



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS

Junior Keynotes

Winter 2025 • Vol. 98, No. 2



Artwork by Leucine Peck
Winder, Georgia



NFMC Junior Keynotes Directory

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Mary Alice Cox Award

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Thelma A. Robinson Ballet Award

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Wendell Irish Viola Award

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PNP Michael R. Edwards Graduating P.

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Stillman Kelley/Thelma Byrum

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Claire Ulrich Whitehurst Piano Solo Award

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Marilyn Caldwell Piano Solo Award

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Joyce Walsh Award

Debbie Wiser, Chair
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Chandler, AZ 85226
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Martha Marcks Mack Junior Vocal Award

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2025 MTNA National Conference

March 15–19, 2025, Minneapolis, Minnesota

The 2025 MTNA National Conference, March 15–19 in Minneapolis, Minnesota, will bring together the most representative cross-section of the MTNA membership. Michelle Cann and the first-prize winner of the National Chopin Piano Competition will highlight the evening recitals. Composer Libby Larsen will provide the keynote address. Pedagogy Saturday boasts five tracks: Artistry; Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Musician Wellness; Recreational Music Making; and Young Professionals. As always, the national competitions will feature the outstanding performances of students in all instrument areas as well as composition. And perennial favorites like the exhibit hall, poster sessions and showcases will all be a part of the conference experience.

**VISIT MTNA.ORG
FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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LIBBY LARSEN
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FEATURED PERFORMER
Tuesday evening recital

MASTER CLASSES



JENNIFER LINN
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JOHN BLOOMFIELD
TECHNIQUE



LYNDA LYBECK-ROBINSON
ELEMENTARY PIANO



MICHELLE CANN
ADVANCED PIANO



Message *from the* President

by Deborah T. Freeman

Greetings!

I'm wondering how many of you read Junior Keynotes magazine. Did you know that ALL teachers who participate in NFMC Festivals are required to subscribe to this magazine? Junior clubs in my state have Junior Keynote chairs who share news articles during each club meeting. They also enjoy submitting photos and articles of their events and celebrations.

The beautiful covers are sent in by juniors! Ask your teacher to send your cover art to the editor, and yours may show up on the next issue.

If you enjoy reading about student winners, scholarship and award opportunities, other junior club activities, winning poems and essays, and articles regarding NFMC Festival updates, please let me know. My contact information is easily found in the magazine.

This winter edition of our magazine is filled with exciting features, including interviews with talented musicians, highlights from our recent performances, and tips for teachers to have a successful Festival year. I encourage you to explore the magazine and send your own stories of how you celebrate and share music.

Let's embrace this season as an opportunity to seek out those who need spiritual uplifting – you will bless and be blessed.

Wishing you days filled with joy!

Deborah T. Freeman

Deborah T. Freeman

NFMC President



President's Theme:
"Celebrating our Musical Heritage"

President's Song:
"God Bless America"

Irving Berlin



From the Editor

by Jeanne Hryniewicki, *Editor*

Greetings NFMC teachers, students, and friends!

Many of you are experiencing a winter season filled with cold weather and snow! The holidays are past and now it's time for our Junior members to concentrate on perfecting and memorizing their pieces for the 2025 district Federation Festivals.

Before you know it, spring will be here and it will be time to submit articles for the Spring 2025 issue of Junior Keynotes! Please keep in mind that the deadline for submission in the Spring issue is February 1, 2025. To keep publication on schedule, articles received after February 1 will not be included in the Spring issue.

Remember to keep the pictures and artwork coming, also. We are always looking for artwork from our very talented Juniors for the front cover. In addition, we hope to receive news and pictures from Junior Clubs in each of your states!

Jeanne Hryniewicki, Editor
Junior Keynotes Magazine

American Music

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Junior Divison Updates

by Laurie M. Marshall, Chair

Dear Federation Colleagues and Friends,

This is a most exciting time for us as our students are actively participating in Federation Festival and Awards.

For Festival, please utilize your Festival Area Admin/Chair first. The State Festival Chair is there to assist them as well as our NFMF Festival leadership.

For Junior Awards, please remember to register on time, taking note of all the award requirements and registration deadlines.

Next, please welcome new members of the Junior Division Leadership Team:

NFMF Junior Composer Chair Sam Ecoff joined us in June. Please join me in thanking past chair Joanie Pegram who served as both co-chair and chair. Junior Club Achievement Chair Virginia Feitelson joins us as past chair Sally Palmer accepted a new position with NFMF. Welcome Beth Lee and Lisa Moore! Beth serves as the Thelma A Robinson Ballet Award Chair and Lisa Moore serves as the new NFMF Junior Dance Award Chair. Many thanks to both Justin and Nicolas Gray who previously served in those positions. Justin also worked tirelessly to update the NFMF dance award terminology, descriptions, and Festival Dance event bringing us closer to today's dance program standards. Deb Wiser joins us as the new Joyce Walsh Junior Award for Individuals with Special Needs. Dianne Williamson joins us as the Music for the Blind Composition Award Chair.

And finally, Christine Vitt joins us as the new Marilyn Caldwell Piano Award Chair after many years of service by Linda Lind.

One of the most exciting Junior Division additions is the monthly submissions from NFMF Angie Greer Music in Poetry Award Chair Debra Hughes. Please contact Debra for more information on how your studio poets may enter another creative offering by the NFMF Junior Division.

Many thanks with much gratitude to the NFMF Festival team led by Chair Lori Jessen and Vivace Chair Sandra Preysz. They are always your state Festival Chair's source for all things Festival, and your Festival Area Admins/Chair's source for all things Vivace. Please take time to read their Junior Keynotes articles with updates.

As long as we are on Festivals, please remember to turn in your state reports and Festival fees to your state Festival chair and order Festival cups in a timely manner. Also, please remember to update Lori and Sandra when new state Festival chairs and Festival Area Admins/Chairs are appointed. It is critical they have that information to keep communication flowing!

Finally, thank you for all you do to support your students. We know that the Junior Division has so much to offer, and we are thrilled to see so many Federation Juniors involved.

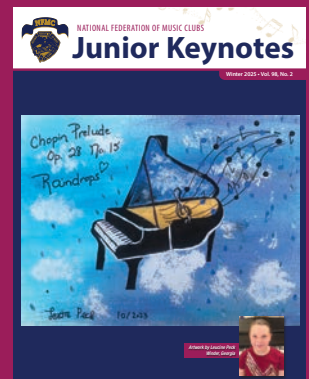
Laurie JK



Meet the Cover Artist

Leucine Peck | Winder, Georgia

Leucine Peck age 10, has won many awards in piano competitions and performances since she was four years old. She is the oldest of three siblings, and attends 5th grade in Winder, Georgia. When Leucine is not playing the piano, she writes poetry, enjoys gymnastics, and expresses her love of music through art.





Federation Festivals

by Lori Jessen, *Chair*

This article should find you in the midst of winter, and I trust it finds you well. After the rush of the holiday season, the early months of the year can be a time for setting new goals, stopping to reflect upon the past year, and perhaps just to take a breather—that's what snow days are for! ☺

The long winter months can be difficult for many people. This is a time when the gift of music should be shared liberally with our communities. Consider planning programs to have your students perform their Festival pieces with those who are unable to get out to go to concerts or recitals. They will be a most appreciative audience and your students will learn valuable lessons about how gratifying it is to share their music.

While winter can seem to stretch on forever, before we know it, Festivals will all be completed and in the books for another year. Here are just a few reminders for everyone.

Teachers: After Festival, be sure to make copies of your students' rating sheets (physical or digital) for your records. If there is ever a discrepancy about a rating, you will need the rating sheet to verify the rating received before any changes can be made in Vivace.

Area Admins/Chairs: Check due dates for reports. Send the applications for 12+ Consecutive Superiors to State Chairs with the necessary documentation.

State Admins/Chairs: Check due dates for reports. Sign and send on consecutive Superior applications.

