



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS

Junior Keynotes

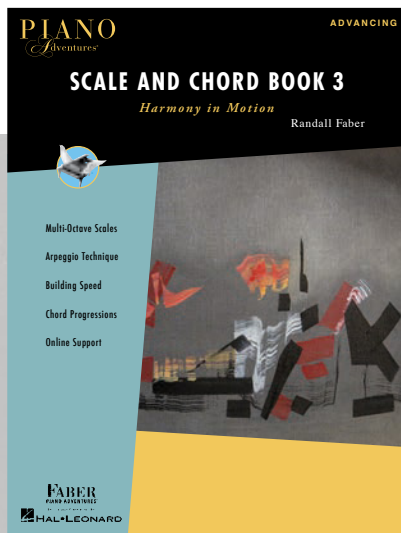
Autumn 2020 • Vol. 94, No. 1



**2020
Winners'
Edition**



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Norfolk, VA • June 15th - 19th, 2021

Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel

www.nfmca-music.org


NFMC Junior Keynotes Directory

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Message from the President

by Frances Nelson

We have lived through some very unbelievable times, haven't we? And we do not know when life might become more normal.

It is my understanding that many Federation Festivals were held virtually, or by video recording. Our recitals and club meetings have even been online. We are so fortunate to have the technology to continue with our activities, even though they have been modified a bit. You are lucky because you are the perfect age to have the knowledge and understanding to deal with situations that require use of technology. This has been a learning experience for all of us. Virtual meetings, YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram were unknown just a few years ago, and now everyone is using them.

It is my hope that we will continue through these tough times, knowing that we have the resources to overcome any obstacles that occur. Knowledge is power, and you have the knowledge to get through the difficulties that COVID-19 has brought to all of us.

Thank you for your love and devotion to music and thank you for your determination to carry on with your artistic studies. Always remember the pleasure that comes from your music.

Congratulations to all the winners featured in this issue! Keep up the good work!

Create Harmony through Music!

Frances J. Nelson

NFMCA's 34th President

seek it

National Federation of Music Clubs
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Walking in Chopin's footsteps.

Rescheduled!
OCTOBER 2021
More info to come

ITINERARY:

- 10.14: Departure
- 10.15: Arrival, Warsaw
- 10.16: Warsaw
- 10.17: Warsaw
- 10.18: Warsaw > Wrocław
- 10.19: Wrocław
- 10.20: Wrocław > Duszniki-Zdrój
- 10.21: Duszniki-Zdrój > Kraków
- 10.22: Kraków
- 10.23: Return

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- Two private concerts of Chopin's music
- Opera, or similar performance, in Warsaw
- Local taxes, tipping and fees

witte
Travel & Tours



President's Theme:

"Create Harmony through Music"

President's Song:

"Come to Us, Creative Spirit"

Text by David Mowbray / Music by Richard Proulx



It's Time to Prepare for 2021

by Michael R. Edwards, *Junior Division Chair*

The NFMC Junior Division has dealt with a sharp learning curve since March 2020 due to COVID-19. How can festival auditions operate during a pandemic? First, we had to develop a COVID-19 policy. Festival auditions were extended through August 31 and could be conducted in the traditional manner or electronically. This was a HUGE change for our festival's audition program. As expected, there was some pushback. This was totally understandable, but we were dealing with circumstances that were beyond our control. The COVID-19 policy was later extended to cover fall, winter and spring festival auditions. The feedback to the changes has been quite positive. However, some festival sites were quite creative in interpreting the COVID-19 policy.

- Festival auditions **MUST** be held in order for juniors to receive a rating.
- Teachers may **NOT** judge their own students.
- Judges' grades may **NOT** be changed once the audition is completed.

We are monitoring the above situations and will take the appropriate actions if needed.


The Junior Division competitive events were not affected by COVID-19. These events are conducted online. This was my first year to serve as chair of a competitive event (Edwards PNP Award). I was pleasantly surprised how efficient and simple it was to use the NFMC competitive online system. There was a small learning curve, but with help from Jennifer, I was able to understand and conduct my event with confidence.

2021

The following revisions have been made for 2021 competitive events:

- **TARBA** – age requirement 12-14.
- **Wendell Irish Viola Award** – preliminary state audition for this award is discontinued. Apply directly to NFMC chair.
- **Stillman Kelley Award** – preliminary state audition for this award is discontinued. Apply directly to NFMC chair.

JR forms for all competitive events will be available online by September 15.

I have no idea what 2021 will have in store for our organization. I do know that we will meet any challenge that we may face together and prevail. Let us prepare for 2021! 

Keep the Music Alive for the Future Through Our Juniors

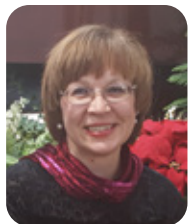
Michael R. Edwards

Graduating Senior Performance Award

This award will be given to a graduating high school senior pursuing a music performance degree on any instrument or voice who will be attending an accredited music school. Graduating seniors must have earned at least one NFMC Federation cup. For rules (JR 22-1) and application (JR 22-2) and more information please visit nfmcmusic.org.



Deadline: May 1
Award Amount: \$4,000
Chair: Michael R. Edwards
Email: micedwards@aol.com



2020-2024 Festivals Bulletin is Finished!

by Lori Jessen, *NFMCFestivals Bulletin Editor*

It is finished! I have waited a long time to be able to write those words. What a wild ride the preparation of the *Bulletin* has been ... whoever would have thought that we'd be finishing the process during a worldwide pandemic? Certainly not me; but it has been yet another circumstance that forces us to use all our creativity to get the job done, no matter what.

A great deal of thanks goes to the 50 advisors who have given so freely of their time and expertise to compile the required repertoire lists. They are the backbone of the *Bulletin*. It has been wonderful to be able to get to know many of them and hear their stories. Several advisors covered multiple events, and other events did not need an advisor. Unfortunately, not every event that needed an advisor had one. So, you will see some familiar pieces in the 2020 Bulletin for some events. The Piano Solo lists also include some of your "oldie goldie" suggestions selected by the advisors. Look for some of your favorite pieces from the past!

The latest edition of the *Bulletin* contains 104 events. Fourteen are new: Sacred Music Piano Solo, Harp, Hymn Playing, Piano Trio II (piano-flute-cello), Piano Trio III (piano clarinet-violin), Piano/String Quartet (piano-violin-violon-cello), Ukulele Solo, Oboe Concerto, Clarinet Concerto, Clarinet Trio, Alto Saxophone Duet, Baritone Saxophone Solo, Saxophone Quartet (AATB), Trumpet Duet, and Tuba Solo. The theory event has been totally revised from the ground up, with a much more rigorous curriculum, and the improvisation and sight singing/playing events have more clearly defined objectives and criteria. Please check out these new events and get your students involved. And remember to recruit new members who have students who would benefit from participation in Festival. We have so much to offer ... don't let the Federation be a secret in your community! Spread the love! Share the joy!

There are over 300 publishers represented this time around. Many publishers are making pieces available in two formats. Pieces available digitally are indicated with an "@" symbol

following the item number. We tried to be as complete as possible at the time of data entry, but as pieces are constantly being offered digitally, you'll no doubt find many more by now. Having digital editions will no doubt be an asset to many of us; but for those of us who also love the printed page, the vast majority of pieces are available as hard copies. Now there are a few digital-only publications but rest assured – there are plenty of pieces to choose from no matter your preference!

The *Bulletin Updates* list will be distributed via email to Festival Chairs who will forward it to all teachers in their Festival Area. It will also be posted on the NFMCF website and printed in the Fall and Winter editions of *Junior Keynotes*. Be sure to keep the updates with your Bulletin!

Shortly after I became the *Bulletin* editor, I took a productivity course and learned the importance of making a vision statement – defining what success looks like before you even begin a project. As I review the vision statement I created for the *Bulletin*, I'm thankful that many of the goals were accomplished successfully.



But I certainly did not do it alone, and there are very many people to thank who have helped in some way. If I tried to list them all, I might forget someone. Please know that you are all appreciated for anything and everything that you have done to make this *Bulletin* a reality in print.

With a heart full of thanks for this opportunity to serve our wonderful organization in this capacity, I hope that you all will enjoy using the new *Bulletin*. Have a wonderful Festival season! **JK**

FEDERATION
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JULY 2020 - JUNE 2024

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Bulletin Updates

The updates are listed in *Bulletin* order, and all corrections for an event will be listed together.

Publisher code SMP

Any piece that has the publisher code of SMP should be adjusted to **SMPR**.

Piano Solo

Primary IV

Correction: *Captain Kidd* is by John Thompson, not William Gillock.

Elementary III

Correction: *Candlelight Prelude* is by Carol Klose not Fred Kern.

Medium

Correction: The correct item # for *Hayride Hoedown* (Austin) is HL00416894.

Moderately Difficult II

Corrections: The correct collection title for *Canyons and Waterfalls* is MELODY'S FAVORITES, BK 4.

Musically Advanced I & II

Correction: The correct title for the Rachmaninoff *Preludes* is: *13 Preludes, Op. 32*.

Piano Concerto

Junior II

Clarification: Page 47 and page 48 are identical except for one piece. Use page 48.

Senior

Clarification: *Blues Concerto* (Rocherolle) has been reclassified from the previous Bulletin, where it was in Junior III.

Sacred Music Piano Solo

Elementary III

Any pieces by Pam Williams Turner are now available at pamturnerpiano.com and sheetmusicplus.com

Medium

Addition: *Prelude on ENGLEBERG*, James L. King, Alijam Music, alijammusic.com

Piano Hymn Playing

Rules clarification: Rules were inadvertently omitted. Rule #11: In **Classes I-IV**, entrants may remain in each class for two (2) years, regardless of rating received, with different selections the second year. In **Class V**, entrants may remain in this class indefinitely, regardless of rating received, with different selections each year.

Primary A

Correction: The correct collection for *There is None Like You* is PLAY PRAISE: MOST REQUESTED, BK 1, 23253 (ALF).

Primary A, B

Any pieces by Pam Williams Turner are now available at pamturnerpiano.com and sheetmusicplus.com

Primary D

Correction: *It Is Well With My Soul* is on p. 52

Piano Duet

Elementary II

Clarification: *Moroccan Breeze* (Costello) and *My Irish Butterfly* (Leaf) are also available in a collection, DUETS AT THEIR BEST BK 2, FJH2257 (FJH).

Moderately Difficult III

The repertoire list for this class was inadvertently omitted. It is listed below.

Alexander, Dennis	Danza Giocoso		47891 @	ALF
Alexander, Dennis	Romance in A-flat Major	PREMIER PIANO COURSE, DUET 6	44626 @	ALF
Coalter, Mona	People Need the Lord	FOR EVERY SEASON PIANO DUETS	978083000000	LPC
Evans, William	Fiddle Faddle	JAZZ TRIBUTES	WP180	KJOS

Frackenhohl, Arthur	Latin Lilt for Liz		10142	MAN
Hartsell, Randall	Ukrainian Bell Carol		HL00237111 @	WMC
Hayes, Mark	My Jesus, I Love Thee	GREAT THINGS HE HAS DONE!	70/1806L	LOR
Hergo, Jane	Gems on the Lake		NMP 0019	NMP
James, Christine Schumann	Emerald Memories		xx	CJJ
Klose, Carol	Defying Gravity	WICKED (PIANO DUET PLAY ALONG, VOL 20)	HL00290567 @	HL
Klose, Carol	Jack Sparrow	PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN (PIANO DUET PLAY-ALONG, VOL 19)	HL00290566 @	HL
Levitt, Justin	Villians, The		E1119	FJH
Rocherolle, Eugénie	Across the Years	CELEBRATION SUITE	HL00152724 @	HL
Sousa, John Philip	Stars and Stripes Forever, The	SPOTLIGHT ON DUETS, BK 3	FF1483	FJH
Springer, Mike	Jazzmatazz		47085 @	ALF

Piano Duo

Primary IV

Addition: *The Cat and the Mouse*, George Anson, HL00404491(WMC). This is incorrectly listed in the Piano Quartet Event.

Piano Quartet

Primary IV

Delete: *The Cat and the Mouse*, George Anson, HL00404491(WMC). This is a piano duo.

Elementary I

Delete: *Rustic Pictures, Op. 190* (pick one). The individual movements are listed individually in the correct class.

Elementary III

Clarification: *Eccossaises, Op. 41* (Dvorak), play all.

Clarification: *Two Handel Minuets* (Carper): The minuets flow one to the other, creating one piece.

Sacred Organ Solo

Difficult I

Clarification—*When Morning Gilds the Skies* is available as sheet music with the indicated item number. It is also in the collection FOUR HYMN PRELUDES FOR ORGAN, item #COR2.

Moderately Difficult II

Clarification—The code for *For All the Saints* is #385.

Difficult II

Clarification—The code for *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot* is #316. It is not part of a collection.

APFS Piano

Primary II

Correction: *First Songs of My Country* is by Jane Bastien, not James Bastien. The item # is correct.

Vocal Solo – Art Song

Elementary III

Some of the repertoire list for this class was inadvertently omitted. The additional pieces are listed below.

Archer, Violet	Someone	RESONANCE, LVL 2	RSR02U	FH
English Folk Melody	All Things Bright and Beautiful	RCM RESONANCE, LVL 1	RSR01U	FH
Gartlan, George	Lilac Tree, The	EASY SONGS FOR THE BEGINNING SOPRANO	HL50483756	HL
Welsh Carol	All Through the Night	FOLK SONGS FOR SOLO SINGERS, VOL 2	16304, 16305	ALF
Woodman, R. Huntington	Violets	DAFFODILS, VIOLETS AND SNOWFLAKES	HL00740244	HL

Senior I

Delete: *There's a Lady Sweet and Kind* (Dello Joio). This is listed correctly in Musically Advanced III.

Delete: *My Lord, What a Mornin'* (American Spiritual). This is listed correctly in Senior III.

Vocal Solo – Musical Theater

Junior III – Female

The repertoire list for this class was inadvertently omitted. It is listed below.

Bart, Lionel	As Long As He Needs Me	MUSICAL THEATRE ANTHOLOGY FOR TEENS, YW ED	HL00740189	HL
Bock, Jerry	Far From the Home I Love	SINGER'S MUSICAL THEATRE ANTHOLOGY SOP, VOL 1	HL00361071	HL
Casey, Warren	Freddy My Love	BROADWAY FOR TEENS, YW ED	HL00000402	HL
Lippa, Andrew	My New Philosophy	SINGER'S MUSICAL THEATRE ANTHOLOGY, MEZZO TEEN ED	HL00230048	HL
Menken, Alan	Change in Me, A	MUSICAL THEATRE ANTHOLOGY FOR TEENS, YW ED	HL00740189	HL
Rodgers, Richard	Hello Young Lovers	FIRST BOOK OF BROADWAY SOLOS	HL00740134	HL
Rodgers, Richard	Out of My Dreams	TEENS MUSICAL THEATRE COLLECTION, YW ED	HL00740160	HL
Sherman, Richard	Supercalifragilistic-expialidocious	KIDS' MUSICAL THEATRE ANTHOLOGY	HL00322155	HL

Vocal Solo – Musical Theater, cont.

Senior I – Male

The repertoire list for this class was inadvertently omitted. It is listed below.

Berlin, Irving	My Defenses Are Down	SINGER'S MUSICAL THEATRE ANTHOLOGY BAR/BASS, VOL 2	HL00747033	HL
Brooks, Mel	That Face	SINGER'S MUSICAL THEATRE ANTHOLOGY TENOR, TEENS ED	HL00230045	HL
Finn, William	I'm Not That Smart	THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE	HL321950	HL
Grossman, Larry	Mama, A Rainbow	MUSICAL THEATRE ANTHOLOGY FOR TEENS, YM ED	HL00740190	HL

Loewe, Frederick	Almost Like Being in Love	ON BROADWAY SONGBOOK	26266	ALF
Loewe, Frederick	Camelot	SINGER'S MUSICAL THEATRE ANTHOLOGY BAR/BASS, VOL 1	HL00361074	HL
Menken, Alan	Gaston	MUSICAL THEATRE ANTHOLOGY FOR TEENS, YM ED	HL00740190	HL
Rodgers, Richard	You Are Beautiful	THE FIRST BOOK OF BROADWAY SOLOS TENOR, PT 2	HL00001113	HL

Senior II – Female

The repertoire list for this class was inadvertently omitted. It is listed below.

Bernstein, Leonard	My House	SINGER'S MUSICAL THEATRE ANTHOLOGY SOP, VOL 5	HL00001151	HL
Hamlisch, Marvin	What I Did For Love	SINGER'S MUSICAL THEATRE ANTHOLOGY MEZZO, VOL 2	HL00747031	HL
Newman, Randy	Almost There	DISNEY INGENUE SONGBOOK	HL00225381	HL
Rodgers, Richard	The Gentleman is a Dope	SINGER'S MUSICAL THEATRE ANTHOLOGY MEZZO, VOL 2	HL747031	HL
Romberg, Sigmund	Lover, Come Back to Me	SINGER'S MUSICAL THEATRE ANTHOLOGY SOP, VOL 4	HL00000393	HL
Schafer, Milton	I Like Him	SINGER'S MUSICAL THEATRE ANTHOLOGY SOP, VOL 4	HL00000393	HL
Stiles, George	Practically Perfect	SINGER'S MUSICAL THEATRE ANTHOLOGY SOP, VOL 5	HL00001151	HL
Styne, Jules	Small World	SINGER'S MUSICAL THEATRE ANTHOLOGY MEZZO, VOL 2	HL00747031	HL

Violin Trio

Difficult

Clarification: The publisher's item # for *Rigaudon* is TL05. The # listed is the # at JW Pepper.

Violin Quartet

Clarification: The publisher's item # for *Winter Willow* is VQ08. The # listed is the # at JW Pepper.

Cello Solo

Clarification: The second sentence of rule #1 on p. 250 should read: The choice piece **may not** be from the required list but *may* be another variation or movement of the required piece.

Oboe Solo

Primary II

Additions: *Polish Folk Tune*, Alan Richardson (FIRST BK OF OBOE SOLOS), FAB0571503721 (FA); *Waltz*, Morris Vogel (CLASSICAL SOLOS FOR OBOE), HL00842543 (HL).

Elementary I

The repertoire list for this class was inadvertently omitted. It is listed below.

Bay, William	Sarabande (Handel)	TRUMPET METHOD	MB93448	MEL
Saint-Jacome, Louis	Allegretto non troppo	SAINT JACOME'S GRAND METHOD FOR TRUMPET	457	CF
Saint-Jacome, Louis	Easy Duet	SAINT-JACOME'S COMPLETE GRAND METHOD FOR TRUMPET	457	CF
Voxman, Himie	Petite Waltz	SELECTED DUETS, VOL 1	HL04470980	HL
Voxman, Himie	Rustic March	SELECTED DUETS, VOL 1	HL04470980	HL
Weber, Fred	Concerto Theme Rachmaninoff	FIRST DIVISION BAND METHOD, PT 3	FDL00176A @	ALF
Weber, Fred	Joshua Fit de Battle	FIRST DIVISION BAND METHOD, PT 3	FDL00176A @	ALF

French Horn Solo

Elementary

Clarification: Disregard the bottom of page 409 as it is an incomplete list of the pieces. Page 410 contains the complete list.

Guidelines for Magazine Publication

We have implemented a few new guidelines for our magazine, *Junior Keynotes*. Our purpose is to maximize the space we have and to be impartial and all-inclusive in coverage. Please know that we appreciate your contributions of news and advertising. We want to tell the NFMC story in the best way possible. Help us do that!

