

Minnesota Federation of Music Clubs

HALF NOTES NEWSLETTER — FALL/2022-WINTER/2023

WEB SITE: WWW.MFMC.NET

COMPILED BY CHERYL SCHMIDT

Official Call

Spring State Meeting: Saturday, April 22, 2023 – Virtual via Zoom

Biennial Convention: Wednesday, July 19th, 2023 – Virtual via Zoom

President's Message – Nancy's Notes



Nancy Fisher, MFMC State President

Rewards

Planning for MFMC's 100th Anniversary Celebration meant a substantial investment in thought and time commitment. This was not an effort done begrudgingly, but it certainly involved persistence and diligence, and perhaps sometimes wondering what we - Gwen Degner, Karen Erickson, Julie Gutzmer, Cheryl Schmidt, Mary Wescott, and myself - had



gotten ourselves into. Thinking back through the process that resulted in the celebration, I can see numerous rewards from these efforts.

First, it was rewarding to see ideas turn into action items and then progress to something tangible as these ideas came to completion. There are many examples I could mention. More than two years ago, Mary had the idea to invite the NFMC Young Artist-winning Ellis Duo to perform in Minnesota. After untold emails, phone conversations, venue arrangements, postponements, more arrangements, renting pianos, tuning pianos, advertising, printing posters, tickets, programs, and hosting a dinner party, the Ellis Duo did indeed perform a concert that will not soon be forgotten. Another example of an idea turned tangible began with the thought that celebrating MFMC's 100 years with an original composition would be memorable. Minnesota's own Melody Bober was asked and graciously agreed, a piece was written, a publisher found, music ordered, paid for, autographed, and ready for purchase. That idea resulted in the Festive Overture, introduced by Melody Bober and performed by Sarah Twedt, a celebratory piano piece that you can touch, listen to, learn, and teach.

Learning about MFMC's history was also rewarding, as we looked at the impact and influence our organization has had in the past and is having now and in the future. Hearing from five of our distinguished state Past-Presidents made us grateful for the leadership we have had. We also learned more about our parent organization, the National Federation of Music Clubs. Dr. George Keck's presentation made us feel humbled and honored to be a small part of the legacy and future of NFMC. Audrey Johnson's program on the 100th Anniversary of the Women's Suffrage Movement coincided perfectly with our history. Gaining a better understanding of the history of our organization has been very rewarding. Looking at these historical perspectives will certainly shape us as we move into the days ahead.

Thirdly, the efforts that were made to include a student recital and a member recital as part of the celebration were rewarding. What a joy to hear from students from many areas in our state, and what a privilege for them to learn more about Federation by being here with us! How thrilling to hear our talented members perform and remind us in a bold way about our shared love of music!

Finally, it has been quite rewarding to work together with the other members of the 100th Anniversary Planning Committee. All the time we have spent together in Zoom meetings, phone calls, and email conversations have only solidified what I have been learning since I became the President of MFMC – we have a talented, knowledgeable, unselfish, hard-working, and did I mention fun group of leaders in our state. I am thankful for each of you who are part of MFMC and especially those who made an effort to attend our once-in-a-lifetime celebration.

Nancy Fisher, President

MFMC 100th Anniversary Celebration was held on July 20th & 21st, 2022!
An Amazing Celebration!

Celebration Luncheon



Past State President's shared greetings and fond memories. L to R: Mary Wescott, Cheryl Schmidt, Pat Steege, Sheila Shusterich and Karen Erickson.



Melody Bober talked about her commissioned MFMC 100th Anniversary piano piece "Festival Overture." The piece was performed by Sarah Twedt.

The celebration luncheon provided the opportunity for everyone to enjoy each other's company and visit!



