

Minnesota Federation of Music Clubs

HALF NOTES NEWSLETTER — SPRING-SUMMER 2018

WEB SITE: WWW.MFMC.NET

COMPILED BY CHERYL SCHMIDT

Official Call

UPCOMING MFMC STATE MEETING DATES

Thursday, July 12, 2018 in Frazee, MN 10:30am – 1:00pm

Meeting, Recital and Presentation by composer Melody Bober

Registration form in this newsletter and at www.mfmc.net Events – Meeting Information

Thursday, July 26, 2018 in Delano, MN 9:30am – 1:00pm

Meeting and Master Class with composer Wynn-Anne Rossi

Registration form in this newsletter and at www.mfmc.net Events – Meeting Information

Saturday, April 27, 2019 in St. Cloud, MN

Location, time and details to be announced

Summer 2019 – State Convention

Date & Location to be announced

Presidents Message



Mary Wescott, MFMC State President

Where did the school year go? It seems like yesterday I was planning out the year with Festival and Recitals and now we will finish another school year.

MFMC has 2 scheduled meetings for this summer. Both meetings are open to all members and potential members of MFMC. Personally, I am excited about both meetings. You need to register in advance for these meetings, because we are opening the meetings up to all music teachers. The first meeting is in Frazee, MN. Melody Bober will be our guest. We will be having a recital in her honor and we do need students to participate at this meeting. We will have a very short business meeting. It is my intention for all the registrants to receive an email copy of our agenda. We have very few items on our agenda at this point, but we have not been to the National meeting in June.

Student participation is important at this meeting. We will provide lunch for the students, but not their parents. I am hoping that the neighboring communities can find us students. However, this is open to the entire state. If you have a student that would be interested let me know. The date is July 12, 2018 at Spanky's Restaurant and Grill. After our recital we will have a wonderful salad luncheon served by the restaurant. Please look at registration for choices. Afterwards, we will have a sharing time with Melody Bober.

July 26, 2018, we are in Delano, MN. This is hosted by Tuesday Morning Musicale. Wynn-Anne Rossi, is going to conduct a Master Class and the suburban and southern clubs have been contacted and we have the appropriate number of students for the class. Thank you, teachers, for making this happen!!

At our executive committee meeting we discussed having a meeting next April. We picked a date and a city, but not a definite location at this point. Please mark your calendars April 27, 2019 in St. Cloud. We will probably have 2 items to vote on at this meeting and they are important to every teacher in MFMC, so plan on being at this meeting in April. I want you to attend, so I am not going to even give a hint about the voting.

I hope all of you have had a great year teaching.

The executive Committee is looking forward to our 2 outstanding meetings this summer. Please bring a friend or two to one or both of these meetings.

Mary Wescott, MFMC State President

MFMC State Festival Chair Nadine Berg

A big thank you goes out to all of you who work so hard to make our Festivals successful! I especially wish to thank the site managers, record keepers and auditors that ensure all information is accurate so that our students get the credit they have earned!

If you would like to try your hand at auditing next year, I could use 2-3 more auditors.

This 2018 Festival season saw 4031 entries in 33 different events. Of that number, 4011 were juniors and 20 were adults. Here are the details:

<u>Event:</u>	<u>Number of Entrants:</u>	
	<u>JUNIORS:</u>	<u>ADULTS:</u>
Piano Solo	3021	<u>12</u>
Lynn Freeman Olson Piano Solo	14	
American Patriotic & Folk Song	26	
Piano Concerto	43	
Piano Duet	110 (55 duets)	
Piano Trio	3 (1 trio)	
Piano Duo	2 (1 duo)	
Piano Quartet	4 (1 quartet)	
Piano Hymn Playing	134	1
Organ Repertoire	7	
Vocal Solo-Art Song	24	
Vocal Solo-Musical Theater	79	<u>3</u>
Vocal Duet-Art Song	4 (2 duets)	

