



**MARY ELLEN ULMER, EDITOR**  
**KATHY SKEWIS, CIRCULATION MANAGER**  
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Web Site: [www.pfmc-music.org](http://www.pfmc-music.org)



During October, I attended the four PFMC District Conferences. My thanks to:

Charlene Hubbard, Pittsburgh District Chair and Friday Evening Music Club for hosting  
Linda Flick, Philadelphia District Chair and Musical Art Society for hosting;  
Sue Roy, Northeast District Chair and Wyalusing Musical Society for hosting;  
Paula Kudelko, Northwest District Chair and Lakeview Music Club for hosting.

I appreciate the warm hospitality and *Kudos* to PFMC Districts for wonderful music programs!

Each District Conference was unique and did not follow a specified format, but PFMC Senior Clubs in all Districts reported on plans for the coming year. We have such diversity in our clubs but how encouraging to see the common thread: All support the value of music in our communities, and most clubs offer monetary awards to young musicians.

*“Let us ... bring the spiritualizing force of music to the inner life of our nation.”*

While visiting each Conference, I had the opportunity to meet a few Federation members I have known for years via email, but never met in person. A face to face meeting will certainly bring a new dimension to our communications. What a special treat!

Two common issues expressed by a majority of PFMC Senior Clubs are declining membership and filling leadership positions. Club members were given the opportunity to participate in a group discussion concerning these issues. Different ideas were shared but a method that will always work is the one on one invitation. If we are serious about increasing our membership then we must be willing to take the time to make connections and extend a personal invitation to a friend or relative to attend a club meeting – a meeting that will appeal to our guest, who just might be a potential new member. PFMC has addressed the issue of declining membership in *Music Club Magazine* articles. Read these articles for ideas that may help.

Filling leadership positions is a serious problem. Try to encourage club members to work together on projects or presenting programs. *“No two minds ever come together without a third invisible force, which may be likened to a 'third mind.' When a group of individual minds are coordinated and function in harmony, the increased energy created through that alliance becomes available to every individual in the group.”* Napoleon Hill. When our clubs experience the harmony of working together, there will be members more willing to serve in leadership positions.

What change would you make to PFMC? This question was asked at each Conference and as expected, the answers varied. A comment heard more than once was to simplify PFMC – it's too complicated! After some discussion, the concern seems to be paperwork, especially club reports. There really is no requirement for Senior Clubs to participate in Federation programs. The structure of each club, including the programs planned should reflect the desire of their membership. Senior Clubs will receive information about Federation programs from PFMC Chairs including dates for submitting reports however, completing a report is optional. **BUT**, please keep in mind the reports do help PFMC to understand what is working for clubs across the nation and participation in some programs can have a monetary award. I do **encourage** PFMC Senior Clubs to send reports for programs and especially the Music Outreach Report for volunteer hours. Any other minimal paperwork for sending dues and keeping club records is expected in any organization – not just PFMC.

Some may feel the PFMC is experiencing the pointed end of a diminuendo but what we learn from dark periods can only help us write the next stanza with a big crescendo. We can bring our minds together and help to *Build Our Future by Remembering Our Past!* I'm in – are you?

Happy Thanksgiving and Blessings to All!

*Linda Maurhoff, PFMC President*

## SOME ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS FROM YOUR PRESIDENT!

We all agree that increasing membership is important but maybe we need to first ask if our clubs need help within the membership we do have. A few PFMC Senior Clubs are increasing in number and have a very positive attitude about the success of their club, but most clubs are experiencing the same problems you all shared during the District Conferences.

I received a letter from a PFMC Senior Club that stopped me “dead in my tracks”! This club went from a membership of over 100 to less than 20. And of those 20 members, less than 10 attend meetings. The current president sees the problem stemming from leadership that yielded to no other opinions or suggestions other than what those in charge decided it would be. Apparently, the younger members left the club, feeling very frustrated.

Without a doubt, this is a two-sided issue. Many of our “seasoned” members feel it is their responsibility to protect the integrity of this organization and preserve what our founders intended it to be. Our younger members want to let go of SOME – NOT ALL traditions that are not meaningful to them. It is my opinion that some of the younger members believe that keeping the status quo is in fact, part of the reason we are not growing in number. So, what do we do???? It seems the direction we move, someone is unhappy but what is certain: We can no longer ignore the problem and hope it goes away!