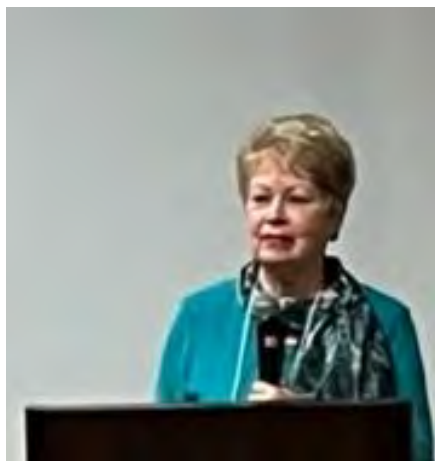


Student Showcase Recital



The Student Showcase recital featured students from MFMC clubs. Clubs represented were Apple Valley Music Teachers Association, Chin Rest and End Pin Society, East Suburban Federation of Music Clubs, Encore Music Club, North Suburban Music Club, Southeast Minnesota Federation of Music Clubs, South Suburban Music Teachers Association and West Central Music Teachers Club.

**National Federation of Music Clubs
National Guests, George and Ouida Keck
Historical Presentations
The Importance of the Independent Piano Teacher**



NFMC – Ellis Duo in Concert - Sylvia Hong & Michael Rector



Outstanding recital included Debussy, Schubert, Ravel and Gershwin Fantasy!

Multi-Talented MFMC Members Ensemble Recital



Thanks to everyone that participated
in the Multi-talented MFMC Members Ensembles Recital!

The recital included violin, piano, flute, and voice.
It truly showcased the “multi-talented” aspect of our membership!

We've Come a Long Way, Ladies! A Centennial Celebration of the 19th Amendment through Song

Audrey Johnson, Vocalist



Audrey's performance of a classical-based concert brought American history to life through music, connected the audience with American song, inspired patriotism and engaged citizenship.

Special thanks to Susan Marvin for providing a grant to assist in funding this performance.

100th Anniversary Planning Committee



From L to R: Karen Erickson, Mary Wescott, Cheryl Schmidt, Nancy Fisher, Gwen Degner and Julie Gutzmer.

Thanks to the planning committee for their many hours of planning and hard work to bring together a wonderful and memorable celebration! Special thanks to Nancy Fisher, MFMC State President, who presided and kept all our events proceeding as planned.

Also, thank you to our MFMC Senior Clubs who provided financial support via ads and donations for receptions: Apple Valley, Encore, Central Lakes, Club 88, Duluth, Hibbing Musicale, Itasca, Keyboard Southwest, Music Southwest, Southeast MN Federation, South Suburban, Thief River Falls, West Central Music Teachers Club, West Suburban, Great River.

MFMC Report Highlights from the State Meeting

*All reports will be posted in their entirety with the meetings minutes on the MFMC website.

Grace Kopitske, Festival On-line Registration Administrator: As of January 2022, the majority of MFMC areas are now using the NFMC VIVACE Festival Management System! During the summer and fall of 2021, fourteen of the twenty-three Festival sites in MFMC entered their point history. Thirteen entered their point history manually and one site paid to have the developer upload their history.

Sarah Twedt, Festivals Cups: 2022 Numbers: Ordered 712 total cups, including 4 Grand Cups. Plates: MFMC continues to use John Schaaque in St. Paul, MN for the engraving of the plates. Mr. Schaaque increased his fee to \$3.65 per embossed plate. Ordering plates through Crown would cost .10 per letter engraved.

Composers Institute (previously Junior Composer Summer programs). The new website is: <https://www.composersinstitute.org>. The new location for the in-person camp is University of Wisconsin River Falls.

Karen Sue Erickson, Summer IMC Scholarship Coordinator: Gabriel Maland to receive a \$450 scholarship to attend the Piano session at the International Music Camp.

Rebekah Heerdt, Scholarships, Awards and Grants Chair: Numerous scholarships, awards and grants available: from MFMC, Biennial Student Auditions, International Music Camp, Junior Composers Contest, Junior Composers Institute, Teacher Trust Grants, and Tuition Assistance Grants. Check the MFMC website to get more information on these opportunities. There are also many offerings available on the NFMC website.

Nadine Berg, Festival Chair: 2022 Festival Junior statistics: total entries – 2,769, total events – 25, total superiors – 2,208, total number of teachers – 257.

