



MARY ELLEN ULMER, EDITOR
KATHY SKEWIS, CIRCULATION MANAGER
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Web Site: www.pfmc-music.org



The March Winds Doth Blow! It may not be March yet but will be when you read this! The trees in the backyard are literally bending from the power of the wind. I sure hope those trees remain upright. Actually, bending can be a useful activity to keep our body flexible; bending an object can be a useful process to make things fit; bending the truth can be a way to accomplish an agenda, perhaps with great cost BUT, bending to agree and work together can be most productive. A question to consider: When it comes to PFMC, how is our posture – are we stiff-necked or willing to bend? Let's Be FLEXIBLE by participating in PFMC events and serving in volunteer position!

The 2019 PFMC Festivals Competition will take place during the month of March. This new event for PFMC was very well received last year. I know many teachers and Juniors are looking forward to participating this year. The event will take place on both sides of PA and winners will be selected for each location. I am asking for donations to support the awards for the competition. You will find the donation letter and form inside the News Sheet.

PFMC Board of Directors will meet April 5-6, 2019 in Duncansville. The **Official Call** (insert) for the meeting is included in this edition of PFMC News Sheet. It is very important for all board members to attend, participate in the meeting and enjoy the opportunity to visit with one another. The BOD has not met since last April and there is a full agenda for the meeting. "BEND" your schedule and make time to attend!

Looking ahead to next year, the PFMC Biennial Convention will take place April 23-25, 2020. The location is Best Western Lehigh Valley Hotel in Bethlehem, PA and PFMC Philadelphia District will host the convention. We hope to have a National guest and lots of great music. PFMC Senior Clubs should plan fundraisers to financially help representatives attend the convention. Just another way we can "bend" and work together to make this a successful event.

Let me be the first to wish you a Happy Spring!
Linda Maurhoff, PFMC President

Building Our Future by Remembering Our Past

FESTIVALS AND PFMC JUNIOR FESTIVALS COMPETITION

2019 NFMC FESTIVALS & PFMC JUNIOR FESTIVALS COMPETITION

The NFMC Junior Festivals in Pennsylvania will be held during the month of March, so I am sure the planning and scheduling is in full swing. The following people are the Area Festivals Chairs in our state: In the NE Area, Diana Black and Andrea Bogusko; in the NW-E is Martha Heise; in the NW-W is Joyce Gindlesperger; in the Philadelphia North, Central, and South are Marti Lantz, Karen El-Chaar, and Kathy Skewis; and in the Pittsburgh North and East are Ellen Johnson and Barbara Kelly. These women have been the key to providing this wonderful learning experience for our state's junior participants (and many adult participants, too).

Over the past few years we have noticed a decline in the number of participants. So our PFMC president, Linda Maurhoff, led us to the 1st Junior Festivals Competition for Piano Solo, Medium and up, in hopes that this might motivate the studios and their students to get involved. In 2018, we held 2 semi-finals, one in the East, and one in the West, then a Final Competition at the PFMC Convention in Mars, PA.

This year we will be having two separate Finals (no semi-finals) in the East (chaired by Susan Stillo) and West (chaired by Charlene Hubbard). Our goal for 2020 is to have a complete day of competition in the State College area which is central to everyone.

Barb Murray, Festivals Chair

NEWS SHEET SUBSCRIPTIONS, RENEWALS, & SPONSORSHIP

It is not too late to subscribe for this year. This is the first edition so if you send your check you will get all the year's editions. Subscriptions are always welcome. **One year for only \$7.** Consider being a **sponsor for only \$12.** It is well worth it. As you see this issue is filled with special events, information and pictures.

Keep sending me these wonderful articles and pictures.

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, Linda Maurhoff, pfmcpres203@hotmail.com and Mary Ellen Ulmer at ulmerme@hotmail.com.

STUDENT/COLLEGIATE

KEYSTONE TRIBUTE AWARD

I will soon be sending out announcements to Pennsylvania colleges concerning the Keystone Tribute Award. Junior and Senior music education majors may apply for this \$500.00 award. If you know of anyone who qualifies, they will find information and applications on the state website. Application deadline is July 1.