All PFMC Senior Clubs have at least a few younger members. Have you asked a newer member to work with you on a project? A newer member may not be able and ready to move into a leadership position but bringing them along side to help is the kind of mentoring we need to do to help prepare them to lead. Make someone feel needed even if they just learning!

So, how do we view ourselves as a leader – Are we encouraging or dismissive? We can start a new conversation with two common words that go a long way: PLEASE AND THANK YOU! I am thankful for each of you and appreciate all you do for PFMC. Blessings!

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

## PFMC ROSTER UPDATES

PFMC Roster updates will *no longer be published* in the News Sheet. This information will be sent via email to members quarterly by Charlene Hubbard, editor.

**Please send any changes** in your personal, studio or club information to Charlene Hubbard, [charlenehubbard@hotmail.com](mailto:charlenehubbard@hotmail.com), Linda Maurhoff, [pfmcpres203@hotmail.com](mailto:pfmcpres203@hotmail.com) and Mary Ellen Ulmer at [ulmerme@hotmail.com](mailto:ulmerme@hotmail.com)

## KEYSTONE TRIBUTE NEWS

Keystone Tribute Gifts have been given to the Keystone Tribute Fund.

In memory of **Jeanne Marie Donley** given by the *Musical Art Society*, her home club in Lancaster

In memory of **Jeanne Marie Donley** and **Lois Tamplin** given by *Priscilla Day*

The Keystone Tribute Fund was established in 2010 and presently is an award of \$500.00. It is supported by gifts of at least \$25 and/or more to honor or memorialize individuals, clubs, organizations and studios. A PFMC Scholarship for a college student studying music education is awarded annually from this fund.

Pat Walter, Chair

# DISTRICT CONFERENCES

## NORTHEAST DISTRICT

NE District 92nd Annual Fall Conference was hosted by the Wyalusing Music Society on October 20, 2018. Sue Roy, District Chair, presided. Below is her report of the year's activities on behalf of the District and its members.

As always, I have appreciated my role as PFMC's NE Chair. The best part of this job is to be able to visit the Clubs in the NE District and I did visit 4 of the 5 Clubs this past year. Due to scheduling problems, I was unable to visit Wyalusing. However, I did visit the Mozart Club in Wilkes-Barre twice.

During each Club visit, I sit in on the business meeting and attend the scheduled program. All Clubs continue to remain active in a variety of ways. Smaller Clubs are operating on a more limited level, but are still involved with their community and with the youth in their communities.

All Clubs recognize that membership is aging out and attracting younger and new members is very challenging. The larger truth is that younger generations tend not to be joiners in the same way that previous generations were. Socialization and communication is very different as we have all come to realize. Despite this, the larger Clubs in our District are thriving and are maintaining and even increasing membership.

I encourage the NE Clubs to "sing their own praises" by submitting pictures and articles to the News Sheet. Recognizing that local newspapers may not publish submissions, keep at it. If there is someone in your Club savvy about other media formats, use them. You never know what the outcome of planting these seeds might be.

In closing, thank you for the privilege of representing you for another term. Keep in touch and I look forward to my Club visits this next year!

Sue Roy, Chair



Shown (l (eft to right): Janet Hurlbert (Williamsport), District Chair, Sue Roy (Towanda), PFMC President, Linda Maurhoff, Sue Waterhouse (Wyalusing) and Barbara Murray (Dushore) Not Shown: Rosa Khalife-McCracken (Mozart)

## NORTHWEST DISTRICT



PFMC President, Linda Maurhoff with Kristen Patton, Lakeview President at the Awards Ceremony.

The Northwest District held its fall conference on October 27 at Emmanuel Christian Church in Stoneboro. It was hosted by the Lakeview Music Club. President Kristen Patton welcomed those attending before introducing the morning entertainment. A program was presented by the Grove City College Trombone Choir. They performed chorales by different composers and finished with the Washington Post March.

District chair Paula Kudelko conducted the business meeting. The district voted to change the standing rules to allow host clubs to offer up to \$100.00 for the entertainment at the conference. Reports of club activities were heard from the Lakeview Club, Mercer Music Club, Opus I Music Society and the Schubert Musical and Literary Club.

