



NFMC SUMMER MUSIC CENTERS 2023





Message from the President

by Deborah T. Freeman

Greetings!

Welcome to 2024 and a new year of music - related activities. I attended several NFMC Founders Day celebrations in January, as clubs honored our national, state, and local club founders. A skit, featuring a local actor portraying Rose Fay Thomas, was great fun and we dressed in attire depicting that era.

I always look forward to reading our National Music Week Essay Contest winners. Which reminds me, if you don't subscribe to Junior Keynotes Magazine, you are missing out. Spread the word and let's have essay entries from every state next year. Although students are not required to be NFMC members, what a great way to get them interested in taking that step!

Have you saved the date for our 2024 NFMC Conference? The excitement is building and our Meeting Committee is busily planning workshops and music you will not want to miss. Yes, we're going on an authentic steamboat dinner cruise down the Mighty Mississippi River, and so much more. Get on board and send in your registration early!

You will notice this issue is brimming with Summer Music Center news. Take time to read about all of them and make plans to visit. We all need to promote our NFMC sponsored SMC.

Deborah Freeman

Deborah T. Freeman

NFMC President

President's Theme: "Celebrating our Musical Heritage"



President's Song: "God Bless America" Irving Berlin

MICHAEL R. EDWARDS

NFMC President 2015-2019

Graduating Senior Performance Award This award will be given to a graduating high school senior pursuing a music performance degree on any instrument or voice who will be attending an accredited music school. Graduating seniors must have earned at least one NMFC Federation cup. For rules (JR22-1) and application (JR22-2) and more information please visit nfmc-music.org



Deadline: May 1st Award Amount: \$5000 Chair: Michael R. Edwards Email: micedwards@aol.com

Table of Contents

- Message from the President
- 3 **Contact Information**
- 2024 NFMC Convention 4
- From the Chaplain 9
- Catch the Wave of New Membership 10
- Generous Gift from Bill Yick 11 Benefits AFMC
- Carolyn Nelson PNP Double-Reed Award 12
- Correction to Fall Music Clubs Magazine 12
- NFMC Young Artist Tour in Arkansas 13
- 13 Why we join Music Clubs
- Moving Mountains To Make Music! 14
- The Lubbock Music Club 16
- **NFMC Summer Music Centers** 18 (SMC) Awards 2023
- 31 Fun with Improvisation
- 33 Regional News
- State News 34
- 38 Where Are They Now?
- NFMC Senior Award Opportunities 39

Advertisers' Index

- Michael R. Edwards Performance Award
- 9 Carolyn C. Nelson Double Reed Award
- 10 Lana M. Bailey Piano Concerto Award
- 11 The Frances Clark Center
- 12 NFMC Junior Composers Contest
- 15 Music Teachers National Association
- 30 Ouida Keck Professional Award
- 33 Elizabeth Paris French Horn Award
- 35 Frances J. Nelson Tuba Award
- 37 NFMC Music in Poetry & Song
- 37 NFMC American Music
- 37 \$1.25 Contribution
- 38 NFMC Student/Collegiate Handbook



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nfmc-music.org

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WELCOME LETTER





Meredith Willson had it right when he wrote, "Oh, there's nothin' halfway about the lowa way to treat you." And we plan to treat you to an exciting conference filled with good food, fun and fellowship. The last time lowa was able to greet you was when the then "Tri-Cities" hosted the 1921 Biennial convention. It's time to update and upgrade. The Tri-Cities added one more lowa river town, Bettendorf, to make the Quad-Cities an example of congenial collaboration to explore and enjoy.

The Isle, our conference hotel, is located on the banks of the Mighty Mississippi river. A buffet BREAKFAST IS INCLUDED in the cost of your hotel room this year. Calling all state presidents to come on Tuesday, June 11, and participate in a day set aside just for them to share, interact, and learn from each other. Everyone else-come a day early on Tuesday and enjoy a unique experience of an evening dinner cruise on the Celebration Belle, an authentic paddlewheel boat designed for cruising the waterways of the great Mississippi River. (https://www.celebrationbelle.com)

Wednesday morning officially begins the conference. Our emphasis this year will be on life-long learning, whether adult or junior. We'll be hearing from some of our Festival Bulletin composers and pedagogues. Inspiring us to explore ways to use sound, physical gesture and imagination will be Dr. Helen Marlais, Melody Bober and new NFMC Stillman-Kelly and Thelma Byrum awards chair, Dr. Jason Sifford. We hope to highlight some compositions in the new 2024-2028 Festival Bulletin and present ideas to inspire and ignite interest in repertoire. Our Festival Chorus director, Dan Andersen has ideas to help our voices age better and continue singing throughout our life!

You'll enjoy special performances by our NFMC Young Artists on Wednesday evening and performances by some of our award winners as Musical Moments are sprinkled throughout our meetings. The Bix Beiderbecke Museum is located in downtown Davenport and the director of this museum will share more insight into the world of jazz in the 1930's at our Rose Fay Thomas luncheon along with a pre-luncheon concert by a small jazz combo.

Thursday evening is a special lowa treat. We will journey a few blocks down the street to Asbury Methodist church where is housed an historic

Pleyel Double Grand piano, the only working piano of its kind in this hemisphere. The Happy Dog Duo enjoyed playing on this unique instrument at the 2019 lowa Conference and we are thrilled to have them back bringing humor and joy to classical music! BUT FIRST—we will enjoy an lowa hog-roast (well, we won't actually roast a pig) supper at the church with smoked pork or chicken, baked beans, coleslaw and all the trimmings needed for a summer night's picnic in lowa.

The final concert on Friday will be an extra special presentation by Audrey Johnson entitled "We've Come a Long Way, Ladies! A Musical Celebration of the 19th Amendment." This program brings the Women's Suffrage Movement to life through historical music, projected images, onstage costume transformations, a spoken narrative, and audience participation.

The Channel Cat Water Taxi will help you explore the Mighty Mississippi without the need to drive. It stops at 4 different landings including the Village of East Davenport where you can walk the streets and shop the Unique and memorable Isabel Bloom sculptures are boutiques. handcrafted in Davenport. Then perhaps continue on to the John Deere Commons Landing. The John Deere Pavilion is an attraction and museum located in Moline, Illinois that details and highlights the beginnings of one of the leading tractor companies in the world. In Davenport, visit The German American Heritage Center & Museum, located in a former hotel that hosted thousands of immigrants in the 1860's. This museum details German immigrants' journeys by sea, train, and foot to Iowa. Also in Davenport is The Figge Art Museum, a landmark glass building on the banks of the Mississippi River with expansive galleries and a premier art exhibit and education facility. If you are a Civil War history buff, you may want to find your way to The Rock Island Arsenal Museum in Rock Island, IL. This island was the home of Fort Armstrong, a Civil War Prison, and a mighty armaments hub. Today it is an essential part of Quad-Cities manufacturing and employment.

"So, what the heck, you're welcome—glad to have you with us. You really ought to give Iowa, Hawkeye Iowa, ought to give Iowa a try!" Thanks, Meredith and see you on the banks of the Mighty Mississippi!

OFFICIAL CALL

NFMC CONFERENCE

JUNE 11-15, 2024 • BETTENDORF, IOWA • ISLE HOTEL

For activity and meal reservations, memorial contributions and voting credentials please visit nfmc-music.org after February 1, 2024. An official name badge is necessary for attendance at every NFMC convention function.



REGISTRATION:

Full Registration \$125. 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:

7:30 am - 5:00 pm Tuesday, June 11 7:30 am - 3:00 pm Wednesday, June 12 Thursday, June 13 7:30 am - 3:00 pm Friday, June 14 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 may 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

Isle Hotel 1777 Isle Parkway Bettendorf, IA 52722 563.441.7000

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Reservations can be made online by calling 800.843.4753, using the group code: NFMC624

Hotel Reservation cutoff date: 5:00 pm on May 27, 2024. Each person is responsible for making his/her reservation.

Room rate: \$152 per night for single or double occupancy, plus tax. Includes a complimentary continental breakfast each day.



PARKING AND AIRPORT SHUTTLE

Self-parking is complimentary. A complimentary shuttle is available to and from the airport.

HOTEL AMENITIES

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

HOTEL RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE

Keller's American Grill

WEARING APPAREL

This is summer in the midwest. The hotel is air conditioned. Comfortable business attire is expected to be worn at all sessions.

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

VOTING CREDENTIALS

Voting credentials are available in the Winter 2024 issue or 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

Any NFMC member may send a memorial contribution to the national memorial chair, Connie Randall, 606 South Jefferson St, Kaufman, TX 75142, 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 Kathie White whiteka23@yahoo.com . Deadline: May 15, 2024.

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 download on the NFMC website. 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 their one page report.

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 download reports from the website, attend Division meetings and meet with chairs.



NFMC CONFERENCE

JUNE 11-15, 2024 • BETTENDORF, IOWA • ISLE HOTEL

TUESDAY, JUNI

7:30 am – 5:00 pm Registration 9:00 am – 5:00 pm Presidents Day

8:00 am - 10:00 am
10:00 am - 11:00 pm
11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Executive Committee (closed)

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

1:00 pm - 1:30 pm
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm
3:45 pm - 5:15 pm
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Budget Committee
Finance Committee
Finance Committee
Sergeants at arms
Festival Chorus Rehearsal
Protocol Committee
Frotocol Committee
Four - Dinner Cruise

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2024

7:30 am - 5:00 pm Registration 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Exhibit Hall 8:30 am - 10:45 am Formal Opening

10:45 am – 11:00 am Speaker – Dr. Ouida Keck, Pedagogy Award/

History Winners

11:00 am - 12:00 pm Presidents Council and Board Meeting

(joint meeting)

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Regional Luncheons:

Northeastern Region Southeastern Region North Central Region South Central Region Western Region

 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm
 Student Division

 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm
 Arts Division

 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm
 Festival Committee

 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm
 Bylaws Committee

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm Workshop - The Voice in Renewal: Rebuilding

the Aging Voice by Dan Andersen

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm Senior Clubs Roundtable Discussion by Linda

Maurhoff & Kristin Ivers
Festival Chorus Rehearsal

4:00 pm - 5:30 pm Dinner (on your own)

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm Young Artist Concert

9:00 pm - 10:00 pm Reception

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2024

7:30 am - 5:00 pm Registration 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Exhibit Hall 8:30 am - 10:00 am General Session

> Introduction of American Music, Membership and Education

& Junior Division

Workshop - Melody Bober, Station Rotation

10:00 am - 12:00 pm Junior Division

10:00 am - 11:00 am Workshop - New Bulletin Music by Helen Marlais, Melody Bober & Jason Sifford

12:00 pm – 12:15 pm Pre-luncheon concert

12:00 pm – 1:45 pm Rose Fay Thomas Luncheon Speaker -Nathaniel Kraft of Bix Beiderbecke

Museum

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm Sound, physical gesture, and imagination

by Helen Marlais

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm American Music Division 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm Periodicals Committee

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm FAMA

2:00 pm - 3:30 pm
3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Workshop by Dr. Jason Sifford
4:00 pm - 5:30 pm
Workshop by Dr. Jason Sifford
Festival Chorus Rehearsal

the Pleyel Piano at Ashbury Methodist

Church

7:30 pm – 8:30 pm Concert 8:30 pm – 9:30 pm Reception

FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2024

8:00 am – 12:00 pm Registration 8:00 am – 5:00 pm Exhibit Hall

8:00 am - 10:00 am Annual Business Meeting

Workshop - Engaging Federation through

Social Media by Sam Ecoff

10:00 am – 11:00 am
10:00 am – 11:00 am
10:00 am – 11:00 am
10:30 am – 12:00 pm
11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Vorkshop - Lest We Forget: Voices of

American Women Yesterday and Today by

Audrey Johnson

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

1:30 pm - 2:30 pm Festival Chorus Concert 2:30 pm - 3:15 pm Headquarters/Office Committee 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm Arts Advocacy 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm Presidents Council 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm Finance Division 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm **Public Relations Division** 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm Young Artist Committee 3:30 pm - 4:30 pmEllis Duo Committee

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Banquet Honoring State Presidents

Concert – Audrey Johnson, We've Come a

Long Way, Ladies! A Celebration of the

19th Amendment

SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2024

8:30 am - 9:30 am Memorial Service

9:45 am – 12:00 pm Board of Directors, followed by

Executive Committee

^{*}Schedule subject to change

ACTIVITY & MEAL RESERVATION

666

NFMC CONFERENCE

JUNE 11-14, 2024 • BETTENDORF, IOWA • ISLE 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 1. 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.

Plan to sing with the American Festival Chorus? Yes ____ No____

Register and pay online at nfmc-music.org

-OR- Make check payable to NFMC – Iowa 2024.

Postmark deadline for ticket order is June 1, 2024

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

hose attending more than one function (meal or presentation, workshop or concert) must register.	Cost	Х	# Tickets	=	\$ TOTAL
REGISTRATION FEES:					
FULL SESSION REGISTRATION	\$125	Х		_	\$
DAILY REGISTRATION	\$50	X		=	\$
JUNIOR OR STUDENT MEMBER REGISTRATION	\$25	X		=	\$
MEAL RESERVATIONS:					
Wednesday, June 12 REGIONAL LUNCHEON (Region)				
Served with house salad, rolls and butter, regular and decaffeinated coffee, iced tea and water					
1. Roasted Pork Loin - Local Boetje's mustard and honey crusted pork with creamy herb mashed potatoes and petite green beans.	\$26	X		=	\$
2. Fresh Atlantic Cod - Broiled Atlantic cod filet with white wine orange hollandaise, wild rice and quinoa blend and asparagus 3. Vegetarian - Eggplant Cutlet with Pasta Marinara with roasted vegetables.	\$26 \$26	X		=	\$ \$
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Thursday, June 13 Rose Fay Thomas Luncheon (RFT #) Served with house salad, rolls and butter, regular and decaffeinated coffee, iced tea and water					
1. Basil Sesame Chicken - Roasted chicken breast with basil tarragon cream sauce, mashed potatoes, broccoli and tomato compote	\$26	Χ		=	\$
2. Roasted Soy & Ginger Salmon - Roasted salmon filet with soy & ginger velouté, Parmesan fingerling potatoes and petite green beans		X		=	\$
3. Vegetarian - Beyond Burger with Veggies, mushrooms, Sautéed beans and rice	\$26	Х		=	\$
Thursday, June 13 Iowa Picnic					
iuffet style picnic offering smoked pork or chicken on a bun with select sauces. Served with baked beans, weet macaroni salad, coleslaw, and iced tea or lemonade.	\$20	Х		=	\$
Friday, June 14 PRESIDENT BANQUET					
Served with house salad, rolls & butter, regular and decaffeinated coffee, iced tea and water					
1. Vegan/Gluten Free Power Meal - Sautéed supreme vegetables with mushrooms, butter beans, wild rice blend with tomato quinoa	\$38	Χ		=	\$
Lemon Herb Salmon Herb-scented salmon, a rich hollandaise sauce, Yukon gold dill mashed potatoes, petite green beans and tomato relish	\$48	Х		=	\$
3. Filet and Chicken Breast - Tender filet mignon, chicken breast with artichoke cream, Boursin cheese mashed potatoes, petite green beans and baby carrots	\$52	Х		=	\$
FOUR					
	A.5.7	V			*
DINNER CRUISE - Tuesday, June 11 (6:00 pm – 9:00 pm) The Dinner Cruises offer a special night out on the mighty Mississippi River, while traveling in style on the	\$57	Х		=	\$
"Celebration Belle". While dinner is a big part of this cruise it doesn't end there. After dinner, relax with our					
fully stocked bars and dance to the sounds of the Celebration River Cruises band.					
РНОТО					
CONFERENCE PHOTOGRAPHS (Digital download link)	\$25	X		=	\$
		(SRAND TO	TAL	\$
ame (Print Clearly) Email address					
ddress					
ederation Office/Chairmanship Date of arrival_					
5.00 0.00					

If yes, please indicate vocal part:

VOTING CREDENTIALS APPLICATION



JUNE 11-14, 2024 • BETTENDORF, IOWA • ISLE HOTEL

DEADLINE: VOTING CREDENTIALS for all delegates must be received by June 1, 2024

______ STATE ______ ZIP CODE ______ TELEPHONE __

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.