Liz Raihala, State Student Auditions Chair: The MFMC 2023 Biennial State Student Auditions competition occurs in odd years only for Juniors and Seniors in high school with three \$600.00 awards available. Specific performance repertoire is required with a January deadline. All details regarding the Biennial Student Auditions are available on the MFMC website in the drop-down menu under Scholarships, Awards and Grants.

2022 Festival Grand Cup Recipients in Piano Solo



Soumya Raman began piano lessons with Grace Kopitske at the young age of four. Over the course of twelve years, she has earned twelve consecutive superior ratings in the Piano Solo event and two consecutive superior ratings in the Piano Concerto event in the East Suburban Federation Music Club piano festivals. Soumya has participated in various Minnesota Music Teachers Association theory exams and comprehensive piano examinations, passing with high marks. She has also performed in the MMTA's State contest on several occasions, performing in the MMTA Honors Concert three times.

Currently a Sophomore at Mounds Park Academy, Soumya participates in several extracurriculars outside of piano. An avid lover of music, she is a member of her school's concert choir, concert band, and woodwind ensemble. Outside of her music interest, she participates in Quiz bowl, debate, leads Asian Culture Club, and plays varsity tennis. In her spare time, Soumya enjoys baking and hanging out with her friends and older siblings. In the future, Soumya wishes to pursue a career in the STEM field.



Vishnu Vundamati is a Junior at Woodbury High School. He began his piano study with his teacher, Grace Kopitske, in first grade. Performing in the East Suburban Federation Music Club festival, Vishnu has earned eleven consecutive superior ratings in the Piano Solo event and three consecutive superior ratings in the Piano Concerto event. Next year as a Senior, he will be working to earn the President's Cup. As a winner in the Minnesota Music Teachers Association's annual state contest, Vishnu has performed six times in the MMTA Honors Concert. Two of those six winning performances were in the Junior Young Artist and Senior Young Artist categories. He also has taken numerous MMTA Comprehensive Piano Exams and MMTA Theory Exams, passing ten exams with High Distinction.

Outside of piano, Vishnu enjoys running, snowboarding, and longboarding. He runs for his high school's track and cross-country teams and aspires to break the Woodbury High School record in the mile one day. In school, Vishnu participates in speech, NHS, and is a board member of Woodbury High School's HOSA chapter. As a means of connecting back to his

cultural heritage, Vishnu has also learned Carnatic Music, classical South Indian vocal music, for eight years and has performed in major competitions. In the future, he hopes to go into the medical field.



Kyra Sego is a Junior at Woodbury High School. For the past eleven years she has been studying piano with Grace Kopitske. She has participated in the East Suburban Federation Music Club festivals, earning eleven consecutive superiors in the Piano Solo event and three consecutive superiors in the Piano Concerto event. Next year Kyra hopes to earn the President's Cup. In addition to the NFMF festivals, she has received high marks in numerous Minnesota Music Teachers Association's Theory and Comprehensive Piano Exams. She has competed in the MMTA State Contest and performed in the MMTA Honors Concert.

Kyra's strong music interest is reflected in her school activities as percussionist for 5 years and currently in the Concert Choir at her school. She frequently participates in musical theater at Woodbury High School and in the community. The school tennis team is also part of her active school schedule.

This June Kyra is excited to be participating in the Hennepin Theater Trust's Spotlight Program, Minnesota high school theater's biggest celebration. She balances her schedule with work at the DQ in Woodbury and enjoys hanging out with friends.



Kylee Stroble, student of Kristi LaSalle (Thief River Falls Music Club) has earned her Grand Cup in Piano Solo after participating in the NFMF Festivals for eleven years.

Kylee also plays the cello, and the clarinet, along with participating in choir. While attending Lincoln High School in Thief River Falls, Kylee was active in Orchestra, Choir, National Honor Society, and Peer Tutoring. She also went to state with the Lincoln High School Knowledge Bowl team.

She was awarded the Karmen Lee and Karla Ortloff scholarships for arts and technology. This is awarded to two individuals who show talent and dedication in a fine art discipline.

