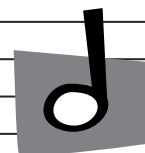


# Half Notes



Publication of Minnesota Federation of Music Clubs

SUMMER 2012

## Official Call

PAT STEEGE, MFMC PRESIDENT

The MFMC all-member state meeting will be held on Thursday August 9, 2012, at Chisholm Baptist Church, 901 SW 6th St., Chisholm, MN 55719. The meeting will be hosted by Hibbing Musicale.

Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. All MFMC members are welcome and encouraged to attend. MFMC officers and chairmen are expected to attend. All clubs are required to be represented at one or more state meetings a year.


Members of MFMC active adult organizations, individual adult members, and life members in good standing are eligible to vote on actions proposed at this meeting.

The registration form will be emailed to members and will be available on the MFMC website — [www.mfmc.net](http://www.mfmc.net)

### Future MFMC Meetings

- April 2013 — to be announced
- August 2013 — Convention hosted by Apple Valley MTA

## Grand and Gold Cup Winners


Minnesota had four Grand Cup and 1,008 Gold Cup winners in 2012. See pages 6 and 7 to read about our winning students. 

## 2012 Junior Composers Camp Scholarship Winners

PAT STEEGE, JUNIOR COMPOSERS SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR

Four composition students from Minnesota were awarded \$400 scholarships to attend the Junior Composers summer camp at the University of Minnesota in July. The four winners, who competed in MFMC's Junior Composition Contest in January, are listed below. Learn more about Junior Composers Summer Camp on Page 3.

### JC Scholarship Winners

- Abram Atchison, Minneapolis (Teacher Dr. Sarah Miller, Chain of Lakes)
- Ariana Bachman, Eagan (Teacher Martha Davis, Apple Valley)
- Luke Gion, White Bear Lake (Teacher Kathy Martinez, East Suburban)
- Grant Luhmann, Minneapolis (Teacher Dr. Sarah Miller, Chain of Lakes) 



Members of the Willmar Convention 2011 planning committee. From left, Raeanna Gislason, Cheryl Schmidt, Cindy Ammerman, and Peggy Karsten. Read a re-cap of the convention on our website — [www.mfmc.net](http://www.mfmc.net).

## Message From President Pat Steege



I have just returned from the spring all-member meeting hosted by the Duluth Music Teachers Association under the leadership of their President Julie Ciurleo. We came together from Marshall, Farmington, Rochester, Grand Rapids, Hibbing, and areas around Duluth and the Twin Cities, to a beautiful historic site overlooking Lake Superior, aka Gitchee Gumee.

The Minnesota Federation of Music Clubs meets twice a year in locations around the state. In this issue of *Half Notes* you will read about scholarships granted at our Duluth meeting, about Grand Cups earned through the Festival program and about the musical talent of young Minnesotans. MFMC officers and chairmen have been diligent leaders this year. We have witnessed the re-start of our student auditions program. Our Junior Composition Contest is alive and well. And success of our Festival program is self evident in the 1000+ trophies earned this year alone. Our website has just been updated with the most recent Festival report from Dawn Carlson.

The MFMC has found itself in an unusual

position — we have too much money. A committee will be looking at ways to use about \$50,000 for students, clubs, teachers and other musical endeavors that promote American music and musicians. The committee will make recommendations at our August meeting in Chisholm. Members of the committee are Rebecca Heerd, Doug Rohde, Kathy Wilson, Mary Wescott, Nadine Berg, and Pat Steege. We welcome and encourage ideas from all of you as we begin this joyful yet serious task of deciding how to best use these funds.

This past year I have continued to talk to many people around the state about MFMC and to visit local clubs. I hope to see YOU at a gathering soon. ☺

## MFMC Treasurer Transition

PAT STEEGE

Nadine Berg, after having served as MFMC's treasurer for 12 years, will hand the checkbook and calculator to Gwen Degner of Remer, MN. Gwen, who is a member of Itasca Music Club, has agreed to assume the treasurer responsibilities. MFMC will officially elect and install Gwen at our August meeting in Chisholm.

