

Manitoba MODES

Official Newsletter of the Manitoba Orff Chapter

President's Message

BY ERICA ROTHSCILD

Happy New Year! As we embark on another exciting year, I'd like to take a moment to extend my warmest greetings to all of you – our dedicated members, passionate educators, and music enthusiasts. I hope this new year brings you inspiration, joy, and continued growth both personally and professionally.

A few workshops remain in our season. These gatherings provide us with the opportunity to connect, learn, and grow together in our shared love for music and music for children.

Children's Day (May 2, 14, 15): We'll celebrate the creativity and joy of children in fifth grade elementary. This event is an exciting opportunity to engage with young learners through movement, singing and playing (recorder, xylophones, percussion), and emphasizing the transformative power of music in their lives.



This issue:

PAGE 01	President's Message
PAGE 02	Doreen Hall
PAGE 03	Advocacy Corner
PAGE 04	Resource Review
PAGE 04	Tech Tip
PAGE 05	Fall Fiesta Review
PAGE 06	Scholarships & Awards
PAGE 07	Upcoming Events
PAGE 12	MOC Board of Directors



Stay 'n Play (May 15): To wrap up the season, our Stay 'n Play evening will allow for an interactive and fun-filled experience. It's the perfect way to deepen our knowledge of the Orff repertoire guides (volumes), share ideas, and reflect on the year's growth, all while enjoying the camaraderie of the Orff community.

Play! (June 5): You are invited to bring your group or music class to play, sing and/or move at St. Vital Centre! The event will showcase what we do in our music classes. What an opportunity to share with the community and remind the public of the importance of music in schools. It's quite a significant message to be sharing in these uncertain times.

As always, I am so grateful for each of you and the incredible work you do in fostering a love for music. We hope to see you at these workshops as we continue to build our collective knowledge and passion for Orff Schulwerk.

You can always connect with us through our social media and our website at manitobaorff.org. Here's to a year full of music, growth, and shared experiences. May it be one of your best yet! Warmly,

Erica Rothschild



Doreen Hall

MAY 24, 1921 - JANUARY 19, 2025

Carl Orff Canada announces the passing of the founder of Carl Orff Canada and the tireless advocate for music education, Doreen Hall. Born in 1921, she passed away at the age of 103 in Toronto on January 19, 2025, after a long life dedicated to Orff Schulwerk.

Read her obituary [here](#).

A tribute to Doreen Hall will be published by Carl Orff Canada in the near future.



Advocacy Corner

Building Community through Elementary Music Programs

BY AMANDA CIAVARELLI

Elementary music programs play a vital role in fostering a sense of community among students, teachers, and families. These programs go beyond teaching musical skills; they create a shared space where individuals can connect, collaborate, and celebrate together.

1. Encouraging Collaboration and Teamwork

In the elementary music program, students sing, move, play, explore and create together. These activities require students to work together, listen to each other, and synchronize their efforts. This collaborative environment helps students develop teamwork skills and build strong, supportive relationships with their peers.

2. Celebrating Diversity

Elementary music programs introduce students to a variety of musical genres and traditions from around the world. This exposure fosters an appreciation for diversity and encourages students to celebrate their unique backgrounds and those of their classmates.

3. Enhancing School Community

Performances and concerts are key components of elementary music programs. These events bring together students, teachers, and families, creating a sense of pride and unity within the school community. The shared experience of preparing for and participating in these events strengthens bonds and enhances school connection.

4. Social Emotional Learning

Music has the power to express and evoke emotions. Elementary music programs offer students a safe space to explore their feelings and express themselves creatively. This emotional outlet can be particularly beneficial for young children, helping them to develop emotional resilience and a sense of belonging.

Elementary music programs are more than just learning music skills; they are a powerful means of building and nurturing a strong, inclusive community. By encouraging collaboration, celebrating diversity, enhancing school community and providing opportunities for social emotional learning these programs create a sense of belonging and connection in our school communities.

Resource Review

“One, Two, Three... Echo Me!”