As always, the NFMF Festivals team is here to help. Reach out at any time for assistance; we're here to help. Have a wonderful Festival season! **JK**

FAMA

FUND FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF MUSICAL ARTS

(FAMA) grants are designed to support a specific music education/outreach project. They are non-renewable and are not intended to support ongoing projects. New grant applicants will receive priority over previous grant recipients, and preference will be given to community projects that strengthen music education/music appreciation in the United States. All decisions of the committee are final.

Dr. Ouida Keck, Chair
keckouida@gmail.com

DEADLINE: MAY 15



For more detailed grant information visit The National Federation of Music Clubs at www.nfmc-music.org





Vivace Updates

by Sandra Preysz, NFMV Vivace Chair

We have been encouraged by the growing expertise of teachers and Festival administrators when using Vivace. Teachers and admins are now understanding the deeper workings of the system and becoming much more comfortable using Vivace.

There are several situations that are still unclear to some. Here are further explanations.

CHANGING A RECORD IN VIVACE

Vivace has many safeguards to ensure that any possible errors are caught prior to recording the event in Vivace. The final step is for the Festival admin to click the "certify ratings" button to record the Festival in Vivace. In the rare event that an error is discovered after the Festival is certified, a scan of the rating sheet must accompany the explanation of the correction needed. Corrections to a certified Festival are completed by a National admin.

FOR BEST RESULTS, USE A DESKTOP OR LAPTOP AND GOOGLE CHROME

Although phones and iPads are becoming much more powerful, best results will always be achieved when using your desktop or laptop AND Google Chrome as your browser. Sometimes the fields are not displayed completely (checkboxes, etc.) or the searches are not as efficient. This can even occur on a desktop when NOT using Google Chrome as the browser.

Make sure your screen display is set at 100% and no more as this can also affect displays. Enlarging the screen display above 100% can make the checkboxes or radio buttons unresponsive.

DECLARED SOLO CLASS

Most concerto and ensemble registrations are possible without declaring a solo class because the student(s) already has a solo history record in Vivace. When the solo history exists, the required correlation between

solo and concerto or ensemble classes can be verified. When doing a Concerto or Ensemble registration, first attempt the registration without declaring a Solo Class. Vivace will notify you if there is a need to declare a Solo Class to complete the registration. If you receive that message, contact your Area Admin to assist you.

STUDENT PERFORMANCES IN AN AREA OTHER THAN THE TEACHER'S HOME FESTIVAL AREA

Registering a Student Performing in Another Festival Area to accommodate scheduling conflicts.

Sometimes, a student will have a conflict with the Festival dates offered in the home Festival area.

An ACT or SAT test, family wedding, or state championship competition would be examples of conflicts that most areas accommodate.

When this happens, follow this procedure.

1. The teacher should register the student in the "home" Festival Area.
2. Fees should be paid to the "home" Area, and certificates and Federation Cups should be awarded from the "home" Festival area.
3. The teacher should make arrangements for the scheduling accommodation in the "host" Festival area, and pay any additional fees necessary to the "host" Festival Area.
4. When the performance is completed, the "host" Area Admin will contact the "home" Area Admin of the teacher, verify the performance was completed and the rating received. The "host" Festival admin then sends a scan of the rating sheet(s) to the "home" Festival admin as verification. The "home" Festival admin will make sure the rating sheet(s) is distributed to the teacher, and then the student.

continued on page 8

Ouida Keck

\$2000 ANNUAL AWARD for the Independent Piano Teacher



to be used for
Professional Development



Ouida Keck
NFMV President 1999-2003

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

For more information see the NFMV website at nfmv-music.org. Click on Competitions and Award Division/Sr. Annual Awards. The deadline for entry is May 1.

Vivace Updates *continued...*

Registering a Student Who is Taking Lessons online and would like to do a live performance.

Bulletin rules state that Entrants will have an evaluation using the same online media as is used for instruction. The adjudication will be scheduled with the approval of the Area Festival Chair/Admin and judged with the same criteria as a live performance. (Bulletin page xvi)

Some Festival areas have been willing to allow a yearly live performance of the online Student in the location of the student's residence. (Areas are not required to accommodate live performances in these situations, but many have been willing to do so.)

In this more permanent situation, follow this procedure.

1. The teacher will need to contact the "host" Festival Area Admin and make sure the area is willing to accommodate a live performance.
2. The teacher will need to comply with the request of the "host" Area Admin concerning assistance during the Festival.
3. If the "host" area is willing, the teacher will need to pay senior member dues to the "host" area and to the state of the "host" area (if in a different state). This is in addition to their national/state and local area dues paid to the "home" Festival area. Then, the teacher will be added as a teacher in the "host" area in Vivace and will register the student in the "host" area, paying Festival fees to the "host" area.

4. Federation Cups and participation certificates will be distributed by the "host" area since the location is closer to the student's residence.

COMING IN 2025 - NEW FEATURES UNDER THE TEACHER TAB

One of the improvements being developed for implementation in 2025 is the expansion of the options available under the Teacher Tab. This will include the following reports that can be accessed by the teacher once the Area Admin has completed the process to make them available.

Festival Schedule with radio button to select

- (Compiled) Festival Room Schedule
- Performance Schedule


Registration Invoice

Theory Event Register

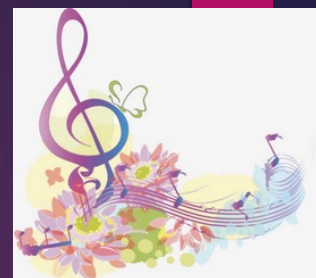
Rating Sheets and radio buttons to select

- Rating Sheets- Schedule
- Rating Sheets- Alphabetical

Student History Report

Many of you have been sending your suggestions for added features and improvements, and these are always welcome. Please continue to send your feedback. 

Martha Marcks Mack JUNIOR VOCAL AWARD



1st Place \$1500, 2nd Place \$1000, 3rd Place \$500

This is an annual award, given to a deserving and talented singer in High School grades 10, 11, & 12, for the purpose of further musical study. The goal of this award is to encourage young singers toward a musical career.

Check out <https://www.nfmc-music.org/competitionscategory/junior-division/>. This competition has a **March 1st, 2025** deadline so put those finishing touches on your performance and prepare your videos! Contact Kristin Ivers, National Chair. kivers210@gmail.com



Federation Festivals Bulletin

by Janice Flinte, *Chair*

How quickly this Festival year is passing! The second semester of the school year is now upon us, and areas across the country are anticipating upcoming Festivals! We hope our Juniors are enjoying many new as well as former repertoire offerings found in this Festivals Bulletin edition. I would like to again thank our hard-working advisors. They not only had to select repertoire, but confirm its availability through many hours of research.

It was a joy to review the bios and accomplishments of Juniors in the last Keynotes. How gratifying it is to see their many years of participation in NFMC Festivals and know that quality music listed in our Bulletins has been woven into the fabric of their lives. What an awesome responsibility we teacher/educators have!

Now is not the time to rest upon our past laurels, however. We must press on to the future. Many qualified teachers have already stepped up to offer their enthusiastic support as advisors for the next Bulletin. It's exciting to see the framework in a number of sections quickly become a reality. With all that said, I am very pleased to announce Dr. Carol Baskins will

be the lead piano advisor for the 2028-2032 NFMC Festivals Bulletin. Having studied under Dr. Jane McGrath, Dr. Baskins earned her PhD in Piano Pedagogy from the University of Oklahoma, and upon graduation taught six years in the studio of E.L. Lancaster and Gayle Kowalchyk. She has entered students in Festival auditions for several decades. Other teachers who have stepped forward to be advisors have impeccable educational backgrounds, as well, and many, many years of student Festival experience.

