

News of Note

The newsletter of the Wisconsin Federation of Music Clubs



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Peggy Radmer, WFMC President

I attended the North Central Regional days and the Junior Composers Institute concert in Minneapolis. I invited Cathy Paquette to attend and together we renewed acquaintances and made new ones. It was a successful conference. At JCI we met many very talented students putting a lot of effort into their music. JCI is sponsored by the North Central Region.

If you have students who are interested to attend, next year's JCI will be held at Augsburg college during the week of July 5-11. The emphasis in 2009 will be vocal arranging and composing and several exciting guests are already booked.

There will be an addition of a teacher workshop on the afternoon of Saturday, July 11. Teachers will receive hands-on instruction and practice designed to assist them as they help their students create mu-



sic. Details will appear in the new JCI brochure available in early winter, or via the JCI web site, www.juniorcomposer.org. Anyone who'd like a copy of the brochure should contact Karen Bourne at kjbourne@cableone.net.

There is a concern that JCI is not financially self sufficient and that the educational staff is donating a large amount of their time. To assist JCI, I would urge you to please consider them as a candidate for charitable contributions.

I also attended the NFMC national convention in Denver in August. While there, I attended every possible meeting that I could as either an active participant or as quiet attendee.

I attended the Finance meeting. Dr. Keck precipitated her talk with the fact that there were no secrets about NFMC finances. She went on to give figures indicating to me

that the NFMC has very impressive endowments. When I attended this meeting I asked if any dues would be increased. Dr. Keck said that "at that time there were no plans to increase the dues." Later at the General meeting, the by-law changes were voted upon to remove dues from the by-laws. Saturday the executive board raised the Senior Individual Membership dues from \$20.00 to \$50.00 -- a 150% increase. This affects 25% of our WFMC membership. A new senior club, WISC, has been formed for these members.

For the past decade or two, WFMC has paid \$0.50 to national for each student performance at Federation Festival. It is a little-known fact that the treasurer has been paying this amount to national. We have been sending around \$2400 each year.

National approved the development of a national web-based computerized database which will cost approximately \$180,000. At this time it is in the concept and design stage and is not expected to be ready until January of 2011. The development of the database will be funded by a fee charged for every student performance at Federation

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Submissions for News of Note should be sent to newsfnote@wfmc-music.org

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Festival. Beginning this year, the current \$0.50 fee has been raised to \$2.00. This increases the WFMC's assessment by a projected \$7200, making the total close to \$10,000 annually.

At this time WFMC will look into seeing if it can absorb this increase without passing it on to the students.

I also attended the Awards and Scholarships meeting. Several individuals complained that the requirements were too complicated and difficult to understand. Dr. Keck said, "It would take a year to organize these." He also stated that National has a lot of money to award and more people should apply for these awards.

Please save Saturday, May 30, 2009 for attending the WFMC State convention.

The convention will be at the Ambassador Hotel. There is free parking and the cost is set at just \$15.00. This includes lunch and a tour of the Pabst Mansion as well as music interludes.

LAKE COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB

by Sam Ecoff, President, LCMC

The Lake Country Music Club has had another very busy year. We continue to expand our membership, welcoming six new members already this year.

On October 11th, we sponsored the first annual Greater Milwaukee



Baroque Music Festival. (<http://www.lcmusicclub.org/barabout.html>) The event was held at Hartland Music Center and featured competitive and non-competitive divisions. Sixty-Seven students performed two baroque era compositions for judges. Over

RUTH KREUSER MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

by Cathy Paquette, WFMC Scholarship Chairman

Do you have a student between 12-18 years of age, where circumstance finds them ineligible for participation in any other WFMC sponsored scholarship, grant or monetary award during the current school year? The Ruth Kreuser Music Scholarship is a \$500 award designed specifically for these students. The application is available on the WFMC web site, www.wfmc-music.org. If you do not have internet access, you can contact your Senior Club President for a hard-copy. The application deadline is March 15, 2009 and the form is self-explanatory.

Perhaps you have an outstanding student with the necessary qualifications who can benefit from this scholarship. Don't miss this great opportunity for your student!

\$700 in prize money was awarded to the winners of the competitive division. The winners were announced at the end of the day, and all of the winners performed in a recital after receiving trophies and prizes. Sam Ecoff, president of LCMC dressed up in period costume as an added treat for students.

LCMC held its annual play-a-thon event, Music is For Everyone during the week following the Baroque Music Festival. A six day long series of concerts and recitals, teachers and students of club members and community teachers came together to help raise funds for the LCMC scholarship fund.

