

Summer Interlude

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS



SUMMER 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Deborah T. Freeman
NFMC's 35th President

What a wonderful 125th Celebration we had in Norfolk, Virginia!

Enjoy reading the Convention Wrap-Up and other articles relating to our workshops, recitals, and special events.

I've recently returned from a wonderful trip to Chautauqua Institute with the Northeast Region. How fortunate we are to be meeting again, reconnecting with friends, and hearing live concerts. Having these things taken away for two years makes us more conscious of the opportunities we often take for granted.

Yes, we've had our share of obstacles, but we pushed forward and kept our focus on the mission of NFMC. We are a volunteer - based organization, and we serve because of our dedication and belief in who we are, what we do, and who we help. Your support and encouragement has been overwhelming, and I appreciate the opportunity to serve as your president for the next biennium.

Our officers and chairs have shared important information to help you plan an exciting new club year – make it the best yet!

Celebrating our Musical Heritage!

Deborah T. Freeman

FROM THE 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

I bring greetings as your newly elected NFMC 1st VP! A wonderful 2023 Biennial Convention was enjoyed by all in attendance in Norfolk, Virginia. This meeting was a harmonious way to welcome our 125th year as the NFMC, and to launch our 2023-2025 biennium. Congratulations to our NFMC award recipients for a job well done. From among these winners, please consider inviting the NFMC Young Artists to your state. You will not be disappointed in the quality and variety of their programs. We, as NFMC members, need to support these young and upcoming artists and introduce them to the professional world of music. Check our NFMC website for more information.

Among my tasks as your 1st VP is that I serve: as the Budget Committee and Policy Resolutions Chairs, NFMC Lifetime Achievement Award Chair, as a member of the Finance committee, Online Festivals Management System Committee, ex-officio member of the Office Committee, and on the NFMC Meeting Planning Committee. Along with these duties it is my honor and privilege to serve as an aide to our NFMC President, Deborah Freeman.

You should have received through your state treasurer, or state president, the paperwork necessary for music club members to purchase liability insurance through the NFMC. I am a liaison for Federation events that require insurance and I am grateful for Jennifer Griffin, our Executive Director, tracks your paperwork and payments. Please be timely in sending your documents to headquarters. Only NFMC members may request liability insurance for board meetings, festivals, concerts, conventions, and other events which need to be insured when related to Music Club activities.

As part of my Budget Chair role, leadership in the NFMC will be receiving allocation letters, along with pertinent information for reimbursement purposes. You must stay within your budgeted allocation, retain receipts, and remember to submit documentation for reimbursement. Start your designated file today for tracking of expenses. Those who will be receiving letters for 2024 include: elected Officers, Division Chairs, and Committee Chairs.

As a member of the NFMC Planning Committee I look forward to the exciting music, meetings, food, fellowship, and fun, in Bettendorf, Iowa, in June of 2024 for our NFMC Conference. I hope to see you there because this team works hard in creating meaningful and enjoyable National meetings for all.

I wish to thank those who are so helpful in preparing the budget and finance part of the 1st VP role. Thanks to Deborah, Jennifer, Michael, and Carolyn. Thank you to those who are encouraging and supporting me as I move forward in 2023-24. Enjoy the world of music with me as we continue the work of our Federation to meet and exceed, the aims of our organization. NFMC Members are the best – "bringing the spiritualizing force of music to the inner life of our nation!"



Heidi O Hong
1st Vice President

FEDERATION NOTES

The President's Theme:
Celebrating our Musical Heritage

The President's Song:
God Bless America (Irving Berlin)

2024 National Music Week Theme:
Music is... Yours, Mine and Ours

2025 National Music Week Theme:
Music is... Unstoppable

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 2023
Parade of American Music Month

May 5 - 12, 2024
National Music Week

June 11 - 15, 2024
NFMC Conference
Isle Hotel, Bettendorf, Iowa



REMEMBER: Each of us can be enthusiastic about NFMC and share that with other music lovers!

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION



NEW ROSE FAY THOMAS FELLOWS



CYRUS CHESTNUT



GENERAL SESSION



YOUNG ARTISTS WITH DEBORAH AND STARLA

2023 CONVENTION WRAP-UP

You BET we made waves! From June 12 through 19 members of NFMC met for the 62nd Biennial Convention in Norfolk, Virginia. Over 200 members, spouses, guests, and friends participated in meetings and discussions, attended workshops and lectures, and enjoyed great music each day. National elections were held, National Young Artists were selected, and new Rose Fay Thomas Fellows were inducted. We were mesmerized by the jazz piano concert presented by Cyrus Chestnut and sang along with Matthew Sabatella as he took us through a musical tour of American Folk music. National competition winners performed Musical Moments and the Festival Chorus presented a thrilling concert, again under the baton of Dan Andersen. Banquets, luncheons, and receptions gave us time to reconnect with colleagues over delicious menu offerings. Before saying goodbye on Saturday, members participated in

a memorial service, remembering those members who have passed on; and Juniors met with and learned from Texas composer Jeremiah Evans, exploring compositional techniques for creating art songs and piano solos. Laughter, tears, and shouts of joy reverberated throughout the hotel, which, according to the assistant manager, was eerily quiet after our departure.

