



Music Clubs MAGAZINE

SPRING 2018 Vol. 97, No. 3



Great Music on a Great Lake



Milwaukee

NFMC Conference • June 19-23, 2018



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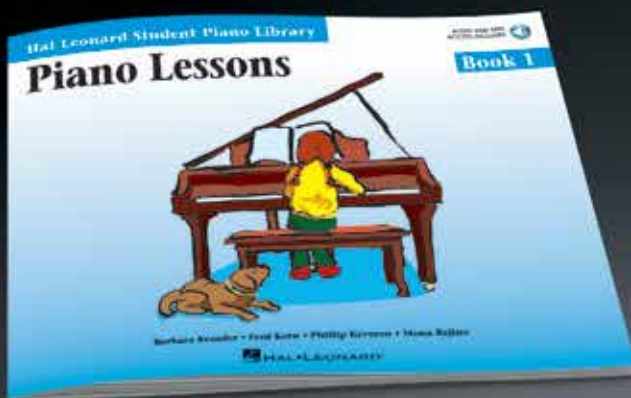
60th Annual NFMC 2018 Conference

June 19 - 23, 2018 | Crowne Plaza Airport Hotel | Milwaukee, WI

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Music Clubs MAGAZINE

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Message from the President

By Michael Edwards

The spring issues of *MCM* and *Junior Keynotes* have the complete official call for the 2018 NFMC Conference. The Wisconsin Federation of Music Clubs is excited to be hosting this event. They have planned unique programs and great music for you to enjoy. As always, one of the highlights will be getting together with great friends and meeting new ones. Now it's time to make your travel arrangements, book your hotel room at the Crowne Plaza Airport – Milwaukee Hotel, make your activity and meal reservation, fill out your voting credentials application and memorial contribution form. Please note that the boat tour and authentic German dinner at the Bavarian Bierhuas will be limited to 150 attendees.

State President's Day – This all-day event is scheduled on the first day of our conference – Tuesday, June 19, from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. State President's Day will provide tools to help presidents lead their states as they strive to reach their full potential in the Federation.

New Online System – The new online system workshop that was originally scheduled for Tuesday, June 19, has been rescheduled for Wednesday, June 20 at 3:30 p.m. following the festival committee meeting. Our new system will be in its developmental stage.

Proposed Bylaw Changes – These are listed in the official call. Please contact Lana Bailey for any clarifications.

Arts Advocacy – Urgent!!! Lee Ann Cummings will give an update on the state of the arts. I urge each state to have at least one representative attend this workshop on Wednesday, June 20, from 2:00-3:00 p.m.

It was a sad day for all of us in South Florida and the nation with the attack on Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on February 14. It was my privilege to audit many outstanding advanced piano solo festival auditions on February 3-4. Festival teacher Sandra Greenland has notified me that Carmen Schentrup, a senior who auditioned February 4 in piano solo VDII, was killed in the tragedy that struck Marjory Stoneman Douglas. Reviewing the festival schedule, I learned that Carmen auditioned in my room. Carmen was also a National Merit Scholarship finalist. William Olson, a ninth grader who also studies with Sandra, was wounded. A boy sitting next to William was killed. When will the madness end?

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Edwards".

Michael Edwards,
NFMC's 33rd President



Great Music on a Great Lake



NFMC Conference • June 19-23, 2018

Please Join Us!

You are all invited to Milwaukee for the 2018 Conference which will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Airport. There will be meetings, workshops and clinics during the day along with some special performances by our Junior Wisconsin and Illinois Award winners. The Rose Fay Thomas luncheon will include a surprise featuring Wisconsin cheese.

Because Milwaukee is a potpourri of ethnic groups, we would like to share some of this local culture with you. On Tuesday evening you will be delighted by a performance of the Trinity Irish Dancers, the most widely recognized Irish Dance group in the world. Wednesday, we will hear Dr. Jeffrey Hollander, retired University of Wisconsin professor of music and internationally acclaimed soloist. Thursday brings us the Young Artist winner, Andre Chiang and Friday we will hear a performance from our own Stas Venglesvski on the Bayan Accordion together with Tatyana Krasnobayeva who will be playing her beautiful dulcimer dating back to sixteenth century Belarus.

We have a very special tour planned for you starting out with a narrated cruise highlighting the Milwaukee River and the Lake Michigan shoreline, followed by an authentic German dinner at the Bavarian Bierhaus complemented by Tyrolean music.

Don't miss our Friday night dinner honoring all the State Presidents and hear about a Wisconsin Legend, Les Paul.

Located on the shores of Lake Michigan, Milwaukee is perhaps best known for its famous breweries and Major League baseball team, the Milwaukee Brewers. Milwaukee is rich in historical and cultural attractions including the Milwaukee Art Museum with its distinctive Calatrava, the Harley Davidson Museum, St. Josaphat's Basilica, and the beautiful Pabst Mansion. Summer brings almost weekly outdoor ethnic music festivals to Milwaukee, and also the world's largest music celebration, Summerfest.

We hope you can extend your stay in Milwaukee and partake of some of our special attractions.

Jeanne Hryniewicki
Conference Chair



Official Call

NFMC Conference • June 19 - 23, 2018 • Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Crowne Plaza Airport Hotel

For activity and meal reservations, memorial contributions and voting credentials please visit nfm-music.org after February 1, 2018.

An official name badge is necessary for attendance at every NFMC Conference function.



Full Registration \$100.00. Entitles the registrant to a program book, admittance to all open meetings and programs, evening concerts and receptions.

Daily Registration \$50. Entitles the registrant to a program book and admittance to all open activities for a single day/evening.

Student and Junior member Full Registration \$25.

No charge for an official name badge for a single meal function.

Registration Hours:

Tuesday, June 19 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
Wednesday, June 20 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Thursday, June 21 8:00 am – 12:00 pm
Friday, June 22 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

ATTENDANCE

All sessions except for the executive committee meetings are open to all registrants. Each state is encouraged to have at least one representative attend each session. The business meeting of a division or committee is for official business and observers can attend but the chair will control participation. There will be multiple sessions in most time slots to fit the interests of the attendees.

BOARD ATTENDANCE

(NFMC Bylaws, Article VI, Section 2C): An unexcused absence from more than one Board session shall be considered a resignation. Board members are asked to inform the recording secretary if they must request an excuse for an absence. The excuse must be received before the conference starts.

NFMC CONFERENCE LOCATION

Crowne Plaza Airport Hotel
6401 South 13th Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53221
(414) 764-5300
Group Block Code - NFM

Hotel Reservation cutoff date: 5:00pm on May 28, 2018. Each person is responsible for making his/her reservation. Visit www.crowneplaza.com, or call (414) 764-5300 for reservations. When registering use the above block code. If special services are required, please mention them at the time you make the reservation.

Room rate is \$114 per night, plus tax. Room rate includes a hot buffet breakfast for up to two people.

PARKING AND AIRPORT SHUTTLE

Complimentary self-parking and airport shuttle service is available.

HOTEL AMENITIES

The hotel will provide complimentary internet in guest rooms and meeting space; there is also a fitness center and indoor pool. All guest rooms have cable television, refrigerator, hair dryer, alarm, coffee pot and ironing board.

HOTEL RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE

There is a restaurant and lounge in the hotel. Hours are 6:30am – 12:00am.

WEARING APPAREL

This is summer in the mid-west. The hotel is air-conditioned. Comfortable business attire is expected to be worn at all sessions. The final dinner is NOT formal.

American Festival Chorus: White shirts or blouses, dark slacks or skirts, men wear dark ties.

VOTING CREDENTIALS

Voting credentials are available in the Spring issue of MCM and on the NFMC website. You can send the application with your registration or upload to the NFMC website.

PROPOSED BYLAWS

Proposed bylaw changes are printed in the spring issue of MCM and on the NFMC website.

MEMORIAL SERVICE CONTRIBUTIONS

The memorial service is scheduled for Saturday, June 23.

Memorial Contributions – Any NFMC member may send a memorial contribution to the national memorial chair, Susan Tury, using the form that appears in the spring issue of MCM or on the NFMC website.