BY ELIZABETH NEUFELD

“One, Two, Three...Echo Me! Orff Companion” by Donna Dirksing is a collection of songs paired with Orff accompaniments, designed to be used on its own or as a companion to the original book of the same name. These arrangements and teaching suggestions embrace the Orff approach, blending rhythmic speech, singing, instrument playing, movement, and improvisation. Whether you’re an experienced Orff educator or new to Early Years teaching, this resource provides clear, detailed guidance for teaching instruments using the Orff process, ensuring success for teachers at any experience level.



While the resource is listed as suitable for grades K-5, it is particularly well-suited for Grades 1-3, with one or two pieces that could be used in Grade 4.

One of my favourites from this book is “*I’m Locked in a Candy Store*”, a fun piece that introduces two ostinato patterns and broken bordun. This song can also serve as a great starting point for students to create their own ostinato patterns or design a B section on barred instruments, imagining their creative exit!

Tech Tip

Lyrical Labs

BY AMANDA CIAVARELLI

Many of us are using Artificial Intelligence (AI) as a tool. Did you know that there are many AI tools that now exist to help create music?

These tools can be used to inspire you or your students and for getting you started in the creative process. For our outer space themed concert, we needed to find a song about constellations in French that was engaging for students and that could incorporate our classroom instruments. After searching for a song with no success, we decided to create our own thanks to the help of a lyric generator.

LyricalLabs is a lyric generator that can create song lyrics. Input a theme and genre and in just seconds, it will generate possibilities for lyrics for a song. You can also adjust the “creativity” level which adjusts the complexity of the lyrics. And you can set the language, so this tool can be used to create lyrics in English, French, and more! Once it has generated lyrics, you can give it feedback to improve what it has created. Or, you can make adjustments on your own.

<https://lyricallabs.io/>



Fall Fiesta Review

BY JEWEL CASSELMAN

What an amazing day of learning and sharing with David Row from Kansas City. He shared his creativity and wonderful ideas with the participants at Fall Fiesta on October 26, 2024.

In his session “*Critical Thinking in Orff Schulwerk*” David walked us through several examples of critical thinking and had a great quote saying “Critical thinking is thinking about thinking so that you can think better . . .”.

We used our creative thinking styles while learning different songs and hand games such as *Omochio Tsukimasho*. We watched a video of how mochi is made and how the game imitates the pounding of the mochi in large bowls. He had some great suggestions about engaging the students by talking less, listening more, waiting longer for responses from students, and analyzing your questions before asking them. David also gave examples of different ways to engage students such as colour coding words in the poem in order that different coloured words played different notes on the xylophone.



In David’s session “*Do-Si-Do and Do-Si-Don’t Strategies for Dance and Movement*” we worked through several styles of folk dance from simple to complex. All of these dances were accessible for elementary students. We played some games and created different animals all while learning and having fun dancing. David presented a great segment on using puppets with his squirrel puppet that was very animated. This was a fun session with lots of activities and energy shared by David and the participants.

“*Small Steps Avenues for Improvisation*” was David’s final session of the day. We had fun making different combinations of sandwiches and putting them together. We learned about the heritage and origins of “*Four White Horses*” which was very interesting. We created our own patterns in small groups for this song which was lots of fun. In “*Great Big House in New Orleans*” we added in different types of pie and introduced David to a Manitoba Saskatoon pie. He is anxious to try this pie next time he is in Winnipeg.

This was a wonderful day of creating, sharing, singing, playing, improvising, and general fun with a great presenter David Row. He presents an online videosession each Monday evening on Instagram and FaceBook at makemomentmatter.org. He has many different resources available through TPT and has recently joined Patreon. I recommend taking time to check out his website and resources in TPT.





Scholarships & Awards

HELEN NEUFELD **MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

This award is given to the applicant(s) who best exemplifies Helen's commitment to the philosophies of Carl Orff Canada and her passion for music education.

This award is usually given to a student, or students, taking Orff Level II or III.

SUSAN BERRY **MEMORIAL TRAVEL BURSARY**

This bursary is awarded annually and provides financial assistance to rural music educators attending MOC professional development workshops in Winnipeg.

The bursary recipient will receive up to \$400 for transportation, meals, accommodation, and/or sub costs incurred to attend an MOC workshop.

GUNILD KEETMAN **SCHOLARSHIP**

The Gunild Keetman Fund was established in 1976 to provide annual grants to selected Canadian students or teachers.