Our Federation is stronger when we all have a voice so plan to join us in Iowa next June for the 2024 conference.



Dr. Liana Valente
2023 Biennial
Planning Committee Chair

The Administrative Division consists of Bylaws and Rules, Arts Advocacy, Policy Resolutions, Headquarters, Protocol, Sergeants-at-Arms, Chaplin, Historian, Archives Project, Office Committee, Parliamentarian, Coordinator of Divisional Activities, and United Nations Representative.

Many committees and chairs are presidential appointments, while some are elected.

Protocol and Sergeants-at-Arms serve at our national meetings to ascertain well-run events, while other committees work to maintain our headquarters building and ensure an efficiently run office. We must remember that our office is staffed by two people doing the work for over 90,000 NFMC members.

Bylaw and Standing Rules revisions were adopted in Norfolk and have been updated on our NFMC website. You can download the revised pages or the entire publication at no cost.

Our Coordinator of Divisional Activities, Harriet Coker, is already working on our 2023-2025 NFMC Manual. The manual will be available for download on the website by September 1. State and club presidents and all Board members should be familiar with the Bylaws and Standing Rules. It would serve you well to download these documents for easy access.

On behalf of the Administrative Division, I wish everyone a great year!



Deborah T. Freeman
Division Chair

PUBLIC RELATIONS

As we kick off a new year of musical activities, have you compared your activities to the NFMC events that offer monetary awards? There is award money for Senior Clubs offering extraordinary program(s) for American Women Composers, Just Jazz!, Choral Music, Crusade for Strings, International Music Relations, Music Outreach, American Music Month (November) and a whole year of American music activities. Junior Clubs have monetary opportunities for American Music, Crusade for Strings and Just Jazz! You can't win if you don't submit the reports!

Another way to help your club thrive is to get new members! If you have a great program, how do you get a larger audience? There are many music lovers that may not have found you yet! The easiest is to invite your friends, but another avenue is to collaborate with another organization. If you meet in a church, do you invite the choir or church to your concert? What other collaborations can you think of? Imagine a performance of "Carnival of Animals" at the zoo? Be sure to include details on your social media by creating an event and posting pictures. Best wishes for a successful year!



Julie Watson
Division Chair

FINANCE DIVISION



Carolyn Nelson
Division Chair

Despite the ups and downs of the stock market, NFMC did quite well last year, and we are able to increase about half of our awards this year (2023-24). Be sure to check the Competition and Awards chart before you advocate for any of our awards. It is the job of all of us to promote opportunities for our juniors, students, seniors and clubs.

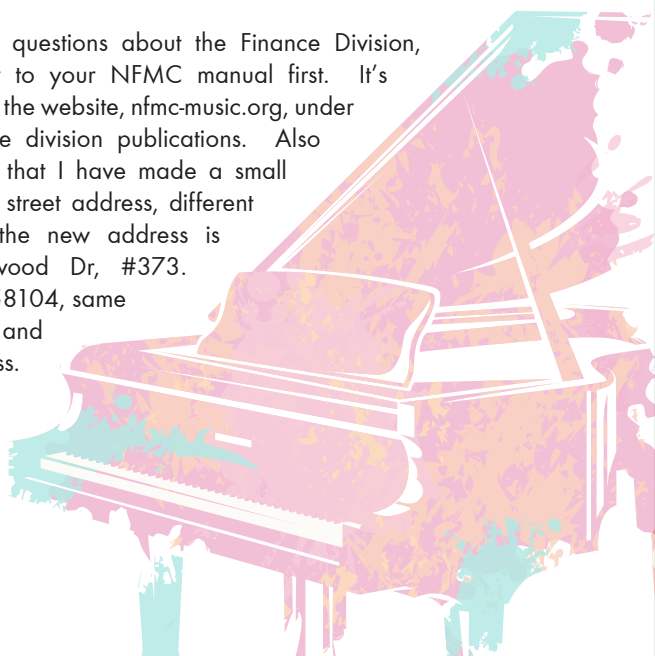
My thanks to Michael Edwards, Susan Tury, and Linda King for chairing committees in this division last year. I am happy to welcome Heidi Hong, Connie Randall and Dale Clark to the crew for the coming year. We have a huge responsibility and take our duties seriously.