Kylee is now attending the University of Minnesota Duluth, where she will be majoring in English and minoring in German Studies. Her goal is to become an English teacher in Germany. She will be continuing her piano studies and plans on trying out for an operatic choir at UMD.

MFMC Club Reports

Apple Valley Music Teachers Association. Apple Valley Music Teachers Association wishes to congratulate the Minnesota Federation of Music Clubs on their 100th Anniversary! This represents 100+ years of promoting American Music and the Arts through the formation of music clubs throughout our state whose mission included supporting Arts Advocacy efforts in our communities, schools, and supporting our students with their music study through the Federation Festival programs. Apple Valley Music Teachers Association was started by a few inspired teachers 40 years ago this year and we are planning a party, too! We are an active club of 44 members and teachers representing all band and string instruments, voice, guitar, organ, and piano. Our club has been meeting primarily via zoom due to pandemic but have gathered in person at our kickoff fall meeting and at our annual Holiday teacher performance gathering. Our members are active with community string programs and other teaching organizations as well. We are honored to have had the leadership of Pat Steege as a previous president and member of AVMTA and of MFMC. We hosted virtual and in-person festivals this past season for a total of 419 entrants. Our festival numbers continue to decrease. We attribute this to the retirement or slowing down of many of our teachers. Our member, Shirley Erickson has recently taken on the task of regional composition chair for the North Central Region. I am honored to be a part of the AVMTA and of the MFMC – we recognize the hard work that many of our members throughout the state have completed so that we can be a part of this organization. I am proud to be a part of this tribute.
Sincerely, Sarah Twedt, AVMTA President

Burnsville Music Teachers Association

Our group had 6 meetings this year. Our September meeting was a discussion of piano methods books. Our October meeting was held outdoors, and we discussed preparation for Festival. Our January and March meetings were held online. We had 108 participate in Festival this year. We offered the option of online or in-person: about half submitted videos and the other half performed in person. Our April meeting was a member performance gathering as well as hearing our high school senior winners perform. We concluded our program year with a luncheon on May 24.
Camille Buddecke, NCTM President, BAMTA

Central Lakes Music Club

The Central Lakes Music Club of Alexandria was able to return to almost pre-pandemic procedures for our meetings and festival this year. We are thankful for the continued commitment of teachers, students, and parents towards music education. Our club meets three times during the year. We met at Carlson Music Center in October to collect membership dues and festival pre-registrations. We met at Carlson Music Center again in January to review festival registrations and plans. Our Annual Meeting in June was held

outdoors by the Legacy of the Lakes Museum Gardens. During this meeting we elected officers, reviewed festival roles, announced scholarship winners, discussed the new Vivace record-keeping system, and made plans for the state convention in July. Our local festival was held at Shalom Lutheran Church in Alexandria Feb 21, 26, and 27. An honors recital for students receiving superior ratings was presented on Feb 28. There were students from eleven teachers participating in the festival for a total of 210 events, including theory, strings, voice, and piano. This year we gave three scholarships to high school graduating seniors taking lessons from our members. This money will be used to continue their music education. Officers for next year will be Jill Fugleberg, President, and Karen Erickson, Secretary/Treasurer. We currently have 15 teachers with memberships in the Central Lakes Music Club. Most have leadership roles in coordinating the festival. We are looking forward to the State Convention and another year of nurturing our students' musical skills, personal development, and appreciation for music.

Jill Fugleberg, CLMC President

Chain of Lakes Music Club

Chain of Lakes Music Club works with a combination of a few group meetings a year with a lot of the nitty gritty done by an executive committee. Most of our group meetings this year were involved with our festivals, in-person or virtual, and how to use Vivace. We have also been concerned about how to grow the club. Our membership has declined, as has our student participation this year. We had only 71 students participate in two Festivals, and an all-virtual Festival in December and a hybrid Festival in February. They were both very successful, if small. Our last meeting was held at Emilie's Lebanese Deli (people always come out for food) and we threw around ideas for the future.