And, what about the long-awaited online Bulletin? This article was written in November, but when it hits the newsstands, the online should be a reality—or very shortly thereafter! Our programmer has always referred to the online as the “Gold Standard” meaning—having **all** Festivals rules and repertoire in one location. His job was programming easy navigation for the user, and our job was to see that Festivals rules were entered into the system. We do appreciate and thank you for your patience as we worked, tested, proofed, worked, tested, and proofed! We hope you fully enjoy this new, “slick” and long-awaited dimension in your Festivals experience! **JK**





FEDERATION FESTIVALS

Bulletin

JULY 2024 - JUNE 2028

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Federation Cup Winner


by Mary Jane Timmer, *Chair*



PRESIDENT'S CUP WINNER

CHRISTINA LIN KENTUCKY

Christina Lin is a pianist from Lexington, KY. Since beginning her piano studies at age 5 with Ms. May Man, Christina has been participating in Festival events for the past 13 years. She earned her President's Cup for Piano Solo & Concerto combined this year, along with 13 consecutive superior ratings in piano solo. In 2022, Christina was selected to attend the Governor's School for the Arts, a three-week, all-expense-paid, residential program. As part of the Instrumental Music - Piano Performance art form, she took the opportunity to fully immerse herself in chamber music, collaborating with other accomplished high school musicians from across the state. In larger ensembles, Christina has served as the pianist for the Central Kentucky Youth Orchestra for two years in high school. Over the years, she also participated in the ABRSM piano exams and received a Distinction rating for her Grade 8 exam.

Besides piano, Christina enjoys participating in various extracurricular activities including the debate club, student council, and swim team. She will be attending Columbia University in the fall. 

Christina Lin



Wendell Irish Viola Award

by Dr. George Keck, *Chair*

IT'S FALL! Time for Pumpkin Spice Latte and contacting your favorite Junior viola students to remind them to prepare for the Wendell Irish Viola Award competition. The deadline to enter is March 1, 2025. The application requires submission of two pieces in contrasting musical styles and membership in NFMCC. Go to nfmcc-music.org to apply online. First place award is \$2,000 and second place is \$1,000 with one \$500 award in each of the five regions of NFMCC. But you can't win if you don't enter. So prepare your two pieces and enter.



JUNIOR COMPOSERS

by Sam Ecoff, *Chair*

NFMC's Junior Composers Contest is a fantastic way to encourage all of your students to compose original music. If you have never entered your students before, this is the year to get started! The NFMC Junior Composers contest is open to juniors who are American citizens. Students write original compositions, notate them themselves, and submit a pdf of the score and an mp3 recording via the NFMC website by February 1st of each year.

Students are divided into four age classes: Class 1 - Age 9 and under, Class 2 - Ages 10-12, Class 3 - Ages 13-15, and Class 4 - Ages 16-18. Compositions are judged by highly qualified judges at the state level who provide constructive and encouraging comments to each entrant. Up to two winners in each class from each state advance to the regional level of judging. Some states provide cash awards to winners, and some provide scholarships to composition camps. Reach out to your state chair for entry fee amount and award information. A complete list of all state chairs can be found here: <https://www.nfmc-music.org/junior-composer-regional-state-chairmen/>

The regional judges select the top two students in classes 1 and 2, and the top three students in classes 3 and 4 to advance to the national level. All regional winners receive \$100.

At the national level, judges select a first and second place winner, and award eleven incentive awards, each of which carry cash awards.

Students also earn points toward Festival Cups. A superior rating on a composition for a single instrument is worth 7 points. A superior rating on a composition for two or more instruments is worth 8 points. An Excellent rating is worth 6 points, and Satisfactory is worth 5 points.

We have also assembled a wealth of videos which explain the NFMC Junior Composers Contest, help you get started with composing, and some celebrity composer interviews with composers like Wynn-Anne Rossi and Tom Gerou talking about how they approach teaching composition. You can find those videos here: <https://tinyurl.com/JuniorComposers> We have also compiled a huge library of interviews with composers you know and love. You can hear about how they got started composing, what inspires them, and how they approach creativity. You can hear from composers like Catherine Rollin, Dennis Alexander, Kevin Olson, Christopher Goldston, Glenda Austin, Mona Rejino, and many, many more in our "Meet the Composer" series! <https://tinyurl.com/NFMCComposers>

We can't wait to see what your students create!

Sam Ecoff is a music educator and media composer. His compositions have appeared on thousands of TV programs including Dancing with the Stars, American Ninja Warrior, Supergirl, and The Tonight Show. You can learn more about Sam by watching the interview with him on the Meet the Composer link above. [JK](#)

NFMC
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS

JUNIOR COMPOSERS CONTEST

[nfmc-music.org](https://www.nfmc-music.org)
Visit the Competitions & Awards page for more information.

Deadline: Feb. 1

Music

in
Poetry
and
Song

ONLY \$4.00

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS
SEPTEMBER 2023 - AUGUST 2025



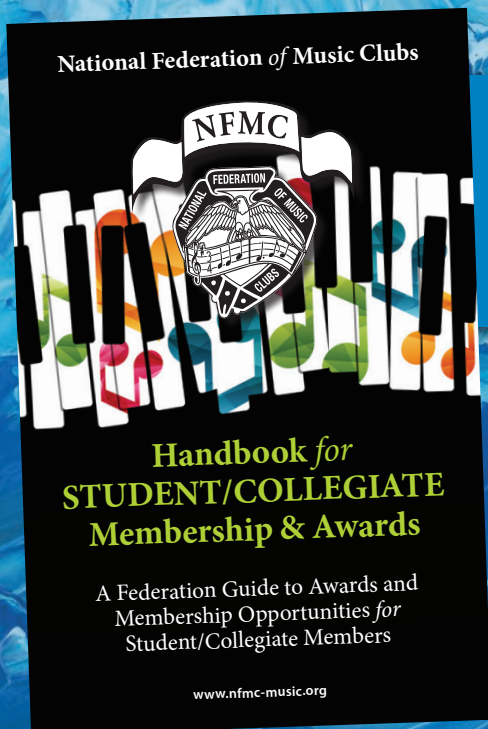
Junior Club Achievement

by Virginia Feitelson, *Chair*

Getting Started with Clubs and Student Leadership

NFMC Junior Clubs are a long-standing tradition complete with their own guidebook and Junior Achievement Form. This program hopes to bring young students together socially to enjoy music performances and music education. It builds leadership experience, encourages service through music, and promotes our beloved NFMC programs within local communities. While organizational structures may vary, all Junior Clubs deserve recognition and praise for their efforts to make America truly musical. I look forward to connecting with everyone throughout the year and getting to know all about your Junior Clubs. By sharing your achievements and stories through this very magazine, you have not only inspired my students to form a club and become Junior leaders, but countless others across the nation.

Junior Clubs provide so many opportunities and benefits, especially for our older students who need to have leadership experience and community service on their resumes. For those teachers who are hesitant to start, please feel free to reach out and ask questions. I have learned so much from our fellow club counselors. While adding a new activity to your schedule may seem overwhelming, I encourage you to start small by simply downloading the JR 1-1 from the National Website. You may have an older student who could be entrusted with the responsibility of checking off the activities that your students participate in. As a reward for record keeping, your club will receive a certificate of merit and recognition in Junior Keynotes. The Annual Junior Achievement Forms are not due until May. Let's work together to support and encourage our hardworking Juniors. Feel free to contact me with questions, or to share with me your clubs' current goals and accomplishments. **JK**



NFMC STUDENT/COLLEGIATE HANDBOOK

**ORDER YOURS
TODAY**
ONLY \$2.00

Contact HQ for more information 317-882-4003 • nfmc-music.org



Angie Greer Music in Poetry Award

by Debra Hughes, *Chair*

Encourage your juniors to write about music. It helps to enhance vocabulary & cognitive abilities, develop their reading & writing abilities, as well as, deepen their understanding of their own musical participation.

