

## NFMC President's Report

2026

### *A Bridge to the Future ...*

This past year has been a testament to the enduring strength of the National Federation of Music Clubs—a year where we have not only honored the foundations laid by our predecessors but have actively built the framework for those who will follow.

Our work this year has been guided by the concept of heritage in motion. We often speak of our 128-year history with pride, yet our true success lies in how we translate that legacy into modern opportunity. From our involvement at the MTNA National Conference in Chicago to the launching of the "America 250" contests, we are proving that the NFMC remains the premier champion of American music.

- **Connecting Generations:** Through the legacy of leadership, we are ensuring that the mentorship we received is paid forward to the Junior Division and the next generation of performers.
- **Connecting Service and Song:** By integrating philanthropy and community service into our scholarship requirements, we are reaffirming that music is not just an art form, but a vital service to our communities.
- **Connecting Vision to Reality:** From consistent excellence in our Festivals to the new online Festivals Bulletin, we are modernizing our operations while maintaining the professional standards that define our organization.

As we look toward the horizon—specifically to our gathering in Scottsdale this June and the "Southern Spirit" awaiting us in Greenville in 2027—I am reminded that a bridge is only as strong as its supports. You are those supports. Your dedication to your students, your clubs, and our shared musical heritage is what makes this organization a constant companion to so many.

Thank you for walking this path with me. The bridge is sturdy, the path is clear, and our music is stronger than ever.

It is my honor to serve as your president. Let us continue *Celebrating our Musical Heritage* while embracing the future.

Deborah Freeman, NFMC President