Sharon Kaplan, President, Chain of Lakes

Chin Rest and End Pin Society

Metro IV / Chin Rest and End Pin Society had 60 students participate in 5 Junior Festival events, earning 17 Gold Cups including two 60-point 4th cups. As of early June, Metro IV submitted the Excel spreadsheet of historical information for on-boarding to Vivace through ITI and some bugs were discovered in how Vivace handles Alternating for string Solo/Concerto. Our expectation is that by Convention time on-boarding will have been completed. Faith Farr has spent many hours reviewing the Vivace Database information on-line and is ready to be "Orientation / Training Chair" to train other teachers in Metro IV once she has been granted access to Vivace. Faith has also volunteered to be String Advisor for the next bulletin to help straighten out the problems with regression and unreasonable pace built into the string section of the current bulletin.

Faith Farr, Treasurer Chin Rest and End Pin Society

Club 88, Renville County

We at Club 88, as with most of you as well, have had an interesting year – refining our in-person Festival covid protocols, improving our video submission process, and successfully transitioning to Vivace. As always, our teachers in Club 88 have risen to the challenge, having several zoom meetings throughout the year to help us navigate through these changes. We were able to once again hold our Chamber Event last November, and also our Honors Concert and Awards Program this spring. We had a slight increase in Festival participants this year, adding one new teacher to bring us to 10, and 84 participants in 4 events, up from 75 participants last year. Our students earned 49 superiors, and received 15 1st year Gold Cups, 6 2nd year Gold Cups, and one 4th year Gold Cup. I have been president of this amazing club for quite some time now, and will continue to be an active member. However, I felt it was time to pass the presidency on to someone else, so I would like you to welcome Katie Rudeen, the new president of Club 88.

Rebecca Heerdt, Past President Club 88

Duluth Music Teachers Association

The Duluth Music Teachers Association has a membership of 26 teachers that mostly teach piano, but some also teach voice, band instruments, organ, accordion, and theory/composition. We were happy to be able to meet again in person, and met on a monthly basis, providing support for each other and to plan for our 2022 Festival, which was held in February. Due to the uncertainty of the Covid 19 pandemic, we did plan to have the Festival in person at the College of St. Scholastica. Fortunately the college was open for the Festival and the majority of our students came in person for the Festival. However, we decided to have our vocal entrants record their performances, which we then provided for the judge to adjudicate them at her home. The judge felt this was a safer option, and we agreed. There were several piano entrants that opted to record their performances as well, due to their comfortability level because of the pandemic. In the future we plan on having only an in-person Festival. The other large task that our club was involved in, with the expertise of Aimee Ott and our Festival chair, Vicki Ott, was our participation in the new Festival management software program, Vivace. Aimee spent countless hours transferring data from our old records to the new Vivace program and helped Vicki with training the teachers on how to use the Vivace program. It was a huge endeavor, and we are so grateful for their time and dedication! Overall, the transition into the new program went pretty well and even though Aimee will no longer be a part of a process, another member of DMTA has agreed to take her place as the computer record “expert” for the Vivace program. All five of DMTA's executive board will be attending MFMC's 100th Celebration Convention! DMTA is a very nurturing, encouraging organization to be part of and our meeting topics are ones that are of interest and pertain to the private teaching profession.

Respectfully submitted, Liz Raihala, DMTA President

East Suburban Federation Music Club

The East Suburban Federation Music Club was formed in 1999. This year we had 13 teachers in our Club. Our Club meets two times a year - May and October. The October 2021 and May 2022 meetings were zoom meetings. We did meet in January 2022 to make a final decision as to whether the string festival and piano festival would be in-person or virtual. It was decided to hold both festivals virtually. In 2019 we began a string festival separate from the piano events. The string festival is held in January and the piano festival in February. This year students submitted their recordings to our computer person (Grace Koptiske) and she then forwarded them to the judges who were able to judge from their home. Our Festival Honors Recital was first held in 2013. It is an annual recital held on a Sunday afternoon one or two weeks after the piano festival, depending on the availability of the venue. It is free of charge for the students and their families. Since 2016 the Honors Recital has been held at the Church of St. Pascal Baylon in St. Paul. We developed the recital as a reward for students who earned two consecutive Superior ratings and to share their love of music in a fun and relaxed atmosphere. This year (and last year) the Festival Honors Recital was canceled due to the pandemic. East Suburban would like to give special recognition to three students of Grace Koptiske who each earned a grand cup: Soumya Raman, Kyra Sego, Vishnu Vundamati,. Also, congratulations to Soumya Raman who earned her 12-year consecutive superior certificate.