A second musical interlude was provided by students of Westminster College who were former scholarship winners of the Lakeview club. Performing were vocalists Tianna Johnson, Brandon Williams and Olivia Wright. Piano accompanist was president Patton.

Serving as officers of the district are Paula Kudelko, chairman; Linda Wrhen, vice-chairman; and Carol Mixer, secretary/treasurer.

After a wonderful lunch, state president Maurhoff passed out certificates and offered words of encouragement to the clubs. The meeting concluded with a door prize drawing and an invitation from the Schubert club for the 2019 conference.  
Paula Kudelko, Chair

### **PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT**

The 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Philadelphia District Conference was held on Saturday, October 13, 2018 at Church of the Apostles, UCC, Lancaster, with Musical Art Society (Lancaster) as the host club. Linda Flick, Philadelphia District Chair, presided at the business session.

Club reports were given by Music Study Club of the Stroudsburgs, Harmonia Music Association (Lebanon), and Musical Art Society (Lancaster). Allentown Music Club was not present and there was no report given. Linda Maurhoff, PFMC President, was the honored guest and speaker. A delicious luncheon was served followed by the afternoon program featuring Musical Art Society member, John W. Hamilton, and his string students.

I am looking forward to visiting your clubs again this year and hearing some more wonderful programs. REMINDER: I need a copy of your club yearbooks as soon as you can get them to me, if you have not done so already.

Linda Flick, Chair

## **SENIOR CLUBS**

### **HARMONIA MUSIC ASSOCIATION**

The Harmonia Music Association of Lebanon opened the year with a “Broadway Dinner Theater” on October 16. The artist, Abby Fields Dupler, was a 1996 Harmonia Scholarship winner who has remained in the community, performing and working for “Sight and Sound Theater”. Her daughter, who continues the vocal tradition, joined in several selections. The pianist for the program was Mike Truitt. A light dinner, catered by a local restaurant and fortified with delicious desserts by Harmonia cooks, made it a memorable evening!

THE PARADE OF AMERICAN MUSIC was the theme for November. Concentrating on American hymnody, a string trio performed hymns that have been an important part of our heritage. Narration explained the hymn and why it was selected to be part of the program.

The second part of the program was a performance of “Our Father – A Journey Through the Lord’s Prayer” by American composer Pepper Choplin. Directed by Andrew Mease, the choir was composed of Harmonia members, members of the host church, and members of the community. Donations were given to a Scholarship Fund honoring Ruthann Gotwols, club member and avid supporter of music through-out the community  
Kathryn Hoopes, Fed. Secretary

### **MUSICAL ART SOCIETY**

Musical Art Society held its first monthly program on Sunday, November 11, 2018 entitled “String Chamber Music,” featuring club member and musician, John W. Hamilton, and his students on strings. This program was dedicated to NFMC “Crusade For Strings.” The December 9, 2018 program is entitled “Yuletide Brass” featuring the Lititz Moravian Church Trombone Choir. The March, April, and May programs will be announced in the February 15, 2018 issue. All the monthly programs will be held at 3:00 p.m., at the Bachman Center, 633 Community Way, Lancaster.

The Allegretto /NextGEN Orchestra and Overture Orchestra Fall Concert was held on Sunday, October 7, 2018 at the Ware Center, Lancaster.  
Linda Flick, Fed. Secretary

## JUNIOR AWARD WINNERS

### 2018 KEYSTONE TRIBUTE AWARD WINNER



The winner of the 2018 Keystone Tribute Award was **Taylor Morgan** of Jermyn Pennsylvania. Taylor is a student at Marywood University and her major instrument is the saxophone. Taylor expressed a passion for teaching and showed her dedication to music education by her involvement in musical clubs and societies and by coordinating music clinics through her university.

