



Music Clubs MAGAZINE

FALL 2025 VOL 104, NO. 1





Message from the President

by Deborah T. Freeman

What a great summer! I hope most of you were able to attend our 2025 Convention in Austin, TX. We had a wonderful time, due to our NFMC Meeting Committee and all who jumped in and offered to help.

After a few days home, I was honored to serve as the National Guest for Florida Federation of Music Clubs. I installed new officers and had a fun-filled time with my FFMFC friends.

I recently attended the SCR meeting in Arkansas and was awarded the SCR Servant Leadership Award – now I'm truly a part of the group. If you haven't been, you MUST put Opera in the Ozarks on your bucket list. They have a wonderful new state of the art Opera house, and there isn't a bad seat in the house!

Your division chairs have worked very hard to revise all forms, and Ashley and I have worked to upload them to the website. The New Directory is finished, and the NFMC Manual is posted now on our website: Click on Publications - Administrative Division (AD 3-1) for download. Yes, everyone has worked hard.

November is American Music Month, so celebrate American music the entire month! Don't forget to send in your reports –you may win a monetary prize!

Deborah Freeman

Deborah T. Freeman

NFMC President

President's Theme:

"Celebrating our Musical Heritage"



President's Song:

"God Bless America"

Irving Berlin

Ouida Keck

\$2,000 ANNUAL AWARD for the Independent Piano Teacher



to be used for
Professional Development



Ouida Keck
NFMC 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 NFMC website at nfmc-music.org. Click on Competitions and Award Division/Sr. Annual Awards. The deadline for entry is May 1.

Table of Contents

- 2 Message from the President
- 3 Contact Information
- 4 2025 Conference Wrap-Up
- 8 Lifetime Achievement Award
- 10 Where Are They Now?
- 11 Presidential Citation
- 12 Sing As One
- 16 2025 NFMC Young Artist Winners
- 18 Emil and Ruth Beyer Composition Awards
- 19 Gretchen E. Van Roy Music Education Award Winners
- 20 U.S. Armed Forces American Music Award
- 21 2025 Glad Robinson Youse Adult Composers Award
- 21 2025 Ouida Keck Award
- 22 Mary Alice Cox Award for Cello and Double Bass
- 23 FAMA & Arts Division
- 24 United Nations
- 25 Founders Day Honor Roll Report
- 26 Members attend NCKP 2025
- 27 Senior Club Reporting
- 28 In Memoriam
- 30 Regional News
- 34 State News
- 39 NFMC Senior Award Opportunities

Advertisers' Index

- 2 Ouida Keck Professional Award
- 7 2026 NFMC Conference
- 10 The Piano Conference: NCKP
- 17 Federation Festivals Bulletin
- 18 Carolyn Nelson Double Reed Award
- 19 Michael R. Edwards Performance Award
- 21 NFMC American Music
- 22 NFMC Student/Collegiate Handbook
- 25 Tom Gerou Music
- 25 NFMC Junior Composers Contest
- 26 Music Teachers National Association
- 27 Lana M. Bailey Piano Concerto Award
- 29 Johns Hopkins Peabody Preparatory
- 29 NFMC Dance Awards
- 36 NFMC Music in Poetry & Song



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

Scan the QR code to sign up.



Music Clubs MAGAZINE

FALL 2025 VOL 104, NO. 1

Headquarters Office:
1646 W. Smith Valley Road
Greenwood, IN 46142
Office Manager: Ashley Mattingly
Phone: 317-882-4003
info@nfmc-music.org
Website: nfmc-music.org

President:
Deborah Freeman
7 Coachman Dr.
Taylors, SC 29687
Phone: 864-630-0163
debotfree@gmail.com

Editor:
Jean Moffatt
P. O. Box 791
Seminole, TX 79360
Phone: 432-758-2329
Mobile: 432-788-8484
jmoffatt60@outlook.com
or mcm@nfmc-music.org

Advertising Contact:
Julie Watson
1646 W. Smith Valley Road
Greenwood, IN 46142
Phone: 913-908-2386
advertising@nfmc-music.org

State News Chair:
Dr. Janie Gilliam
9104 N. Burchfield Dr.
Oak Ridge, TN 37830
Phone: 865-927-4410
editorialchair@nfmc-music.org

Regional Newsgatherers:
NE: Kristin Ivers
1423 Keller Ave.
Williamsport, PA 17701
Phone: 570-360-3217
kivers210@gmail.com

NC: Mary Wescott
17842 179th Trail W
Lakeville, MN 55044
Phone: 952-892-6750
thewescott@aol.com

SC: Janis Saket
596 E. 570th Ave.
Pittsburg, KS 66762
Phone: 620-232-6128
jsaket@yahoo.com

SE: Dr. Janie Gilliam
9104 N. Burchfield Dr.
Oak Ridge, TN 37830
Phone: 865-927-4410
editorialchair@nfmc-music.org

W: Wilma Hawkins
20820 NW Wapinitia Place
Portland, OR 97229
Phone: 503-481-9709
wishpiano@gmail.com

Junior Keynotes Editor:
Jeanne Hyrniewicki
7084 W. Greyhawk Lane
Franklin, WI 53132
Phone: 414-235-9680
JRK@nfmc-music.org

Young Artist Presentation Chair:
Terry Blair
902 E. Gaslight Dr.
Springfield, MO 65810
Phone: 417-887-1207
Blair.Terry@sbcglobal.net

Summer Music Centers Chair:
Mary Ellen Nolletti
104 County Road 537
Etowah, TN 37331
Phone: 423-263-5889
snupy36@msn.com

Reprinting
All material is protected by copyright. Request information and permission from the editor for any reprinting.

Disclaimer
Opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily represent the views of the National Federation of Music Clubs or of Music Clubs Magazine.

MUSIC CLUBS MAGAZINE:
ISSN 0161-2654
Published three times a year: Autumn, Winter, Spring by the National Federation of Music Clubs, Indianapolis, IN

Contact Headquarters for circulation issues and address changes.

Annual Subscription Price:
U.S. \$7; Foreign, \$22
Single Issue:
U.S. \$4; Foreign \$7
Electronic editions available online at www.nfmc-music.org

nfmc-music.org

Copyright © 2020 All Rights Reserved. National Federation of Music Clubs

Follow us on  

NFMC BIENNIAL CONVENTION

June 10-14, 2025 - Austin, Texas

by Lynn McNew, Convention Chair

Hi, everyone! Or maybe I should say “Howdy!” We became very good at saying that during our great NFMC convention in Austin, TX, June 10-14, 2025. The 2025 NFMC National Meeting Committee worked very hard to put together an unforgettable convention.

The moment each attendee arrived he/she received a SWAG bag full of Texas goodies—from Dr. Pepper to popcorn; Texas coasters to homemade soap; from wildflower seeds to colorful bandanas and so much more.

Tuesday began the week with important committee meetings and then everyone donned their boots, bandanas and cowboy hats for a real Texas Experience. Cooper’s Old-fashioned Pit Bar-B-Que served up the delicious food, while we enjoyed music from the Matt Fretatta Band. The floor was crowded with excited dancers, as line dance instructor, Amy, led us through the steps of several dances. All too soon the evening ended and we loaded the buses and headed back to the hotel for much-needed rest.

Wednesday morning a brass quintet from the 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Cavazos, TX entertained us and accompanied the parade of dignitaries for the official opening of the convention. An impressive presentation of the colors also from the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Cavazos followed. The morning continued with a Musical Moment from Grace Roman, Martha Marcks Mack Senior Voice Award winner, and a meeting of the Presidents Council and Board of Directors. Regional luncheons were held, where there was a poor young maiden (Deborah Freeman) who had lost her way looking for the NFMC Convention. She was helped to find her way by a heroic cowgirl (Heidi Hong) and her faithful horse (me!).

Wednesday afternoon continued with division meetings and a workshop by Dr. Martha Hilley, “An Afternoon with LFO and Some of Her Best Friends.” Wednesday evening’s attendees were delightfully entertained by a versatile string group, “Invoke,” who all played a variety of instruments. The concert was followed by a Meet-and-Greet reception hosted by the 5 NFMC Regions.

Thursday began with the important election of at-large members of the Board of Directors. The Musical Moment featured Richard Bui, the Student/Collegiate award winner in piano. Dr. Liana Valente spoke on “NFMC and the United Nations.” After a workshop from Alfred Music and a meeting of the Presidents’ Council, attendees were thrilled with a “hoppy hour” from “Tiny Tails to You,” baby animals of all kinds with opportunity for hands-on.

The Rose Fay Thomas luncheon attendees on Thursday were entertained by lovely piano music from Fort Worth Euterpean Club’s Kathryn Baugher and Dana Campbell. From tables decorated with yellow roses we enjoyed hearing the experiences of Mela Dailey, 2005 NFMC Young Artist winner in Women’s Voice, who spoke about her work with her nonprofit.

Thursday afternoon was filled with more division meetings and a panel discussion featuring Linda Maurhoff, Heidi Hong and Dr. Liana Valente “Membership and ME.”

A final workshop of the day, “Maximizing Impact Using Social Media to Grow Your Music Organization,” was presented by Dr. Valerie Harris. The evening concert featured Mela Dailey, and was followed by a reception hosted by the Texas Federation of Music Clubs.

Friday morning began with the “Lifers” breakfast, where NFMC Life Members joined together to have fun and enjoy some togetherness. Hosted by Annette Griesbach, members were encouraged to invite others to be life Members, which support Young Artists. The morning continued with the announcement of the new at-large board members and the annual business meeting. Today’s Musical Moment featured Clark Snavely, Oscar Valentin Violin Award winner. After the final division meetings, Mark Hayes presented a workshop on Improvisation.

The afternoon session began with the wonderful concert by the Festival Chorus under the direction of Dan Andersen and accompanied by Kristin Ivers. There were several more meetings, courtesy resolutions led by Starla and Terry Blair, and an invitation to Scottsdale, Arizona, for the 2026 NFMC Conference closing out the afternoon.

Friday evening’s formal banquet began with music from the Music Discovery Chamber Group, a quartet who accompanied all the State Presidents as they were escorted to their places at the beautifully decorated tables. Laurel Ince, a longtime National Federation and Texas Federation member, was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award. Mark Hayes was the banquet speaker and played a song he had written especially for NFMC. Deborah Freeman gave him a Presidential Citation.

Past NFMC presidents Ouida Keck, Lana Bailey and Carolyn Nelson installed the new and continuing officers of NFMC. The 2025-27 Young Artists: Misha Galant, Piano; Claire McCahan, Mezzosoprano; and William Suh, Cello performed at the evening concert. A reception following the concert allowed members to meet the Young Artists and perhaps arrange concerts in their home states. “Opera on Tap” was a fun way to end the evening.

Saturday morning’s moving Memorial Breakfast was led by Kathie White, Chaplain. The tables decorated to the theme of “Beside Still Waters” set the mood. Prelude music provided by Kathryn Baugher and Dana Campbell was followed by beautiful music from Sherry Stricker, San Antonio Crownridge Music Club, on the harp. Candles were lighted to honor NFMC members who have passed away in the last year. Special music was provided by Harmony Plus, singers from Fort Worth Harmony Club, with Nancy Dobbs on the flute. Scripture read by Natlynn Hayes and a prayer offered by Chaplain White led into the final congregational-singing of “Be Still, My Soul” and “The Gift of Song.”

The new Board of Directors met one final time, and all began preparation for going home, with plans to meet again in Scottsdale, Arizona, June 9-13, 2026. 🎵



Opening music and processional by the 1st Cavalry Division Brass Quintet from Fort Cavazos



Flags from Fort Cavazos



Grace Roman, winner Martha Marcks Mack Senior Vocal Award, performs for the group.



Regional luncheon guests Deborah Freeman, Lynn McNew and Heidi Hong



"Invoke" performs for attendees.



Richie Bui, Student-Collegiate Auditions winner in piano, performs, sponsored by the Virginia FMC.

Convention Wrap-Up



Liana Valente interacts with animals and the owners of "Tiny Tails to You."



Mela Dailey, 2005 Young Artist winner in Women's Voice, speaks at a luncheon and gives an evening concert.



Debra Hughes is "sentenced to life" at the Friday breakfast.



Clark Snively, Oscar Valentin Violin Award winner, performs for the group, sponsored by the Wisconsin FMC.



The Festival Chorus is conducted by Dan Andersen and accompanied by Kristin Ivers.



New and continuing NFMC officers are, from left: Vice-Presidents Chris Vitt, South Central; Wilma Hawkins, Western; Joel Adams, Southeast; Linda Maurhoff, Northeast; (absent: Mary Wescott, North Central); past NFMC presidents and installing officers Ouida Keck, Lana Bailey and Carolyn Nelson; Suzanne Carpenter, treasurer; Heidi Hong, 1st vice president; and Deborah Freeman, president. Not present: Jeanne Hyniewicz, secretary.



Twin sisters Kathryn Laughler and Dana Campbell of Fort Worth provided piano music prior to the Rose Fay Thomas luncheon and the memorial service.