Violin Solo	184	<u>1</u>
Violin Concerto	17	
Viola Solo	17	
Viola Concerto	1	
Cello Solo	45	
Cello Concerto	1	
String Bass Solo	1	
Classical Guitar Solo	37	
Classical Guitar Duet	2 (1 duet)	
Pick Style Guitar Solo	4	
Fiddling Solo	2	
Flute Solo	11	<u>1</u>
Flute Duet		<u>2 (1 duet)</u>
Piccolo Solo	1	
Bassoon Solo	1	
Theory Exam	202	
String Orchestra	14 (1 ensemble)	

There were 2992 Superior Ratings, including three 12-year consecutive Superiors!

BRAVO TO ALL!!

MFMC Festival Cups Chair Sarah Twedt

It is time to give a *hearty thank you* to all record keepers and festival chairs for their hard work preparing their festival reports this past festival season! Members, please take time to show appreciation for this very detailed work! We are very grateful for their diligence year after year and we would not have a successful festival season without these folks! On behalf of MFMC, I would like to give a big thank you to Georgia Hanson of Willmar West. This is her last year doing the records for Willmar West. Thank you, Georgia, for your dedication to your students, club and MFMC.

Now is the time to prepare for next year! If you have any questions or need help with any aspect of your reporting, please let me know. We would love to help you make the reporting process easier for you. We continue to build our Access database – if you are in need of help with your clubs' records, we can help you. Please let us know soon if you would like help with your club's records.

NFMC has hired a new developer for the national on-line record keeping system. The system is still in development - please check Junior Keynotes for any updates.

For the 2018 Festival, we processed 4076 Cup Entrants and ordered 923 cups! Of these, 6 were Grand Cup winners and 1 received the President's Cup!

Please congratulate the following Grand Cup Winners in Piano Solo!

David Besonen	Apple Valley, MN	Apple Valley MTA	Student of: Chris Wolf
Michelle Quan	Apple Valley, MN	Apple Valley MTA	Student of: Chris Wolf
Nellie Benton	Eagan, MN	Apple Valley MTA	Student of: Sarah Twedt
Lexie Sorensen	Eagan, MN	Apple Valley MTA	Student of: Sarah Twedt
Jacob Johnson	Minneapolis, MN	Metro 2	Student of: Narissa Strong Bach
Leah Dahlsrom	Thief River Falls, MN	Thief River Falls	Student of: Kristi LaSalle

Please congratulate the President's Cup Winner in Piano Solo!

Jeremy Heung	Woodbury, MN	East Suburban	Student of: Jackie Lo
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MFMC would also like to recognize "The String Factory", a Junior High Orchestra Group from Lakeville, which completed its 17th year in Festival. Meg Meyer and Barb Ross of AVMTA started this program to fulfill a need for a string program in Lakeville, which has struggled with arts funding in schools. The group was started in 1985 and began playing in the Junior Festival in 2002. Barb has continued to lead this group in Festival since Meg's death 10 years ago, and this accomplishment fulfills Meg's dream and honors her memory. Music touches us in so many powerful ways, and the benefits of the arts for these students is invaluable. *Congratulations to the String Factory!*



The String Factory

Meet some of our MFMC Festival Grand Cup Recipients



Jacob Johnson

Jacob Johnson is a 17-year-old junior at Breck School, who has studied piano with Narissa Bach since he was 5 years old. He has attended the NFMC's Junior Composers Camp for the past two years. He has acted in numerous plays and musicals at Breck and is in the process of writing a musical of his own. He enjoys writing of all sorts and has consistently been engaged in his school's English program over the course of his time in high school, with some of his papers being included in school publications.

As a member of the Chain of Lakes Music Club in Minneapolis, Jacob receives the Grand Cup and 12-Year Consecutive Superior Award. For Minnesota Music Teachers Association, Jacob has prepared the Level 10 Comprehensive Piano Exam, Music Theory Level 6, Piano Contest, and numerous appearances for the Honors Concert.



