full control and management of the business and affairs of ARMTA Calgary Branch.

7.6 An Officer or Board Member may be removed from their position under the following circumstances:

7.6.1 Not fulfilling their duties for six months as outlined in this Policies and Procedures Manual and job descriptions.

7.6.2 Has engaged in unethical behaviour according to the Calgary Branch of the Alberta Registered Music Teachers Association (1982) code of ethics

#### **16 REMUNERATION**

16.1 Unless authorized at any meeting and after notice for same shall have been given, no officer or member of the association shall receive any remuneration for his/her services.

#### **6.1 Administrator Report, teacher education application (Maryellen)**

We have received an application for the Teacher Education Grant (formerly Affiliate Grant, for which no one ever applied).

Applicant: Kimberley Yim

Exam: LRCM in Piano Performance

Name of Examining Body: Royal Conservatory of Music

Exam Date: Jun 13, 2024

Passing Grade Received

Receipt Received

All grant requirements have been fulfilled except the Impromptu article, which isn't due until November 30. May I tell her that her application is approved?

## **6.2 Monthly Newsletter on official ARMTA Calgary letterhead** ***Information provided by ARMTA webmaster, Carolyn Garritano***

We use MailChimp to send out ARMTA Provincial & ARMTA Edmonton Branch emails. Tamara and I are using the free version of Mailchimp so we can't add any additional people to have their own login. Once you have created an email template you like (I can help) then you can just duplicate it for future emails & change the content.

If you want an email list for parents you will need to set that up separately from our members email list. What you could do is set up your own MailChimp free account & then have a link and/or button on your website that parents could click to sign up for the mailing list. Then you can use that mailChimp account for sending emails to parents.

### **6.3a Brain-Gym Workshop (Colleen Athparia)**

I'd like to offer a Brain Gym® workshop for Music Teachers of ARMTA:

Date: Tuesday, November 12 or 19

Time: 9:30-11:30 (can be flexible if needed)

Where: cSPACE Marda Loop

Clinician's fee for 2 hr Workshop: \$ 300

C-space Tree-top rental fee: \$100/hr X 2

I've attached a detailed proposal and a brief resume. Please let me know if these terms are possible.

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Dana Luebke

Licensed Brain Gym® Instructor/Consultant

130 Sunset Way

Priddis Greens, Alberta, Canada T0L 1W3

dana.luebke@sunergos.com

Voice: 403-931-1527

WEB-SITES:

<http://languageofmovement.ca>

<https://braingymcanada.ca>



### **6.3b Three online presentations (Merlin Thompson)**

Hello Calgary ARMTA Executive, Thank you to Sandra Joy Friesen for sharing the situation regarding not having a Workshop/Events Convener this year. To make things as simple as possible, I thought this might be an opportunity to take advantage of online workshops. Here are my suggestions for three workshops:

1. The Chill-Out Concert. This informative session focuses on how music teachers can increase student engagement by including a Chill-Out Concert in their yearly schedule. The session will include preparations,

concert protocols, and what first inspired me to include this event in my studio. Date/time for online workshop - Thursday, November 21, 10-11 a.m. Calgary time

2. What Music Teachers Need to Know About Practicing. This practical session examines recent neuroscience research into how people learn. The goal is to translate research into real life application of learning to sing or play a musical instrument. An informative session. Date/time for online workshop - Tuesday, February 18, 10-11 a.m. Calgary time

3. Twenty Years from Now. This session contains strategies and tools that music teachers may use in their current lessons to sow the seeds for students as future recreational or amateur music makers. The emphasis is on including aspects in music lessons that synchronize with students' own personal musical connections. A game-changer session. Date/time for online workshop - Thursday, May 22, 10-11 a.m. Calgary time.

Each session includes a presentation and time for Q&A. It would be an immense honour and privilege to share these presentations with Calgary ARMTA members. My fee is \$100 per session. Please let me know if your group has preferences for alternate dates and times. I am very comfortable with moving things around. Looking forward to hearing back from you.

#### **6.4 Piano Heist Report (Barb)**

Information was sent to APTA members. There has been considerable interest with people buying tickets already. One member is actually flying back from her holiday in the states to be here for the concert. Information will be in their January newsletter.

The online ticket purchasing is working well. I am notified as tickets are purchased, with the number of adult and student tickets.

Fees for the venue and 2 technicians have been paid and the contract signed. Piano Heist deposit has been paid.

I am expecting a \$500 donation from the Calgary Folk Club. We will also get some tickets to give away, either for a live performance, or to livestream.

Next step, more advertising.