Rose Fay Thomas Luncheon



Cindy Lear is newest Rose Fay Thomas Fellow.



Ouida Keck lights candles at the Memorial Service.



Lifetime Achievement Award Winner - Laurel Ince



Boot-Scootin' at Cooper's



State presidents pose at the closing banquet with NFMCA president Deborah Freeman

2026 NFMCA CONFERENCE – Scottsdale AZ



The countdown is on!

You can feel the HEAT of excitement as we prepare for the 2026 NFMCA Conference in Scottsdale AZ! Plan to pack your bags for June 9-13, 2026! Get ready for four days of inspiring performances, featuring local entertainers and a Native American Ensemble! Of course, we also have a few surprises in the works that you will not want to miss! Stay tuned!

Whether you're a seasoned member of NFMCA, a dedicated teacher, or a passionate supporter of the arts, the 2026 NFMCA Conference promises to deliver a fresh new experience! Join us for a refreshing drink by the pool, a stroll in downtown Old Scottsdale, or dancing under the stars with an authentic Mariachi band. Arizona is proud to host your stay, and we look forward to seeing you June 9th-13th in Scottsdale!

Laurel and children at the 2025 National Convention



Lifetime Achievement Award Winner 2025 - Laurel Ince

A devoted Christian and faithful church attendee, she has served as an accompanist on piano and organ for several local churches. While on vacation with the children, the family would make it a point to attend a local church every Sunday, and she was known to “step in” and offer to play for small rural churches where no accompanist was available.

Laurel has been continuously teaching private piano lessons for 75 years, since her graduation from college in 1950. She prepared six students for the state festival as recently as 2025 at the age of 95.

Focusing her teaching on classical music, hymns and music theory, she encourages her students to reach their full potential, always focusing on positive reinforcement and personalizing the instruction to fit the needs of every student. She inspires her students to see beyond the small world in front of them, offering opportunities to share and explore their talents in competitions and special events – including formal recitals on stage and at churches; informal come-and-go holiday parties, where students enjoyed refreshments and performed for their families; and casual summer pool parties with a piano on the back porch playing for the other students as they all enjoyed swimming, games and hot dogs.

Always seeking new opportunities, she purchased one of the very first computer programs available to teach theory in 1980's and set up a computer lab with the help of her husband to enhance lessons. With the improvement in long-distance communications, she had the opportunity to teach via Skype a woman from Denmark whom she met on a cruise, and her granddaughter in California via FaceTime.

Born in Gonzales, Texas, on January 2, 1929, to Oscar and Jodie Thompson, she began her piano lessons at age 6.

Attending Mary Hardin-Baylor in Belton, TX, and transferring to Trinity University in San Antonio, she received a degree in music with a concentration in piano.

Always on a quest to learn and improve, she studied with several University professors for many years following college, including Dr. Bess

Hieronimus, professor emeritus in the UTSA Department of Music and most recently Carolyn True, D.M.A., Professor of Piano at Trinity University, making the drive from Gonzales to San Antonio to continue her studies.

She also attended many International Piano Workshops around the world alongside composers, university professors and other professional musicians.

Laurel's husband, Joe (aka Pep) was not musical, but supported her fully in every aspect. Anyone who knew them as a couple were offered a first-hand glimpse of true love and devotion that most of us only strive for in our personal relationships.

Joe and Laurel were high school sweethearts, truly love at first sight. After their marriage in 1950, they moved next door to Joe's childhood home, then in 1965 built a home on the other side of his family home. Joe lived his entire life on the same side of the same block in Gonzales. Joe passed away in 2015 and Laurel still maintains their family home which houses her piano studio.

Joe traveled with Laurel whenever possible, and was always by her side upon his retirement in 1994. He was well-known and loved, helping wherever needed and making close friends with many who attended the conventions. Joe was a good sport, and participated whenever he could, proudly receiving an award from the International Piano Workshop in Biarritz, France, for the “Most Improved Pianist” - He learned 4 notes!

Joe always stayed busy while Laurel participated in workshops, attended cooking classes in France and coming back to the hotel and preparing delicacies to share with others. He was well known for his home-made cookies at recitals and his famous pancake breakfasts they hosted at their home every New Year's Day. As a retired engineer, he took tours of the engine room and inner workings of cruise ships and was the “go-to guy” when anyone needed anything.

Laurel and Joe raised 4 children in Gonzales; Joe Jr., Mark, Susan and William. Laurel taught all of her children to play the piano while allowing them the freedom to pursue their personal interests. The children were all active in the

NFMC created a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2016. It is the highest honor our organization can give to a member. It was recently bestowed on Laurel Ince of Gonzales, Texas, at the 2025 National Convention in Austin, Texas. Laurel is the fifth recipient of this NFMC award.

Joining the Federation in 1946, she remained an active and involved member, holding numerous leadership positions at local, state and national levels, including National Recording Secretary and National Headquarters Chair for 23 years, helping facilitate the move from Indianapolis to nearby Greenwood. She started the Texas Junior Festival in 1975 and ran it until her former student, Cathy Neidert, assumed the position. A Rose Fay Thomas Fellow, she is also a member of the Yellow Rose Society, which promotes the legacy of past national president and fellow Texan Mary Prudie Brown.

Laurel's participation in the promotion of music reaches far and wide, generously offering her time and finances to multiple organizations.

She is an active member of Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) and Texas Music Teachers Association (TMTA), regularly attending both national conventions and regional meetings in Austin. An endowed chair is established under Laurel and Joe Ince with MTNA.

As a member of the Foundation Council at the Festival-Institute at Round Top, Texas, she and her husband supported the Institute from its inception and established an endowed chair in memory of their oldest son, Joe, Jr.

She is also a member of the National Guild of Piano Teachers and has served on the Texas board for Opera in the Ozarks at Eureka Springs, Arkansas.

Comments from previous students

high school band. Joe Jr. and Susan carried their music training forward as members of their respective university bands at Texas Tech University and the University of Texas at Austin. Joe Jr. remained very active with music as a trumpet player in his church orchestra until his untimely death in 1994.

Laurel has 9 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren. She taught all of the grandchildren who lived in Gonzales. The great grandchildren are too young, as she required new students to know their ABC's (through G, anyway!) before starting lessons, or around 6 years old.

Laurel Ince has dedicated 90 years of her life to learning, teaching and sharing the joy of music. Her nomination for the Lifetime Achievement Award was beyond question the right choice as she has dedicated her time, talents, heart and soul to the piano.



Laurel and Joe Ince celebrated 65 years of marriage before his death in 2015.



Chef Joe whips up refreshments to serve at Laurel's student recitals.



In 2012 Joe and Laurel Ince visited with then-NFMC president Carolyn Nelson at Open House for the new headquarters building in Greenwood, IN. Laurel served as Headquarters chair for 23 years.

"Mrs. Ince taught me every week as her student to become a trained pianist playing classical music and church hymnals. She took in a little kid from the hood, cared for me, drove me to piano competitions in different cities and allowed me to experience a whole new life different from what I saw each day. My favorite memory with Mrs. Ince was when she organized a special opportunity for me to play the piano in the rotunda of the Texas State Capitol in Austin. I played 'Für Elise' by Beethoven."
~ Mark Porter

"Mrs. Ince was my piano teacher and gave me a gift of musical knowledge that will last me a lifetime. So happy to have had her teach me music! One of the great joys of my life! Congratulations Mrs. Ince, so well deserved!"
~ William Mack Quinney

"A well-deserved honor! She was the best piano teacher I had. She pushed me to do things I didn't even know I was capable of!"
~ Angelia Clarke Holley

"Congratulations, Mrs. Ince! Thank you for being a great teacher and a beautiful soul."
~ Dusty Alkire

"What a wonderful honor as she has inspired so many musicians!"
~ Rebekah Morgan

"Congratulations to a wonderful and Blessed Lady. She never gave Beverly and I music lessons but, at 92 years of age she did teach us how to do Planks, by example!"
~ Wayne Carrington Sr.

Her former student, Cathy Neidert, followed her as chair of the Texas Junior Festival and now serves on the NFMC Board of Directors, as festival chair of the South Central Region, and as president-elect of the Texas Federation.

"Here's something about when she passed over the State Festival Chair and the All-State Festival Chair to me," Cathy said. "I was so clueless back then!"

"I happen to have significant family ties to Laurel and called her about a matter one day around 1995. In the course of conversation, she asked me to bring my students down to the All-State Festival.. I'd had them in Federation for as long as I'd been teaching, but didn't really know much about the All-State

Festival. I knew she started a statewide event when I was in high school, but I graduated in 1974 and the first festival was in 1976. So I took my students to State and it was a blast!"

"After I got home, Laurel called me and asked if I'd consider being the TFMC State Festival Chair, which included being the All-State Festival Chair. I really had no idea what I was signing up for, but I would never turn her down on any request, so I said, 'Of course.' She mentioned that she would need to call Sue Breuer, the President at the time. Later she called me back and said it was all clear and that we should come down before the next festival and stay with them and they would show us what to do."

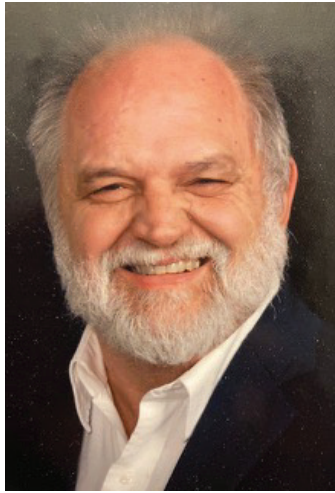
"Back in those days, teachers sent in their own rating sheets pre-prepared and they were sorted into lots of boxes sitting on top of the pool table. Then each box was carefully entered into groups, and Pep sorted them into into different judge boxes. At that point they were logged into an Excel file and Pep assigned times to each entrant, which was also logged into the computer, by me."

"They told me to take the event and run with it and make it the premiere event of TFMC. So that's what happened. It was completely digitized the first year and upgraded year by year, in every way, as the budget allowed. We added monetary awards, and table skirts, tee shirts and bags, and customized the scheduling process. We even helped teachers establish and learn to use emails for those that didn't know how, and got every one on board with the new digitized system."

"We had written 5 sets of custom software (over many years of time), added custom printing to certificates and rating sheets, and a catering team and more than doubled the attendance. When Covid shut us out of a location, we were the only organization functioning because we immediately shifted to a virtual platform that is still in use."

"We have found that universities are still hesitant to have us return to a live event due to our size, so we are making plans for another adaptation and will be making announcements soon. Where there is a will, there is a way! Never give up! I learned this from both of my parents and from the best of mentors, Laurel and Joe (Pep) Ince." ♪

Where Are They Now?



DR. STEPHEN RUSHING

Stephen Rushing, graduated from Louisiana State University with a degree in music education. He completed a Master of Music degree at Drake University in vocal arts and later completed a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from The University of Kansas in vocal performance. In 1991, at the NFMC Biennial Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, he won the Young Artist Man's Voice Competition

and received the Baiz International Music Scholarship. He is now the NFMC Student Collegiate Award chair.

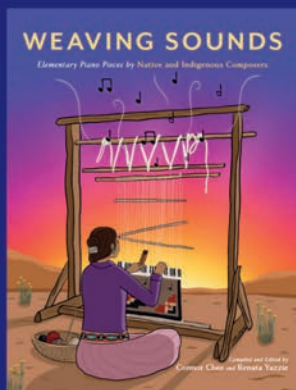
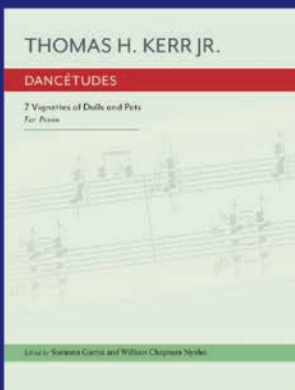
Under the auspices of NFMC, Rushing presented twenty-two solo recitals across the United States between 1991 and 1993. During his international studies, he met composer Thomas D szsy, who invited

Rushing to create the role of Der Prediger in the premiere of Markus Kupferblum's opera, *Jush-Tush*, at the Salle de Bal in Vienna, Austria. Rushing's other international solo appearances include Hong Kong, Malaysia and the Czech Republic.

For thirty-six years Rushing enjoyed a career as a vocal artist/teacher/conductor while serving on the music faculties of Kansas State University and Southeastern Louisiana University. He participated in the young artist programs of Tulsa Opera and St. Louis Opera and performed roles with Cleveland Opera, New Orleans Opera, Opera in the Heights (Houston), Ohio Light Opera and Opera Louisiane. His professional concert appearances include works from every period of music history to world premieres. His private students are having successful careers as professional singers, teachers and advocates of music in America. As a church/synagogue musician, Rushing has served over ten different denominations, including Cantorial Soloist for Jewish High Holy Days.