Good news from our FAMA committee. There were 3 applications this year and all were considered. Each will be required to report back to the committee on how the money was used. The recipients are String Time Summer Camp (VA) for the purchase of music and music-related equipment - \$3,000; Valerie Harris for Orgelkids Education project (AZ) to purchase Orgelkids USA kit - \$7,000; International Music Camp (ND) for purchase of cello chairs \$4,000. It felt good to give \$14,000 to these three projects. Dr. Ouida Keck is new FAMA chair and has a preferred email address: keckouida@gmail.com.

We honored five new Rose Fay Thomas fellows at the Norfolk convention. New fellows are Judy Prescott (ID), Christy Smith (OH), Dr. Eugene Bierbaum (FL), Naomi Sanchez (CA) and Phil Johnson (TX). Who will we honor next year?

If you have questions about the Finance Division, please refer to your NFMC manual first. It's available on the website, nfm-music.org, under administrative division publications. Also please note that I have made a small move, same street address, different apartment; the new address is 1200 Harwood Dr, #373. Fargo, ND 58104, same cell phone and email address.



TREASURER

HEAD'S UP! National has raised the Senior Membership dues from \$6.00 to \$8.00 per senior club member. Some states have chosen to cover the extra two dollars; others have increased their dues accordingly. In addition, NFMC eliminated the straight fee for 10 members or less. We now pay \$8.00 to NFMC for each senior member.

I love working as NFMC Treasurer. In this position, I can write award checks and congratulatory notes to many deserving recipients. When receiving the thank you letters from the institutions and award recipients, I do realize what a positive reach NFMC has across the United States. Having been Florida Federation of Music Clubs Treasurer for the past 22 years, I applaud state treasurers! We know that our volunteer efforts provide an integral part in this great organization that offers musical experiences and support to so many.



Suzanne Carpenter
NFMC Treasurer



AMERICAN MUSIC DIVISION

American Music- The Heartbeat of America

Everywhere you go, wherever you are, you will always hear American Music! Promoting American Music is always fun and delightful. Your club uses American Music at just about all its meetings and functions, so it would be very easy for your club to report and enter to win one of the many awards given out each year. Remember that American Music is for all year and includes Jazz, Folk Music, American Women Composers, and The Professor R.A. Schramm Parade of American Music. The Professor R. A. Schramm Parade of American Music is always in November for American Music Month. The following chairs in American Music are:

The American Women Composers Chair is Claudia Sandifer from South Carolina. She has compiled a list of Women Composers so that you can highlight any or several of them to focus on and have a wonderful program. You could even perform their music at several different programs during the year. There are 10 awards for American Women Composers, and she would love to award all of them!

The new Folk Music Chair is Ruth McDaniel from South Carolina. She is so excited about working with Folk Music! Remember that there are 10 awards for Folk Music, and your club probably uses Folk Music already at many club meetings and may even present one program just on Folk Music.

The Just Jazz Chair is Wendell Anderson from Virginia. Plan your Jazz program for April, which is Jazz Month, and send in your entries. There are 10 awards for Jazz and one for Juniors.

The American Music Chairs for each area of the NFMC are:

- Northeastern** - Karl Morris
- Southeastern** - Mira Kruja
- South Central** - Carla Johnson
- North Central** - Marlene Hulleman
- Western** - Ruth Fleming

The NFMC/ASCAP American Music Awards and the Professor R. A. Schramm Parade of Music Awards have been increased this year and I am so excited to announce the new increase in awards! They are as follows:

NFMC/ASCAP American Music Awards:

1st Place Award-\$300

2nd Place Award-\$200

Five 3rd Place Awards- \$100

The Professor R. A. Schramm Parade of Music Awards:

1st Place Award- \$300

2nd Place Award-\$200

Two 3rd Place Awards-\$100

There is also an NFMC/ASCAP American Music \$250 award for Juniors. There is an Educational Institution Annual Award Program for Colleges for \$500 and High Schools for \$400, and a \$500 Award for Summer Festivals.

American Music has many awards and lots of participation and I want to add you and your club to the list of American Music Awards. The purpose of American Music to promote, perform, and publicize American Music throughout the year. So, plan for your club to continue to address American Music at every club meeting!