Words are inadequate to thank Nadine for the diligent care she has given our coffers. Nadine helped us through the National Convention we hosted at the Bloomington Sofitel in 2006. She has maintained the website roster, kept up with changes at National, and handled a \$100,000+ budget. Nadine has attended meetings and quickly responded to inquiries. **Read more on Page 14**



**The Grand Cup was presented to Katherine Ardeleanu by her teacher Nadine Smirnov of South Suburban and MFMC President Pat Steege. Katherine performed for teachers at the May 7, 2011, meeting in Edina.**

# Junior Composers Summer Programs

PAT STEEGE

**J**unior Composers Summer Program will be held at the University of Minnesota Minneapolis in July, 2012.

**Studio — July 9-21**

**Institute — July 15-21**

**Songwriters — July 14-20**

Core features of the Junior Composers Summer Programs:

**Composition tutorials**

**Two hours of daily music theory/ear-training**

**Master classes with a professional guest composer**

**Composing and performing new compositions**

**Daily salons with guest artists**

**Field trips: Minnesota Sinfonia; ice cream social**

**Music technology lab, practice rooms**

**Room and board at Middlebrook Hall, U of MN**

JC STUDIO and JC INSTITUTE • The 2012 Artist in Residence is a fantastic professional string quartet from St. Paul — the Artaria String Quartet. They will do readings of student-composed scores for string quartet. Brooke Joyce, guest composer from Luther College in Iowa, will work with the students during the first week. Faculty for the Studio and the Institute are Randall Davidson, Linda Tutas-Haugen, Dr. Sarah Miller, and Dr. Seth Custer.

The final salons for JCS and JCI students will be on Saturday, July 21.

JC's collaboration with the Minnesota Sinfonia will continue another year. Jay Fishman, Artistic Director of the Minnesota Sinfonia, has extended a call for submissions to the second annual Composition Contest. The winning string quartet piece will be part of the Sinfonia's Young Artists Week, culminating in a performance on Friday, July 20, 2012, at the Lake Harriet Bandshell in Minneapolis.

**JC SONGWRITERS INSTITUTE •**

Songwriter students will work with faculty Michelle Whalen and guest songwriter Andy Thompson. Plans are underway to provide the students with a recording studio experience in collaboration with McNally Smith School of Music. The final salon for the Songwriters is on Friday afternoon, July 20.

The public is invited to attend all afternoon salons featuring guest speakers, and the final salons, where pieces composed by students during the previous two weeks will be premiered. ♪



Junior Composers Camp 2011 attendees gather outside Ferguson Hall at the University of Minnesota.

# Junior Composition Contest Winners • 2012

PAT STEEGE, CHAIR, JUNIOR COMPOSITION CONTEST

During January, 24 young composers ages 8 to 18 from across Minnesota entered the Junior Composition Contest. Their compositions, which represented all levels of skill and creativity, were sent for evaluation to the judge, Dr. Patrick Riley, Bemidji State University. The winners are —

## Class I

- Deborah Pompa, *Dance of the Windchimes*; teacher Pat Steege, Apple Valley MTA
- Joshua Swanson, *The Battle is Over*; teacher Margaret Christensen, Duluth MTA

## Class II

- Aaron Keyes, *Falling Asleep*; teacher Doug Rohde, Chain of Lakes
- (Tie for 2nd) Josh Pompa, *Crocodile Hunting*; teacher Pat Steege, Apple Valley
- (Tie for 2nd) Daniel Pryke, *Puffy Duet*; teacher Dr. Sarah Miller, Chain of Lakes

## Class III

- Evren Ozel, *Piano Trio in F Minor*, mvt 1 and 2; teacher Dr. Sarah Miller, Chain of Lakes
- Elizabeth Ophoven, *Oak Leaf Rag*; teacher Anne Dimich, Itasca Music Club

