



The Musical Messenger

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAS FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS

AUTUMN 2008 EDITION

Friday, November 6, 2008

VOL. XXX, No. 2

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TFMC fall board meets in Dallas



District 6 members Lee Meyer, Joe Ince, Shirley Spoon, Sue Breuer, Mary Lou Connelly, and Mary Thomason pose with the Ruth Humphrey

Community Service Award which they received at the state fall board meeting in Dallas. Shirley Spoon is the district president.

District 6 wins trophy for community service

Thirty TFMC officers and chairmen registered for the fall board meeting held September 19-20 at the Embassy Suites, Love Field, Dallas. Everyone had outstanding reports to give, and all enjoyed a lighthearted Friday evening meal and sing-along.

Items that are of interest to all members of TFMC are as follows: Junior Festival dues will increase from \$2.25 to \$3.75; this is a pass-through dues raise from National FMC. The \$1.50 increase in dues will go toward establishing a national website for junior festivals registration and recordkeeping. When this is up and running, paperwork should be greatly reduced at the local level for all junior festival chairmen. See more junior news elsewhere in this edition.

Also coming from NFMC is an increase for individual senior membership from \$20 to \$50. This is to encourage individual senior members to join a club in their area and become more connected. The TFMC board voted to cover the increase in dues for the 2008-2009 year for our individual senior members. In 2009-2010 the cost really will be \$50 for individual members in Texas. As a state board we recognize that not everyone lives within driving distance of a senior club. These individuals might consider investing in a Life Membership (\$200), which would pay for itself after four years.

Attending the state board meeting for the first time was Mary Thomason, who has been instrumental in federating two new clubs: Crownridge Music Club, San Antonio, District 6, and Harmony of the Hills Club, Kerrville, District 8; and starting a new junior festival in District 6.

District 6, with Shirley Spoon as president, received the Ruth Humphrey Community Service Award from Chairman Mary Frances Ross.

The nominating committee chair, District 9 president Barbara Shinn, stated that the slate of officers is being filled and will be completed and printed in the Musical Messenger February issue with the Official Call to the State convention.

Thank you to all the board members whose service makes TFMC happen.

An e-Messenger? TFMC goes virtual!

Thanks to Mary Tryer of Kingsville, this edition of the Musical Messenger is being posted in a pdf format for members who can access email. President Lora Lynn Christensen will send it to her database and her son will post it on the TFMC website.

If you can't make the forms work, you can download them all from the NFMC website, but you'll have to look up the TFMC information in the directory.

Note to Treasurers

Dues notices have been sent to all clubs by Sept. 1. Please pay these promptly; they are due NOW.

Senior clubs must send a list of all members, names and addresses with the dues. Also send Life Member names and addresses. This is for the mailout of the Music Clubs Magazine from National.

Please include the Founders Day contribution (\$1 per capita) and the Past President (PPA) dues of \$2 for each term served as president of club, district, or state, and any contribution for state or national. This goes to the Young Artist fund.

Clubs have been asked to send \$5 per year to the PNP Fund to endow the scholarship fund of President Lana Bailey at the conclusion of her term in 2011.

Dorene Allen, TFMC Treasurer; 4606 Fountain Lane, Odessa, TX 79761; (432) 367-2827; E-mail: ldoreneallen@yahoo.com

Calendar of Events

NFMC 55th Biennial Convention June 1-8, 2009, Rosen Plaza Hotel, Orlando, FL

NFMC Fall Board Session 2010, Pittsburgh Airport Marriott, Pittsburgh, PA

NFMC 56th Biennial Convention 2011 Virginia TFMC Convention March 26-28, 2009, Regency Inn, Abilene, District 8 host

National Music Week May 3-10, 2009, Theme: "Music...Poetry of the Heart"

TFMC State Festival May 16, 2009, San Marcos, Texas State University

Opera in the Ozarks Federation Days July 15-18, 2009 and July 14-17, 2010, Eureka Springs, AR

IFPAC Governing Board meetings Oct. 31-Nov. 1, 2008 and Mar. 6-7, 2009, Oklahoma City, OK

Musical Messenger printed Sept., Nov., Feb. May -- articles due middle of prev. month

From Your TFMC President

by Lora Lynn Christensen, NCTM
TFMC President

Greetings to fellow musicians from every corner of Texas. The Fall TFMC Board Meeting was quite successful because local clubs and districts did such a marvelous job of filling out reports and communicating with the state and national federation this past year.