The deadline for entries remains the same - February 1st - for the Angie Greer Music in Poetry Award. Details can be found at NPMC-music.org under Competitions and Awards under Junior Division. All entries must be uploaded. The fee is \$5 - also payable online. Any genre of poetry as long as it is on a musical theme from 8 - 30 lines long is eligible. *"Writing improves students' abilities to synthesize information in new ways and promotes connections between different concepts, as well as, learning in all subjects."* - Youki Terada ("Why Students Should Write in All Subjects")

An award for poetry is the topic of the day
Nimble writing about music, Juniors love will sway
Going for comic relief or rhyme to birth a smile
In waves of clever prose that also go a mile
Especially that it is original

Genres all are permissible
Regions each can have a winner
Each word for music, be it sweet or bitter
Enter the joy of word-smithing flow
Rules at NPMC-music.org you must go

Away now to help each Junior start
Work on their music in poetry part
And then watch to see how they will fare
Receiving their due reward: to care
Deeper... about music!

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

NFMC Joyce Walsh Junior Award Results

First, thank you for participating in the 2024 NFMC Joyce Walsh Award for Individuals with Special Needs. Excellent performances by all including excellent literature choices, intelligent interpretations, brilliantly taught, and musical performances. Each of you shows great promise in music!

Congratulations to the following winners:

First Place \$2000 – William Johnson, South Carolina

Second Place \$1500 – Colin Chu, New Hampshire

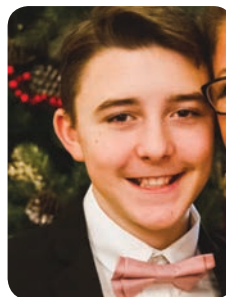
Regional Winners \$1000 each:

North Central – Caitlin Cox, Minnesota

Southeastern – Grace DeWeese, Virginia

South Central – Luke Armstrong, Arkansas

A special thank you to adjudicator Emily DuPont Peterson. Peterson, originally from the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, is a music therapist, music educator, and performer. Emily received her Bachelor of Music degree in voice and music therapy from Appalachian State University and earned her master's degree in adult & higher education in 2019 from Grand Valley State University. In addition to co-owning West Michigan Music Therapy, L.L.C., Emily maintains a thriving private music studio with locations in Grand Rapids and Rockford High School that serves all ages and abilities. More on Emily's work at <https://www.emilypetersonmusic.com/>.



FIRST-PLACE

William Johnson

South Carolina

Wills Johnson of Piedmont, SC, a student of Gary Mudre, won Superior Rating/2nd place in the 2023 Joyce Walsh Junior Awards (piano performance), and came back to win 1st place in 2024. He is incredibly grateful to the National Federation of Music Clubs for this opportunity!

At 13 years old, he was accepted to the 2022 Brevard Music Institute with a partial scholarship, performed at the 2023 Furman Summer Keyboard Institute, and will return to Furman in 2024 as well as the Piano Solo and Chamber Music Intensive at the SC Governor's School for Arts & Humanities. He has taken Masterclasses with J.Y. Song (of The Juilliard School & Mannes School of Music) and Vincent Ip (soloist with MSFO & School of Dance) at Chautauqua Institute NY, and George Li (soloist with Russian National Orchestra) at the Peace Center, Greenville SC.

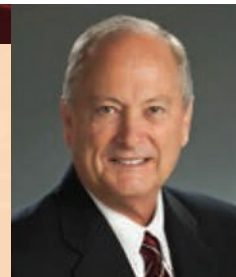
Outside the studio, Wills is a straight A student, member of Eta Omicron Honor Society, and has earned 59 Dual Enrollment credits so far. In the Civil Air Patrol, he has earned the rank of Cadet Staff Sergeant (C/SSgt) and the Wright Brothers Award. He is a Young Eagle, and his EAA 249 homeschool team won the 2024 state championship at AviCom (South Carolina Aviation Education Alliance Competition). He also enjoys flying RC planes.

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 NFMC 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

Wills is a founding member of Kepler's French Club, Co-editor of the Pickwick Post, dedicated PT student at The Care Center and Right Jab Fitness, volunteer altar server at church, and has earned his American Red Cross: Adult, Child, and Baby First Aid/CPR/AED certification. He also studied ballet for 6.5 years and was cast in 5 consecutive seasons of International Ballet's *The Nutcracker*. He is an avid reader, successful chess player, and has traveled extensively to 47 states, 25 countries, and 4 continents so far. He hopes to explore all 50 before graduation.



SECOND-PLACE

Colin Chu

New Hampshire

Colin Chu is a 13-year-old passionate violinist from Dover, NH. He has been studying under Dr. Linda Rodgers in Las Vegas, NV for the last 4.5 years via online platform.

Colin has been a member of the Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras (BYSO) for the past two years. He auditioned into the Boston Youth Symphony, BYSO's premier orchestra, for the 2023-24 season, where he had his first opportunity to perform a full-length opera repertoire. Colin has a particular passion for Baroque and Romantic period composers. His other interests and hobbies include astronomy, math, robotics, cooking and reading.



NORTH CENTRAL REGION WINNER

Caitlin Cox

Minnesota

Caitlin Cox is a 16-year-old Junior who attends Hermantown High School in Hermantown, Minnesota. She has been taking piano and vocal lessons from Julie Ciurleo since elementary school. Caitlin enjoys playing Christmas music

on the piano and singing Disney songs. Outside of lessons Caitlin enjoys Legos, puzzles, Track and Field, Speech, and History class. Caitlin would like to thank her piano teacher Julie Ciurleo for all the support she has provided throughout the years, and will never forget the first time she saw Mrs. Ciurleo playing the piano at church.



SOUTHEAST REGION WINNER

Grace DeWeese

Virginia

Grace DeWeese is the Southeastern Region winner of the 2024 NFMJ Joyce Walsh Junior Award for Individuals with Special Needs competition and was awarded \$1000.00. She is 15 years old and is finishing the 10th grade.

Blind since birth, she has studied piano and theory with Mrs. Terry L. Criner, NCTM for 7 years. In addition to piano, Grace is a straight-A student and enjoys riding horses, playing the Baritone in the Concert Band at school, and hanging out with her friends.

Grace lives in Salem, Virginia with her parents Mike and Robin DeWeese, her older brother, Isaiah, and her very special "friends", Max, her German Shepherd, and Dixie, her Beagle.



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION WINNER

Luke Armstrong

Arkansas

Luke Armstrong will graduate from Access School on May 30, 2024. He plans on attending culinary and hospitality school at the University of Arkansas Pulaski Technical School in the 3D program. This is a 3-year intense program to help prepare him for

working. He wants to work in a bakery with a focus mainly on sweet treats. Luke loves gaming and may pursue some animation classes to learn how to create his own video games and cartoons. He will also be enrolling in advanced piano/music classes. **JK**



Cover me, please!

Submit your original artwork for Junior Keynotes front covers!

Juniors only, 8.5 x 11, pen and ink w/color drawings, collages and photography will be considered. Please email high resolution jpg, eps or pdf files of your work.

Email JRK@nfmj-music.org for more information.

2024 NFMC Dance Award Winners



FIRST PLACE TAP JUNIOR I Elayne Doggett

Texas

Elayne Doggett is 13 years old and loves performing! She began performing by the age of 5. She has studied dance since the age of 2 and is a competitive company dancer for The Dallas Conservatory at Castle Hills. She studies tap, ballet, pointe, contemporary, jazz, hip-hop, musical theatre, and ballroom.

Elayne also enjoys acting in film and live theatre and has been doing so for 8 years. She has also been studying piano since age 3 and voice since age 6. She won 1st place for vocal performance at the Wildflower Budding Talent Competition in 2019. She also won 2nd place at the DFW Icon singing competition in 2022.

Elayne also studies accordion and at age 10 was named the Big Squeeze State Polka Champion for Texas Folklife in 2022. Most recently, she won 1st place in her division at the AGT International Festival in Kansas City, Missouri.

Elayne enjoys serving at her church and traveling to new places. She also loves cuddles from her goldenoodle and spending time with friends and family.



FIRST PLACE BALLET JUNIOR CLASS 1 Lauren Kim

New Jersey

Lauren Kim, a dancer from New Jersey, began her ballet training at the age of six. She currently studies ballet with Jennie Somogyi, former principal dancer with the New York City Ballet, and expands her technique in all genres through the Godfrey Method and Complexity Dance Center. Lauren's vibrant personality shines through in every

connection she makes, and she treasures the quality time spent with her friends and family.