## Class IV

- Grant Luhmann, *Divertimento*; teacher Dr. Sarah Miller, Chain of Lakes
- (Tie for 2nd) Julia Kloehn, *Bouquet*; teachers Sally Nelsen and Dr. Sarah Miller, Chain of Lakes
- (Tie for 2nd) Dylan Perese, *Zeal for Orchestra*; teacher Dr. Sarah Miller, Chain of Lakes

The top two winners in each age category advanced to the Regional level of judging. Five 15-point trophies were awarded for Junior Composition in 2012.

At the Regional level, Minnesota had four winners who advanced to National:

- Joshua Swanson
- Elizabeth Ophoven
- Evren Ozel
- Grant Luhmann

## Junior Composers Summer Camp Faculty



Junior Composers summer camp faculty (from left): Randall Davidson, Dr. Seth Custer, and Linda Tutas-Haugen. Additional faculty include Dr. Sarah Miller and Michelle Whalen.

## National Winner Grant Luhman



Grant Luhman, Junior Composers Contest Class IV winner, placed second in the National judging.



# Junior Composition Contest 2012 Class IV Winners

**D**ylan Perese, 18, Minneapolis, has participated in MFMC's Junior Composition Contest for three years. In 2012, his composition for orchestra titled *Zeal* took second place honors in Class IV and advanced to Regional judging. Last year Dylan's piece *Audacity* won local and regional awards and then went on to win a national NFMC award. In 2010, Dylan received a Superior rating for his piece *First Shot*.

Dylan has studied piano and composition with Dr. Sarah Miller at MacPhail Center for Music since 2005, and has studied composition with Dr. Edie Hill since 2010. In 2011, Dylan attended the Federation sponsored Junior Composers Studio at the U of MN.

Dylan is an active member of the American Composers Forum and frequently collaborates on projects with local artists. Dylan was recently awarded the Schubert Club Composer Mentorship for a second year. He will attend Harvard University in the fall. ♪



**Dylan Perese, JCC  
Class IV winner**



**Julia Kloehn, JCC  
Class IV winner**

**J**ulia Kloehn, age 17, Minneapolis, has studied piano with Sally Nelsen for ten years and studies composition with Dr. Sarah Miller at MacPhail School of Music. She has been a finalist in the MMTA state piano contest and has received many superior ratings in the MFMC Junior Festival.

In 2008, Julia first entered MFMC's Junior Composition Contest and won first place at the state level with her piano composition and advanced to the North Central Regional contest. In 2011, Julia's piece for piano and bassoon titled *Woodland Dance* advanced to the national contest. Her compositions in 2010 and 2012 each received second place at the state level.

Julia is a junior at Southwest High School and a member of the National Honor Society. In addition to her musical interests, Julia attends Xelias Aerial Arts School where she performs on a trapeze and suspended silks and hoops. She likes art, biking, and hiking. ♪

**G**rant Luhmann, high school junior from the Twin Cities area, began studying music in fourth grade, and currently studies composition and music theory with Dr. Sarah Miller at the MacPhail School of Music. He is a Schubert Club composer apprentice with professional composer Edie Hill. In 2011, while attending JC Studio, he studied with composers Randall Davidson and Dr. Seth Custer. Also Grant has been mentored by conductor Amir Kats.

Grant plays oboe and English horn. He is a member of Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies (GTCYS) and Minnesota Youth Symphonies (MYS). He has written works that span unaccompanied oboe to full orchestra. His work has been performed by the Grammy winning Parker String Quartet, Duluth Superior Symphony Orchestra, and the Copper Street Brass Quintet. He has won recognition in the state, regional, and national levels. Grant is a member of ASCAP. ♪

**The Junior Composition Contest has helped students on their paths to music careers. Teacher Doug Rohde, Minneapolis Chain of Lakes, states: "Josh Rumppe, who placed well a couple years ago, is now in college and has music pouring out of him. I believe the composers contest and JCI were 'instrumental' for him."**

# Grand and Gold Cup

SARAH TWEDT, MFMC CUP CHAIRMAN

As another Festival year winds down, Cups and certificates are being awarded to Festival students at their recitals throughout the state. And we are reminded of the value of the NFMC Cup Program.