EMAIL ___

	I hereby apply for Voting Credential.
SIGN	NATURE
	GIBILITY FOR VOTING CREDENTIAL: eck only one)
	Member of NFMC Board of Directors
	Appointed NFMC Officer
	NFMC Chair 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 10 delegates.
his/	ore voting credentials deadline each ELECTED DELEGATE must have /her Club President send a written confirmation that he/she is the cted delegate of the club to national headquarters.
	Student Active Organization delegate (list name and address of organization below) Counselor of Active Junior Organization (list name and address of organization below) ORGANIZATION NAME ORGANIZATION ADDRESS
	OKOAISIZAIIOIS ADDRESS

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

For each person to be listed in the Memorial Service program, a \$25 minimum contribution must be sent to: Connie Randall 606 South Jefferson St, Kaufman, TX 75142 conniebrandall@yahoo.com

Postmark deadline: May 15, 2024. Amount enclosed: \$ (Check payable to NFMC. The check must be separate from the registration check)

NAME OF PERSON(S) CONTRIBUTING___

ADDRESS __

___ 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 Kathie White at whiteka23@yahoo.com

Deadline May 15, 2024.

DELEGATE'S NAME

From the Chaplain



From the Chaplain

by Kathie White, NFMC Chaplain

"Let us with renewed consecration dedicate ourselves to the purpose of our Federation, to bring the spiritualizing force of music to the inner life of our nation. Open our minds that divine knowledge and wisdom may teach us how best to execute our pledge."

This last paragraph from the NFMC Collect has been on my mind throughout this past year. These words have often encouraged me to keep going because it reminds me that there is a deeper aspect to our Federation work. How good it is to revisit these foundations that have inspired and guided us!

I lived in Scotland for 12 years and one of the things I loved to do was to look for the "cairns" on the bare hillsides or on rocky beaches. Cairns are stacks of stones that can represent many things such as "Look, I made it up this hill!", "This is a significant place to me", or "Let's build a monument to commemorate this experience or person." Some of the ancient stone-stacks serve as guides through the lowland thick brush and heather or as resting points for trekkers scaling the wind-swept highlands to reach the top. Many contemporary cairns are simply artistic expressions of a person or group, but I like to think of cairns as symbols of guidance and hope.

The statement from our NFMC collect is one of those "guiding cairns" for us. We must go back to it and especially during times when our clubs get despondent or low. We have a great purpose that has shaped and guided NFMC since 1898. We must remember how much our

communities today need the music we can share because it is music that can inspire, give hope, stimulate the mind and creativity, energize the languid and yet soothe the frenzied spirit of this day and age. Do we see that we have something that is a "spiritualizing force that affects the inner life of our nation...our state...our town"? Do we see our communities as people needing what we have to give? Can we be inspired to seek ways to share it meaningfully in our culture?

Most of us do not live in towns with great resources of music, venues, extraordinary talent, or financial means. We do our work on a shoestring budget and yet we press on because of our belief in the intrinsic value of what we do. As we focus on the challenge of the first part of the last paragraph, we need to also remember the closing plea: "Open our minds that divine knowledge and wisdom may teach us how best to execute our pledge." The Collect was written in 1929 by Mrs. Thomas Cole of Mississippi. It has served us well. Let us use this last paragraph of the Collect as a "Cairn" for our organization and our clubs. Keep looking to it as a beacon and foundation for your federation work this year. If we ever needed a spiritualizing force for the inner life of our nation...we need it now!

Blessings always,

Karen Herndon

NFMC Chaplain



Membership Division



Catch the Wave of New Membership

by Dr. Valerie Harris, NFMC Media Chair

At the NFMC Convention in Norfolk, Virginia, the 125th Year Celebration Committee led a workshop entitled "Catch the Wave of New Members". Attendees participated in lively discussions in roundtable style, brainstorming ideas for increasing membership. In the last MCM, workshop attendees' ideas for attracting new members by reaching out to new contacts. In this issue, we will share ideas gathered at the workshop for using both traditional media and virtual media platforms to attract new members.

Today's social media platforms offer inexpensive ways to quickly share events and activities and can attract new members to join us in promoting and supporting the arts in our communities. Facebook allows you to not only have a private group for your members, but an outward-facing public page to spread your message far and wide. Post about upcoming events, report on past events, and highlight student achievements (with permission obtained from the parents). As you advertise an upcoming event, you can invite your members to not only "like" and "comment on" the post, but when they share the post on their own Facebook feeds, your message will be shared with their network of friends as well. Short video clips are especially effective posted on Facebook to entice people to attend your events. If you create an Instagram account and regularly post events or other items such as music ideas or tips for teaching or performing, you can build a following. Look for other organizations in your area that use Instagram and follow them. You can invite them to follow you as well, thus increasing your viewership.

But don't forget traditional media channels as well. Radio stations such as The Talk of East Texas (a free internet radio channel) offer non-profit organizations a \$10 spot to advertise events. Local print advertisers and newspapers will often allow non-profits a free or reduced-rate spot for advertising events. If you join your local Chamber of Commerce, they will distribute your information

via their electronic and print distribution lists. Local television stations cover local events and activities, especially if they can bring a newscaster to your venue and promote it or if you are doing an especially engaging activity. With any of these sources, however, make sure that you approach them with a concise and complete set of details. The clearer you can be, the more likely they will pick it up and advertise it.

All of these options can provide opportunities to send your message to a wide audience and can garner support and new membership. Make sure you provide a way for them to contact you and to quickly find out more about your club and how they can participate. Websites can provide quick access if you make it obvious on the home page what you do and how to reach you. Make sure if you include a contact form on your page, that you follow up immediately with requests for information you receive. Provide links for people to register with your club and to easily accept dues.

With the NFMC's long history of supporting and encouraging music in our communities, states and nation, we want to continue to "ride the wave" into the future through the growth and continued development of the organization. We can only do that by reaching

out and finding new members to join us in fulfilling our goals. I challenge you to try one or two new methods this year for increasing your exposure in your area. Let's all work together to share the gift and joy of music!

Help us discover ways to engage new members by sharing what you love about your NFMC Membership and what keeps you involved. Scan the QR code to fill out a quick survey to share your ideas. We'll share those ideas in the next MCM article!

Scan this OR code to tell us what you love about NFMC



Lana M. Bailey Piano Concerto Award

Are you a high school senior who will be majoring in music next year at a college, university or conservatory? Check out the Lana M. Bailey Piano Concerto Award forms JR 20-1 and JR 20-2 to find the rules and application for this \$1,500 annual award (\$500 2nd Place). The competition has a deadline date of May 1 so polish your performance and upload your video recording!

First or last movement from one of the Senior Class Piano Concertos in the 2020-24 Federation Festivals Bulletin.



Lana Bailey

Generous Gift from Bill Yick Benefits AFMC

AFMC has (once again) been the beneficiary of a generous gift of \$20,000 from Bill Yick. Bill gave \$20,000 to AFMC almost 10 years ago which has helped finance the Young Artist Tour in Arkansas and to provide two scholarships to students in Arkansas AFMC-affiliated colleges. His generosity has allowed Arkansas to continue to be the only state in NFMC which has an annual Young Artist Tour. We are very grateful to Bill for his support and generosity towards our state and the future of young musicians in Arkansas and the nation.

The Young Artists concerts cover central, southwest, southeast, and northwest parts of the state. There is some expense for the AFMC clubs hosting these concerts, but none of it would be possible for us without the generosity of Bill Yick to AFMC. We do extend our heartfelt thanks to Bill for his gifts to AFMC and, once again, Bill has stepped forward so that we are able to have Leland's collaborator, Adria Ye, to accompany him on this tour. He has given \$1000 to cover the transportation costs and fees for Adria.

Arkansas 2023 AFMC William Yick Collegiate Award Winners





Bill Yick presented the AFMC Yick Collegiate Awards (\$500) to Colton Scoggins (saxophone) from Texarkana College and to Caulder Toland (trombone) from Northwest Arkansas Community College.

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Carolyn Nelson PNP Double-Reed Award

by Tim Baumann, Chair

Tim Baumann, chair of the Carolyn Nelson PNP Double-Reed Award, has announced the top two finalists. Duncan Henry is the first-place winner of \$1,250, and Erin Acree is the second-place winner of \$750.



FIRST PLACE DUNCAN HENRY Minnesota

Duncan Henry is a bassoonist from Minnesota completing a one-year certificate program at the Aaron Copland School of Music where he is studying with bassoonist Frank Morelli. Duncan graduated from St. Olaf College in 2022 where he earned a B.M. in Bassoon Performance and a B.A. in Computer Science having studied with bassoonists Mark Kelley and Thea Groth. He began a

M.M. in Bassoon Performance this fall at the University of Minnesota where he will study with bassoonist Fei Xie and live with his fiancé. Before then, he is excited to be attending the Yale School of Music's Norfolk Chamber Music Festival this upcoming summer. In addition to music, Duncan is committed to fitness and works to live by and share his belief that thoughtful physical training can dramatically improve one's quality of life.



SECOND PLACE ERIN ACREE Alabama

Born and raised in Birmingham, Alabama, bassoonist Erin Acree holds a bachelor's degree from the Manhattan School of Music where she studied as a scholarship recipient with Roger Nye. Erin is currently completing her Masters of Music at the Mannes school of Music as a scholarship and grant recipient studying with Rebekah Heller. Erin has performed with ensembles and festivals across New

York City and across the country. She is a member of the Orchestra of St. Luke's mentorship program with her wing quintet The Orphic Winds. In summer 2022, Erin participated in the Stellenbosch Chamber Music Festival in Stellenbosch, South Africa with The Orphic Winds as a student guest ensemble. Here Erin studied and performed with musicians from all around the world, including the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and the Berliner Philharmoniker.

CORRECTION

In the Fall 2023 edition of Music Clubs Magazine, the caption for new Rose Fay Thomas honorees misnamed Christy Smith and failed to identify Judy Prescott. We regret the errors.





NFMC YOUNG ARTIST TOUR IN ARKANSAS

The 2023 Arkansas Young Artist Tour with Leland Philip Ko (cellist) and Adria Ye (collaborative piano) was planned and implemented by Dr. George Keck, the AFMC Young Artist Presentation Chair. The tour began on Monday, September 11, at Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, and included concerts on Tuesday at Texarkana College, Thursday at the University of Arkansas at Monticello, on Friday in Little Rock, and concluded on Sunday in Bella Vista, Arkansas.





Why we join Music Clubs

by Katharine Cimini, President, Williamsport Music Club, Williamsport, PA

I have been a member for only six years, so I vividly remember WHY I first joined the Music Club. The director of my church choir was the Chair of the Music Club Gala one year, and he asked our choir to sing at the event. After that initiation, I was hooked on the performer's music and talents that evening.

The Gala is also the Scholarship Award Program, so I heard the story of the young, talented violinist who had won that year and was hooked. So, here was a Club that not only brought joy through the displayed talents of its members but also helped young artists on their way through a musical life.

Although we have many professional musicians in our Club, we primarily engage those who LOVE music. Harmonized Gratitude Through Music was our theme last season. As part of that theme, I re-introduced the reciting of The Collect before each program. That prayer says everything that most of our members embody as the reason they have become members or why non-members come to our programs.

The Joy of Music and the understanding that it is an essential part of our lives underlie the primary reason for becoming a member of our Music Club. Thank you for the opportunity to have this marvelous Club that is part of a much larger song.

Opera in the Ozarks



MOVING MOUNTAINS TO MAKE MUSIC!

by Nancy Preis, General Director of Opera in the Ozarks

What does it take to move mountains? A lot of dump trucks! So far, the construction project at Opera in the Ozarks has seen over 2000 truckloads of dirt and rock leave our mountain, all to make it possible to fit a custom built, beautiful opera theater onto the side of our mountain.



After removal of the old faculty housing, the first step was to regrade the side of the mountain.

After 75 years, the Opera in the Ozarks campus has been in need of an upgrade. Our old theater, while still usable, has serious limitations, one of which is the inability to use it in cold weather. Our housing suffers from a similar flaw – none of the buildings except the office building and the rehearsal hall has any heat, although we do have air conditioning. Almost all of our buildings do not meet modern building codes and have increasing problems with plumbing and electrical systems that are at end of life.

All that is changing! We have embarked on a campus refresh. In the first phase, paid for primarily with a generous grant from the Walton Family Foundation, we are building a new, 300 seat, fully enclosed, climate controlled jewel box of a theater. It will have state of the art lighting, sound, and projection equipment and will have an orchestra pit and plenty of backstage space. The building will also include a large rehearsal hall that can be used for events, a costume construction studio, and audience amenities such as new restrooms, a glass enclosed lobby looking over the gorgeous Ozark countryside, and a reception desk where tickets, drinks, and merchandise will be sold.

The Walton grant is also building four new two story faculty houses, each to include six bedrooms, each with a private bath, and a common room on each floor. The common rooms will include amenities such as laundry facilities, a microwave, refrigerator, and comfortable chairs. Each bedroom has its own climate controls and large windows looking out at the woods and mountains.

The campus infrastructure is also getting an upgrade. We have a brand new well with a much improved flow rate, a new septic and storm water system to serve the new buildings, and will be upgrading to fiber optic internet service. The icing on the cake is that our hillside parking area will be regraded and paved, with attractive landscaping, lighting, and benches. We have a 200 ft. tower crane looming over the property and tons of construction materials in staging areas. It's fun to watch the progress!

Phase two will include new artist housing, new offices, and a new dining facility among other amenities. This phase is not covered by the Walton grant, so we will be raising funds over the next few years.



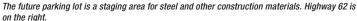
This is a rendering of the new theater. The glass walled lobby on the far side looks out



The new faculty housing will be ready for our 2024 opera season.

Opera in the Ozarks







As of mid November, the theater is starting to take shape!