LCMC continues to offer its scholarship CD for sale. Featuring performances by many of the talented members of LCMC, the CD has something for everyone and makes a great holiday gift. Please contact Sam Ecoff or visit our web site (www.lcmusicclub.org) for information on how to

83RD BIENNIAL WFMC STATE CONVENTION SATURDAY, MAY 30TH, 2009

THE AMBASSADOR HOTEL
2308 WEST WISCONSIN AVE., MILWAUKEE WI 53233

Tentative Agenda

9:00 AM	Registration
9:30 AM	Business Meeting
10:30 AM	Installation of Officers
11:00 AM	Musical Interlude
12:00 Noon	Luncheon
1:00 PM	Memorial Service
2:00 PM	Travel to Pabst Mansion
2:30 PM	Tour of Pabst Mansion
3:30 PM	End of day

- \$15 fee covers all expenses including registration, parking, lunch, and Pabst mansion tour.
- The luncheon will include a choice of two entrees along with soup or salad and dessert.
- The tour of the Pabst Mansion will include a performance on their 100 year old Bösendorfer grand piano by one of WFMC's scholarship winners!
- Both the Ambassador Hotel and the Pabst Mansion offer free parking. The Pabst Mansion is about 2 blocks from the Ambassador for anyone who wishes to walk.
- Watch for the official convention call coming to your home in mid-April.

For additional information please contact the convention chairmen:

Jeanne Kish	262-896-9263	Email: jfkish@hotmail.com
Heidi Hong	715-637-5719	Email: westview@chibardun.net
Kathy Baumgart	262-547-3198	Email: wkbaumgart@sbcglobal.net

BIENNIAL AUDITIONS

Marlene Cook, Chairperson, WFMC Biennial Student/Collegiate Auditions

The NFMC Biennial Student/Collegiate Auditions will be taking place in 2009. These auditions are open to college students, ages 19-26. Applications are due by January 15, 2009, and the auditions will be by CD.

There are three levels of auditions: state, regional, and national. First place winners in state and regional levels advance to nationals. We are fortunate in the state of Wisconsin to have money available for first place awards of \$1000 and second place awards of \$750 in each of thirteen classifications (for example, piano, violin, orchestral winds, man's voice, etc.). First place national winners re-

ceive \$1200. Posters and fliers have been sent to approximately fifty Wisconsin colleges and universities about these auditions. If any of you have a student or a former student who might be interested in these auditions, please have him/her visit the NFMC web-site (www.nfmc-music.org) for more information. The web-site contains general information, rules, fees, applications and required repertoire. There have not been many applicants from Wisconsin in the past, and I am trying to encourage teachers to contact students and former students about this competition. If you have any questions or can recommend a student, please feel free to contact me at 414-964-5829 or at marbcook@aol.com.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS 55TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION

“MUSIC...INSPIRES!”

By Jeanne Kish, WFMC representative to NFMC

I hope many of you will consider traveling to sunny Florida and that WFMC will be well-represented at this year's NFMC convention in Orlando at the Rozen Plaza Hotel! The convention will be held from June 1st to June 7th. In addition to many important meetings and decisions the week will include performances by all of the National winners, the highlight being the 2009 Young Artist winners who will perform Thursday evening, June 4th. Friday evening, June 5th, there will be a performance by the 2009 Ellis Duo Winners.

REPORT FROM WFMC REPRESENTATIVE TO NFMC

By Jeanne Kish, WFMC Representative to NFMC

The 2008 NFMC fall session was held from August 5th through August 10th in Denver, Colorado. The following are some of the highlights and changes that were made during that week.

Senior Special membership fees have been increased from \$20.00 to \$50.00.

The subscription price for Music Clubs Magazine has been raised to \$7.00 immediately. Junior Keynotes magazine will be raised to \$6.00 starting in 2009-2010.

A new procedure for the election of NFMC officers will be presented to the voting membership for approval at the 2009 Biennial Convention in Orlando, Florida.

At the end of the current Hymn of the Month booklet (Spring 2009), the Hymn of the Month will have a new name and an expanded focus. It will be entitled “Together We Sing” with the subtitle – Monthly Songs for Music Clubs. It will be a printed book for September through

Other activities and performances include:

Wednesday afternoon, June 3rd, there will be a tour of Universal studios followed by the Perlman/Schmidt/ Bailey Trio Concert.

Saturday, June 6th is “Juniors” day with many activities for junior members and their parents. Of course, the culmination of the convention will be the President’s Banquet on Saturday evening honoring all the state presidents. Entertainment after the banquet will be by the Florida Singing Sons Boychoir.

A memorial breakfast in remembrance of all members who passed away during the past year will be held on Sunday morning, June 7th.

For more information and the official convention call, please see the Winter Editions of Junior Keynotes and Music Clubs Magazine.