Scholarships are awarded in the spring of each year and are available for all approved Orff Schulwerk courses offered in Canada, summer and winter. Applicants must be members in good standing of Carl Orff Canada, who have successfully completed a Level I Orff course.

Please visit [our website](#) for more information and application forms.



24-25

**JOIN US FOR
ANOTHER GREAT
YEAR OF
PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT!**

September 23

1

MOC/WSO LISTENING WORKSHOP

Legacy Centre, Winnipeg
The Spirit Horse Returns
*Amanda Ciavarelli &
Liz Kristjanson*

2

October 4

ORFFANTASTIQUE

Ecole Noel-Richot, Winnipeg
Chantal Dubois (QC)

October 25 & 26

3

TEMPO & FALL FIESTA, AGM

Tempo: MBCI, Winnipeg
FF: École South Pointe
School
David Row (GA, USA)

4

January 2025

DA CAPO

Brandon University

2025

5

BUILDING BRIDGES

Dauphin
Mountain View School
Division
Jewel Casselman

6

February 8

WINTER WORKSHOP

Highbury School, Winnipeg
*Sean Fitzmaurice &
Steph Davis*

April 2025

7

CHILDREN'S DAY

University of Manitoba
Brandon University
Dates TBD

8

May 15

STAY 'N PLAY

École South Pointe School
*Diane Sjoberg, Liz
Kristjanson, Ruth
Wiwchar & Joan Linklater*

June 2025

9

PLAY!

Date TBD
St. Vital Centre, Winnipeg

10

July 7-18

ORFF LEVELS

I & II

University of Manitoba

November 5, January 27, April 14

READING RHYTHM BOOK CLUB

Ecole South Pointe School
Hosted by Amanda Ciavarelli



ORFF

CHILDREN'S DAY

2025

Bring your grade 5 students to participate in a full day of music making the Orff way and experience fantastic teacher PD!

May 2nd

Brandon English
BU School of Music

May 14th

Winnipeg English

May 15th

Winnipeg French

U of M Desautels Faculty of Music

SESSIONS INCLUDE:

Choral • Basic Orff • Recorder • Movement • Drumming



Early Bird Registration - Nov 29th

Final Registration -

April 11th (Brandon) April 30th (Winnipeg)

JOURNÉE ORFF POUR ENFANTS

2025

Venez passer une journée musicale à la méthode Orff avec vos élèves de la 5e année. Ceci est une excellente journée de développement professionnel!

le 2 mai

Brandon (en anglais)
Université de Brandon

le 14 mai

Winnipeg (en anglais)

et le 15 mai

Winnipeg (en français)
Faculté de musique Desautels à
l'Université du Manitoba

LES ATELIERS:

chant chorale • Orff de base • flûte à bec • mouvement • tambour



Date d'inscription hâtive - le 29 nov

Date d'inscription finale -

le 11 avril (Brandon) le 30 avril (Winnipeg)



MOC 50TH ANNIVERSARY 2025-26

MANITOBA ORFF CHAPTER SONG CONTEST

WHAT

Compose a song in French or in English or both, following the criteria on the submission form. The winning song will be used to highlight MOC's 50th season.

WHEN

Contest opens in September 2024. Deadline for song submissions is March 2025.

PRIZE

Free admission to all MOC workshops for the 50th season 25-26 (must have a valid COC membership)

SEE FORM FOR MORE DETAILS



50E ANNIVERSAIRE DU CHAPITRE ORFF
DU MANITOBA (2025-26)

CONCOURS DE CHANSON DU CHAPITRE ORFF DU MANITOBA

QUOI

Composer une chanson en français ou en anglais, ou les deux, en suivant les critères du formulaire de soumission. La chanson gagnante sera utilisée pour souligner la 50e saison d'Orff Manitoba.

QUAND

Le concours s'ouvre en septembre 2024. La date limite de soumission des chansons est fixée à mars 2025.

PRIX

Entrée gratuite à tous les ateliers de la 50e saison d'Orff Manitoba 2025-26 (il faut être membre de COC)

VOIR LE FORMULAIRE POUR PLUS DE DÉTAILS

Contact Us

GENERAL INQUIRIES

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