FIRST PLACE BALLET JUNIOR II Rhodes Johnson

South Carolina

Rhodes Johnson trained at International Ballet in Greenville, SC from 2012-2024. Her first teacher was Founder Lena Forster, who inspired her love of dance. She joined IB Company in 2020 under Artistic Director, Vlada Kyselova. Other notable teachers/choreographers include Juliana Jordan, Liz Blackwood, Victoria

Yanchuck, Irina Ushakova, Uriah Boyd, and Tracy Vogt.

While at IB, she performed in 4 different full-length ballets, with favorite roles including: Swan Lake: "Big Swan" and "Fiancées"; La Sylphide: "Pas de Six"; Giselle: "Waltz" and "Wilis"; and 10 consecutive years of The Nutcracker – with 10 roles ranging from "Baby Mouse" all the way to "Snow", "Spanish", and "Arabian". Other favorite roles included excerpts from La Fille Mal Gardée Act 1: "Friends", La Bayadere "Drum Dance", Coppelia "Waltz of the Hours", Nutcracker Tea's "Harlequin", and "Kitri's First Entrance".

She trained at 9 other Summer Intensives around the country, including: Utah Ballet, Tampa Bay Ballet Partnering Workshop, Sacramento Ballet, Tiler Peck's SI, Oklahoma City Ballet, Next Generation Ballet, SC Governor's School, Orlando Ballet, and the Chautauqua Institute. She was accepted into BFA/Honors Colleges at Butler, Utah, and USC (among others), but chose to dance professionally, and is thrilled to join Gwinnett Ballet Theatre this season!



SECOND PLACE BALLET JUNIOR II Sarah Thompson

North Carolina

Sarah Thompson is a fourteen-year-old native of Statesville, North Carolina. When she is not in school, she is busy dancing. Her primary focus in dance is classical ballet. Sarah has been training in ballet for 11 years, including contemporary and jazz. Her dance training foundation began at Centre Ballet and just this year she has moved

to Dance Davidson. Piano is another art she loves and enjoys. She loves being at the beach and learning new things, especially when it involves her six older brothers. JK

Junior Clubs – Year End Reflections and New Year’s Resolutions

by Virginia Feitelson

Greetings Junior Club teachers, counselors and students. As this calendar year came to a close, what goals did your club accomplish? What were your most memorable moments? This January, our Junior Leaders decided to honor NFMF Founder’s Day by reflecting and sharing their favorite moments of 2024, along with what they hope to accomplish in 2025, our very own Junior Club version of New Year’s Resolutions. We plan to make this an annual tradition. I asked them for a sneak peek at what they planned to share, and overall, their favorite experience for the year, was forming new friendships and connections with others. Their goals for 2025 were to expand their service through music events, such as their annual Holiday Recital and Toy Drive. I also asked them to think back to a year ago. Did they anticipate being where

they are today? As a new Junior Club, their goal for 2024 was to practice parliamentary procedure and make sure that each meeting provided an opportunity for members to interact and have fun. Through hard work, their goal was met, they were successful in collaborating with other local Juniors on projects to make a positive impact in their community. What has your club been up to this year? If you are reading this, email me with your favorite Junior Club memories of 2024, and your goals for 2025. Let’s share our Junior Club Reflections and Resolutions in the next Junior Keynotes to inspire others across the country to get involved with Junior Clubs and NFMF. Don’t forget to add turning in your Junior Achievement Summary Form to your goal list this year. **JK**



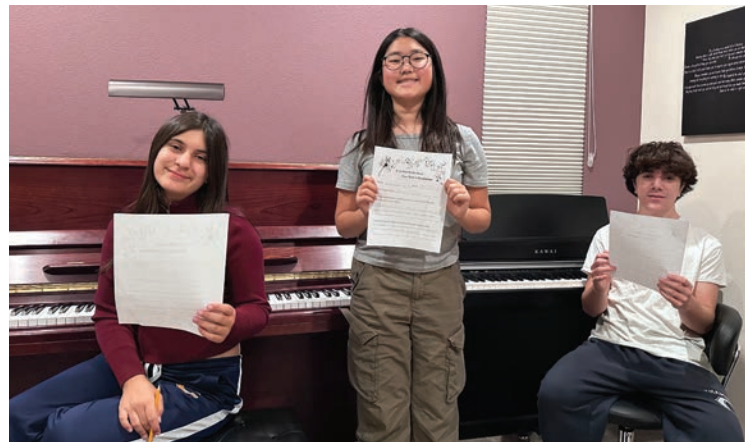
Junior Club Leaders busy preparing for their event, (pictured left to right: Ethan Feitelson, Tynli Surur, Harmony Feitelson, Sydney Goldenberg, and Loukas Tran)



Junior Club members from Southern California found lasting friendships while working together on community service events - (Pictured left to right: Kai Sheen, Sydney Goldenberg, Harmony Feitelson, Tynli Surur, Loukas Tran, and Ethan Feitelson)



In 2025 Junior Leaders set a goal to expand their community service events - Picture taken from California Highway Patrol’s CHiP’s for Kids Toy Drive Event



Pictured: Harmony Feitelson, Lily Choi, and Ethan Feitelson sharing their Junior Club past year reflections and goals for the coming year.

In Loving Memory

Remembering Heather Rathnau

by Lori Jessen



Heather Rathnau, NFM Theory Chair passed away on Sunday, August 25, 2024. She was 66 years of age. She left behind a great legacy of music and love. She will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

A link to her full obituary is here: <https://tinyurl.com/HeatherRathnauObit>.

A link to her funeral service is here: <https://tinyurl.com/HeatherRathnauFuneral>. If you need a musical moment for your day, listen at approximately 1:03:43 for a brief introduction to her singing her favorite song, *Light of a Million Mornings*.

NFM expresses our condolences to Heather's family and friends. She was a great example to all of us and her wisdom and talents have left an impression that will not be forgotten.

Memorial Service was September 6, 2024 at Tallowood Baptist Church in Houston, Texas.



Junior Awards

\$2,500 Mary Alice Cox Cello/Bass Awards

\$2,000 Stillman Kelley Instrumental Awards

\$2,000 Wendell Irish Viola Awards

\$1,500 Lynn Freeman Olson Composition Awards

\$1,500 Martha Marcks Mack Vocal Awards

\$1,250 Marilyn Caldwell Piano Awards

Deadline: March 1st

More Information :



Deadline April 1

\$25 NFM Celebrate Strings

\$25 International Relations

Deadline May 15

\$500 ASCAP Institutional
High School Award

\$250 American Music Award

\$25 Just Jazz! Awards

The Music Club of Greenville

GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA

by Jane Bauer, Recipient of SCFMC Musician of the Year

Since 2006, *The Music Club of Greenville* of Greenville, South Carolina has sponsored a program begun by members Jane Bauer and Connie Lacquement. Jane, a flutist and Connie, a clarinetist had met thru the music club and both saw the need for instruments in the public schools, especially in an inner-city middle school. Jane had taught in the Greenville County School District for 30 years and knew exactly the needs of her students and those in the school system. Connie was a volunteer who recognized the untapped field of students with keen intellectual ability, limited resources, and eager to play in the band. Connie orchestrated over 1400 hours of volunteer time for the Hughes Academy Band.

Jane had a mentor while in high school in Lenoir, NC who had purchased instruments for his students and this wonderful gesture was passed on to Jane. Connie suggested that they initiate a search for used band instruments through *The Music Club of Greenville* to provide repair monies. Brad Wingate, the Director of Fine Arts of Greenville County Schools, gave enthusiastic support. Within two years, requested funds from Greenville County Schools for repairs to supplement the Club's support were secured. Instruments were procured by placing requests for used instruments in church

bulletins, networking with local music stores, advertising in the Greenville Symphony programs, advertising at county band clinics or school concerts, garnering support with local radio stations and newspapers. Connie built a network of supporters in the organizations in which she played clarinet - local pawn shops, repairmen, friends and relatives. She was tireless in promoting the project and in building relationships with the local community with her warm personality and persistence. Connie contributed much of her own funds to the project and hundreds of volunteer hours. Also, a web page was developed to advertise the project and to allow a vehicle where donors of instruments could easily access the web page to offer instruments or funds.