Deceased Member List – State Presidents are to send a list of names of deceased members since the last NFMC meeting to NFMC Chaplain Connie Randall. Deadline June 1, 2018.

REPORTS

State presidents should bring a synopsis of the year's activities for sharing at the Presidents Council. No reports will be read at general session meetings. However, all officers and chairs are expected to have written reports prepared for publication in hard copy or on a CD. The deadlines are as follows:

May 15 is postmark deadline for Committee chairs to email or mail one page report to his/her Division chair.

May 25 is postmark deadline for Division chairs to send compilation of Division committee reports to NFMC Headquarters.

May 25 is postmark deadline for Officers to email or mail.

Reports will be compiled for all convention registrants. CDs and hard copies will be available at the registration desk for convention registrants. Division Chairs will be introduced at a general session; they will then introduce their committee chairs in attendance. No reports will be presented but attendees are encouraged to obtain the packet of reports or the CD, attend Division meetings and meet with chairs.

Daily Schedule

NFMC Conference • June 19 - 23, 2018 • Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Crowne Plaza Airport Hotel

TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 2018

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| 9:00 am – 5:00 pm | President's Day Training |
| 10:00 am – 5:00 pm | Registration |
| 10:00 am – 12:00 pm | Investment/Finance Committee |
| 1:00 pm – 1:30 pm | Budget Committee |
| 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm | Finance Committee |
| 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm | Sergeants-at-Arms Committee |
| 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm | Regional Vice Presidents Meeting |
| 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm | Protocol Committee |
| 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm | Executive Committee |
| 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm | Festival Chorus Rehearsal |
| 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm | Trinity Irish Dancers Reception |

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20, 2018

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| 7:00 am – 7:45 am | Tae Kwon Do for Seniors |
| 8:00 am – 5:00 pm | Registration |
| 8:30 am – 10:15 pm | Formal Opening, Milwaukee Police Band Presenter – George Keck, Organizing Archives; Mary Kate Bielinski, Marilyn Caldwell Award Winner |
| 10:15 am – 11:30 am | Presenter – Ben Barbera, Milwaukee - City of Festivals |
| 10:30 am – 11:30 am | Board of Directors Meeting |
| 12:00 pm – 1:45 pm | Rose Fay Thomas Luncheon Ann Lobotzke, Harpist Presenter – Patrick Georhegan, "We Dream in Cheese" |
| 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm | Lee Ann Cummings, Arts Advocacy |
| 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm | Festival Committee |
| 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm | Bylaws Committee |
| 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm | Parliamentary Procedure |
| 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm | FAMA |
| 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm | Presentation of New Online System |
| 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm | Festival Chorus Rehearsal |
| 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm | Performer – Dr. Jeffrey Hollander Reception |

THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 2018

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| 8:00 am – 12:00 pm | Registration |
| 8:30 am – 10:00 am | General Session Presenter – Pat Steege, Junior Composers Chair Performer – Jacob Beranek, Junior Composer Class IV National Winner |
| 10:00 am – 11:30 am | Junior Division |
| 10:00 am – 11:00 am | Arts Division |

10:00 am – 11:00 am Presenter – Linda Edelstein, Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra, "Our Work and Impact"

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| 11:00 am – 12:00 pm | Public Relations Division |
| 11:00 am – 12:00 pm | Student Division |
| 11:00 am – 12:00 pm | American Music Division |
| 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm | Regional Luncheons |
| 2:00 pm – 6:30 pm | Tour |
| 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm | Festival Chorus Rehearsal |
| 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm | Young Artist Program – André Chiang Dr. James Norden, Accompanist Reception |

FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 2018

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| 8:00 am – 8:45 am | Tae Kwon Do for Seniors |
| 8:00 am – 12:00 pm | Registration |
| 9:30 am – 10:30 am | Annual Business Meeting Performer – Alyssa Warcup, Wendell Irish Viola Award |
| 10:00 am – 2:00 pm | Browse and Buy |
| 10:30 am – 11:30 am | Presenter - Dr. Jeffrey Hollander "Great American Songbook" |
| 10:30 am – 11:30 am | Competitions & Award Board |
| 10:30 am – 11:30 am | Policy Resolution Committee |
| 10:30 am – 12:00 pm | Festival Chorus Rehearsal |
| 11:00 am – 12:00 pm | Treasurer's Forum |
| 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm | Festival Chorus Concert |
| 2:30 pm – 3:15 pm | Headquarters/Office Committee |
| 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm | Membership and Education Division |
| 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm | Presenter – Sam Ecoff Music Technology in the Studio |
| 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm | Council of State Presidents |
| 3:15 pm – 5:00 pm | Finance Division |
| 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm | Young Artist/Ellis Committee |
| 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm | Arts Advocacy Committee |
| 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm | Periodicals Committee |
| 5:30 pm – 6:00 pm | Optional Photo Opportunity by Appointment |
| 6:00 pm – 7:45 pm | Banquet Performer – MYSO String Ensemble Speaker – Sue Baker, Les Paul Foundation |
| 8:15 pm – 9:15 pm | Stas Venglevski and Tatyana Krasnobayeva Reception |

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 2018

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| 8:30 am – 9:30 am | Memorial Service |
| 9:45 am – 12:00 pm | Board of Directors/Executive Committee |
| 10:00 am – 12:00 pm | Junior Day |

Activity & Meal Reservation

NFMC Conference • June 19 - 23, 2018 • Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Crowne Plaza Airport Hotel

The NFMC Conference registration fee does not include meals. Tickets for meal functions must be ordered in advance; your packet of tickets will be held at the NFMC Registration Desk. Registration cancellations cannot be accepted after June 10. Meal refunds cannot be made after June 1 unless the tickets can be resold. A meal ticket is required for admittance to all meal functions. All persons attending the Conference are required to register; an official name badge is required for admittance to all events. There is no charge for an official name badge of a single meal function. Those attending more than one function (meal or presentation, workshop or concert) must register.

Register and pay online at www.nfmc-music.org
-OR- Make check payable to NFMC –
Milwaukee 2018. Postmark deadline for ticket
order is June 1, 2018.

Mail check and registration to:
NFMC, attn: Jennifer Griffin,
1646 W Smith Valley Rd., Greenwood, IN 46142

| | Cost | X | # Tickets | = | \$ TOTAL |
|---|-------|---|-----------|---|----------|
| REGISTRATION FEES: | | | | | |
| Full Session Registration | \$100 | X | | = | \$ |
| Daily Registration | \$50 | X | | = | \$ |
| Junior or Student Member Registration | \$25 | X | | = | \$ |
| MEAL RESERVATIONS: | | | | | |
| Wednesday, June 20 Rose Fay Thomas Luncheon RFT # _____ | | | | | |
| <i>All meals include iced tea or coffee</i> | | | | | |
| 1. Tortellini Marinara <i>Cheese stuffed tortellini in house made marinara sauce, topped with shredded parmesan</i> | \$23 | X | | = | \$ |
| 2. Southwest Tilapia <i>Southwest seasoned tilapia topped with lemon butter sauce, roasted corn and black beans, cilantro lime rice</i> | \$24 | X | | = | \$ |
| Thursday, June 21 Regional Luncheon (Region _____) | | | | | |
| <i>All meals include iced tea or coffee</i> | | | | | |
| 1. Pasta Primavera <i>Sauteed Fresh Vegetables over Fettuccini in a light cream sauce, with fresh herbs and shredded parmesan</i> | \$23 | X | | = | \$ |
| 2. Chicken Caesar Salad <i>Crisp romaine lettuce tossed with a classic caesar dressing, topped with grilled chicken strips, house made croutons and fresh parmesan cheese</i> | \$24 | X | | = | \$ |
| Friday, June 22 Presidents' Banquet <i>All meals include salad, rolls, dessert, coffee or tea</i> | | | | | |
| 1. New York Strip Steak <i>whiskey peppercorn sauce, horseradish mashed potatoes</i> | \$40 | X | | = | \$ |
| 2. Chicken Oscar <i>Marinated chicken breast stuffed with crab and asparagus, topped with tarragon cream sauce, wild rice blend</i> | \$35 | X | | = | \$ |
| 3. Stuffed Shells <i>Three cheese stuffed jumbo shells, marinara, balsamic glaze, zucchini and yellow squash</i> | \$25 | X | | = | \$ |
| TOUR FEES & CD: | | | | | |
| Tour Thursday, June 21 (limited to 150 people, 2:00 pm – 6:30 pm) | \$50 | X | | = | \$ |
| Conference Photographs – digital download link | \$25 | X | | = | \$ |
| GRAND TOTAL: \$ | | | | | |

Name (Print Clearly) _____ Email address _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Federation Office/Chairmanship _____ Date of arrival _____

List Dietary Needs: _____ List Food Allergies: _____

Plan to sing with the American Festival Chorus? Yes _____ No _____ If yes, please indicate vocal part: _____

Voting Credentials Application

NFMC Conference • June 19 - 23, 2018 • Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Crowne Plaza Airport Hotel

DEADLINE: VOTING CREDENTIALS for all delegates must be received by June 1, 2018.