Respectfully submitted, Kathy Schleusner, President East Suburban Federation Music Club

Encore Music Club

Encore Music Club has six members who teach piano, strings, voice, flute, and theory in the beautiful lakeside town of Warroad. All six of our members are planning to travel to Lakeville for MFMC's 100th Anniversary Celebration. We should probably get a prize for traveling the farthest and having the club with the most members represented!

Encore music club hosted one concert this year as Duo Cantabile, a cello and piano ensemble performed for students at the high school and in a community concert as well! A visiting piano professor from the University of North Dakota spent one day a month working with our students in individual lessons. Our teachers and students held several recitals and performed throughout the community in coffee shops, restaurants, and churches. Beginning piano students had a "Show and Tell" recital where they brought something to show that represented the piece they were playing. Vocal students had fun performing the songs from "The Greatest Showman". We had Christmas recitals that included piano duets, trios, and quartets, vocal selections, and flute duets. We had 62 students participate in Festival in 5 events in January and February. We successfully used the Vivace system for our Festival, thanks to Festival Manager Trina Billingsley leading the transition and to Grace Kopitske, State Admin for all her help. Spring recitals, including a lovely Senior Recital and the "Name That Song," recital happened in May. One senior student received a \$12,000 college piano scholarship. This summer several vocal

students competed in the Northborn Days Talent Show and several piano students played at a Patriotic Variety Show on July 2. One of our Encore Club recitals received a national award. Piano students played selections from Catherine Rollin's Museum Masterpieces series. While the students performed with a single light illuminating the grand piano, the paintings that inspired each song were projected on a screen in the darkened theater. It was truly an inspiration viewing the paintings while listening to the music. We applied for NFMF's American Women Composer's Award because this recital met those qualifications, and our club was awarded \$100. I would encourage your clubs to look at the club awards that are available through NFMF.

Nancy Fisher, President, Encore Music Club

Great River Music Club

Great River Music Club of St Cloud, MN had a busy year this year. We made the big leap onboard to the Vivace system this year. This involved a lot of small online meetings with teachers to get them signed up and acquainted with the system, and a lot of data entry by the Vivace Admins. We ended up having a lot of fun with it and it was nice to check in with all the teachers in our club more individually. Vivace worked very well for us overall and will be a great help going forward, and much kudos to all the club members' ability to learn new things. We had four big meetings this year, three to prepare for Festival and one to evaluate how it went. One of these meetings was held in person at Barrett's Music. Festival went smoothly at St Ben's University, and we did our make-ups online this year so anyone who wasn't able to do the in-person participated that way. We had 240 students participate in- person. There were about 20 students who opted for the online submission method due to one reason or another. Overall a successful year, and we look forward to the ease that our work this year will bring going forward.

Angela Ringsmuth, President, Great River Music Club

Hibbing Musicales

The Hibbing Musicales usually limits activity to Festival. We had more participants than last year, but are still down from pre-COVID. We had 62 participants in 5 events: Cello, Violin, Viola, Piano and Voice. All of our teachers have students who participate in Festival and we all agree that we are still recovering from the effects of COVID numbers. We all feel Festival went well. The students and teachers participate in various community scholarship programs, public school concerts and community events. We even have a couple of opportunities for the teachers to perform with their students.