Lexie Sorensen

Alexa Sorensen began piano lessons in Kindergarten under the direction of Sarah Twedt. She earned the NFMC Grand Cup in Piano Solo. In addition to piano, Alexa has played flute for the Minnesota Youth Symphonies for the past three years. Alexa is active in her high school band. In 2018, she was a Drum Major and received the Instrumentalist of the Year Award, as well as an Eagan High School Band Boosters Wildcat Musician Scholarship.

In addition to her musical accomplishments, Alexa is president of Apricate, a clothing company that seeks to spread positivity and promote equality for all people. Alexa will study music at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota.



Sarah Twedt and Nellie Benton

Nellie Benton, a junior at Eagan High School in Eagan, Minnesota, has earned the Festival Grand cup. Sarah Twedt of Eagan is her teacher. Nellie was exposed to music lessons at a very early age because her mother taught piano in their home. Nellie participated in her first piano solo festival at the age of four in Madison, Wisconsin.

Nellie is active in track and Honor Society and tutors ELL students. She and her family have hosted exchange students the past three years and Nellie plans to study in Bosnia Herzegovina her senior year as a State Department YES scholarship recipient.



Leah Dahlsrom

Leah Dahlsrom is from Thief River Falls, MN and is a Senior in high school. Leah received her Grand Cup in Piano Solo. She has been studying piano for 11 years under her teacher Kristi LaSalle. She has also studied violin for 7 years under Kari Lindamoen and is a violinist in the NYYO symphony and plays in various quartets.

Leah has been volunteering her musical abilities at church and care facilities since the age of 9. She plans to pursue missionary work in the Philippines and further her education there. Music has impacted her life in a tremendous way and she thanks her teachers for helping her develop a skill that she can use for a lifetime.

Meet our MFMC Festival Presidents Cup Recipient



Jeremy Yeung

Jeremy Yeung, 18 years old, was awarded the NFMC Federation President Cup for Piano Solo & Concerto in 2018. Last year, he earned two NFMC Federation Grand Cups, one for Piano Solo & Concerto and one for Violin Solo & Concerto. He has studied both instruments since the age of 6 under the instruction of Dr. Jackie Lo. Jeremy was the Concert Master of Woodbury High School Advanced Concert Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, and the MMTA String Group. He was selected for SEC All-Conference Honors Orchestra and among the few "hand-picked" students to join the faculty Orchestra for Masterworks since 10th grade.

For his leadership in Orchestra, Jeremy was named Student of the Trimester. Jeremy's musical accomplishments include 11 full-score superior ratings in piano and the same in violin from NFMC Festivals, multi-year first place winner in MMTA String Contests, multi-year winner in MMTA State Piano Contests, superior ratings in Minnesota State High School League Violin Solo Contests, and the winner of the Georgia Chapman Award Music Scholarship. Jeremy is currently a sophomore attending the University of California, Berkeley.

Inspirational Musical Quotes

"Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything" – Plato

"How is it that music can, without words, evoke our laughter, our fears, our highest aspirations?" – Jane Swan

2018 Junior Composers Contest Chair Sharon Kaplan

Junior Composition totals:

Class 1 (ages 9 and under) - 1; Class 2 (ages 10 - 12) - 6; Class 3 (ages 13 - 15) - 8; Class 4 (ages 16 - 18) - 7. Total = 22. These past two years have seen declining registrations.



Our MFMC state and *regional 2018 winners are:

Class 1 - Edward Wanger (t. Fern Davidson)	Class 2 - *Stephen Elsinger (t. Sarah Miller)
Class 2 - Carolyn Stuber (t. Sarah Miller)	Class 3 - *Sam Hanson (t. Sarah Miller)
Class 3 - *Frederick Robin (t. April Spaeth)	Class 4 - David Besonen (t. Chris Wolf)
Class 4 - *Ronan Armstrong (t. Sarah Miller)	

NFMC National Contest Winners: Ronan Armstrong - honorable mention in class 4, Sam Hanson - 1st place in Class 3 and Stephen Elsinger - 2nd place in Class 2.

