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A Compendium of News and Notes from the
Cowichan Valley Music Teachers

Mar 2, 2008

Feb. lunch meeting in brief:

Meeting was held at **Silver Bridge Inn** in Duncan, where a buffet lunch was enjoyed along with the conversation!

Most teachers are finished their parts of the annual **Cowichan Music Festival** - lots of ideas and suggestions were shared among those who had students participating.

Festival Galas & Highlights will be held
Sun, Mar. 2 - Duncan United 2 pm
Sun Mar. 9 - Cowichan Centre 1:30 pm
Wed Mar. 12 - Cowichan Centre 7:30 pm

History of Music - Committee report

October 17- 19. Here are some tentative - and definitely subject to change - plans from our initial meeting:

Thursday eve - Intro to Renaissance Music

Fri. class 1 - Intro repeated

Fri. class 2 - keyboards

Fri. class 3 - wind and brass

Fri evening - concert

Sat. am - choral music (music in advance)

Sat. aft - dance music

Sat eve. Renaissance dinner and dance

More people required to bounce ideas at - please come and join us for coffee Tuesday Mar. 25.

Teachers Concerts - Sept. 19th and 21.

David Walden is presiding. Time to think now about what you could do, and discuss it with David.

Registrations are open for **Pianofest** ...**deadline to register is Sat., Mar 15.** If you have any questions please contact Ruth (rmwilliams@shaw.ca) **Please remember to give the length, in minutes, for the entries you make.** And thanks for the support from the folks who are entering students for the first time.

Marketing and "what's in a name?"

The discussion of last month, both at the meeting, through the newsletter, and via e-mail prompted us to further discuss the possibility of **changing our name** to be more student/school/learning focussed, reflecting what we really are.

Several ideas have plenty going for them - but the decision should be made soon, so be prepared to discuss this at our next meeting, Mar. 28th at Eleanor's. Here are some of those I heard discussed, along with some pro's and con's - not an exhaustive list of either, and apologies if I misrepresent anything; this only a *brief flavour* of the great discussion!

Association of independent Music Schools. Great acronym, no mention of locality which could be important for internet.

Conservatory Cowichan, or Cowichan Conservatory - either followed by the subtitle *An Association of Independent music schools*. Associates the idea of "higher learning" via "conservatory", and will be easy to remember. Needs the subtitle to make it clear it's not all in one building. Nice and bold.

Cowichan Schools of Music - says what we are, focusses on student going to school to learn music, not very "catchy"

Other Marketing ideas included having a "Music Teacher's Trade Fair", possibly at the mall in late Aug. Teachers could each have a table (maybe under our new name) with room for performing at the front, by either students or teachers.

Songfest News

Songfest is May 9th and 10th (two weeks later) Most exciting news? - the committee has announced two new categories for 2008! Friday evening will be devoted to choirs - both adults' and children's choirs are invited to register. Each will perform two contrasting selections and have an opportunity to work with the adjudicator. **Registration from March 10th to April 12.** The second new category is Musical Theatre, replacing "Popular Song".

Dates and Concerts

Mar. 15 & 16th - Jailbreak - St. John's Anglican presents a new musical at Christian Reformed Church 7:30 pm Free admission, info 746-2326

Friday Mar. 28 - 9: 30 CVMTA meeting Eleanor's house. note **new** address: **6234 Lower Chippewa.** Music volunteers email dwalden@ryerson.ca

Sunday Mar. 30 - St. Michael's Presents... Ensemble Laude Victoria's Women's Medieval Choir performing their program called "Pilgrimages". more info www.cowichanmusicteachers.com

Let's build the Cowichan Music Teachers Association

Remember to check past issues, or find a teacher or their phone number at the website www.cowichanmusicteachers.com