VOTING CREDENTIALS: The voting credentials form is published with the Official Call and may be uploaded to the NFMC website, sent via email or mailed to the National Headquarters at 1646 W. Smith Valley Road, Greenwood, IN 46142. Credentials will be included in your registration packet.

Delegate's Name _____ Email _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ Telephone _____

I hereby apply for Voting Credential Signature _____

ELIGIBILITY FOR VOTING CREDENTIAL:

(Check only one)

- Member of NFMC Board of Directors
- Appointed NFMC Officer
- NFMC Chairman of Department or Committee
- State President or Alternate
(Alternate's name must be sent to National Treasurer)
- Individual Member, Life Member, Subscriber, Donor or Patron
- President of National Affiliate Organization or Alternate
- Senior Organization elected delegate:

Each organization shall be entitled to delegate representation based on its paid membership on record in the office of the National Treasurer 20 days before the opening of the Biennial Convention, figured as follows:

- ▶ Organizations of 25 or less – one delegate
- ▶ Organizations of 26-50 – two delegates
- ▶ For each 25 members over 50 – one additional delegate, except no organization shall have more than ten delegates.

Before voting credentials deadline each ELECTED DELEGATE must have his/her Club President send a written confirmation that he/she is the elected delegate of the club to national headquarters, Attn: Tonya Parrish.

- Student Active Organization delegate
(list name and address of organization below)
- Counselor of Active Junior Organization
(list name and address of organization below)
*Name of Organization _____
*Address of Organization _____

Memorial Contributions

For each person to be listed in the Memorial Service program, a \$25.00 minimum contribution must be sent to: Susan Tury, 10404 South Colony South Dr., Nags Head, NC 27959; stury@earthlink.net.

Postmark deadline: June 1, 2018.

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

(Check payable to NFMC. The check must be separate from the registration check.)

Name of Person(s) Contributing _____

Email _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Name(s) of person(s) being memorialized _____

DECEASED MEMBER LIST:

State Presidents: There are no fees to list deceased members. Email to NFMC Chaplain Connie Randall at: conniebrandall@yahoo.com **Deadline June 1, 2018.**

Bylaws

NFMC Conference • June 19 - 23, 2018 • Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Crowne Plaza Airport Hotel

2018 NFMC BYLAW PROPOSALS

ARTICLE XI SECTION 7

No person shall serve as a **first term** the Chair of a National Division, Department, Committee, or a Regional Chair and as a first term (two-year) State President at one and the same time. ~~A first-term president in any state is ineligible to hold dual positions:~~

Rationale: Several states are finding it more and more difficult to secure presidents. Many competent members are currently serving in National positions, and this referenced article in the Bylaws forbids them from serving as a first-term president.

ARTICLE XIII SECTION 3D POWERS AND DUTIES (Fund for the Advancement of Musical Arts (FAMA))

Delete ... "and at least \$75,000 shall always remain in the permanent fund."

Rationale: All financial data has been placed in the Standing Rules

Remove the following two Bylaws:

ARTICLE VII 2B EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

5. Approve the appointment of the State News Editorial Chair and five (5) members, one from each Region, of the Editorial Board and the Chair of the Arts Advocacy Department as provided in Article IX, Section 2A6.

ARTICLE IX SECTION 2A THE PRESIDENT

6. Appoints, subject to approval of the Executive Committee, the State News Editorial Chair and five (5) members, one from each region, of the Editorial Board, and the Chair of the Arts Advocacy Department.

Rationale: These appointments should be treated as all other Presidential appointments and listed in SR B-1.

ARTICLE VIII SECTION 3D NOMINATION FOR MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

1. Suggestions of possible nominees for Members-at-Large may be sent to said Nominating Committee by any member or organization. Such names, with qualifications, must reach the committee before November 1 in the even year.

1. **Completed Member-at-Large Eligibility forms for Member-at-Large nominees may be submitted to said Member-at-Large Chair by any member or organization. Completed Eligibility forms must reach the Member-at-Large Chair before November 1 in the even year.**

To validate Member-at-Large nominations made from the convention floor, completed Member-at-Large Eligibility forms must have been received by the Member-at-Large Chair via email transmission one week prior to the opening day of the Biennial Convention.

Rationale: To clarify eligibility process for all Member-at-Large nominees.

ARTICLE VIII SECTION 4A ELECTION OF MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

The report of this Committee shall be read on the first day of the

business session of the NFMC Biennial Convention, at which time further nominations for Members-at-Large may be made from the floor **during the General Session.**

Rationale: Designates a specific location for further nominations.

ARTICLE IX OFFICERS

E. TREASURER

1. Has custody of all the funds and securities of the Federation, including those for the Fund for the Advancement of the Musical Arts, and the Headquarters Endowment Fund. **Serves as liaison between headquarters, CPA, auditor, and NFMC Board.**

2. Shall deposit all such funds and securities in the name of the National Federation of Music Clubs, in financial institutions approved by vote of the Executive Committee. **Has responsibility for all NFMC funds and securities being deposited in federally recognized and approved institutions.**

5. **NFMC Treasurer serves as liaison between Investment Fund and Operating Funds. Transactions from Investments Fund can be authorized only by the NFMC Treasurer and/or President.**

6. 5. Collects and disburses the monies, under the direction of the Board of Directors. **Shall present recommendations to the NFMC board for approval of CPA and auditor engagement letters.**

7. 6. Pays bills signed by the President, specific chairmen authorized by the President, and/or the designated official at NFMC Headquarters. **Pays awards as requested by Awards Chairs. Sends congratulatory letters and awards checks to winners.**

7b. Sends Monthly and Quarterly Reports to the President, First Vice President, Finance Chairman, and all Past National President. (Duty performed by Executive Director)

8d. 7e. Files annually the report required by the General Not-for-Profit Corporation Act of the State of Illinois and Indiana, and the Congressional Charter. **Requests audit reports be sent annually to required governmental or organizational agencies and has oversight of tax filings.**

9. 8. The outgoing Treasurer shall deliver to the successor within sixty (60) days after the close of the fiscal year, all money, securities, vouchers, books, and papers in the Treasurer's custody and belonging to the Federation, and the Fund for the Advancement of Musical Arts and the Headquarters Endowment Fund, together with a complete financial report certified by CPA audit.

10. 9. In the event of the temporary inability of the Treasurer to perform the duties of the office, **the Executive Director shall assume responsibilities of the Treasurer.** the President shall appoint a member of the Board of Directors to act as Treasurer, and the name of such appointee shall be filed with the financial institutions in which the funds of the Federation are deposited.

Rationale: To clarify revised financial responsibilities for NFMC Treasurer.

REVIEW: GIBSON'S 'ALL SAINTS' RECITAL NOT EASILY FORGOTTEN

by Luci Smith, Guest columnist

Most of one's life is spent passing through the haziness of morning routines, a little coffee, and the occasional trips to the grocery store.