- ✓ **We will try not to duplicate news** in both *Music Clubs Magazine* and *Junior Keynotes*. News that applies to Juniors will go in *Keynotes*, all else will go in *MCM*.
- ✓ **See your Junior Counselor or teacher** if you'd like to read or subscribe to *Music Clubs Magazine* (MCM) and find out about what's happening in our Senior and our Student/Collegiate worlds.
- ✓ **We welcome submissions.** Please provide your submissions as Word documents of **300 words or less**, as they may have to be edited for space. We may have to limit photos unless there are several different topics with pictures. Coverage will be dictated by space available. We will always try to be fair.
- ✓ **Submit only the highest quality pictures.** Please provide original high resolution JPG images 1MB or greater. When sending images via a mobile device please choose "actual size," "original," or "large" as images with reduced pixel counts are too low of a resolution for offset print production.

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Vivace, NFMCC's Online Festivals Management System Celebrates One Year of Operation

by Sandra Preysz, *Festivals Online System Chair*

Overview

"**Vivace**," our new online system for NFMCC Festivals management has now been used from start to finish for one full Festival year cycle. That means we have now used the system to register for Festivals, approve the registrations, invoice the teachers, schedule Festivals, print the ratings sheets and other reports needed to run Festivals, enter the ratings, certify the ratings, and run the JR 3-3, JR 3-4 and Federation Cup Reports. We also have Student History Reports for each teacher that summarizes all points earned for each active student through June 2020. **Marvelous!**

What is next for active users?

The **Legacy** system has been completely retired. **Vivace** is the active system. If only your Festival Administrator used **Legacy** and/or **Vivace** in the past, please work on setting up Teachers as users of **Vivace** so they can register their own students and performances. The feedback is that it is very easy for the vast majority of teachers to access the system and enter student registrations. There is an extensive help system available for all users. Festival areas compiled a "wish list" of minor improvements identified during this first season of using **Vivace**. The hardworking Practical Committee has been testing improvements throughout this summer, so many of these "wish list" items will be part of the system for 2020-2021.

What is the status of our Area's Project Application?

We will soon start to grant access to areas new to **Vivace**. We will be ramping up access based on when the area completed the access application, and their readiness. An Onboarding Coordinator will be added to our volunteer staff to help communicate with areas as they set up their festivals and record their performance history. You will be hearing from the coordinator if you have submitted your application already.

What if our Area has not yet submitted a Project Application?


If you have not yet submitted an application, it is time! Those submitting from this point forward will probably not be granted access until the spring of 2021 at the earliest. We just do not know how quickly this process will proceed. For everyone's benefit, we will manage the number of new areas that are admitted at any given time so that the support team will be able to provide help in a timely manner.

1. **Request a project application** by emailing festivals@nfmcc-music.org.
2. **Continue to gather the information** that will be needed in the new system if you are not a current user.
 - a. **Teacher information:** full name (first, middle, last) preferred name and birthdate.
 - b. **Student information:** full name (first, middle, last), preferred name and birthdate.
 - c. **Point history data to include the year, festival, event, class, and rating.** It is not necessary to enter the required and choice piece repertoire information for past events.

Process to prepare data for Vivace

Since we have a variety of "starting points" for various Festival Areas, we created the **Vivace** Project Education Guide for Areas that want to start using the system. Basically, there will be two approaches:

1. **Manual entry of history:** This will take lots of volunteer hours but will involve very little cost. There will be help materials as well as Regional and National project coaches available to help you through the process. The volunteers on the Practical Committee have been testing the manual entry component for entering historical data this summer and working out any kinks.
2. **One-time import of history:** This will take time to prepare and will involve some cost to the local area to export and import their history. Those areas choosing this process will be more limited in number, as we must rely on the developer's time to review and approve each import file. If your area wants to explore this process, you should discuss the details with the **Vivace** Onboarding Coordinator.

Many, many thanks to the Practical Committee for their work all year long while the first full Festival cycle using **Vivace** was completed. We are looking forward to an even better 2020-2021 festival year! 

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NFMF FEDERATION FESTIVALS: A Hopeful Heart

by Lisa C. Smith, *NFMF Festivals Chair*

“Hope is the thing with feathers
That perches in the soul
And sings the tune without the words
And never stops at all.”

– *Emily Dickinson*

It is with a hopeful heart that I write this article for *Junior Keynotes*. As I am sure most of our membership would agree, we are living through what seems more like an alternate universe more akin to a “Twilight Zone” episode than what we were accustomed to as the “old norm” nearly a year ago. However, just like music is the eternal language of the soul, hope is the



lifeblood of the human spirit. The unique human capability to persevere through dismal times can be attributed to the everlasting hope we all embrace in our souls.

Since January, NFMF has been closely monitoring the ever-changing situation concerning the COVID-19 pandemic and has issued several responses in order to safely facilitate Festivals nationwide including the following:

- Festival centers are granted an extension to conduct Festivals for the academic year 2019-2020 until August 31, 2020.
- The Regional Festival Chair reporting deadline is extended to September 30, 2020.
- All Festival centers will continue to comply with CDC guidelines relating to COVID-19 for the health and safety of teachers, parents, students, and volunteers.
- Festival auditions can be conducted in the traditional manner (if in compliance with CDC guidelines regarding mass/group gatherings) OR conducted electronically using methods such as FaceTime, Skype, etc. OR through any combination of the above. This policy will be extended from now through the Festival season 2020-2021 until May 15, 2021.
- All states will determine the manner(s) in which they will conduct their Festival auditions.

During this critical time, it is important that all State Festival Chairs be in regular contact with their respective Area Festival Chairs to lend support and to communicate essential information from NFMF concerning Festivals.

Be patient, gracious, and flexible during this tough moment in global and NFMF history. We really are all in this together and the NFMF family will successfully triumph with our collective souls singing hymns of joy and hope along the way. 🎵

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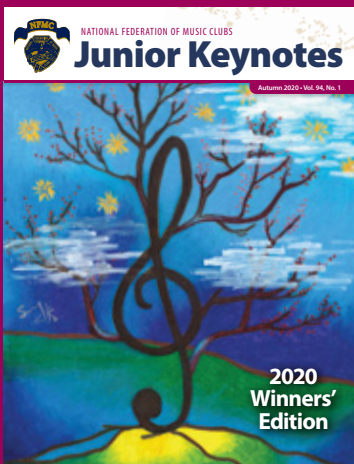


Yixin Song

I am currently a senior for the 2020-2021 school year. Art and music have

always intertwined in my life, for both convey emotional support to me. For extracurricular activities, I sketch, draw, and play piano. My painting “Starry Sky” delivers my feelings toward music – soothing, calming, and healing.

Yixin Song



Visit [nfmc-music.org](https://www.nfmc-music.org) for all the latest NFMC news, events and awards.

Michael R. Edwards

Graduating Senior Performance Award



Owen Tellinghuisen

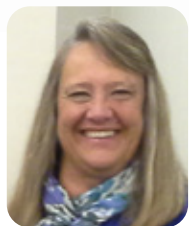
Owen Tellinghuisen is the first recipient of the Michael R. Edwards PNP Award. Owen is a pianist and organist from Grand Rapids, MI. His music

career began at the age of 4 when he started composing little melodies on the piano and creating “soundtracks” to accompany stories heard at home or at school. He often performed his original compositions and hymn arrangements while a student at his K-8 school, Trinitas Classical. The “Puppet Theme” he wrote in 6th grade is still used to introduce the school’s annual Reader’s Theater puppet play. Owen is a 2020 graduate of Grand Rapids Christian High School where he sang in the Chamber Chorale and played piano for chapel services and various events, receiving the Arion Music Award from the music department. He will attend the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University where he will pursue a degree in organ performance. He looks forward to being surrounded by music students of the highest caliber and hopes to continue developing his composition and improvisation skills on both piano and organ.

Owen began his piano studies with Mary Jane Timmer in 2012. He was an active member of the Grand Rapids Musicians’ League Con Brios and Allegros clubs. He won multiple GRML awards, including the F.A.M.E. Award in 2015 and 2017 and the Karen VerHulst Memorial Scholarship in 2019. He participated regularly in the National Federation of Music Clubs’ Junior Composers program, winning at the state and regional level in 2014, 2015, and 2019, and receiving the 2019 NFMC Wilson Piano Composition Award for his solo

piano composition, “Sylvan Nightfall.” He was named an MMTA semi-finalist every year he participated and reached the state finals in 2015 and 2018. Along with his solo pursuits, Owen has enjoyed many collaborative piano experiences, working with other pianists, string musicians, jazz ensembles, choirs, and church worship bands. He was a member of the winning trio at the Michigan American String Teachers Association competition in February 2018. The trio was awarded a featured recital at the Michigan Youth Arts Festival that May.

After expressing an interest in the organ at age 3, Owen was thrilled to start lessons when he was 10. He began studying with Norma de Waal Malefyt in 2015. He has served as one of the organists at Fifth Reformed Church in Grand Rapids as well as a guest organist for many other congregations. In April 2017, he won the Annamae Rotman Young Organist Competition. He has attended summer organ academies at St. Olaf College and Indiana University, Awakening at Hope College, and a Pipe Organ Encounter-Technical in 2019. He has participated in master classes and worked with John Ferguson, James Bobb, Huw Lewis, Janette Fishell, Isabelle Demers, and Nathan Laube. An active member of the Grand Rapids chapter of the American Guild of Organists, he currently serves as board secretary. In receiving the Michael R. Edwards Graduating Senior Performance Award, Owen is honored to represent all the young organists who share his passion for the “king of instruments.” He wishes to thank Mr. Edwards for creating this award opportunity for high school graduates pursuing careers in music. He would also like to thank everyone who shaped his music education over the years, especially the teachers of the Grand Rapids Musicians’ League and the Michigan Federation of Music Clubs. 




Federation Festivals Cup Report: Autumn 2020

by Mary Jane Timmer, *Federation Cup Chair*

Our long Federation Festival season is finally coming to a close. Kudos to our Festival Chairs who had to become creative in order to hold their area Festivals! Even though we all have come through a period of staying at home, not being social, and baking (a lot) – our dedicated teachers and their students continued to work hard.

Our Grand and President Cup totals are outstanding! As of July 30, 127 Grand and Presidents Cups have been awarded. Congratulations to those students and their teachers!

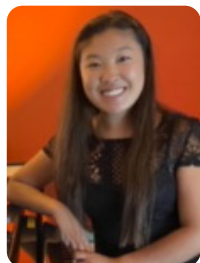
At right is a breakdown of those cups – for those of you who love numbers.

State Federation Cup totals are still coming in. That information will be available in the next issue of *Junior Keynotes*. 

Grade	Grand	%	President	%
12+	3	2.4%	-	-
12	55	43%	28	22%
11	32	25%	1	.8%
10	6	5%	-	-
AD	1	.8%	1	.8%
Total	97		30	

PRESIDENT'S CUP WINNERS

GEORGIA



Kaitlyn Kotake

Kaitlyn Kotake, a graduate of Norcross High School in 2020, has studied piano with Gayle Vann for 12 years. She has participated in the Georgia Federation of Music Clubs Festivals since her first year

of piano lessons, and has earned Consecutive Superior Ratings in Solo for 12 years, in Duets for 12 years, and the Concerto Event for four years. She is a member of the Science National Honors Society, and earned an International Baccalaureate Diploma at NHS. Kaitlyn played in the high school band all four years, was on the tennis team, and has been active in community and church. This fall she will attend Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, pursuing a double major in Biology and Health & Society, while on the pre-med track. She is proud to have received a 60-point Cup for Duets and a 90-point Cup for Solos in 2020!

Grace Lee has studied piano for 13 years. A former student of Joanna Kim, she studied with Gayle Vann for the past 10 years. She has received consecutive Superior ratings for 13

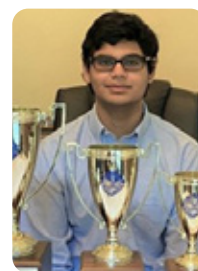


Grace Lee

and was the High Point Scholarship Winner from Peachtree Corners Chapter of GFMC in 2017. Grace was also a state winner in the Junior Composers Contest from 2014-2017. Besides piano, Grace was a member of the Allstate Orchestra for 3 years, and volunteered at Pinckneyville Middle School teaching violin. She graduated from Norcross High School in 2020, a member of the French National Honor Society and the Science National Honor Society. She served as President of the Asian Student Association, The Music National Honor Society, and the Orchestra Council. Grace is very proud to be awarded the 90-point Gold Cup from GFMC. Grace will be attending Emory University in the Fall.

Prahalad Gururajan, a 2020 graduated senior at Woodward Academy, received his 90-point President Cup from National Federation of Music Clubs. He has achieved 12 Consecutive Superior ratings in the Junior Festival. On the day he received his 90-point

years in the solo event of Georgia Federation of Music Clubs, nine years in the duet event, as well as four years in the concerto event. She has received outstanding performer ratings in many piano events,

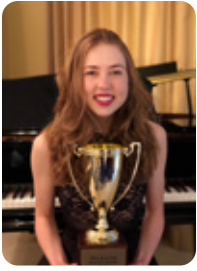


Prahalad Gururajan

cup, he told Margaret Liu, his piano teacher of nine years that through the years of study, "I have learned to refine and polish each piece of music. I was finally able to feel a sense of completion – truly how the composer intended it to be played ... a true awareness of musicality within myself." Prahalad also earned the ARSM Performance Diploma from ABRSM in 2019, and High School Diploma from Piano Guild in 2020. He continued to say, "Now, I have an appreciation and understanding of what music is truly about ... I gained a sense of maturity." Prahalad was a violinist with Emory Youth Chamber Symphony Orchestra, GMEA All-State Orchestra and concertmaster at Woodward Academy Orchestra. He will further his academic study at Clemson University in the fall of 2020.

IDAHO

Mia Rauer from Eagle, Idaho, began piano lessons in kindergarten. She is a student of Cynthia Waldon. She participated in her first NFMF Festival in first grade and has accumulated 11 Superior ratings in Piano Solo, seven Superiors in Piano Concerto, six Superiors in Music Theory, eight Superiors



Mia Rauer

in American Patriotic and Folk, six Superiors in Hymn, and three Superiors in Duet. As a junior in high school, she earned the NFMC Grand Cup. After attending SummerSong Music

Camp at Westminster College in Salt Lake City, she intends to further her study of music in college.

Mia is currently a senior at Bishop Kelly High School in Boise and is very involved in the theatre program there. She is also a National Merit Scholar Semifinalist. Her favorite subjects are Physics, Human Geography and English. She is involved in STEM, Environmental, and Worldwide Club, and National Honor Society. She is a peer tutor and volunteers at the local food bank and theatre. In her free time, she enjoys playing ukulele, biking, and Yahtzee.

MINNESOTA



Joyce Zhu

Joyce Zhu, a senior at Woodbury High School, has studied piano with Jackie Lo for more than 13 years. She has earned a Superior rating in the piano solo festival for 12 consecutive years, and also

competes in the NFMC concerto festivals. In addition to piano, Joyce has also studied violin for seven years under Jackie Lo, participating in her high school orchestra, various chamber orchestras, and the Minnesota Youth Symphonies.

In addition to the NFMC festivals, Joyce competes annually in various competitions under the Minnesota Music Teachers' Association. She has been a winner in the annual MMTA State Piano Competition 7 times and has won numerous scholarships for her performances in the MMTA Comprehensive, Sight-playing, and Theory exams. In 2019, Joyce completed the final examination level of Music Theory, won first place in the MMTA violin contest, and was accepted into the top orchestra of Minnesota Youth Symphonies.

Outside of music, Joyce is a member of her

school's cross country and track teams and the National Honors Society, as well as president of ECM. She also regularly volunteers at Woodwinds Hospital and various nursing homes.

This fall, she will be attending either the University of California Berkeley or the University of Minnesota to major in computer science.



Carolyn Yuan

OHIO

Carolyn Yuan, daughter of Erhwei and Piwen Yuan of Broadview Heights, earned the prestigious President's Gold Cup at the Ohio Federation of Music Club's Festival

Competition on March 7 at Baldwin Wallace University. She is a senior at Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School. Carolyn achieved this honor after accumulating more than 90 points in her 13 years of participation.

Carolyn has been playing the piano since she was four years old. She also plays viola and guitar and is a member of the Chamber Orchestra and Symphonic Orchestra at her high school. She is also President of the Key Club and Vice President of Student Council. Other activities include Science Olympiad, Chinese Club and varsity girl's tennis.

Carolyn is a member of the National Honor Society, National Art Honor Society, and Tri-M Music Honor Society.

Julie Lemke of Strongsville Ohio is Carolyn's piano teacher. She credits Ms. Lemke, along with her parents, coaches and teachers for being the biggest influences in her life.

PENNSYLVANIA



Ishaan Lal

My name is **Ishaan Lal**, and I am a recent graduate of Emmaus High School. This fall, I will be attending the University of Pennsylvania to study Mechanical Engineering.

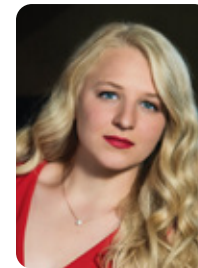
Piano has always been an integral part of my life. There is an addicting, yet rewarding feeling when it comes to piano. Learning and memorizing a new piece of music can be quite challenging, but

overcoming obstacles while learning is most important to me. I often get so engrossed in performing a piece of music that it allows me to enjoy and connect to the song on a deeper emotional level.

The NFMC Festival is an event that I look forward to every year. I always feel a great sense of fulfillment after performing the songs for which I spent months preparing. The volunteer judges at the Festival are always very supportive and I enjoy talking about music with them. I am thankful to the NFMC Festival for continuing to support my interest in music and for broadening my piano repertoire.

I would like to thank my piano teacher, Mrs. Susan Kuntz, for always supporting me in my studies of piano. Her guidance allowed me to navigate difficult pieces of music with ease. I also thank her for putting in hours of practice for our concerto performances. I am honored to share the accomplishment of achieving the President's Cup with Mrs. Kuntz.

SOUTH DAKOTA



Emily Wedel

Emily Wedel, daughter of Brad and Helene Wedel of Yale, SD, received the President's Cup. She is the first recipient of the President's Cup in the state of South Dakota. She has been a student of

Beverly J. Bigge of Huron, SD since starting kindergarten. Emily received 12 consecutive Superiors in Piano Solo and four consecutive Superiors in Piano Concerto to achieve this award. She also received gold cups in Piano Duet and Hymn Playing throughout the years.

Emily participated in the National Piano Guild Auditions for eight years and was declared a Five-Year National Winner in 2016. She received Superior ratings in the piano division of the SDHSAA Region IV Solo and Ensemble contests and received first and second place awards in the SDMTA Piano Duet competitions.

She is a graduate of James Valley Christian School, Huron, SD. Emily received the 2020 South Dakota Governor's Honor Award. She attended ALA Girls State where she was elected Speaker of the House. She served as a Legislative Page for the SD House of Representatives. Emily maintained a 4.0 GPA,

and she was elected President of the National Honor Society. Emily was selected to the SD All-State Chorus (2017-2019) and SD All-State Senior Honor Choir (2018-2019). She participated in numerous other activities including band, choir, volleyball, basketball, cheerleading, track and theater. Emily has sung and played keyboard with praise and worship teams at JVCS and Bethesda Church.

Emily will attend Dordt University at Sioux Center, IA in the fall. She has received the Presidential Academic Scholarship and music scholarships in Piano, Vocal and Worship Arts. She also received a Summit Ministries Scholarship. Emily will major in Nursing with a minor in Piano Performance or Worship Arts.