So what is not changing? Our commitment to providing excellent training for young singers, our dedication to providing outstanding theatrical productions for the enjoyment of our audiences, and our enthusiasm for providing educational opportunities for all ages. From our children's opera to programs for seniors, we will be adding new programs and opening our doors for other groups to rent our facilities. 🎝



Lubbock Music Club



The Lubbock Music Club:

Celebrating A Century of Music Work on the South Plains of Texas

by Dr. Elissa Stroman, Texas Tech University

2023 is a momentous time for Lubbock Texas. This year we celebrate that one hundred years ago, Texas Tech University was established, and two area music organizations began that same fall: the Lubbock Music Club (LMC) and the South Plains Music Teachers Association (SPMTA). Knowing how far the region has grown and changed over the past century only emphasizes the immense work the Lubbock Music Club has done.

While Rose Fay Thomas was organizing music clubs at the 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago, West Texas' South Plains was a very young region. Lubbock County had just been organized in 1891, and the town itself was incorporated in 1909. Early residents settled in dirt dugouts initially before building more permanent structures. Within the Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library at Texas Tech, oral history interviews reveal stories of how women brought music to this region: communal singing around the campfire on the journey west before transporting their beloved pianos on wagons. Music was integral to this town's roots, and it is not surprising that in its first few decades, city leader established town bands to promote community camaraderie, women staged recitals on their front porches, and music teachers began producing pageant and concert productions with their local talent.

By the fall of 1923, Lubbock had grown to four thousand residents. On November 18 of that year, fifty-three women met to establish the Lubbock Music Club in hopes of encouraging a higher standard of music in the area, and elected Mrs. Francis Rix as president. Her husband Jed was a prominent businessman in town, and Francis was an accomplished pianist. The club was incorporated with the Texas Federation of Music Clubs and the National Federation of Music Clubs in 1924 and began observing National Music Week in 1927.

A January 12, 1924 article in the Lubbock Morning Avalanche stated that the upcoming concert of pianist Paul Van Katwijk (from Southern Methodist University)—whose performance was sponsored by the LMC— "marks a step in Lubbock's forward progress and we hope the

time is coming when no inhabitant of Lubbock county will have to leave home to hear good music." Though the two music organizations worked independently, the LMC and the SPMTA occasionally collaborated (with support from the fledgling Texas Tech community) to bring touring artists from across the United States to Lubbock. In the 1920s, Lubbockites were able to attend concerts of musicians and composers like Efrem Zimbalist, David Guion, Edwin Hughes, Don Jose Mojica, Percy Grainger, and John Philip Sousa, something seemingly inconceivable for a town that had barely started laying brick streets and only fifteen years prior had no railroad lines.

As Lubbock grew, its musical talent pool expanded further, allowing the Lubbock Music Club to provide more musical performance opportunities for area residents. Starting in 1928, the club brought together local church choirs to stage Handel's Messiah, continuing yearly for a few decades. There was a weekly radio program in the 1930s and a "Twilight Music Hour" concert series at the West Texas Museum in the 1950s and 1960s. But perhaps one of the most enduring works of the Lubbock Music Club in the mid-twentieth century was to join with the Allegro Music Club of Lubbock (established in 1940) to sponsor the first concert of the Lubbock Little Symphony, now known as the Lubbock Symphony Orchestra.

The work of the Lubbock Music Club led to an increased number of clubs throughout the area. Just a decade after the LMC and SPMTA were founded, the South Plains region had ten senior and junior clubs. By the 1970s, TFMC District 2 had over thirty senior, junior, and student clubs. The Lubbock Music Club also has enabled generations of Lubbock women to connect in musical activities not only locally but also across the state and nation, and four women have been TFMC presidents: D'Aun Marshall, Francis Christmann, Jean Moffatt, and Carla Johnson.

When I was first learning about the work of the Lubbock Music Club, members always emphasized their pride in helping area music students. In 1952, patron members began a fund that has given scholarships to



Lubbock Music Club

almost one hundred college students, beginning with Texas Tech students and expanding to other area colleges. Many scholarship winners have become successful professional musicians and teachers, notably opera singers Terry Cook and Bruce Ford. Today members also continue to work with area music students with the annual Pastorale Festival and encouraging participation in the numerous NFMC scholarships and contests.

Throughout its one hundred years, the Lubbock Music Club has typically averaged around fifty members. For much of its history, the club met in members' homes but would transition to the parlor of Lubbock's First Christian Church in 2011, where it still meets on the third Friday morning of the month, September through May. On November 17, 2023, the club met to celebrate its one hundred birthday (albeit one day early). Each meeting of this years' programs spotlights a decade of the club's history, and I provide a brief "centennial minute" that lists each decade's accomplishments. For example, November's meeting was the 1950s, and members learned that in 1954 the Lubbock Music Club produced a sixepisode television program that featured over 150 public school student musicians. It was called "Adventures in Music Land," with a script written by then LMC president Mildred Joiner. The groundbreaking show received a NFMC Award of Merit in 1956.

Were it not for those musical pioneer women a century ago, Lubbock's musical landscape would be quite different. Today, Buddy Holly Hall—opened in 2021 and where the Lubbock Symphony Orchestra now performs—seems quite distant from the church sanctuaries and gymnasiums where concerts were staged in the 1920s. Lubbock might remain a dusty flat landscape, but it's a thriving Hub City known for its rich musical legacy, with over 260,000 residents and with Texas Tech boasting over 40,000 students (also a far cry from the 4,000 residents and no students in 1923!). The members of the Lubbock Music Club have endured for over a century now, continuing to meet monthly and create opportunities for memorable musical experiences for South Plains residents, and for that we are all very grateful.

The Southwest Collection, since its inception in 1955, has worked with local clubs to preserve their histories, and the Lubbock Music Club has donated regularly scrapbooks, yearbooks, and club records that document almost every year of its history. As a musicologist who specializes in American women, I have often lamented the absence of archival records for the earliest music clubs of the 1890s and 1900s. It is an honor as the oral history archivist of the Southwest Collection to help preserve West Texas clubwomen's work through active curation of manuscript material and oral history interviews that tell stories of club work that would not be otherwise preserved. In interviews, I ask people about their musical lineage, important clubwomen and friendships, and memorable meetings and activities. It is my hope that the work I do today helps future generations discover under-documented music history. I encourage all clubs to discuss what they are doing to preserve their histories. Are you saving your past programs, yearbooks, scrapbooks, minutes, etc.? Do you have an institutional repository that you periodically donate records to? Have you thought about starting an oral history project?

From late January through May 2024, the Southwest Collection will have an exhibit that spotlights this musical history as well as the women whose donated records have helped preserve these stories. For more information on the exhibit, or for guidance on archiving and oral histories, contact Elissa Stroman, elissa.stroman@ttu.edu. For more information on the Lubbock Music Club, contact Carla Johnson,



Program books of the Lubbock Music Club: housed at the Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library



Lubbock Music Club Centennial Kick-off Luncheon on September 15, 2023. From left to right: Director of the Texas Tech School of Music Dr. Andrew J. Stetson, Carla Johnson, Lubbock Symphony Orchestra Director David Cho, cellist Galen Wixson, Jean Moffatt, current Lubbock Music Club president Mary Ann Bridges, and author Elissa Stroman. Photograph by Phil Johnson.



Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library Reading Room, where researchers can view the records of this and other clubs of the region; photograph by the author



The table is decorated in club colors of red and green, with gold recognizing 100 years.



The November 17 meeting celebrating Lubbock Music Club's 100th birthday observance.

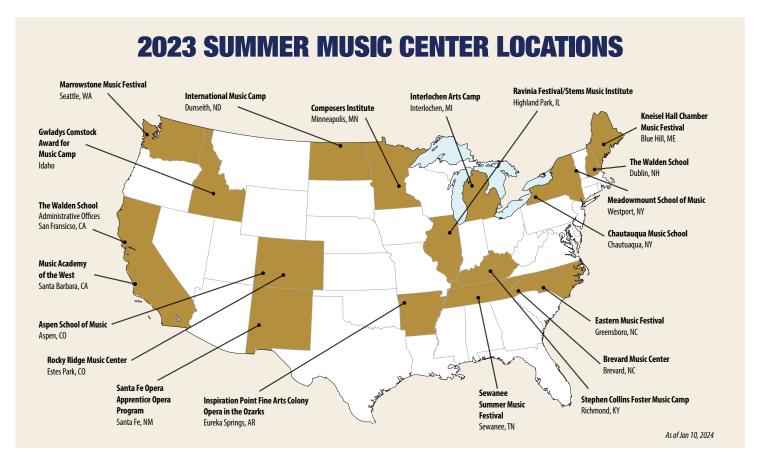


The Lubbock Mayor's proclamation commemorating 100 years of existence presented to members of the Lubbock Music Club at a city council meeting.



NFMC SUMMER MUSIC CENTERS (SMC) AWARDS 2023

by Mary Ellen Nolletti, Chair



Thirty-Five scholarships valued at \$36,050 were awarded through the National Federation of Music Clubs SMC Endowed Scholarship Awards Program to 18 of 19 Summer Music Centers that reported selection of a scholarship award recipient. Specific information about NFMC contacts, SMC admission contacts, and SMC programs is available at NFMC and SMC websites. The NFMC website is at https:// www.nfmc-music.org/competition-awards/; click on Competition and Awards Chart; and, scroll down to NFMC Summer Music Centers Awards for information about scholarships and requirements. SMC websites are identified later in this article.

Please note that criteria for each SMC's scholarship awards are stated specifically in the Competition and Awards Chart. In particular, note the U.S. CITIZENSHIP REQUIREMENT: Applicants for individual awards must be native-born/naturalized U.S. citizens. (Exception: Lynn Freeman Olson Composition, Lynn Freeman Olson Piano Pedagogy Award, Ruth Morse Wilson Handbell Award and International Music Camp (IMC)—at least 50% of IMC award recipients must be U.S. citizens.)

Numerous other scholarships are sponsored through the generosity of NFMC Regions, state federations, and individuals. Among these are: the Southeastern Region's Beth McAuley Scholarship Award at Brevard Music Center, and at Chautauqua Music Center, the Ohio Federation of Music Clubs Award [2023 recipient: Caroline Cornell of Naples, FL is a violin major at Oberlin Conservatory of Music] and the Indiana/Peggy Hoover Bryan Award [2023 recipient: Natalie Corrigan (mezzo-soprano) is a BM student at the University of Cincinnati-College Conservatory of Music].

Each Summer Music Center (not NFMC) selects their scholarship award recipient(s). Criteria for selection may differ depending on the particular SMC. Scholarship award amounts differ based on costs (tuition and fees) associated with attending the particular SMC and availability of NFMC funds. Applicants must contact the Admissions Director at the SMC of their choice to apply for admission and for scholarship awards. Applications should be submitted early in the calendar year as some SMC make decisions about their scholarship awards in early February.

Sponsoring specialized summer music camps was first proposed to the NFMC Board of Directors in the 1930's. Twenty years later the SMC Scholarship Awards Program was finalized. The first camp scholarship was awarded at the National Music Camp (now called Interlochen

Arts Camp) in northwestern Michigan. Chautauqua Music Camp in southwestern NY received the second scholarship, and Transylvania Music Camp (now called Brevard Music Center) in western NC received the third. This program continues to grow thanks to the contributions of many generous NFMC members and friends.

To administer NFMC Summer Music Centers Awards, each SMC is served by at least one NFMC Representative who must be approved by the NFMC President. The SMC Awards Chair is elected by NFMC and is responsible for administration of the program. NFMC Headquarters personnel, Ms. Lucinda Lear (Competitions and Awards Division Director), 19 NFMC Representatives, SMC personnel, and many talented musicians contribute to the success of this program.

ASPEN MUSIC FESTIVAL AND SCHOOL

Aspen, Colorado www.aspenmusicfestival.com

Founded in 1949, the Aspen Music Festival and School is regarded as one of the top classical music festivals in the United States, noted both for its concert programming and its musical training of mostly young-adult music students. The typical eight-week summer season includes more than 300 classical music events—including concerts by four orchestras, solo and chamber music performances, fully staged opera productions, master classes, lectures, and children's programming—and brings in 100,000 audience members. In the winter, the AMFS presents a small series of recitals and music education programs for local youth and families. Located just outside of Aspen, CO among groves of aspen trees, fields and ponds, it is headquartered at the pastoral 38-acre Bucksbaum Campus.



NFMC Award (strings) - \$1,000 Linda King, NFMC Representative

Marina Ziegler (violin) is an 18-year old from Copley OH who began her violin education when she was five at the Sato Center for Suzuki Studies with Stephen Sims. She has since studied violin with Cleveland Orchestra member Isabel Trautwein and Cleveland Institute of Music (CIM) Preparatory faculty member Eugenia Poustyreva. She currently studies privately

under David Bowlin at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. Marina is a passionate chamber musician and played as a violinist, violist, and pianist in her first ensembles as part of the CIM Preparatory Chamber Music program. She plans to continue her education at The Shepherd School of Music at Rice University in the fall of 2023 and to study with Paul Kantor.

This was Marina's first summer attending the AMFS. She studied with Naoko Tanaka and has primarily been performing in the Aspen Festival Orchestra, as well as a number of special events including the John Williams special and Recital with Russian pianist Vladimir Feltsman.

BREVARD MUSIC CENTER

Brevard, North Carolina www.brevardmusic.org

Can you imagine a place where music fills the air, where Beethoven, Mozart, and Verdi are alive and well, and where the most talented students and extraordinary faculty coexist in practice rooms and on stage? Now imagine it all in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains of Western North Carolina. Step out of your dream and experience Brevard Music Center-at once a place, an institute, and a festival.

Situated on a lovely wooded 180-acre campus, Brevard Music Center (BMC) was started by James Christian Pfohl in 1936 as a summer camp for boys in Brevard, NC. It now stands as one of the United States' premier summer training programs and festivals. Under the artistic direction of acclaimed conductor Keith Lockhart, Conductor of the Boston Pops and formerly Chief Conductor of the BBC Concert Orchestra in London, over 600 gifted students and participants, ages 14 through post-college, come to BMC each summer to study with distinguished faculty of over 80 artists from the nation's leading orchestras, colleges, and conservatories. From June through August, students participate in a rigorous program of instruction and performance including orchestral ensembles, private lessons, chamber music, opera, classical guitar, bluegrass, and jazz. Primary BMC performance venues include the 1800-seat, open-air Whittington-Pfohl Auditorium and the new 400-seat Parker Concert Hall. BMC's hallmark is the powerful sense of community that re-emerges every June as faculty and students work together to present over 100 performances and events, encompassing multiple music genres, to more than 40,000 enthusiastic fans from across the country.

The Southeast Region (SER) of the National Federation of Music Clubs gathered on July 7th and 8th to fellowship, conduct a business meeting, and award the three scholarships co-sponsored by the NFMC and the SER—the NFMC Lucile Parrish Ward Scholarship, the NFMC Rose Thomas Smith Scholarship, and the SER Beth McAuley Scholarship. The three award recipients joined the SER group for lunch on July 8th, performed a selection of their choice, and received certificates for their awards.