Ruth Morrow
Division Chair

MEMBERSHIP & EDUCATION

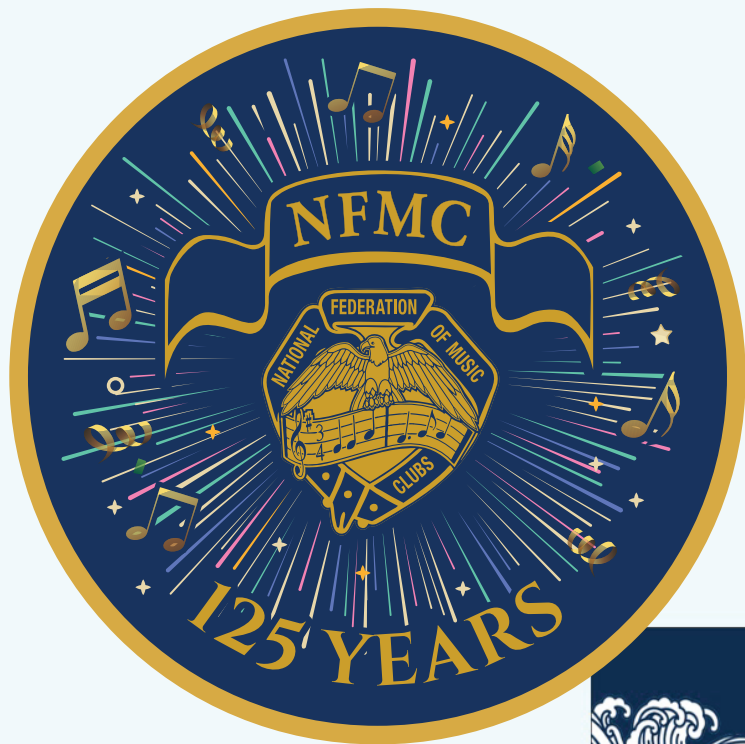


Natlynn Hayes
Division Chair

Membership is important to all organizations! The key to bringing in new members would be to provide a needed service or spark an interest in the product. Think of why you wanted to go see a current movie at a movie theater. Your interest was sparked when you saw a trailer. You and other people talked about how good it was going to be to see the rest of the movie and were looking forward to making time in your busy schedule for a movie night. You set a date and go see the movie. There was some planning that took place and anticipation of a good time with friends or family.

Think of this same concept as you begin preparing for your NFMC musical year. Look over the year book form and the course of study form to make a plan that will be something to talk about in your community. Gilda Bocock, Yearbook Chair and Elizabeth Guest Martin, Course of Study Chair, would be happy to assist you with ideas. Check out the competitions and awards chart for items that can be included in your program that could bring in some money to your club treasury or junior, student, or senior members. Your excitement about what your club is doing could be like the new movie in town. Music Club shouldn't be about another meeting. It should be about coming together to enjoy a time of music with friends and family. Learn something new. Break out of the mold. Gather for some snacks and help each other On Board students' information for Vivace, have a community music trivia night, or a time where kids can perform just for fun. Isn't that where we all started? Music is fun!!

Come to think of it, those exciting movies wouldn't be nearly as good without music. You are the spark. Light the fire and prepare to have the best musical year EVER!!



125TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

125th Celebration Sponsors

Our first opportunity to celebrate our 125th anniversary in-person was at the national convention in Norfolk – and it was a success! The workshop on recruiting new members was well-attended and you can expect the great ideas to be sent to state presidents and in the next MCM magazine. We hosted a reception after the Young Artists concert, which featured a photolog of pics from the last 25 years. The \$125 sponsors were also recognized. Convention attendees received luggage tags and commemorative pens. We have those as well as commemorative lapel pins and stickers for sale from Headquarters. These would make great gifts for recitals or state conventions.

We are still looking for cover art or puzzles for the Junior Keynotes that highlight 125 years (1898-2023) from Junior members. Don't forget the invocation entry deadline is November 1st (no age restrictions).

What is your club doing to celebrate 125 years? We'd love to hear from you. Send details and pictures to Chair Julie Watson at nfmc.pr@gmail.com.

Arkansas:

Gloria Grilk
Kathie White
Fort Smith Coterie
Ouida & George Keck

California:

California Federation of Music Clubs

Florida:

Michael Edwards
Orlando Music Club

Iowa:

Iowa Federation of Music Clubs
Lucinda & Roger Lear
Waterloo B Natural Music Club

Kansas:

Linda Lind

Missouri:

Don Dagenais
Starla & Terry Blair
Julie Watson

North Dakota:

Carolyn Nelson
North Dakota Federation of Music Clubs

Oklahoma:

Hyechka Music Club

Pennsylvania:

Pennsylvania Federation of Music Clubs

South Carolina:

Helena Meetze
Sara Kellar
Claudia Sandifer
Deborah Freeman
Apollo Music Club
Greenville Woman's Music Club (Sr)
Greenville Woman's Music Club (Jr)
Ann Guest
Mary Nguyen
Music Club of Greenville
Karen Herndon
Ruth Morrow
Crescent Music Club
Harriet Coker
Eau Claire Music Club

Tennessee:

Janie Gilliam
Bobette Spear
Thursday Music Study Club

Texas:

Carla Johnson
Euterpean Club of Fort Worth

Virginia:

Marcia Chaplin

Washington:

Washington Federation of Music Clubs

WHAT'S NEW...