May.

NFMC is in the process of selling the headquarters building. The new building is part of the Smith Valley property. The Headquarters new address will be announced upon completion of the relocation.

Bylaws changes include: The nomination of Regional Chairmen may only be made by a Board member from within the specified Region. Members of the Federation may attend meetings of the Board of Directors as observers, but may only speak upon recognition by the chair. Bylaws and standing rules will be placed on the NFMC web site.

NFMC will donate several boxes of music currently stored at headquarters to the State Federations affected by Hurricane Katrina.

The name of the White Breakfast will be changed to the Memorial Breakfast.

Carole Flatau from North Dakota was elected as the new national “Together We Sing” – Monthly Songs for Music Clubs chairman.

Junior Division changes are as follows:

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REPORT FROM NFMC FALL SESSION AUGUST 4-10, 2008

Jeanne Kish - NFMC Junior Division Chairman

The NFMC Fall Board Meeting in Denver during August 2008 was a very productive session for the Junior Division. Please read the following information that pertains to changes in Junior Division programs:

1. The following proposal for changes to the gold cup plan for the Junior Composers Contest was approved at the Junior Division meeting held on August 7, 2008:

Entrants in Junior Class I would continue to receive 5 points for a Superior rating, entrants in Junior Class II will receive 6 points for a superior, those entering Class III will receive 7 points and entrants in Class IV will receive 8 points. Junior Class IV compositions must have at least two instruments arranged in the composition in order to obtain 8 points for a superior (voice can count as one instrument). If the student's composition does not have at least two instruments 7 points will be given for a superior rating.

A picture displaying all sizes of gold cups is available on the NFMC web site.

2. Naming of Festivals

The festivals will continue to be called Federation Festivals rather than Junior Festivals to reflect the inclusion of the Adult area of participation.

3. Festival Age Requirement

The new ruling on festival age is that entrants

must not have reached the age of 19 prior to June 30th of the festival year. For example, in the 2009 festivals entrants may not reach the age of 19 before June 30, 2009.

4. Mary Alice Cox Award

An additional \$400 will be added to this award. The increases will be as follows: 1st place – \$1,100, 2nd place – \$800, 5 Regional Awards – \$350 each.

5. Theory Tests

The practice theory tests and answer keys for 2009 will be computerized and available on the NFMC web site. The goal is to have all theory tests computerized by 2010.

6. Junior Rating Sheet Certificates

To create more interest, additional ribbons will be added to the certificates. Please see Joan Stanisha's article for more detailed information.

7. Ad in Clavier & Keyboard Companion

There is a newly designed ad that has been prepared for insertion in Clavier and Keyboard Companion Magazines.

Junior Festival posters are available from NFMC headquarters for \$2.00 each. This is a wonderful way to promote the Junior Festivals in your area.

8. New Piano Award

Work is continuing on the new Piano Award that will initially be awarded in the odd-numbered years. Details will be presented in Orlando at the 2009 NFMC Convention. The goal is to launch this award in 2011.

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Consecutive superiors will be consistent with the options described in the Gold Cup section of the Festival Bulletin. For example, if a student is allowed to alternate between events such as concerto and solo in high school, between Lynn Freeman Olson and Piano Solo, or between duets and trios for gold cup points, then these situations would also be recognized as legitimate progressions for consecutive superiors.

A national Festival Management Database

and Web Application was adopted along with an increase in the NFMC Festival Fee to \$2.00 per event entry with \$1.50 of that fee designated for web application development, implementation and maintenance.

Of course, all of the events and musical interludes were outstanding. The tour of Denver included an excursion to Red Rocks Amphitheater and high tea at the Brown Palace Hotel, which

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Spring 2009

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Wisconsin Federation
of Music Clubs

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Send articles to newsofnote@wfmusic.org

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was absolutely elegant. We enjoyed a performance of past and present young artist winners, Dr. Andrew Cooperstock, pianist and the wonderful baritone voice of Jesse Blumberg. And of course, once again, the Ellis duo piano team of Stephen Varney and Naomi Sanchez delighted us with their performance.

Saturday was Juniors and Jazz day with the infusion of youth! 94 juniors with 93 parents/teachers interacted enthusiastically with performances and activities. The highlight of the day was the performance at the President's Banquet by the Colorado Children's Chorus.

Lana Bailey, NFMC President, was outstanding in her leadership, organization and graciousness throughout the fall session.

Future NFMC Conventions and Fall Sessions are as follows:

June 1-7, 2009 In Orlando, Florida; August 3-8, 2010 in Pittsburgh, PA; June 2011 in Virginia-exact dates and place to be announced.