NMFC Rose Thomas Smith Award (band, orchestral instruments) - \$2,500 Joel Adams, NFMC Representative

Mia Cotton (flute), a 20-year old from McKinney, TX, attends the University of Michigan and is pursuing a Bachelor of Music in Flute Performance under the tutelage of Amy Porter. At the University of Michigan, Mia has performed with the University Symphony Orchestra, Symphony band, and

also plays for the Orchestral Conducting Seminar. In high school, she was a member of the Greater Dallas Youth Orchestra and the Texas All-State Orchestra. She was awarded second prize at the Flute Society of Greater Philadelphia's Collegiate Artist Competition in March 2023. She is also an active chamber musician, performing with her woodwind quintet and trio regularly.

Continued on page 20

NFMC SUMMER MUSIC CENTERS (SMC) AWARDS 2023 Continued

Mia attended the Brevard Music Center in summer 2023 as part of the College Orchestral Institute. During season, she performed in nine orchestra concerts and worked with conductors including JoAnn Falletta, Keith Lockhart, Ken Lam, and Alexander Prior. She also participated in chamber music and the New Music Ensemble, where she premiered four brand new compositions including a woodwind quintet and three mixed ensemble pieces. Mia was thrilled to have received the NFMC Rose Thomas Smith Award, which helped make her Brevard participation possible.



NFMC Lucile Parrish Ward Award (piano [1st preference] or band/ orchestra instruments) - \$1,250 Dale Clark, NFMC Representative

Elizabeth "Beth" VanDam (piano) is a 22year old from Holladay, UT. This was her first summer to attend BMC. Beth comes from a musical family, as her mother has her Master's degree in violin performance and had Beth and her eight siblings all start music lessons at

a young age. Beth was four when she started taking piano lessons, but it was not until she was almost twelve that she began to really love the piano. And, it was then that she decided that she wanted to pursue a college degree in music and began to discover her own voice through music.

Beth has completed her second year at Brigham Young University (BYU). She studied with Dr. Scott Holden at BYU during her Junior High years. As a sophomore in high school, she started taking lessons at Weber State University from Dr. Ralph van der Beck who helped to open her eyes to the potential music has to connect people to each other and to something higher than themselves.

Beth says that the more she improved and the more she sought out opportunities to use music to lift and serve others, the more joy and fulfillment she found in being a musician. Following an 18 month volunteer mission in Tampa, FL, for her church, she transferred to Brigham Young University, where she has just finished her first semester in their piano program. Beth plans to receive her undergraduate degree and pursue a Master's degree as well. She says that for her, the purpose of music is as Bach said, "the glory of God and the refreshment of the soul", and she strives to have everything she does as a musician reflect that idea.

CHAUTAUOUA MUSIC SCHOOL

Chautauqua, New York www.chq.org

Every summer Chautauqua Institution (CI), a not-for-profit, 750-acre educational center in southwestern New York State, brings some of the world's most talented musicians, vocalists, dancers, and visual artists to the grounds for educational and performance opportunities amid a world-class culture and arts environment. CI will celebrate its 150th year in 2024. About 7,500 persons are in residence on any day during a nineweek season, and a total of over 100,000 attend scheduled public events.

Originally called the Chautauqua Lake Sunday School Assembly, CI was founded by Lewis Miller and John Heyl Vincent in 1874 as an

educational experiment in out-of-school, vacation learning. Its website states: "We are a community of artists, educators, thinker, faith leaders, and friends dedicated to exploring the best in humanity. Whether it's your first time visiting or your fiftieth, our promise is the same: Wisdom will be gleaned. Memories will be made. Life will be enriched."

The **Instrumental Program** enrolls 80 of the most promising young instrumentalists from the United States and abroad for an exciting summer of music-making. The Music School Festival Orchestra presents several concerts in the 5,000-seat amphitheater each summer. The Piano Program is a highly selective and dynamic six-week experience for 20 pianists, ages 18-28. This program combines an array of resident faculty interfaces, individual and intensive interactions with guest faculty, and unmatched practice and performance facilities that are designed to inspire, stimulate, and foster the growth of young pianists from all over the globe. The Opera **Conservatory Program** is a seven-week intensive educational program that seeks to offer the highest caliber of training for the young singer, 18 and older. The **Dance Program** is well-known for the unique opportunity it affords talented students to study with master teachers within a small studio environment. The dance curriculum is designed for students who wish to pursue careers as professional ballet dancers. Intensive training in classical ballet continues in rehearsals leading to performances.



New York Federation of Music Clubs Award (orchestra) - \$500 (Endowed by former NYFMC and supplemented by NFMC Valentin) Ruth Ann McChesney, **NFMC Representative**

Abby Hanna (cello), an Ecuadorian-American, is the first in her family to pursue a career in music. She has studied with Steven Doane and Rosemary Elliott on a

full scholarship at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY and was invited to be principal cellist of the Eastman School Symphony Orchestra for the 2022 season. Before pursuing a Bachelor's degree, she studied with Milwaukee Ballet's principal cellist, Ravenna Helson, for 10 years. Abby has performed in Field Concert Hall at Curtis as a part of Sphinx Performance Academy. She was the 2019 recipient of the Civic Music Association Young Artist Scholarship. In addition to cello, Abby is continuing her classical vocal studies as a soprano and has placed in several national and regional competitions including Hal Leonard and NATS. Abby is "very grateful to her family, friends, and God for all the love and support."



Pennsylvania Federation of Music Clubs Award (piano) - \$500 (Endowed by PFMC and supplemented by NFMC Valentin) Ruth Ann McChesney, **NFMC Representative**

Grace Tubbs (piano), originally from Bloomington, IN, has entered her fourth year at Oberlin Conservatory as a recipient of the Dean's Scholarship. She has received

distinguished awards in competitions including the MTNA Auditions,

National Society of Arts and Letters Piano Competition, Steinway Young Artist Competition, and Carmel Klavier International Piano Competition. Grace has attended music festivals such as Rebecca Penneys Piano Festival, MusicFest Perugia, Vivace Piano Festival, and Semper Music International Festival, as well as performed in venues including Carnegie Hall, Auer Hall at Indiana University, and the Palladium in Carmel, IN. Along with her piano concentration at Oberlin, Grace is pursuing a minor in organ performance. After graduation she plans to study for a graduate diploma at another university. In her spare time, Grace enjoys reading, playing intramural soccer, volunteering at church events, and playing chamber music with friends.

"I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to learn at Chautauqua and for the financial support that enabled me to attend the program. It has been an amazing ad inspiring experience to be surrounded by the arts as I study piano under some of the most renowned musical artists. I hope to return next year!"



Eleanor Pascoe/Nancy Hatz Award (voice) - \$500 Ruth Ann McChesney, **NFMC Representative**

Lea Nayak (voice-soprano) is a native of San Francisco, CA attending the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (UCC-CM). She has been awarded numerous prizes for competitions and performed operatic roles in productions of Orpheus in the

Underworld, Dido and Aeneas and is slated to sing Susanna in Le nozze de Figaro in 2024.

She shared the following: "This fall, I will be embarking on the senior year of my undergraduate degree at UCC-CM. My teacher, Dr. Gwen Coleman, herself is a Chautauqua alumna, and has always spoken so highly and so fondly of her time at the Institution. She knew it would be crucial to my technical, artistic, and personal growth to experience the Conservatory program for myself. (Lea's high school voice teacher was also shaped by instruction received at Chautauqua.) I cannot describe how emotional and special it is to follow in the footsteps of these fierce and fabulous women and become part of the legacy of incredible musicians that came to the Institution. I cannot thank enough the kind individuals who helped make this dream possible through their financial support. I'm proud to be a Chautauqua alumna, and I couldn't be more enchanted by this experience."

Martha Marcks Mack Awards (voice) - 3 @ \$2,000 each Ruth Ann McChesney, NFMC Representative



Erica Thelen (voice-coloratura soprano) is from Minnesota and has fond memories of watching her parents on stage in community theater productions, as well as, listening to her mother teach voice lessons. Her goal is to inspire others with music like her parents inspired her. In 2023 she sang with the Chautauqua Opera Conservatory. She received her B.M. in Voice Performance from Oberlin Conservatory and is currently working toward her M.M. degree at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

She wrote: "This summer has been thrilling and insightful and provided me with the opportunity to cover the title role in "Suor Angelica" by Puccini, as well as study with world-class faculty in lessons, coachings,, and master classes. I am applying for a Fulbright scholarship in Berlin, Germany to study the language and put together a series of recitals based in German Kabarett and Wagner's "gesamtkunstwerk" style that will feature the music of great German composers in modern contexts that challenge themes such as sexism, racism, and other relevant societal issues. One of my biggest goals as a singing artist is to challenge the contexts from which this music was created and to make it relevant in every way possible, so it can continue to serve as a viable and impactful art form. Thank you again for your support in my musical journey!"



Anthony Voiers (voice-tenor), a senior in The University of Louisiana at Lafayette's vocal performance program, has performed numerous operatic roles. He performed the role of Rinuccio in the Acadiana Symphony Orchestra's production of Puccini's Gianni Schicchi, was featured tenor soloist in their most recent performance of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony and was a finalist in The American Pops Orchestra's NextGen National Competition.

Anthony wrote: "I'd like to give a sincere thank you to the National Federation of Music Clubs for awarding me this scholarship. My time here at Chautauqua has been so informative and invaluable in my education as a singer. I will cherish the friendships and connections I've made here forever! I hope that as I continue my education, I can use these connections to broaden the trajectory of my career to include artistic hubs beyond Louisiana and the south broadly."



Vanessa Yearsley (voice-mezzo-soprano) resides in New York City while attending Manhattan School of Music. She is pursuing a Masters of Music in Classical Voice program with Mariena Malas. Vanessa holds a B.M. in Vocal Performance from Cal State University, Fullerton, and an A.A. in Music Studies from Cabrillo College. Along with her studies she has been teaching privately and collaborating with up and coming composers setting her original poetry to song.

Vanessa shared: "I am having such an edifying and focused time here at Chautauqua Opera Conservatory. Thank you so much for the financial support. Without it I would not be able to be here. The faculty and creative direction has inspired me to continue on with my auditions and opened up my mind to new opportunities. Being here this summer has broadened my horizons and boosted my confidence more than I could have hoped for. Thank you so much for your undying support."

Continued on page 22

NFMC SUMMER MUSIC CENTERS (SMC) AWARDS 2023 Continued

COMPOSERS INSTITUTE (JUNIOR COMPOSERS SUMMER PROGRAM)

Minneapolis, Minnesota www.composersinstitute.org

Composers Institute Programs were:

- 1) Junior Composers Institute for musicians age 14-20+ from midday Sunday, July 9 to Sunday, July 16
- 2) Film & Game Music Studio for all composers from midday Sunday, July 16 to midday Saturday, July 22
- 3) Crazy Ideas Institute for girls/non-binary/trans age 9-13 (August 28-September 1, 2023)

Composers Institute resides at the River Falls Campus, U of WI, and online. Professional composers and performers working in many genres are the faculty. During Composers Institute, each offers theory & repertoire sessions employ music theories and practices, one-onone tutorial lessons to support and inspire composers, perform and record composers' music, advocate & advise focused upon individual composers' development and projects.



NFMC Evelyn Sampson Award (composition) - \$600 (For students whose teacher is a member of NFMC) Pat Grantier, NFMC Representative

Daisy Otundo (composition) is an 18-year old high school graduate from Waukee, IA who plans to enter Iowa State University in the fall of 2023. Although her ultimate goal is to become a pediatric physician, she

plans to also continue her long involvement in music performance and composition.

Daisy's piano teacher the past nine years, Bonnie Corron, praises Daisy's pleasant, positive attitude and disciplined work ethic along with her pursuit of leadership roles in the community. Daisy's resume underscores those attributes. In addition to her piano skills, Daisy plays the alto sax, flute, and baritone. She has been section leader in three school choirs, has marched in the Rose Bowl Parade and played piano three years at a local church. Her community activities include scouts, food pantry, Youth Philanthropic Board, and serving as the student leader member of the Waukee Equity and Inclusion Board.

Time Ticking and New Beginnings were Daisy's entries in NFMC composition competitions. Attending the 2022 Composers Institute, she composed Treasure Box (The Adventure of Merry Pirate Folk) for piano, violin, viola and guitar...a clever expansion of God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen. In 2023, she has written for Orchestra, The Day It Dawns. Composers Institute personnel looked forward to having this inspiring young woman attend camp again this summer (2023).

EASTERN MUSIC FESTIVAL

Greensboro, NC www.easternmusicfestival.org

Eastern Music Festival (EMF), Greensboro, NC's nationally recognized classical music festival and summer educational program hosted on the historic Guilford College campus, concluded a successful 62nd season of an awe-inspiring of music-making. Planning is already underway for the 63rd season that will take place June 22 - July 27, 2024.

This season, EMFs performances and events reached more than 13,000 people in the Greensboro community and beyond; this was an increase of 25% over 2022. The festival offered 60+ performances and activities including master classes, chamber recitals, Young Artists recitals, pre-concert lectures, and more reaching many audiences in the Triad community. EMF also presented upwards of 40 free community outreach performances throughout Greensboro with various local organizations, extending the reach of EMF well beyond the Guilford College campus. This success was possible due to the overwhelmingly positive support from individual contributors, philanthropic organizations, corporations, and in-kind donors.

In 2023, the festival was proud to host a record-setting 283 students from 35 states and 15 countries including Taiwan, Albania, South Korea, Brazil, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Estonia, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Mexico, Panama, Peru, and Uzbekistan. States with the most prominent representation included Florida, Texas, New York, and 23 from the festival's home state, North Carolina. Support from the many donors allowed EMF to provide more than \$360,000 in scholarships to deserving and talented students this year. Of the 283 participants, more than 80% received scholarships.

With the festival's mission of promoting musical excellence and collaboration, EMF performed over 30 works by living composers, including Caroline Shaw, Paul Frucht, Jessie Montgomery, and more, in order to provide a broad range musical experiences for the students. These compositions were performed by the Eastern Festival Orchestra, student and faculty chamber groups, the percussion studio, and the two-week Euphonium-Tuba Institute and Classical Guitar Summit programs.

Upon reflection of the season, EMF's Director of Education, Melissa Edwards exclaimed, "With a record number of students in attendance this year, the depth of talent was astounding, the performances were exhilarating, and the excitement was evident in the faces of all the performers. This summer was nothing short of amazing".



NFMC Award - \$600 William P. "Bill" Carroll

Judeny Lebron (Horn), age 20, was born in the Dominican Republic and came to the United States at the age of seven. She now resides in Miami, FL where she has completed her junior year at the University of Miami studying horn with Richard Todd.

Judeny has participated in master classes held by the New World Symphony and attended the Miami Classical Music Festival for two years. In 2022, she attended Tanglewood's Wind Quintet Workshop with the Imani Winds. Ms. Lebron was excited to attend Eastern Music Festival where she could focus on orchestral playing.