MFMC Junior Composers Summer Programs Scholarship Recipients:

Individuals who are receiving MFMC scholarships to Junior Composers Summer Camp are Ronan Armstrong, Kolton Graf and Akira Ea.

Dates of the Junior Composers Summer Programs: _Composers Institute: July 15 - 21, Composers Studio: July 9 - 21 will explore Music + Film; Songwriters Institute: July 15 - 21. For more information go to: www.juniorcomposers.org.

2018 Kaplan Memorial Scholarship Recipient

The recipient of the 2018 Kaplan Memorial Scholarship to attend Junior Composers Summer Programs is Rogan Tinsley from Spokane, Washington. Rogan writes:

Dear Mrs. Kaplan,

I can't thank you enough for this scholarship! Lifting this financial burden off my family's shoulders helps more than I can say, and (at the risk of sounding cliché) truly inspires me to keep on teaching/writing/playing music. I am more than excited to come back to JCI this summer and see all the amazing people I met last year, as well as work with all the amazing instructors who are a part of Junior Composers. Since I returned from JCI last year, I feel like my portfolio will forever be divided into "before Junior Composers," and "after Junior Composers." Out of all my experiences as a musician, Junior Composers stands out to me as easily the most profoundly enlightening and the most constructive, both in terms of musicianship, as well as character. It is truly an honor to be granted this scholarship, and to be honored in Eli Kaplan's name.

Sincerely,
Rogan Tinsley

MFMC First Vice President and Insurance Coordinator Nancy Fischer

I Missed the Deadline, Now What?

Our MFMC insurance year has two deadlines each year for requesting NFMC insurance. The first is **August 1** to request NFMC insurance for Festival or events that will take place from September 1 – December 31. The second is **November 15** to request NFMC insurance for Festivals or events that will take place from January 1-August 31. We have these deadlines because we pay the lowest premium when we meet them and it helps your MFMC Insurance Coordinator stay organized! But it is not always possible to plan so far in advance, and sometimes we decide to host events after the insurance deadlines have passed. That does not mean you cannot still request insurance for those events. You can and should request insurance for any Federation event you are hosting.

Our statewide policy adopted in 2017 says: "The MFMC is requiring that NFMC insurance **must** be requested for all Federation sponsored events. Every Festival site must have NFMC insurance coverage. Every Festival Recital must have NFMC insurance coverage. Any event which includes the MFMC individual club names or the MFMC name must have NFMC insurance coverage."

In order to request NFMC insurance two forms need to be filled out. Both can be found on the MFMC website.

1. Reply Form 1 registers the date of the Festival or event, an accurate address for the site, and notes if an insurance certificate is needed. Reply Form 1 is to be emailed to Nadine Berg (if you are registering a Festival) and Nancy Fisher.
2. .NFMC Child Protection Policy Form. A signed Child Protection Policy Form is required by the NFMC's insurance company for each event. The form must be signed by the Festival site manager or Event planner. This form can be sent electronically or through the mail to Nancy Fisher. The CDC guide, *Preventing Child Sexual Abuse Within Youth-Serving Organizations*, is posted on the MFMC web site for review

State Student Auditions Chair Marcia Benson

Endings, Beginnings! Both are exciting. Many of us are ending the school year of lessons. Recitals are happening, with all the joy and trepidation involved. As you finish and wrap up your Spring schedule, plant the seeds for preparation for our biennial MFMC State Student Auditions.

Unique to our North Star State, three scholarships of \$500 are offered to students of Federation teachers. Application deadline is December 31st, 2018. Students perform three pieces, including one by an American composer, in one sitting, similar to a live audition. Recordings are sent to the chair and evaluated by an adjudicator. Results are announced, and monies distributed in the Spring of 2019.

Students are eligible to enter in various categories to include: Piano, Voice and Instrumental.

For more information, visit the MFMC web site; click on MFMC Scholarships - Biennial Student Auditions/MFMC State Student Auditions.