WISCONSIN



Addison Elliott

Addison Elliott

began studying piano with Marlene Cook when he was just 3 years old, and remained a student of hers until graduating high school. He earned the President's Cup after

14 consecutive years of Superior ratings in Piano Solo and three years of Superior ratings in Piano Concerto. In addition to piano, he participated in Belcanto Boys Choir, his school choir, and a boy's choir club in high school. He graduated from The University School of Milwaukee, with Full Cum Laude. Addison was captain of his school's varsity tennis team and advanced to the WI Individual State doubles competition every year, placing fourth one year. He will be studying Electrical Engineering and Mathematics at Georgia Institute of Technology.



Emma Kuehn

Emma Kuehn of Delafield, Wisconsin, obtained the highest number of points in the Junior Division to receive the NFMC Festival President's Cup in 2020. She began taking violin lessons at the age

of 5. Emma studied with the same violin teacher, Ludmila Anisimov of Hartland Music, Hartland, Wisconsin, until she graduated

from high school. Emma performed the violin repertoire yearly at the festivals to earn this award. She played for 13 consecutive years and had Superior ratings on all events entered. Emma also played violin and percussion in the Wisconsin School Music Association's Middle Level Honors Band and Orchestra. Emma performed at the WSMA Solo and Ensemble Festivals at the district and state levels for both violin and percussion and was given an exemplary soloist certificate at the state level on her violin solo. While in high school, Emma played in the Kettle Moraine High School Orchestra and also the Kettle Moraine High School Band and Drumline as a percussionist. Emma graduated in June 2020 from Kettle Moraine School for Arts and Performance, Wales, Wisconsin, as a writing focus student. She has plans to attend Marquette University as a Pre-Law Scholar in the fall of 2020.



David Liu

David Liu

has been playing the piano since he was in 4K under the guidance of Margaret Radke.

Liu sat in front of Radke's black grand piano and immediately began to play a part of his

favorite piece, Chopin *Etude Op. 10 No. 5*, making the Cedarburg home come to life with the sound of music. It was lively, quick and Liu flowed easily through his performance.

His practice and love of the instrument has recently led him to receive the President's Cup, after years of performing in the annual Junior Festival held by the Wisconsin Federation of Music Clubs.

Radke explained that in the competition, many piano students perform before a judge to receive a critique and a rating. The points range from one point, which means "needs improvement," up to the Superior rating of five points. Radke said the points a student is given every year accumulate and they can earn Festival Cup Trophies.

Emily Ratsavong was awarded the Federation President Cup for Violin Solo in 2020. Since she was 6, she has studied the violin under Ludmila Anisimov. Now 18 years old, Emily has continued her passion and has actively participated in many different



Emily Ratsavong

orchestras. Emily was a member of the WSMA High Level Honors Orchestra and the Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra's Senior Symphony. In addition, Emily was also the

concertmaster of the Oconomowoc High School Orchestra. For her dedication to music, Emily was presented with the Milwaukee Civic Music High School Award, the NSOA Orchestra Award, and was chosen for the Oconomowoc High School Kiwanis Hall of Fame. Furthermore, Emily was also a four-year member of the Tri-M Music Honor Society where she often volunteered to play at nursing homes and school events. Music has always been a part of Emily's life. To inspire more young musicians, she has also been teaching violin lessons to younger level students for two years. Emily is now a freshman enrolled at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.



Ethan Squires

Ethan Squires, 18 years old, is a recent graduate of Union Grove High School and has been playing piano since the age of 4 under Martha Veto. He has achieved Gold Cups in music theory, twelve

consecutive Superiors in piano hymns, and two WFMC state hymn titles. His senior year, he was awarded the President's Cup for Piano Solo and Concerto. Though his primary instrument is the piano, he also enjoys playing the trombone and guitar. While attending high school, he was the section leader in his school's Concert Band, Jazz Band, and Wind Ensemble.

Outside of music, Ethan enjoys a variety of activities. He played on the Union Grove Boys Varsity Tennis team for four years and was the team captain for two. During the summer, he volunteers as a camp counselor at a youth summer camp. Additionally, he is active with his church and worked as a teacher's aide at his elementary school's summer enrichment program.

This fall, Ethan will attend the University of Wisconsin-Platteville to study Mechanical Engineering. Though he is not seeking a major

in music, he plans to continue his musical journey through college and the rest of his life.



Mira Stephens

Mira Stephens

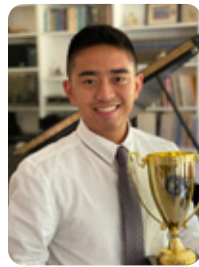
has been a student of Marlene Cook for 15 years. She graduated from University School of Milwaukee this past spring and will be starting school at Carleton College in the fall.

Mira is interested in majoring in psychology or education. She has earned the NFMC Federation President's Cup by participating in Piano Solo for 14 years and Senior Concerto for three years. Mira played flute and piccolo in her high school concert band and pit orchestra, and piano in jazz band. She hopes to continue playing both piano and flute in college. Mira competes in ski races and horse competitions. Mira also teaches a middle school flute student and tutors elementary school students.

classes and completing an independent research project. He has also attended Northwest Florida State College and was on the President's List during his junior and senior years.

He has also participated in athletics, playing soccer for South Walton High School three years and the Real Athletic Development travel soccer team for four years. He also served as a youth soccer referee for Walton County Parks and Recreation and dog walker at Alaqua Animal Refuge.

Jay will be attending the University of Florida to pursue a dual degree in Music (Piano Emphasis) and Engineering.



Corey Chung

Corey Chung,

18, was awarded the NFMC Grand Gold Cup for Piano Solo and Piano Concerto in the spring of 2020. He also received the 3rd level Gold Cup for theory. He began his piano study with Elizabeth Madden 12 years ago and has been a student of Loretta Hake for the past nine years. He has participated in the National Guild of Piano Teacher Playing Auditions for 12 years, and for 10 years has presented 10 piece programs for which he received the Paderewski Gold Medal. This year he was the winner of the Okaloosa County Music Teachers Association Outstanding Senior Competition. Since 2010, Corey has performed with family members in San Antonio, TX at Senior Citizen living communities and churches.

Corey graduated this spring as Valedictorian from Choctawhatchee High School in Fort Walton Beach, FL. He was the President of the Science Honors Club during his senior year, and received many scholastic awards during his high school years. He has participated in many community service and volunteer events, including being an assistant coach for the Florida Soccer School, volunteering at the Emerald Coast Science Center numerous times, and helping with the Choctaw Bay Music Club Opera Brunch.

An important part of his life has been playing soccer. He has played for seven years and has been a part of the Real Athletic Development travel soccer team and was on the high school soccer team for four years.

Corey will attend Trinity University in San Antonio this fall, studying toward the medical field. He hopes to continue with his piano study and soccer activities.



Sophie Kuo

Sophie Kuo,

18 years old, was awarded the NFMC Federation Grand Cup in the spring of 2020. Sophie started playing piano at age 4 and continued through age 18 with her teacher, Mrs. Ariel Liu. Since then, she has won numerous awards from different piano competitions and events, such as the FPMC Junior Convention, Taiwan Music Night FAPA SFTAA TCCM, and the Miami-Dade County Fair and Exposition. She plays piano not just for the competitions, but also for the community. Every year she performs music for the residents at her local nursing home. Besides piano, Sophie also plays clarinet with the Florida Youth Orchestra. This fall, Sophie will be attending Penn State University where she plans on majoring in Business.

GRAND CUP WINNERS

FLORIDA



Jay Borick

Kenneth "Jay"

Borick, 18, of Niceville, FL has earned the NFMC Grand Cup in Piano Solo and Piano Concerto this year. In Piano Solo he has received 10 consecutive years

of Superiors and in Piano Concerto, five consecutive years of Superiors. Additionally, he was awarded his 3rd level Gold Cup for Theory. Jay graduated from South Walton High School, ranking first in his class. He has studied piano for 10 years with Loretta Hake.

Jay has participated in the National Guild of Piano Teachers Playing Auditions for 10 years and performed in the Choctaw Bay Music Club Sonata/Sonatina Spectacular for six years. In May he was awarded the Fred Semasko/Choctaw Bay Music Club College Scholarship.

During the summer of 2019, Jay attended Florida State University's Young Scholar's Program, and spent six weeks taking college level physics and computer programming



Kathy Liu

Kathy Liu has

been playing piano since she was 6 years old. She studied under Mr. Vladimir Khokhlov for 10 years and Professor Kenneth Hanks in her senior year of high school. Mr. Vladimir Khokhlov recalls when Kathy first began lessons with him, her first words to him were, "I want to play the piano!" She credits her successful music career to her passionate and brilliant teachers, who truly shaped and helped her grow as a musician and person. She also appreciates the support from her family, especially her dad, who cheers her on during every competition. Kathy has received 10 consecutive Superior ratings in Piano Solo and 7 consecutive Superior ratings in Piano Concerto. She placed first in the FSMTA District Piano Concerto Competition three times; she won in the Junior Division twice and the Senior Division once. She placed second in the FSMTA State Piano Concerto Competition twice; once in the Junior Division

and another in the Senior Division. Outside of piano, Kathy enjoys playing the violin. She was an active member and leader in many clubs like HOSA and Math Club, and she was co-captain of the Girls Tennis Team. She recently graduated from Land O Lakes High School in Florida and will be attending Johns Hopkins University. She will be majoring in Biomedical Engineering and is considering a pre-med track. Kathy also intends to minor in Music or take classes at the Peabody Institute, and plans on further strengthening her passion for music.



Tri Nguyen

Tri Nguyen

from Sarasota, FL has received the 75-point Grand Cup combining his Piano Solo and Piano Concerto points. He has been a student of Denise Verheul for the past two years and

studied with Marian Cox for seven years. Tri has entered Festival since the 3rd grade and has performed in the Piano Solo event every year. He performed in the Patriotic category and earned his 45-point Gold Cup this year. Through the FSMTA, Tri was awarded the Local and State Community Service Award for both his 9th grade and Senior year. He also won the composition contest and is the recipient of the Margaret Allan Scholarship through the Sarasota Music Teachers Association.

Not only is Tri talented with his music, he is also a scholar at the Pine View School for the Gifted. He was awarded the AP Scholar with Distinction, Bronze Medal in the National Spanish Exam, English II and Chemistry Honors and Spanish III/IV Honors Scholarship. Tri holds several leadership roles at school but is most proud of his volunteerism within the Vietnamese Community where he tutors and helps other youth in Calculus, ACT and SAT preparation.

Other than music and academics, Tri is active in Tae Kwon Do and Karate. He holds the record of third place in the Florida Tae Kwon Do Open for Highest Kick, is a third degree blackbelt and took second place with his demonstration team at the US Karate Open.

Tri Nguyen will be entering the University of Florida in the fall and has been accepted

into the Engineering program and plans to be involved in several music ensembles with his saxophone and piano.



Nina Zhang

Nina Zhang

recently earned her 75-point Grand Cup in piano solo and concerto. She has been playing the piano since 2007, studying under Suzanne Carpenter and Wanda Louie.

Nina has participated in Florida Federation of Music Clubs since 2008 and has received 13 consecutive Superior ratings for piano solo and nine consecutive Superior ratings for piano concerto. She and her duo partner placed first in Florida Federation of Music Clubs State Junior Convention in 2019 and 2017, and honorable mention in 2018 and 2015. Nina has also completed 11 levels of FSMTA Student Day and has been selected on several occasions to perform on the FSMTA Student Day Honors Recitals.

Nina is a senior in the International Baccalaureate (IB) program at Eastside High School in Gainesville. She enjoys dancing, playing tennis and sketching in her spare time.

GEORGIA



Erin Hardy

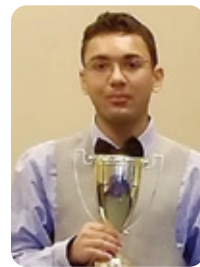
Erin Hardy, 17, a senior at Hebron Christian Academy in Dacula, GA, is the student of Cathy Thacker, NCTM, in Snellville, GA. Erin has played piano since she was three years old; her mother,

Natalie Hardy, is also a piano teacher, and gave Erin her musical foundation. Erin won 2nd place in the Gwinnett County West Federated high school competition in 2019.

In addition to playing piano, Erin sings second soprano in the Gwinnett Young Singers (2017-present), and the group has performed multiple times with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. Erin was nominated for the Governor's Honors Program in Voice in 2020, and she also made GMEA All-State Chorus.

Erin has participated in NFMF Festivals since 2009; this year she earned her 12th consecutive Superior rating for Piano Solo. In

2012 she entered Piano Concerto, and she has earned nine consecutive Superior ratings in that event. In 2020 she earned the Grand Cup (75 points) from NFMF.



Ishan Nandi

Ishan Nandi, a Federation 75-point Gold Cup recipient this year, started piano study when he was 8 years old. He excelled quickly since studying piano with Margaret Liu in 2011 and has been achieving

Superior rating in Piano Solo Event and Piano Concerto Event in the National Federation of Music Clubs Junior Festival. Ishan participated in ABRSM exams and achieved full marks for his Grade 5 theory exam. He proceeded to complete the final Grade 8 piano exam and received this certificate in the fall of 2019. In June 2020, he performed for the Piano Guild judge and earned a high Superior for his high school diploma. Ishan has performed in multiple stage musical productions along with other musicians and vocalists. He also plays classical guitar. He graduated from Lambert High School in May 2020 and will be a freshman at Georgia Institute of Technology this fall.



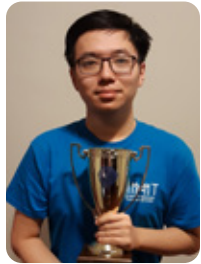
Eric Van Ness

A Senior at Norcross High School, **Eric Van Ness** has been studying piano with Gayle Vann 11 years. He began participating in the Georgia Federation of Music Clubs Festivals his

first year of piano lessons, and has received consecutive Superior ratings for 11 years in the Solo Event. He has also performed in the Duet Category for the past 10 years, and has also received consecutive Superior ratings in this event. In the ninth grade, he expanded his piano studies to include concerti to qualify for the 75-point cup. He expects to earn the 90-point cup in 2021.

Besides enjoying piano, Eric runs Varsity Track and Cross Country at Norcross High School, is in charge of the Blue Devil Math Mentors volunteer program, and during the summer is a junior coach for the

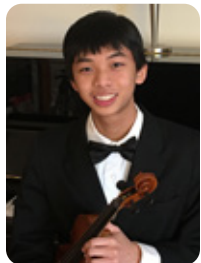
neighborhood swim team. He is the Vice-President of the FBLA at his school, and a state-level medalist in Economics. His other hobbies include soccer, badminton, and stock trading. Eric is a young man with many varied interests and talents!



Lawrence Zhou

Lawrence Zhou is a junior at Parkview High School, GA. He is currently the top-ranked student academically in his grade. Lawrence is involved in a plethora of extracurricular activities, including DECA, HOSA, and Mu Alpha Theta, in which he is the president-elect for next year. Outside of school, he enjoys playing chess, doing competitive math, listening to music, and playing video games. He has won many top prizes and scored high in national high-level math competitions since middle school. He has qualified for invitational competitions such as the United States Junior Math Olympiad (USAJMO) for three years in a row. He is the top scorer in American Regions Math League (ARML) in Georgia last year. He was placed 2nd in Georgia in MATHCOUNTS, qualified as a state team member of the Georgia team which placed 4th in the nation, and won the most improved team prize in 2017. He has played piano solo in Federation Festivals since first grade with Debra Hughes as his instructor and added concerto in eighth grade to earn enough points for a 75-point Grand Cup this year. He is looking forward to working for his 90-point trophy as a senior in 2021.

MINNESOTA



Stephen Ma

Stephen Ma is a junior at Woodbury High School and has participated in the NFMF festivals for 12 years. He has earned 12 consecutive violin solo Superior ratings and three consecutive violin concerto Superior ratings. He has studied with Jackie Lo for 13 years. Stephen has also participated in Minnesota Youth Symphonies for four years and is currently first violin in the highest orchestra. He has also auditioned

for the All State orchestra and played as a first violin for two years. Furthermore, he is the Concertmaster of his high school orchestra, chamber orchestra, and music teacher's string group. He serves as the Communication Manager for his music teacher and is a music teacher himself with two students.

Stephen has competed in various competitions under the Minnesota Music Teachers' Association and won first place three times. Furthermore, he has received the Elaine Liu Music Scholarship and other scholarships through his performances in the MMTA Comprehensive, Sight-playing, and Theory exams. He has been a finalist in the Minnesota Youth Symphonies Solo Competition two times.

Stephen has participated in many clubs at school such as National Honors Society, Red Cross Club, Cross Country, and more. He is the Secretary of Red Cross Club and NHS, and has volunteered 200 hours in various areas. Besides these, he enjoys drawing in his free time and hanging out with his younger sister. He hopes that he can continue music beyond high school because of how integral of a role it has played in his life. He also hopes to study Computer Software Engineering in college.



Rahul Polavarapu

Rahul Polavarapu has earned the 75-point Grand Cup in the Piano Solo event. To achieve this goal, he performed a concerto movement each year in high school along with his solos. He has studied

piano for 12 years with Grace Kopitske.

In addition to participating in the yearly East Suburban Federation Festivals, Rahul participated in numerous Minnesota Music Teachers Association events. He passed the MMTA theory exams and comprehensive piano exams with Distinction and High Distinction. Rahul also participated in the state contest several years and performed in the winners MMTA Honors Concert in 2016.

Outside of music, Rahul has a strong passion for science and technology. He was active in his high school's robotics, Science Olympiad and tennis teams.

Rahul is a 2020 graduate of East Ridge High School in Woodbury, Minnesota. This fall, he will be attending the University of Wisconsin

Madison to pursue a degree in mechanical engineering.



Benen Sego

Benen Sego has earned the 75-point Grand Cup in the Piano Solo event. He has studied piano with Grace Kopitske since the 2nd grade. He has 10 consecutive Superiors in the Piano Solo event. Benen also performed four concerti in the Minnesota East Suburban Festival to combine with the solo points.

Music is central to Benen's life. Besides the NFMF festivals, he participated in numerous Minnesota Music Teachers Association events including theory exams and comprehensive piano exams, passing with Distinction and High Distinction. He also participated in the MMTA State Contest seven years and performed in the State Honors Concert. As a percussionist at Woodbury High School, Benen participated in the marching band, percussion ensemble and drumline. He has taught himself to play guitar. Frequently he can be found improvising, composing, and sharing his music. His love of music includes sharing his peaceful music at the local Woodwinds Hospital and at his church.

Benen graduated from Woodbury High School in 2020. In the fall he plans to go to the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, MN to pursue a degree in Business and Entrepreneurship.

PENNSYLVANIA



Claire Chen

Claire Chen has been studying piano with Deborah Rodgers for the last 11 years. She loves many different genres of music, but enjoys playing classical music on the piano the most. Over the past 10 years

Claire has written and submitted original compositions to the Jr. Composers Contest. Many of her previous compositions have been inspired by Romantic composers, while others are conversely inspired by contemporary styles and sounds. Composition gives Claire a creative space to incorporate her favorite

aspects of music and unique ideas and develop them into a piece she is proud of. Claire hopes to be able to expand on her theory knowledge and spend more time composing. This year she will receive the NFMFC Grand Cup.