As state president I received a national compilation of activity points. Texas had a cumulative 477 points; the next state was South Carolina with 251 points. We really are the biggest and the best. In almost every category we were two-to-one better than the next closest state. American Music, Senior Club Reporting, Finance (contributions), PR, Membership and Education (yearbooks, orientation, meetings) were the divisions we especially excelled in. I knew you were all doing important work and doing it well; now we have the numbers to prove it. Please keep reporting this year!

It was most fun at the national convention to hear Texas, as a state, and various Texas local clubs being honored and awarded. But more importantly, seeing facts and figures gives credence to the importance and the quality of the work we are doing in the lives of young musicians and in our communities.

Speaking of reports, several people have asked for a clarification of the reporting process. This is my personal view and what I would like to see happen in our state. The process can be confusing. If every local club has an NFMC manual (or use the NFMC website), they have all the information and forms ever needed. However, those forms have the national, or perhaps regional, chairman's name and address. The forms really need to go through the state level for processing and therefore should not be sent directly to the national chairman. Major problem: to get forms to the national chairman by their due date, the state chairmen have to have an earlier due date. Major problem: our state convention comes before many dates are due, making it impossible for a state chairman to have a complete report at said convention. Texas is large. Most of our nine districts have more clubs than some states have.

My theory in a nutshell: The Musical Messenger will remind people about forms, STATE due dates and chairman; district chairmen should take the responsibility to remind the clubs in their district that forms are due to the state chairman (email is the easiest way to do this). Preferably the local club reports will



Texans attending the NFMC Fall Board Meeting in Denver, CO in August include, from left: Laurel and Joe Ince, Francis Christmann, Mary

Lou Connelly, Jean Moffatt, Dortha and Ronald Bennett, Lora Lynn and Don Christensen, and Sue Breuer.

go directly to the state chairman; the district chairman will just help job memories. The state chairmen will then compile their reports and send them on to the national chairman. At the spring convention, chairmen will not have complete reports; their report may be "these reports are due May 1" or whenever. At the

Fall State Board Meeting the state chairman will have complete reports for the PAST year and can include any new information for the upcoming year.

Plan now to be in Abilene for the March 26-28 convention. Lots of information will be shared and lots of fun will be had.

Calling Junior Composers -- get ready!

Do you know a budding composer? Then make sure he/she participates in the Junior Composition program. This is a terrific way for a child to receive ratings, positive critiques and

recognition for his/her efforts. Students may also work toward festival cups!

Enter essay contest

Remember!!! The National Music Week essay contest is a wonderful opportunity for young people grades 7-12 to creatively express themselves. In 500 words or less, an entrant is to write on the 2009 National Music Week theme, "Music...Poetry of the Heart." The winner will receive a \$50 cash award, but Texas entries must have a December 15, 2008 postmark date. The winning teacher will receive a certificate.

Start now! All compositions, recordings (if applicable), application forms, critique sheets and fees must be sent to me postmarked on or before Jan. 15, 2009. Entrants must be members in good standing of NFMC as either an active Junior Club member or an individual Junior Special Member, so sign them up this fall. More information, rules and forms can be found online at <http://www.nfmc-music.org>. **Be sure to contact me for the TFMC Entry Roster Form before submitting your entries.**

For questions or more information regarding official rules and entry forms, please do not hesitate to contact chairman Annette Griesbach by email: annetteg9@sbcglobal.net or go to the NFMC website at www.nfmc-music.org; clicking first on Competitions and Awards, then being directed to Annual Junior Awards.

The Junior Composers program is one of the best-kept secrets in Texas, and we need to get the word out about such a great opportunity for a young Bach or Gershwin. Share the news with your colleagues and friends. Let's have a "Texas-sized" contest this year!