Submitted by Diana Giombetti, Club President

Itasca Music Club

The Itasca Music Club members had a successful 2021-22 year. All of our members were able to teach lessons in person and remotely by Zoom or Face Time when cases were high in our district. Everyone held a Spring Recital in 2022 for their personal studios in venues that audience members were able to social distance if they desired. IMC was lucky enough to hold an in person MFMC festival in February. Our judges were willing to 'mask up' and judge in person and we were so thankful. One family member was allowed to come into the venue and wait for their child while he/she performed. We held our annual recital featuring all the Superior students. This was special as it was canceled the previous year due to COVID. All our meetings were held in person gathering in to plan the 2022 Festival and just have a good visit. Our current membership grew by one this year and includes: Dan Aalto, Anne Dimich, Eileen Grosland, Glenda Kacon, Pedro Oveido, Cathy Shields, Cheryl Young. We are a small club and continue to reach out to new teachers in our area. Our teachers provide lessons in piano, strings, and composition. I feel so fortunate to have such a wonderful group of teachers to work with. We all get along well and often exchange ideas and offer guidance to each other in our teaching endeavors. Cathy Shields, Itasca Music Club President

Keyboard Southwest

Keyboard Southwest had in person Festival performance at Redwood, Fallsm, Lamberton and Windom in 2022. Carol Mattison

Lakes Area Bridgetones

Our Bridgetone group of 10 teachers held our Festival March 5 at Lutheran Church of the Cross in Nisswa. There were 143 students participating in both the piano solo and piano duets events. There were 17 1st year cups, 10 2nd year cups, 5 third year cups, and 1 fourth year cup distributed and presented at individual piano recitals. Renee Anderson, chairman

Music Southwest

Our group focused on the transition to Vivace this year. In July and August we met individually with teachers to get their students input into the system. In November we had our annual ensemble festival with about 30 students participating. January found us having a zoom meeting instructing teachers how to register for festival with the Vivace system. Our festival was held at the end of February and beginning of March with about 200 events total. Most students opted to participate in Festival in person this year, with just a handful utilizing zoom. We held our annual meeting in June of this year and reflected on our year and improvements for next year. Shannon Benson, President Music Southwest



North Suburban Music Club

Our Festival was held in person with a handful of virtual student participation. Students receiving a superior rating were invited to participate in an Honors Recital later that same afternoon. Two judges alternated listening to 94 students. Respectfully submitted, Deanna Andersen, NCTM

Southeast Minnesota Federation Music Club

SE MN FMC had two meetings this year. We met in September to kick off the year, and we did a wrap up meeting via zoom after Festival in March. We had 199 students participate in Festival this year. The majority of our students participated in person at Bethel Lutheran church on February 12th. We had two make-up days, Feb. 27th and March 5th to complete our Festival participation. We also gave our families the option to do a virtual Festival performance if they felt strongly about covid concerns. Our club used the new Vivace online registration platform, and it was successful. We currently have 20 teachers in our local Federation group.

Respectfully submitted, Amy Heetland, President

Successful Music Making

We had a GREAT year! Our first meeting of the year was on September 2, 2021. We had a guest and potential teacher attend our meeting. We introduced her to the National Federation of Music Clubs. The meeting was held at the Gergen Piano Studio in Slayton, MN. In January, we met over the phone to go over the details of the February Festival. We had 2 different sites this year. One site was in Tracy, the other in Slayton. Festival day came and went successfully on February 6th with numerous new students! For fun we went to the Southwest Minnesota Orchestra concert on February 27th. It was the 2nd of 5 concerts honoring the 150th Anniversary of Beethoven. Then in March, we kicked back a little and visited the Painted Prairie Vineyard for live music! The group playing and singing that night was a local group from Slayton. We had a GREAT time! In May we gave a scholarship from our Festival Senior Club to a graduating senior. She did an hour recital with piano, voice, and trombone! President Christie Gergen presented the scholarship to Hannah Herrig, student of Anna Jeanne Flesner. This was a fantastic way to wrap up a GREAT school year! Christie Gergen, President

Thief River Falls Music Club

The main focus of our club is Festival. Our Festival took place on March 6-7, 2022. Six teachers entered students with a total of 180 Entries, which is up 20 entries from last year. (Piano Solo – 69, Concerto – 2, Piano Hymn – 53, Piano Duet – 6, APFS – 3, Vocal Solo AS – 7, and Theory – 40) Gold Cups were awarded to 54 students (1st Cup – 44, 2nd Cup – 7, 3rd Cup – 2, and the Grand Cup awarded to Kylee Stroble in Piano Solo (student of Kristi LaSalle)) We did do an in- person Festival again this year and it went very well. Hopefully our club can get students and teachers involved in more MFMC activities. We do have



another teacher who will be back in our Club next year after taking a few years off. We are hoping to gain a few more teachers.