Very seldom does one experience something that both educates and enlightens the soul to an awakened passion. These occurrences are, though rare, moments one likely holds onto for all of their life. **Dr. Caroline Gibson's** recital at the First Church of the Ascension contained many of those moments.

Before the concert officially started, the air of dignity with which Gibson held herself was exquisite. Accompanied by her pianist, John Martin, Gibson carried herself like a princess. The pair, both dressed in stunning outfits, was the picture of perfection. Soon, melodious sounds filled the room.

The pianist, John Martin, started with a rousing few notes. A true master of the piano, he was a great match for Gibson's exquisite talent. The unique tonality, holistically delightful sound, and expression delivered in Gibson's voice and gestures were enough to immediately capture anyone's attention. At times, she sang with quiet passion. At others, her voice would grow with intensity into a sound which could crack open even the hardest hearts.

Gibson showed her skill of memorization through lengthy songs in English, German, Italian, and French. The incomparable timbre of her voice was highlighted by the multitude of languages contained in this performance. The ways in which each language shaped the vowels gave individual songs unique ambiance. Understandably, in a time when few people need to be multilingual, one of a diverse performer's hardest tasks is maintaining a connection with the audience.

With stunning capability, Gibson portrayed nearly every word with such delivery that most of the audience, at least during the show, began to consider themselves language connoisseurs. One crowd member said, "She made Italian seem so easy and comprehensible. I felt like I could understand every word." That's what every performer should strive to achieve.

All song transitions were handled with grace. There was never an awkward pause. Most of the performance went in a direct fashion, seamlessly tied together, undoubtedly a result of many weeks of practice. Though interactions with her accompanist were scarce, all communication was respectful and professional. The words, and sometimes glances, were discreet and directed with intent to only Martin, leaving the audience to bubble with whispers of delight which filled the room.



Dr. Caroline Gibson

With stunning capability, Gibson portrayed nearly every word with such delivery that most of the audience, at least during the show, began to consider themselves language connoisseurs.

Captivated through and through, the audience rose in an ovation after her last listed piece, "O Patria Mia" from Verdi's opera Aida.

Much to the audience's delight, she returned to the stage for an encore — the lovely "You'll Never Walk Alone" from Rodgers and Hammerstein's Carousel.

At the conclusion of this performance, I was left amazed by Gibson's incredible technique, encompassing masterful breath control, incredible diaphragm support and splendid projection, coupled with superb enunciation and impeccable deployment of vibrato. I can say with absolute certainty that, should Dr. Gibson have been born during the classical era in years past, she would have been one of the singers of renown, performing under the direction of Mozart, Haydn or Bach.

Hearing her perform is like being in a capsule of time that takes one back to the days of prized belletristic focused societies. I am very grateful that, in a time when many have forgotten the foundations of the modern music they now love, there are artists like Dr. Gibson who capture the essence of what it means to go back to the source of such timeless classics which have eternally shaped our world of modern music. 🎵

Luci Smith is a freshman double major (art and music) at Kentucky State University. She is a recipient of a Presidential Scholarship and an LCM Music Scholarship.

Dr. Caroline Gibson is a member of the NFMC Board of Directors representing the District of Columbia.

Elizabeth Wiegand Receives Honors

By Jean Moffatt, editor, *Music Clubs Magazine*



Elizabeth Grieger Wiegand



Rev. Joseph Pottokaran and Elizabeth Grieger Wiegand

Elizabeth Grieger Wiegand of Michigan City, IN, NCTM, a Rose Fay Thomas Fellow and the donor of the NFMCS Sacred Music of the Faiths scholarship awarded to a graduating high school senior entering the sacred music field, wants to share with our readers several recent honors she has received.

Pope Francis has sent her a white pearl rosary for serving daily at the Franciscan Health Hospital in Michigan City for more than 20 years. Rev. Joseph Pottokaran officiated at a special mass offered by her family to receive the special rosary.

The latest edition of *Inspiring the Youth of America* published by Remington Registries in New York lists her biography as #5 out of the top hundred. Her picture is included on the cover.

Ms. Wiegand is an emeritus member of Sigma Alpha Iota International Honorary Music Fraternity through Valparaiso University

where she was initiated. She is also a member of the SAI American Composers Bureau and was commissioned to write a composition for the 100th anniversary convention in Dearborn, MI.

To celebrate SAI Founders Day in 2016, she produced a DVD with eight of her compositions, including commissioned piano compositions. Also included was the "Michigan City is the Town" song, with proceeds divided between SAI and the Michigan City council.

SAI recently honored Ms. Wiegand with a display at its headquarters in Asheville, NC. It features a statue of the La Scala Symphony Orchestra, with china figurines dressed in colonial costumes performing on piano, harp, violins and cellos. Atop the case, made by Leo Grieger, is a plaque listing her affiliations and accomplishments. Her name is included in the legacy display there, along with a binder containing documentation of her tours, awards, and performances.

A member of ASCAP, she has received an ASCAPLUS cash award as an artist, performer, composer and publisher more than 20 times. A member of the Texas Woman's University Repository for renowned women composers, she has a 20 x 30 poster on canvas there of her performance on the Shyven organ in the Blagg-Huey Library at the Cathedral of Antwerp in Belgium.

Ms. Wiegand teaches piano for Queen of all Saints School in Michigan City. Fifteen of her students performed in Christmas recital at the Barker Mansion and presented her with a bell inscribed "To a Special Teacher." 🎵

TWO UNIVERSITY OF NORTH GEORGIA (UNG) STUDENTS PERFORM AT STATE MUSIC CONFERENCE

J.K. Devine

University of North Georgia (UNG) sophomore Nicholas "Nick" Henderson and UNG freshman Tamara "Tami" Stroup were invited to perform Oct. 7 at a state conference of music teachers sponsored by the Georgia Federation of Music Clubs. Henderson plays the cello while Stroup plays the piano.

University of North Georgia (UNG) sophomore Nicholas "Nick" Henderson had never played in front of music educators at a statewide event. But, as it is said, there is a first time for everything.

Luckily, the Lawrenceville, Georgia, native would not be playing alone. Henderson was joined by UNG freshman Tamara "Tami" Stroup of Gainesville, Georgia. The pair were invited to perform Oct. 7 at a state conference of music teachers sponsored by the Georgia Federation of Music Clubs.

During the conference, Georgia music teachers participated in workshops, listened to performances, and learned about research from artists and scholars from across the nation. Performances included winners of an original composition contest from musicians across the state. Henderson, 19, and Stroup, 53, were asked to perform "The Gleaming Waterfall" by 11-year-old Krupa Patel.

"To play an original composition and see the young talent in a setting of professional musicians was inspiring," said Stroup, who is majoring in music.

Henderson, who is majoring in early childhood education, said he didn't know what to expect.

"It was a very cool experience," he said.



Nicholas "Nick" Henderson and Tamara "Tami" Stroup

In Loving Memory

Betty Hall

(1923-2018)

Betty Hall, of Fort Worth, TX passed away at the age of 94 on January 11th. Betty was a past Texas FMC president and former eight-year chairman of NFMC Competitions and Awards. Betty also served as TFMC's first three-year president from 1984-87. She chaired the NFMC meeting in Fort Worth in 1989. She was a two-term district president and of Euterpean Club in Fort Worth. Betty was the first chairman of the Mary Prudie Brown Past National President Scholarship for Continuing Education at Opera in the Ozarks, which she supported for over 50 years. She also chaired the Valentin Award for NFMC. In Texas, she served on the J. C. and Robert Dyer Violin Scholarship committee.



For many years, Betty graded achievement record books on the state level. She was Orientation and Leadership Development chairman for Texas and a member of the Yellow Rose Society. TFMC named her its third recipient of the Distinguished Service Award in 2011.

Barbara Laybourn

(1924-2018)

MCM has also learned that **Barbara Laybourn**, of Fort Collins, CO, passed away at the age of 94 on January 24th. Barbara was a past president of the North Dakota Federation and a longtime Aspen representative.