Anoop Savio

Anoop Savio is a junior at Seneca Valley High School. He has played piano for 11 years and studies with Linda Maurhoff. He participates in PFMC Festivals and this year received the

Grand Cup for Piano Solo. Anoop loves music and is also involved in his school jazz band. He especially likes to play ragtime songs and popular hits on the piano. Outside of piano, Anoop is involved with many activities. He is in his YMCA's Youth and Government program where he heads the legislative branch. He is also a member of his school's academic games team and plays soccer and tennis. Anoop is interested in politics and sports, and frequently keeps up news. Anoop volunteers at the local Miracle League, an organization that helps children with special needs play baseball. Anoop is an avid traveler who has been to 12 countries.

WISCONSIN

Alexander Ge has studied violin with Ludmila Anisimov at the Waukesha County Conservatory of Music (WCCM) since he was 8. Additionally, he has studied piano at the WCCM with Margarita Kontorovsky since middle school. Since he began learning violin and piano, he's participated in NFMFC festivals



Alexander Ge

every year, earning his Grand Cup for violin solo this year and his third cup for piano solo last year. Over the past four years, he has also won first for piano solo at the Wisconsin Federation of Music Clubs state festival three times.

Graduating from Brookfield East High School in Wisconsin, Alexander has been an avid member of his school's debate, robotics, and science Olympiad teams. Besides music, Alexander is passionate about public policy, programming, and expanding education access. He will be attending Columbia University where he plans to major in Applied Mathematics or Computer Science.



Therese Schirger

Therese Schirger has studied piano with Kadie Johnson for the past 12 years. She has participated in NFMFC piano solos for the past 11 years and four years of piano concertos, earning a Superior each year! Through her determination, perseverance and hours of hard work, Therese earned her Grand Cup in 2020. She has significantly grown in her interpretation and musicianship, both technically and proficiently. All the while, she has also been an active participant of 4-H (specifically air-rifle, ceramics and music), volleyball, track and field and managing football in high school. Therese

is enrolled at Carroll University in Waukesha, WI in their direct admit PT program.



Michael Zelinski

Michael Zelinski has studied violin with Mrs. Celestine Fitzgerald of the Barcel Suzuki String Academy for the past 13 years. He has participated in the American Suzuki Institute

two-week Chamber Program four times, and was concertmaster of the orchestra there in 2018, and co-concertmaster in 2019. As a member of Barcel's Briso performing group under the direction of Ms. Colleen Fitzgerald, Michael has played the National Anthem at several Brewer's Games and travelled to Ohio to perform as invited guests for Suzuki Music Columbus. He plays violin at his church, and for weddings and other events. Michael is also an accomplished horn player, most notably as a six-year member of the Wisconsin State Music Association (WSMA) State Honors Music Project. During high school, he participated in WSMA's Solo and Ensemble competition on both instruments, advancing 15 of 17 events to the State level. His 2019 violin solo earned "exemplary" recognition. He is a four-year member of the Tri-M National Music Honor Society, and the 2020 recipient of Watertown High School's John Philip Sousa Award. Michael has participated in the NFMFC violin solo event for 12 years. He earned his Grand Cup in 2020. Michael will attend the University of St. Thomas in MN this fall, double majoring in Music Performance (horn) and Business. [UK](#)

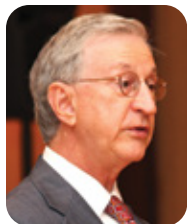
Lana M. Bailey Piano Concerto Award

Are you a high school senior who will be majoring in music next year at a college, university or conservatory? Check out the Lana M. Bailey Piano Concerto Award forms JR 20-1 and JR 20-2 to find the rules and application for this \$1,000 annual award (\$500 2nd Place). The competition has a postmark deadline date of **May 1** so polish your performance and upload your video recording!

First or last movement from one of the Senior Class Piano Concertos in the 2020-24 Federation Festivals Bulletin.



Lana Bailey
NFMFC President: 2007-2011



2020 Wendell Irish Viola Award Winners

by Dr. George Keck, *Wendell Irish Viola Award Chair*



1st Place:
Kelly Avila
Michigan

Kelly Avila, 18, from Norton Shores, Michigan won first prize of \$1,750 in the 2020 Wendell Irish Viola competition.

Kelly has been playing the viola for eight years. She is a senior at Interlochen Arts Academy in Interlochen, Michigan, where she studies viola with Renee Skerik. Kelly recently received a YoungArts Merit Award for the 2020 year. She plans to continue viola studies after high school.

Outside of music, Kelly enjoys baking and spending time with her cats.



2nd Place:
Loxea Hipsky
Indiana

Loxea Hipsky, winner of second prize of \$1,000, is a 16-year-old honors student from Guilford, Indiana. She began her violin

studies in a suburb of Chicago at age 4 and began playing viola two years ago. She currently studies with Marion Peraza, and performs with

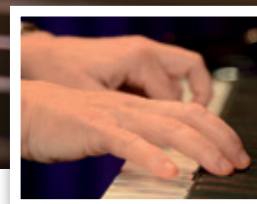
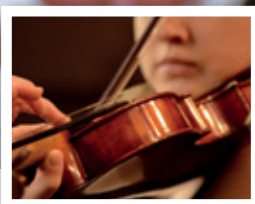
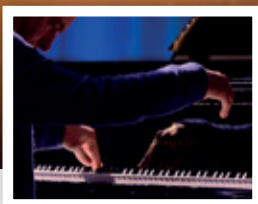
the award-winning ensemble The Peraza Music Workshop Chamber Orchestra. She currently sits as principal violist of the Cincinnati Symphony Youth Orchestra and in 2020 was awarded first prize in the Julia Bartels Concerto Competition. She loves playing chamber music with her quartet, reading, studying Japanese, and spending time on her family farm.

Recipients of the Regional Awards of \$300 each are **Susanna Bobbs** of Twp of Washington, New Jersey; **Kunal Arora** of Mason, Ohio; **Emily Singleton** of Gainesville, Florida; and **Charlotte Lohmann** of Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

JK

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November is American Music Month

by Karen Bourne, *American Music Division Chair*

Have you ever wondered why November has been declared American Music Month by the NFMC? You would have to go back to 1987 to discover this. The National Federation of Music Clubs has declared the month of November as American Music Month. The Professor Rudolf R. A. Schramm was inspirational to the creation of the Parade of Music Award which encompasses all aspects of music. It was established in 1987 by the widow of Professor Rudolf R. A. Schramm.

According to the NY Times, in an article written April 11, 1981, we learn that Rudolf Schramm was a composer, conductor and arranger. He died in Westwood, NJ at the age of 78 after a long illness. He was a former music director of the United States Office of Education and a co-founder

of the National Symphony in Washington. Professor Schramm also taught rhythm training and songwriting for many years at the New York University.

During the 1930s and 40s, Rudolf was the music director of more than 15,000 radio programs on the ABC, CBS and NBC networks. He also composed 86 film scores, including the documentary, "Nanook of the North." Professor Schramm was born in Griessenberg, Silesia, and educated at the Universities of Leipzig and Breslau. He came to the United States in the 1920s. His widow, Martha wished to encourage NFMC clubs to increase programming and performance of American music, to bring more recognition to American composers, to stimulate public appreciation and awareness of American music, and to broaden the knowledge of American music.

If this intrigues you, take a look at the PROFESSOR RUDOLF R.A. SCHRAMM PARADE OF AMERICAN MUSIC CLUB AWARD on form AM 1-1. The reporting period covers the entire month of November and should be submitted to your regional chair. Their contact information is on the AM 1-1 form. There are awards ranging from \$75 to \$300 for the winners. However, you may not wish to enter the competition. Instead, you may submit your program to receive a certificate of participation.

If your club wishes to participate, send reports to regional chairs postmarked by March 1.

★ REGIONAL CHAIRS ★

Northeastern: Karl Morris

200 Country Club Dr SE, Warren OH 44484, (330) 392-5690

Southeastern: Dr. Mira Kruja

PO Box 4743, Huntsville, AL 35815, (256) 372-4093

Western: Ruth Fleming

2411 Coventry Court, Fort Collins, CO 80526, (970) 222-3323

North Central: Jane Allard

PO Box 86, Jefferson, SD 57037, (217) 414-2150

South Central: Carla Johnson

PO Box 12883, Austin TX 78711, (806) 535-5480

Will this be the year that your Federation Club honors American Music in November? **JK**



Junior Club Annual Achievement Summary

by Gilda Hendricks, *Junior Achievement Chair*



Download the **JR 1-1** form on our website at nfmc-music.org

Reporting for your Junior Music Club is an easy check-off list found on the NFMC website – the JR 1-1 form. How wonderful to have Junior Music Clubs reporting when so many other activities and musical events had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 virus. This was something each Junior Music Club could still accomplish. There were 31 Junior Music Clubs from 14 States reporting. South Carolina had the most Junior Music Clubs reporting.

The Music Studio of Teresia Queen (NC), Musical Notes (OH), and Greenville Harmony JMC (SC) were very active clubs reporting with the most points! Congratulations to you and your teachers. The Studio of Teresia Ann Queen in addition to the checklist on the JR 1-1 had a Regional Southeast winner in Poetry, a National Music Week Essay winner, and several State Finalist winners. Margaret Marsch's, Workshop for Young Performing Artists (PA) report included several recital programs with notes of performances. So many do so much more than what the form even covers – well done!

Due to the cancellation of the NFMC Conference, certificates are being mailed to each JMC this year rather than distributing certificates to State Presidents.

With yearly Festival participation and excellent musical instruction, using the JR 1-1 for reporting the accomplishments and achievements of each teacher and his or her students is a great way to be recognized and acknowledged for your and your students' diligent work and successes every year.

The following Junior Music Clubs reported:

Alabama: Magic Fingers JMC

Arkansas: Pro Musica

Florida: Lily Music Studio, Studio M

Kentucky: Madison Music Makers

Minnesota: Successful Music Making JMC, Double Sharp JMC

Mississippi: Metronome Junior Music Club

Missouri: St. Louis Music & Performing Arts JMC

North Carolina: Music Studio of Teresia Queen, Horton JMC, Federle JMC, Smith JMC

Ohio: GIFT JMC, Musical Notes JMC

Pennsylvania: Workshop for Young Performing Artists JMC, Pocono Cello Studio JMC

South Carolina: Pedal Pushers, B Sharp JMC, Crescent Melody JMC, Hampton Park Crescent JMC, Greenville Tempo JMC, Greenville Harmony JMC, Greenville Melody JMC, Easley Melody JMC, Easley JMC, Crescent Heritage JMC, Animeto JMC, Sprunger JMC, Crescent Melody JMC

Tennessee: Sparkling Keys and Strings JMC

Virginia: Piano Lessons with TLC JMC

Washington: Sally L. Palmer JMC Studio

Remember, those submitting the JR 1-1 already have something to check off as an accomplishment for next year's JR 1-1 because your Junior Club's name is listed in the Junior Keynotes magazine. Would it not be wonderful if next year all the Junior Clubs reported so this article took three or four pages to be able to list them?

It has been my pleasure to serve as your Junior Achievement chair for the last several years, however, it is now time for someone else to enjoy this position and have the pleasure of knowing you through your reporting. Best wishes to all. 

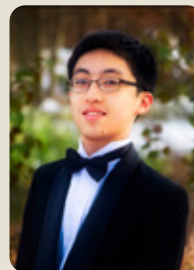
Lana M. Bailey Piano Concerto Competition

The First Place winner of the Lana M. Bailey Piano Concerto Competition for 2020 is **Richard Wu**. Richard lives in Carmel, IN and will be attending Indiana University as a Piano Performance major. His teacher is Dr. Karen Taylor and his winning entry was the Saint-Saens *Concerto in G minor, mvt. 1*.

Brianna McFadden of Mansfield, OH has been awarded Second Place. She is a student of Michael Benson. Her entry was the Grieg *A minor Concerto, mvt. 1*. Brianna will be attending Baldwin Wallace University as a Music Education student.

We wish Richard and Brianna much success in their musical endeavors and congratulate them as winners of the Lana M. Bailey competition.

– Delores Blaser, Chair



Richard Wu



Brianna McFadden

Applications for the 2021 Lana M. Bailey Piano Concerto Competition are due on May 1, 2021.



Top 2020 Junior Composers Announced

by Pat Steege, *Junior Composers Chair*

The 2020 Junior Composers Contest was officially complete when I received the national ranking sheet from judge Dr. Seth Custer on May 1. Then the administrative work began. I announced the national winners, authorized NFMC Treasurer Suzanne Carpenter to disburse award money for the winners, and sent beautiful NFMC certificates to all 50 of the national finalists. Our regional chairs did the same for each region. Also, Julie Watson posted the national winners on the NFMC Facebook page. The state chairs deserve kudos for their work in promoting the contest within their states, helping folks navigate the online registration portal, keeping Gold Cup records where necessary, sending out judge comment sheets and taking good care of their judges. Thank you to everyone involved and to the Federation for providing over 23 national monetary awards and 50 regional awards. Whew, I couldn't be more grateful. Think of it – over 600 entries culled down through three levels in three months to recognize and reward the

national winners featured in this edition. Enjoy their personally written stories!

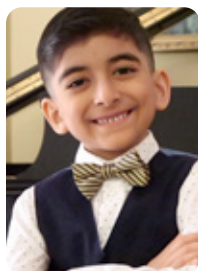
With the help of a committee of experienced teachers and judges, and with the help of my long-time friend Sharon Kaplan, the judge's rating sheet and judge's instruction sheet have been revised to present a more user-friendly face. I hope the teachers and students in the 2021 contest will find it encouraging and simplified since it has been many years since the form was revised.

I wish to share two uplifting comments I received from parents or students about this contest:

I think this [Junior Composers magazine article] is a wonderful opportunity and memory for [my son].

Music is my passion and I appreciate and am sincerely grateful for all the years of support I have received from Federation. JK

CLASS I: (ages 9 and under)

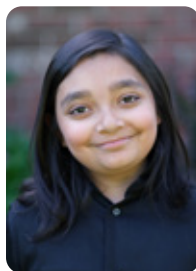


1st Place:
Isaac Thomas
Florida

Isaac is an 8-year-old sixth grader with a love for music, languages, and service to others. He has won multiple first place composition

awards, including from a US based piano magazine with international readership. In March 2020, Isaac's latest composition was performed by the Florida Symphony Youth Orchestra of which he has been a member of for two years. A pianist and violinist, Isaac has won several first place awards in both instruments at the Florida Federation of Music Clubs Junior Festivals. He was also awarded by the Royal Conservatory of Music for having the highest marks in the Southeast Region. Isaac has performed at Mazzoleni Concert Hall at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto and, for fun, Isaac has performed to cheering crowds impromptu at St. Pancras railway station in London, England and at the International Jazz Festival in Montreal, Canada. Isaac donated his winnings from this

composition contest in honor of his music teachers Dr. Lev Gurevich and Ms. Bette Hunting to whom he is thankful. For more visit isaaclovesmusic.com.



2nd Place:
Eli Antony
Washington

Eli Antony, 10 years old from Woodinville, WA, began his piano studies at the age of 3 and has been studying under Mrs. Michi

Hirata North since the age of 5. He also began his cello studies under Ms. Sylvan Lumsden the same year. Eli began studying music composition with Mrs. Sharon Van Valin about a year ago. Eli regularly participates in local piano competitions. He has won gold medals at the Northwest Chapter Chopin Foundation Competition, the Steinway Junior Piano Competition at Seattle, the Seattle Bach Festival Competition, and the Performance Arts Festival of the Eastside to name only a few. In 2018, he was selected to participate in a master class with French pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet. Eli has also attended summer

programs at University of Washington in Seattle with Prof. Robin McCabe and Prof. Craig Sheppard. In 2019, Eli played as Assistant Principal cellist with Bellevue Youth Symphony Orchestra. Eli aspires to grow as a multi-faceted musician with many skills.



Incentive Award:
Ethan Kim
Michigan

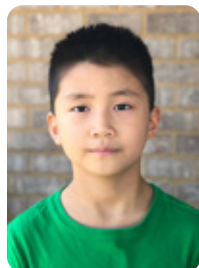
I am Ethan Kim, 8 years old, young composer of "The Battle Ship." I started playing the piano when I was four with my

favorite teacher, Mrs. Young.

When I was about six, some cool melodies popped up in my mind and I showed them to Mrs. Young. After that she helped me to write the notes down. That's how I started composing "The Battle Ship." One year later, she found the unfinished piece and suggested that I continue working on that piece. It took three months to complete it but I enjoyed making up the serious and thrilling melodies by myself. Mrs. Young encouraged me to add more details such as dynamic signs and

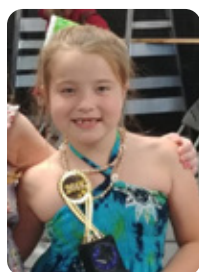
arrange beats. Personally, making a big range of the octaves was fun.

I did not expect any awards at all and now I am very proud of myself. Also, I am very thankful for my kind teacher, Mrs. Young and all the judges who listened to my piece. I am looking forward to composing another piece next time.



Incentive Award:
Jason Liu
Georgia

Jason M. Liu, age 9, has been studying piano with Mrs. Gayle Vann for 4 years. He really enjoys learning music, composition, and theory, and has earned Superior Ratings in piano solo, duet, and composition for the past 4 years in Federation of Music Clubs Junior Festivals. His song, “Orbiting Worlds,” is his fourth composition and it was inspired by a piece called “Lunar Eclipse” along with his deep interest for space and the universe. Jason has also attended National Piano Playing Auditions (Guild) and received Superior Ratings for the past four years. In addition, Jason also really loves to play with Legos, Nerf Guns, and table tennis, for which he is currently ranked third in the US U10 Boys group.



Honorable Mention:
Taylen Ternberg
Wisconsin

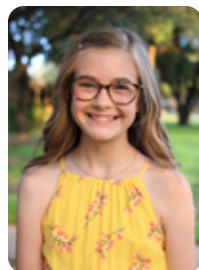
Taylen Ternberg is currently a fourth-grade student residing in Eau Claire, WI. She has been studying piano and composing with Jeffrey Miller of Eau Claire since first grade. Her aptitude for musical expression and creativity was recognized early on by being awarded the studio’s 2018 Musician of the Year trophy. She has also earned high ratings in the annual NFMC Festival hosted by the Chippewa Valley Music Teacher’s Association of Wisconsin.

“Ice Fishing” is her first full-length piano composition. She describes this pentatonic piece as calming and relaxing. Part of the beauty of the piece is the use of double appoggiaturas and several variations of the melodic line.

Taylen’s other hobbies include soccer,

playing with LOL dolls and Shopkins. She also enjoys swimming, tubing, and hanging out with her friends and family. And, of course, she loves to play the piano!

CLASS II: (ages 10-12)



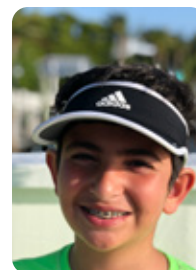
1st Place:
Julien Little
Texas

Julien Little is 11 years old and lives in Abilene, TX with her older sister and parents. She has been a piano student of Sherry Frush, at the Sherry Frush Music Studio, for seven years. This year, her composition, “Racoon Rummage” was inspired by watching the curiosity and unpredictability of racoons. In 2019, she won an Incentive Award for her composition “Forbidden City,” which was inspired by her visit to China. As an aspiring young artist, she is also involved in theatre, choir and very recently dance. She enjoys performing for both her school and local community productions.