In his pseudo-retirement, Stephen has continued his calling to perform and teach. Currently he is the music instructor at Park Medical Career Academy in Baton Rouge, a pre-k through 8th grade focus choice school. He is also the choir director at St. John's United Methodist Church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. ♪

NEW REPERTOIRE



LATE INTERMEDIATE - EARLY ADVANCED

Danc tudes: 7 Vignettes of Dolls and Pets

Thomas H. Kerr Jr., edited by Susanna Garcia and William Chapman Nyaho

BEGINNER

Weaving Sounds: Elementary Piano Pieces by Native and Indigenous Composers

Compiled and edited by Connor Chee and Renata Yazzie



pianoinspires.com/publications

The
Frances Clark Center

PIANO
MAGAZINE

PIANO
INSPIRES KIDS

PIANO EDUCATION
PRESS

THE PIANO CONFERENCE:
NCKP

Mark Hayes

Creating Beautiful Music for the World

Internationally recognized composer Mark Hayes, speaker at the closing banquet of the NFMC convention, gave the audience his newest composition, "Sing As One," then led them in singing it as he accompanied them on the piano. The song follows this story and will be published.

NFMC president Deborah Freeman presented Hayes with a Presidential Citation recognizing his contributions to music. Hayes has a long and distinguished career in various aspects of music.

Born in a creative musical environment, Mark began piano lessons at the age of ten, developing his improvisational skills at an early age. He earned a Bachelor's Degree, Magna Cum Laude in piano performance from Baylor University.

During his college years, Mark's dream of becoming a composer and arranger was born and nurtured. Now an internationally-known writer, conductor, and concert pianist, his career has blossomed into international tours in Europe, Asia, Australia, New Zealand, Brazil, South Africa and Canada.

Hayes' music is found in the music libraries of churches and universities around the world. His compositions and arrangements are known for their unique American sound, drawing from such diverse musical styles as gospel, jazz, pop, folk and classical.

His personal catalog, totaling more than 2,000 published works, includes work for solo voice, solo piano, multiple pianos, orchestra, jazz combos, small instrumental

ensembles, and choruses of all kinds. He informed the NFMC audience that "Sing as One" will be added to his published repertoire.

Hayes has made more than 25 solo piano recordings ranging from jazz to classical to gospel and is a favorite arranger of church pianists throughout the world. A recurring recipient of the Standard Award from ASCAP, his album, "I've Just Seen Jesus," received the Dove Award, the equivalent of a Grammy in gospel music.

In 2010, Baylor University Center for Christian Music Studies awarded Mark the "Award for Exemplary Leadership" in Christian Music. He received the first-place composition award in the eighth annual John Ness Beck Foundation competition.

Mark arranged and orchestrated the music for *Civil War Voices*, which won six awards including Best Musical in the 2010 Midtown International Theatre Festival in New York. His latest venture in musical theater is "We'll Meet Again," which premiered at the Historic Savannah Theatre in Georgia in 2022 and toured the Southeast in 2023.

On May 26, 2024 Hayes conducted the world premiere of his new opus for chorus, soloists and orchestra, "Kindness: a Chorale and Fugue in the Baroque Tradition," at David Geffen Hall in New York City.

Whether concertizing on the other side of the globe or composing in his home in Kansas City, Missouri, Mark is blessed to live out his mission "to create beautiful music for the world." 🎵



NFMC president Deborah Freeman presenting Mark Hayes with a Presidential Citation recognizing his contributions to music.



Mark Hayes premiered, "Sing As One" at the 2025 National Convention.

Continued on page 12. Please find Mark's newest composition, "Sing As One".

Written for the 2025 National Federation of Music Clubs Conference,
Austin, Texas, June 10-14, 2025

SING AS ONE

Unison voices with piano

MARK HAYES (ASCAP)

Moderate ballad tempo (♩ = ca. 80)

Unison *mf*

Sing as one, let the har - mo - ny — rise, — hearts to -

geth - er, — reach - ing to the skies. Lift your song. Let it

shine like — the sun. We can change the world, one voice, one

© 2025 Mark Hayes. All rights reserved.

Published copies for sale will be available directly from Chorister's Guild in late 2025 or 2026.

CGE657 SATB, CGE658 3-Part Mixed, CGE659 2-Part Treble

www.choristersguild.org

2
10

mp

song. — Lift your voice. Don't be a-fraid. — Ev-ery

F2 B \flat /F Dm B \flat

mp

14

note you sing is made — of some-thing on - ly you can give, a gift that

Dm B \flat E \flat C sus4 C

18

mf

helps the world to live. — Sing as one, let the

E \flat C sus4 C B \flat /C B \flat maj7/C C C7 F2

mf

22

har - mo - ny — rise, — hearts to - geth - er, — reach - ing to the skies. Lift your

F sus4 F B \flat /F

25

song. Let it shine like the sun. We can change the world, one

Am7 F/A B^b C/E Dm7

28 *mp*

voice, one song. Each voice a color, bold and

B^b/C B^bmaj7/C F2 B^b2/F Dm

mp

32

true, to-gether paint - ing some - thing new. No sound too still, no heart too

B^b Dm B^b E^b

36 *rit.* *f*

small, there's har-mo - ny e-nough for all. Sing as

C sus4 C E^b C sus4 C D7sus D D7

f rit.

40

one, let the har - mo - ny rise, hearts to - geth - er,

G C2/G G

a tempo

43

reach - ing to the skies. Lift your song. Let it shine like the sun.

Em/G C/G Bm7 Em7 C2 C C/E

46

We can change the world, one voice, one song. one

D/F# C/E C/D G2 Am7/G

50

rit.

song, one song, we can change the world.

G2 Am7/G C/D G C/G D/F# C/E D G

mf *f*

NFMC Young Artist Winners 2025

Three new Young Artists were introduced to the Austin convention audience. They will be available for concerts over the next two years by contacting Terry Blair, whose contact information can be found on page 3.

The winners performed after the final banquet June 13. Read about them below.



CLAIRE McCAHAN, WOMEN'S VOICE

Regarded as a musician of sincerity and versatility, mezzo-soprano Claire McCahan delivers compelling and honest performances across Baroque, recital, opera, and contemporary repertoire. Winner of the 2022 Joy in Singing International Art Song Competition and the

2022 NATS Artist Awards, Claire is an accomplished recitalist, devising programs revealing thematic connection across time and language.

She was selected for the 2024 inaugural Fellowship of the Song with the Cincinnati Song Initiative, working extensively with Margo Garrett. Along with collaborative pianist Barbara Noyes, she co-founded Horizon Duo, dedicated to creative programming of contemporary and classic repertoire. The duo made their New York recital debut at Weill Recital Hall in 2023.

A proponent of new works, Claire has premiered and workshopped contemporary opera and art song in collaboration with composers such as Jake Heggie, George Benjamin, Ben Morris, and Lisa Nehor with organizations including the Tanglewood Music Festival, Art Song Colorado, and Catalyst New Music. She is also a co-founder of Spiral Songs, a project which curates multi-genre, immersive music gatherings inviting participants to attune to the seasonal changes of our inner and outer landscapes.

Praised for her interpretations of J. S. Bach, she is the winner of the 2025 American National Oratorio Competition, an alumna of the American Bach Soloists Academy, and a featured soloist on the Boulder Bach Festival's first commercial album. She is a recurring performer with the Compass Resonance Ensemble and has performed in concert with the New England Conservatory Baroque Orchestra, the New Hampshire Music Festival, the Colorado Bach Ensemble, and the Silesian Philharmonic.

Recent stage credits include Arias Aloft with Boston Lyric Opera and Opera on Tap Boston, the American premiere of George Benjamin's Lessons in Love and Violence at the Tanglewood Festival of Contemporary Music, Siberia in A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder with Opera Saratoga, covering Cherubino in Mozart's Le Nozze

di Figaro with the Handel & Haydn Society, and Orfeo in an adaptation of Gluck's Orfeo ed Eurydice with Renegade Opera.

Last summer she joined the Glimmerglass Festival as a Resident Artist, performing Naomi/Betty in Sondheim's Sunday in the Park with George and covering Mama Cordero for the world premiere of The House on Mango Street. She is a graduate of the University of New Hampshire and the University of Colorado Boulder. For more, visit clairemccahan.com.



MISHA GALANT, PIANO

Born into a family of musicians, Misha Galant began piano lessons at age six with his mother, Olga Batsman. During high school he received guidance from Sharon Mann and Yoshikazu Nagai of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. He went on to graduate from

Columbia University, where he studied piano with Joseph Kalichstein through the Columbia/Juilliard Exchange, while also earning degrees in Data Science and Russian Literature. In 2023, he earned a Master's in Piano Performance under Dr. Viktor Volkov, followed in 2025 by a Master's in Atmospheric Sciences with Dr. John Horel at the University of Utah, where he completed a thesis on evaporation dynamics in the areas surrounding the Great Salt Lake. Other formative teachers include Tatiana Zalikman of the Gnesin School in Moscow and Dr. Yu-Jane Yang of Weber State University in Utah.

Misha gave his first full recital at age 12 and made his orchestral debut at 13, performing Chopin's Piano Concerto No. 1 with the Oakland East Bay Symphony. He has since performed with the Fort Worth Symphony, Rochester Philharmonic, Utah Symphony, and the California Youth Symphony, touring with the latter in Austria and Italy in performances of Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue." He is a prizewinner of the inaugural Van Cliburn Junior Competition and the Eastman Piano Competition (2015), as well as the Gina Bachauer and New Orleans International Piano Competitions (2024). From 2015 to 2020, he performed extensively across California as a member of the MTAC's prestigious Young Artist Guild and was named one of two Gilmore Young Artists in the US in 2020.

Additionally, Misha is an avid chamber musician and enjoys performing benefit concerts for retirement communities and charitable causes. In 2021, he raised over \$1,000 through performances for Haiti earthquake relief, and in 2022 he raised more than \$8,500 for Ukraine war relief. Outside of his musical and academic pursuits, Misha enjoys hiking, trail running, and skiing and was a member of Columbia University's Division I swim team, training twenty hours per week.



WILLIAM SUH, STRINGS

Cellist William Suh has been acclaimed for his engaging musicianship, dynamically colored playing, and artistic sincerity. A recipient of the Aldo Parisot Prize & Broadus Erle Prize at the Yale School of Music, Suh was awarded first prizes at the National Federation of Music Club's Young Artist

Competition, the 57th Serge & Olga Koussevitzky Young Artist Awards by the Musicians Club of New York, the 50th Hudson Valley Philharmonic String Competition, the Aspen Music Festival Concerto Competition, New England Conservatory Concerto Competition and the Music Teachers National Association String Competition. Suh also holds top honors from the New York International Artists Association and Hellam Young Artist competitions. A recipient of the Young Artist Award from the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, Suh's performances have been featured on National Public Radio, WQXR and Hawaii Public Radio.

Suh's recent and upcoming performances feature solo appearances with the Savannah Philharmonic, Kyoto International Music Festival Orchestra, Hudson Valley Symphony Orchestra, and the Aspen

Conducting Academy Orchestra. Notable engagements include performances at Jordan Hall with the New England Conservatory Symphony under Maestro Hugh Wolff, Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall, and the Paesaggi Musicali Toscani Festival in Val d'Orcio, Italy.

As a chamber musician, Suh has had the privilege of collaborating and performing with artists including Augustin Hadelich, Inon Barnatan, Phillip Ying, and the late Roger Topping. Suh's appearances include the Norfolk and Kneel Hall Chamber Music Festivals, the Fellowship Program of the Bowdoin International Music Festival, and the Perlman Music Program Chamber Music Workshop; he has also worked with members of the Cleveland, Emerson, Guarneri, Juilliard & Tokyo string quartets and the Weilerstein trio. Suh's formative years of study were through the Summer Music School of the Perlman Music Program and its Suncoast Winter Residency, where he studied under Astrid Schween, Clara Kim and Zvi Plesser.

Suh is an Artist Diploma candidate at the Juilliard School. He holds degrees from the Yale School of Music (M.M., M.M.A.), the New England Conservatory (B.M. with honors), and is a graduate of the Coburn Music Academy. Suh's current and former principal teachers include Joel Krasnick, Paul Watkins, Paul Katz and Clive Greensmith; he has also appeared in masterclasses with Mark Coppey, Frans Helmerson, Steven Isserlis, Laurence Lesser and Truls Merk. An advocate for the democratization of music education, Suh managed program operations for CelloBello. He performs on a 1714 Giovanni Grancino cello provided by a generous loan from the Juilliard School. 🎵

NFMFC
FEDERATION FESTIVALS
Bulletin
2024 - 2028
A project of
NATIONAL FEDERATION of MUSIC CLUBS

NFMFC
FEDERATION FESTIVALS
Bulletin
JULY 2024 - JUNE 2028
AVAILABLE NOW!
Contact NFMFC Headquarters
for more information
317.882.4003 | info@nfmcc-music.org

Texas and Seminary Work: Virginia and the Marine Corps Band Emil and Ruth Beyer Composition Awards 2025

By Donald M Hassler, Chair

My favorite time of the year, though frantically busy, is when the judging is finished and it is time for me to talk to the composers who have entered the Beyer Awards competition, console those who have not won and write about the winners. We have had a very interesting year of judging. My judges, who are great friends and colleagues in the School of Music at Kent State know theory and composition and love this work. They write excellent and smart comments. I share those comments with the young composers and will quote from them in this article. One of our rules is that the identity of the judges is not to be revealed, although I can quote their ideas. The other thing that is so exciting for me is that the work of the winners can be performed at the summer NFMC convention. Last year we got to hear our first performance at the Iowa convention. It was the winner in the category of Voice. He had set a poem by e.e.cummings. A friend of his sang the vocal part.