International Music Camp Chair Karen Erickson



The International Music Camp (IMC) is located on the border of the United States and Canada in the International Peace Gardens between North Dakota and Manitoba. Seven week-long summer sessions are offered with professional artist-teachers in Music, Theater and Dance, Visual Arts, and Creative Arts.

Music programs include Piano, Guitar, Harp, Handbells, and Percussion, along with Band, Choir, Orchestra, and Jazz Band. Students perform in large ensembles and chamber music groups along with taking private lessons. Master Classes and Music Theory classes are also

part of the programs each week. The week ends with a large group performance or piano recitals depending on the session.

The Minnesota Federation of Music Clubs (MFMC) offers a \$400 scholarship to the International Music Camp Summer Program to two students in grades nine through twelve who have received a Superior rating in the MFMC Festival held the same year. This amount generally pays for tuition depending on the session the student chooses to attend. Transportation, extra lessons, and personal items are the student's responsibility.

The applications are due April 1st after most Festivals have been completed and two references, one from the student's present teacher, and a demo CD must be included. Both the student and teacher must be members of the MFMC. The \$400 tuition scholarship is paid directly to the International Music Camp by May 1st once scholarship recipients have been chosen.

Please encourage your students to take advantage of this opportunity. Some years we have received many applications making the selections difficult among so many qualified applicants and this year there were none. More information may be found at the MFMC (www.mfmc.net) and IMC (www.internationalmusiccamp.com) websites.

Historian Karen Erickson

National Federation of Music Clubs History:

The National Federation of Music Clubs was organized in 1898 and is now the largest volunteer non-profit organization in the world. Its beginnings happened in this way: The 1893 World's Columbian Exposition was held in Chicago to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' discovery of America. Dr. Theodore Thomas, Conductor of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, was chosen to lead the musical segment of the Exposition, called the World's Fair Congress of Musicians. His wife, Rose Fay Thomas, had the idea to invite women's amateur musical clubs to participate also. The National Convention of Women's Amateur Musical Clubs was thus held on June 21-24, 1893 in Chicago with representatives from forty-two clubs across the country, each presenting their history and a selection of musical works.

There were three clubs from Minnesota present at the Convention: The Cecilian Society of Duluth, The Schubert Club of St. Paul (formerly the Ladies Musicale organized in 1884), and

The Zoch Club (formerly The Ladies' Club organized in 1888) of Minneapolis. Other area clubs were also mentioned: the Minneapolis Choral Association, the St. Paul Choral Association, and the Ladies Thursday Musicales.

The objects of this 1893 convention were listed as follows from a reprint of The Record of the Founding Meeting of the National Federation of Music Clubs:

- 1st. To show the actual standard of musical culture among the best class of American women in all parts of the country, and the character and quality of the educational work in music being done by Women's Amateur Musical Clubs.
- 2nd. To stimulate the formation of such clubs in places where they do not now exist, and to improve the work of those already organized, by giving them an opportunity to measure themselves with each other.
- 3rd. To give a national recognition to this department of woman's educational work, which has hitherto been overlooked.

In her opening remarks to the convention, Rose Fay Thomas stated: "The fundamental value of amateur music does not lie in the facility with which the fingers can manipulate the keys or the voice can trill a song, but in the deeper and broader culture it gives to the mind and heart – the power to think and feel with the mighty creators and their noble interpreters, and to follow them into the supernal realms of art whose portals only fully open to those who hold the mystic keys."

Their hope was to advance the cause of music through the efforts of women to cultivate music and the arts. "Let us study music in all its forms, and as deeply as possible, not merely as a brilliant accomplishment, but as a vital force which shall raise us to a higher life. Every woman who would lead a musical life should belong to a musical society...what we do as amateurs is done for love."