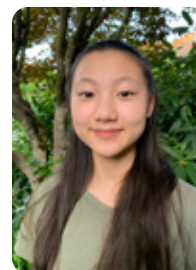
2nd Place:
Winston Chen
Washington

Winston Chen, 12 years old, started playing the violin at the age of 6 and the piano at the age of 5. He studies violin with Jan Coleman and piano with Donna Morgan. He also loves to compose and play music, currently a student of Sharon Van Valin for composition. He was a first violin in the Symphonette Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra and has auditioned this year for the Seattle Youth Symphony and is awaiting results. He was awarded an Honorable Mention in the 2020 Simon-Fiset Violin Competition and awarded first place in the Washington State Music Teachers Association 2020 Young Composers Project. He also attended the Sonata Festival for piano, and was awarded medals both years. He attended the Seattle-Japan Suzuki Institute camp and the Seattle Young Artists Festival and also performed at Benaroya Hall last year as a part



Incentive Award:
Elias Fernainy
Florida

Elias Fernainy, 11 years old, lives in Orlando, FL with his younger sister and parents. He has been playing the piano since age 6 and has been studying under Mrs. Lucy Warren since he moved to Florida four years ago. This is his first attempt at composition, and his piece “Camel Blues” earned an honorable mention at the National level after winning first place in his state and regional contests. Jazz and blues are his two favorite genres. He is especially grateful to his teacher, Mrs. Warren, for making piano an exciting fun adventure, and he is looking forward to composing again.



Incentive Award:
Jeanne Park
Washington

Jeanne Park, 12, is a sixth grader from Pine Lake Middle School in Sammamish, WA. She studies music composition with Sharon Van Valin and has been a Washington State winner, Western Region winner, and a National Merit Incentive Award recipient from the NFMC Junior Composers Contest Class II, 2020.

Jeanne has studied violin since the age of four and has been a winner many times in the Simon-Fiset String Competition (2014, 2016, and 2019) and has received the Jean Kantner Memorial Trophy. She has been chosen as a performer three times in the Japan Suzuki International Institute’s honors recital and has been a recipient of gold seals in both the concerto and complete program divisions from the Seattle Young Artists Music Festival 2019.

Currently she studies with Simon James and has enjoyed collaborating with Nozomi Khudiyev.



**Honorable
Mention:**
Ethan Chun
Georgia

Ethan Chun is 12 years old and a student of the Hawk Music Academy in

Cumming, GA. His piano teacher is Dr. Dawn D. Hawk. He has participated in the NFMFTA Fall Festival and NFMF Federation Festival for three consecutive years, as well as reaching GMTA Regional Auditions for two consecutive years. He has spent the past two summers composing with Dr. S. Eric Hawk. "Calamity" was created in the summer of 2019 and is his second composition. He is spending this summer working on his third composition.

In addition to playing piano and composing, Ethan plays the trombone. His private teacher is Mr. Marc Boehm. Ethan is also a band student at South Forsyth Middle School, under the direction of Dr. Andrew Poor and Mr. Nathan Hughes.

Ethan has an older sister who plays the oboe and younger twin brothers who both play the piano. His mom grew up playing piano and flute and his dad played piano, clarinet, and guitar. Ethan's other interests are listening to music, gaming, reading, and rock climbing.

CLASS III: (ages 13-15)



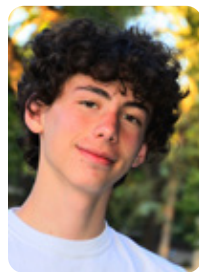
1st Place:
**Madeline Clara
Cheng**
California

Madeline Clara Cheng is a 16-year-old composer, saxophonist, and pianist. Her works have received

top awards and honors from the National Federation of Music Clubs, the American Beethoven Society, the Golden Key Music Festival, the Community Music School of Webster University, the Frost School of Music, the School of Music at the University of Illinois, Tribeca New Music, American Composers Forum, the U.S. Open Music Competition, the ASCAP Foundation, and the Music Teachers' Association of California.

This past year, Madeline has received

mentorship under the Luna Composition Lab with Tamar Muskal as one of five National Fellows. She is also an alumni of Boston Conservatory at Berklee's High School Composition Intensive, and was accepted into Interlochen Arts Camp this summer with a merit scholarship. Madeline studies piano and theory with Ms. Glenda Timmerman and saxophone with Ken Moran. This summer, she will be learning from Melissa Dunphy at the Young Women Composers Camp. Madeline is currently studying composition under Dr. Vivian Fung.



2nd Place:
Luca Pasquini
*Wyoming Federation/
Colorado*

Luca Pasquini (b. 2004) is a composer/pianist from Denver. Inspired by many different genres, Luca's

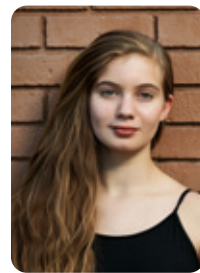
music seeks to discover the wonders of the world through modern classical music. He is currently studying piano and composition at Denver School of the Arts under Mitchell Alpaugh. He also is privately studying piano with Brad Marcotte and composition with Leanna Kirchoff and is a member of the Mile High Music Composing program. At the DSA program, he has collaborated with Ben Thompson, as well as the members of Conrad Kehn's Playground Ensemble, and was chosen twice to be featured in the Playground Ensemble's Colorado Composer's Concert as the K-12 Winner. Recently Luca was a Western Region winner in the National Federation of Music Club's Junior Composer Contest placing second overall on the National Level and is participating in the Berklee College of Music's High School Composition Intensive. Luca has also recently joined programs such as the Denver Young Artists Orchestra and DSA's full orchestra program in order to immerse himself in orchestral music.



**John and Margaret
Pierson Award
(3rd place):**
Helina Menzel
Wisconsin

My name is **Helina Menzel** and I am a sophomore at Lake Country Lutheran

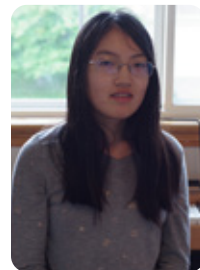
High School. I have been playing piano for about nine years, and composing for four years. My teacher, Sam Ecoff, has taught me in piano, composition, and theory as well. I also currently play in my church's Youth Praise Band, which I have done for almost a year now. At school I am involved in basketball and volleyball, and ran track this past year. I love music, and was very honored this year to win the national award of third place in Class 3.



Incentive Award:
Margaret Conti
Florida

Margaret Conti is entering the ninth grade in Orlando, FL. She has studied with her teacher, Lucy Warren since

she was in the third grade. This is her second incentive award, and she is excited to continue composing and playing. In addition to playing the piano, she plays the flute, guitar, and electric bass.



Incentive Award:
Florence He-Yu
Iowa

Florence has participated in the NFMF Festival and received seven straight Superior ratings in piano. She has been

a state, regional and national winner in the Junior Composers Contest which earned her scholarships to attend a music camp and the Junior Composers Summer Program online camp in 2020. Florence has performed in the honors recital at the Iowa Federation of Music Clubs state convention.

Florence plays clarinet with her school band, and plays piano and alto saxophone with the school jazz band where she also enjoys learning improvisation. Her piano teacher is Mrs. Barbara Shaw, her clarinet teacher is Ms. Christine Bellomy and her school band teacher is Mr. Kevin Brown.



Incentive Award:
Josiah Parsons
Minnesota

My name is Josiah, I'm a 15-year-old composer from Minnesota. I've been taking composition lessons with Dr. Sarah Miller for a while now, and since then I've composed pieces for solo piano, piano violin and cello, piano and clarinet and four voices. I've also been taking piano lessons with Cathy Smetana for around eight years. I recently attended Composer's Online Institute and wrote a piece for marimba, cello and piano. I have written music electronically as well, using digital audio workstations such as Fruity Loops. Some of my favorite musicians are Erroll Garner, Kiefer Shackelford, Tyler Okonma and Kendrick Lamar. I plan on continuing to write and perform music for the rest of my life, as a career or alongside a different one.

Honorable Mention:



Carson Ling-Efird
Washington

Carson Ling-Ling-Efird, 15, began playing at age 4 and now studies with Seattle Symphony Assistant Principal Cellist Nathan Chan and collaborative

pianist Dr. Li-Tan Hsu. In addition to cello, Carson studies composition with Sharon Van Valin and piano with Helena Azevedo.

Carson made her solo debut with the Seattle Symphony at the age of 12 after being selected as a 2017-2018 Seattle Symphony Young Artist. She made her international solo debut with the Taipei Symphony Youth Orchestra in January 2020. In 2019 she was a KING FM 98.1 Young Artist Award Grand Prize winner and received the Seattle Chamber Music Society Monika Meyer Clowes Memorial Award.

In 2019 and 2020, she was a participant in the Seattle Symphony Merriman Family Young Composers Workshop program, during which Seattle Symphony musicians debuted different movements of her new composition String Quartet No. 1 in E minor.

In her spare time, Carson enjoys breakdancing, hip hop, martial arts, and walks in the park with her family.

CLASS IV: (ages 16-18)



1st Place:
William Jae
California

William Jae (composer), 18, is a native of Los Angeles, where he recently graduated from Downtown Magnets

High School. He is a recipient of From the Top's Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist Award. He fell in love with the piano when he was 11 and has studied music at the Colburn School since 2013. In 2018, William received the Herbert Zipper Scholarship at the Colburn School, allowing him to freely pursue his passion. In that same year, he established the first music club in his high school. He has been a fellow in the Los Angeles Philharmonic's Nancy and Barry Sanders Composer Fellowship Program since 2019 and composed an eclectic series of compositions, such as "Alabaster Wool." Recently, he has also earned an honorable mention for the American Composer Forum Nextnotes and was a semi-finalist in the ASCAP Foundation Morton Gould Composer Competition. This summer, William composed his first solo cello piece, "Bougainvillea Wind," for Sunset ChamberFest. He is very excited to be recently accepted to the Eastman School of Music for the fall.



2nd Place:
Brandon Kim
Missouri

Brandon Kim is a junior at Rock Bridge High School in Columbia, MO. He started composing music when he was 10,

and his first composition was "Knights of the Round Table" for piano, violin, and trumpet. Since then, he still loves to use interesting techniques and instrumentation in his compositions.

Brandon not only composes but is also an avid instrument player. He plays piano and violin. Brandon was the winner in the State Competition at the Missouri Music Teachers Association (MMTA) in Junior String Division in 2018 and Runner Up for Senior

String Division in 2019. He also received an Honorable Mention of the 2019 MMAMTA Odyssey Chamber Music Series Pre-Collegiate Concerto Competition. Brandon was selected for the Missouri All-State Orchestra in 2019 and 2020. He has played violin with the Young Artists Philharmonic (YAP) and Chamber Players since 2016. Brandon is a founding member of the BNB piano trio coached by Ayako Tsuruta. He has also received many awards in the Federation Festivals, MMTA and the Piano Showcase.



Olga Klein Nelson (3rd place):
Anika Fuloria
California

Anika Fuloria is an active composer, multi-instrumentalist, singer-songwriter, and music technologist.

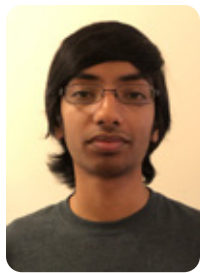
She is currently a senior at the Harker Upper School in San Jose, CA.

Anika studies composition with Prof. Ian Krouse and John Syzygy. Her awards include: Tribeca New Music "Emerging Composer," Sunset ChamberFest "Young Composer," NAFME Electronic Music Composition Competition first place, Robert Avalon International Composers Competition first place, MTNA Junior Composition Competition first place (California), NFMC Junior Composers Contest first place (California), and National Young Composers Challenge finalist.

Anika studies classical bass with Bruce Moyer. She was principal bassist for the California Orchestra Directors Association Honors String Orchestra and the solo string bassist for the California All-State Honors Symphonic Band.

Anika is founder, bandleader, and bassist for the jazz combo, Anthem Quartet. She enjoys playing piano and guitar, and writing and singing her own songs.

Anika has worked on virtual reality for spatial composition at UC Santa Barbara's Media, Art & Technology center. She is currently conducting research at Stanford's Center for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics.



Wilson Award for Piano Composition (4th place):

Rishi Raman
Pennsylvania

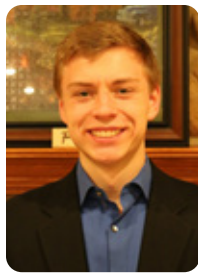
Rishi Raman, a rising senior at Great Valley High School, has been learning the piano for the past 12 years. Rishi is a student of Prof. Igor Resniasky. Rishi has completed the Royal Conservatory of Music's Level 10 exam in June, 2018 with First Class Honors. Previously, Rishi studied piano with Marjorie Majka NCTM and Peter Cirka. Rishi was a student at Mrs. Deborah Rodgers' summer composition camps for many years and has won prizes at the National Federation of Music Clubs and PMTA's Keystone Composition Competitions. In the summer of 2017, Rishi received a scholarship to attend Blue Lake Piano Summer Camp in Twin Lake, MI.



Strings Composition Award (5th place):

Emily Singleton
Florida

Emily Singleton is a composer and violist from Florida. In 2016 she made her debut as a composer with the premiere of her first work, "October Waltz," at the University of Florida. Since then she has had her music featured by the World Youth Wind Symphony and Advanced String Quartet Program, the Gainesville Civic Chorus, University of Florida, University of Georgia, Alachua County Youth Orchestra, MATA Jr. Festival by Face the Music, St. Augustine Music Festival, and New Music Decanted. For several years she was principal violist in the Alachua County Youth Orchestra and was selected as a member of the 2018 All-National Honors Ensemble. As a member of the Tomari Quartet in summer of 2019, she recorded Schulhoff's 5 Pieces for String Quartet at IPR. As a performer and composer, Singleton has been awarded titles from National Federation of Music Clubs, Florida State Music Teachers Association, Sacred Music Florida, Technology In Music Education Foundation, Music Teachers National Association, Music at the Anthology, and NextNotes, among others. Her primary teachers include Stephen Fine, Jorge Peña, and Paul Richards.



Incentive Award: Thomas Edgar
Illinois

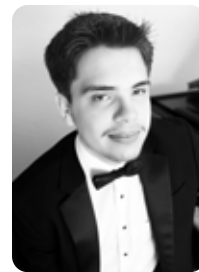
In addition to composing classical music, **Thomas Edgar** also enjoys composing and performing jazz. His first experience with jazz was at Birch Creek Summer Music Camp in Egg Harbor, WI. His first jazz tune Kazakhstan was premiered in Door County, WI in 2019. Thomas has placed first in the Illinois Music Education Conference Composition Contest in both 2018 and 2019; he was also selected as one of the top five high school jazz pianists. He has worked as a performer in a variety of settings including churches, restaurants, wineries, and theaters as well as teaching piano lessons. Thomas believes in giving back to the community and has been a volunteer pianist in senior living facilities for five years. He will be attending Southern Illinois University in Carbondale majoring in Aviation and Piano Performance. His goal is to become an airline pilot, and a professional musician and composer. He is thankful for the many people who have inspired him throughout his musical journey including: Gilbert Wukitsch, Jim Kull, Marty Robinson, and Adaron Jackson.



Incentive Award: Sam Hanson
Minnesota

Sam Hanson, 18, is a composer, pianist, and violinist living in St. Paul, MN. He has been studying with Sarah Miller for six years at MacPhail Center for Music, and has attended the Atlantic Music Festival and attended the Boston University Tanglewood Institute Composition Program. He has also received awards from Minnesota Public Radio Minnesota Varsity Contest, Minnesota Music Teachers Association Composition Contest, and NextNotes High School Composition Awards (Honorary Mention). Sam's hobbies include creative writing, poetry, and herbalism. Sam would especially like to thank his teacher Sarah for her years of guidance in composition, as well as his violin teacher Aaron Janse and piano teacher Richard Tostenson. Sam will be attending Princeton University in the fall

to pursue music composition and creative writing.



Incentive Award: Marco Jimenez
Florida

Marco A. Jimenez is a 12th grader and is currently homeschooled. He won the National Federation of Music Clubs Stillman Kelley Award for piano. As a two-time winner of the Wilkof Young Artists Concerto Competition, and the winner of the Justine LeBaron Young Artists Competition, Marco played with the Sarasota Orchestra and will be playing with the Florida Orchestra respectively. Over the past summers, Marco attended Interlochen Center for the Arts, Boston University Tanglewood Institute (BUTI), the Southeastern Piano Festival, the PYP Piano Festival, and the Texas Organ Academy.

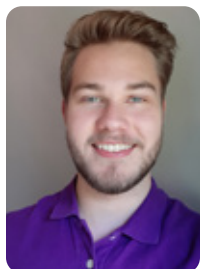
Additionally, Marco plays the violin and the organ, and also composes classical music. He is currently the concertmaster of the Sarasota Youth Philharmonic. Marco was named a 2020 National YoungArts Honorable Mention winner in three disciplines: piano, composition, and organ. His compositions have won numerous awards including Honorable Mention for the ASCAP Foundation Morton Gould Young Composer Award and in 2018 the Pierson Award for the National Federation of Music Clubs. Two of his compositions have been published by TrevCo. Music Publishing.



Incentive Award: Nathan Paek
Washington

Nathan Paek is a 16-year-old native of Washington State. He began playing the piano at age 5 and quickly discovered a passion for composing. Nathan has received national accolades for his music from the ASCAP Morton Gould Awards, the NFMC Junior Composer Awards, and the MTNA Composition Competitions. Since 2018, he has also participated annually in the Seattle Symphony's Merriman Family Young Composers Workshop, premiering his

chamber music at Benaroya Hall. A student of Sharon Van Valin, Nathan is a rising junior at Mercer Island High School. When he is not listening to music or jamming on the piano, he enjoys tennis, reading, and playing outside with his golden retriever.




Honorable Mention:

Jonathan Lovely

South Carolina

Hello! My name is **Jonathan Lovely**, and my passion for music began 11 years ago in a piano studio in Athens

GA. My teacher at the time was Peggy Lee, and she taught me classical piano for eight years. Three years ago, my family moved to Greenville, SC where I continued studying piano under Dr. Dianna Moore. In my 11 years of piano study, I have received multiple Superior ratings at different competitions, and have performed many pieces, classical and original at various places. My interest in composition started when I was 8 years old, and I have written and am currently working on over 100 symphonic, choral, solo and ensemble pieces. Guitar is my second love, and I play it to relax sometimes. Aside from music, I love soccer and volleyball, and I played varsity volleyball my last two years of high school. I also enjoy being outside and marveling at nature's beauty. But most importantly, I love the Lord, Jesus Christ, and nothing I do or have done could be possible without His blessing on my life. 

Meet the Judge!

NATIONAL JUDGE for 2020:

Dr. Seth Custer

Dr. Seth Custer is an active composer, performer, clinician, and adjudicator whose music is heard across the United States. He received a Ph.D. in music composition from the University of Iowa, a Master of Music degree in composition from Central Michigan University and a Bachelor of Music degree in performance from the University of North Dakota. He regularly receives commissions to compose works for a variety of ensembles,

Dr. Custer is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Music Theory, Composition, and Technology at Bob Jones University, where he has taught since 2009.

Custer serves as the general director of the Junior Composers Summer Programs, a member of the National Federation of Music Clubs. When school is not in session, Seth and his wife Moriah travel the country presenting musical programs in churches and schools, and teaching at music camps and conferences.





JCSP/COI 2020 Recap

by Emily Custer, JCSP Administrative Director




At the risk of great redundancy, I must say that this summer turned out much differently than expected! In reflecting on the successful finish of our first ever Composers Online Institute (COI), I want to applaud the terrific Junior Composer Summer Programs staff and faculty for all they did to create, design and execute the inaugural year of COI. I cannot overemphasize the passion and excellence by which our team brought this new program to fruition despite many obstacles.