The Festival Cup program not only enables our musicians to earn trophies while participating in music events, it gives them opportunity to set goals and incentive to continue taking lessons and earn bigger (and bigger) cups. It challenges them to take risks and work on more challenging repertoire.

Students in grades 9-12 earn the 75-point requirement for Grand Cup by combining points earned from Difficult Solo Event, Junior 3, and Senior Concerto repertoire.

In Minnesota, four students with the guidance of their teachers earned the Grand Cup and we offer them our congratulations!

- Kate Bussert, student of Narissa Strong Bach of the Chain of Lakes Music Club, Minneapolis
- Ashley Nelson, student of Lois Muelich, Great River Music Club, St. Cloud
- Brian Taintor, student of Chris Wolf, Apple Valley Music Teachers' Association
- Paul van Vliet, student of Sarah Twedt, Apple Valley Music Teachers' Association

## Grand Cup Winner Kate Bussert

Kate Bussert has been studying piano since she was four years old. She has taken classes at the MacPhail Center for Music for two years and private lessons with Narissa Strong Bach for thirteen years. As a member of the Chain of Lakes Music Club, Kate has played in the Piano Solo Event of Junior Festival each year, 1999-2012, and in the Piano Concerto Event 2010 & 2011. This year marks her 12th consecutive superior rating in the Piano Solo Event.

Kate has played flute for eight years, currently studying with Judith Ranheim. Kate plays the flute and piccolo in the Wind Ensemble at South High School in Minneapolis, MN, where she has also participated in seventeen theatrical productions. Kate plans to attend Wellesley College in Massachusetts in the fall, pursuing a double major in English and Theatre. ~

We processed 5,117 Gold and Silver Cup entrants in 2012. A total of 1,008 cups and plates were ordered:

- 709 1st cups
- 230 2nd cups
- 61 3rd cups
- 4 - 4th cups
- 4 - 5th cups

Thank you to record keepers for their effort in preparing Festival reports. Many hours are spent registering, scheduling, tallying, and finally, preparing the reports before the cups can be delivered.

*I am honored to serve as your MFMC Cup Chairman and greatly appreciate the patience and kindness shown to me from members of the Federation during these busy months. ~ Sarah Twedt ~*

***Most people use music as a couch; they want to be pillowed on it, relaxed and consoled for the stress of daily living. But serious music was never meant to be soporific. ~ Aaron Copland***



Kate Bussert, Grand Cup Winner

## Grand Cup Winner Ashley Nelsen

Ashley Nelsen, a junior at Big Lake High School, has taken piano lessons from teacher Lois Muelich of the Great River Music Club since 2001, which marked her first year of participation in MFMC's Festival. She has received 12 consecutive Superior ratings. She prepared a Concerto during the past three years, earning 75 points.

Ashley has participated in the Minnesota Music Teachers Association piano competition and performed in the Honors Recital. She participates in her school's music program and is an accompanist



Ashley Nelsen, Grand Cup Winner

for several choirs. In addition to her musical endeavors, Ashley is president of the National Honor Society, president of the Big Lake swim and dive team, and has earned a black belt in karate. She is a Red-Cross certified life guard and water-safety instructor. ♪