Make it a point to encourage our youth in this opportunity!

Annette Griesbach
905 Cady Road
Rockdale, TX 76567
annetteg9@sbcglobal.net

Sherry Frush, NCTM
TFMC Junior Composers Chair
3434 Ivanhoe Lane
Abilene, TX 79605
325.692.9233
sherryfrush@yahoo.com

Happy Holidays to all!

Festivals chairman addresses Juniors

by Cathy Neidert, Chairman, TFMC State Festivals

NFMC has raised the participation fees for our district Festivals, effective IMMEDIATELY. The fee increase is for the purpose of funding the development of a centralized database and associated web-application to unify, simplify, facilitate and manage Festivals all across the nation. New participation fees are listed below. District or local Festival Chairmen, please adjust your Festival entry fees accordingly.

\$2.75 NFMC Participation fees (formerly \$1.25)

+ \$1.00 TFMC Participation fee (same as last year)

= **\$3.75 TOTAL PARTICIPATION FEES DUE PER PARTICIPANT PER EVENT** (formerly \$2.25)

\$4.00 NFMC Festival Cup fee (same as last year)

A new database system is being developed for NFMC Festivals and will provide on-line registration which will be completed by each individual teacher. For areas and states, the focus this year will be to get point history data organized so that it can be absorbed into the database. Alpha-testing (selected area Festivals) will begin no later than January 2010 and may be available to a select few in 2009. Full deployment will be no later than January 2011.

Teachers will only have access to the system if dues are current. A pull-down or auto fill menu of all required pieces per level will prevent many errors that occur in registration. Previous point histories will be imported into the system, and the registration will recognize any errors as far as progression or correlation of levels (solo/duet). The teacher will be alerted of any problems immediately because the registration will not be completed. The teacher will need to choose a different required piece at the proper level in order to comply with Festival rules. When registration is complete, the teacher will print the registration and send Festival fees to the area/state as has always been done in the past. It will also be possible for the area chairman to download the complete registration, saving them a lot of work. The area Festivals Chairman will organize the Festival as always. If help is desired, the national system can provide help in scheduling, and other areas of Festival organization.

Security is a top priority. Teachers will only be able to access the records of their own students. Area Festival Chairmen will have access to the records of all teachers/clubs in their Festivals area as needed to run the local festival. State Festivals Chairmen will have access to those aspects of their individual state's data as needed to

oversee Festivals in their respective states.

Students who transfer from one teacher to another or who move from one state to another will no longer have to worry about records being transferred successfully. Students who forget they entered Festival several years before will be recognized as already existing in the Festival system when the new teacher registers the student, and those previous points will be attached to the current record. This system will generate all area and state Festival reports because all data regarding scores earned in Festival will be

Parade of American Music

Carla Johnson, Texas Chairman of American Music, reminds all clubs to report on their participation in the Parade of American Music this month. Forms for reporting are at the NFMC website. There are monetary awards.

This past year eleven reports were sent in from Texas: Ft. Worth Harmony Club, Dallas Melodie Club, Waco Euterpean Club, Seminole Music Club, Wednesday Morning Music Club of Austin, Gonzales Music Study Club, Lubbock Music Club, MacDowell Music Club, Carthage Music Club, New Braunfels Music Study Club, and McAllen Music Club.

All reports are to be sent by March 1, 2009, to Anita Blackmon, 1101 S. Ricky Rd., Kennett, MO 63857; (573) 888-3998; email abblackmon@att.net.

We would urge all of you to send in your report with your printed program or yearbook page. Clubs with 19 or fewer members will receive extra points. Please include your city's name with your club name, and fill out the front and back of your form.

New District 1 president

Johnie Robbins, president of District 1, has been forced to resign due to health problems. Vice-president Jerry Malone will step up and complete her term.

Jerry's contact information is 601 SW Avenue E, Seminole, TX 79360. Phone 432-758-3022.

District 1 met October 25 in Seminole and elected a new slate of officers for 2009-2011. TFMC president Lora Lynn Christensen installed the new slate and spoke at the luncheon.