Pecknel Music Company in Greenville became a major sponsor of **PITCH** (Providing Instruments to Children). They agreed to be a drop-off point for used instruments and at one point granted a sizable group of instruments to the project as a gift. Chuck Shell, an expert repairman at Pecknel, kept an eye out for rental instruments when returned and would agree on an acceptable price. He helped sell professional model donations, which when purchased, could bring in enough funds to purchase several student line instruments

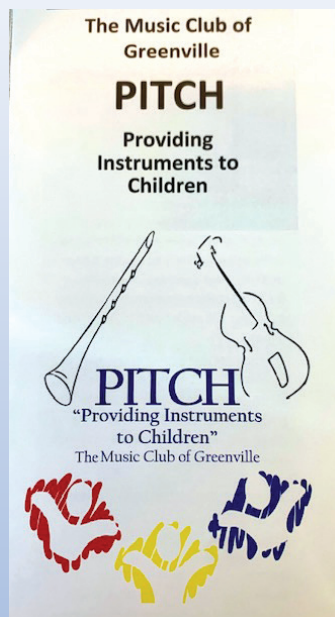
instead. Pecknel, Mr. Shell, and his repair team deserve much credit for excellent repair and delivering the instruments to the designated schools or to the district holding place.

Jane developed the **PITCH** logo, fliers and a brochure. Thank you notes were written to donors and a tax letter for the receipt of the instrument. *The Music Club of Greenville* provided monies for repairs, donated funds and instruments and advertised the **PITCH** program. Over 2000 instruments have been placed in the public schools (mostly middle schools) of the upstate of South Carolina counties where our club members live. Those instruments are now part of the school inventory, hopefully providing equal opportunity for all students.

What began as a project by a band director in Lenoir, NC - Captain James Cunningham Harper - inspired Jane Bauer to play the flute, to become a band director and to secure instruments for deserving students. Captain Harper set the example by buying instruments himself and teaching talented students to enjoy playing instruments. Now the successful **PITCH** program sponsored by *The Music Club of Greenville* is supporting the music students who aspire to play and enjoy an instrument. JK



Jane Bauer



Connie Lacquement

Where Are They Now?

GROWING UP IN THE NFMFC

by Julia Siciliano



Julia Siciliano

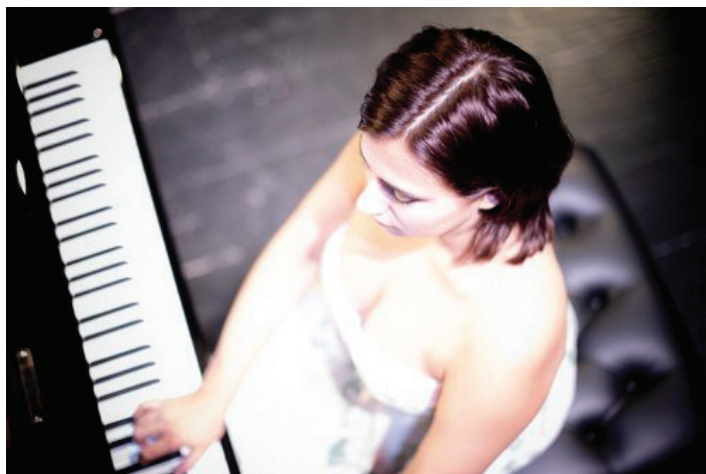
I am one of the lucky ones! I grew up surrounded by piano music every day, with a highly respected piano teacher as a mother, Mary Siciliano. Though she never personally taught me, she did make sure I had access to all the incredible opportunities Southeast Michigan had to provide, and “Federation” was an annual event on my musical calendar. Due to MFMC requirements to perform the music of an American composer, and my participation in the Concerto category, these events helped expand my repertoire in a healthy, varied, and important way, paving the path for my future as a conservatory-bound student and eventually concert pianist.

As a concert pianist, private studio teacher, and music administrator living in Chicago, Illinois, I am now fully aware of the necessity for students to be learning American repertoire. Though we are fortunate as classical pianists to be part of a cultural heritage that includes the great genius of Bach and Beethoven, it can be easy to fall into the trap of only learning European music, and then we miss out on the incredible wealth of great composers and musical innovations that hail from the USA. Not only does this limit our knowledge of classical music, but it also limits our reach and flexibility as concert artists. What better way to connect with others in our community than to present the traditions that hailed from our shared homeland!

On a personal note, I remember one of the pieces I learned for “Federation” was Scott Joplin’s Maple Leaf Rag. Once I learned the notes, I played it everywhere I could, because it was a familiar tune, and really just so much fun to perform! But the most memorable was when I had a chance to perform it at my high school’s “Black History Month” assembly. I think it was extra meaningful for my classmates to see me, a white student, embracing Black culture so wholeheartedly, as well as an excellent reminder for me that white Europeans are not the only musicians worth celebrating.

Having a goal to perform a concerto for an adjudicator every year was also important for my musical development. I learned so many concerti through my childhood that I’m certain this is the reason I won concerto competitions and was able to perform with orchestras as a high schooler. I also know this prepared me for an incredible feat: winning the concerto competition at the Eastman School of Music as a freshman!

The last thing I’d like to share is the impact on preparing for and winning awards such as the Stillman-Kelley and Claire Ulrich Whitehurst Awards. I remember the grueling process of having to record my first CD to enter these NFMFC competitions. The level of polish required, detail needed, and patience in the recording itself helped set me up for major international audition tapes (I was later accepted into the prestigious Queen Elisabeth Competition in Brussels, Belgium and the Beethoven Competition in Bonn, Germany). They ultimately prepared me for my first commercial album “Dream Catchers” which earned critical acclaim. I am extremely grateful for the musical growth I developed through Federation events, and cannot recommend them enough to all budding young artists! **JK**



State Buzz

NORTH CAROLINA

North Carolina Royalty Court of Music

In addition to a large State Finals Awards Competition, NCFMC sponsors the NCFMC Royalty Court of Music. The Royalty Court Competition was begun many years ago by then State President, Hinda Honigman, and has been a part of our State Scholarship Finals for decades now. There are four entry categories and students must play only one selection with a time limit. Preliminary auditions are held at Festival time in the three geographical areas of North Carolina and the district winners then compete at the state level in the finals. The four categories are:

Page Boy and Page Girl, Primary III - Elementary III or higher; Awards = \$150 + Loving Cup.

Lord and Lady, Elementary IV - MD III or higher; Awards = \$200 + Loving Cup.

Prince and Princess, Difficult I - Very Difficult I or higher; Awards= \$250 + Loving Cup.

King and Queen of Music, Very Difficult II - Musically Advanced II or higher; Awards = \$300 + Loving Cup.

There are also 2nd place awards in all the categories.