STEPHEN COLLINS FOSTER MUSIC CAMP

Richmond, KY www.fostercamp.org

Stephen Collins Foster Music Camp is the second oldest music camp in the United States; it was founded by James Van Peursom to give music opportunities to the youth of Kentucky. The 88th summer camp of 2023 was glad to return to in-person and welcomed campers from many states as well as those from Kentucky. The "campus beautiful" of Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) in Richmond, KY hosted 701 middle and high school musicians with offerings of band, orchestra, piano, world percussion, guitar, and choir. Director Ben Walker kept all the activities of music rehearsals, social events, concerts, recitals, and camp personnel organized and moving throughout the three weeks of camp.

The Kentucky Federation of Music Clubs (KFMC) met for their summer board meeting, as they do each year, on the final day of camp to hear scholarship winners perform and to enjoy the Irene Muir Luncheon. This year the KFMC gave \$30,000 in scholarships to 75 campers. Four NFMC Irene Muir (Past National President) Scholarships were awarded at the luncheon. Chorus, orchestra, band and a combined music group of all high school campers performed a wonderful final concert in the EKU Center for the Performing Arts.

NFMC Irene Muir (Past National President) Awards (instrumental, voice, piano, guitar) - 4 @ \$275 Sue Ann Reeves, NFMC Representative

Jonas Aboagye of Melbourne, KY was a recipient of a \$275 NFMC Irene Muir Award.



Mikayla Hagen (flute) wrote: "...I am 17 years old. I go to Madison Central High School in Richmond, KY. There's a lot of things I've been involved with. I play primarily flute among other instruments. I've been involved with music since I was 3 years old, but I've been playing flute for almost six years! I am involved in our school's Wind Ensemble, Flute Choir, Saxophone Ensemble, Clarinet Choir, Marching Band, Pep Band, Musical Orchestra Pit, Chamber groups and other various small

groups. I have participated in KMEA all-state band, Governor's Scholars Program bands, The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. I have been a part of a state champion marching band, and a band that has placed in the top 12 at Bands of America, Louisville. I have performed at the Kentucky Music Educators Association convention twice with my school. I have done Eastern Kentucky University's honor band and early marching day every year it's been available to me. I have done All-Regionals twice. I teach other students how to play the flute in private teacher settings. I plan to pursue my career within music education after high school. I want to send a thank you to the NFMC for letting me have the opportunity and privilege of being a part of the 88th Stephen Foster Music Camp season. I wouldn't have met the wonderful people I have or the amazing experiences in my back pocket and I will never forget!! Thank you!"



Messiah Offutt (cello) shared: "...I am 15 years old, and I'm from Louisville, Kentucky. As of the 2023-2024 school year, I am currently a sophomore at DuPont Manual High School and a part of the Youth Performing Arts School (YPAS) magnet program. I am a cellist, and I have been playing for about 6 years now. I've been in performing arts schools ever since Pre-K, but I took interest in the cello and started playing in 4th grade. My previous schools have been

Lincoln Elementary Performing Arts School (LPAS) and Western Middle School for the Arts (WMSFA)."

I have been a recipient of the Louisville Academy of Music Private Lesson Scholarship for Private Lessons since 2019, and I am currently studying under Dr. Luke Darville. Throughout the past 6 years, I've participated in solo and ensemble competitions, recitals, All County, honors orchestras, music camps, chamber music programs, and KMEA Large Ensemble competitions with school orchestras. The most recent being the 88th Annual Foster Music Camp (Placed 5th Chair during Week 1 and 3rd Chair during Week 2), 2023 Solo and Ensemble Competition (Awarded Distinguished Rating), EKU 2023 Honors High School Orchestra (Placed 5th Chair), and All County 2023 High School Orchestra (Placed 2nd Chair in top orchestra).

Thank you to the National Federation of Music Clubs for granting me this scholarship for the 88th Annual Foster Music Camp. It is much appreciated!"



Preston Slone (trombone) wrote: "...I am 16 years old. I have been playing trombone for the Spencer County High School marching, pep, concert, and symphonic bands for 1.5 years, another 3 for middle school. Coming from Kentucky, I have been lucky enough to play for the Eastern and Western Kentucky honors bands. Placing 5th chair in the top band, and 3rd chair bottom band, respectively. With the incredible help of my band director Mrs. Tara Alcorn,

and my private lessons instructor Mr. Chris Schmidt, I have been able to place 1st chair in the concert band at all-districts, and get a distinguished solo rating at the state level. I am incredibly lucky to have such an amazing set of people around me to help me improve in my musicianship, allowing me to accomplish all of these things. This includes all of the members of the National Federated Music Clubs who allowed me to attend Foster Music camp this summer. Not only have I grown so much as a musician, but also as a person in the time I was able to be there. I have nothing to say but thank you to all of the people who have been there to help me be the musician I am today."

Continued on page 24

NFMC SUMMER MUSIC CENTERS (SMC) AWARDS 2023 Continued

Gwladys Comstock Summer Music Camp Award (instrumental, voice) - \$500 (By the Idaho Federation of Music Clubs, for camp of recipient's choice) NFMC Representative: Monica Hughes

No one applied for this scholarship in 2023.

INTERLOCHEN CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Interlochen, Michigan www.interlochen.org/camp

"Here, you'll do what you love best all day long—in the most beautiful place imaginable. Experience all the fun of summer camp—from cabin games to exploring the outdoors—while practicing, performing, and making art. Perfect your skills and learn new ones alongside soon-to-be lifelong friends." This statement is made on the Interlochen website.

Since 1928, Interlochen has offered an immersive arts experience that fosters a sense of closeness discovered only through a deep, shared appreciation. Generations of artists and arts enthusiasts have experienced the special and intangible magic that transpires on Interlochen's beautiful campus, nestled between two pristine lakes and surrounded by quiet pines in northwest Michigan.

A true artist's retreat, Interlochen invites students in grades 3-12, as well as adults of all ages, for once in a lifetime arts education programs designed to hone their skills and nurture their humanity. The depth and breadth of the offerings is unmatched. The community transcends backgrounds and beliefs, borders and barriers; at Interlochen, there is unity through the universal language of the arts.

Herman & Mary Neuman Award (piano, voice, orchestral instruments) - \$1,000 Hazel Lawrence, NFMC Representative

The scholarship recipient, a high school student from Olympia, WA, shared: "My name is Taylor. I am a trumpet player in the orchestra program at Interlochen. Thanks to your generous donation I have been lucky enough to attend the Interlochen Arts Camp this summer. At camp I was given the chance to meet many fantastic educators and peers who helped me to improve my artistry greatly. One of the opportunities I was most fortunate to experience was meeting and working with Caleb Hudson, a member of the famous Canadian Brass. From my private lessons and studio classes with him I have learned much about not only ways to improve my trumpet playing ability, but also how to succeed as a professional musician. This opportunity to learn from great artists is why Interlochen is special to me. Thank you so much for your contributions to my experience. Sincerely, Taylor"

John Bogley, Vice President of Philanthropy and Engagement at Interlochen Center for the Arts, wrote to Hazel Lawrence: "This summer, over 3,000 developing young artists came to Interlochen Arts Camp to hone their skills and enhance their perspectives while learning from our gifted faculty and visiting artists. You have provided the next generation of worldclass artists with the freedom to pursue their dreams, to build friendships and mentorships from across the globe, and to become the leaders of tomorrow. You have made a difference.

Your scholarship support made all of this possible for students during their 2023 Interlochen Arts Camp experience. As Interlochen approaches its centennial, creating greater access to our programs by meeting the financial needs of every student is a top priority. Thanks to you, we are closer than we have been to fulfilling that dream.

Your generosity though the National Federation of Music Clubs Camp Scholarship funded by the Herman and Mary Neuman Legacy has enhanced the creative growth of one or more young artists. ... From all of us at Interlochen, thank you."

INTERNATIONAL MUSIC CAMP

Peace Gardens, ND www.internationalmusiccamp.com

The International Music Camp (IMC) is located in the Peace Gardens on the border between Canada and the United States of America (USA) in the province of Manitoba and the state of North Dakota, respectively. IMC was begun in 1956 by Dr. Merton Utgaard who as a Boy Scout was present at the dedication of the Peace Gardens. His dream of "music as the universal language" was the incentive for beginning this music camp.

IMC was pleased to return to in-person camping again this summer at the International Peace Garden. The camp attendance this year was 1,200 students along with 180 faculty and 56 support staff. Twelve foreign students from seven countries in addition to the USA and Canada attended this summer. Over 45 programs were offered to students ages listed between 10-19 years old. Six students were enrolled in the Honors Program as well as 210 in the Adults Music Camp; Adult Camp is one of the favorite sessions. Overall 60% of the students were from the USA and 40% were from Canada. Students were inspired by and engaged with their comp experiences. They were all "Happy Campers".

One noticeable change this year was the new building on campus that has six bedrooms with 12 beds and six bathrooms. The staff stays in this new housing unit. It is located behind the Mayer and Hathaway dormitories. Also, two new programs were offered this year: Hip-Hop Intensive Dance and Indigenous Cultural Aesthetics. These new courses introduced games, song, drumming and dancing.

A very special "thank you" was received from Tim and Christine Baumann for the financial support, as well as for the many scholarships that were given to the students attending camp. Deborah Eraas presented a check for \$1,000 to IMC as a gift from the North Dakota FMC.

Tim and Christine Baumann continue to develop and enrich current programs. They are impressed with exceptionally positive camp sessions from both the staff and the campers. When asked about what is new or what changes are going to be made, they respond that very few changes are needed. They both feel that the IMC is a strong and well-grounded organization that has deep roots in quality programs and positive interactions between campers, faculty, staff and the beautiful setting of the International Peace Gardens. They believe we all work to develop our young people as responsible individuals who are able to work together with people of different backgrounds to achieve a common goal. Music Camp is not just developing musicians, it is developing people.

NFMC Agnes Jardine (Past National President) Award (band, piano guitar, orchestra) - 6 @ \$200 **Deborah Eraas, NFMC Representative**



Jack Austin (trumpet) a 17-year old from Minot, ND wrote: "I started trumpet in the 5th grade. I joined choir in 11th grade. I have auditioned and made Northwest Festival, UND and Honor Music Festival, NDMEA All-State. And the National Guard 188th Army Band. I have gone to IMC for four years. I have starred at WPA in both Solo and Ensemble categories. I like IMC, it is full of fun and every person in the faculty is very knowledgeable. Everyone has something to teach you. I have enjoyed IMC

every year I have gone, and I have also met some of my best friends. That is why I chose IMC."



Thomas Haas (trumpet) a 16-year old (as of writing this) from Ashley ND (a small town in southern North Dakota) shared: "I play the trumpet and try to participate in as many musical activities as possible in order to grow as a musician. I started playing in 5th grade and started gaining a real interest in 7th grade after playing Taps on Memorial Day. I have since been in all-state events, festivals and other music competitions. I have earned an outstanding performance on my solo this last year and have

been nominated to go on a music trip to Europe next year with Northern Musicians Abroad. I would describe my experience at IMC as Incredible. I have learned so much and grow so much as a musician every time I am here. IMC will forever be a huge building block in my music career. I chose IMC after seeing them advertize in Dickinson and thinking that they would be a good choice for a music camp. And I was right!"



Ian Kronbeck (trombone) a senior from Hawley, MN wrote: "He attended his first session after his 7th grade year and met Dr. Nat Dickey with whom he has studied with since. In high school he has sat first chair in the Minnesota All-State Band for two years and has been awarded "Outstanding Soloist" twice at the Raging Red Band Festival. In his senior year, he won the NDSV High School Music Competition, FMAYS Founders Concert Competition, and FMSO's Young Artist Solo Competition, where

he was awarded a solo performance with the orchestra. He plans to attend the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire to pursue a career in business supporting the arts."





Lainey Martin (French horn) is a 15-year old from Minot, ND who also plays the cello in Orchestra. She shared: "I've had the honor of being invited to a youth band European concert tour, as well as being a part of many honor groups and festivals for both my instruments. I hope to continue my playing throughout my high school career and take my skills well into adulthood. The IMC experience is one that I will always value. The teachers here are truly dedicated to helping us grow as people and

musicians. Both myself and my teachers have seen vast improvement from just one summer at IMC. I truly can't wait to come back!"



Michael Phillips (oboe) is an 18-year old who recently was graduated from high school. Michael wrote: "I was born in Portland, OR, however in 4th grade I moved to Williston, ND. During high school I attended multiple Honor bands. This would include All-State, Concordia Honor Band, and the UND Honor band. I also played in pit orchestra, wind ensemble, and pep band whilst in high school. My future plan is to major in oboe performance at the University of Mary in Bismarck, ND. I have attended IMC

since 7th grade (my first year of playing oboe). I love IMC because of the talented and unique array of faculty as well as the friendships. I have friends from my first year of IMC that I still talk to and hang out with. IMC has been fundamental to my development both as a musician and as a human being."



Alyssa Tarasen (flute) is an 18-year old from Minot, ND. She wrote that she "has been participating in musical activities including band, orchestra, choir, and drum line since elementary school. She chose to participate in this SMC because she has never played a wind instrument in an orchestra before. She currently plays the flute and piccolo in band, the cello in orchestra, and the bass drum in drum line. And she has been selected to play in honor festivals across the state, including Northwest festival

where she earned a 4-year award for the Northwest festival. She has also participated in several WDA festivals where she earned several state stars, as well as two outstanding performance awards. She plans to attend college for music education and music performance and intends to be a music teacher in the near future."

KNEISEL HALL Blue Hill, ME www.kneisel.org

Celebrating 121 years of exceptional artistry since its founding in 1902, Kneisel Hall has been a summer haven for thousands of artists who are deeply passionate about chamber music. Immersing in timeless chamber music repertoire and performing this great music for equally passionate audiences has been the unwavering mission of Kneisel Hall. Over the

Continued on page 26

NFMC SUMMER MUSIC CENTERS (SMC) AWARDS 2023 Continued

past few years in particular, sharing the experience of live music has never felt more precious. Kneisel Hall is immensely grateful and proud to be able to continue building community through music and provide a place for belonging, connection, and inspiration for musicians and music lovers alike. In 2023 the ever-exceptional young artists experienced seven weeks of magnificent chamber music with our world-renowned faculty and guest artists.



NFMC Ada Holding Miller (Past National President) **Award (strings) - \$1,000** Meredith Amado, NFMC Representative

Luke Henderson (violin) is a 20-year old from Raleigh, NC who began playing violin at age three. He currently studies with Mr. Li Lin at The Juilliard School in New York City. Luke made his solo debut as Laureate of the Samuel Fordis Young Artist Competition with

the Georgia Philharmonic at age 12. He was a member of the Chamber Music Intensive Performance Seminar at the New England Conservatory Preparatory School led by Ms. Merry Peckham. Luke is featured on National Public Radio's "From the Top" (Show 392), celebrating the top young classically-trained musicians.

Luke was awarded The New England Conservatory Preparatory School Eugene Lehrer Chamber Music Award. In 2020, he was the Gold Medal Winner in the Fischoff National Chamber Music Competition and the Coltman National Chamber Music Competition. At Juilliard, Luke's quartet, The Dolphins, is in the Honors Chamber Music Program and has worked with Nicholas Mann, Fred Sherry, Laurie Smukler, Molly Carr, John Corigliano, and the rest of the JSQ. When he isn't playing violin, Luke enjoys hiking and watching Bob Ross re-runs.