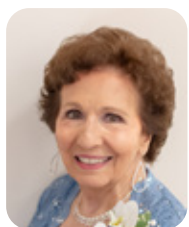
When it was decided that JCSP could not be held in person, our teaching faculty began discussing alternative virtual options. Out of their discussions came larger brainstorming sessions that yielded a vast number of creative ideas that were then honed and fine-tuned into attainable goals for COI. Through the expertise and vast amounts of time invested by our teaching faculty, ideas for COI were organized and coordinated to create a new virtual composition program. It was quite a “mad dash” to the last minute when COI went live but the response we received was tremendous.

In lieu of a featured ensemble, we contracted six performing partners (including two regular faculty members) to work with our students and staff to record student works. Our performers were professionals from across the country and provided top-notch instruction and collaboration for our students. We are grateful for their partnership

to make COI 2020 successful! We were also blessed to have some wonderful guest salon presenters during COI who shared their expertise with everyone involved.

Even in the face of the unexpected, our teaching faculty was stellar as usual and their numerous tutorials, blogs, and how-to’s posted to our COI YouTube channel proved to be tremendously helpful and informative (feel free to check out the channel!). While we all missed the in-person interaction, the lessons, classes, workshops, and evening “lounge” sessions throughout the week still provided chances to bond with one another. In addition to new students, we were grateful that 10 out of 20 total students were alumni from previous years. Several more alumni said they would be back when we can again hold our usual residential camp programs.

Despite the challenges of 2020, we look forward to building on this year’s accomplishments and becoming even more adaptable in the future. With our exceptional staff, talented students, supportive parents/teachers, and partnership with NCR and NFMC, we will continue pressing toward our goal of nurturing young composers in the most creative, impactful ways possible! 



CRUSADE *for* STRINGS


by Helena S. Meetze, NFMC Crusade for Strings Chair

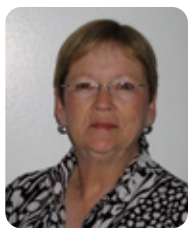


Two Junior Clubs submitted Crusade for Strings Activity Reports this past year:

1. **Workshop for Young Performing Artists-Lancaster, PA** – sponsored by Musical Art Society.
2. **Greenville Harmony Music Club-Greenville, SC** – sponsored by the Women’s Club of Greenville.

I will be delighted to receive many more reports for 2020-2021. Invite strings performers to your meetings, schedule some of your club members to play, take a group to a nursing home or assisted living facility and include strings on the program, encourage attendance at concerts, etc. There are so many opportunities.

Monetary awards can be earned by winning clubs. Even if you participate in one activity, you should send in your report. Certificates are given to all clubs for their efforts. 



NFMC Marilyn Caldwell Piano Solo Award

by Linda Lind, *Chair*

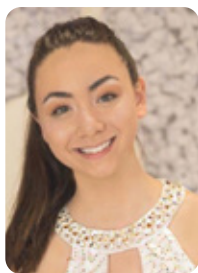
Calling all NFMC Junior Pianists in High School grades 10, 11, or 12!

This award was first given in 2011 and was established to honor Marilyn Caldwell for her dedication to NFMC Juniors. The goal is to provide financial assistance and encouragement to talented piano students. It is open to junior members who have not reached their 19th birthday by March 1 of the competition year.

Now is the time to prepare and be ready for the March 1, 2021 deadline. The Rules and Requirements, as well as suggested repertoire, can be found on the NFMC website. Look for JR 19-1 and JR 19-2.

In the 10 years of this event the entries have been outstanding and this year was certainly no exception. The 2020 winners were **Stephanie Petinaux** from Pennsylvania, 1st place - \$1000 and **Tejas Shivaraman** from Michigan, 2nd place - \$500.

Congratulations to ALL who entered in 2020 and to the teachers and families for their support. You are "Keeping the Music Alive Through Our Juniors."



1st Place **Stephanie Petinaux**

Pennsylvania

Stephanie Petinaux, 18, graduated from the Seneca Valley High School in 2020 and will attend the Oberlin Conservatory this fall where she will study with Alvin Chow. She started piano with her mother at age 5 and then with Marina Lupinacci for 10 years.

Currently, she studies with Christopher Guzman. Stephanie won numerous competitions.

At age nine, she won second prize in the Duquesne Young Artist National Competition, following with many other awards, such as the Pittsburgh Concert Society Young Artist Competition, WQED Radio Station Musical Kids Competition, First New York International Competition for Young Artists (performed at the New York Carnegie Weill Recital Hall), Louis Streater Competition, Carmel International Piano Competition, Marian Garcia International High School Piano Competition, MTNA Junior PA State Performance Competition, Alexander and Buono International Piano Competition, Allegheny College Unusual Combinations Piano Competition, US New Star Competition, West Chester Pre-Collegiate Piano Competition, Claudette Sorel Piano Competition, Memphis International Piano Competition, and the David Dubois Piano Competition. Additionally, she has been a Steinway Young Artist of the Western Pennsylvania Steinway Society since 2011.

Stephanie was also named a winner of the National YoungArts Foundation 2020 in Classical Piano. Recently, she won first prize in the Tuesday Musical Club Scholarship Competition and the Blackwood Arts Scholarship Competition. Apart from piano, she enjoys baking, hiking, and traveling.



2nd Place **Tejas Shivaraman**

Michigan

Tejas Shivaraman is currently a senior at Cranbrook Kingswood High School in Bloomfield Hills, MI, where he holds the Slotkin Scholarship for Musical Studies for high school.

Tejas has been learning to play the piano since age 4 and currently studies under the guidance of Prof. Catherine Rollin in Michigan. He has placed at numerous competitions and has played at various locations around the world including, Rome, New York (Weill & Stern Hall), Salzburg, Vienna, London and Mumbai. He recently placed second in the Marilyn Caldwell Competition and the Claire Ulrich Competition. He was also the Northwestern Region winner for the Stillman Kelley as well as a MTNA finalist for the piano duet senior division. He also placed first in the senior division of the MFMC State Piano Competition and was invited to play the annual MFMC state conference.

Tejas has diverse musical interests and performs both Western and Indian classical music on the piano. He has performed three IndoWestern fusion concerts of 1-2 hours to diverse audiences globally. Most recently, Tejas livestreamed an IndoWestern Fusion concert to raise funds for COVID-19 relief, attracting about 1000 viewers and raised over \$9,000, which is being donated to hospitals in Detroit and Chennai, India. Outside of practicing piano, Tejas loves to play tennis, play with his dogs and watch sports. Tejas is an outstanding student and is an AP Scholar. 🎵



Claire Ulrich Whitehurst Piano Award Winners

by Suzanne Carpenter, *Chair*

The Claire Ulrich Whitehurst Piano Award is available in even numbered years to high school pianists (grades 10, 11, 12) under age 19 as of March 1 who are NFMC members. First place winner receives \$500 and second place award is \$250. This year there were 12 applicants. The three DMA Professors who judged this competition were impressed with the high quality of the auditions!



1st Place:
Natalie Chow

New Jersey

First place winner for 2020 was **Natalie Chow**, a 15-year-old from Livingston, NJ. She currently studies piano with concert pianist, Beatrice Long. Natalie established herself early as a young artist through a myriad of competitions. She was selected by audition

to perform in the JCC Sylvia and Jacob Handler Master Class given by New York Philharmonic pianist Jonathan Feldman at 6, and made her Carnegie Hall debut at 7. Her recent accomplishments include 2019-2020 National Young Arts winner in Classical Music, first-prize finishes in the 2020 Music Educators Association of NJ Concerto Competition, the 2019 VIVO International Music Competition, the 2019 Princeton Steinway Society Classical Competition, the 2019 NJ Federation of Music Clubs Piano Competition, as well as second prize in the 2019 Camerata Artists International Music Competition and the 2019 Music Teacher National Association (MTNA) NJ senior piano competition. She has participated in many master classes with esteemed pianists. Outside of music, Natalie enjoys performing for others. She is an active volunteer in the local community, and enjoys drawing, reading, watching movies, and socializing with friends.



2nd Place:
Tejas Shivaraman

Michigan

Receiving 2nd place was **Tejas Shivaraman**, a junior at Cranbrook-Kingswood High School in Michigan where he holds the Slotkin Music Scholarship for High School studies. Tejas started his music training on the western piano, Carnatic

violin and Carnatic vocals at the age of 4 and currently studies with Professor Catherine Rollin and Professor Jay Shankar Balan. Tejas has won many piano competitions and has performed at various international halls in Mumbai (NCPA), Salzburg (Mozarteum), London (Royal Albert Hall), Rome (Parco Della Musica) and New York where he has performed in the Stern and Weill hall in Carnegie Hall. He has also placed first in local competitions such as the 2020 MFMC High School Piano Competition and 2019 MDML Senior Division as well as second at 2019 MMTA Finals. He also placed third in the 2019 Carmel Klavier International Piano Competition and is also a national finalist for the 2020 MTNA Piano Duet Competition. He has attended the Todi International Music Masters piano festival run by Antonio Pompa-Baldi for two years (2017 and 2018) and has performed both recitals and debuted with the Napolinova Orchestra there in 2017. In March 2018, Tejas performed a 90-minute long fusion concert playing Western classical music and Indian classical music on the piano in Detroit, Michigan to great acclaim. In his free time, Tejas loves playing tennis, basketball and hanging out with friends. **JK**



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2020 NFMC **Martha Marcks Mack** Junior Vocal Award Winners

by Kristin Ivers, *NFMC Martha Marcks Mack Junior Vocal Award Chair*

The Martha Marcks Mack Junior Vocal Award was established in 2013 to honor Martha Marcks Mack of Kuhnsville, PA. Three awards are given in the amounts of \$1,500, \$1,000, and \$500. The awards are given each year to a deserving and talented singer in high school grades 10, 11, or 12 for the purpose of further musical study. The goal of these awards is to encourage young singers toward a musical career.

This year we had 11 applicants submit videos to be adjudicated. The states represented were Florida, Kansas, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Texas, Utah, and Virginia. Our judges, Dr. Mark Johnson, Leah Ann Anderson, and Audrey Chapin, enjoyed very fine performances and had quite a task choosing only three winners!



1st Place:
Caitlin Chisham
Kansas

Caitlin Chisham is an incoming Senior at Derby High School, Derby, KS. Caitlin has placed first in several regional

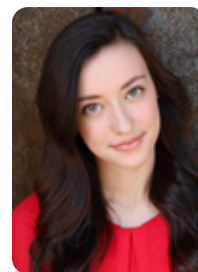
and national competitions including the Hal Leonard Early Teen Division Art Song Competition, the Schmidt Competition, and the NATS Central Division and West Central Division competitions. She is a Koch Cultural Trust grant recipient. Caitlin has attended summer vocal intensive programs including the Brevard Vocal Institute and the Boston University Tanglewood Institute. She has also sung with several local, regional and national honor choirs. Caitlin's accomplishments have earned her opportunities for personal instruction from internationally known opera singers including Marilyn Horne and Alan Held. She is coached by Lorne Richstone at the University of Oklahoma and studies private voice with Dr. Cristina Castaldi of Wichita State University.



2nd Place:
Claire Goodwin
North Carolina

Claire Goodwin is an incoming Senior at Clayton High School, Clayton, NC. She is a member of Voice of Clayton Junior

Club; a member of Johnston County Music Association (JCMA) Senior Club of NCFMC. She is also in the Capital City Girls' Choir in Raleigh, NC. Claire has won a Superior rating every year for six years in the NCFMC Festival for Musical Theatre and Vocal Arts, receiving both her 15 and 30 point Gold Cups, and for the 2020 Festival she was the recipient of the local Ann Graham McCurdy Female Vocal Award and the JCMA Betsy Bullard Vocal Award. She was honored to also sing solos at the 2019 American Music Concert sponsored by JCMA. Claire is active in her school chorus and she was named to both All-County and All-State Choirs in 2019. Claire aspires to study Opera and is looking at several schools at this time to pursue her goals. Claire is a vocal student of Mrs. Julie Stewart at Neighborhood Academy of Music in Clayton.



3rd Place:
Alexa Morgan
Kansas

Alexa Morgan is a 2020 graduate of Shawnee Mission South High School, Overland Park, KS. She has loved singing and

performing for as long as she can remember. Alexa was an active member in both choir and theatre throughout high school. She won numerous vocal awards including the Missouri Federation of Music Clubs Junior Festival State Competition, the Kansas Thespian Festival Scholarship, and KC Superstar. A member of NHS, Alexa was named a National Honor Scholar. She is the founder of Serenading Seniors (@serenadingseniors on Instagram and Facebook), an accomplishment she is most proud of! Alexa is so very grateful for the gift of music in her life and for the opportunities to share that gift with others. In the fall, Alexa plans to pursue a BFA in Musical Theatre. Alexa studies voice with Myra Lemons. 

Guidelines for Submissions to *Junior Keynotes*

Articles: Please provide your submissions to *Junior Keynotes* as **Word documents of 300 words or less**, as they may have to be edited for space. We may have to limit photos unless there are several different topics with pictures. Coverage will be dictated by space available. We will always try to be fair.

Images: Please provide original **high resolution JPG images 1MB or greater**. When sending images via a mobile device please choose "original" or "large," as images with reduced pixel counts are too low of a resolution for offset print production.



2020 NFMC Stillman Kelley and Thelma Byrum Awards

by Laurie M. Marshall, *Chair*

The NFMC Stillman Kelley Annual Award, established in 1938, is a national award open to eligible NFMC Junior members. Solo performances on all instruments are welcome!

The Thelma Byrum Piano Award, added in 1980, is awarded to the top national scorer in piano unless that is the Stillman Kelly winner. In that case, the Byrum award goes to the next highest scorer in piano.

All eligible Junior Members including all instruments are welcome. Monetary awards include First, Second, Third, five Regional, and one Thelma Byrum Piano Award totaling \$4,500.

2020 AWARD WINNERS

National Awards:

Stillman Kelley Award First Place:
Carolyn Maude Durham, Violin, Utah

Stillman Kelley Award Second Place:
Nicholas Boettcher, Double Bass, Illinois

Stillman Kelley Award Third Place:
Camden Archambeau, Cello, Connecticut

Thelma Byrum Award:
Natalie Chow, Piano, New Jersey

Stillman Kelley Regional Awards:

North Central: Isabella Brown, Violin, Illinois

Northeastern: Tejas Shivaraman, Piano, Michigan

South Central: No entries.

Southeastern: Madeline Chen, Harp, Georgia

Western: Julia Luyten, Violin, Wyoming

UPDATE:

The NFMC Stillman Kelley and Thelma Byrum Awards are now a single-tier National award. **All applicants apply directly through the NFMC website for one national event.**



Stillman Kelley 1st Place:

Caroline Durham
Utah

Caroline Durham, 18, attends The Juilliard School and Columbia University in their joint program. She

studies violin with Masao Kawasaki. A native of Salt Lake City, she also studies with Eugene Watanabe at the Gifted Music School. Earlier this year, Caroline was selected as a semi-finalist in the Irving M. Klein International String Competition. In 2019, Caroline was the national winner of the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) Competition. Other national awards include prizes in the Joyce Walsh Competition and the Blount-Slawson Young Artists Competition. She is a multi-year winner of the Utah Symphony Youth Guild Competition and was invited to perform in Carnegie Hall.

This past year, Caroline developed and taught music classes for The Children's Center, an organization that provides support for children with disabilities or who suffer from abuse or trauma. In addition to her passion for music, Caroline enjoys science and plans to study neuroscience at Columbia with the long-term goal of understanding how music affects the brain.



Stillman Kelley 2nd Place:

Nicholas Boettcher
Illinois

Nicholas Boettcher, 16, studies double bass with Andy Anderson. He studies music with Sooka Wang.

Previously, he studied cello with Sally Gross. Nicholas was named a National Young Arts Foundation Winner for 2020. He was a finalist in the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's Young

Artist Competition, and soloed with the Chicago Civic Orchestra in March, 2020. He is to solo with Chicago's Grant Park Orchestra for their July 4th concert. Later in 2020, Nicholas will solo with DuPage Symphony Orchestra and Northern Illinois University's Sinfonia Orchestra. Last fall, Nicholas soloed at Chicago Symphony's Orchestra Hall with the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra. Last summer he was a semifinalist at the International Society of Bassists Performance Competition. Nicholas also performed with the Chicago Philharmonic as the youngest musician to have ever been selected for its Spotlight program. He has played with the Chicago Sinfonietta, the Wheaton College Symphony Orchestra and was selected to play in the Chicago Youth in Music program, directed by Riccardo Muti.

Nicholas won first place at the DuPage Symphony Orchestra's Young Artists Auditions, the Illinois American String Teachers Association Competition, NIU's Sinfonia Orchestra's Concerto Competition, and the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra's Concerto Competition. He also won the Naperville North High School Concerto Competition and soloed with their orchestra. Nicholas is a three-time first place winner of the CYSO's Orchestral Excerpt Competition, and he also won first place in the Elsie Sterrenberg String Scholarship Competition, the Glen Ellyn-Wheaton Music Club Scholarship Competition, and the American Fine Arts Festival International Concerto Competition, performing at Carnegie Hall's Weill Hall.

Nicholas serves as a principal bassist of the CYSO, its Classical Orchestra Repertory Ensemble, and the Naperville North High School Orchestra and plays with its Jazz Ensemble. He has toured central Europe, Scandinavia, and Russia with the CYSO. These past summers Nicholas attended the International Bassist Society's Convention, Curtis Summerfest, Orford Musique

Academie, and Bowdoin International Music Festival studying with Hal Robinson, Don Palma, and Kurt Muroki, respectively. This summer he is to attend the Double Bass Workshop at Boston University's Tanglewood Institute, the Atlantic Music Festival, and Domaine Forget. In addition to music, Nicholas also enjoys a good steak!



Stillman Kelley
3rd Place:
Camden
Archambeau
Connecticut
Camden

Camden Archambeau, 18, is a native of Weston, CT and a student in the Harvard-NEC Dual Degree Program. Camden was a member of the New York Youth Symphony for four years and he sat for two years as Rosengarten Chair Principal Cellist. This past summer he toured Europe with the National Youth Orchestra and is currently Principal Cellist of the Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra. He has served as Principal Cellist of the Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra, Assistant Principal Cellist of Juilliard Pre-College Orchestra (2018), Juilliard Pre-College Symphony (2017), and Principal Cellist of orchestras including the National Arts Centre of Canada SMI YAP Pre-College Orchestra (2016 and 2017), Danbury Community Orchestra (2014-2016), LIU Post Summer Festival Orchestra (2016) and Interlochen Jr. Adv. Strings Orchestra (2012).

As a soloist, Camden won first place in the 2018- 2019 Greater Bridgeport Symphony Young Instrumentalist Competition, first place in 2016 LIU Post Chamber Music Festival Concerto Competition and was a two-time Interlochen Junior Advanced Strings Honors Recital winner (2011 and 2012). Camden has performed locally as a soloist and chamber musician. He has played in master classes for Joseph Lin, Franz Helmerson, Astrid Schween, Hans Jorgen Jensen, David Geber, Jonathan Koh, Julia Lichten, Carole Sirois, Allison Eldridge, Nicholas Canellakis, Michael Katz, Narek Hakhnazaryan, Mihai Marica, Ivan Chan, and Daniel Avshalomov. An avid chamber musician, Camden has participated in summer programs at the Meadowmount School of Music, National Arts Centre of Canada, Interlochen, LIU Post, Music at Port Milford, and Danbury Music Center. He has

performed at the Juilliard School, University of Ottawa, Carnegie Hall, Tilles Center, Symphony Space, and Interlochen. Camden's chamber accolades include first place Jr. Ensemble in the 2018 Camerata Artists International Competition with Juilliard Pre-college Piano Trio Astra, 2017 and 2018 Meadowmount Chamber Ensemble playoff winner with string quartets and Interlochen Summer Collage performances in 2011 and 2012.