Lucinda Lear
Division Chair

As a member of the Competitions & Awards board for the past 4 years, I have been amazed at the number of awards NFMC provides annually and biennially. Currently, we have 78 separate awards in the 3 categories of NFMC membership—senior, junior and student-collegiate and approximately 13 million in endowments for these awards. When I think about managing all of these, I am in awe of the job that Dr. George Keck has done over the last 16 years in the position of chair of the Competitions & Awards Division and board and stand with fear and trembling in assuming this role. I am deeply appreciative of Dr. Keck's work and thankful for his support and guidance as I seek to continue his fine leadership.

Many changes were made at the 2023 Norfolk NFMC Convention that I would like to highlight here:

NEW AWARDS: There will be four new club awards @\$25.00 each in the Junior Division for International Music Relations programming.

NEW AWARD AMOUNTS: The good news is with the success of investments we are able increase awards amounts for nearly all of the Summer Music Centers and many others as well. A complete list will be published in the next MCM issue. The bad news is that these increases are also due to the lack of qualified applicants for these awards. It is my desire and sincere hope that award chairs and states will double down on their efforts to promote and publicize these awards so that these awards get into the hands of those deserving of them and not left sitting in bank accounts.

ELLIS DUO had no new winners in 2023 so the current Ellis Duo team of Michael Rector and his wife, Sylvia Hong will continue to represent NFMC for the next 2 years. No additional funds were awarded, but they can continue to be booked at the YA rate of \$600 for the Duo team. We are pleased that Starla Blair is continuing in the position of Young Artist Presentation chair, so please contact her to arrange for this duo and our new Young Artists to perform at your event(s).

NEW YOUNG ARTISTS were selected and presented in concert at the Norfolk Convention. The winners gave a stellar concert, and all members were thrilled! We started this process with 46 applicants in February, and I am pleased to announce the following results from our live semifinals and finals: Piano-Anna Han; Strings, Leland Ko; Man's Voice-Michael Celentano; Woman's Voice-Krista Rene'e Pape.

2025 Young Artist Auditions Undergo Changes: Zuill Bailey, Young Artist Chair. There is important news to share! The National Federation of Music Clubs Young Artist Audition requirements have dramatically changed effective July, 2023. The 2025 biennial Young Artist Auditions will include two levels: Preliminary and Final Levels.

1. **Preliminary Level** - A 60-minute high quality video recording plus a major work or concerto composed for orchestra (vocalists are exempt from the concerto requirement). Preliminary judges will only adjudicate the 60-minute video.
2. **Finals:** Five finalists from the Preliminary level will be chosen and adjudicated. A separate panel of judges will adjudicate the 60-minute video in addition to the concerto.
3. **Winners:** First and second place winners will be chosen from the five finalists in each category.
4. **Performance:** The first-place winner in each category will perform at the June 2025 NFMC Biennial Convention, and each winner will receive the first place award of \$20,000.

This new Young Artist procedure requires a video performance which will eliminate travel, lodging, and meal expenses for the applicants and the judges. In addition, judging fees have been raised to ensure that high-profile judges can be utilized.

The application Deadline is February 1st, 2025; Application fee: \$100. By using current technology, it is anticipated that this new procedure will make the process more convenient for applicants to apply for NFMC's most prestigious award. Please share this Young Artist news with your colleagues and potential applicants.

Look for a new Competitions & Awards chart to be available for download from the NFMC website by September 1. This will be your best guide to inform possible applicants of the award requirements and current contact information. Also, in the next couple of weeks all award chairs should receive from these individuals:

- Competitions & Awards Board, chair-Directives for Competitions and Awards Chairs, including forms for requesting payment for judges and award recipients.
- Executive Director-New chairs will be receiving log in information along with instructions on notification of application submissions, accessing uploaded applications and downloading application files to the judges.
- First VP-Budgeted amounts available for procuring judges and administering awards. It is VERY important to abide by this amount. It is possible to procure qualified, competent judges for all awards keeping in mind this amount is more of an honorarium rather than payment for time spent.

Now, go forth and recruit!



2023 - 2025 YOUNG ARTIST AUDITIONS

Piano

Voice

Strings



PROMOTING OUTSTANDING YOUNG ARTISTS
WHO ARE READY FOR A CONCERT CAREER

APPLICATION DEADLINE - FEBRUARY 1ST, 2025

ARTS DIVISION



Ellen Leapoldt
Division Chair

As I begin my term as Arts Division Chair, I want to thank Dr. Ouida Keck for her leadership and encouragement to this Division. We have many continuing and 17 new members to the Arts Division team.