There were several entries this year, and all applicants were very impressive. I'm confident that the future of music education in Pennsylvania will continue to be a strong and integral part of each child's life.  
Paula Kudelko, Chair

### 2018 NFMC MARTHA MARCKS MACK JUNIOR VOCAL WINNER

The 2018 NFMC Martha Marcks Mack Junior Vocal First Place Award of \$1500 went to Palmyra HS Senior **Victoria Gaffey** of Annville, PA. Victoria has studied for the past 6 yrs with Roger Lentz. Her most recent credits include winner of the HS Classical division of NATS and lead role of Cinderella in her HS musical production. She has received Hershey Apollo Award Nominations for both Outstanding Lead Actress and Outstanding Supporting Actress in a HS musical. Her past roles include Sandy (Grease), Smitty (How to Succeed in Business), Belle (Beauty and the Beast), Baker's Wife (Into the Woods), Liesl (The Sound of Music), Amber (Hairspray), Amy March (Little Women), as well as others. She plans to attend Long Island University in the fall to major in Musical Theatre.



The 2018 NFMC Martha Marcks Mack Junior Vocal Second Place Award of \$500 went to Worthington Christian High School Junior Olivia Ruege of Galena, Ohio. Olivia has studied with Karen Rugg-Klapheke for the past 2 ½ years. Olivia has performed with both Columbus Children's Theatre and Westerville Civic Theater, as well as Worthington Christian HS. She enjoys writing worship music in her free time.

Our esteemed judges for the competition were Rebecca Copely Johnson, 2004 Kansas Federation of Music Clubs "Musician of the Year". She has garnered International acclaim, performing at the Met, the Paris Opera, New York City Opera and the list continues long. She currently serves as the Director of Vocal Studies at Kansas Wesleyan University in Salina, Kansas. Our second judge was Leah Ann Anderson, vocal instructor at Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kansas. Leah Ann has been highly respected among her colleagues and students for well over 30 years as a HS Choral Director and private vocal teacher and soloist in Kansas. Thank you to our judges and applicants for a successful 2018 competition!  
Kristen Ivers, PFMC Martha Marcks Mack, Chair

## COMPETITIONS AND AWARDS

### NATIONAL MUSIC WEEK ESSAY CONTEST

All Juniors are invited to submit an essay for the 2019 National Music Week Essay Contest. The theme for 2019 is "Music...a Magic Key". Entries must be postmarked on or before **January 10, 2019**. Entry forms may be printed from the PFMC website, [pfmc-music.org](http://pfmc-music.org) or the NFMC website, [nfmc-music.org](http://nfmc-music.org). Each state is eligible for a winner. Winners receive \$50. Winner essays are published in Junior Keynotes and the News Sheet.

Let's have lots of entries from Pennsylvania.

## JUNIOR COMPOSERS

The January 15 deadline for the Jr. Composer Contest is coming up soon.

There is a level for everyone. 1st, 2nd, 3rd prize and honorable mention will be awarded in each category. The 1st and 2nd place winners in Class IV will also receive an additional prize. All applicants are eligible to earn gold cups for an additional fee. All applicants will receive a friendly, age appropriate evaluation from a qualified judge.

Class I - age 9 and under

Class II - age 10 - 12

Class III - age 13 - 15

Class IV - age 16 - 18

This year there will be an online application process. Please check out the PMFC website for rules and application. Consider giving this experience to your students. Music composition is a fun creative activity that adds a counter balance to performance

### WENDELL ISRISH VIOLA AWARD

THE WENDELL IRISH VIOLA AWARD, sponsored by the National Federation of Music Clubs, is open to young violists ages 12 through 19. To receive details about the competition go to the National Federation of Music Clubs website, Junior Division/Awards and Competitions. The monetary awards are a state award (to be determined yearly), a \$300.00 district award, \$1,000.00 to the second place national winner, and \$1,750.00 to the first place national winner. Two pieces, in contrasting styles, are required and may be based upon the experience of the violist. We welcome younger players to consider applying for this award. For questions or to receive a hard copy of the application contact Katherine Hoopes, 717-279-7494, fiddlekat1932@comcast.net.

## STUDENT/COLLEGIATE

### 2019 STUDENT/COLLEGIATE AUDITIONS

Biennial Student/Collegiate Audition applications are due January 15, 2019. Entrants must be between the age of 19 but not 26 by the application date. Entrants from Pennsylvania must be judged at the state level to be eligible for judging at the national level.