Thelma Byrum
Award:
Natalie Chow
New Jersey

Natalie Chow, 15, of Livingston, NJ, began studying piano at age 5. For the past three years, she has been under the tutelage of concert pianist and NJFMC member Beatrice Long.

Natalie established herself early as a young artist through a myriad of performances and competitions. At the age of 6, she was selected by audition to perform in the JCC Sylvia and Jacob Handler Master Class and made her Carnegie Hall debut at age 7.

Natalie's recent accolades in 2020 include First Prizes at the 2020 Pittsburgh International Piano Competition, the New York Young Performers Prize competition from the Associated Music Teacher League of New York, and third prize in the 2020 Paderewski International Piano Competition.

In addition, she received a Gold Prize in the 2nd WPTA Finland International Piano Competition, the National Federation of Music Clubs' Thelma Byrum Award, first place in the Music Educators Association of NJ Concerto Competition, and she is a scholarship award recipient in the 2020 Suburban Music Study Club Grace Gimbel Competition.

Natalie has performed as a soloist at numerous recital halls, such as Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall, Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center, New Jersey Performing Arts Center, New York Merkin Hall, and Grace Rainey Rogers Auditorium at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. She was selected to perform in master classes given by Victor Rosenbaum, Melvin Chen, Enrique Graf, and Jeffrey Biegel.

As a complement to her musical ventures, Natalie enjoys being an active volunteer in the local community and has performed in

several senior homes. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she participated in online fundraising concerts in support of Key2Success, a non-profit organization that provides music lessons and instruments to inner city students in Newark. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, drawing and movies.



Stillman Kelley –
North Central
Region Winner
Isabella Brown
Illinois

Isabella Brown is a 17-year-old violinist who recently been making a name for herself on the classical music scene. This past summer, Isabella was awarded a top prize in the Cooper International Violin Competition and consequently had the privilege of debuting with the Cleveland Orchestra at the age of 16. More recently, Isabella made her Chicago Symphony Center Debut with the Civic Orchestra of Chicago and was very happy to be named the Winner of the 2020 Crain-Mailing CSO Young Artist Competition. As such, she will be debuting with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra during the 2020/2021 season.

Isabella made her solo debut with orchestra at the age of 10, performing with the Capital Symphonic Youth Orchestra on the Kennedy Center's Terrace Theater stage, and has gone on to play with the Oistrakh Symphony Orchestra, the Waukegan Symphony Orchestra, the New North Shore Symphony Orchestra, the Northbrook Symphony Orchestra, the Lakeview Orchestra, the DuPage Symphony Orchestra, the Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra, the Kishwaukee Symphony, the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, and the Cleveland Orchestra. Additionally, she has been featured on Chicago's WFMT and on Cleveland's WCLV, appeared as both a soloist and chamber musician in the Alden Theater Young Soloist Series in Virginia, and has performed at Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center in Washington DC, the Chicago Cultural Center, Cleveland's Severance Hall, Chicago's Harris Theater, Ravinia's Bennett Gordon Hall, and Chicago's Symphony Center.

Isabella studies violin with Almita Vamos as a Scholarship Fellow at the Music Institute of Chicago Academy, and she has had the privilege of taking lessons and master classes

with teachers such as Midori, Augustin Hadelich, Donald Weilerstein, Ilya Kaler, Paul Huang, and Roland Vamos and from esteemed chamber groups such as the Pacifica Quartet, the Cavani Quartet, and the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. Isabella is very thankful to be playing on a Dom Nicolo Marchioni detto 'Amati' of Bologna circa 1740, generously on loan to her from Kenneth Warren and Son, Ltd.

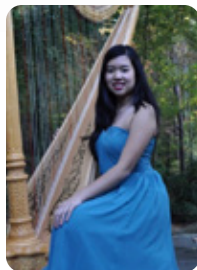


**Stillman Kelley –
Northeastern
Region Winner**
Tejas Shivaraman
Michigan

Tejas Shivaraman is a junior at Cranbrook-Kingswood High School where he holds the Slotkin Music Scholarship for High School studies. Tejas started his music training on the western piano, Carnatic violin and Carnatic vocals at the age of 4 and currently studies with Professor Catherine Rollin and Professor Jay Shankar Balan. Tejas has won many piano competitions and has performed at various international halls in Mumbai (NCPA), Salzburg (Mozarteum), London (Royal Albert Hall), Rome (Parco Della Musica) and New York where he has performed in the Stern and Weill hall in Carnegie Hall.

He has also placed first in local competitions such as the 2020 MFMC High School Piano Competition and 2019 MDML Senior Division as well as second at 2019 MMTA Finals. He also placed third in the 2019 Carmel Klavier International Piano Competition and is also a national finalist for the 2020 MTNA Piano Duet Competition. He has attended the Todi International Music Masters piano festival run by Antonio Pompa-Baldi for two years (2017 and 2018) and has performed both recitals and debuted with the Napolinova Orchestra there in 2017. In March 2018, Tejas performed an hour and a 90-minute concert playing Western classical music and Indian classical music on the piano in Detroit, Michigan to great acclaim.

In his free time, Tejas loves playing tennis, basketball and hanging out with friends.



**Stillman Kelley –
Southeastern
Region Winner**
Madeline Chen
Georgia

Madeline Chen is a sophomore at Riverwood International Charter

School in Sandy Springs. She has been playing harp for eight years, and currently studies with Elisabeth Remy Johnson.

Madeline has been with the Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra (ASYO) for the past three years, and was awarded Honorable Mention in the 2017 ASYO Concerto Competition. In addition, she is two-time winner in the 2017 and 2019 Ruth Kern Concerto Competition and debuted with the Atlanta Community Symphony Orchestra conducted by Maestro Juan Ramirez, placed third in the 2019 Dekalb Symphony Orchestra (DSO) Young Artist Concerto Competition conducted by Maestro Fyodor Cherniavsky, and will be performing solo with both orchestras this Spring. Other highlights include: first place winner in the 2019 Atlanta Music Club Scholarship Competition in the High School Instrumental division which will allow her to attend Curtis Harp Colony this summer, 2018 and 2019 Georgia All-State principal harpist for the 9/10 Full Orchestra, Finalist in the 2014 and 2016 Young Artist Harp Competition, and third place in the 2015 Georgia Philharmonic Samuel Fordis Concerto Competition. She also won the National Federation of Music Club (NFMC) Comstock Award in 2018 which allowed her to attend MPulse Summer Harp Institute at University of Michigan. Through the Franklin Pond ASYO Chamber Players Program, she has been coached by many ASO musicians who have nourished her love for chamber music.

Besides "harp-ing," Madeline enjoys playing cello, piano and ukulele. She is involved with Model UN, Beta Club, FBLA, and is an International Baccalaureate Diploma Candidate (IB) and Student Ambassador at her school. She is a Senior in Girl Scouts and is working towards the prestigious Gold Award.



**Stillman Kelley –
Western Region
Winner**
Julia Luyten
Wyoming

Julia Luyten has been playing violin since she was 2 years old. She is 16 and a

junior at Cherry Creek High School. She has attended the Bowdoin International Music Festival, Killington Music Festival, Encore Music Festival, and Heartland Chamber Music Festival. She was concertmaster of 2018 Colorado Western States Orchestra and 2019 Colorado All State Orchestra, and Cherry Creek High School Orchestra. Julia has soloed with the 2019 Heartland Chamber Music Orchestra on Kansas Public Radio, the Colorado Bach Ensemble, and the Loveland Orchestra in 2018. She was the 2018 Stillman Kelley Colorado Division winner, as well as the 2018 Western Division winner. Julia has won first place in 2018 and 2019 at the Colorado Rising Stars Festival, was the 2018 MTNA Senior String Alternate, and the 2017 MTNA Junior String Winner. She was also the 2017 MTNA West Central Division Alternate.

Julia hopes to continue her study of violin throughout college and someday pursue a career in music performance. When she's not playing violin, Julia loves to read, run, and spend time with friends. JK



Junior Poets Inspire Us!

Angie Greer 2020 Music in Poetry Award Winners

Submitted by Jordon Young, *Chair*

Congratulations to this year's regional winners! The Angie Greer Music in Poetry Award selects a winner for each of the five NFMC Regions, accepting entries from students under the age of 19. As there is only one age group, I find it reassuring to see that this year's winners span from elementary to high school. Thank you to all who submitted poems, and please encourage the young writers in your life to enter next year's competition.

Note: There were no submissions from the Northeastern and South Central Regions. JK



NORTH CENTRAL REGION

"Learning Piano"

By Emmy Gottsman

It started with one note
Pressed with one tiny finger

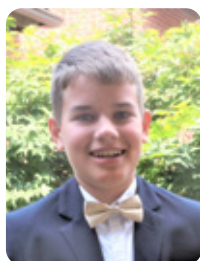
It went to one hand
Playing a melody
With awkward growing hands

Then onto two hands
Playing a whole song
Deftly pressing the keys down

Adding a pedaling foot
And another!

And at some point,
I added my soul
I poured emotions
Feelings
My experiences in life

My soul changed the note
It changed the melody
It changed the song



SOUTHEASTERN REGION

"The Magic Ride of Music"

By E.J. Yaroszewski

Music – a magic carpet
In the tapestry you might see a melody
in the fringe, a hint of joy
it is waiting to tell a story to every girl and boy.

Music – a magic carpet
The eighth notes are speeding up
the rests are slowing down
waiting to take you on a ride
to a destination of your choice.

Music – a magic carpet
Middle Eastern will sound exotic,
Irish full of life,
American a jaunty tune,
each one is giving life.

Music – a magic carpet
It can take you on a ride.
It can give you such great peace;
for music, reflects so many different beliefs.

Music – a magic carpet
A highway in your heart,
it just awaits your call
waiting just to start.



WESTERN REGION

"The Rhyme Song"

By Victoria Johnson

When I was small, there were troubles all the time,
So, I'd climb in a tree, and make up a rhyme.
A rhyme that had rhythm, a rhyme that had beat,
A rhyme that had music, and melody sweet.
A rhyme that was perfect in each and every way,
A rhyme that battled my troubles that day.
The rhyme filled me with happiness and bling,
So, I opened my mouth and started to sing.
The melody carried as it rushed through the trees,
And tickled the rooftops as it flew on the breeze.
I sung the tune to my neighbor and friend,
As I watched the joy spread, I saw love with no end.
At that very moment, nothing could go wrong,
As I sang my melodious, beautiful song.
And when it was heard, I knew that I would,
Banish my troubles, every day that I could.
All from that rhyme that sprouted inside of me,
As I made up a melody, on top of that tree.



2020 Joyce Walsh Junior Disability Awards

Submitted by Dr. John D. Kelly, *NFMCC Chair, Joycel Walsh Junior Disability Award*



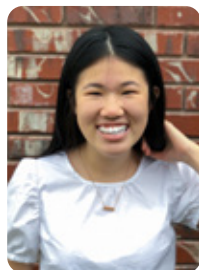
Rachel Chen
New Jersey
1st Place Winner – National

Eighteen-year-old **Rachel Chen** started piano when she was 7. Her passion in music has led her to

a musically-filled path: from piano to voice and to chamber music ensemble. Under the guidance of her teacher pianist Beatrice Long, she has performed in venues such as Weill Recital Hall of Carnegie Hall, Steinway Gallery, Jacob Music Center, Curtis Institute of Music, and InterHarmony International Festival in Italy. She has participated in various competitions in regional and state level, many of which she won top prizes. Rachel has received awards from NJ Federation of Music Clubs, Golden Key and Rising Talent Competitions of Music Fest, Chinese American Culture Association, as well as a scholarship from New Jersey Music Educator Association.

Rachel's life came to a halt in Spring 2018 when she was diagnosed with osteosarcoma—a form of bone cancer. After a year long chemotherapy and an above-right knee amputation, she is on her way to full recovery. Adjusting to a new life with a prosthetic leg, she learned many skills such as pedaling on a piano with the left leg, playing tennis for the Millburn High School Junior Varsity Tennis Team, and driving with the left gas pedal. Furthermore, she is passionate about art and excels at drawing. In addition, she helped other students with a charity concert and donated more than \$2,000 to the American Cancer Society.

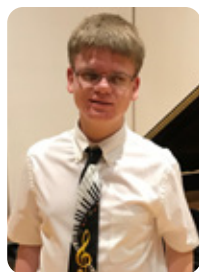
Rachel lives in Millburn, NJ, with her parents and her cat. Through her battle with cancer, she is hoping to raise awareness to help empower teenage above-knee amputees.



Joyce Yang
Oklahoma
2nd Place Winner – National

Joyce Yang has always had a love for music and the arts. As a sophomore in high school, she has enjoyed

playing the piano, singing in choir, performing in musicals, and dancing in her hometown studio ever since she was a little girl; however, piano has always held a special place in her heart. It was her first introduction to music. When she first started piano lessons as a 4-year-old with her teacher Lesa Steele, many were apprehensive about how she would be able to play the beautiful instrument. Joyce was born without her right forearm, and she wears a prosthesis in her daily life. Nevertheless, with much determination and a few adjustments, Joyce defied the odds and learned how to play the piano. It has become a pivotal part of her life. Joyce has grown from a shy little girl, who would hide behind her mother at lessons, to a confident young woman with the piano as a guide on her journey.



Noah Johnson
Minnesota
North Central Region Winner

Noah Johnson was born in 2001 in Minnesota. He was born 15 weeks premature and

was diagnosed with ROP (retinopathy of prematurity), which claimed his eyesight shortly after birth. He started piano instruction at age 9, and from 2010 until 2013 took piano lessons with Laura Schmitz, and since 2013 he has taken lessons at the MacPhail Center for Music with Diana Bearmon.

Noah and his piano teacher Diana Bearmon were featured regionally in the Minneapolis

Star Tribune's monthly "Duets" article by Gail Rosenblum which provided a glimpse into their story and special relationship. He was also featured locally in the Mille Lacs Messenger's "Young Musical Talent" article by Diane Gibas. Noah was featured in an article titled "A Passion's Perfect Pitch" which was published in the the MacPhail's "Take Note Newsletter."

Noah loves to share his gift of music by performing. He has performed locally in his hometown of Isle, Minnesota at studio recitals, fundraisers, faith-based events, and church services. He has performed at Diana Bearmon's studio piano recitals and the MacPhail Summer Extravaplaza events in 2013 through 2017. Noah was nominated to perform in a Keyboard Recognition Recital at MacPhail in 2014. He was selected to perform at the 2015 and 2017 MacPhail Crescendo Piano Gala. Noah has earned trophies for passing five levels of MacPhail's Crescendo Program. He participated in the MacPhail Play-a-thon and earned a medal in 2018. Noah is also a talented percussionist and played in his school band and pep band. He plays the bongos, congas, cajón and trap set. Noah has been composing new pieces with a variety of musical concepts.



Hailey Richardson
Idaho
Western Region Winner

My name is **Hailey Richardson** and I live in Meridian, Idaho. I am 15 years old and love music, clogging,

animals, and reading. I am a true middle child, being born right in between two older brothers and two younger sisters. When I was born, my parents were surprised to find out that I did not come with a left hand. While in the hospital, my mom got a call from a dear friend. In an effort to say something of comfort, he told my mom that I would be able

to do everything all the other children did, “just maybe not play the piano.” Boy, did I prove him wrong! My parents tell me that I have always been full of determination, perseverance, and a “need” to keep up with my older brothers. So, when they started learning to play the piano, so did I. I am still learning and growing, and I love it. I have been taking piano lessons since I was 5 years old, and music has become an integral part of my life. In addition to playing the piano, I developed a love for singing while participating in school and church choirs. I also played the trumpet for a brief time when I was in the 6th and 7th grades. I am currently in the process of arranging my own music for a YouTube channel to share my abilities at the piano, and hopefully inspire others. I plan to continue with my musical study vocally and as a pianist. I am eternally grateful to my parents, my family, and each of my music teachers. I want to especially thank my current piano teacher, Jill Call, for constantly pushing me to be the best person I can be, both musically and otherwise.



Reuben Ramos
Massachusetts
Eastern Region
Winner

Reuben Ramos, age 19, has been playing bass since the 4th grade. He played in Boston’s

best youth orchestras, and every musical endeavor at his high school in Brookline, Massachusetts. He has been a winner in several music competitions. He is a member of three community orchestras in the Boston area – the Brookline Symphony Orchestra, the Reading Symphony Orchestra and the Arlington Philharmonic – and frequents as a player in several other projects. During the long at-home-period of the coronavirus he is learning Paganini’s *24 Caprices* on the double bass. Reuben’s teachers have included Irving Steinberg, his older brother, August Ramos and his father Barton Ramos.

Attention Students with Disabilities:

If you are a music student with a disability, are at least 12 years old and will not reach your 19th birthday by **March 1, 2021**, you should seriously consider participating in the Joyce Walsh Junior Disability Award.

Requirements and instructions can be found by going to the **National Federation of Music Clubs website**, and clicking on **Competitions and Awards Junior Division**. Scroll down to the **Joyce Walsh Junior Disability Award** where you will find the necessary information to enter.

Don't hide your talents. Share them with all of us.

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2020 Junior Dance Award

by Mona Nicholas, *NFMC Dance Chair*

All around the globe, as we practice social distancing and sheltering in place, dancers are finding a way to stretch, take class, and create beautiful dance within the confines of their homes. The virtual world that we live in has brought the dance world together as we navigate this worldwide pandemic. Young students have had the opportunity to take virtual class from renowned ballerinas and hear from individual dancers from their

favorite companies. They keep moving and dream of the day that they will be back in their studios and performing in front of a live audience once again.

We were lucky, due to technology, that we did not have to postpone the 2020 Junior Dance Awards, funded by the Agnes Fowler Endowment. All are to be congratulated on their fine performances. **JK**

2020 NFMC Junior Dance Award Winners:

JUNIOR I (Ages 11-14)



Laura Mackenzie Bailey

Age 13
Vicksburg, Mississippi
1st Place: Ballet I
Studies at Debra Franco Preparatory School of Dance



Riley Sharp

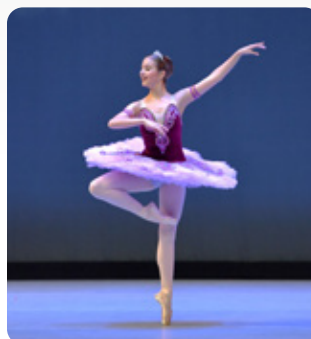
Age 14
Morrow, Ohio
1st Place, Theater Dance I
Student of Claudia Barrett, Andrew and Missy Hubbard



Rylan Liles

Age 13
Vicksburg, Mississippi
2nd Place, Theater Dance I
Studies at Debra Franco Preparatory School of Dance

JUNIOR II (Ages 15-18)



Alexis Grace Workowski

Age 15
Saint Cloud, Florida
1st Place, Ballet II
1st Place, Theater Dance II
Studies at United Ballet Theatre, Joseph Gatti, Artistic Director



Gabby Andrews

Age 15
Vicksburg, Mississippi
2nd Place, Theater Dance II
Studies at Debra Franco Preparatory School of Dance

Correction: The Spring 2020 issue of *Junior Keynotes* described photo of Abigail Richards as 2019 TARBA winner. Please correct that to 2017 TARBA winner. The 2019 TARBA winner was Terri Jean Thomson. We regret the error.