Eleanor Duke Avant

(1928-2018)

Eleanor Duke Avant, of Summerville, SC, passed away at the age of 90 on February 2nd. Eleanor attended Columbia College where she became a member of Delta Kappa Gamma and received a BS Degree in Music. She later received a Master's Degree in Education from Duke University.



Eleanor taught music in the public schools for 37 years. Eleanor was active in the South Carolina and the National Federations of Music Clubs. She was a long-time member of the Eau Claire Music Club of Columbia and served in many positions including President for three terms and Secretary for one term. She was active on the state level, serving in many capacities including Convention Chairman twice and State President. She also held several positions in the National Organization including Southeastern Chairman of the Thelma A. Robinson Award in Ballet, Southeastern Chairman of American Music and National Chairman of American Women Composers as well as being a member of the Public Relations committee during the term of Lana Bailey.

The NFMC Elizabeth Paris French Horn Award



Elizabeth Paris
NFMC President
2003 - 2007

Applicants must have reached their 19th but not their 26th birthday by application deadline. Applicants must also be a Student/Collegiate member of the NFMC and submit the competition audio CD to NFMC Chairman Cecil Fox. The application form (ST 15-1) can be found online @ www.nfmc-music.org.

Deadline for entry is April 1, 2018.
Entry Fee \$10 • Award Amount \$1,500

NFMC Chairman: Cecil Fox
PO Box 534, Canton, MS 39046





LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!

SPEAK UP FOR ADVOCACY FOR THE ARTS

By Lee Ann Cummings, NFMC Arts Advocacy Chairman

The past year has brought enormous changes to Washington and the nation. With challenges to the funding for the National Endowment for the Arts and other cultural agencies, federal advocacy has become more important than ever.

Anyone can advocate for the arts and have impact. As a constituent, you are the ideal grassroots advocate to convey to members of Congress how essential the arts and arts education are to your community. You have the power to educate them about the importance of the arts in your community and to engage them on important arts issues on Capitol Hill.

AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS SUGGESTS FOUR WAYS TO REACH OUT TO YOUR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AS AN INDIVIDUAL:

- 1. Use customizable letters online** to e-mail your representative about current legislative issues. <https://www.votervoice.net/ARTSUSA/campaigns>. Topics range from National Endowment for the Arts' appropriations to arts education funding.
- 2. Want to share your support with the local press? Use the E-Advocacy Action Center to write a letter** to the editor of your local paper. <http://www.artsactionfund.org/pages/action-center>.
- 3. Remind your member of Congress about the impact creative industries have in your district.** Login to the website to download a customized Creative Industries map for your county showing arts-related jobs and businesses. <https://www.americansforthearts.org/by-program/reports-and-data/research-studies-publications/creative-industries>. Make sure your representative is aware of the presence of these creative organizations and the jobs they support.
- 4. Meeting with your Representative or their staff in person?** Here are some quick questions to ask: Are they a member of the Arts Caucus in either the U.S. Senate or U.S. House of Representatives? Check the caucus lists for the U.S. Senate and U.S. House to find out! <https://www.americansforthearts.org/congress/house-and-senate-cultural-caucuses>. If they're not, ask them to join! Will they vote to support

the National Endowment for the Arts in this year's appropriations bill? Will they protect the charitable deduction?

NOW IS THE TIME TO SPEAK UP AND LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!

One way to introduce yourself and your club to local or state elected officials, is to request a Proclamation from your Mayor and/or Governor for American Music and National Music Week. The information for wording of the proclamations is available on the NFMC website.

YOUR ARTS ADVOCACY COMMITTEE INCLUDES:

- Lee Ann Cummings, *Chair, Mississippi*
- Lois Armor, *South Central Regional chair, Texas;*
- Carole Flatau, *North Central Regional Chair, North Dakota*
- Karen Herndon, *Southeastern Regional Chair, South Carolina;*
- Sally Palmer, *Western Regional Chair, Washington*
- Lois Tamplin, *Northeastern Regional Chair, Pennsylvania*

Be sure to submit Form AD 2-1 Arts Advocacy Senior Reports by the April 30 deadline and Form AD 2-2 Arts Advocacy State Reports by May 15. All clubs submitting a report will receive a certificate of participation. I look forward to reading your reports and any related newspaper articles, programs, proclamations, copies of letters to legislators, and other arts advocacy related materials. This includes activities at the local, state, and national levels.

It takes everyone working together in community to move arts policy forward. Since our founding in 1898, NFMC has become the largest nonprofit organization in America to promote and support American music, performers and music education. Let your voice be heard! 🎵



2018 NFMC Finance Update

By Carolyn C. Nelson, Finance Division chair and Office committee chair

The second quarter ended with most of the dues and liability insurance reported. As of the end of January, over 84% of the anticipated dues were properly reported.

The improvements in our technology have been very advantageous. The new numbering system has enthusiastically been accepted by both our CPA and auditor (as well as the office). Please use the website and online reporting tools whenever possible. We have better control over our reporting when everything comes through the office.

As for the office, we did not replace Tonya; we aligned duties and changed our office ours to 9:00 am to 5:00. Carolyn Fidler is working the 9:00-1:00 shift daily rather than 2.5 days per week. It's the same hours but different schedule. When extra help is needed, we will hire temporary help for the short term. 🎵

Quarter 2 Financial Report

| REVENUES | 2ND QTR | ANNUAL BUDGET | % RECEIVED |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Dues | \$172,598 | \$239,425 | 72.1% |
| Activities/Fest | \$5,146 | \$52,500 | 9.8% |
| Merchandise | \$705 | \$2,000 | 35.3% |
| Insurance | \$17,986 | \$23,000 | 78.2% |
| Publications | \$39,479 | \$62,450 | 63.2% |
| Hdqt ops | \$2,256 | \$12,800 | 17.6% |
| Totals | \$238,170 | \$392,175 | 60.7% |

| EXPENSES | 2ND QTR | ANNUAL BUDGET | % USED |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Board exp | \$10,140 | \$53,310 | 19.0% |
| Activities/Fest | \$14,861 | \$23,000 | 64.6% |
| Merchandise | \$845 | \$1,000 | 84.5% |
| Operations | \$47,348 | \$44,500 | 106.4% |
| Publicity | \$62,892 | \$103,000 | 61.1% |
| Hdqt ops | \$77,656 | \$152,326 | 51.0% |
| Totals | \$213,742 | \$377,136 | 56.7% |

Fiscal Year 7/01/2017 - 6/30/2018

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The Blurry Line Dividing Opera and Musicals

by Deborah T. Freeman, American Music Division Chair

“I hear the chorus, it is a grand opera, Ah this indeed is music – this suits me.”

– Walt Whitman, “Song of Myself”

How many times have you heard, “I love opera! I’ve seen *Phantom of the Opera* ten times”? More than ever, composers are busily breaking down walls of stylistic categories. However, this often produces either pretentious musical theater or tame quasi-opera.

One cannot argue that operas tell stories only through music, whereas musicals rely heavily on spoken dialogue. Many operas, and not just comic works, have spoken dialogue, including *Carmen* and *Fidelio*. Here’s the difference: both genres seek to combine words and music in dynamic and artistic ways, but in opera, music is the driving force; in musical theater, words come first.

If you accept the distinction that words have the upper hand in musical theater but music does in opera, the nature of lyrics, singing styles, subject matter, orchestration, and musical complexity begins to fall into place. Audiences may not care much whether a show is a musical or

an opera, but the best achievements in each genre, and the occasional standout hybrid work, have been from composers and writers who grounded themselves in a tradition, even while reaching across the divide. Tradition...the older I get, the more I understand the importance of that term.

For centuries, opera-goers have revered works written in languages they do not speak. Though supertitles have revolutionized the art form, many grew up without this innovation and loved opera anyway. As long as one basically knows what is going on and what is more or less being said, they can be swept away by a great opera. In musicals, the performance is always in the language understood by the audience.

In England or in America, the musicals are always in the English language even if the original story was written in some other language. The singing, dancing, and dialogue are based on popular music, popular

dance styles, and contemporary dialogues. A musical performer needs to be an actor first and then a singer and dancer; whereas in opera, the performer needs to be a trained, classical singer first and then anything else second.