Brian Taintor, Grand Cup Winner

## Grand Cup Winner Brian Taintor

Brian Taintor, a student of Chris Wolf and Bill Dexter of Apple Valley MTA, began playing piano in kindergarten. He continued studying piano through high school even though (he admits) he did not always enjoy practicing. In middle school, Brian played his first two concerto events with Mr. Dexter, and his final concerto event with his dad playing the orchestra part. Brian, who plays the piano daily, is (now) glad his parents made him continue with lessons. Brian is a National Merit Scholar and Eagle Scout. He recently participated in Lego robotics teams where he discovered his dream of becoming an engineer. He will graduate from Eastview High School in Apple Valley in 2012. ♪

## Grand Cup Winner Paul Van Vliet

Paul van Vliet, a senior at Eagan High School, was awarded the Grand Cup in the Piano Solo Event. He earned a total of 79 points to fulfill the requirement. He has achieved ten consecutive Superior ratings in MFMC's Festival. Paul has studied piano with teacher Sarah Twedt for 11 years. He is a member of the National Honor Society and has been named to the "A" honor roll for 11 consecutive trimesters. Paul has been awarded the academic recognitions of AP Scholar with distinction and National Merit Commended Scholar. He is a Life Scout member of Eagan Boy Scout Troop 453 and is currently finishing his project for Eagle Rank. Paul is the son of Karen van Vliet of Eagan, MN, and John van Vliet of Hudson, Wisconsin. Paul plans to attend University of Wisconsin in the fall. ♪



Grand Cup winner Paul Van Vliet with teacher Sarah Twedt

# IMC 2012 Scholarship Winners Festival 2012

KAREN SUE ERICKSON, INTERNATIONAL MUSIC CAMP SCHOLARSHIP COORDINATOR

DAWN CARLSON, FESTIVAL CHAIR

Three students were awarded scholarships to attend the 2012 International Music Camp this summer.

- **Claudia Finsaas** from New London, MN, studies voice with Cheryl Schmidt of Willmar. She received a second place award in Women's Voice in Student Auditions. Claudia plays piano accompaniment and violin with the Finsaas Family Fiddlers.
- **Joshua Kavanaugh** from Salo, MN, is a piano student of Nancy Fischer in Warroad. Joshua, the oldest of nine siblings, wants to share his love of music and foster the same love of music in others.
- **Deborah Kavanaugh** from Salo, MN, is a piano student of Nancy Fischer in Warroad. She has studied piano for seven years and plans to pursue her goal of becoming a piano teacher. ♪

Twenty-nine sites held Festivals this year. Festival site chairs and record keepers deserve accolades galore. Our MFMC teachers and students appreciate all you have done. The auditing and compiling of statistics have been completed. Final numbers of students and events have been posted on the website — [www.mfmc.net](http://www.mfmc.net)

Thank you, Festival 2012 season volunteer auditors Shannon Benson, Anne Dimich, Barb Thompson, Kathy Williamson, and Judy Zylstra for keeping our local and state records accurate. ♪

## State Student Auditions Winners 2012

ANN OLEKSOWICZ, STUDENT AUDITIONS CHAIR

Congratulations to the eight young musicians who entered and won scholarships in MFMC's biennial Student Auditions held in February of 2012. First place winners received \$500 scholarships; second place winners received \$400 scholarships.

### Violin

- 1st Place - Aria Stiles, Apple Valley, MN (Teacher Lucinda Marvin)
- 2nd Place - Alia Gribbon, Duluth, MN (Teacher Michelle Gribbon)

### Piano

- 1st Place - David Packa, Cherry, MN (Teacher Nadine Berg)
- 2nd Place - Alex Blaser, Alexandria, MN (Teacher Marcia Benson)

### Woman's Voice

- 2nd Place - Claudia Finsaas, New London, MN (Teacher Cheryl Schmidt)

### Orchestral Brass

- 2nd Place - Spencer Brand – Trumpet, Alexandria, MN (Teacher Albert Moore)

### Orchestral Woodwinds

- 1st Place - Alex Blaser – Oboe, Alexandria, MN (Teacher Joelle Bureson)
- 2nd Place - Michelle Bromschwig – Flute, Bloomington, MN (Teacher Betty Olson)



# First Place Winners of State Student Auditions 2012

## Aria Stiles

Aria Stiles, a senior at Eastview High School in Apple Valley, has played the violin since age five. She is a student of Lucinda Marvin at MacPhail Center for the Arts in Minneapolis where she has participated in recitals, the certificate program and concerto/aria concerts. She has taken master classes with Bobby Mann, Jorja Fleezanis, and Roger Frisch. She is active in her high school choir.