J. David Richardson won first place in both Piano Solo and in Voice.



J. David Richardson

He is Music Minister at First Baptist Church in Baird, TX, earned his degree in music theory and composition at Hardin Simmons University and is currently working on a Masters degree at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He also works as a commercial and gigging musician in El Paso and Abilene. My judge writes about David's setting of the Psalm, "This is a highly effective setting... for baritone and piano. The ascending opening motive is very strong. The modification of the motive at the pickups to measure 10 moves the piece forward with considerable energy.... The meaning of the words is conveyed with clarity and expression. The syllables are set well in relationship to the musical accents."



Tyler Lindsay

Tyler Lindsay is the winner in the category of "ensemble" or Chamber Music. Tyler lives and works fulltime performing with "The President's Own," a unit based in Washington DC, of the United States Marine Corps Band as a trumpeter and cornetist. His degrees are from Loyola University in New Orleans and a Masters in Trumpet Performance from Temple University. He has won Jazz Division Awards and Trumpet Division Awards from various organizations. He lives in Alexandria VA with his wife and three-year old daughter. He has told me that the motif for his winning Chamber Music

piece came to him seven years ago at the time of his grandfather's death. "The Road to Nowhere" is dedicated to his grandfather. A judge writes about the resulting piece, "The structure of the piece is very effective. The timing of the individual sections seems to be ideal, given the stylistic elements being utilized. There is always a sense of direction through each section and through the piece as a whole." 🎵



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



Scan the QR code
to sign up.



CAROLYN NELSON DOUBLE REED AWARD

1ST PLACE: \$1,500 | 2ND PLACE: \$750

Applicants must be a double reed player between the ages of 19 and 26 (at time of application) as well as a Student/Collegiate member of NFMC.

Audio recordings must be submitted by **March 1**.



Carolyn Nelson

NFMC President 2011-2015

More details available at www.nfmc-music.org



Gretchen E. Van Roy Music Education Award Winners

I am pleased to announce the award winners for the Gretchen E. Van Roy Music Education Award.

The NFMG Gretchen E. Van Roy Music Education Scholarship is awarded annually to a junior majoring in music education at a college or university that gives a degree in this field. The NFMG highly values music education and is thrilled to be able to give this award on an annual basis.



Mackenzie Vitolo

Mackenzie Vitolo - First Place Winner of a \$1,000 scholarship

Mackenzie attends Towson University in Towson, Maryland. She is a clarinetist and is currently an ensemble manager for the Concert Orchestra in the Baltimore Symphony Youth Orchestras organization (BSYO). Mackenzie is pursuing a bachelor's degree in music education with plans for a master's degree in wind conducting.

The adjudicators had wonderful remarks on Mackenzie's application submissions. "Mackenzie excels in multiple musical areas, including clarinet, voice, piano, arranging, and conducting. Her skills extend across performance, musicianship, and creative arranging. Specifically noted is

her preparedness to teach students with disabilities. Mackenzie's ability to adapt, accommodate, and thoughtfully include all students demonstrates maturity and readiness for diverse classroom environments."



Foster Patterson

Foster Patterson - Second Place Winner of a \$500 scholarship

Foster attends the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington. As well as attending the University of Washington, majoring in Music Education – Instrumental, Foster has actively sought opportunities to teach music—like directing a bell choir for students grades 1-8 and assisting ensembles at Garfield High School. Foster also serves as a section leader for the UW Husky Marching Band.

His adjudicator's comments were equally impressive. "Foster has demonstrated signs of being a naturally engaging teacher who connects with students. He appears to be comfortable teaching various age groups and has expressed willingness to teach in diverse geographic areas. Foster has demonstrated that he works hard to develop new skills, notably learning piano quickly and effectively, and tackling innovative projects like creating lesson plans on South Korean music, despite having no prior experience with the topic."

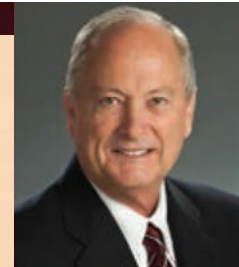
Congratulations to both Mackenzie and Foster! The NFMG wishes them the very best on their goals and aspirations in the field of Music Education. 🎵

MICHAEL R. EDWARDS

NFMG 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 NFMG Federation cup. For rules (JR-22-1) and more information please visit nfm-g-music.org.



Deadline: May 1st
Award Amount: \$5,000
Chair: Michael R. Edwards
Email: micedwards@aol.com

U.S. ARMED FORCES AMERICAN MUSIC AWARD

MASTER SERGEANT PAUL WHITE
FIRST PRIZE WINNER,
U.S. ARMED FORCES AMERICAN MUSIC AWARD
“Fanfare For The Wanderer”



After obtaining his Bachelor of Music degree at Appalachian State University, Master Sergeant Paul White pursued further education at The University of Texas at Austin, where his focus shifted towards the study of jazz saxophone and composition. In 1999, he successfully completed his Masters of Music in composition and proceeded to enroll in the doctoral program at UT Austin, successfully graduating in 2003.

Master Sergeant White's musical journey has taken him around the world, performing with diverse groups representing a wide spectrum of musical styles. He is notably the founding member of The Paul White Quintet, a contemporary jazz ensemble that has graced stages across the nation, including various annual jazz festivals.

In 2008, Master Sergeant White was awarded the role of Baritone Saxophonist with The US Army Field Bands Jazz Ambassadors. As a member of this ensemble, he delivered captivating concerts to audiences numbering in the millions across the United States. Notably, Master Sergeant White had the honor of performing on The Colbert Report, The Toronto Jazz Festival, The 2023 Macy's 4th Of July Fireworks Celebration and participated in the Kennedy Center Honors tribute to Dave Brubeck.

In 2011, Master Sergeant White's exceptional talents were recognized with the appointment of Staff Arranger for The U.S. Army Field Band. His arrangements and compositions have been showcased by The Concert Band, Soldiers Chorus, Six-String-Soldiers, and The Jazz Ambassadors. In 2019, Master Sergeant White's arrangement of the iconic John Williams composition, “Leia's Theme,” garnered the SONIC Outstanding Arrangement Award from The International Society of Jazz Arrangers and Composers. This remarkable achievement was celebrated at the ISJAC Symposium in Greeley, CO. Master Sergeant White currently serves as Chief arranger for The U.S. Army Field Band, in Washington, D.C..

Today, Master Sergeant White continues to be an active force in the world of music. He dedicates his talents to composing and performing with local ensembles in the vibrant Washington D.C./Baltimore region while also touring across the nation to deliver captivating concerts and insightful clinics.

STAFF SERGEANT ELMER CASTILLO
SECOND PRIZE WINNER, U.S. ARMED FORCES
AMERICAN MUSIC AWARD
“Victory Overture Of Battle”



Staff Sergeant Elmer Castillo is a composer, arranger, pianist, and conductor. His music is significantly influenced by Caribbean music and American film and television scores. He skillfully combines rhythms and melodies from these diverse musical cultures to create a unique and vibrant musical experience.

Sergeant Castillo has dedicated over a decade of service to the US Army, utilizing his musical talents to enrich military and civilian communities in the United States, Asia, and Europe. He enlisted in 2010 and has performed with several esteemed US Army bands, including the United States Army Japan Band in Zama-Shi, Kanagawa, the 4th Infantry Division Band in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and The Army Materiel Command Band at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama. Additionally, Sergeant Castillo has served as a piano instructor for soldiers in the Advanced Individual Training at the Army School of Music in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Currently, he is the pianist and arranger of the NATO SHAPE International Band in Belgium, where his arrangements and compositions have contributed to significant events, including the 20th anniversary of Bulgaria's accession to NATO, the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization celebrated in Sofia, Bulgaria, and the Baltic Jazz Fest in Latvia.

Sergeant Castillo holds a bachelor's degree in conducting from the National University of Colombia and is pursuing a master's in composition for Film and TV from Berklee College of Music. His compositional and arranging skills have been recognized in the annual US Army Bands competition. His arrangements helped the US Army Japan band win the category of best ceremonial band performances in 2015 and 2017.

Sergeant Castillo received the Finley R. Hamilton Outstanding Military Musician Award in 2015 for his exceptional leadership qualities and outstanding musical talent, making significant contributions as a composer, arranger, and conductor. 🎵

2025 GLAD ROBINSON YOUSE ADULT COMPOSERS AWARD



Dr. Yuko Kato

Dr. Yuko Kato has been awarded the 2025 Glad Robinson Youse Adult Composers Award, a Senior Division award presented in odd numbered years. Kato is a member of the Morning Etude Club of Carbondale, IL. Her composition, *Nothing but Light*, is a setting for baritone voice and piano of the poem by Mary Oliver and was written in memory of her father who passed away in 2023.

Her composition teachers have included Richard Grayson and Richard Sussman.

Kato enjoys performing as a soloist and collaborative pianist in the United States and internationally. She has performed recitals at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, the Banff Centre in Canada, Musiksalon Erfurt in Austria, Songfest in Los Angeles, New Music Circle in St. Louis, and the Illinois Symphony's Sunday at Six Recital Series. She was a featured presenter, performer and composer at the College Music Society's Great Lakes Conference in Chicago this spring and will be a presenter at the CMS National Conference in Washington this fall.

A native of Los Angeles, she began her musical studies at the Colburn School of Performing Arts and holds a Bachelor of Music degree with honors from Northwestern University, and Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in Piano Performance from Manhattan School of Music in New York. She currently serves as Associate Professor of Piano at Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

The NFMC award honors the memory of Gladys "Glad" Robinson Youse (1898 – 1985), an American composer from Miami, Oklahoma. She graduated from Stephens College in 1919 with a music degree and then pursued further composition studies with Tibor Serly in New York. After marrying Clare Youse, the couple settled in Baxter Springs, Kansas. Youse was a member of ASCAP and served on the board of the Sigma Alpha Iota Foundation, supporting the professional international music fraternity, in 1971.

Youse composed sacred and secular music for solo voice, choir, and piano. Her 1969 setting of "Bless Us, O God" was dedicated to Hinda Honigman, the 21st National President of NFMC who served from 1967 to 1971. 🎵

2025 OUIDA KECK AWARD



Susanna Valleau

Washington State is proud to congratulate the 2025 Winner of the Ouida Keck Award - Professional Development for the Independent Piano Teacher!

Susanna Valleau is a Seattle-based organist, pianist, and music teacher, living her dream of building a career entirely through music. She serves as music director of St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church in Shoreline, Washington, where she proudly plays the newly installed Orloff organ. As a solo performer on the organ, she has appeared at regional and national conventions of the American Guild

of Organists, as well as in concerts throughout the United States. Susanna is on faculty with the Seattle Girls' Choir, maintains an active piano and organ studio, and collaborates regularly as an accompanist and in chamber music settings on piano, harpsichord, and organ. She is currently pursuing a Graduate Certificate in Injury-Preventative Keyboard Technique with Dr. Barbara Lister-Sink at Salem College. 🎵

American Music
8-1/2" x 11" Posters • Available Now!

Contact HQ or order online!
Item AM1-7
ONLY 50¢ ea.

Parade of AMERICAN MUSIC

The National Observation of American Music by
THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS

1348 W. Smith Valley Road | Greenwood, IN 46042 | 317.892.6000 | info@nfmc.org | www.nfmc.org

MARY ALICE COX AWARD FOR CELLO AND DOUBLE BASS



Kristen Kim

I am pleased to announce Kristen Kim has been awarded the Mary Alice Cox Award for Cello and Double Bass. This junior award pays \$2,500.

Kristen Kim is a 15-year-old cellist from Portland, Oregon. She began playing the cello at the age of six and currently studies with the cellist Hyun-Jin Kim.

Kristen made her solo debut at the age of 12 with the Oregon Mozart Players Orchestra after winning first place in the 2022 Oregon Mozart Players Young

Soloist Competition. She has since performed as a soloist with several prestigious ensembles, including the Amadeus Chamber Orchestra, following her success in the Amadeus Chamber Orchestra Young Artist Competition, and the Oregon Sinfonietta, after winning the Oregon Sinfonietta Concerto Competition. Additionally, Kristen was a winner of the 2022 Cognizart Young Artists Debut! Competition, which led to a solo performance with members of the Oregon Symphony. She also performed at Carnegie Hall as a winner of the American Protégé International String Competition.