MARROWSTONE MUSIC FESTIVAL

Seattle, Washington www.marrowstone.org

Marrowstone Music Festival is a two week long intensive summer music festival. A musician's experience at Marrowstone includes a full-day schedule packed with rehearsals, chamber music, and the opportunity to study with our world-class faculty in daily coaching and other rehearsal settings. Marrowstone is an impactful opportunity for advanced musicians ages 14-22 to study music in great detail, receiving world-class instruction while simultaneously forging friendships that will last a lifetime.

Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra (SYSO) has two-summer festival programs and extensive partnerships with local public schools. This past summer our programs were held at Shorecrest High School throughout July and the first week of August.



NFMC AWARD, orchestral, except percussion - \$600 Wendy Devaney, NFMC Representative

Brynn Cogger (viola) is an 18-year old from Seattle, WA. She was a member of the Tacoma Youth Symphony for five years, where she was principal violist of every orchestra. Brynn studied under the tutelage of Professor Joyce Ramee at the University of Puget Sound through their Community Music Program.

She was a finalist of the Northwest Sinfonietta Youth and a winner of the Tacoma Youth Symphony Concerto Competitions.

Brynn is a first-year student of Masumi Per Rostad at the Eastman School of Music, where she is pursuing a degree in Viola Performance. She plays in the Eastman School Symphony Orchestra and serves as one of its principals.

Brynn hopes to play in a professional symphony orchestra or chamber group. Aside from music, she enjoys cooking, Asian food, spending time exploring urban cities, and relaxing with friends.

She shared: "I chose Marrowstone because of the reputation of the faculty for this year's festival and to gain experience from playing in a different youth orchestra. After playing in the same youth orchestra for five years, I wanted to experience something different before heading to college. I had friends in SYSO that told me how much they loved the faculty, staff, and students, so I wanted to experience this joy for myself."

MEADOWMOUNT SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Westport, New York www.meadowmount.com

Founded in 1944 by legendary violin teacher Ivan Galamian, Meadowmount School of Music is a seven-week summer program for young violinists, violists, and cellists whose approach of intensive study and practice has helped mold some of the greatest artists of our time. Musicians ages 13 to 30+ from around the world gather at the school's campus in the Adirondack Mountains of upstate New York to further their musical skills with, in Mr. Galamian's words, "a special spirit that is conducive to total concentration on excellence in musical performance," aided by a faculty of renowned artists.

The stellar array of alumni over the school's 80-year history includes Itzhak Perlman, Yo-Yo Ma, Pinchas Zukerman, Kyung-Wha Chung, Lynn Harrell, Joshua Bell, Jaime Laredo, James Ehnes, and Ani and Ida Kavafian. Meadowmount alumni are well represented internationally among soloists and chamber musicians, principal players of leading orchestras, and distinguished teachers.

With a capacity enrollment of 200 on the 52-building, 240-acre campus the school retains an intimacy that provides for personal attention and fosters camaraderie among the students. Many of the school's alumni return as members of the faculty, ensuring the continuity of the Meadowmount teaching tradition. The faculty roster that has over the years included Gregor Piatigorsky, Josef Gingold, Isaac Stern, Leonard

Rose, Sally Thomas, and Dorothy DeLay, has recently featured cellist Hans Jørgen Jensen and violinists Ann Setzer and Kikuei Ikeda – a lineage that is unmatched in the field.



NFMC AWARD (violin, viola, or cello) - \$750 Muriel Kerr, NFMC Representative

Hiro Yoshimura (violin) from Cupertino, CA is a 17-year old senior at Cupertino High School. He began playing the violin at age six and is currently studying with Chen Zhao of San Francisco Symphony and Tomomi Matsumoto. He performed the full Glazunov violin concerto with the

Prometheus Symphony Orchestra in January 2023 and the full Sibelius violin concerto with the Diablo Valley College Orchestra in March 2023 as the winner of respective concerto competitions. As the winner of the 2023 concerto competition at San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra (SFSYO) in which he was the Assistant Concertmaster in the 2022-2023 season, Yoshimura is scheduled to play the Glazunov violin concerto with SFSYO at Davies Symphony Hall in March 2024. He has won top prizes in numerous regional and international solo competitions including 2022 Pacific Musical Society, 2022 Burlingame Music Club, and 2021 Houston International Music Competition. Yoshimura is an avid chamber musician at Young Chamber Musicians directed by Susan Bates. His chamber groups had master classes with Quatuor Danel, Telelgraph Quartet, and Miro Quartet, and frequently played at local charity events and senior houses. Yoshimura was in the MERIT program at the Music Academy of the West in the summer of 2018. In the summer of 2022, he participated in the Aspen Music Festival (studied with Naoko Tanaka) and Music@Menlo. This was his third time at Meadowmount where he studied with Kikuei Ikeda in 2019, with Gerardo Ribeiro in 2021, and with Paul Kantor and I-Hao Lee in 2023.

MUSIC ACADEMY OF THE WEST

Santa Barbara, California www.musicacademy.org

Following a rigorous international audition process, 140 fellows were accepted to Music Academy in 2023. Each fellow participated in the Academy's Summer Festival and School, during which time fellows participated in private coaching sessions with acclaimed artists and faculty in their respective studios, as well as played in public master classes.

The vocal institute fellows performed in numerous showcases and a unique Cabaret evening at Hahn Hall, as well as in two performances of La boheme at the Granada Theatre. Music Academy offered over 170+ public performances, recitals, lectures, and master classes to our community over an eight-week period.



NFMC AWARD (opera) - \$1,200 Anais Pellegrini, NFMC Representative

Peter Barber (voice-bass-baritone) is in his third year as a Resident Artist at the Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia. He received the Honors Graduate Award in 2020 from the University of Southern California, where he completed his Master's degree. He was also the Encouragement Award Winner in the Mentoris Voice Competition and a finalist in

the Robert DeSimone Memorial Voice Competition.

His signature roles are Figaro in Le nozze di Figaro, Bottom in Midsummer Night's Dream, Prince Gremin in Eugene Onegin, Sarastro in The Magic Flute, and Schaunard in La boheme. He enjoyed spending another summer in Santa Barbara—he was a fellow at the Music Academy Summer Festival in 2019. Peter sang the role of Colline in La boheme.

OPERA IN THE OZARKS AT INSPIRATION POINT FINE ARTS COLONY (010)

Eureka Springs, Arkansas www.opera.org

Opera in the Ozarks is located just outside Eureka Springs, AR, on 40 acres in the midst of the Ozarks Mountains. Currently a new opera theater, that will seat 300 patrons and provide additional rehearsal space, is being built. This theater project is being supported by the Walton Family Foundation that is also providing new faculty housing and other campus improvements. The company is growing, through its affiliate, Inspiration Point Center for the Art, into a year-round regional center for lifelong learning in music and allied arts.

Opera in the Ozarks produces three fully staged operas in the original language and with a professional opera. It also produces a children's opera that travels to public libraries and community centers throughout northwest Arkansas and southwest Missouri. All roles are double cast so that all young singers get roles in one or more shows; in addition, singers perform as choristers. Singers receive extensive coaching from professional opera coaches, special classes on topics such as career development, and the business of opera, recitative singing, master classes, and choral singing.



NFMC AWARD for Opera - \$2,100 **Carole Langley, NFMC Representative**

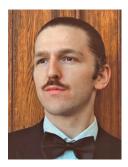
Tyler Middleton from Maryville, TN attended OIO in 2022 as an outstanding young singer. According to Ms. Langley, "...he was even better this year!" He holds a BM in Vocal Performance from Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) and was pursuing a MM in Vocal Performance from the University of Michigan. He has received the Handel

Award in Orpheus Vocal Competition, was a finalist for the Tom Naylor Memorial Solo Artist Competition, and was a

Continued on page 28

NFMC SUMMER MUSIC CENTERS (SMC) AWARDS 2023 Continued

semifinalist in the NATS National Student Auditions. He has performed with the MTSU Opera Theater and the MTSU Department of Theater and Dance. In the 2023 summer season at OIO, he played Dr. Dulcamara in Elixir of Love, Jupiter in Orpheus in the Underworld, and Top in The Tender Land.



MARY PRUDIE BROWN AWARD for Continuing Education - \$1,850 Jean Moffatt, NFMC Representative

William Volmar (voice-baritone) is a 22-year old from Walworth, WI. He is pursuing a BM in Vocal Performance at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (Mead Witter School of Music and studying with Paul Rowe and Sebastian Vittucci. Future plans include graduate school or traveling abroad.

William has performed the following roles: Count Almaviva in Le nozzedi Figaro; Sir Ruthven Murgatroyd/Robin Oakapple in Ruddigore, and Sid in Albert Herring. His previous experience was with UW-Madison University Opera, Madison Savoyards. During the 2023 summer session at OIO, he played Mr. Jenks and Grandpa Moss in Aaron Copland's The Tender Land and Don Magnifico in Giaochino Rossini's Cinderella. His upcoming roles include: Mage in Rinaldo by G. F. Handel at the Chicago Summer Opera; Giova in La Calisto by F. Cavalli; and, Fabrizio Naccarellli in *The Light in the Piazza*.



MARTHA MARCKS MACK AWARDS, opera apprentice artist – 2 @ \$3,000 Carla Johnson, NFMC Representative

Yeonjae Cho (voice-lyric, coloratura soprano), who was born in South Korea, is a 28-year old from Brookline, MA. She has enjoyed singing since she was young. Her first experience with opera was in high school. Yeonjae said, "It was so charming and exciting to find another me hidden by becoming a

different character." This helped her choose to become a vocal major and focus on opera.

Yeonjae was a district winner in the Metropolitan Opera's Laffont competition this year and she is studying at the New England Conservatory in Boston, MA. She has one year left to complete her Artist Diploma. She then plans to participate in other opera programs and competitions across the United States.

Last winter, she was looking for various summer programs for this year (2023); Joel Ayau, a faculty member at the New England Conservatory, recommended the OIO program. She was very interested in the fact that OIO has a long history of 72 years and has a great faculty and curriculum.

Yeonjae and Ilhee met in college where they sang together in a missionary choir. They were married August 2022. They both participated in the OIO pre-season program of performances in schools, retirement centers, and public parks. Yeonjae sang Eurydice in Orpheus in the Underworld and Mrs. Jenks in The Tender Land.



Helena Losada (voice-soprano) is a 24-year old who was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina and grew up in Brazil. Helena's father plays the guitar and, almost every weekend, she and her parents would gather together and sing Brazilian music. When she was 17, she joined the Chorus of the Symphony Orchestra of Porto Alegre, and soon after she decided to pursue a career as an opera singer.

Helena completed her Master's in Music Vocal Performance at Boston University. She was a Colburn Fellow at SongFest, received a Merit-based Scholarship from Boston University's College of Fine Arts, and won second place in the Maria Callas International Singing Competition.

She auditioned for Opera in the Ozarks because she heard positive comments from teachers, coaches, and fellow singers. She was cast as Adina in L'elisir d'amore and as Diane in Orpheus in the Underworld. Fall of 2023 Helena is starting an Artist Diploma program at the University of Houston. She plans to audition to Young Artist Programs and build a career in the United States.

RAVINIA STEANS MUSIC INSTITUTE (RSMI)

Highland Park, Illinois www.ravina.org/steans.aspx

Ravinia Festival®, North America's oldest music festival, stands today as its most musically diverse, presenting a large variety of different events throughout the summer. These concerts run the gamut from Yo-Yo Ma to John Legend to the annual summer residency of the nation's finest orchestra, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. The 36-acre park is nestled in a gently wooded area that makes it an enchanting place to experience music. Guests can bring their own picnics or eat at one of the park restaurants.

RSMI offers summer programs in chamber music, voice, and jazz. The program for jazz is a one-week intensive event that focuses on composition and small-group collaboration. Fifteen fellows spend their days rehearsing in different combos, studying composition, and workshopping pieces with faculty. At the end of their residency, musicians get to premiere their original works on the Bennett Gordon Hall stage.



ROSE THOMAS SMITH AWARD. jazz instrumental - \$3,000 Terry Tennes, Representative

Gabe Schmid-Doyle (bass) hails from the small upstate New York town of Canton. He started his musical journey on the violin, picking up instruments here and there until he eventually started learning the double bass. In high school he played the bass and bass guitar with the New York State Band Directors

Association (NYSBDA) High School Honor Jazz Ensemble, the New York State Conference All-State Vocal Jazz Ensemble, and a concerto for the Orchestra of Northern New York's Young Artists Competition, as well as playing violin for the Saint Lawrence University String Orchestra. He

now studies bass in the Jazz Studies Program SUNY Purchase College. There he plays with a variety of groups, such as the Purchase Latin Jazz Orchestra, which has played at venues such as Birdland.

ROCKY RIDGE MUSIC CENTER

Estes Park, Colorado www.rockyridge.org

The Rocky Ridge Music Center, founded in 1942 by pianist Beth Miller Harrod, has a uniquely rich history. Its campus is located on a rustic 20th century American homestead in the beautiful Rocky Mountains of Colorado at the foot of 14,259 ft Longs Peak in the heart of Rocky Mountain National Park. It is a world apart where students commune with music and nature while benefiting from close mentorship from master teachers.

Rocky Ridge Music Center exists to elevate the musician inside each of us to the highest level through a unique, holistic approach—meeting every student where they are, helping them to learn, create, enjoy, and support music—ultimately making all of us more fulfilled as humans.



NFMC Award (orchestral instruments) - \$750 Karen Greenhaigh, NFMC Representative

Kathleen Muehring (bassoon) is from Dubuque, IA. The bassoon may not have been her first instrument, but it was the one that "stuck". After trying out the flute, then tenor sax, then baritone sax, their band director finally suggested the bassoon...the

rest was history. Now the bassoon is "everything" to Kate, who worked with Rocky Ridge faculty Remy Taghavi on solo works and chamber collaborations during the full College Intensive session. Katie currently studies the bassoon and music education at Central Michigan University. They plan to pursue a graduate degree in performance with the ultimate goal of obtaining an orchestra position. Katie shared, "Studying at Rocky Ridge was viewpoint-changing; that's the best way I can describe the experience. It was rewarding to be surrounded by so many like-minded, performance-oriented musicians."

SANTA FE OPERA APPRENTICE PROGRAM

Santa Fe, NM www.santafeopera.org

RUTH FREEHOFF AWARD (opera) - \$600 Linda King, NFMC Representative

Santa Fe Opera (SFO) is an American opera company, located 7 miles (11 km) north of Santa Fe, New Mexico. After creating the Opera Association of New Mexico in 1956, its founding director, John Crosby, oversaw the building of the first opera house on a newly acquired former guest ranch of 199 acres (0.81 km2). The company has presented operas each summer festival season since July 1957, and is internationally known for introducing new operas as well as for its productions of the

standard operatic repertoire. Five operas are presented each season during the summer.