The Arts Division mission is to emphasize the goals of NFMC through activities that promote the performance of creative arts.

The Arts Division includes: Chamber Music, Celebrate Strings, International Music Relations, Music in Poetry, Music in Schools and Colleges, Choral Music, Music in Song, Music Outreach, Sacred Music, and National Music Week.

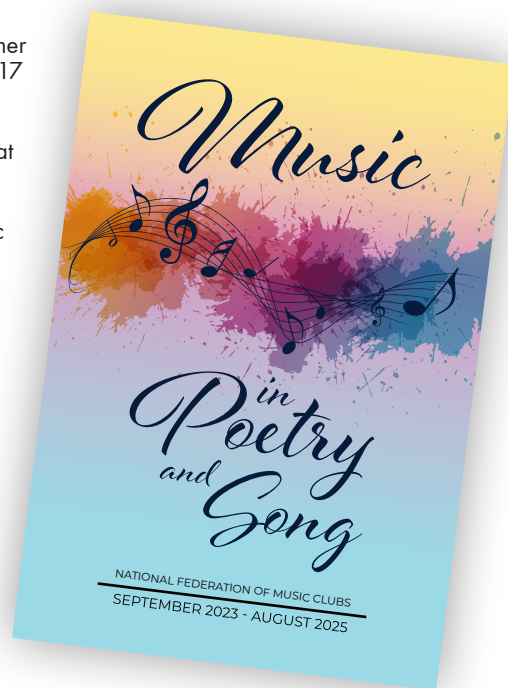
We offer many financial awards for club and individual activities that promote the arts. Be sure to check the Competitions and Awards chart on the NFMC

website. The Sacred Music awards are our newest addition.

The Music in Poetry and Music in Song chairs worked together to provide clubs with a beautiful new spiral bound book available from National for \$4.00 that provides the monthly songs and poems for club meetings for the next two years.

National Music Week's theme for 2024 is "Music is ...yours, mine, and ours". Our juniors are invited to enter the National Music Week Essay Contest.

Our Arts Division chairs work to provide you with many ideas for activities to help your clubs prosper and bring the creative arts to your communities!



JUNIOR KEYNOTES

Congratulations to all our juniors who were so successful in the 2022/2023 contests and competitions. The deadline for the 2023 fall issue of Junior Keynotes is August 1, and will be filled with articles and pictures highlighting all our juniors' accomplishments. We will try our best to cover as many items as possible.

The deadline for submissions for subsequent issues remains the same as in the past: the deadline for the winter issue is November 1 and for the spring issue, February 1. Just a reminder of the guidelines for submission: submit all articles as WORD documents, as they may need to be edited for space constraints. Please provide only original high-resolution JPEG images 1MB or greater. When sending images via a mobile device please choose "original" or "large".

We always welcome student submissions, including artwork, poetry, musical ideas or anything that will be of interest to our readers. We hope to see all states represented with their junior accomplishments!

One special request for the fall, 2023, issue is artwork for the cover showcasing the NFMC's 125th anniversary.

For subsequent Junior Keynotes issues, we would like to include a column which will highlight fun activities for our juniors, such as puzzles, quotes, riddles, jokes, music and more. Submissions will be accepted from students, teachers and all NFMC members.

The state news editor, along with the regional news editors, will gladly pass on all state news to us. Be sure to highlight your juniors' success with an article in Junior Keynotes.

If you send us items that are more appropriate for Music Clubs Magazine, we will forward them to Jean Moffatt, editor, for inclusion there.

As the NFMC Junior Keynotes editor, I look forward to providing even more informative and interesting issues for 2023-2024!



Jeanne Hryniewicki
Editor

RECORDING SECRETARY

"Connie, will take the minutes of our meeting?" A question I've heard many, many times through high school, college, church related events, and music club. After enjoying the reunion of musical friends, outstanding musical presentations, and recognizing new Young Artists during our convention in Norfolk, I assumed my new role as Recording Secretary for the National Federation of Music Clubs. I am Connie Craig from Hannibal, Missouri, and South Central Region. Though I have traveled across our United States, I was not aware of Federation of Music Clubs until we retired from the US Army and relocated to Missouri. For the past thirty years I have enjoyed my involvement and serving in various roles in our local club and state organization. I look forward to serving as our Recording Secretary and "taking the minutes".



Connie Craig
Recording Secretary



STUDENT/COLLEGIATE DIVISION



Sheila K. Shusterich
Division Chair

Greetings!