Additionally, Kristen has achieved awards in many competitions. She won first place in the 2021 Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) Oregon State Junior String Competition and was an alternate winner in the Northwest Division. Furthermore, Kristen earned first place in the 2022 Best Bach Competition, second place in the Oregon American String Teachers Association (ASTA) Competition, and first place in the 2024 OPUS State Competition.

In the summer of 2024, Kristen attended the Boston University Tanglewood Institute (BUTI), where she was appointed principal cellist of the Young Artist Orchestra. During this transformative experience, she had the privilege of participating in a masterclass with the legendary cellist Steven Isserlis.

Beyond her individual accomplishments, Kristen is deeply involved in the Portland musical community. She serves as principal cellist of the Portland Youth Philharmonic Orchestra (PYP), was the principal cellist of the 2025 All State OMEA Orchestra and an active member of both a PYP quartet and the Camerata PYP chamber orchestra. She is also the Executive Director of Project Prelude, an initiative where she shares her musical experiences and helps foster the next generation of young musicians. Outside of her musical pursuits, Kristen loves to read and bake muffins with her mom! 🎵

National Federation of Music Clubs

NFMC
FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS

**Handbook for
STUDENT/COLLEGIATE
Membership & Awards**

A Federation Guide to Awards and
Membership Opportunities for
Student/Collegiate Members

www.nfmc-music.org

**NFMC
STUDENT/COLLEGIATE
HANDBOOK**

**ORDER YOURS
TODAY**
ONLY \$2.00

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

YOUNG MUSICIANS GAIN ACCESS TO RENEWED TOOLS OF EXPRESSION

Behind every stirring performance lies a symphony of unseen efforts, chief among them the care and upkeep of instruments themselves. For young musicians, an instrument is more than wood, brass, or string; it is a companion in musical discovery, an extension of their own creative spirit. However, as with any finely crafted tool, orchestral instruments are vulnerable to the toll of time, frequent handling, and environmental conditions. Even the most promising student can be hindered by a faulty bow, cracked clarinet, or misaligned bridge.

Every musician shares the responsibility of learning the importance of routine instrument maintenance and timely repairs, which are essential to preserve an instrument's tone quality, playability, and longevity. Well-maintained instruments not only sound better, but encourage students to cultivate pride and responsibility in their musical pursuits. Yet, the cost of upkeep can be daunting for

families and organizations alike, particularly in underserved communities. It is here that the significance of your recent grant shines most brightly, promising to remove barriers and ensure equitable access to quality instruments for all young musicians.

The Young Annasemble Orchestra is grateful for the generous grant of \$5,533 awarded by the National Federation of Music Clubs Fund for the Advancement of Musical Arts, which provided the financial support for our instruments to be repaired and maintained in preparation for the 2025-2026 music season. The Annasemble Community Orchestra celebrated the occasion with a cleaning and polishing party on July 13, 2025. The Annasemble Orchestra community devoted over 47 volunteer hours and plenty of elbow grease to clean, polish, and inventory our loan instruments and bows, including 31 violins, 2 cellos, 2 clarinets, 1 bass clarinet, and 1 flute. A few snacks, a little instruction,



and some tender loving care were essentials at the successful event. One success leads to another, as we prepare to experience the potential in our Young Annasemble Musicians this upcoming musical season.



ARTS DIVISION NEWS

By Ellen Leapaldt, Arts Division Chair

I hope you've all heard about the new or increased awards available for participating in programs of the Arts Division. There are increased awards for *Ethnic Performance* (was called International Music Relations); these awards are for either Senior or Junior Clubs. There are also new Regional Awards for *Music in Poetry* and *National Music Week!* Check out the updated Competitions and Awards chart for all the possibilities to support your clubs by participating and reporting! There is also a new name for Music in Education (it was Music in Schools and Colleges). We need to support music education in every situation! We have some new chairmen, so please update your club contact information; to make sure the proper forms are sent to the current chairs by the required reporting dates! We love to hear about and see pictures of the great programs being presented by our Senior Clubs (and sometimes

including our Collegiates and Juniors). Please send scans or pictures not originals when you do your reports. We do not return any items unless you include an envelope and postage.

Have a great club year with Celebrate Strings, Chamber Music, Ethnic Performance, Music in Education, Music Outreach, Music in Song, Music in Poetry, Sacred Music, Choral Music, National Music Week and Opera. We hope you purchased the new edition of Music in Poetry and Song for September 2025 to August 2027 edited by Debra Hughes and Barbara Murray with music arranged by Kristin Ivers for only \$5.00 (it's available from NFMC headquarters). National Music Week (the 103rd celebration) is May 3-10, 2026 with the theme of: "Music...is our constant companion." 🎵



THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE OF HEALTHY AGEING

by Dr. Liana Valente, NFM Representative to the UN Dept. of Global Communications

The UN declared our current decade (2021 through 2030) as **The UN Decade of Healthy Ageing**. In doing so it has committed to promoting healthy ageing, adding life to years, not just years to life. All members of society can explore The Platform online (<https://www.decadeofhealthyageing.org/>), access its resources, and explore how the global community is combating age discrimination in all of its forms, working towards the goal of improved quality of life for older persons.

The four action areas were created with older people at its core. “The Decade is a transformative collaboration of diverse sectors and stakeholders that focuses on changing how we think, feel, and act towards ageing; cultivating age-friendly environments; creating integrated and responsive health care systems and services, and ensuring access to long-term care for older people who need it.”

1. **COMBATTING AGEISM** – improving economic development, harnessing intergenerational knowledge, and creating more equitable, healthier, and happy societies.
2. **CREATING AGE-FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENTS** – enabling older people to age safely in a place that is right for them, continuing to develop personally, be included, and contributing to their communities while retaining their independence and health.
3. **PROVIDING INTEGRATED CARE** – treating the person and not just their individual diseases, so that we can better manage chronic conditions, maintain physical and mental capacity, and prevent care dependency.
4. **ENSURING ACCESS TO LONG-TERM CARE WHEN WE NEED IT** – making sure that we all have the care and support required to live with dignity, meaning, and rights.

In the past I shared with NFM members the Field Study I wrote that was included in the **UN Decade of Healthy Ageing Progress Report 2021 – 2023**. Entitled “Improving the Quality of Life of Older Persons Through Music Participation,” it included an overview of the research and presentations I had made both individually and with colleagues. The Field Study report included interviews with members of NFM, specifically

focusing on the benefits of continuing to sing in choirs as we age. The full report can be downloaded from The Platform and the report I submitted can be accessed here: <https://bit.ly/3UFX6IL>

The Decade of Healthy Ageing is an integral part of UN Agenda 2030 and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. And although the goals of the Agenda do not specifically mention the impact that fine artists can have, we as musicians can use our talents and inspirations to support the SDGs and the Decade of Healthy Ageing in innovative and exciting ways. I have chosen to be involved on the national level as a member of the American Society on Ageing, serving as a member of the Health & Well-Being Advisory Council. As the only fine artist on the committee, the other members, who come from fields including medical geriatrics, social work, and city planning, are always eager to hear about the intersections between fine arts and healthy aging. Many members of NFM are actively engaged in musical endeavors that reach out to older persons, including those who direct senior choirs and choruses, conduct intergenerational community bands and orchestras, and teach continuing education courses.

I encourage you all to explore The Platform, and as you plan your club activities for the year, be mindful of creating innovative opportunities to engage with all members of your community, especially your older neighbors and colleagues. You might consider hosting a mid-afternoon concert instead of an evening concert so those who do not drive at night can attend, or a recital performed at one of your meetings could then be performed at a senior living facility. If you are a choir director, investigate acquiring large print scores or creating rehearsal recordings so singers with limited vision abilities can become a part of the organization. Engage with local ensembles affiliated with New Horizons International Music Association (<https://newhorizonsmusic.org/>), or one of the regional Encore choirs (<https://encorecreativity.org/>). Or you might create a new ensemble, one that will enrich the lives and experiences of your performers and community members through music.

I wish you all a fulfilling and joyous year of music-making, and encourage you to all “think outside the box” when it comes to creating inclusive programming. The possibilities truly are limitless and I look forward to hearing about your many successes. 🎵



MCM Founders Day Honor Roll Report - Fall 2025

The purpose of Founders Day is to honor the founders of local clubs, state federations and NFMC. Each Federated Music Club member is asked to contribute one dollar to honor founders and those contributions provide the funds to support the YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITIONS.

CALIFORNIA: Southern California Music Festival Club, Ventura County Federation of Music Clubs, and San Francisco – California Federation

LOUISIANA: Music Club of Baton Rouge, Music Teachers of Greater Baton Rouge, Metairie Music Club, North Shore Music Club, Bossier – Shreveport Junior Counselors, Greater New Orleans Music Club

FLORIDA: Orlando Music Club

OHIO: Warren Music Club.

WISCONSIN: MacDowell Music Club

TEXAS: Euterpean Club Fort Worth, Fort Worth Harmony Club, Matinee Musical Club of Rockdale

VIRGINIA: Lynchburg Music Teachers Assn., Portsmouth Music Club, Rappahannock Music Society, Rappahannock Music Study Club, Richmond Music Study Club, Scherzo Music Club, Shenandoah Valley Music Club, South Hill Music Club, Tazewell Music Club, Springfield Music Club, The Music Post, Thursday Morning Music Club, Woodbridge Music Club.

NORTH DAKOTA: Fargo-Moorhead Area Music Club, St. Cecelia Music Club, Devils Lake Music Club,

Thursday Music Club-Grand Forks, Southeast Central Music Club, Schumann Music Guild, Valley Music Makers, Thursday Musical Club.

MISSOURI: Evening Etude Music Club, Morning Etude, and additional contributions

PENNSYLVANIA: Allentown Music Club, Dushore Music Club, Johnstown Music League, McKeesport Music Club, Mercer Music Club, Mozart Club of Wilkes-Barre, Musical Art Society, Music Study Club of the Stroudsburgs, Opus I Music Club, Williamsport Music Club, Harmonia, Pittsburgh Music Professionals.

TENNESSEE: Thursday Music Study Club, Music Makers of Hendersonville JMC, Obligato SMC, Bristol Music Club.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Orangeburg Music Club, Crescent Music Club, The Music Club of Greenville.

Certificates of Outstanding Merit were awarded to the following clubs for Founders Day programs submitted for review – Evening Etude of Hannibal, Missouri and Music Club of Greenville, South Carolina

Certificates of Merit were awarded to the following clubs – The Morning Etude Club of St. Louis, Missouri; Orlando Club of Florida and Portsmouth Music Club of Virginia.

NFMC FOUNDERS DAY CHAIR: Cynthia Elmore
welmore664@yahoo.com 🎵



be brilliant.
be heard.

Inspiring Repertoire for Stand Out Performers



Scan for Our Federation Festivals Bulletin Selections

Facebook, YouTube, Instagram icons
info@TOMGEROUMUSIC.COM



TOMGEROUMUSIC.COM®


TOMGEROUMUSIC.COM®



JUNIOR COMPOSERS CONTEST

For More Information Visit:
www.nfmc-music.org/competitions-awards

Encouraging Today's Young Composers for the Music of Tomorrow.




Members attend NCKP 2025

Heidi O. Hong, 1st NFMC VP, and Lucinda Lear, Competitions and Awards Division Chair, attended the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy in Lombard, Illinois recently. NFMC had a table with information about our awards, competitions, and membership opportunities which was viewed by many attendees. Brochures and posters were available for NCKP that highlighted our keyboard awards and competitions.

Heidi and Lucinda were able to meet composers Glenda Austin, Brock Chart, Conner Chee, Tom Gerou (Junior Composer Chair), and Christopher Goldston. You will recognize these composers because they are in our NFMC Bulletin. The NFMC planning committee is hopeful that Conner Chee will be at our national conference in Scottsdale, AZ, in June 2026. Alfred, Hal Leonard and My Music, music publishers, along with Christopher Goldston, promoted NFMC Bulletin music at their displays. Dorothy Grover, former Dr. Ouida Keck Professional Development award winner, Nathan Cheung, Presenter, (*Exploring the Legacy of Composer Dana Suesse and her Jazz Concert Works for Piano*) former Ellis duo winner, and Dr. Jason Sifford, Presenter, (*Kabalevsky and the Three Whales: Why the Arts Matter and What You can Do to Help*), Stillman-Kelley Award Chair, all continue to promote, and are grateful for, NFMC programs and awards. It was a pleasure to see so many friendly faces, along with other music club members who attend NCKP.

Both Heidi and Lucinda said it was a positive experience to meet so many keyboardists and fellow musicians. NFMC is proud and pleased to be a part of generating enthusiasm for the study of music by having a presence at this conference. It is hoped that NFMC representatives will be able to attend and display material at NCKP and MTNA in the future. Having a relationship with other music organizations helps strengthen all music organizations in continuing a legacy of music education, participation, and performance. 🎵

Dr. Jason Sifford and Lucinda



Happy Dog Duo member, Nathan Cheung



NFMC Junior Composer Chair, Tom Gerou



Heidi and Chris Goldston



Join us for the next MTNA National Conference in Chicago, March 21–25, 2026—a landmark occasion as we celebrate 150 years of excellence in music teaching!