#### **6.5 Possible Conference Grant Deadline Extension (email from Barb)**

**From:** Barbara Robertson <barbrob@telus.net>

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 10, 2024 9:00 PM

**To:** M. Pankratz <armtaofficers@gmail.com>; Sandra Joy Friesen <sandrajoyfriesen@gmail.com>

**Subject:** MCA support

I was going to apply for the aid for MCA, but they still do not have all of the information online. At this point, I don't think it is worthwhile .....i have written to them twice to ask for more information - in fact, I was not even able to register. The sessions that were listed 2 days ago are nowhere to be found. It looks like it is a VERY slimmed down version - I wonder if we should delay the deadline for aid.

#### **9.1 Endowment Project Discussion (Nathene)**

Committee: Nathene Arthur, Carolyn Steeves, Laura Whitehead, Maryellen Pankratz

DISCUSSION #1: We propose to add another \$250 to the DETSA (Dual Excellence Teenage Superstar Award) for this year to be able to offer 3rd Place Awards in both the (a) Both ARMTA disciplines and (b) ARMTA and Other Discipline Categories of \$125 each.

DISCUSSION #2: We propose to return to our past budget of \$3,000 and include a 4th competition "Creative Writing Competition" which would have students write a creative story linked to a piece of repertoire or composer/author they are playing/using in Speech Arts.

#### BACKGROUND:

This past September we were approved a budget of \$2,000 (plus an extra \$375 added for a smaller Video Competition added in after the budget by a special vote). We thank Calgary ARMTA for entrusting us with these funds.

We would again like to re-iterate at these Endowment Projects are open to every student of Calgary ARMTA teachers - not just the regular top students (who can and also do enter these competitions) but students who enjoy their lessons but rarely enter festivals or exams, or if they do, they are not the top scoring students who would already qualify for other awards.

That is the major reason to offer these extra activities, and the secondary one is to promote our ARMTA Studios - our students can take part in these extra competitions, which are fun!

Realizing that the next Budget meeting is in February 2025, we are looking ahead to some tweaks and additions. Here are our thoughts:

- 1 Keep the Poster Competition. It is getting around 20 plus entries in two age groups. Contact person is Carolyn Steeves.
- 2 Keep the Video Competition. It is generating some amazing creative videos and usually has entries in the 13-14 range and we made it open to all age groups. Contact person is Nathene Arthur.
- 3 Keep the DETSA for one more year at least. This Competition is new...and we will work to simplify it. We are currently recruiting our Judges and working on a judging rubric for each of the two main categories (2 ARMTA disciplines, 1 ARMTA and 1 non-ARMTA discipline). This is open to teenage students only. Contact person is Laura Whitehead.
- 4 Introduce for the 2024-2025 year a Creative Writing Competition. This would be of benefit for students who could conceivably go ahead to the CFMTA National Essay Competition, but also to encourage students to create stories around their lesson pieces - whether instrumental or speech arts. We are currently making up the parameters for this competition. We would have three age groups. Contact person is Maryellen Pankratz.

With that in mind, we are proposing that we return to our original \$3,000 per year budget. We would lower the Poster and Video 1st and 2nd place awards to the \$75 and \$50 range. DETSA would increase to 1st and 2nd place in the \$400 and \$250 range, and the Creative Writing would have 1st and 2nd place in the \$150 and \$100 range. There would still be random draws.

A full budget request will be presented for the Calgary Board Budget meeting. At this point we would like feedback on the four projects. For discussion: confirming that we can go ahead with planning the new Creative Writing Competition, and counting on the increased budget request.

We all feel like these competition projects are fun and inclusive for our ARMTA teachers' students.

#### **9.2 Endowment Society Bylaws (Maryellen)**

Please see the excerpt below taken from the Sept 19/22 meeting minutes. After this meeting, it was pointed out that this change would affect our bylaws for Endowment Society. Beth suggested holding off until such time as there are other changes to present to the Registry. I believe this was discussed via email. In light of Beth's

announcement that she may have to reduce her involvement as a board member, perhaps we should make this change now? Does anyone else on this board know the procedure for updating the bylaws?

**From the following meeting minutes:**

**ARMTA Calgary Branch Board**

*Date: Sept 19, 2022 at 9:30 am Place: ZOOM*

*6.3 Calgary Signing Authority*

*MOTION: Rachel moved to adopt the following change to 17.4 of Policies & Procedures (**change in red**):*

*All payments rendered on behalf of ARMTA Calgary shall be authorized by two (2) of the following signing officers (**preferred but not required**): one of the Chair or the Vice Chair, and one of the Treasurer or the Bookkeeper.*

*Karenfaye seconded the motion. Motion carried.*