Paula Kudelko, Chair

PENNSYLVANIA STUDENT/COLLEGIATE AUDITIONS

We had two entrants for the S/C Auditions. One is a vocalist and one is a pianist. At this point we are in the process of judging. The state results will be announced near the end of March. Recommendations for the Harvey Gaul Award are a part of the audition. Those results will also be announced later.

We wish our entrants well. We hope each of them will be recommended for the national audition which will begin in late March. PFMC has had four national winners in the last seven national auditions.

Mary Ellen Ulmer, Chair

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Often we read about young musicians when they win auditions, but we never hear about them again. PFMC has had many winners at the Student/Collegiate level for various awards. We would like to share the musical achievements of some of our winners. It has been my privilege and pleasure to guide these musicians and others through the auditions.

Mary Ellen Ulmer, Chair



Stephen Barchi, baritone, state winner in 2013, is currently performing in Europe. He has performed in many venues. He is currently at Oper Leipzig in his debut performance in *Don Carlo*. Last year he appeared in *Venessa* with the Deutsche Symphonie-Orchester Berlin.

He is a graduate of Julliard and was a Resident Artist at the Academy of Vocal Arts in Philadelphia. Barr received an appointment to the ensemble of Feutcvhe Oper Berlin made possible by the American-Berlin Scholarship of the Opera 'Foundation, New York. His performances during the season included roles in *Billy Budd*, *Carmen*, *Rigoletto*, and *Die Zauberflote*.

Vincent Carr, an organist, won in 2005 at the national level in the S/C audition and also in Sacred Music. He went on to finish his master's degree at Yale. Known for his versatility as a performer, his musical endeavors include chamber music, musical theater, global popular music and songwriting.

He has served as the Associate Organist at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Hear in Newark, NJ. Vincent most recently was appoint3ed an assistant professor of organ at Indiana University, Bloomington, IN. He has Performed and studied throughout the United States, Europe, and Latin America.



Alexander Taras De Sina, pianist, won first at the 2013 NFMC S/C Audition.. He was happy to have his piano virtuoso affirmed as a soloist. Until then he was mainly performing as a collaborative artist. He has continued to pursue both his solo and collaborative careers as he concertizes in Europe and Asia.

Highlights of his career include a concert tour of Japan with violinist Ryu Goto. De Sina lives in Vienna where regularly performs at the Ehrbaresaal and the Gesellschaft fur Musiktheater. He performed all 24 Etudes of Chopin at the Maryinsky Park in Kyiv. He also travels to London and Nice regularly for performance.

Anne Fuchs, soprano, state winner 2007, has pursued her career in opera and voice both in Europe and the United States. She currently is professor of voice at the Ernestine M. Raclin School of Arts at IU South Bend. She is soprano at the South Bend Lyric Opera.

She has been soprano at the Cathedral Basilica of Saits Peter and Paul, The Crossing, Opera Philadelphia, Lyric Opera Studio Weimar. She is a former Young Artist at the Pittsburgh Festival Opera. A graduate of Westminster Choir College, she has studied at the University of Kentucky. She performed at the 2008 PFMC Convention in Williamsport.



Alvin Zhu, pianst, has long been a part of the Pittsburgh District PFMC activities. He started as at the Festivals level and rose to the notice of all. He has performed at various clubs. In 2016 he was guest performer at the PFMC Convention. In 2015 he was awarded the top prize in the Solo Piano Competition at Chautauqua, Zhu was a Fulbright scholar in China.

Alvin is the first American inducted into the Young Steinway Artists Roster. He has performed in prestigious halls including Steinsay Hall, Sydney Opera House and the Beijing Concert Hall.

Zhu was recently appointed as the youngest professor at the Tianjin Julliard School, Julliardt's first branch campus, in Tianjuin, China. He is currently a Teaching Fellow for graduate Music History and undergraduate Muse Theory in addition to piano.