YOU BELONG AT MTNA!

The MTNA National Conference is a place where inspiration, innovation and tradition converge. Immerse yourself in transformative sessions, a vibrant exhibit hall, and world-class performances from renowned pianist **Angela Hewitt** and dazzling vocalist **Jane Monheit**. Take in wisdom from keynote speaker **Scott Yoo** and master class clinicians **Alan Chow** and **Nancy O'Neill Breth**. Experience the thrill of MTNA National Competitions finals and the joy of connecting with a community that shares your passion..

A HOMECOMING FOR OUR PROFESSION

The annual MTNA National Conference has long been the premier gathering for music teaching professionals. In 2026, we invite you to Chicago to honor an extraordinary milestone in music education history.

Be part of this once-in-a-lifetime celebration as we reflect on our rich legacy and look toward the future of music teaching.



ANGELA HEWITT
Tuesday Recital



SCOTT YOO
Keynote Speaker



JANE MONHEIT
Opening Session



ALAN CHOW
Advanced Piano Master Class



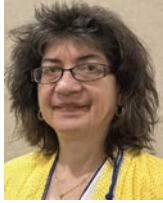
NANCY O'NEILL BRETH
Intermediate Piano Master Class



Visit mtna.org
FOR MORE INFORMATION



#MTNA2026



Senior Club Reporting Summary By State 2025

by Linda Flick, NFMCS Senior Club Report Chair

The purpose of the Senior Club Report is three-fold:

- ♪ For the state clubs and National Division Chairs to have a record of the events and activities in which each state's Senior Clubs have been involved.
- ♪ State clubs can use their report as a club record from year to year as to the accomplishments they have achieved.
- ♪ To be used as a reminder of all the many opportunities a Senior Club has in which to participate.

Every club should be congratulated for *all their efforts and all their contributions*. Certificates of participation and appreciation are given to every state who submits the ME 7-2, the State Senior Club Annual Summary Form.

I want to thank all the Senior Club who participated and sent in their reports. You help the NFMCS become a more informed organization through your participation in this reporting. Senior Clubs and more states should submit their reports so we can continue to make wise decisions on the events and activities of the NFMCS.

States reporting by region and percentage of Senior Clubs submitting reports:

NORTH CENTRAL:

Illinois (40%), North Dakota (100%), South Dakota (100%), Wisconsin (1%)

SOUTH CENTRAL:

Arkansas (70%), Kansas (43%), Missouri (29%), Oklahoma (50%), Texas (14%)

NORTHEASTERN:

Michigan (46%), Ohio (100%), Pennsylvania (59%),

SOUTHEASTERN:

Florida (40%), Georgia (1%), Kentucky (100%), Mississippi (38%), South Carolina (81%), Tennessee (33%), Virginia (68%)

WESTERN:

Arizona (100%), California (67%), Idaho (80%), Nevada (1%)

Several states had Senior Clubs that sent in the ME 7-1 report form, which I took and transferred the totals onto the ME 7-2 report form, which is compiled in the percentages above.

Each of the above listed states will receive an Award of Merit for their participation. Congratulations to North Dakota, South Dakota, Ohio, Kentucky, and Arizona for achieving 100%! Let us make it a goal to have all states achieve 100% of their Senior Clubs' reports next year. We can try to achieve that goal by having each State President or State Chair sending letters or e-mails out to each club in their state throughout the year encouraging them to send in their reports.

This year we had 18 states that reported. Next year I hope to receive a report from every state so we can achieve 100%.

In order to give NFMCS a completely clear understanding of what the states do and do not participate in, requires more states to report which is very important for NFMCS to know what all the clubs are doing in each state. Let's set a goal for a higher number of states reporting!

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your NFMCS Senior Club Report Chair.

Linda Flick
NFMCS Senior Club Report Chair

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 Awards form JR 20-2 for rules regarding 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

In Loving Memory



Angie Greer

Angie Greer passed away at her home in Cordele peacefully and with family Sunday, August 3, 2025. She was a Cordele resident most of her adult life, settling here with her late husband Dr. Charles C. Greer, III and their son Carlton, who survives her.

Angela Ruth Hitchcock Greer was born July 31, 1942 in Dunedin, Florida to the late Rev. O.V. Hitchcock and the late Jane Loveless Hitchcock. Florida, the sun and the sand, always held a special place in her heart, as did her brothers, Howard and Rudy Hitchcock, and her nieces and nephews who survive her there. She was preceded in death by her parents and a younger sister, Susan.

Angie graduated from Melborne High School and from Florida State University with a bachelor's degree in Nursing. She then moved to Atlanta, her mother's hometown, where she earned her master's in Nursing at Emory University, where her father had attended seminary. Angie worked many years as a nurse and even taught Nursing at Emory. There she met lifelong friends and, of course, the love of her life, Charles, who was a medical resident at Emory. They married on June 6, 1970 at Grace Methodist Church in Atlanta.

She was reluctant to relocate to Cordele, the small South Georgia town from which Charles hailed, but quickly grew to love the people here and couldn't imagine living anywhere else.

Angie was a Methodist. She was very active in her churches throughout her life and until her health no longer allowed her to get out. She was a Sunday school teacher for decades (a Bible scholar by most measures) and was active in many other leadership roles. She, along with Charles and Carlton, twice made medical mission trips to Africa. She embodied commitment to the Christian commandment to love and serve one another.

Angie was constantly contributing her time and energy to various organizations and causes. The most important of these was the National Federation of Music Clubs, where she served as President of Georgia and National Chairperson of Junior Festivals. Angie loved music, and she became keenly interested in these junior festivals where young people performed pieces (mainly piano) for professional musician judges. She went from getting involved at a local level to actually running the program nation-wide for many years. She was committed to promoting American artists and composers and enjoyed traveling throughout the country hearing wonderful music with her music club friends and colleagues.

Angie loved to travel, and she visited five continents. She loved to visit her son Carlton in Paris, France, and in New York City. Music always played a role in these visits, and Angie enjoyed many performances with Carlton at opera houses and concert halls in Paris, London, Vienna and New York.

Angie was also very happy to be home in Cordele and enjoyed active involvement in various bridge, book and social clubs. The Thalian Club was particularly beloved to her. Her dear mother-in-law, the late Martha Fox Greer, and dear sister-in-law, the late Jane Greer Laporte, introduced her to this Shakespeare-focused literary club and Angie participated actively as long as she could.

Angie lived a long, full and beautiful life. She will be deeply-missed by all whose lives she touched. The Music in Poetry for juniors is named for her.

Angie and Carlton would especially like to thank her wonderful team of caregivers for their love, dedication and companionship these last several years: Linda Felton, Dorothy Smith, Christine Felton and Janette Dawson.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. on Friday, August 8, 2025 at Cordele First Church with Rev. Larry Rollins officiating. Interment followed in Sunnyside Cemetery. The family received friends prior to the service Friday beginning at 10 a.m. at the church.

I am Standing upon the Seashore

by Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933)

I am standing upon the seashore. A ship at my side spreads her white sails to the morning breeze and starts for the blue ocean. She is an object of beauty and strength. I stand and watch her until at length she hangs like a speck of white cloud just where the sea and sky come to mingle with each other.

Then someone at my side says:

"There, she is gone!"

"Gone where?"

Gone from my sight. That is all. She is just as large in mast and hull and spar as she was when she left my side, and she is just as able to bear the load of living freight to her destined port.

Her diminished size is in me, not in her. And just at the moment when someone at my side says, "There, she is gone!," there are other eyes watching her coming, and other voices ready to take up the glad shout:

"Here she comes!"

And that is dying. . .

In Loving Memory



Mary Ellen White

NFMC extends deepest sympathy to Kathie White, NFMC chaplain and president of the Arkansas Federation of Music Clubs. Her mother, Mary Ellen White, passed away at age 97 in Hot Springs, AR, after being under Hospice care.

Kathie was in charge of registration for Federation Days July 23-25 in Eureka Springs, AR. She left before the event ended and was with her mother and sister when the end came. Her mother lived with Kathie and had attended Federation Days in the past.

Mary Ellen taught generations of students across Arkansas and Louisiana, from elementary to junior high, beginning in 1947 and continuing over six decades. She also traveled extensively, going to 48 US states, 17 countries, and four continents.

Sympathy cards may be sent to Kathie White at:
125 Larkspur Court
Hot Springs, AR 71901



Roger Lear

Our deepest sympathy to Lucinda Lear on the sudden death of her husband, Roger, August 8. A talented musician himself, Roger often played at NFMC meetings and was audio/visual chair for NFMC. He suffered a fatal heart attack.

Lucinda hosted the 2024 NFMC conference in Bettendorf, Iowa, and is a leader in NFMC circles. Roger escorted her to the podium in Austin in June to become the latest Rose Fay Thomas Fellow.

In announcing the death, president Deborah Freeman said, "I am heartbroken." 🎵



Refine your artistry,
create opportunities,
and lead the way in
a changing world.

At the **Peabody Conservatory**,
you'll study with renowned
faculty and forge a performing
arts career as unique as you are.



peabody.jhu.edu
667-208-6600



The Peabody Conservatory meets **100% of demonstrated financial need** for domestic undergraduate students, **with no loans.**

Regional News

NORTHEASTERN REGION

Submitted by NE Region Vice-President Linda Maurhoff

NFMC NORTHEASTERN REGION FEDERATION DAYS took place July 20-21, 2025, at the Chautauqua Suites in Mayville, New York, and Chautauqua Institution in Chautauqua, NY. This is the 81st year for the NFMC NE REGION to meet at Chautauqua Institution. We had 15 attendees from MI, OH, and PA for our meeting on Saturday morning, 18 for lunch and a total of 19 attendees for events at Chautauqua Institution. Our total number was less than last year but we look forward to an increase for next year.

Many thanks to NE Region Officers: Dr Penny Draper, Secretary; Dr Gwen Brubaker, Treasurer; and Pat Walter, Parliamentarian; for the important roles they fill and do so well! Again, this year, PFMC President, Kristin Ivers brought a keyboard to Chautauqua and served as accompanist for our meeting and for the Memorial Service, written and lead by Ron Marenchin, NE Region Chaplin. My sincere thanks to Kristin for her dedication and for sharing her musical talents. Also, to Ron for his continued support of the NE Region Federation Days at Chautauqua.

This was a year of change! Several of our members had a conflict with the traditional 2nd weekend in July, so we changed to a later date. Because of the change, our members did not hear most of the NFMC Student Award recipients in the Saturday afternoon recital. The PA award recipient, Ryan Zhang – pianist, performed. We also heard Dominic Townsend – Bass/Baritone, recipient of the Leslie Bryan Jr. & Peggy Hoover Bryan Voice Award, provided by Indiana Arts Festival. Students at Chautauqua received a total of \$12,200 in NFMC awards, plus \$1,223 presented by the Indiana Arts Festival. The student recital was most enjoyable! Our attendees were given the list of student names who received the NFMC awards for 2025. Be sure to read more about these students in an upcoming issue of *Music Club Magazine*.

The Saturday evening program at the Chautauqua Institution Amphitheater featured the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra, the Chautauqua Student Orchestra and the Boston Philharmonic Chorus, presenting Mahler's *Resurrection Symphony*. I don't remember ever seeing so many performers on one stage – it was amazing!

Sunday afternoon was our opportunity to hear Misha Galant, 2025 NFMC Young Artist winner in Piano. Those who attended the Austin Convention and heard Misha perform will understand that there are few words to describe this young man other than "amazing!" Misha's program included Bach, Prokofiev, Scriabin, Chopin, Tchaikovsky and Rachmaninoff. Most interesting were the Scriabin pieces written for left hand. With just five fingers, Misha brought down the house!!! What a great opportunity to showcase what the NFMC has to offer.

We were so blessed to have a wonderful crowd there to hear Misha's performance, as well as the several Chautauqua residents who attended the student recital on Saturday. Many thanks to Ruth Ann McChesney for her efforts to get an article about the Student Recital, the Young Artist Recital and an invitation printed in the Chautauqua Daily.



NFMC NE Region has challenging issues to resolve. It was very reassuring to have more help from Chautauqua Institution this year. They covered the cost of transportation for our Young Artist, and our hope is to maintain a cooperative, working relationship. Our members had a short discussion about the possibility of meeting at another Summer Music Center. But, when all is considered, Chautauqua is the most central to all the NE Region states and to the members who typically attend.

My sincere thanks to those who attended 2025 NFMC Federation Days at Chautauqua. I look forward to seeing you next year. Let's get that total number of attendees up again and support the NFMC NE Region. Remember: *Music Connects – let's stay connected!* It's my honor to serve as the NFMC NE Region VP.

NFMC
FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS

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**

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

Federation Days in the South Central Region took place July 23-25 at Opera in the Ozarks at Eureka Springs, AR. Sixty delegates attended from all five states. National guest was Deborah Freeman, president of the National Federation of Music Clubs.