I am your new Student/Collegiate Division Chair, taking over this leadership role from Lucinda Lear who has been most gracious in answering my many questions since being voted-in at the Norfolk Convention. Although it has been thirteen years since I have held a position in the Federation, I'm not a newcomer.

I joined the Federation as a young music teacher in Virginia, Minnesota in the early 1980s. I have worn many hats within the local, state and national Federation in that forty year span including local Festival Chairperson, State Chair for the NFMC Music Therapy Scholarships, Minnesota Federation of Music Clubs (MFMC) State President (2000-2004), MFMC State Auditions and Scholarship Chair (2000-2010), and the NFMC Student/Collegiate Audition Chair for Biennial Awards (2005-2009).

I hail from Minnesota and my husband and I have two adult sons, a daughter-in-law, and a dear granddaughter. In 2019, I retired after thirty-seven years of teaching where my last assignment was a grade 6-7-8 middle school choir director. I continue to substitute teach in our local schools and love being around the students.

I am happy to be reunited with the Federation thanks to Ouida's invitation and encouragement! I look forward to being of support in promoting the NFMC Awards! I have had the pleasure of connecting with most of the Audition Award Chairs already. I feel that we will be a great team in promoting the auditions and in reaching out to colleges, universities, applied music teachers, independent teachers, and band/orchestra/choir directors in our states to let as many musicians as possible know about the Federation awards. Everything is now online, so the process is streamlined and much easier than ever before!

Please take the extra step to make that personal connection! Identify college students in your state/region who would be potential candidates for these awards. Lastly, feel free to reach out with any questions. I would love to hear from you!

Musically yours,
Sheila K. Shusterich

COUNCIL OF STATE PRESIDENTS

The 2023 NFMC Convention was a wonderful opportunity for the State Presidents to attend the first biennial convention since 2019. There were two Council of State Presidents meetings during the week including interesting and informative presentations. On Wednesday Deborah Freeman, NFMC President, Julie Watson, Public Relations Chair, Dr. George Keck, Competition and Awards Chair, and Dr. Ouida Keck, Arts Division Chair spoke about their respective divisions.

Starla Blair, Young Artist Presentation Chair, encouraged the State Presidents to invite the Young Artists to perform in their states. Marcia Chaplin, Protocol Chair, gave them useful information about the procession and banquet in their honor which was held on Friday evening.

Thursday afternoon, additional presentations included Carolyn Nelson, Finance Division Chair, Ruth Morrow, American Music Division Chair, Laurie Marshall, Junior Division Chair, Lucinda Lear, Competitions and Awards Division Chair, and Natlynn Hayes, Membership and Education Division Chair.

Sandra Preysz gave everyone a Vivace Online Festivals system update encouraging all states to be 100% onboard for the 2024 Federation Festivals.

Once again, it is important to be reminded of three important statements relating to every State President.

VISION STATEMENT: The vision for our states' Federation of Music Clubs is revitalization, collaboration and music appreciation, through music clubs in every community.

MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of the State Presidents in the National Federation of Music Clubs is to serve as the liaison between national and state members, in order to communicate and educate our members about the purpose, mission and goals of the NFMC and our own state.

ACTION STATEMENT: The action of the State Presidents is to promote what the NFMC has to offer and to encourage membership growth through music opportunities.

There will be communications from this chair to the Presidents regularly during the upcoming year in looking towards Presidents Day in Iowa in 2024.



Jeanne Hryniewicki
Division Chair

REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS (NGO)

The United Nations declared our current decade (2021–2030) **The UN Decade of Healthy Ageing**. This initiative runs concurrently and complements the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**. You can read the entire Core Narrative for the Decade of Healthy Ageing online by following the link at the end of this article.

Since 2017 I have been presenting lectures and papers at national and international conferences focused on improving the quality of life for older persons through music participation. I began pursuing this focus after attending UN briefings that, while calling for improvements in the living environments for seniors, completely omitted the role the arts can play in the lives of seniors. Through the Decade of Healthy Ageing platform, the UN recognizes that by creating social as well as physical environments, older people can more easily age safely, continue to develop, and be a part of their communities.



**Decade
of healthy
ageing**



Dr. Liana Valente
Representative to the UN

I encourage you to read the Core Narrative, explore the Platform, share the work you and your clubs already do to engage older persons through music, and explore new ways to keep all members of your community engaged in music. You and your club members might consider scheduling performances at local senior centers, or arrange to bring community members to your meetings. You know the many benefits of music in your life; we encourage you to share those benefits throughout your community.