CLUB REPORT DUE DATES

April 1;

Music Outreach AR 10-1 due to state chair **by April 1;**

Santa Peters 1455 Grace St. – Allentown, PA 18103-6316 santapeterspiano@gmail.com

Opera AR 14-1 due to state chair **by April 1;**

Rosa Khalife-McCracken 507 Fourth St. – West Pittston, PA 18643 rosakm@comcast.net

Music in Schools & Colleges AR 7-1 Club Report Form due to state chair. postmarked **by April 1;**

Lucy Henry 465 S. Howard St. – SO Williamsport, PA 17702 bluhenry@comcast.net

Music in Poetry AR 6-1 Club Report Form due to state chair **by April 1;**

Suzanne Revak-Fedele 716 Cemetery St – Williamsport, PA 17701-1618 opera3482@gmail.com

Sacred Music AR 11-1 due to state chair. **by April 1;**

Linda Flick 516 South Pearl St. – Lancaster, PA 17603-5730 flick516@aol.com

Together We Sing AR 9-3 due to state chair. **by April 1;**

Santa Peters 1455 Grace St. – Allentown, PA 18103-6316 santapeterspiano@gmail.com

June 1

National Music Week AR 12-1 due to state chair **by June 1;** Paula Kudelko, 581 Greenfield Road, New Wilmington, PA 16142

July 1

Keystone Salute Award

Senior Music Club ME 7-1 due to state chair, **by July 1;** State report ME 7-3 due to Linda Flick, 516 South Pearl Street, Lancaster, PA 17603-5730

Senior Music Teaching Club report ME 7-2 due to state chair **by July 1;** due to Linda Flick

July 30

Edith Kirk Knerr Barbara Murray, PO Box 84, Dushore PA 18614 bemurray84@yahoo.com

DEPARTMENTS

CRUSADE FOR STRINGS

I encourage all clubs in Pennsylvania to participate in Crusade For Strings each year by encouraging them to 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 should have well qualified string teachers as judges for string entries at all levels in NFMC Festivals and in all other Federation auditions.

Clubs should try to include string programs involving speakers, workshops, or performers for at least one club program each year. Clubs can also participate by supporting a youth string orchestra, a full orchestra, or by offering scholarships to string students to attend summer music camps or string camps.

The purpose of Crusade For Strings is to encourage performance and appreciation of string music among the members of the PFMC who, in turn, should introduce Crusade For Strings in their communities. The goal should be to organize performing string ensembles or orchestras in every community in Pennsylvania.

Please send reports to Linda Flick, 916 New Holland Avenue, Apt. F-2, Lancaster, PA 17601-5654 by April 1, 2019
Linda Flick, Chair

FOLK MUSIC

“Music that is significant because of its person-to-person connection, reflecting concepts of heritage, history, humor, heartaches, and other aspects of everyday living. Folk songs are passed from generation to generation and often aren’t traceable to a composer or writer.” This is the NFMC’s description of Folk Music. I invite the Senior Clubs of Pennsylvania to send me programs and activities that you have shared in your schools, churches, libraries, workshops, study groups. Please use the Folk Music Report form found on the PFMC website pfmc-music.org, under FORMS. Due by May 1st. According to the NFMC Manual, there are collections with background information and printed music for many folk songs. The American Songbag by Carl Sandburg, and The Golden Encyclopedia of Folk Songs (Hal Leonard publication) are two great books that provide a treasure load of songs!

Most of you have the “Together We Sing” books that have wonderful songs that Carol Flateau put together. Don’t hesitate to use Rotary song books, Kiwanis song books, 4-H books, scout books, and campfire books.

Adopt the theme, “We Need to Sing!” The NFMC Folk Music will present \$100 to five clubs that present the best programs featuring Folk Music!
Barb Murray, Chair

NATIONAL MUSIC WEEK

National Music Week will be celebrated May 5-11. This year the theme is “*Music—the Universal Language*”. I will get a governor’s citation and distribute them to district chairmen at the convention in April. Please inform them if you need one mailed to you.