Winner of the D'Aun Marshall District 1 Scholarship was pianist Jacob Dehoyas, a student at Texas Tech University. He performed during the conference, which included members from the Macdowell Club of Amarillo, Lubbock and Al-lergo Music Clubs, and Seminole Music Club.

entered on-line. Once those scores are entered, the reporting system will be complete and we will have access to much more data. This will help in bulletin preparation and planning of future Festival events.

Areas and states will no longer need to purchase updated software as programs are improved. Such updates will be done nationally in the web application. Festival data will be backed up regularly. There will be almost zero potential for information loss. Those areas which have experienced the frustration that came when the keeper of all Festivals records moved or had a computer crash with all data being lost will see the benefit of this immediately. The full benefit of such a system can only be realized with complete data on all students. **Therefore, all district or local Festivals will be required to participate.**

This year, Texas will continue to register for local Festivals as in the past through your local District Festival Chairman. Since implementation of a national Festival database will take several years, you will be notified when Texas is released to participate.



Mary Prudie Brown, Texas "First Lady of Music," is pictured beside the cake at her 85th birthday party August 15 in Stanton. Mary Prudie, past president of TFMC and NFMC, is recovering nicely from a second stroke and would welcome cards to Box 250, Stanton, TX 79782.

TFMC Festivals have successful year

by Cathy Neidert, TFMC State Festival Chairman

As State Chairman of TFMC Festivals across Texas, I'm pleased to report that we've had a very busy and successful year. My responsibilities include oversight and support of all the district festivals across our state, national and state reports, collection of state and national fees, and planning, preparing, and executing the TFMC State Festival.

DISTRICT INFO: We now have 20 district or local festival chairmen, and 31 actual festival sites, not including the State Festival. Across the state of Texas, there were a total of 5,247 (increase of 135) individual participants and 4 ensembles of 5 or more people for a total of \$6,566.25 in NFMC fees and a total of \$5,253 in TFMC fees. The grant total in fees collected was \$11,853.77. There were 4,639 superior ratings awarded in 36 different events such as piano solo, piano duet, violin concerto, vocal art song, and flute solo. These hard-working students came from 136 different junior clubs, most being individual teacher studios.

I have prepared the annual packet of materials for each of the district festival chairmen to help them with planning and scheduling their local festivals. These packets were mailed in mid-October. The packet included all the forms they would need for state and national reports, as well as district, festival cups, state festival and other Junior-related forms. I have already been in contact with the chairmen for this year regarding insurance. We provided all festival dates as estimates and will need to lock these down before the end of the year.

Because of the hurricanes and resulting conditions in the Galveston-Houston area, we are not sure what the projection for participation will be for this next year. As you know, many homes along the coast of Texas simply no longer exist. This will adversely affect the teachers and students that live in these devastated areas. Once basic needs to the affected areas has been restored, such as electricity, telephone service, internet services, etc., we will be in contact with as many of the chairmen as possible to assess the situation.

National has recently raised our participation fees, and a recommendation has been made to increase our current fees by \$1.50 per participant. This increase will provide funds at the national level for the setting up of a national website for entries, similar to our state website for entries. Because our state software must have extensive programming updates this year, our software writer has been in contact with national to attempt to coordinate our state festival scheduling software with the new national scheduling

software, if possible. We are hopeful that coordinating with national might help us avoid unnecessary duplication of work and extra expense. This is a long, expensive process, and we will keep you abreast of progress.

STATE INFO: This year's 32nd annual TFMC State Festival was held May 17, 2008 at Texas State University in San Marcos. This was our second year back in San Marcos where we started. We were well-received by the university, and they did an outstanding job working with us to pull off this large event. Although we did not have our regular team of personnel, our State Festival was quite successful and flowed smoothly throughout the day.

Because of the \$1 state fee that was put into place a couple of years ago, we now have a greater level of funds to put into the hands of our winners. In past years, we presented approximately \$1,000 in total funds awarded. This year, we presented monetary awards totaling \$4,050. If we continue to provide this level of awards, I expect to see a good increase in entries for our older students, which usually lags far behind our younger ones. A list of individual awards, student winners, and teachers follows.