Three main-stage shows were presented in the new theater: "Into the Woods" by Sondheim, "The Merry Widow" by Lehar, and "Carmen" by Bizet. Attendees also enjoyed "The Bremen Town Musicians" by Davies, the children's outreach opera presented at a dozen locations in Northwest Arkansas.

Ten Servant Leadership Awards were presented to Ron Hearn, Ken Brown, Steve Shogren, Vicki Brooks, Dr. Tom Bolton and Suzanne Babbie, all of Arkansas; Melba Maechtlen of Kansas, Natlynn Hayes of Oklahoma; and Philip Johnson of Texas. Deborah Freeman of South Carolina was also presented the award for her work for NFMCC.

Next year's Federation Days will be July 15-17. MainStage shows will be "The Marriage of Figaro" by Mozart, a double bill of "Suor Angelica" and "Gianni Schicci," both by Puccini, and "Candide" by Bernstein. The new SCR Vice-President is Christine Vitt of Columbia, MO.

SOUTHEASTERN REGION

NFMC SOUTHEASTERN REGION FEDERATION WEEKEND IN SEWANEE, TENNESSEE

Submitted by Southeastern Region Vice-President Joel Adams

In historic Sewanee, on the beautiful campus of the University of the South, Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Region of the NFMC convened on July 12 and 13. The meeting was hosted by the Alabama Federation, superbly chaired by Mary Margaret Yeilding of Birmingham. She was assisted by her husband, John, and AFMC Treasurer, Linda Griggs. The Guest of Honor for the Friday banquet was Barbara Hildebrand, who gave an enlightening talk on the history of the Sewanee Summer Music Festival. After a beautifully catered dinner by the university dining staff, the group was entertained in Guerry Auditorium with a Chamber Music Concert that was a delight to the ears of this listener. The NFMC Gladys Coult Scholarship Awardee, Samuel Gaytan, was first violinist in an outstanding ensemble, who played the Dvorak *Piano Quintet No 2 in A Major, op 81*.



Attendees in front of McGriff Alumni Hall

Saturday began with coffee and breakfast goodies in the Gothic castle-like McGriff Alumni Hall lounge, followed by a most fruitful business meeting in which Ruth Morrow, Chair of the SER Fellows, introduced three new Fellows along with the other charter members. All were wearing the beautiful SER Fellows Medallions and pins to show their support for the new scholarship initiatives at Sewanee Summer Music Festival and Eastern Music Festival. Linda Griggs, AFMC Treasurer, reported on the registration, and Mary Margaret Yeilding introduced guests, NFMC Board Members, State Presidents, other Officers, and Committee Chairs. Hillary Herndon, Executive and Artistic Director of SSMF was introduced at this time. She welcomed the group to

Sewanee and spoke about the importance of scholarship donors and patrons for the camp attendees. She thanked the NFMC and SER for their support over the years.



Pictured are the six state presidents who attended the weekend event. (Front row, left to right) Margarita Harvey, LA.; V. P. Joel Adams, Dr. Cheryl Davis, VA; Dr. William Carroll, NC; (Second Row) Bobette Spear, TN; Debbie Bullard, MS; and Sarah Spigner, SC.

In all, members from eight states of the SER were represented. Debra Hughes, Secretary, read the minutes of the Austin meeting, which were approved without corrections. Kim Harvey, Treasurer, gave a detailed financial report, which indicated that we had raised approximately \$15,000 of our scholarship endowment goal. During the meeting, a motion was made and approved that when the SER reached the threshold of \$50,000 in fundraising, we would establish the scholarships of \$1000 at SSMF and EMF, with \$25,000 endowments each, instead of waiting until the full \$100,000 was raised.

Excitingly, the group voted to hold the 2027 meeting at the Stephen Foster Camp in Richmond, Kentucky which will be a first in the 91-year history of that camp, the second oldest in the nation (after Interlochen). Near the end of the meeting, Cheryl Davis issued the invitation for the group to meet next year, 2026, at Eastern Music Festival in Greensboro, NC, hosted by the Virginia Federation. After that, the group walked to the Art Gallery of Guerry Hall for a concert by the Gladys Coult Award winner, Samuel Gaytan. Razvan Berindean, Manager of Engagement and Admissions for SSMF, was introduced, and he in turn introduced the student performer who stood in for Mr. Gaytan, who had suffered an injury and was unable to perform. The SER Meeting was adjourned after the concert by hostess, Mary Margaret Yeilding, standing in for Vice President Adams, who had to leave to catch a flight at the Chattanooga Airport. Business Meeting Agenda participants were: Joel Adams NCFMC; Kim Harvey, LFMCC; Debra Hughes, GFMCC; Mary Margaret Yeilding, AFMC; Barbara Hildebrand, TFMCC; Ruth Morrow, SCFMCC; Joy Denton, AFMC; Linda Griggs, AFMC; Margarita Harvey, LFMCC; Cheryl Davis VFMC; and Hillary Herndon, SSMF.

Continued on page 32

Regional News *continued*

SOUTHEASTERN REGION *continued*

News for MCM from Suwannee District

FOUNDATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF MUSIC AWARDS OUTREACH GRANT!

JUST ANNOUNCED! Caring and Sharing Learning School in Gainesville, Florida is the recipient of a FOUNDATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF MUSIC "Outreach Grant" in the amount \$1500.00. The funds will help support music lessons for students in an underserved community in Gainesville. Currently sixteen students from kindergarten through fifth grade are taking group piano lessons. Every Wednesday afterschool the multi-purpose room is transformed into a keyboard piano lab where the students take lessons from the piano teacher and can practice using headsets without interfering with other students.



Added to the music offerings this fall are clarinet and flute lessons. Fifth grade students are learning to play clarinet and flute. These classes meet Friday afternoons afterschool. Members of our FPM Senior Club have also donated clarinets and flutes to the school so that all interested students have an instrument.



Scenes from Suwannee



SOUTHEASTERN REGION *continued*

A REMARKABLE VISIT TO STEPHEN FOSTER MUSIC CAMP

Submitted by Joel Adams, NFMC Southeastern Region Vice President

It was this writer’s delight to attend the Stephen Foster Music Camp in late June in Richmond, Kentucky, at the express invitation of Sue Ann Reeves of the Cecilian Music Club. Sue Ann was the perfect hostess and treated me to a weekend of delightful music, good food, and an impressive state meeting of the Kentucky Federation of Music Clubs.



NFMC Vice President, Joel Adams with Sue Ann Reeves of the Cecilian Club of Richmond, KY

The weekend began with the Kentucky Federation State Meeting on Friday morning, on the beautiful campus of Eastern Kentucky University in the Greenroom of the impressive Performing Arts Building. State President Margaret Foote, presided, and numerous members of all three of Kentucky’s Senior Clubs—Cecilian, Lexington and Foster in Bardstown—were in attendance. (Several KFMC clubs disbanded during the COVID pandemic.) It was a lively meeting with many club reports presented and a most impressive financial report rendered by Laura Steidle, State Treasurer.

An elegant catered lunch of three courses was served on the stage of the Performing Arts Center. During dessert, the group was introduced to a multitude of students who all received full or partial scholarships to the Foster Camp by the KFMC, with the Richmond Cecilian Club providing major funding. Immediately following, a student violinist and bassoonist from the camp entertained with exemplary performances. In the late afternoon, we sat in on a rehearsal of the Foster Camp Choirs and Alumni, rehearsing a world- premier choral piece, *Life Has Loveliness to Sell*, by Dr. Richard Waters of EKU. The music was composed expressly for the occasion of the 90th anniversary of the Foster Camp, the second oldest in the nation, after Interlochen.



A large banner celebrating the 90th Anniversary of the Stephen Foster Music Camp, 2nd oldest in the nation.

On Saturday, the Stephen Foster Camp welcomed back alumni from several decades with a reception in the lobby of the Performing Arts Center, followed by a final concert—with groups of alumni and current students performing together and separately in several orchestral, choral and band configurations. For the grand finale, all orchestral, band and choral groups—approximately 300 members—assembled on stage for a rendering of *America the Beautiful*, *My Old Kentucky Home* and *Homeward Bound*. Believe me, there was not a dry eye in the auditorium.

What a wonderful first visit to the Stephen Foster Music Camp by an NFMC Southeastern Region Vice President! It warmed the heart to witness the Kentucky Federation’s immense devotion to and support of the Foster Camp. The SER has since decided to have their summer meeting there in 2027, another first for the region and the camp. At the conclusion of the concert, Sue Ann Reeves treated this Vice President to dinner at the historic Boone Tavern in Berea, now an upscale property of Hilton Hotels. It was a lovely meal in a beautiful setting, the perfect finale to a rewarding Federation Weekend in Kentucky!



The final concert of the Foster Camp in the Performing Arts Center of Eastern Kentucky University.



Continued on page 34

State News

ARKANSAS

Submitted by State President, Kathie White

Little Rock Musical Coterie

Suzanne Babbie, President
Sunday, April 13, 2025

Little Rock Musical Coterie Presented its 2025 Scholarship Award Winners in concert, followed by a Board of Directors reception.

Annalise Montgomery, a violinist, received the \$1,000 Christine Wang Coterie Award.

Kyndal Collins, a vocalist (accompanied by Leann Jones), received the \$1,000 Little Rock Coterie Award.

William Baker, a pianist received the \$1,000 Virginia Queen Piano Award.



Deborah and AFMC Officers



Deborah coloring the National Music Week Poster



William Yick (center) and Yick Scholarship Winners, Daniel Bennett (left) and Timothy Bedgood (right)

Members of AFMC presented Mosaic Musical Moments throughout the Convention. Also performing were the William Yick Scholarship winners, the Chamber Choir of Northwest Arkansas Community College (led by AFMC member Freda Goodman), and three singers from the 2025 season of Opera in the Ozarks. A Folk Music workshop and a Drumming workshop were also offered during the Convention. A Junior Honors Recital was performed on Saturday, with nine superior students from the AFMC Northern District.

Arkansas Federation of Music Clubs Convention

The AFMC 2025 Convention held on May 2-3, 2025 in Bentonville, Arkansas, proved indeed to be a “Mosaic of Music” reflecting the quality and variety of music and musicians in our music clubs across the state. Forty-two AFMC members registered for the Convention, and we had many other visitors to perform, attend concerts, and take part in some of the events.



AFMC President Kathie White & NFMC President Deborah Freeman

A special highlight of the Convention was the visit of our national president, Deborah Freeman, who was our guest speaker. She also conducted the officer installation.

One of our clubs, Andante of Bella Vista, always enlarges the National Music Week Poster for members and guests to have a chance to color! See Deborah having fun coloring!

Hot Springs Music Club Program

A Celebration of Folk Music
Pulaski County Rackensack Folklore Society

Hot Springs Music Club's April 6 program, “A Celebration of Folk Music,” featuring the Pulaski County Rackensack Folklore Society, emphasized the importance of nurturing and continuing traditional mountain music using only acoustic instruments. Its members come from all over central Arkansas to play fiddles, banjos, mandolins, dulcimers, bass fiddles, harmonicas and guitars. Less common items such as the musical saw, and dancing dolls, were also used as rhythm instruments. Story-telling and dancing also helped keep the old-time heritage of Arkansas.



Continued on page 36

PENNSYLVANIA

The Happy Bakers of the Dushore Music Club

Submitted by Barbara Murray

What better way to celebrate the summer solstice than to share fun and song with care home residents! That's just what six Dushore Music Club members did.

On Saturday, June 21, 2025, music club members journeyed to two Sullivan County care homes: One in Estella, PA, the Darway Care Home, and one in Laporte, PA, the Highlands. Both places received the songs and a skit with smiles and laughter.

Being it was the summer solstice, everyone sang "In the Good Old Summertime." That song was followed by a funny song called "Yes, We Have No Bananas." The residents joined in on the chorus as Barb Murray told the story of a Greek grocery man who 'yesses' everyone to death!

Then the "Happy Bakers" made the scene. Each baker, dressed in aprons and hats, had a special job to do to keep the shop alive. But the head baker had too many rules, and one by one, each baker messed up and had to go. So Dozer (Carol Jacques), Cosmo (Anne DaCosta), Dreamy (Kim

Dieffenbach), Blabber (Nancy Bendinsky), and Crooner (Joanna Murray) were dismissed, but then Head Baker (Barb Murray) brought all back in the end.

The final song was "If You're Happy and You Know It," which everyone laughed his/her way through the song, trying to remember the motions. Sharing music with the residents brought joy to them and filled all hearts with summer fun!



SOUTH CAROLINA

From a Rock to Reverence: How 6th Grade Music Students Learned Social Consciousness

Submitted by Dr. Sharon T. Doyle, President, The Music Club of Spartanburg

The Music Club of Spartanburg is proud of its membership as the oldest music club in South Carolina, organized in 1904. Our enthusiastic members often do not have a true realization of how much they do for our community in raising social consciousness for the consideration of others. Our membership is a mix of working and retired teachers, professional and amateur musicians, and a select group of citizens who simply profess their love of music and its importance to our community.