Since its inception, Santa Fe Opera has staged 45 American premieres and 18 world premieres, including Emmeline, The Tempest, The (R) evolution of Steve Jobs, Adriana Mater, and Cold Mountain.



Sam Dhobhany (bass-baritone) is from Brooklyn, NY. He currently resides in Cincinnati, OH.

SEWANEE SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL

Sewanee, Tennessee www.sewaneemusicfestival.org

The Sewanee Music Center (SMC) runs the Sewanee Summer Music Festival (SSMF) as well as the Sewanee Performing Arts Series (PAS). The SSMF is an intensive four-week program for young classical musicians; it offers orchestral, chamber music, vocal, and compositional tracks. The PAS is student-centered and brings a blend of international, national, and regional-caliber performing artists to Sewanee. PAS prioritizes acts that engage directly with students beyond a single performance, inviting a mixture of performances with workshops, clinics, side-by-sides, readings, artist talks, and other interactive formats.

Our hallmark program, SSMF, has expanded to offer not only the fourweek intensive orchestral and chamber music training program but now includes our OperaFest pre-professional training program as well as a Composition Program for young composers. In each program, our participants have multiple performance opportunities, private lessons, ensemble coaching, lectures, and master classes SSMF offers two distinct, high-level, serious orchestral experiences: The Cumberland Orchestra and The Sewanee Symphony. The Festival Artistic Director, along with guest conductors and the artistic leadership team, selects a range of musically and technically demanding literature for each orchestra to perform. Each ensemble is held to the highest artistic and musical standards possible, rehearsing six times per week. The orchestras are comprised of both pre-college and college festival participants.



NFMC Gladys R. Coult Award (orchestra, piano, and chamber music) - \$700 Mary Ellen Nolletti, NFMC Representative

Myron Leonard (harp) is a 15-year old 10th Grader at Charles R. Drew Charter School in Atlanta, GA. He has been playing the harp for over four years. Myron is a member

Continued on page 30

NFMC SUMMER MUSIC CENTERS (SMC) AWARDS 2023 Continued

of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Talent Development Program where Dr. Elisabeth Remy-Johnson is his instructor. He is a member of the Urban Youth Harp Ensemble, Charles R. Drew High School Orchestra, and the High School Band. Myron plays six instruments: harp, tuba, drums, guitar, piano, and trombone. He also composes his own music. At age 13, his original work titled "Follow the Wind" was published as the winner of the Atlanta Harp Center Composition Competition. He has a heart for the harp and also enjoys playing baseball, volunteering for Beta Club, and making homemade ice cream.

THE WALDEN SCHOOL

Dublin, New Hampshire www.waldenschool.org

Founded in 1972, Walden has enjoyed 40 seasons in residence on the beautiful campus of the Dublin School in Dublin, New Hampshire. Young Musicians Program (YMP) students are immersed in an idyllic, retreat-like environment as they develop their artistic voices and forge a close-knit creative community. Students and faculty are housed in campus dormitories, with a minimum of two staff or faculty members per building with the students. This summer, YMP students composed and premiered new works, sang in chorus, performed on open mics, attended high-caliber musical performances by inspiring visiting artists and expert faculty members, enjoyed a carnival, Halloween-in-July, and 4th of July games/treasure hunt, hiked nearby mountains and swam in lakes, and much more.

The Walden School Young Musicians Program (YMP) provides an unparalleled creative summer experience for musically inclined students ages 9 to 18. Part school, part camp, and part festival, the program convenes each summer for five weeks in the beautiful Monadnock region in Dublin, New Hampshire. Through rigorous and innovative daily instruction, students hone their musical and creative skills within a supportive community of like-minded peers and mentors, with a goal of improvising and composing original works.

YMP spans five weeks, with a three-week option for younger students. The Walden School brings distinguished performers and teachers from throughout the United States to mentor students and perform their compositions, with recent artists including the International

Contemporary Ensemble, Nicole Mitchell, Amy Beth Kirsten, and other world-renowned performers and composers. In conjunction with its educational mission, Walden also presents a Concert Series offered free of charge to the public and live-streamed online.

During weekly Composers Forums, student improvisations and compositions are performed by faculty, students, and visiting artists. A composer-moderator leads discussion about the students' pieces, offering insights, suggestions, and encouragement for future works. The program culminates in Festival Week, when students' families and friends travel to New Hampshire (or in recent years, join us online!) to attend three Composers Forums, a choral concert, and a public demonstration of the skills they have developed in their classes. Walden's resident professional performing ensemble, The Walden School Players, workshops, rehearses, and premieres these student works.



NFMC AWARD (composition and theory) - \$750 Noah Mlotek, NFMC Representative

Karena Chen, age 15, from Staten Island, NY studies music at LaGuardia High School in New York. She came to Walden to pursue and broaden her musical passions, from flamenco guitar to jazz bass and classical violin, and to study composition for the first time. About her experience at Walden, she writes, "Although

this summer was only my first summer at Walden, it was by far one of my best summers yet. I created tight bonds with my peers and still reach out to them to this day. At Walden, I was able to come out of my shell and collaborate with talented and encouraging people who share the same passions as I do. With the help of the faculty/staff and my peers, I was able to accomplish a goal I've always envisioned but never had the chance to carry out: compose a piece for string quartet. All my life I have been fascinated with the idea of combining some of my favorite instruments together, but I never knew how. Having faculty/staff, peers, and the players who gave me advice and ideas made me so appreciative of this program and all you can earn from it. All in all, Walden's YMP was an incredible and inspirational learning experience for me. This summer was truly an unforgettable one." 🎝



FUN WITH IMPROVISATION!

By Samuel Stokes - https://www.SamuelStokesMusic.com

As teachers, we want our students to learn so many things, including sight reading, technique, music theory, and ear training. Unfortunately, one of the most interesting skills and one of the most fun, often gets overlooked - improvisation! This is not surprising, as we spend so much time getting them to play the notes we want them to play for the recital, where is the time to teach them to choose their own notes to play? Well, like anything we want to do, we have to make the time.

If the teacher doesn't have much of a background in improvisation, then it may be overwhelming to figure out where to begin. Furthermore, when a young student looks at the 88 keys on a piano (or all of the notes available on other instruments), the student may be similarly overwhelmed! Do your student and yourself a favor by approaching improvisation in a way that limits your options to reduce the possibility of decision fatigue.

Here's a fun way to begin – play the first seven notes of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star," then have your student play the next seven notes in the original rhythm, using only notes in the first five notes of the major scale.



Here are some possible outcomes:



... and there are many, many more possible outcomes! You can use familiar tunes like this or phrases from other pieces they are learning and play this fun musical game, and once the student learns how the game works, it can be done in just one or two minutes.

Many students get excited about playing jazz and blues style pieces. They typically learn them by reading the sheet music, but of course, we know that these styles involve a lot of improvisation! As they learn these fun pieces, let's also teach them to improvise. Again, it's important to start with a more limited selection of notes to keep the student from being overwhelmed. Let's start with the minor pentatonic scale, which is also the basic blues scale.

Music Fun



Notice that the bottom three notes have the same interval content as the top three notes of the scale. This is pretty handy to notice when first learning to use the blues scale to improvise. In piano lessons, I like to begin by improvising in Eb blues, because it is just the black keys of the piano, but different scales will work better on different instruments.

Begin by having the student pick pitches from just the bottom three notes of the scale using a simple prescribed rhythm, such as:



As you can see, there are numerous possibilities.



Eventually, you can give your student a wider rhythmic palette to choose from.



Then the student might come up with something such as this:



Once they get comfortable improvising on a three-pitch palette, get them to imitate ideas from the lower three notes to the upper three notes.



Hopefully, these ideas will help you incorporate some improvisation into your lessons, as improvisation is a great way to make music come alive for our students, and of course, it's also a lot of fun!

Regional News

NORTHEASTERN REGION

Federation Days

The 79th annual Federation Days of the NFMC Northeastern Region took place July 8 & 9, 2023. Twenty members gathered at Chautauqua Suites Meeting and Expo Center in Mayville, NY for the annual business meeting and lunch. The morning session started with prelude music by Barbara Murray and given the fact we were gathered near the shore of Lake Chautauqua, Barbara included the very appropriate selection: Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore (Cesáreo Gabaráin). The business meeting was conducted by outgoing VP Ruth Ann McChesney and newly elected VP Linda Maurhoff. Our special guest NFMC President Deborah Freeman was introduced and welcomed by all. This was President Freeman's first visit to Chautauqua Institution. Deborah thanked our Northeastern Region members for serving in so many positions and encouraged us to keep promoting NFMC. The NE Region thanked Ruth Ann McChesney for serving as Vice President and the many other ways she has served NFMC as well as PFMC. The states in the Northeastern Region collectively presented Ruth Ann with the Rose Fay Thomas medal. To say that she was surprised is quite an understatement and she extends her deep gratitude for this honor!

Reports from the four attending states were given, along with reports from Regional and National Chairs. Following the business meeting, Allen Kitchen (PFMC) presented "Foundations of Black Gospel Music". The lecture/singalong was previously given for a brown bag lunch at Chautauqua Institution. The program was a wonderful follow-up to the Matthew Sabatella presentation, Ballad of America during the NFMC Convention in Norfolk just weeks earlier. The morning session ended with a traditional Memorial Service prepared by NE Region Chaplain, Ron Marenchin and lead by Pastor Mary Kitchen, accompanied on keyboard by husband, Allen Kitchen.

Saturday afternoon our group headed to Chautauqua Institution for the student recital presented by NFMC award recipients attending the Chautauqua School of Music summer session. Ten students performed a varied program of vocal and instrumental music. Two students received the Dorothy Dann Bullock Award, three received the Martha Marcks Mack Award, one student the Eleanor Pascoe/Hatz Award and the other 4 students received a Federation Award named for states: IN, NY, OH &PA.



Chautauqua Music School students who performed a recital for the NE.



Delegates attending the Northeast Region meeting at Chautauqua.



Region attendees NE Region member who sang for 2 services in the Chautaugua Choir: RuthAnn McChesney, Carol Koehler, Pat Walter, Heather Buffington, Virginia Kleeberg, & Penny Draper.

Most Federation members attended the Sunday morning church service in the Amphitheater. Six members from the NE Region sang with the Chautauqua Choir. At 3pm our members gathered in McKnight Hall for a concert titled, "Chaos for Two" presented by Stanley and Swana Chepaitis, violin and viola. It was a very entertaining program including an original composition by Dr Stanley Chepaitis along with arrangements on American Hymns. Stanley and Swana currently perform with the Kalnas Ensemble. The well attended recital was followed by a reception hosted by the Pennsylvania Federation. Some of our members closed out the day by attending the Sacred Music Service in the amphitheater. The theme, "Come and Find the Quiet Center" ended with the playing of "Largo" on the world's largest outdoor pipe organ. This is a Chautauqua Institution tradition. It was a wonderful weekend filled with beautiful music. We look forward to celebrating the NE Region's 80th Federation Days in 2024.

The NFMC Elizabeth Paris French Horn Award



Elizabeth Paris NFMC President

This \$2000 annual award is for those students studying french horn. 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 upload their competition recording to the NFMC website.

For information see the NFMC website at nfmc-music.org. Click on Competitions and Award Division/Student/Collegiate Awards.

The deadline for entry is **APRIL 1**.

For additional information contact Chairman Roger Lear qds@mchsi.com

State News

ARIZONA



We were delighted to have Rachel Breen, Young Artist in Piano of NFMC, visit Arizona. She performed an outstanding concert at Lord of Life's concert series in Tucson Arizona on January 2, 2023.

ARKANSAS

Arkansans at Opera in the Ozarks and South Central **Region Federation Days**

Arkansas had a good representation at the July 20-23, 2023, South Central Region Federation meeting. Good news was shared with the region about the Walton family gift of 34 million dollars to build a new arts theater in Eureka Springs, Arkansas, that will be not only the theater for Opera in the Ozarks from May – July each year, but will also be a new center for arts related events in Arkansas.

The South Central Region comprised of Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas help support Opera in the Ozarks through memberships, special fund-raising events within each state, and donations. It was tremendously exciting and encouraging to hear of future plans for the Inspiration Point Center for the Arts. The financial gift and the new developments were enthusiastically highlighted by Harry Smith on the TODAY morning show. The goal is to have the 2025 Opera in the Ozarks season presented in the new theater.



Back row, I-r: Betty Pierce, Dr. George Keck, Gloria Grilk, Jim Swiggart 010 Board, Ed Henson OlO Board Treasurer Front row: Carolyn Walker, Dr. Maggie Garrett OlO Board, Dr. Ouida Keck, Judy Rownak Olo Board, Janet Parsch Olo Board, Kathie White OIO Board. Standing front right: Dr. Nancy Preis, General Director of OIO, and Dr. Alice Martinson, OIO Medical Director

FLORIDA

Celebrating Founders' Day: 125 Years **ORLANDO MUSIC CLUB**

Submitted by Elaine Knight, President

A Founders Day event was held by the Orlando Music Club on January 14 at First Baptist Church of Sweetwater in Longwood, Florida. Celebrating NFMC 125 Years!

Our honored guests included Claudia Brill, FFMC State President with former FFMC President Cheryl Poe. We had many students of all ages performing festival favorites. Pieces included Lady Allyson's Minuet by Vandall, Liebesträume by F. Liszt, and Etude op. 10 No. 8 in F Major by Chopin. Each student was presented with a keepsake Certificate of Participation. Light refreshments followed. Publix provided a colorful

News from the Florida Federation of Music Clubs

Submitted by Claudia Brill

The members of the Florida Federation of Music Clubs have been busy this past fall and have many events planned for the spring.

Many of the districts held meetings in the fall and shared their calendar of events. Everyone was entertained by delightful performances from the stellar students in their districts.

On January 14th the Orlando Music Club held a Founders Day Celebration. Many of the local students performed and the president of FFMC gave a talk on important events in the history of NFMC. A reception was held with a beautifully decorated cake that was enjoyed by all.

The FFMC Collegiate Vocal Audition was held on January 28th at the Thomas Center in Gainesville, FL. Connie Lill is the Vocal Audition Chair. This audition used to be called the Jeanne/Stephen Vocal Audition and was held at the Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park in White Springs. Due to the museum being closed the last two years this audition was renamed and has changed location.

February is the month that most of the FFMC Festivals are held. Esther Umansky-Roth is the state Festival Chair. Each district has one or more Festivals. Those that receive superiors at Festival may enter in the state Junior Convention. This year the Junior Convention will be held on May 5 and 6 at the University of South Florida in Tampa. Emi Stefanov is the Junior Convention Chair.

The FFMC State Convention was held on June 22-24 in Sarasota. The theme for the convention was Celebrating our History; FFMC-NFMC. Dr. George Keck was our guest and presented the program that he gave at the NFMC Conference in Indiana on the history of NFMC. Lisa Smith gave a presentation on the history of FFMC. The convention hotel, The Carlisle Inn and Conference Center, is very beautiful and the adjoining restaurant, Der Dutchman, serves the most delicious food. A good time was had by all.