Aria has won several area fiddle contests and is a Featured Round Performer with MPR's Varsity competition. She has soloed twice with the La Crosse Symphony in La Crosse, Wisconsin. Aria is Minnesota's 2012 "Distinguished Young Woman" (formerly America's Junior Miss) and will compete at nationals in Mobile, Alabama in June. She plans to pursue a degree in commercial music. ♪



Aria Stiles



David Packa

## David Packa

David Packa, pianist, 17 years old, from Cherry, MN, began learning piano from his sister at age 3. He studied with Deb Magee in Eveleth, and currently takes lessons from Nadine Berg in Hibbing.

David plays viola with the Crescendo Youth Orchestra in Hibbing, sings in the Hibbing Community College Choir and his church choir, and plays percussion in the Duluth Superior Youth Symphony.

David plans to pursue a musical career and hopes to one day start his own orchestra. ♪

## Alex Blaser

Alex Blaser is a senior at Jefferson Senior High School in Alexandria, MN. Throughout high school she has participated in several activities such as band, choir, color guard, dance, jazz band, pop group/carolers, speech, student match and many theatre productions.

This past summer she had the opportunity to play oboe in the 2011-2012 Minnesota All-State Orchestra. This summer, Alex will march with the Music City Drum and Bugle Corps from Nashville, TN. She will attend North Dakota State University on a full-tuition music scholarship. She plans to study Oboe and Vocal Performance. ♪



Alex Blaser

## Second Place Winners of State Student Auditions 2012

Alia Gribbon, Claudia Finsaas, Spencer Brand, & Michelle Bromschwig • Please see photos on Page 12 and read their bios on our website — [www.mfmc.net](http://www.mfmc.net)

## Adult Composers Critique

BETTY OLSON

Entrants to MFMC's Adult Composer Critique Event have often produced wonderful, successful work. Sonja Johnson's composition titled "The Earth Is One" was published by Emerson. Karen Erickson of St. John's University published her piece. Two winning collaborations by Heidi Hansen and Marcia Benson have been made available by self-publication.

Unfortunately, the number of entries to Adult Composer Critique is down. Our increased mailings have not stimulated more entries. We are looking for ways to increase the number of applicants.

We need your help to revamp ACC and welcome your suggestions on how to reach and inspire the modern amateur composer, encouraging him or her to participate in Adult Composer Critique.

We offer the Virginia Kendrick Scholarship, and always have the finest music theory/composition professors critique the entries.

Please share you thoughts and ideas. Email Betty Olson — [bolsonflute@comcast.net](mailto:bolsonflute@comcast.net) ~

***If a composer could say what he had to say in words he would not bother trying to say it in music. ~ Gustav Mahler***

## Two Winning ACC Collaborators

BETTY OLSON

Marcia Benson & Heidi Hansen have been a composing team for three years; each brings a different perspective to the team.

Marcia has an eclectic background. At age four she began singing in church, then studying piano and violin. She continued her studies with several teachers including Kay Carlson, Tom Allen, and Paul Wirth. She currently has private piano studios in both Clearwater and Alexandria, Minnesota. She works as a church musician at Shalom Lutheran Church in Alexandria.

Heidi is the church musician and choral director at South Santiago Lutheran Church in Clear Lake, Minnesota. She holds a BS degree in Vocal Music Education from St. Cloud State University, and a MM degree in Piano Performance and Pedagogy from the University of St. Thomas. Heidi has a private studio in Becker, Minnesota, where she teaches piano, flute, voice and *Musikgarten* classes.