I found it interesting that in baritone James Anest's YouTube interview, he says "there is nothing written for the musical stage that would challenge the vocal capabilities of any opera singer." He also goes on to acknowledge that musical theater brings with it a unique set of challenges that singers who have the vocal capabilities to sing in both genres have to address, in order to successfully make the transition.

Does content play a role? Had Puccini been able to continue with his project to adapt Ferenc Molnar's play *Liliom* (Molnar himself vetoed the idea), the resulting work would surely have been labeled an opera. However, when Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein were allowed to work on the same text, *Carousel*, it was always destined to be a musical.

What about Music Theatre and Operetta? Many musicals have been done on Broadway that are actually operettas - *Sweeney Todd*, *A Little Night Music*, *The Most Happy Fella* - and you also have chamber musicals that further complicate the distinctions. Really though: it's mostly about music style and how much focus is on the music. Operas are pieces of music with a little dash of story and theatricality, while musicals are essentially plays that just happen to be using songs to tell the story. Hence, opera-goers will often say they are going to "hear an opera" and theatre-goers say they are going to "see a play" or "see a musical."

If you just want to simplify everything, you can take Stephen Sondheim's approach. When asked whether *Sweeney Todd* is an opera or a musical, he said simply, "Well, I guess if it's performed in an opera house it's an opera, and if it's performed in a regular theatre it's a musical." In opera, it's "the role of such and such is SUNG by so and so," and in musical theatre, it's "the role of such and such is PLAYED by so and so." Operettas...well, they're just the halfway point on the opera-musical spectrum.

Opera in the Ozarks will be performing the American Opera, *The Ballad of Baby Doe*, the historic tale of silver baron Horace Tabor who gains the love of the beautiful Baby Doe but loses all - except her love. Make plans to attend!

<http://opera.org/2018-season-announced>

Sharing American Music from sea to shining sea...

References: Operavivra.com, NY Times, Wikipedia, YouTube



2018 National Music Week Theme: *Music...The Universal Language*

Music...The Universal Language has proven to be a well-chosen theme for the 2018 National Music Week.

Essays have been received and winners selected from seventeen participating states. It is amazing to read the viewpoints these 7th - 12th graders have shared on this topic. Many heart-warming experiences were included - experiences truly depicting that music is the universal language.

The winning essays are in the **Junior Keynotes** Spring Issue. Every member should spend some time reading the writings of these students who have contributed to National Music Week. It will surely be rewarding.

Our senior clubs will soon be celebrating this special week. Multiple activities can be used to tell our communities what our NFMC is all about. These have all been emphasized in previous articles.

For this issue, focus is on group activities for the homebound, senior facilities and hospitals. Music touches everyone. Inviting residents to join in singing familiar tunes - some might even enjoy playing the piano. Simple music games all bring smiles to their faces. They should not be forgotten, and this is a universal way of doing our part in making them feel wanted.

In my city, one particular hospital has a wonderful piano on the surgery floor and various groups or just individuals are asked to entertain the staff and family members of those in surgery. They find the music comforts and relieves tension during the waiting period.

It is our responsibility as music club members to share our talents with as many others as we can. It is appreciated more than we can ever know.



**LET'S ALL TRULY MAKE
MUSIC...THE UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE.**

Helena S. Meetze
NFMC National Music Week Chair





Junior Dance Award

By Gay Dill, Thelma Adams Robinson Ballet Award Chair

THERE ARE TWO LEVELS OF COMPETITION:

Junior I 11-14 years of age

Junior II 15-18 years of age

A student may enter in both Ballet and one form of Theater Dance or two forms of Theater Dance. Theater Dance includes Jazz, Tap and Lyrical Dance (*a combination of a soft expression of jazz and a very fluid flow of ballet.*)

The application and requirement forms can be downloaded from the NFMC website: www.nfmc-music.org. Click on Competition & Awards, scroll to Junior Division NFMC Dance Award and click on the two forms.

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS MAY 1, 2018



Grace Meyer
2017 Theater
Dance Winner
Junior II

HELP IS CLOSE AT HAND

by Linda Lind, NFMC Junior Chair

We all need help at some time or another. A CARE package from the Junior Division is waiting and ready for all NFMC Juniors and their Counselors.

C: This package is full of **Concern, Compassion, and Chain links** to help.

A: It is loaded with **Attention, Aid, and Assistance.**

R: You will find **Responsibility, Regard, and Respect.**

E: The **Enthusiasm** in this package is infectious.

There is always someone to help. Just give a shout-out to any Junior Division Chair and your call for help will be answered ASAP!! 🎵

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Regional and State News

By Connie Randall, State News Chair

NORTH CENTRAL REGION

Submitted by Karen Bourne, North Central Region Vice President

Greetings from the North Central Region. We enjoyed a beautiful snowy winter. We are also looking forward to the National Conference in Milwaukee. You certainly don't want to miss it!! I can't wait for the special shows, concerts, and events around Milwaukee. Be sure to register early and make your travel plans!

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

The University of Arkansas Libraries Special Collections Department has recently completed processing the archives of the Opera in the Ozarks/Inspiration Point Fine Arts Colony near Eureka Springs, Arkansas. To celebrate, the Libraries, UA Music, and Opera in the Ozarks hosted events on February 28 and March 1 on the U of A campus in Fayetteville.

Speakers were expected to be Dr. Nancy Preis, OIO general director; Jim Swiggart, who served as OIO general director for 25 years; and Carole Langley, president of the OIO Governing Board. OIO alumni and students

in the opera department of the University of Oklahoma, including Dr. Joel Burcham, were also expected to provide musical entertainment.

The special collection includes correspondence, season programs, scrapbooks, 6,900 photos, 400 audiovisual recordings, and other materials that document the 68 years of OIO, which began in 1950. Thousands of young artists and staff have come through the ranks, many going on to careers on the professional stage.

SOUTHEAST REGION

Submitted by Marcia Chaplin, Southeast Region Vice President

The State of Alabama is alive with music. All of Alabama's Music Clubs had a wide variety of musical events and activities. Gadsden's Middle School Jazz Band directed by Brian Bankston performed for Gadsden Music Club. The Schumann Music Club celebrated a youthful 123 years as a club, making this club the oldest in Alabama. Wedowee Music Club hosted the Alabama Federation Music Club Winter Board meeting in January. Troy Music Club has been planning the Alabama Federation Music Club's yearly Convention to be held in April 13-14, 2018 in Troy, Alabama. Decatur Music Club had an outstanding program featuring Jacob Frank and the Decatur Youth Symphony Ensemble. January 10, 2018, John S. Dixon, Organist, entertained the Enterprise Music Club. In January, 2018, the Bush Hills Music Club featured the music and background on Romeo and Juliet, in which the Opera Birmingham production Charles Gounod's famous opera. The Allegro Music Club hosted Students of the Samford Academy of the Arts. In November, the Florence Music Study Club celebrated its 94th birthday. The Huntsville Music Study Club had an outstanding program on Folk/Traditional Choral Music and Alabama Day.

to the AFMC Convention and hearing beautiful music winners from our Collegiate winners. Alabama certainly has active clubs and hard workers along with talented juniors. They are an integral part of the Southeast Region.

Kentucky's Stephen Foster Music Club held their annual Founder's Day program and performances by the Stephen Foster Music Camp scholarship winners. This is one of four camps sponsored by the Southeast Region. The year continued with Gospel music, Celtic music, Christmas Tour of Homes, and ended with a Christmas by Candlelight Choral Program. Donations were collected from concert goers, which benefited the mission of the Nelson County Ministerial Association, providing shelter for those without.

McDowell Club enjoyed performances by the Youth Performing Art School as well as learning about the development of the Baroque Oboe. Unfortunately, Kentucky experienced some unseasonal winter weather and had to cancel meetings due to snow.

The folks in Lexington, Kentucky enjoyed original compositions on guitar and banjo. That's what we call real American Music! Members and juniors showcased their talent during the programs.