Dr. Meisha Whitlock

One such member is Meisha Whitlock, the music teacher at Holly Springs-Motlow Elementary School in Spartanburg School District One, who after working with an artist in residence at her school and providing a historical reading for her 6th grade students simply posed a question: "Why hasn't someone done something about this?" Her students' response was simply, "Why not us?" and so the story goes.

In May of 2024, a gravestone memorial, funded by the 6th graders at Holly Springs-Motlow was dedicated to honor Trotting Sally, a musician and slave

who died on September 20, 1930, and was buried in an unmarked grave in Inman, South Carolina. With a partnership of John Thomas Fowler, author of two books about Trotting Sally and artist in residence, the 6th grade students in Meisha's classroom began an enterprise to raise funds to purchase the gravestone, which grew into a formal dedication for the community and is currently a website for their adventure.

John Fowler visited the students during the year on three occasions and became the author of the memorial engraving on the stone with the support and input of the students. The students started a classroom business making jewelry and key chains for sale with a simple Rainbow Loom. They made \$500.00 on the first day, sold out, and had to take pre-orders for their merchandise. Meisha contacted the President of Rainbow Loom, and he sent several kits to allow for faster production and matched their revenues of \$500.00 with a donation. With a GoFundMe campaign, proceeds from book sales by John Fowler, and other local donations along with the 6th graders filling orders for jewelry, the students were more than successful.

John Fowler's generosity also included the organization of a field trip for the students to visit the Oakland Plantation where Trotting Sally was born a slave, The Hub Cit train station in Spartanburg, SC to its next stop in Inman, SC (Trotting Sally raced the train 12 miles from Spartanburg to Inman and yes, he did beat the train.), and the Mullins Plantation site on the Adidas Plant property where Trotting Sally also lived.

In Meisha's own words, "I no longer have to read my students the last sentence in this book, because we rewrote the story. Sixth graders from this experience, I want you to always remember that you never have to

Continued on page 36

State News *continued*

SOUTH CAROLINA *continued*

rely on someone else to take action. Students you have re-written the last sentence in this book... Trotting Sally died on September 20, 1931, and is memorialized in a marked gravesite at the Ridgeville Baptist Church cemetery in Inman, SC. The gravestone memorial, funded by 6th graders at Holly Springs-Motlow Elementary School, was dedicated on May 4, 2024.”

Visit the site to view the experience from beginning to end at <https://sites.google.com/spart1.org/tombstone-for-trotting-sally?usp=sharing>



Meisha with great-grandsons of Trotting Sally



Tombstone of Trotting Sally



Holly Springs-Motlow Elementary

TENNESSEE

Tennessee has 16 Senior Music Clubs and 87 Junior Music Clubs. We welcome a new Festival location in Memphis. Senior Club member, Andre Duvall, has secured an excellent judge for the Memphis Festival. Mr. Jim Walsmith is recently retired as head of the class piano program at Colonial Middle School in Memphis where he organized and hosted the Memphis Shelby County Schools Piano Fest for several years. He is very familiar with both adjudicating and teaching piano students at various stages of growth. He is a longtime church organist/pianist. He currently serves as Organist/ Choirmaster at Church of the Holy Apostles in Collierville.

Clarksville, Tennessee, has added a new Junior Music Club. Another new Festival location for Tennessee is in Murfreesboro. Dr. Sherri Stoner-Harris organized a new Senior Music Club that will sponsor the Festival. Thank you, Dr. Stoner-Harris!

Tennessee congratulates Senior Club Members who have been elected or appointed to new positions for National Federation of Music Clubs. Dr. Janie Gilliam is the National Insignia Chair as well as the Tennessee Representative to the National Board. Mary Ellen Nolletti serves as a Member-at-Large on the National Board and chairs the Summer Music Camps. Bobette Spear is the Southeast Regional Chair for National Music Week.

MUSIC IN
POETRY
& SONG

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS
SEPTEMBER 2025 - AUGUST 2027

The graphic features a large, stylized treble clef on the left side, composed of a dotted pattern. The background is light blue with scattered musical notes and symbols. The text "MUSIC IN POETRY & SONG" is written in a bold, dark blue, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the text "NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS" and "SEPTEMBER 2025 - AUGUST 2027" is displayed in a smaller, dark blue font.

TENNESSEE *continued*

Tennessee's Music Clubs and members been busy this year.

Submitted by Bobette Spear, President

Mary Ellen Nolletti, the TFMC Chair for National Music Week (NMW), did an outstanding job of promoting this event. The Thursday Music Club of Etowah, to which she belongs, made public service announcements on WCPH Radio. And an NMW program was presented by the club to recognize this annual event, held during the first week of May. Mary Ellen, who is also the NFMC's Summer Music Centers Chair, became an SER Fellow at the Austin Convention.

The Obligato Club in Nashville was excited to add two new members to the roster. This club is making plans to host the Tennessee Convention in the fall.

The Bristol Music Club held the 2025 Scholarship Auditions for students in grades 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12. Ten students were awarded scholarships for different instruments, giving them the opportunity to continue music lessons.

The TFMC was well-represented at both the NFMC Austin Convention and the Southeastern Region (SER) Annual Meeting, held this year at the Sewanee Summer Music Festival in Sewanee, Tennessee.



Barbara Hildebrand, SER Meeting Guest Speaker

Barbara Hildebrand was the guest speaker at the SER Meeting. She is a recipient of the NFMC Lifetime Achievement Award and currently serves as an NFMC Office Committee member, TFMC State Treasurer, State Festival Chair, TFMC Obligato SMC Treasurer, TFMC Musical Notes JMC Counselor. The title of her speech was "History of the Sewanee Summer Music Festival." She told how, through University Vice-Chancellor Edward McCrady's vision of a musical utopia at Sewanee and the visionary ideals of Martha McCrory's dedication to student growth, we have the format of Sewanee's Summer Music Festival of today.



TFMC Members in Sewanee (left to right) – Jim Spear, State President Bobette Spear, Leah Taylor, Michael Richey and Barbara Hildebrand

The Bristol Music Club Scholarship Benefit

The Bristol Music Club Scholarship Benefit held its annual Fundraiser November 2, 2024, at Central Presbyterian Church, Bristol, VA. The benefit is in its 60th year and opened with a Silent Auction, followed by our 2024 Scholarship Winners Music Program: Kennedy Rose Hammond, Voice; Ellen Hong, Violin; Emmy Nannenga, Piano; Shanna Jung, Piano; Chloe Wilcox, Violin; and Anastasia Wade, Piano.



Kennedy Rose Hammond

The Bristol Music Club & Paramount Chamber Players Award Winner

Taught by Ivy Blair. Blair Academy for the Arts

The Emcee for The Bristol Music Club Scholarship Benefit was Beth Perkinson McCoy, member of The Bristol Music Club.



Beth Perkinson McCoy

Ms. McCoy served as Music Director for the Mountain Empire Children's Choral Academy, originally known as the East Tennessee Children's Choir from 1994 – 2007. Under Beth McCoy's leadership, the Highlands Youth Ensemble was formed to provide high school students with an opportunity to sing in a more advanced ensemble setting. The Chorister Choirs were begun for singers in grades 1 through 3. In 2002, the Mountain Empire Children's Choral Academy was formed, a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization.

The Scholarship Benefit Fundraiser is a way to raise funds and award scholarships to gifted young musicians in grades 4-12.



Continued on page 38

State News *continued*

TEXAS

Hello TFMC Music Teachers and Music Lovers,

We had a wonderful time at the NFMC Convention held in Austin on June 10th – 14th. Texas did a great job of hosting the event. We started off the event enjoying Texas BBQ and line dancing in downtown Austin, Texas. Everyone had a great time! Our guest artists, pianists, vocalists, and instrumentalists wowed the audiences. Election of officers was held, and progress was made throughout every division. We hope that next year, you will join us in Arizona for our next NFMC gathering!

Even though we have some outstanding junior music students in Texas, when you read the Junior Keynotes magazines, you will notice that our Texas music students are not winning the awards, sadly. This is probably because our students are not entering these awards, and the teachers may not be aware of them. For your convenience, I have attached a list of awards and competitions available to Junior students. Some of these awards do not require a student to major in music in a university to receive them. All applications have different requirements. Please read carefully to plan to meet all necessary deadlines. You may want to begin literature selection now.

Please take a moment to look at the list of awards found in Junior Keynotes Magazine and ask your students about applying for some of these wonderful monetary awards this year. Most have deadlines of March 1st or May 1st.

Let's have some Texas winners this year!

Thank you,
Judy Gorrell
TFMC Junior Competitions and Awards Chair

*Special Notice – The NFMC Angie Greer Music in Poetry Award just changed their deadline to November 1st.



Visit nfmc-music.org
for all the latest NFMC news,
events and awards.

WASHINGTON

The **Overlake Federated Senior Music Club** of Washington State held a “Just Jazz!” concert in June. OVFMC provided a wonderful platform to learn more about jazz – jazz composers and musicians - by asking the Junior Clubs the OVFMC supports to present reports on jazz music and composers, and prepare a concert for parents, other students and teachers, and the community. Some of the selections included: *Misty* (Erroll Garner), *Heliotrope Bouquet* and *Maple Leaf Rag* (Scott Joplin), *Autumn Leaves* (Joseph Kosma), *Night Train* (Jimmy Forest) and a fabulous composition by performing student Jaden D’Souza titled *Jazz Solo in B-Flat*. The youngest of the performers loved the fun jazz pieces by Martha Mier, Catherine Rollin, the Fabers, Robert Vandall, and Daniel McFarlane. It was a well-attended concert, and the performers loved the experience.



JUST JAZZ! CONCERT
presented by Overlake Federated Senior Music Club



WISCONSIN

Barron Federated Music Club in Wisconsin is celebrating its 100th year of sponsoring music education and participatory performances in schools and the community. In November, the club held a Hymn Sing at the First United Methodist Church, featuring: soprano soloist Mary Shearer who gave her faith testimony through music, the men’s quartet Higher Vision, and audience singing. A coffee hour afterwards highlighted, through record books and posters, the many ways the BFMC has influenced music in the community for over 100 years.

During the winter months, the BFMC has sponsored a Brown Bag Lunch series featuring musicians at the Barron Public Library. The series has included: Lynn Emmons and her Federated Club piano students; Theodore Koth on guitar and Sacia Jerome on cello (pictured) who are an acoustic duo from Milwaukee; and local hospice harpist, Patty Partridge. Because of the success of this new winter music series, the Barron Public Library and the BFMC plan to collaborate on this series in 2026. The Barron Federated Music Club takes to heart the NFMC Collect’s phrase “to bring the spiritualizing force of music to the inner life of our nation.” 🎵



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS



STUDENT/ COLLEGIATE AWARDS

AMOUNT	AWARD	DEADLINE
\$20,000	Ellis Duo Piano Awards	February 1
\$20,000	Young Artist Award	February 1
\$6,000	Lynn Freeman Olson Piano Pedagogy Award	March 1 (Odd)
\$3,000	NFMC Student/Collegiate Auditions	March 1 (Odd)
\$2,250	Lynn Freeman Olson Composition Awards	March 1 (Odd)
\$2,000	Elizabeth Paris French Horn Award	March 1
\$2,000	Classical Guitar Award	March 1
Up to \$1,500	Student/Collegiate Composition Awards	March 1
\$1,500	Oscar Valentin Violin Award	March 1
\$1,500	Carolyn Nelson Double Reed Awards	March 1
\$1,500	Gretchen E. Van Roy Music Education Scholarship	March 1
\$1,500	Dorothy Dann Bullock Music Therapy Scholarship	March 1
\$1,000	Myrtle Mehan/Hazel Morgan Music Education Scholarship	March 1
\$1,000	Carey Wilson Music Therapy Scholarship	March 1
\$ 800	Frances Nelson Tuba Award	March 1
\$ 800	Ernest A. Bluhm Flute Award	March 1
\$ 750	Elizabeth Grieger Wiegand Sacred Music of the Faiths Award	March 1 (Odd)
\$ 650	Ruth B. Robertson Music Therapy Scholarship	March 1

For award requirements and to apply, visit the NFMC website: www.nfmc-music.org

NFMC Headquarters

www.nfmc-music.org / info@nfmc-music.org / Phone: 317-882-4003



Music Clubs MAGAZINE

National Federation of Music Clubs
1646 West Smith Valley Road
Greenwood, IN 46142

NON-PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
INDIANAPOLIS IN
PERMIT NO 1927



Coming Dates to Highlight:

November 2025

Parade of American Music

May 3-10, 2026

National Music Week

Theme: "Music...is our constant companion"

June 9-13, 2026

NFMC Biennial Conference

*Embassy Suites by Hilton
Scottsdale, Arizona*

Competitions and Awards

Inside back cover and www.nfmc-music.org

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 NFMCA headquarters at the address on page 3. 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 Editorial Chair Janie Gilliam one month in advance. Advertising information is available on the NFMCA website.