Together, Marcia and Heidi have formed Dolce Dolls LLC, a business where they create and sell custom designed music. Several solo pieces they have written include *Crazy for Cupcakes*, *Playing Soccer with Julie*, *Grandma's Feather Hat*, *Samantha's Locket*, and *Erin's Encore*. ~



**Together, Heidi Hansen and Marcia Benson have formed Dolce Dolls LLC, where they create and sell customer-designed music**

# Preserving Our Cultural Heritage Through Music

SARAH TWEDT, ARTS ADVOCACY CHAIRMAN

Are we losing our cultural heritage? Nigel Lythgoe, acclaimed TV/Film director and producer of "American Idol" had much to say about this issue and about how our American culture is not being passed on to future generations.

Mr. Lythgoe comes from England and sees firsthand how young performers do not know, among other things, words to our national anthem. "I'm afraid you are losing your heritage," he told an audience in DC this past April.

Wynton Marsalis asks the same question: "Who will have the courage to teach the most heroic songs and stories of what we have done all over this land and demand that the best of who we are be the national story?"

The answer? We will and we are. The National Federation of Music Clubs is an arts organization whose mission is to promote American Music, and with that, our culture and heritage.

This rings loudly and clearly to me now. After Mr. Lythgoe finished his lecture, I thought about our Festival bulletin and what it includes. We are in a unique position to advocate for the arts while teaching students and our communities about our cultural heritage. Please see the American Patriotic and Folk Song Event in our bulletin, page 87. We can use this section as reference for events other than Festival participation — events such as incorporating folk music into themed recitals and working folk music into our teaching and into our students' ensemble playing.

The *Together We Sing* Booklet, a project of Carol Flatau, is available through the NFMC website.

Let's use our creative resources to challenge ourself to make a difference with this pressing issue. The arts define our culture and play an important role in preserving our culture and our society as we know it.

Wynton Marsalis writes: "Our songs, dances, [and] writings allow us to speak to one another across generations. They gave us an understanding of our commonality long before the DNA told us we are all part of one glorious procession." ~

# MFMC History on Web Site

CHERYL SCHMIDT, HISTORIAN

MFMC's historical information is now featured on the MFMC website history section.

This information will be forwarded to the NFMC historian with a request to place it within the state archives.

A number of older MFMC newsletters are missing. If members have copies of past MFMC newsletters, please contact Cheryl Schmidt. Recent and future newsletters will be saved as digital copies. ~

# Insurance Reminder

Tamie Morken, insurance coordinator for MFMC, asks that all clubs send to her their Festival 2013 dates and times, along with dates of all other club activities that need to be covered by insurance.

Send information to Tamie by July 1, 2012, to ensure proper insurance coverage of events with the National Federation of Music Clubs.

Tamie's email: [trmorken@gmail.com](mailto:trmorken@gmail.com)

# Pianist Christopher Norton Visits Minnesota

MEGAN GILES

Christopher Norton, world-renowned pianist and composer, visited Minnesota in June. Christopher, who is best known for his worldwide smash hit series *Microjazz*, was a guest presenter at Minnesota Music Teachers Association's (MMTA) convention on June 5. Piano students and teachers had opportunity to work with, play for and learn from Christopher Norton in both the Twin Cities and Willmar. Other events during his visit included recitals, workshops for teachers and students, piano Festivals, and a gala concert.