Please share your projects and successes this year with me via email (Liana@omegatower.com) so we can all learn from your work.

www.decadeofhealthyageing.org

MUSIC CLUBS MAGAZINE

It is a joy to return to the editorship of Music Clubs Magazine. We will strive to continue making it a quality publication reflecting the best our organization can offer. To do that, we need your participation. Send us your news, winners, and items of interest. Observe these three deadlines:

August 1 for fall, November 1 for winter, February 1 for spring

- Fall has conference/convention news and pictures, winners, plans for club year.
- Winter has advance of next conference/convention; award winners of summer music centers; and also officer candidates in even-numbered years.
- Spring has advance of conference/convention, registration info, memorial, voting, etc.

Every issue includes obituaries of prominent NFMC people, anniversary celebrations, regional, state, club news, winners of contests, and other articles of interest.

We ask all NFMC officers and chairs, regional vice-presidents, state presidents, and club presidents to send reports on noteworthy topics. Pictures are welcome if they are good quality, sent at highest resolution.

We salute Susan Rigoulot, state news chair, and all our regional newsgatherers. Please send your news to them to forward on to the editors (Susan's email is nfmc.edit@gmail.com) Jeanne Hryniewicki is editor of Junior Keynotes and welcomes junior news; student and senior news should come to me. Contact information is on page 3 of the magazine.



Jean Moffatt
Editor



SAVE THE DATE

JUNE 11-15, 2024

Make plans to join us in the Quad Cities, on the world-famous Mississippi River, for the 2024 National Conference.

Watch for more information to come!



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS



PARLIAMENTARIAN MESSAGE



Wanda Sims
NFMF Parliamentarian

Hello,

My name is Wanda Sims and I'm delighted to have the opportunity to serve as the parliamentarian for the National Federation of Music Clubs' (NFMF) 2024 Annual Conference in Dayton, Iowa.

I have been a member of the National Association of Parliamentarians (NAP) since 2008. After serving as Treasurer and Vice-President, I was elected President at the 43rd NAP Biennial Convention on September 9, 2021. I am a past President of the McCaskill Unit, a member of the Central Florida Unit, the Florida State Association of Parliamentarians, a member-at-large of the District of Columbia Association of Parliamentarians and the Maryland Association of Parliamentarians, and a member of the American Institute of Parliamentarian (AIP).

As a Professional Registered Parliamentarian (PRP) and Certified Parliamentarian (CP), I provide advice on parliamentary procedure, including meeting strategy, developing, revising, and amending bylaws, conducting parliamentary procedure workshops for local governments, civic organizations, and churches, overseeing elections, training presiding officers, boards and committees, and preparing meeting scripts.

I have a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Spelman College, Atlanta, GA, and a master's degree in organization development and human resources from Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD. In 2016 I retired from the federal government after working for the Federal Communications Commission for 36 years. I am a native of Nashville, TN, a life member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, a legacy life member of the National Council of Negro Women, and a life member of the National League of American Pen Women. I currently reside in Kissimmee, Florida. In my spare time, I enjoy playing pickleball, riding my bicycle, and participating in community service projects.

I'm looking forward to meeting and working with each of you at the 2024 Annual Conference. In the interim, if you have any questions regarding parliamentary procedure, please feel free to reach out to me at wmsims1@verizon.net.

Regards,
Wanda M. Sims, PRP, CP

DIVISIONAL ACTIVITIES



Harriet H. Coker
Division Chair

The 2023 Norfolk Convention was amazing! It seemed like old times after several very challenging years. We truly "made waves" and had such fun. The music, workshops, seeing friends and making new friends, the river cruise—well, everything! The committee deserves our wholehearted "thanks" for such a successful week.

In keeping with the convention theme of "Making Waves," this quote by a former Roman slave named Publilius Syrus seems appropriate. He said, "Anyone can hold the helm when the sea is calm." Our NFMF officers, chairs and staff surely held the helm these last few years when the sea was not calm. Thank you!

NFMF officers, division chairs, committee chairs and our executive director have been a tremendous help in producing the 2023-2025 manual. Thanks to everyone for their assistance! The new edition will be available in September. It is recommended that state presidents and senior club presidents have a manual. It is now accessible to all via the NFMF website and can be downloaded, so this is a huge benefit to all members. Copies may still be purchased from headquarters at the cost of \$18.00 for a printed version plus shipping and handling. The manual is a valuable resource for every federation member and club. Hopefully, everyone will take advantage of it!



NATIONAL FEDERATION of MUSIC CLUBS

1646 West Smith Valley Road
Greenwood, IN 46142

317-882-4003

email: nfmc@nfmc-music.org

www.nfmc-music.org

The National Federation of Music Clubs is a tax-exempt, non-profit philanthropic and educational organization dedicated to music education and promotion of the creative and performing arts in America since 1898. The Federation was chartered by the U.S. Congress on August 9, 1982. The mission of the Federation is to support and develop American music and musicians.

www.nfmc-music.org
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