Procedures are changed this year. All applications and required repertoire are to be uploaded to NFMC. Entrants from Pennsylvania should complete the application and upload it to the NFMC site, [www.nfmc-music.org/applicant-file-upload](http://www.nfmc-music.org/applicant-file-upload) by January 15. The entry fee of \$30.00 is required to be considered for this award. The entry fee can be paid at [www.nfmc-music.org/payment](http://www.nfmc-music.org/payment). The repertoire list for the CD recording should also be uploaded at [www.nfmc-music.org/applicant-file-upload](http://www.nfmc-music.org/applicant-file-upload).

All necessary information will then be sent to the Pennsylvania Auditions Chair, Mary Ellen Ulmer. The CD will be reviewed and judged by state representatives. When the state judging is completed the results will be forwarded to NFMC. State winners will be informed by the state chair.

Each PFMC entrant receives \$150 at the state level. If declared a winner in any division, an additional award of \$500 may be added. All entrants in Pennsylvania are automatically eligible for the Harvey Gaul Award of \$2,000. This is a separate award and judged independently from the general audition.

The NFMC Student/Collegiate Audition awards are at various amounts with the winner receiving \$3,000. Additional awards are given in divisions according to merit. They are judged individually.

Please contact our PFMC Student//Colligate Audition Chair with any questions at [ulmerme@hotmail.com](mailto:ulmerme@hotmail.com) or 724-946-2877.  
Mary Ellen Ulmer, Chair

## DEPARTMENTS

### ACHIEVEMENT BOOKS

Achievement Books were received and judged. Many fine examples of activities, creative presentation and club memories of members and achievements were shown and preserved for a history of each club.

Thank you for all the work you have put into these fine books.

The results are below:

#### Class B

- 1st Williamsport
- 2nd Harmonia

#### Class C

- 1st Opus I
- 2nd Dushore
- 3rd Towanda Musical Society

Each year every club has an opportunity to present their Achievement Book. In addition to a record of the clubs activities, an award and monetary stipend is presented to the winners. Please prepare to record your club's activities for 2019 and enter your book.

Sue Roy, Chair

### CRUSADE FOR STRINGS

Your club can appoint a club Crusade For Strings chair to promote club programs, community programs, and to involve young people in string programs and concerts. Clubs should seek outstanding students and give them information regarding NFMC auditions and awards and have well-qualified string teachers as judges for string entries at all levels in NFMC Festivals and in all other Federation auditions. Clubs should include string programs involving speakers, workshops, or performers for at least one club program each year.

Linda Flick, Chair

### SACRED MUSIC

I want to encourage all the clubs in PA to appoint a club sacred music chair to sponsor programs of sacred music in their clubs, in hospitals, nursing homes, retirement homes, and in the community. Clubs can support and participate in church music programs and provide scholarships for young people pursuing careers in sacred music. Clubs can also organize a choir festival or sponsor programs of sacred music using choirs and ensembles of all ages. Each club can sponsor workshops to encourage the use of the best sacred music for worship services, including weddings or funerals.

Each club should encourage their members to perform sacred music anywhere in the community and to invite guest artists to perform at their programs for their club and in the community.

Linda Flick, Chair

### SENIOR CLUB RATING AND EVALUATION

The Senior Club Rating and Evaluation Sheet can be completed by the club president, a member such as a Senior Club Rating and Evaluation chair, or a committee. It could even be done at a club meeting as an orientation program to assist members in understanding the full scope of PFMC work. A notebook could be provided at each club meeting to record the volunteer hours given by each club member in their community, church, or any other organization.

Linda Flick, Chair

## NEWS SHEET SUBSCRIPTIONS, RENEWALS, & SPONSORSHIP

It's subscription time. This is your last issue of last year's subscription. We hope you have enjoyed reading about all the things our PFMC clubs and members are doing. This year our juniors have been especially active. We think this will only continue and grow.

Don't miss out on all PFMC is doing to keep music in our lives and the lives of our community. Send your **individual subscription** and hopefully a Sponsorship to **Sherry Reynolds** at 114 Condit Road, Sandy Lake, PA 16145 as soon as you finish reading this issue.

Subscriptions are only \$7. Sponsorships are only \$12.

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**Subscribe Today!!**

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