Sponsors of the Willmar events were — West Central Music Teachers Club, Willmar Music Teachers Club, Ridgewater College, and the Minnesota Music Teachers Foundation. For more information, log onto [www.thechristophernortonproject.com](http://www.thechristophernortonproject.com)

## State Student Auditions 2nd Place Winners

READ MORE ABOUT THE 2ND PLACE WINNERS ON OUR WEBSITE



Alia Gribbon



Michelle Bromschwig



Spencer Brand



Claudia Finsaas

## Resources for Arts Advocacy:

- Minnesota Citizens for the Arts (MCA) • [www.mncitizensforthearts.org](http://www.mncitizensforthearts.org)
- Americans for The Arts • [www.Americansforthearts.org](http://www.Americansforthearts.org)
- Save the Music • [www.savethemusic.com](http://www.savethemusic.com)
- Minnesota State Arts Board • [www.arts.state.mn.us](http://www.arts.state.mn.us)
- Minnesota Music Educators Association (MMEA) • [www.mmea.org](http://www.mmea.org)
- The complete Nigel Lythgoe's lecture can be found at this link: <http://vimeo.com/channels/315556/41110741>
- The transcript from Wynton Marsalis, Nancy Hanks lecture April 2009, can be found by searching Wynton Marsalis, Nancy Hanks lecture.

## Visit Our Websites:

- MFMC • [www.mfmc.net](http://www.mfmc.net)
- NFMC • [www.nfmc-music.org](http://www.nfmc-music.org)
- NCR • [www.nfmcncr.org](http://www.nfmcncr.org)



MFMC Officers and Chairmen | 2012

**MFMC President Pat Steege**

- Junior Composition Contest
  - Junior Composers Summer Camps
  - Junior Composers Scholarships
  - Student Awards and Scholarships
  - Chapman Award
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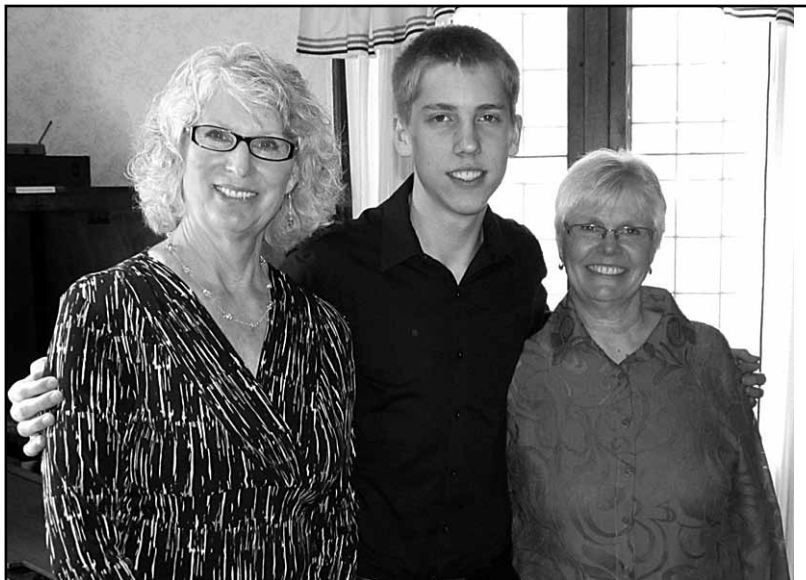
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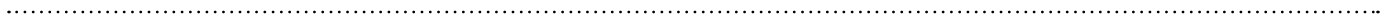
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**Treasurer Nadine Berg, continued from Page 2**

*I am grateful to have had the opportunity to serve MFMC as treasurer for 12 years. I've learned so much about the organization and gotten to know so many of you, making wonderful friends along the way. Thank you for entrusting me with the resources that we all contribute to make MFMC move forward. I know that Gwen Degner will be a wonderful treasurer and we will have a great time together making this transition. I look forward to having a little more time to focus on other aspects of the Federation and my own life. May we all continue to work together to make MFMC the best that it can be. ~Nadine Berg*



**State Student Auditions 1st Place Winner David Packa (center) with Pat Steege (left) and his teacher Nadine Berg (right) after performing Copland's *The Cat and the Mouse* for MFMC's members in Duluth on April 28, 2012**



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