Thus the idea of a national organization of women's music clubs was born. A group of women met in New York City in June of 1897 for the purpose of forming a National Federation of Music Clubs (NFMCC) under the invitation of the Women's Division of the Music Teachers National Association. Formal charters were obtained and bylaws were adopted in January of 1898 at a meeting in Chicago so this is the date used as the beginning of the NFMCC. A prime objective of the organization was, and still is, the support of American composers and artists.



Information about the history of our Minnesota Federation of Music Clubs (MFMC) will be forthcoming. We have received a large box of historical materials from the family of Elda Lindquist from Alexandria who was an active Federation member at the national, state and local levels. Elda passed away this winter just a few months shy of her 90th birthday. She will be remembered for her devotion to the MFMC, the Alexandria Euterpean and Central Lakes Music Club, and music in general.

Excerpts from:

The Record of The Founding Meeting of the NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS
National Federation of Music Clubs – A Record of Achievement 1898-1985

MFMC is in need of members for the following positions!

MFMC State Treasurer

Contact: Gwen Degner or Mary Wescott

MFMC Festival Auditors

Contact: Nadine Berg

MFMC Certificates Chair

Contact: Nadine Berg

The Minnesota Federation of Music clubs strives to continue providing support for all members and students so that we can continue with an efficient and accurate festival program, provide grants – scholarships - awards, educational opportunities and remain fiscally strong.

Please consider becoming more involved, especially for these positions if you feel your skill set is a good match!

Job descriptions are available from the contact persons noted above. Their contact information is on the MFMC web site.

MFMC Officers and Chairpersons

CONTACT INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON THE MFMC WEB SITE: WWW.MFMC.NET

Mary Wescott: State President

Nancy Fisher: 1st Vice President, Insurance Coordinator

Sarah Twedt: 2nd Vice President, NFMC Board Rep., Membership and Festival Cup Chair

Mary Kaye Rabaey: Secretary

Gwen Degner: Treasurer

Karen Erickson: Historian, International Music Camp Scholarships

Cheryl Schmidt: Finance Chair, Web Site, Half Notes Newsletter

Nadine Berg: Festival Chair

Rebecca Heerdt: Scholarships, Awards and Grants Chair, Parade of American Music

Sharon Kaplan: Junior Composers Contest and Scholarships

Marcia Benson: State Student Auditions

Jeannene Simonson: Certificate Chair

Peggy Karsten: Parliamentarian/Advisory

MN Federation of Music Clubs State Meeting • July 12, 2018



Melody Bober is our guest

Meeting/Agenda

- 10:30 AM • Business Meeting
- 11:00 AM • Recital of Melody's Music and others
- Teaching Insights Melody and Questions
- 12:30 PM • Lunch — Choice of Chicken Caesar Salad or Strawberry Chicken Salad
- 1:00 PM • Meeting

Location

- Spanky's Stonehearth Grill, 34785 Co. Hwy. 4, Frazee, MN

Cost

- \$40.00 per person • Checks Payable to MFMC

Registration • Please fill out and detach this portion. Mail it along with your check in amount of \$40 to —

Mary Rabaey, 103 W. 4th St. Minneota, MN. 56264

Name _____

Club _____

Email Address _____ **Phone** _____

Address _____

Choice of Entrée _____

MN FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS STATE MEETING

THURSDAY, JULY 26, 2018 9:30AM – 1PM



**Featuring a Master
Class with Composer:**

Wynn-Anne Rossi

Meeting Agenda

9:30 am Coffee/Conversation

10:00 am Business Meeting

10:30 am Wynn-Anne Rossi
Master Class/Teaching Insights

12:15 pm— 1:00 pm Lunch
(Variety of Salads)



Where: Light of Christ Lutheran Church, 3976 County Line Road SE, Delano, MN 55328

Cost: \$40 per person. *Checks made payable to: TUESDAY MUSIC CLUB*

Registration: Please detach and Mail with \$40 payment to:

Sue Quist, 6301 Hummingbird Road, Excelsior, MN 55331

Questions? Contact Sue Quist: ksquist@visi.com/612-720-0826

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____