Please send me your report forms and materials by June 1. I always look forward to reading about your creative activities.
Paula Kudelko, Chair

SACRED MUSIC

I encourage all clubs in Pennsylvania to appoint a Sacred Music chair to help include sacred music in club programs and activities, and to sponsor programs of sacred music in their clubs, hospitals, nursing homes, and in their communities. The club chair could give suggestions for including sacred music selections in a program or for the performance of an entire sacred music program during the club year’s activities. These suggestions should include hymns which refer to music and song in the text.

Each club can support and participate in church music programs and provide scholarships for young people who are pursuing careers in sacred music. Your club could also organize a choir festival or sponsor programs of sacred music using choirs and ensembles of all ages, especially during the Christmas and Easter seasons. Weddings and funerals could be counted as sacred music programs. Clubs can invite guest artists to perform programs of sacred music in a club or community program. Sacred music is an important part of our lives and the goal is to promote the performance and listening of sacred music as a focal point for the enrichment of club and community life.

Please send reports to Linda Flick, 916 New Holland Avenue, Apt. F-2, Lancaster, PA 17601-5654 by April 1, 2019.
Linda Flick, Chair

SENIOR CLUB RATING AND EVALUATION

I encourage all clubs in Pennsylvania to participate in the Senior Club Rating and Evaluation report by appointing a club Rating and Evaluation chair who would keep an accurate record of all club activities and its members throughout the club year. The report can also be completed by the club president, an appointed chair, or a committee. It can be completed 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 the community, church, or any other organization.

The Senior Club Rating and Evaluation Sheet is an excellent source of information for programs and special projects. Please use it in planning interesting and informative programs for the club year that will generate enthusiasm and promote interest in all phases of the work of the PFMC. It can also serve as a gauge to evaluate the successes and failures of the club year.

Just a reminder, if your club has an outstanding program applicable to any of the sections of the Senior Club Rating and Evaluation Sheet, please include a report of that program with the completed sheet. All deserving clubs will be nominated for a National Award.

*****NOTE***** (Senior Club Rating and Evaluation, Cont'd)

Ruth Ann McChesney, myself, and NFMC are currently revising the reporting form for two different types of clubs: Form ME 7-1 will be the Annual Summary Form for both Senior Clubs and Music Teaching Clubs and will include entries pertaining to both types of clubs. Each club is to check the activities which apply to their club.

Form ME 7-2 will be the State Chair's Reporting Form which will be sent to the National Chair.

Form ME 7-1 will soon be available on the NFMC website which can be downloaded. Click on "Publications", then click on "Membership", then select Form ME 7-1.

Please send reports to Linda Flick, 916 New Holland Avenue, Apt. F-2, Lancaster, PA 17601-5654 by July 1, 2019.

Linda Flick, Chair

SENIOR CLUBS

MUSICAL ARTS SOCIETY

No programs were held in January or February this year. Our March program is entitled "Classical Flute," and will feature the Lancaster County Flute Ensemble, Jenny Fritch, Director. Our April program is entitled "Springtime Serenade," and will feature the members of the Workshop For Young Performing Artists (W.Y.P.A.) and will be chaired by the W.Y.P.A. counselors. We will hold our annual May Banquet on Saturday, May 4, 2019 at 12:00 noon, in the Glasford Room at Homestead Village, Lancaster. The banquet will be followed by Installation of Officers and an afternoon music program featuring our scholarship winners of the Grace Sauer Memorial Award and the Margaret Miller Schock Memorial Award.

The upcoming Youth Ensembles concerts are scheduled as follows: (Winter Concert) Sunday, March 3, 2019 Overture Orchestra performing at 3:00 p.m., and Allegretto/NextGEN Orchestra at 7:30 p.m.; (Spring Concert) Sunday, April 14, 2019 Allegretto/NextGEN Orchestra performing at 3:00 p.m., and Overture Orchestra at 7:30 p.m.; (Spring Concert) Sunday, May 5, 2019 Intermezzo Strings performing at time TBA, and Prelude Strings performing at time TBA. All concerts will be held at The Ware Center, Lancaster.