Please check out our new website: ffmc-music.org. It is designed by Esther Umansky-Roth.

KANSAS

The November newsletter of Janis Saket, president of the Kansas Federation, included a tribute to Marty Edwards on her 99th birthday. This editor met Marty a few years ago when I was the NFMC guest at the Kansas convention. I was really impressed with Marty's spirit, and the story and accompanying pictures demonstrate that she is still impressive. Enjoy this introduction to a lovely member.

Marty Edwards

The Topeka Civic music club had the pleasure of joining in the celebration of Marty Edwards' 99th birthday. It was a reciprocal pleasure since she had been sharing her musical gifts with the community for much of her 99 years.

Marty had been a music teacher for many years in the Topeka school system. She also was past president of her local music clubs and was a member of both Topeka affiliates. Many of us knew her because she was extremely active at both the state KFMC and national NFMC levels. She has continued to spread her gifts by both directing musical groups where she now resides and singing solos at her local church!

Marty still has a beautiful and controlled voice. This 4th of July she sang a solo for a Topeka church service. This past May, Civic Music Club celebrated National Music Week with a concert at Brewster Place, and Marty directed singing for a group of Brewster residents. This charming and talented lady has blessed us all by sharing her musicality as well as her lovely spirit. Because of her we have been changed for good!

MISSOURI

The Morning Etude senior club kicked off its 2023-24 season with a program dedicated to jazz titled "Jazz in the Fall." Imagine listening to a performance of Billy Joel's "New York State of Mind" by club member Shelia Fletcher and seeing the glorious colors of fall in the trees outside the performance hall windows. Afterwards the club members went out to enjoy lunch and fellowship in St. Charles.

Mixing business with pleasure, the club had a second meeting in October where they conducted their annual business meeting followed by a program of folk music titled "That's Not All, Folks." The club is looking to grow its membership with programs including featured guest artists such as the Grace Notes, a local women's chorus, who performed songs by American women composers in November as part of the month-long Parade of American music.

Longtime Missouri state treasurer Duane Langley was honored at a recent meeting with a special cake. The inscription read, "Well Done, Good and Faithful Servant." Duane is also a long-time treasurer of Opera in the Ozarks and in charge of the 501(C)(3) exemptions for NFMC.





Continued on page 36

The Frances J. Nelson Tuba Award

This \$800 annual award is for those students studying tuba. 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.

For information see the NFMC website at nfmc-music.org. Click on Competitions and Award Division/Student/Collegiate Awards. The deadline for entry is MARCH 1.



Frances J. Nelson **NFMC President** 2019 - 2022

State News continued

OKLAHOMA

Submitted by Catherine J. Coke, OFMC President

The following is excerpted from OFMC president Catherine Coke's fall newsletter.

Have you ever looked at a photo and had memories long forgotten come back to life? That happened to me when I was asked to review the draft for the OIO Good News Letter for October 2023. The photo under the heading "From the OIO Archives" caught my eye.

The picture was taken in 1962, not 1955. Dedicated in 1955, it was the Shewanis Lodge, the so-called "tabernacle" which was the first performing space for the company. Back in the summer of 1967, I attended IPFAC. I was 16 years old, just graduated as junior in a rural high school and would turn 17 in September for my senior year.

It was the 18th Annual Fine Arts Festival, July 19-28, and the performance of 5 operas. Back then it was a regional training camp for high school and college students in musical theater/ opera. Our housemother, Jo Ann Carlson, was from Midwest City, OK.

The first memory I had was not of the opera performances. It was of a weekend Talent Night, dark, lights above, cool breeze, and only IPFAC family there to listen and enjoy. The Opera Workshop had 56 members, the Orchestra had 27 members, then Directors, staff, etc., we were family. Co-Sponsors: OK, AR, KS and MO.

The article talked in length about the building's dedication ceremony held July 19, 1955. A poem by Jim MacBridges and Joanne Knott was recited which said among other things that "on this ground / we find the faint rumor of green grass/ where musical people have walked / and talked of Bach and Mozart / We find flowers long dead / but still full of beauty/ and know that loves have been / born and died on the ground we break / We pause and think of things passed; of tears and grass and flowers."

According to Inspiration Point founder Henry Hobart, reference was to the Indian Trail of Tears which went through the Inspiration Point area.

OREGON

The Oregon Federation of Music Clubs celebrated it's 100th Anniversary this year - 2023 by inviting the 2021 Ellis Duo winners, Rector-Hong Piano Duo, to perform for us. Oregon was supported in this endeavor by the Washington Federation of Music Clubs. The Rectort Hong Duo presented a program of Mozart, Debussy and Rachmaninoff. The concert was enjoyed by all and it was a great celebration for 100 years of music in the great Northwest.

TENNESSEE

Senior Clubs in Tennessee have been busy with new projects. The Obbligate Club in Middle Tennessee is very proud of its member, Graciella Kowelcyzk, who was the Artistic Director of The Nashville International Chopin Piano Competition. This was the first year for this bi-annual event. There were 45 competitors ages 6-22 from all over the world. Obbligato members participated in advertising and event management throughout the weekend. Michael Richey, Debra Nelson, and Leah Taylor were members who organized the weekend staff.

Tennessee Hosts The International Chopin Piano Competition

Tennessee is very proud of its TFMC member, Dr. Graciella Kowalcyzk, who was the Artistic Director of The Nashville International Chopin Piano Competition. This was the first year for this bi-annual event. There were hundreds of competitors ages 7-22. These talented young pianists were carefully selected by a large screening jury of internationally renowned pianists from a formidable pool of applicants from around the world. Twenty-six finalists were chosen to perform in Nashville, Tennessee. The competition took place at Vanderbilt University's Martha Rivers Ingram Center for the Performing Arts on October 14-15. They competed for \$50,000 in prizes. The prestigious competition provided an unforgettable experience for both the participants and the public alike. Jury member, Pavel Nersessian, performed a recital that was open to the public. Obbligato Senior Club members participated in advertising and event management throughout the weekend. Michael Richey and Leah Taylor were members who organized the weekend staff. Congratulaitons to Dr. Graciella Kowalcyzk for a job well done!

TEXAS

Friday the 13th is often considered unlucky. However, music clubbers attending the District 1 TFMC conference Friday, October 13 in Lubbock felt very lucky for beautiful weather, delicious food, inspiring music and a visit and speech by TFMC president Lynn McNew.

Allegro Music Club, with Amber Irlbeck as president, hosted the meeting at the Lubbock Woman's Club. Lubbock Music Club, in the midst of its 100th anniversary year, also participated. The clubs are the only members of District 1.

Allora Leonard, a student at South Plains College in Levelland, is winner of the D'Aun Marshall District Scholarship. She performed for the group, accompanying herself on the guitar with one of her selections being one she wrote.

Bob Field, district auditor, led a memorial service for district members who passed away this past year. Member Ya-Li Chung Pekowski played a piano solo, and a Lubbock dance group also performed.



Dignitaries participating in the District 1 TFMC conference October 13 are, from left: Lynn McNew. TFMC president: Mary Ann Bridges. Lubbock Music Club president; Allora Leonard, district scholarship winner; Amber Irlbeck, Allegro Music Club president; and Jean Moffatt, District 1 president and South Central Region vice-president.

WYOMING

The Wyoming Federation of Music Clubs hosts Melody Bober for a day of great concerts.

Submitted by Karen S. Greenhalgh, NCTM Wyoming Federation of Music Clubs President

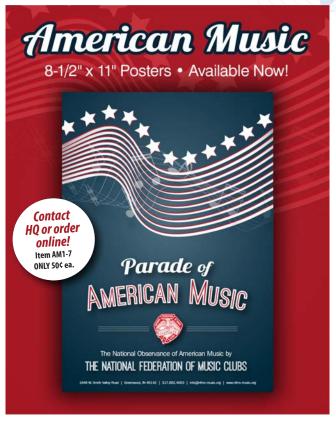
Debbie Turnbull, the WFMC Competitions and Awards Chair, enlisted her friend, Melody Bober, to write a commissioned piece for the Wyoming Federation. Mountain Majesty was the result of her efforts. On Saturday, August 19th, Melody came to hear WFMC students play the commissioned piece and many of her other solos, duets, duos and quartets in concert.

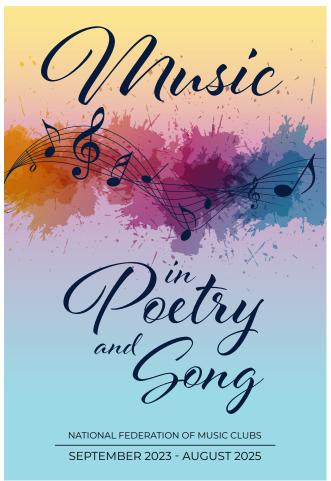
The day began at Graner Music in Colorado Springs with Charlotte Baker, Graner CEO, the Colorado Springs Federation and the Keyband USA! Senior Clubs hosting the early morning concert. There were many solos, duos and quartets at this concert because Graner had provided two grand pianos for the occasion.

After the Colorado Springs concert Melody and Debbie traveled to the St. Philip Lutheran Church in Littleton, Colorado for a short teacher-catered luncheon roundtable and four afternoon concerts. Melody listened to all the performers and gave feedback on their performances. Her positive comments were so focused and individually directed. Every student loved their time with her and her positive affirmation of their playing.

The Wyoming Federation teachers— Denver South, Fort Collins, Golden Senior Clubs were joined by a few Douglas-Elbert Music Association members to register students for the afternoon event. All the teachers and their students appreciated being able to spend time with Melody and so many of her pieces that were chosen for performance during the day.







Where Are They Now?-



CLANCY NEWMAN 1999 YOUNG ARTIST WINNER

Cellist Clancy Newman has enjoyed an extraordinarily wide-ranging career, not only as a cellist, but also as a composer, producer, writer, teacher, and guest lecturer. Originally from Albany NY, he received his first significant public recognition at the age of twelve, when he won a Gold Medal at the Dandenong Youth Festival in Australia, competing against contestants twice his age. In the

years that followed, he won numerous other competitions, including the Juilliard School Cello Competition, the National Federation of Music Clubs competition, the Astral Artists National Auditions, and finally the prestigious Walter W. Naumburg International Competition.

He has performed as soloist throughout the United States, as well as in Europe, Asia, Canada, and Australia. A recipient of an Avery Fisher career grant, he can often be heard on NPR's "Performance Today" and has been featured on A&E and PBS. A sought after chamber musician, he is a former member of the Weiss-Kaplan-Newman trio, and he has toured as a member of "Musicians from Marlboro" and performed with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center.

He developed an interest in composition at an early age, writing his first piece at seven, a piece for solo cello. Since then, he has greatly expanded the cello repertoire: he premiered his Four Pieces for Solo Cello at the

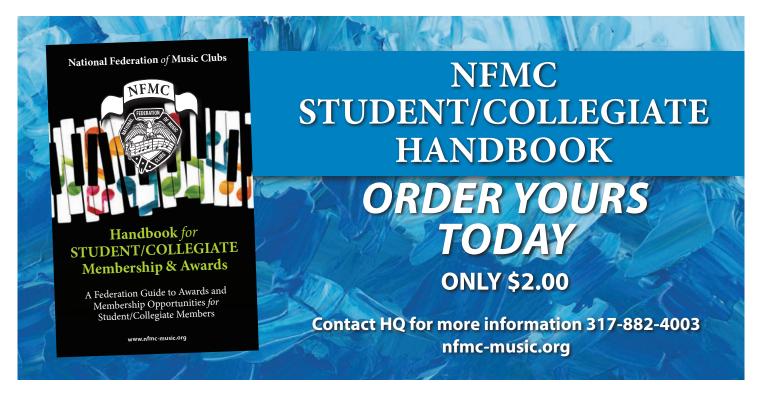
Violoncello Society in New York, his Sonata for Cello and Piano in New York's Weill Hall, and his Four Seasons of Life for cello and string orchestra with Symphony in C in Philadelphia. His "Pop-Unpopped" project, where he writes solo cello caprices based on pop songs, has been ongoing since 2014 and has led to an exploration of cello techniques heretofore unimagined.

Newman has guest lectured on the Golden Ratio Method, a method of composition he invented, and has been featured on series by the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and the Chicago Chamber Musicians. In March 2019 his piano quintet, commissioned by the Ryuji Ueno Foundation, was premiered at the opening ceremony of the National Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington DC. His piano trio, Juxt-Opposition, is available on Bridge Records. Newman is currently working on several commissions, including one for the Formosa String Quartet and another for clarinetist Kyle Glasgow.

Also interested in other forms of expression, Newman produced an album entitled "From Hungary to Taiwan" for the Formosa String Quartet, which is available on Bridge Records. In 2021, the Kingston Chamber Music Festival commissioned him to produce four educational videos to assist school teachers as they navigated the Covid-19 pandemic, a project that involved script writing, set designing, video editing, animation, and acting.

In August 2023, Newman and pianist Natalie Zhu released From Method to Madness: The American Sound, an album of all American music for cello and piano, on Albany Records. It is available for purchase and for streaming on all platforms.

Mr. Newman is a graduate of the five-year exchange program between Juilliard and Columbia University, receiving a M.M. from Juilliard and a B.A. in English from Columbia. His teachers have included David Gibson, Joel Krosnick and Harvey Shapiro. 🎝



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS

SENIOR AWARD OPPORTUNITIES



AWARD AMOUNT	AWARD	APPLICATION DEADLINE
\$20,000	Ellis Duo Piano Award	February 1 (odd year)
\$20,000	Young Artist Award	February 1 (odd year)
\$5,000	Martha Mack Senior Vocal Award	March 15
\$4,000	Emil & Ruth Beyer Composition Award	March 1
\$2,250	Veterans Awards	May 1
\$2,000	Ouida Keck Pedagogy Award	May 1
\$2,000	Honigman Blind Award	February 1
\$2,000	Virginia Allison Collaborative Award	March 1
\$1,500	Mayfield Opera Award	February 1 (odd year)
\$1,000	Vivian Menees Nelson Disabled and Visually Impaired Award	February 1
\$800	Glad Robinson Youse Composition Award	January 15 (odd year)
\$500	Ruth Morse Wilson Han <mark>dbell Award</mark>	April 1

Please be sure to review Student/Collegiate category awards, as some awards have identical age requirements. See form CA 20-1 for full details.

For award requirements and application forms visit the NFMC website @ www.nfmc-music.org



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Coming Dates to Highlight:

May 5-12, 2024 National Music Week

"Music is... Yours, Mine, and Ours"

June 11-15, 2024 NFMC Conference

Isle Hotel, Bettendorf, Iowa

Music Clubs Magazine is published three times annually by the National Federation of Music Clubs. It is sent free of charge to all active Federation senior club members. Others may subscribe by contacting NFMC headquarters at the above address. An annual subscription is \$7 in the U.S. and \$22 to a foreign address.

Publishing deadlines are August 1 for autumn, November 1 for winter, and February 1 for spring/summer. Send state news to Newsgatherer Susan Rigoulot one month in advance. Advertising information is available on the NFMC website.