2008 TFMC State Festival Monetary Winners

Event	Class	Amt.	Student	City	Teacher
Piano C	Sr.	\$500	Khanh Pham	Houston	T. Wells
Piano C	Jr3	\$250	Khoa Truong	Houston	T. Wells
Piano	MA2	\$500	Faith Boyle	Weatherford	Hughes
Piano	MA1	\$400	Emily Scott	Terrell	Neidert
Piano	VD2	\$300	Paul Gaughan	Spicewood	Zade
Piano	VD1	\$250	Alexandra Maderal	Lockhart	Michie
Piano	VD1	\$250	Henry Hwang	Sugarland	Tzeng
Piano	D2	\$200	Maegan Guerra	N. Braun.	Wittrup
Piano	D1	\$150	Christine Bang	Houston	Tsang
Piano	D1	\$150	Belinda Jiang	Pearland	Y. Liu
Vocal	MA1	\$150	Jessica Humphrey	Garland	Kemp.
Violin C	SR	\$250	Hannah Lee	Round Rk.	Yang
Violin S	Ad2	\$250	Cal Hengst	San Angelo	Woyton
Violin	Ad1	\$200	Hannah Lee	Round Rk.	Yang
Guitar	Adv.	\$250	Jacob Gremmer	N. Braun.	Gremmer
Total Awards		\$4,050			

NATIONAL MUSIC WEEK ESSAY CONTEST

AR 13-1
Available Online

Mary Ellen Ulmer (Mrs. Thomas), Department Chairman
168 East Branch Road
Mercer, PA 16137
(724) 946-2877; E-mail: ulmerme@hotmail.com

Texas Postmark Deadline December 15
To: Annette Griesback
905 Cady Road
Rockdale, TX 76567
Email: annetteg9@sbcglobal.net

REGIONAL CHAIRMEN:Northeastern, Southeastern Regions:

Address: *Lois Tamplin*, 411 Tamplin Street, Sharon PA 16146; (724) 347-3298; loiet@att.net
States: AL, CT, DC, FL, GA, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MS, NC, NJ, NY, OH, PA, SC, TN, VA

North Central, South Central, Western Regions:

Address: Cora Barr, 726 West 6th St., Minneapolis, MN 55419; (612) 869-2525; corazbarr@msn.com
States: AR, AZ, CA, CO, ID, IA, IL, KS, MN, MO, MT, NB, NM, ND, OK, OR, SD, TX, UT, WA, WI, WS

Awards: 🎵 An award of \$50.00 will be presented in each state in which a winner is declared.

🎵 An Award of Merit Certificate will be presented to each winner and teacher.

Essay Rules: 2008 Theme: *Music ... A Sound Foundation for Life*

2009 Theme: *Music ... Poetry of the Heart*

- Contest open to 7-12th grade students. Essay must be typed and no longer than 500 words. Essay is judged on content, neatness and legibility. Membership in NFMC is NOT required to enter.
- Entry form with deadline **postmark date must be by February 1, and mailed to the regional chairman for your state. (Address above).**
- Include a wallet size photo with your application form.
- The essays become the property of the NFMC and may be published. Winners, teachers and state presidents will be notified in the winning states.

Entry Form for National Music Week Essay Contest

Entry form and essay must be sent to the Regional NMW Chairman of the entrant's home state by postmark deadline February 1. All entries become the property of NFMC and will not be returned. The undersigned hereby applies to enter the National Music Week Essay Contest. State winners are ineligible to re-enter

Name of Entrant _____

Address (Street, City, State, Zip) _____

Grade in School: 7 8 9 10 11 12 Include Wallet Photo

Are you a member of an active junior club Yes No

If a member, give the name of your group _____

- I hereby certify that I am eligible to enter this contest according to the rules and will comply with all of the conditions outlined.
- If I am one of the national winners, I request that my award be sent to the address listed above, and that the Award of Merit be presented to the following in my name:

Teacher's Name _____

Address _____

MUSIC OUTREACH
Club Report Form

AR 10-1
Available Online

(This form is to be received by the State Chairman by March 1.)
Name, Address and Telephone number of State Chairman

E-mail: _____ Telephone: _____

Name of Club:

President: _____

Club Chairman of Music Outreach: _____

Please complete all blanks applicable to your situation.