Kristi LaSalle, President, Thief River Falls Music Club

Tuesday Music Club

Our club met in person in December 2021 for a Christmas celebration at the home of President Ruth Wollenberg. We were entertained by the Hall Family with both violin and piano music. We enjoyed a luncheon also – the first time in over 2 years that we sat down together in person. Our festival was in late February 2022—and was a successful in person event. Due to Covid, our in person monthly meetings remained suspended. We hope to resume meetings next fall.

Submitted by Sue Quist

West Central Music Teachers Club

Hello from West Central Minnesota! Our group of music teachers encompasses an area from Belgrade to Willmar and Benson to Minnetrista. This is an area 24 by 115 miles. Presently we are 27 teachers strong. This past year we held a Festival in Willmar and Dassel. We had two Zoom/ in person combination meetings for our club in September and April. Being able to have Zoom meetings is a great option for us. This works well for our local club and for the state meetings. We have 3 members who serve as state MFMC officers: Cheryl Schmidt, Gwen Degner and Peggy Karsten. During the past two years, flexibility has been the key. We have continued with our Festivals despite all the restrictions. We celebrate 100 years with our colleagues and friends! MFMC is a wonderful organization, and we are thankful for it!

Christine Schneider, President, West Central Music Teachers Club

West Suburban Musicians

We have 7 members and 40 students performed in this year's Festival at the United Methodist Church in Richfield. The Pandemic was very destructive to our numbers. But we are moving on and hope that those numbers will rise slightly, and we can attract a couple of new teachers.

Sandee Stenzel, President and Treasurer

MFMC Officers and Chairs

*Thank you to everyone in leadership roles for their dedicated work for MFMC!
Members, please acknowledge their hard work that benefits you and your students!*

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



Nancy Fisher • President



Sarah Twedt • 1st Vice President
Insurance, Festival Cup Chair



Gwen Degner • Treasurer



Mary Kaye Rabaey • Secretary



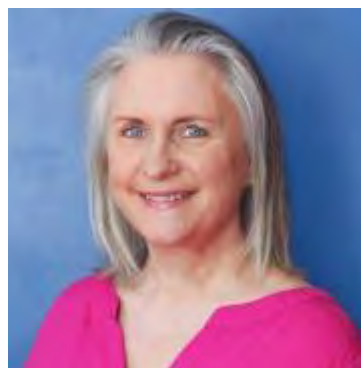
Karen Erickson • Historian
International Music Camp Scholarships



Julie Gutzmer • Membership Chair



Mary Wescott • NFMFC Board
Representative



Cheryl Schmidt • Finance Chair, Web Site,
Half Notes Newsletter, Special Needs Awards



Nadine Berg • Festival Chair,
Certificate Chair



Grace Kopitske • Festival Online
Registration Administrator



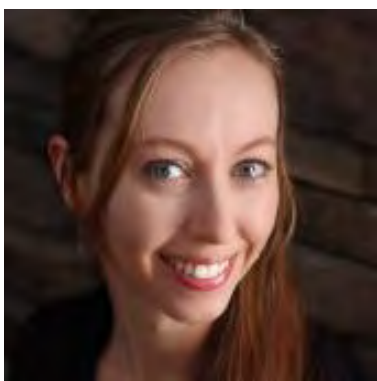
Liz Raihala • MFMC State
Student Auditions

Not Pictured:

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

Sharon Kaplan • Junior Composers Contest
and Scholarships

Louise Lundin • MFMC Web Site — Content
Manager/Advisor



Cara Caravetta
Product Line/Logo Wear



Peggy Karsten
Parliamentarian/Advisor