



NSMEA NEWSLETTER

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- June Executive Meeting Recap
- Conference News
- Congratulations to our scholarship and bursary winners!
- Nomination forms for Musica Viva and Lifetime Achievement Awards now open!
- NSMEA Merchandise sneak peek
- Play-based teaching survey

NSMEA



NOVA SCOTIA MUSIC EDUCATORS' ASSOCIATION

NSMEA Executive

President: Dina Burt

Vice President: Noelle Wadden

Treasurer: Keli Brewer

Secretary: Allison Penwell

Communications: Lauryn MacDonald

June Executive Meeting Recap

The NSMEA executive convened for the final time this month for the 2025–26 school year, resulting in another productive day of discussions. Key topics included:

- Selection of bursary and award winners
- Conference planning and session scheduling
- Updates to NSMEA policies for clearer award guidelines and yearly initiatives
- Focus on equity and representation at the conference

We are also thrilled to announce the sale of NSMEA merchandise this year, which can be picked up at the conference. Orders form coming soon!

Our team has been diligently working on enhancing our online presence through our website. Be sure to check out the latest updates, including pages dedicated to past award winners and a section featuring this year's newsletters!

We have finalized our meeting dates for the upcoming year and eagerly anticipate continuing our support for the talented and dedicated music educators in our province.

NSMEA 2026 Conference



Collective Voices: Strong Together

October 23rd at Rocky Lake Jr. High



We are delighted to announce that this year's keynote speaker will be internationally acclaimed choral director, **Scott Leithead**, who is also the founder and artistic director of Edmonton's Korora Choir Association.

Your executive team and affiliates have dedicated their efforts to organize a day filled with diverse learning opportunities tailored for teachers across various grade levels and teaching environments. We believe you'll find it challenging to choose which sessions to attend!

Lunch will be offered by Subway again this year for an additional \$16 added to your conference registration.

To take advantage of our special group rate of \$143 per night at the Sandman Signature Dartmouth, please use the code **2610MUSIC**. Book by **September 21st** to secure the group rate.

Book your stay here:

<https://www.sandmanhotels.com/signature-dartmouth/>

Save the date! Our pre-conference Thursday evening social is returning and will be hosted at Bar One, situated in our host hotel, the Sandman Signature. More details will be shared soon!

Congratulations to our Scholarship and Bursary Winners!

We are thrilled to announce the recipients of our Summer Study Bursaries. A heartfelt congratulations to all the winners! We wish you the best of luck in your summer music programs—enjoy every moment!

- Molly Bain (St. FX Music Camp)
- Frankie Wilson-Deller (Mount Allison Summer Academy of Music)
- Nawon Jung (Acadia Summer Music Academy)
- Ethan Collier (Acadia Summer Music Academy)
- Elise Kelly (Acadia Summer Music Academy)

We would also like to extend our congratulations to **Annika Dunnewold**, this year's recipient of the Catherine Allison Memorial Scholarship. As a music education student, we are excited to support your journey toward becoming a music educator. Well done, Annika!

Award Nominations

Nomination forms are now open for the NSMEA Musica Viva award and Lifetime Achievement Award. The Musica Viva award was created to acknowledge a group, individual or organization who have made outstanding contributions to music education in our province. The Lifetime Achievement award was created to honour and acknowledge the career of a music educator who has dedicated their life to the betterment of this field in their own school and community, and honours the lasting impact of their service. If you would like to nominate a colleague for either of these awards, please fill out the corresponding form below before **September 4th**.

Musica Viva Nomination Form

Lifetime Achievement Award Nomination Form

On behalf of the CMEA, we would also like to encourage our members to nominate colleagues for the various CMEA awards that are being offered this year. For a complete list of awards and how to apply, please visit their website, linked [here](#).

CMEA award nominations are due by **September 15th**

NSMEA Merchandise Sneak Peek

We are thrilled to be offering NSMEA merchandise available for purchase this year!

The form to order merchandise will be available soon, stay tuned!

All merchandise orders will be available to pick up at the October conference.



COMING SOON

Keep watching the newsletter and Facebook for updates on ordering!



Play-Based Teaching Survey

Shared on behalf of: Francis Dubé, professor in Université Laval, Québec City, Canada

For the international Learning Music Through Play team

We invite you to participate in an international study on learning music through play (LMTP), conducted by Université Laval (Canada) in collaboration with researchers from Brazil, Mexico, Hong Kong, and Switzerland.

The objective of this research is to better understand music teachers' perceptions and practices regarding the integration of play in music education, as well as the obstacles or challenges encountered in different educational contexts.

We are seeking active music teachers (in schools, conservatories, universities, private music schools, or private teaching) who are willing to share their experience.

Participation simply involves completing the linked questionnaire. It is entirely voluntary, and choosing not to participate or stopping your participation has no consequences. All responses will be treated confidentially and anonymously. The questionnaire only takes 10 to 12 minutes to complete.

To participate, click on the following link:

<https://www.sondages.mus.ulaval.ca/ls200/index.php/723897?lang=en>

We sincerely thank you for your valuable contribution to this research.