Pictured front row, L to R: Ava Tsang, Lady; Charlotte Yang, Page Girl; Cameron Cheng-Zhang, Page Boy; Louis Gao, Lord
Back row, L to R: Iris Wang, Queen; Irena Gao, Princess; Chulin Tang, Prince; Brandon Luo, King.

continued on page 22



Pictured L to R: Abigail Ashley, Brandon Luo, Lex Gu, Kashvi Kumar, Natalie Biasotto, Joy Joo, Halle Adams and Mary Fjellanger



Pictured in no special order: Benjamin Luo, Brandon Luo, Shwetanshu Chakraborty, Charlotte Yang, Airui Zhao, Caroline Yang, Avery Cheng, Wallace Shen, Louis Gao, Eden Lily Scott, Kaitong Ma, Sean Lane



DANCE AWARDS

\$2,500 THELMA A. ROBINSON BALLET AWARD
DEADLINE FEB. 1ST

\$400 DANCE AWARDS IN BALLET OR THEATRE DANCE (JAZZ, LYRICAL OR TAP)
DEADLINE MAY 1ST





State Buzz ...continued

OKLAHOMA

President Natlynn Hayes of The Poteau Musical Arts in Oklahoma hosted the second Girls Tea Party on October 5. The first meeting has historically been the President's Tea, but the tea party was so enjoyed last year that the teachers requested a repeat of the event. The young ladies performed piano and vocal numbers for those attending the tea. Selections included: "Father Abraham" performed on the piano and "Deep River" sung by Paige Whitworth, "Gavotte" performed on the piano by Carsyn Thompson, "Castle on a Cloud" sung by Tessa Clemmer, "Softly Whisper" performed on the piano and "Pure Imagination" sung by Collins McClendon, "America" performed on the piano by Kaylee Cook, "America the Beautiful" performed on the piano and "April Showers" sung by Leah Hogan, and "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" performed on the piano and "Tell Me Why" sung by Danika Smedley.

Following their performances, the girls selected fascinators for their hair and gloves that had belonged to the president's grandmother, Dorothy Beeler, who had been a long-time member of the Poteau Music Club. This year feather boas were added to the tea party fun. The girls enjoyed trying to keep the errant feathers in the air by blowing them back and forth across the table. The yearbooks prepared by Vice President Moriah Schmidt were distributed via email to the attending members. The members served the girls "tea" (it was actually punch in a tea kettle), cookies in the shape of a tea cup, and flavored cake bites. Refreshments were also shared with members and guests. Each girl received a miniature tea cup and saucer as a party favor. The girls looked beautiful in their tea gowns and a fun time was had by all.



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS

SPECIAL AWARDS

\$2,000 JOYCE WALSH JUNIOR AWARDS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS

\$1,000 MUSIC FOR THE BLIND COMPOSITION AWARD

\$1,000 BENZINGER/VALENTIN BLIND PERFORMANCE AWARD

DEADLINE MARCH 1ST





***For the latest news,
sign-up for the NFM
Monthly Newsletter!***



***Scan the QR code
to sign up.***

OREGON

Six of our talented Oregon Federation of Music Club students performed duets at a Masterclass held on October 21, 2024. Our star performers were: Arrio Perez and Luke Xie, Emma Xiong and Kariya Perez, and Grace Xiong and Samantha Lu. Arrio, age 15 and Luke, age 14 performed “Feuillet D’Album”, Op. 81 by Camille Saint-Saëns. Emma and Kariya, both age 11 performed the Rondo from “Sonata in D”, Op. 6 by Ludwig van Beethoven. Grace and Samantha performed “Ocean” by Walter Saul. This is an original piece that they premiered in July 2024 at the “In Good Hands” concert in Portland, OR.

The Portland Piano International Program held a competitive audition process; the three winning pairs had the honor and the fun of performing for professional musicians Duo Amal. They are Israeli-Palestinian pianists Yaron Kohlberg and Bishara Haroni, international pianists who epitomize the true meaning of Amal (hope, in Arabic) provided invaluable insights and feedback on their performances.

The future is bright for these young pianists, and we cannot wait to see where their talents will take them! Special thanks to their Federation teachers: Jan Mittelstaedt, Pauline Eidemiller, and Wilma Hawkins. Their guidance, support and commitment to excellence has played a pivotal role in nurturing these young talents.

Students, Teachers, and Duo



Duo Amal Master Class



Duo Amal Master Class



SOUTH CAROLINA



The Crescent Heritage Junior Music Club, Easley, SC, met Thursday, September 26 for a program of “Bits and Pieces” of student performances. The members were delighted with the certificate the club received and are shown displaying it in the picture.

WISCONSIN

JEANNE HRYNIEWICKI AND WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART



While on vacation in Europe, Jeanne Hryniewicki, Junior Keynotes Editor met with Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart on a Viking Danube River Cruise. The day the cruise stopped in Vienna, Austria, the Cruise Director, Marek Snelly, from Slovakia did a presentation on Mozart and his music. Everyone on board was delighted with his portrayal of Mozart complete with authentic period costumes!



2024-25 NFMF AWARDS-AT-A-GLANCE

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS

President: Deborah Freeman

2024-2025 COMPETITIONS AND AWARDS CHART

Competitions and Awards Board & Division Chair:

Lucinda Lear, lmlear@mchsi.com



BIENNIAL JUNIOR AWARDS

Junior age: Must not have reached the 19th birthday by March 1.

Name	Category	Age Limit	Entry Fee	Amount of Award	Deadline for Application	NFMF Chair
NFMF Claire Ulrich Whitehurst (Flanagan) Piano Awards	PIANO SOLO	High School: Grades 10-11-12 Must not have reached 19th birthday by application deadline	\$10	\$500 1st Place (for further study) \$250 2nd Place	March 1, even Numbered years	Marcia Chaplin Marciachaplin2@gmail.com
NFMF Lynn Freeman Olson Composition Awards	COMPOSITION	Intermediate: Grades 7-8-9 High School: Grades 10-11-12	Paid by private donor	\$750 (Intermediate) \$1,500 (High School)	March 1, odd numbered years	Lisa Smith lcspiano@hotmail.com
NFMF Thelma A. Robinson Award in Ballet honoring a Past National President	BALLET	12 -14	\$20	\$2,500	February 1, odd numbered years	Beth Lee bethlee0123@gmail.com

ANNUAL JUNIOR AWARDS

Members of the Junior Division should also check NFMF Summer Scholarships, as various age levels are included in Summer Music Center opportunities.

Name	Category	Age Limit	Entry Fee	Amount of Award	Deadline for Application	NFMF Chair
NFMF Herman and Mary Neumann Award to Interlochen Arts Academy	PIANO, VOICE, ORCHESTRAL INSTRUMENTS	Must be in High School	NONE	\$1,000	February 1	Interlochen Arts Academy Interlochen MI 49643
NFMF Martha Marcks Mack Junior Vocal Award	VOCAL	High School Grades: 10 – 11 – 12 Must not have reached the 19th birthday by application deadline	\$10	\$1,500 - 1st Place \$1,000 - 2nd Place \$500 – 3rd Place	March 1	Kristin Ivers Kivers210@gmail.com
NFMF Lana M. Bailey Piano Concerto Awards Honoring a Past National President	PIANO CONCERTO	High School Senior who has not reached the 19th birthday by May 1	\$10	\$1,500 – 1st Place \$500 – 2nd Place	May 1	Lana Bailey zblb@verizon.net
NFMF Joyce Walsh Junior Awards for Individuals with Special Needs	INSTRUMENTAL and VOCAL	Must have reached the 12th but not the 19th birthday by application deadline	\$10	\$2,500—1st Place \$2,000—2nd Place 1 - \$1,000 award in each of the five regions.	March 1	Debbie Wiser djwiser@gmail.com
NFMF Stillman Kelley National Instrumental Awards	INSTRUMENTAL	Must not have reached the 19th birthday by March 1	\$10	\$2,000 – 1st Place (for further study) \$1,000 – 2nd Place \$750 – 3rd Place 5 regional awards @ \$500 each	March 1	Jason Sifford jason@siffordmusic.com
NFMF Thelma Byrum Piano Award in Stillman Kelley Auditions. (Kelley & Byrum awards cannot be applied for separately)	PIANO			\$750 for further study	March 1	

ANNUAL JUNIOR AWARDS (continued...)