North Carolina is recovering from its year of celebrating! Turning 100 years young is a celebration all our clubs hope to obtain!

Virginia is working on a new and improved website, which should be up and running soon.

Last but not least, Tennessee is busy with preparations for our Southeast Region Meeting July 12 & 13 to be held in Sewanee, Tennessee. Y'all come! 🎵

All of the Alabama Clubs are looking forward

ALABAMA

Submitted by Carol Larkins

The State of Alabama is alive with the sounds of music all the way from Huntsville and Muscle Shoals to Mobile and from Tuscaloosa to Gadsden.

The Alabama State President, Carol Larkins, was busy visiting the various Alabama Music Clubs. The Allegro Music Club, Birmingham, invited the president to their annual Christmas party, in December. Judy Maglothin, President, warmly greeted President Larkins, as well as other guests and members. The celebration was held in the Samford University Academy of the Arts Building. We were entertained by the students from the Academy, ages ranging from six or seven to fourteen or fifteen. A variety of Christmas Music captivated all of the audience. What a talented group of young students!

In January, President Larkins returned to Allegro Music Club and spoke at their regular meeting. President Larkins addressed the questions: "What is a Federation? What is Orientation? What is the importance of Orientation?" A hearty meal prepared us for a cold rainy travel in our respective homes.

The Wedowee Music Club hosted the State Winter Board Meeting with President Larkins presiding. The "Backwater Belles," featuring April Huddleston, President of Wedowee Music Club, Kathy Murphy and Paige Lovvorn, provided our entertainment. Their selections included "I've Got my Love to Keep Me Warm," "Slow Dancing in the Snow," and "Jing-a-Ling." A delicious meal was served and enjoyed by all.

The AFMC Junior Auditions were held, January 21, 2018, in Huntsville, at the Ars Nova School of the Arts. Talent, Talent, Talent.

The Mary Vick Student/Collegiate Auditions deadline is February 15th. Laura Moore, of The Schumann Music Club of Mobile Alabama, will conduct the review of submissions.



Joshn Larkins AFMC 2nd VP, AFMC President Carol Larkins, President Judy Maglothin, Allegro MC

The Troy Music Club is planning the 2018 Alabama State Music Club Convention to be held in Troy, AL, April 13-14. President Larkins and Troy President, Amanda Ford, are busy with final details for the Convention.

CALIFORNIA

Submitted by Beth Bhatnagar

Burlingame Music Club

The Burlingame Music Club in Burlingame, California celebrated its 87th year and the start of the 2017-18 season with a lovely October afternoon tea. Our members and guests were welcomed by co-presidents Karen Hutchinson and Roz Koo and by our NFMC liaison Naomi Sanchez. Our special honored guests were music teachers, the teachers of winning students in our annual competitions. These teachers are the vital links between us and the traditions of the composers of the past, present, and into the future. They inspire their students and all of us to the highest levels of excellence, creativity, and love of music.

Our keynote speaker was the delightful Ruby Pleasure, Professor of Voice Emeritus at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. She had tales to tell. Ruby grew up on a farm in Tennessee. Her father bought a piano so his children could learn music, but it seemed that no one in the county would teach black children to play. They found a family friend who would give her piano lessons, but what Ruby loved best was singing. Carolyn Cansler, a voice teacher 40 miles away, gave her voice lessons, and kept her encouraged about her progress. Over the years, Ruby found that she loves sharing what she has learned by singing, resulting in over 40 years of teaching singing to students from beginning to graduate level.

Ruby's reminders to us: *Be open to possibilities, or you may miss out on your calling. Do what is authentic for you. There are many paths and many kinds of music, so go where your heart leads you. Teaching music is not just a job. It is helping students uncover the gifts they have.*

Her calling has been to help each of her students become the best that they can be. Music and music teachers can help bind the wounds of division and bring out what is common in all of us. What better way is there to come together than through music?

We were given a delightful performance by Ruby Pleasure's student Jihao Tian, who grew up in Shenzhen, China. He attended an exclusive

private high school in Michigan for his studies in Voice. Upon graduation, he was granted a scholarship from San Francisco Conservatory of Music for his college pursuits. He is currently a senior. In his rich baritone voice, he sang selections from Vaughan Williams's "Songs of Travel," E.W. Korngold's "Die Tote Stadt," Gian Carlo Menotti's "The Old Maid and the Thief," and four Chinese folk songs. His final Chinese song translates as "Teacher, I Am Missing You." It was another touching moment for our audience and was warmly received.

We then had an opportunity to congratulate Dr. William Wellborn, two of whose piano students won top awards in BMC's competition.

We enjoyed sharing this wonderful day of music and friendship.



Co-presidents Karen Hutchinson and Roz Koo, with Guest Speaker Ruby Pleasure

Our 2017-2018 monthly meetings will include the competition performances by young musicians of Voice and of Wind and Brass instruments. Throughout the season our meetings will feature an appealing variety of performing artists, including Rufus Olivier, Jr., principal bassoonist of the San Francisco Opera and San Francisco Ballet, students from the Vocal Studio of Edie Delegates, the Topaz Chamber Quartet, Larry Dunlop and Bobbe Norris, Irish dancers, Organist Angela Craft Cross, and Claire Dee with Ken French.

Pictures of our musicians, both professionals and students, as well as our visual artists, are on Burlingame Music Club's website: <http://www.burlingamemusicclub.net>

GEORGIA

The Georgia Federation of Music Clubs held their Fall Conference on October 7, 2017. Wendy Stevens from ComposeCreate.com presented "Have You Forgotten What It's Like To Be A Child?" and her "Rhythm Cup Explorations". Georgia's Own Patti Bennett



Wendy Stevens demonstrating Rhythm Cups

presented a session on summer piano camps, and Nora Martin led a session on publishing studio compositions, as well as, the MusicLink Program. Lifetime Achievement Awards were presented to Past Georgia Presidents: longtime Junior Festival State Chairman, Angie Greer, and State Treasurer, Sue Martin. Performances by scholarship winners, composition winners and the teacher duo of Kristi Helfen and Pam Martin added much delight!

IDAHO

Nampa Musicale, a member of NFMC in Nampa, Idaho, hosted Natalie Conte, the winner of the women's voice category of the NFMC Young Artists competition, in concert on January 8. Natalie sang works by Strauss, Bellini, Mendelssohn, Debussy, Gershwin, and others in an evening of gorgeous music. Pictured from left to right: Robyn Wells McDonnell, Nampa Musicale President; Patty Hadley, IFMC President; Natalie Conte; and pianist Becky Nelson. Robyn and Patty were both present at



the NFMC convention in Dayton, Ohio, last June when Natalie sang in the Winners' Recital. That evening of hearing the winners perform prompted a desire to bring the NFMC artists to Idaho. It was a beautiful concert, and Idaho hopes to host other concerts in the future which feature Young Artist winners.

IOWA

Federation members are not afraid of large challenges. This idea is reflected in a project undertaken by the Federated Music Teachers Association in the Quad Cities area of Iowa. For the past eight years, they have been working on restoring one of six known Pleyel double grand pianos in existence. Beginning in 2010, they raised money to fund the repairs to bring the 115-year old Pleyel back to playing condition.

The piano's original owner was Marguerite de Saint-Marceaux of Paris. She was known to socialize with the Who's Who of Parisian society at the turn of the 20th century. The piano came to Iowa after it was purchased by Joe and Thea LeClair of Bettendorf. They had lived in Paris

during Joe's military service. The instrument had a variety of abodes after the couple's passing, eventually being purchased for \$50 by John Duda, a local piano technician.

In spite of the death of a key member of the Pleyel Project Committee (Rose Oles, long-time Iowa Federation Cup Chair), and the passing of the most recent restorer (John Duda), the project is now back on track to completion. The piano is currently in the capable hands of Premier Piano Service in Walker, Iowa, scheduled to be finished in June.



The Carolyn C. Nelson Award in Double Reeds

First Place: \$1,200 // Second Place: \$500

We Won! You Can, too!