So far, we have only one "Music For A Summer Night" program scheduled for Tuesday, June 25, 2019 which will feature the Rohrerstown Band performing their annual Patriotic Concert. We hope to schedule several more groups to perform for the other three Tuesday evenings in June. These programs will be held at the Bachman Center, Lancaster, and will be open to the public where free-will donations will be taken to benefit our Scholarship For Young Musicians Fund.

Linda Flick, Federation Secretary

OIL CITY SCHUBERT MUSICAL AND LITERARY CLUB

The Schubert Musical and Literary Club held their annual Christmas concert, "Sounds of the Season," Sunday, December 9, 2018, 3 PM at Grace UM Church, Oil City.

Club Secretary, Cindy Fultz, welcomed the more than 70 members and guests, and led the NFMC (National Federation of Music Clubs) Collect. She then introduced the program Chairman, Elaine Eidemiller, who introduced each performer, and gave program notes about several song selections.

Mary Jane Anderson recited 4 Christmas poems. Stephen Winslow, Nancy Davis, Janice Gruenwald, and Joseph Emanuele presented a variety of Christmas music on the pipe organ. Nancy Simpson, violin, and Winslow, piano, played 2 duets. Anderson read program notes about the poet, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, and the original words to his poem, "Christmas Day." Johnny Marks set the poem to music, naming it "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day." Winslow and Jenny Milliken presented 2 piano duets.

After reading the NFMC benediction, Fultz invited everyone to enjoy refreshments provided by the Club's board members.

The next meeting open to the public will be a program presented by Jr. Schubert members Monday, March 3, 2018, 7PM at the Belles Lettres Clubhouse.

Mary Anderson

DISTRICTS

PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT

I have been visiting the clubs in the Philadelphia District this year and the programs I have heard are outstanding. All of the clubs in the Philadelphia District seem very active and very much involved in the community and in the advancement of the musical education of young musicians.

Clubs in the Philadelphia District need to become more involved in sending reports of their club's activities to the state chairs to let PFMC and NFMC know of their activities.

Philadelphia District (South) will be holding NFMC Festivals on Saturday, March 23, 2019 from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon at Lancaster Church of the Brethren, Lancaster. Linda Flick, Chair

JUNIOR AWARDS AND COMPETITIONS

NFMC NE REGION WENDELL IRISH VIOLA AWARD

As the NFMC NE Region Wendell Irish Viola Award Chair from PA (Publicity Only), I encourage each of the clubs in PA to participate by encouraging viola students to continue to study with a teacher of the recipient's choice by providing financial assistance and or giving them information to introduce them to the competition. The information can be found on the NFMC Website: nfmc-music.org. The PA State Chair will attend to promotion of the award in PA and will carry out the PA state recorded auditions. The Regional Chair will promote the award and assist the State Chair.

I have sent publicity letters out to the state presidents and/or state chairs in the nine states in the NFMC NE Region reminding them to contact the teachers and studios in their state to introduce their students to this competition. I am very pleased to announce that Pennsylvania has had one entry again this year. Juliet Jacques, who entered and won last year, has re-entered the competition again this year, and we wish her the best of luck and hope she wins again this year. Thank you for working with the teachers and studios in your district to encourage viola students to enter this competition. Linda Flick, NFMC Northeast Region Chair

This and That

The long long winter continues. As the season of Lent begins please take time to give thanks for the music and PFMC friends who have shared it with us. Send a cheering card or call. Below are some who have had a difficult winter. They have each cheered us on so take some time to make a bright spot in their day.

Joan Stanisha
5850 Meridian Road Apt. 214B
Gibsonia, PA 15044

Gwen Klus:
Highlands Care Home Road
918 Main Street
Laporte, PA 18626

May your Easter be Blessed with Music and Joy

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