_____ Volunteers have given _____ hours of service in the following:
(Number) (Number)

_____ hours
(Hospitals)

_____ hours
(Prisons)

_____ hours
(Disabled Children)

_____ hours
(Day Care Centers for Disabled Children)

_____ hours
(Nursing Homes)

_____ hours
(Homebound)

_____ hours
(Retirement Homes)

_____ hours
(Schools for Disabled Adults)

_____ hours
(Day Care Centers for Seniors)

_____ hours
(Other. Name places and give hours served at other places of confinement.)

Rehearsal and travel time can be counted.

The following volunteers have given 100 hours or more of musical and music-related services per year in the name of the Federation, and are eligible to receive a National Award. Only hours devoted to reaching the confined are counted.

\$225.00 will be awarded to the individual who has the most hours, and \$225.00 to the club that has the most hours.

Table with 2 columns: Name/Address, Hours. Includes blank lines for data entry.

(Use back of the page for additional information.)

Signed: _____
(Club President) (Address)

or
Signed: _____
(Club Chairman) (Address)

CRUSADE FOR STRINGS ACTIVITY # AR 3-1
Local Club Report - Covering Activities from May 31 to May 15 Available Online

1. Name of organization: _____ City/State: _____
 Classification of NFMC Membership: Active Associate

2. President or Director: _____
 Address: _____

3. Number of programs that included strings _____ (Total of below)

Club meetings _____	Philanthropic _____	Federation (District, State, National) _____
General public _____	Schools _____	

4. Did your organization have a guest string performer? Yes No

5. Did your organization sponsor or give support to a string ensemble or orchestra? Yes No

Give name _____

Explain type of support _____

Is it Federated? Yes (Active; Associate) No

6. Did your organization give support (other than sending scholarship students) to a string festival or camp? Yes No If yes, give name _____

Explain type of support _____

Is it Federated? Yes (Active; Associate) No

7. Did you support local school music string programs? Yes No

If yes, monetary amount \$ _____ Explain _____

Voluntary hours _____ Explain _____

Other _____

8. Number of string scholarships given _____ Total amount \$ _____

9. List any other activity involving strings _____

·Include with the report all publicity and programs regarding above activity.

·Underline in red any mention of the National Federation of Music Clubs and Crusade for Strings

Local chairman - Send to state chairman - *by April 15.*

State chairman - Send to NFMC Chairman, *Tom Wellin, 906 3rd Street NW, Mandan ND 58554 by May 1.*

To Natalie Morgan, 6107 Cary Drive, Austin, TX 78757

NATIONAL MUSIC WEEK - MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION

AR 12-2

Available Online

Note: Information is included for wording of proclamation for both 2008 and 2009. The local club chairman should prepare a formal copy using the correct information for the year being celebrated.

NATIONAL MUSIC WEEK

MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS** music plays an increasingly important role in our world today, and
- WHEREAS** music is one of the most sublime of human pursuits and is subscribed to by all races and creeds, and
- WHEREAS** music is the language of all peoples and one of the greatest forces in creating peace and harmony, and
- WHEREAS** the National Federation of Music Clubs, dedicated to encouraging young musicians, to increasing musical knowledge, and to advancing American music and its cooperating organizations, join forces to direct attention to the dynamic influence of music in everyday living,

NOW THEREFORE I, _____, Mayor of the City of _____

**Do hereby proclaim the week of May 4 - May 11 to be
May 3 - May 10, 2009**

NATIONAL MUSIC WEEK IN _____

And ask that all citizens of this community observe and take part in activities, recognizing the importance of music, musicians, and musical organizations to the cultural life of our City, State, Nation and World.

**Dated this _____ day of _____ A.D. 2008
A.D. 2009**

Mayor

2008 NMW Theme: *Music ... A Sound Foundation for Life*

2009 NMW Theme: *Music ... Poetry of the Heart*