2016 WINNER:
Jenna Sehmman
Eastern Kentucky University



2017 WINNER:
Emily Baere
Julliard

Applicants must be a double reed player between the age of 19 and 26 (at the time of application). Applicants must also be a Student/Collegiate member of the NFMC. Materials must be submitted via audio CD or electronically via mp3 format. Submissions should be 15-20 minutes in length and must include a movement from a major concerto for that instrument. Additional selections should be of contrasting styles.



Carolyn C. Nelson
NFMC President
2011-2015

Auditions now being accepted. Further details can be found at www.nfmc-music.org

The committee is currently searching for a permanent home for the instrument where it can be enjoyed by a new century of music lovers.

MISSOURI

Missouri is pleased to celebrate our 100 year anniversary this year by returning to the city of our original birthplace, Kansas City, for our convention on May 17-19, 2018. The convention will feature internationally-known and award-winning composer, arranger, concert pianist, and conductor Mark Hayes. We are delighted to have him conduct a Festival Choir, present a couple workshops, and perform in concert with some former Missouri Young Artists on Friday night. We are happy to host NFMC President Michael Edwards as our National Guest. Saturday afternoon will feature the state Junior Competition of the district winners. In celebration of our legacy, each district will present a short presentation on 20 years of our history. Our Historian Connie Craig has been busy putting together a small booklet of MFMC History 1918-2018 to be given to attendees.

A little tidbit from the past: At the Formal Organization meeting for the Missouri Federation held on September 23, 1918, Mrs. Hamilton presented her plan for a Junior Department. Mrs. W.D. Steele, member of the National Board and founder of the Missouri Federation, was familiar with Mrs. Hamilton's aims. She recommended that the Junior work be included as a regular department of the new Federation and that Mrs. Hamilton be made chairman. The suggestion was adopted.

Thus, coincidentally with the organization of the Missouri Federation, the Junior Department was organized, making Missouri the pioneer for this department.

By 1933, Missouri had 333 clubs in the Federation, with only Texas having a larger number. Over our 100 year legacy, MFMC has had 38 dynamic women and one outstanding man who served as our President.



Springfield Federated Music Club celebrated in a "A Victorian Christmas."

One of our local clubs, Springfield Federated Music Club celebrated our anniversary by having "A Victorian Christmas."

We hope you will celebrate this great anniversary with us!

SOUTH DAKOTA

Daryl Jessen, Federation member from South Dakota and Iowa, was recently selected as one of the "50 Directors Who Make a Difference" by *School Band Orchestra Magazine*. Each year, the magazine solicits nominations from each state, asking administrators and colleagues to showcase the best directors in the profession. Daryl was chosen as the director from South Dakota.

In his 35-year career, he has made a point of



Daryl Jessen

teaching more than just notes and rhythms to his students. "Band is a vehicle to teach so many other life skills: cooperation, acceptance, a strong work ethic, delayed gratification... the list is endless. I

endeavor to foster a 'family' atmosphere in the band, where we all learn and grow together. Creating beautiful music with the band, and gleaning all the extra benefits, has been a very rewarding process. Like any other family, we have times where we don't get along and need to work through things. The music – and each person working to do his or her best – this is what always brings us back into harmony." His groups have earned top ratings at music contests, played for gubernatorial inaugurations, and alumni of his programs go on to participate in music at the college level, in their adult lives, and also to join the ranks of fellow music educators.

He currently teaches 7-12 Instrumental Music and 6th Grade General Music in the Dakota Valley school system in North Sioux City. He is the Vice President of the Great Plains Federated Music Club and the National Music Week Chair for the North Central Region.

TEXAS

Matinee Musical Club of Rockdale

Matinee Musical Club of Rockdale has "Music Takes Me there..." as its Yearbook Theme for the 2017-18 year, with each month's program taking us somewhere different. November,

The Ouida Keck

\$1500 ANNUAL AWARD for the Independent Piano Teacher



Dr. Ouida Keck
NFMC President, 1999-2003

[to be used for Professional Development]



This award provides financial assistance to an independent piano teacher who demonstrates superior teaching in the private studio and wishes to further enhance teaching skills. This award is endowed by funds given to honor Past National Federation of Music Clubs President, **Dr. Ouida Keck**.

For information see the NFMC website at nfmc-music.org. Click on Competitions and Award Division/Sr. Annual Awards. The application form is CA13-1 and deadline for entry is **June 1**.

For additional information contact Laurel Ince at ljince@gvtc.com.



President Annette Griesbach welcomes members and guests to the first joint meeting of the 2 oldest organized clubs in Rockdale. MMC since 1909 and Thursday Reading Club since 1914. This celebration meeting was held at the Lucy Hill Patterson Library and open to the public. Standing at front (left to right) Tami Stockton, MMC member and Parade of American Music Program, Geri Burnett, President of Thursday Reading Club and Annette Griesbach President of Matinee Musical Club, Rockdale, TX.



MMC member Lee (Sparky) Thomason, plays a Jazz rendition of April in Paris.

in Celebration of Parade of American Music, the Program was entitled "Music Takes me to Literature."

The meeting was held at Rockdale's Lucy Hill Paterson Library Nov. 16th in the evening when the library is open late to the public. It was the

first time that the two oldest organized clubs in Rockdale (MMC, organized in 1909, and the Thursday Reading Club organized in 1914) met jointly.

The joint program was a review of the Best Selling book *Lilac Girls* by Martha Hall Kelly, led by Reading Club President Geri Burnett, with the American Music written and performed during this WWII era led by MMC's Tami Stockton. Music included in this part of the program was a YouTube clip of Aaron Copland's "Fanfare for the Common Man," to represent the War Years; a Melody of Improvisational Jazz by MMC trumpeter Sparky Thomason, representing the Post War years; and Stephen Sondheim's piece from *Gypsy*, "Together Wherever We Go" performed by MMC members Annette Griesbach and Pat Owen, to represent New Beginnings. Tami Stockton sang "As Time Goes By" from the movie *Casablanca* as an epilogue closing.

Texas Federation of Music Clubs

The 103rd convention of the Texas Federation of Music Clubs will be March 22-24 in Midland with District 9 hosting. Frances Nelson, NFMC



Frances Nelson

1st Vice President, will be honored guest, and Andre Chiang, 2017 Young Artist winner for Men's Voice, will be featured performer. Ronald Bennett of Odessa, composer and music teacher since 1949, will have his latest compositions performed at the opening night program. "Musings: A Suite



Andre Chiang



Ronald Bennett

for Piano" was published by Hal Leonard in 2017. Bennett was named Teacher of the Year by the Music Teachers National Association in 2002. and was made a MTNA Fellow in 2009. Many of his compositions are in NFMC Festival Bulletins. His late wife, Dortha, was TFMC president from 2005-2007, and he accepted a Distinguished Service Award for her in 2015.

Jo Ann Collett, president of District 9, is hosting the convention, along with the Midland Musicians Club and the Odessa Music Study Club. Lois Armor, TFMC president, will conduct the meetings.

As occurs at all TFMC meetings, members of the Yellow Rose Society will be recognized, and hopefully new members will be installed. The Yellow Rose Society was created in 2013 to memorialize Mary Prudie Brown, past NFMC president from Texas. There are presently 50 members of the group.

Another tradition is the Life Member Breakfast on Friday morning. Those attending the 2016 NFMC conference in Tulsa, OK discovered how much fun this annual event can be. The TFMC 3rd Vice President is Life Member chairman and conducts this meeting to encourage Life Membership in TFMC/NFMC. 🎵

NEW!

NFMC Name Badges

NFMC magnetized name tag with 8" ribbon

These allow you to display pins along with your **personalized** name tag.

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317-882-4003
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\$20

THE VIRGINIA ALLISON AWARD

for a collaborative pianist who has reached the 20th, but not the 31st birthday, will be awarded in 2018. Applications for this \$2500 award will be due by March 1, 2018.



Music Clubs MAGAZINE

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Theme: "Music... the Universal Language"

JUNE 19-23, 2018

60th NFM Conference

*Crowne Plaza Airport Hotel
Milwaukee, WI*

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