Name	Category	Age Limit	Entry Fee	Amount of Award	Deadline for Application	NFMC Chair
NFMC Benzinger/Valentin Junior Music for the Blind Performance Awards	INSTRUMENTAL and VOCAL	Must have reached the 10th birthday but not the 19th birthday by application deadline	\$10	\$1,000 – 1st Place \$500 – 2nd Place 1 - \$250 award in each of the five NFMC Regions	March 1	Dianne Williamson dwillia879@aol.com
NFMC Dance Awards (Jazz, Lyrical or Tap)	BALLET and THEATER DANCE	Must have reached the 11th but not the 19th birthday by application deadline	\$10	Age 11-14: Ballet and/or Theater Dance (Jazz, Lyrical or Tap) \$200 – 1st Place \$100 – 2nd Place Age 15-18: Ballet and/or Theater Dance (Jazz, Lyrical or Tap) \$400 – 1st Place \$200 – 2nd Place	May 1	Lisa Moore lisa.moore@ffmc-music.org
NFMC Mary Alice Cox Awards	CELLO OR DOUBLE BASS	Must not have reached the 19th birthday as of application deadline	\$20	\$2,500 – 1st Place \$1,500 – 2nd Place \$1,000 - 3rd Place	March 1	Anna Cosma themusicalpiano@gmail.com
NFMC Agnes Fowler Junior Blind Composition Award	COMPOSITION	Must have reached the 10th but not the 19th birthday by application deadline	\$10 per manuscript	\$1,000	March 1	Dianne Williamson dwillia879@aol.com
NFMC Angie Greer Music in Poetry Awards	POETRY	Must not have reached the 19th birthday by application deadline	\$5	\$100 in each of the five NFMC Regions	February 1	Debra Hughes bndhughes@comcast.net
NFMC National Music Week Essay Contest	ESSAY	Must be in grades 7 through 12	NONE	\$75 in each of the 50 states	January 10 (to regional chair)	Gloria Lien Gloria.hope.lien@gmail.com
NFMC Wendell Irish Viola Awards	VIOLA	Must have reached the 12th but not the 19th birthday by application deadline	\$10	\$2,000 – 1st Place \$1,000 – 2nd Place 1 - \$500 Award in each of the 5 NFMC Regions	March 1	Dr. George Keck keckg@att.net
Marilyn Caldwell Piano Awards	PIANO SOLO	High School Grades 10-11-12	\$10	\$1,250 – 1st Place \$750 – 2nd Place	March 1	Christine Vitt cvittpiano@gmail.com
NFMC Michael R. Edwards Graduating Senior Performance Award honoring a Past National President	Scholarship for Music Major	Graduating HS Senior year of the award	\$20	\$5,000	May 1	Michael R. Edwards micedwards@aol.com

JUNIOR COMPOSERS

Sam Ecoff, secoff@wfmc-music.org

Name	Age Limit	Entry Fee	Amount of Award	Deadline for Application
Class I	9 and under	\$5 per entry plus state entry fee	\$150-1st Place, \$125-2nd Place, and 2 incentive awards at \$100 each	February 1 to National Chair; contact chair for state deadline
Class II	10-12	\$5 per entry plus state entry fee	\$175-1st Place, \$125-2nd Place, and 2 incentive awards at \$100 each	See Above
Class III	13-15	\$5 per entry plus state entry fee	\$225-1st Place, \$175-2nd Place, and \$150-3rd-Place John and Margaret Pierson award; 3 Incentive Awards \$125 each	See Above
Class IV	16-18	\$5 per entry plus state entry fee	\$300-1st Place, \$200-2nd Place, \$150-3rd Place Olga Klein Nelson Award, and 4 Incentive Awards of \$150. \$250—Outstanding string composition. \$150—Outstanding piano composition, Laura K. Wilson Memorial Award honoring Dorothy Dann Bullock.	See Above
NFMC Oscar Valentin Regional Awards		Included in fee above; Not to be applied for separately	Class I: 2 at \$100 in the five Regions Class II: 2 at \$100 in the five Regions Class III: 3 awards at \$100 in the five Regions Class IV: 3 awards at \$100 in the five Regions	

See Instructions for Award Applicants on the following page ➡



INSTRUCTIONS FOR AWARD APPLICANTS

COMPETITION AND AWARDS (C&A) CHART

The C&A Chart may be downloaded from nfmc-music.org or ordered from NFMC Headquarters, info@nfmc-music.org. The Chart includes only endowed NFMC Awards. Check Individual State Federation websites for possible additional awards.

APPLICATION, INFORMATION AND SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Award requirements are available on the NFMC website, nfmc-music.org, or contact the Chair of the specific award. All NFMC award applications must be submitted online on the NFMC website.

U.S. CITIZENSHIP REQUIREMENT

Applicants for individual awards must be native-born/naturalized U.S. citizens. (Exceptions: Lynn Freeman Olson Composition, Lynn Freeman Olson Piano Pedagogy Award, Ruth Morse Wilson Handbell Award and International Music Camp – at least 50% of IMC award recipients must be U.S. citizens.)

NFMC MEMBERSHIP

Applicants must be NFMC members either by individual, organizational or associate group affiliation before applications are accepted. (Exceptions: Young Artist Awards, Ellis Piano Duo Awards, National Music Week Essay, Ruth Morse Wilson Handbell Award, Centennial Chamber Music Commendation, Summer Music Center Awards, and the three Armed Forces Awards.) Application forms include specific membership information.

Note: In competitions requiring NFMC membership, applicants must hold membership in the division in which the competition is listed (e.g. Junior entrants must be members of the Junior Division; Student entrants of the Student/Collegiate Division, etc.

FIRST PLACE WINNER LIMITATIONS

- No individual may enter, in the same year, competitions in multiple divisions even if they hold membership in more than one division.
- No first place winner of an individual NFMC award listed in the C&A Chart is eligible to compete again for the same award. (Exceptions: NFMC Veterans Awards where entrants may win first place awards multiple times but not consecutively, and the Jr. Composers competition in which first place winners may compete in a different category but not the same category.)
- First place winners of Arts and American Music Division monetary awards may win first place multiple times, but not consecutively. (Exception: National Music Week Essay Contest)

THE NFMC

The NFMC, a not-for-profit organization, is dedicated to MUSIC EDUCATION and promotion of CREATIVE and PERFORMING ARTS in AMERICA.

Since its founding in 1898, the NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS has grown into one of the world's largest music organizations with Junior, Student and Adult clubs and individual members. The NFMC is chartered by the Congress of the United States and is a member of the United Nations. Dedicated to finding and fostering young musical talent, the NFMC offers more than three quarters of a million dollars annually in state and national competitions.

Anyone wishing to become a NFMC member, subscribe to magazines, receive literature or make a tax-exempt contribution may contact the National Headquarters. For more information about the Federation, visit the website listed below.

National Federation of Music Clubs

1646 West Smith Valley Road, Greenwood, IN 46142
Telephone: (317) 882-4003 • info@nfmc-music.org

nfmc-music.org

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS

JUNIOR AWARD OPPORTUNITIES



AWARD AMOUNT	AWARD	APPLICATION DEADLINE
\$75 in all 50 states	National Music Week Essay Contest	January 10
\$2,500	Robinson Ballet Award	February 1 (even year)
\$2,000	Wendell Irish Viola Award	February 1
\$2,000	Stillman Kelley Instrumental Award	February 1
\$100	Angie Greer Music in Poetry Award	February 1
\$2,500	Joyce Walsh Disability Award	March 1
\$2,500	Mary Alice Cox Strings Award	March 1
\$1,500	Martha Mack Junior Vocal Award	March 1
\$1,250	Marilyn Caldwell Piano Award	March 1
\$1,000	Music for the Blind Composition Award	March 1
\$1,000	Music for the Blind Performance Award	March 1
\$500	Whitehurst Piano Award	March 1 (even year)
\$1,500	Lynn Freeman Olson Composition Award	March 1 (odd year)
\$5,000	Michael Edwards Graduating Senior Award	May 1
\$1,500	Lana Bailey Piano Concerto Award	May 1
\$400	Dance Award	May 1
\$300	Junior Composers Award	Varies by state

For award requirements and application forms visit the NFMF website @ www.nfmf-music.org

NFMF HEADQUARTERS

1646 W Smith Valley Road / Greenwood, IN 46142-1550

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