W. Paul Benzinger/ Valentin Music for the Blind Performance Award

Submitted by Lee Ann Cummings,
Chair

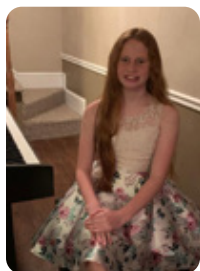


1st Place:
**Campbell
Rutherford**
Tennessee

**Campbell
Rutherford** received
first place in the 2020
W. Paul Benzinger/
Valentin Music for the


Blind Performance Award. She is 17 years old and is finishing her junior year of high school as a homeschooler. She resides in the quiet town of Dandridge, Tennessee, surrounded by the hills and lakes of the foothills of the Appalachians. She has studied piano with Rachel Acuff Ribble through the Suzuki Piano School of Knoxville for nearly 13 years and has studied classical voice with Chelle Hawkey for almost three years.

After high school, Campbell plans to pursue a career in either epidemiology or computer science and would like to continue to explore music at her chosen university. She wishes to continue to spread the joy of music through college and beyond. Besides music, she enjoys reading, creative writing, hiking, math, history, and spending time with her family, friends, and five rescue cats.




2nd Place:
Grace Dewese
Virginia

Grace Dewese
received second place
in the 2020 W. Paul
Benzinger/Valentin
Music for the Blind
Performance Award.

She is a member of Piano Lessons with TLC and has taken piano lessons from Mrs. Terry L. Criner for three years. She is a Girl Scout who enjoys horseback riding, dance and reading Braille. Grace is 11 years old and is the daughter of Michael and Robin Dewese of Salem, Virginia. 

MAY 2-9, 2021


NATIONAL Music Week




It's time to begin planning on how to participate in National Music Week 2021. The dates are May 2-9, 2021. The theme is: *Music... is a Storyteller.*

Step one: Recruit 7-12th graders to write essays for the National Music Week Essay Contest. Using AR13-1 as your guide: the important things to know are the theme: *Music... is a Storyteller*; age group 7th-12th graders do not need to be members of NFMC. Therefore, all 7th-12th graders that you know are eligible to win the \$75 prize in each state.

The steps to win: Complete the entry form AR13-1, write an essay addressing the theme in 500 words or less (Word doc preferred), take a picture of the student with good jpg resolution. When you have these three essentials, go to the NFMC website (nmfc-music.org), find the file upload link and upload all three items to the site. When you've received the successful upload reply please send an email to your regional chair: Mary Ellen Ulmer (NE), Debbie Barnes (SE) or Jan Hansen (Central and West) to let them know to expect your file. The email addresses are all on the AR13-1 form. The deadline is Jan.10, 2021. With the unusual circumstances in our lives this year, I've already received one entry for next year! Don't wait until the last minute to enter.

Maybe there's music written about "Last Minute Composition!" What would it sound like? Would it have lots of staccatos and accents, no discernable melody, lots of meter changes? If you play "The Cat and Mouse," do you hear or imagine which character is in each musical section? If you play "Wedding Day at Troldhaugen" can you hear all the activity and characters that are part of the day? Music is a soundtrack to a story, even if a movie or theater production are never seen! What stories has music told you? 

– **Ellen Leapaldt,**
*NFMC National Music
Week Chair*



State Buzz

ALABAMA

Alabama Junior Convention

Alabama held the Junior Convention on March 7, 2020 (before the state quarantine) at Mineral Springs Baptist Church in Pell City, Alabama. Attendees had a fun filled day with activities including the election of new officers, line-dancing, crafts, singing, a delicious BBQ lunch and an awards recital. Special thank you to Roy Hoobler, AFMC 4th Vice President, for organizing the event.



2020-2021 Officers: Hannah Wilcut-President, Yana Osovskaya- vice president, Phaethon Brown- secretary and Lily Wooten- news gatherer.

FLORIDA

CONGRATULATIONS ...

Florida Junior Counselors and Students!

Florida teachers and students are among the thousands of Federation musicians who have earned stellar awards throughout this year. FFMC is proud to share this sampling of outstanding achievement by our teachers and students.

NMW 2020 ESSAY WINNERS: Florida ... Jonah Garcia, 11th grade – Teacher: Amy Duncan

- FFMC Junior Essay Contest Chair, Marian Cox, is very proud of all the students and teachers who participated in the NFMC National Music Week 2020 Essay Contest!
- Students included: Nadya Smirnova, Safin Karim, Olivia Shore, Jonah Garcia, Rachel Nicholson, Jeremy Nicholson, Abigail Pereira, Aarna Shah and Diahann Booth.
- Teachers included: Amy Duncan, Suzanne Herman. Amy Duncan.

Laura Miller, Victoria Schultz, Eleanora Levando and Marian Cox.

NFMC/FFMC Junior Composer Contest – Suzanne Hermann, FFMC State Chair, reported that 24 students participated, and several were recognized at the national level.

- Participating students: Margaret Conti, Samuel Bernbaum, Madison Lee, Harper Wilcox, Gustavo Membrano, Grace Fernainy, Elias Fernainy, Auva Natasha Farahani, Amelia Alvarez, Zoey Thomas, Anna Fang, Nicole Fang, Daisy Spalkding, Alex Fullerton, Andre Botero, Ellianna Estrada, Albert Wang Isaac Thomas Jacob High Raaz Jasani, Vito Geraci, Raul Rodriguez, Marco A. Jimenez, and Emily Singleton.
- Participating Teachers: Lucy Warren, Nightingale Ngo, Suzanne Herman, Bonnie Synhorst, Maria Gomez, Lev Gurevich, Amy Duncan, Cindy Semmen, August Berger, Hilton Kean Jones, and Stephen Fine.
- Students Recognized at the National Level:
 - Class 1 – South East Region – Honorable Menton: Isaac Thomas
 - Class 2 – Incentive Award: Elias Fernainy
 - Class 3 – Incentive Award: Margaret Conti
 - Class 4 – Incentive Award: Marco A. Jimenez
 - Strings Award – Emily Singleton

WENDELL IRISH STRING AWARD – South East Region Winner: Emily Singleton – Teacher: Stephen Fine

NFMC Festival Cup Program – Florida has thirteen Grand Cup recipients and two President Cup recipients!

One of several NFMC/FFMC Cup Awards:

Grand Cup (75 points) awarded to Kathy Liu, pianist. Teachers: Mr. Vladimir Khokhlov and Professor Kenneth Hanks. Kathy recently graduated from Land O Lakes High School in Florida and will be attending Johns Hopkins University.

Michelle Zhu graduated this spring from American Heritage School in Plantation, FL. During her 12 years of study with Maria Gomez, Michelle has placed in the solo category at the State Junior Convention, and, with her sister, has won first place in the duet category many times. Michelle has also completed the FSMTA Student Day exams, with honors, through Level 12. She will attend Carnegie Mellon University this fall, where she is planning to major in computer science and math, and to continue her piano studies.



Michelle Zhu

LOUISIANA

Ella Otken, a student of Melanie Rushing in Denham Springs, LA, won three 12 year Superior cups in the LFMF festivals in piano solos, hymns and duets. She is also a 13-year member of the Livingston Parish Children's Choirs auditioned Chorale, has sung in the LA. All State Honor Choirs for eight years and in the Gifted Talented Music and Drama school programs. She won first place in the Baton Rouge Music Teachers Allen Fleming Competition and second place



Ella Otken

in LMTA State Rally in 2019. She will graduate from Denham Springs High School with a 4.34 GPA taking 12 AP classes. Ella is the first place winner in the LA. VFW Voice of Democracy and one of three students in the U.S. to receive the Presidential Volunteer Service Award. She was a summer intern with Senator Bill Cassidy and volunteers for Mighty Moms, Blue Star Moms, and the Ochsner Cancer Center of Baton Rouge. She plans to attend LSU with a major in Biological Sciences and a minor in Political Science.

SOUTH DAKOTA

The South Dakota Federation of Music Clubs (SDFMC) recently awarded \$1,000 scholarships to two university students for the 2020-2021 school year. Recipients include Sylvia Kattner of Huron and William Reynolds of Brookings.

Sylvia Kattner is a sophomore at South Dakota State University (SDSU) and majoring in music education with an emphasis on voice. On campus she is active in Concert Choir, Choralia, and Pride of the Dakotas Marching Band. Kattner is also the co-founder of and lead vocalist for the Christian Contemporary Band, Trinity Hill.

William Reynolds is a third year student at SDSU majoring in music education with an emphasis on trumpet. He participates in Jazz Ensemble One, Wind Symphony, Pride of the Dakotas Marching Band, the SDSU-Civic Symphony and the Singing Statesman during the school year. For the past three years, Reynolds has been one of only 18 world-wide winners of the International Trumpet Guild Conference Scholarship Competition.

A panel of four judges selected the recipients based upon a 10-15 minute audition video, school and community involvement, GPA, an essay on why he/she deserves and wants the scholarship plus his/her music goals, and teacher recommendation letters. For more information, contact Barb Valer at jbvaler@hur.midco.net.

Submitted by Lori Jessen

This year the Great Plains Federated Music Club of South Dakota sponsored a contest that

was a bit of a departure from our regular ones. We had a request from a member to submit a digital performance for one of our other contests, and that got us to thinking that we should just have a contest where the performers would submit video auditions.

Thus, was born the Baroque Bonanza. We already have a contest that focuses on sonatas and sonatinas; this time we wanted to encourage students to perform Baroque repertoire, either original or arranged. We utilized Google Forms and Google Classroom to be able to upload the registrations. After everything was uploaded, we just gave the judge the login info, and it was a breeze.

Oh, and did I mention, we planned this contest in November 2019? How providential it was that during May 2020, when the contest was



Sylvia Kattner



William Reynolds



held, there would be a necessity for just this type of activity to keep our students engaged in music.

Our students certainly enjoyed earning cash prizes for all their hard work, and the teachers thought it was a good way to keep students pursuing musical goals after Festival (and during the shutdown of virtually all other activities). We are definitely going to keep this contest going and hope to have instrumental and vocal entries next time in addition to piano.

If you want more information about our Baroque Bonanza, please feel free to contact me. I'd be happy to share what we have done so that you can adapt it for your club.

WISCONSIN

Wisconsin 2020 High Achievement Award

Submitted by Katie Warrichaiet, High Achievement State Chair

Wisconsin's talented winner of the High Achievement Award for 2020 is **Thomas O'Shea**. Thomas is a current student of Julie Mazer of the Madison Federation Music Club, and has studied with Julie for the past 12 years. Thomas is a graduating senior from Madison West High School. The High Achievement Award is a very competitive \$500 award. Thomas O'Shea is well deserving of this honor. Congratulations go to him and his teacher Julie Mazer.

Thomas has been a dedicated musician from an early age. He was a member of the Shorewood Hills Musical Theater from 2008 – 2016. He has participated in the Wisconsin Federation of Music Clubs Junior Festivals since 2009, earning a Superior rating every year. He feels that he has learned the importance of hard work and dedication to a project by performing in the festivals.

High achievement is more than just about yourself. Thomas also demonstrates high achievement by volunteering with a piano concert at The Gardens Nursing Home. He offers service to his community not only with his music, but also with his activities as an Eagle Scout. He shows leadership by being the Acapella group leader and the teaching assistant for the Madison West High School's choir teacher Mr. Anthony Cao. As a teaching assistant, he runs sectionals, singing with Baritone voices, teaches songs, and leads warm ups.

Thomas' future will be to pursue a degree in music at UW Oshkosh beginning in the Fall 2020, with an emphasis in audio recording and music business. Thomas states, "I intend to use my music degree to become a music producer, manager, sound engineer, and singer. I want to help musicians develop their sound, and push their content to the greatest audience." Thomas also will be continuing his piano education with Dr. Eli Kalman while attending UW Oshkosh.

Peggy Radmer Music Scholarship

Submitted by Bonnie Hillmer, Chair

The Wisconsin Federation of Music Clubs is happy to announce that **Lydia Sladek** of De Pere is our 2020 Peggy Radmer Scholarship recipient. Lydia is a piano student of Mary Larson, member of the Bay Area Adult Music Club.



Thomas O'Shea



Lydia Sladek

Lydia states that, “being a part of the creation of music is a completely new and inspiring experience” and that she wants “to exemplify the joy and the life lessons that come with learning to play music.”

Lydia has been a student of Mary for the past 10 years. Of Lydia, Mary states that she is “a very delightful, well-balanced young lady with a great deal of maturity” ... “is very dedicated to her piano studies, always very prepared and capable of playing at a very advanced level”...has “a keen sense of attention to detail in all her artistic interpretations.” Along with Mary’s praise, Lydia also received praise from her Honors Chemistry teacher, Deb Corriveau, at Notre Dame Academy. Deb sates that Lydia is “a friendly, hard-working student with excellent ability in the science area

and possesses strong, logical problem-solving skills.”

Lydia is a member of the school’s National Honor Society and an officer in Future Business Leaders of America.

Lydia plans to use her scholarship money towards furthering her education at UW-Madison where she plans to study Business. She is also looking forward to continuing her love of music as a member of the UW-Madison Marching Band.

Lydia exemplifies the type of individual deserving of this scholarship. Our congratulations go to Lydia in receiving this scholarship and best wishes for success in her future endeavors. **DK**



Mary Alice Cox Award Winners

By Matt Miller, *Chair*

I am excited to announce the winners of the 2020

Mary Alice Cox Award. This year brought amazing talent and I am very excited for these three dedicated musicians and their future in music!

The Mary Alice Cox Award was established in 2003 to honor Mary Alice Cox of Muncie, Indiana, for her service as Editor of *Junior Keynotes* magazine from 1983 to 2001. This award is available for a cellist or double bass player to further their music study. Awards of \$2,000 (1st place), \$1,500 (2nd place), and \$1,000 (3rd place) are given each year to eligible students in the NFMC Junior Division. The goal of this award is to encourage young string players toward a musical career.

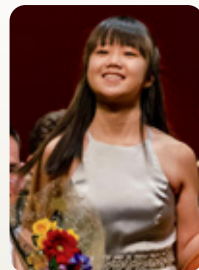


1st Place:
Jack Boettcher
Illinois

The 2020 first place winner is cellist, **Jack Boettcher** from Naperville, IL. Jack performed

Humoresque and Shostakovich with precise articulation and had total command of his instrument. Jack has studied cello with Hans Jorgen Jensen, Sally Gross, and studies music with Sooka Wang. In 2019, he was named the National Young Arts Foundation

Winner and was a finalist for the Stulberg International String Competition. In addition to performing on cello, Jack is also an active composer and arranger who was selected by the Chicago Bulls Talent Search to perform “LeBron James Bites the Dust,” his own arrangement of Queen’s classic hit at a Bulls halftime show. Jack attends Harvard University where he plays with the Harvard Radcliffe Orchestra and participates in the chamber program under the Parker Quartet, he is also part of MINHUET, a group of musicians who play at local nursing homes.



2nd Place:
Lexine Feng
Georgia

The second place winner is cellist, **Lexine Feng** from Atlanta. Lexine performed the Herbert Cello

Concerto No.2 and Bach Cello Suite No.5 displaying exceptional technique and expression during her performance. Lexine studies cello with Wendy Warner, professor at Columbus State University and has also studied with Martha Gerschefski and Guang Wang. Lexine has won recent competitions, including the Samuel Fordis Young Artists Concerto Competition and the DeKalb Symphony Young Artists Concerto Competition. Her desire and self-

drive has led her to performing at Carnegie Hall and she is currently the Principal cellist of the Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra. In addition, Lexine is home schooled and dual enrolls at Georgia State University and also enjoys playing cello in her church.



3rd Place:
Nicholas Boettcher
Illinois

The third place winner is bassist, **Nicholas Boettcher** from Naperville, IL. Nicholas

performed Koussevitzky and Vittorio Monti Czardas with precise technique and mature expression. Nicholas currently studies double bass with Andy Anderson and music with Sooka Wang, he had previously studied with Sally Gross. Nicholas was named the National YoungArts Foundation Winner for 2020 and was also a finalist in the Chicago Symphony Orchestra’s Young Artist Competition. In addition to studying and performing on the double bass, Nicholas also donates time to a program he created called, “No Repeats.” This program provides opportunities for teens who are incarcerated, teaching them how to play musical instruments and develop an appreciation for music that hopefully helps reduce the risk of re-entry into the criminal justice system. **JK**

2020-21 NFMC Awards-at-a-Glance



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS

President: Frances Nelson

2020-2021 COMPETITIONS AND AWARDS CHART

Chair: Competitions and Awards Board & Division

Dr. George Keck, 2112 Hinson Rd #23, Little Rock, AR 72212, keckg@att.net

Application form numbers listed can be found on the NFMC website: www.nfmc-music.org

BIENNIAL JUNIOR AWARDS

Junior age: Must not have reached the 19th birthday by March 1.

Name	Category	Age Limit	Entry Fee	Amount of Award	Deadline for Application	Application Form #	NFMC Chair
NFMC Claire Ulrich Whitehurst (Flanagan) Piano Awards	PIANO SOLO	High School: Grades 10-11-12 Must not have reached 18 th birthday by application deadline	\$10	\$500 1 st Place (for further study) \$250 2 nd Place	March 1, even numbered years	JR 14-2	Suzanne Carpenter PO Box 357275 Gainesville, FL 32635 treasurer@nfmc-music.org
NFMC Lynn Freeman Olson Composition Awards	COMPOSITION	Intermediate: Grades 7-8-9 High School: Grades 10-11-12	Paid by private donor	\$500 (Intermediate) \$1,000 (High School)	March 1, odd numbered years	JR 8-2	James Schnars 331 Cleveland St. #804 Clearwater, FL 33755 727-400-4305
NFMC Thelma A. Robinson Award in Ballet honoring a Past National President	BALLET	Must have reached the 13 th but not the 19 th birthday by January 1, odd-numbered years)	\$20	\$2,500	February 1, even numbered years	JR 10-2	Jeannine Morris 200 Country Club Dr SE Warren OH 44484-4660 330-392-5690 Jkmorris2@gmail.com

ANNUAL JUNIOR AWARDS

Members of the Junior Division should also check NFMC Summer Scholarships, as various age levels are included in Summer Music Center opportunities.

Name	Category	Age Limit	Entry Fee	Amount of Award	Deadline for Application	Application Form #	NFMC Chair
NFMC Martha Marcks Mack Junior Vocal Award	VOCAL	High School Grades: 10 – 11 – 12 Must not have reached the 19 th birthday by application deadline	\$10	\$1,500 - 1 st Place \$1,000 - 2 nd Place \$500 – 3 rd Place	March 1	JR 21-2	Kristin Ivers 1419 Keller Ave Williamsport, PA 17701 Kivers210@gmail.com
NFMC Lana M. Bailey Piano Concerto Awards Honoring a Past National President	PIANO CONCERTO	High School Senior who has not reached the 19 th birthday by May 1	\$10	\$1,000 – 1 st Place \$500 – 2 nd Place	May 1	JR 20-2	Delores Blaser 4404 Heritage drive, Lawrence, KS 66047 dblaser@sunflower.com
NFMC Joyce Walsh Junior Disability Awards	INSTRUMENTAL AND VOCAL	Must have reached the 12 th but not the 19 th birthday by application deadline	\$10	\$2,000—1 st Place \$1,500—2 nd Place 1 award of \$1,000 in each of the five regions.	March 1	JR 16-2	Dr. J. D. Kelly 3204 Ashwood Dr Jonesboro, AR 72404 jkelly@astate.edu
NFMC Herman and Mary Neumann Award to Interlochen Arts Academy	PIANO, VOICE, ORCHESTRAL INSTRUMENTS	Must be in High School	NONE	\$1,000	February 1		Interlochen Arts Academy Interlochen MI 49643
NFMC Stillman Kelley National Instrumental Awards	INSTRUMENTAL	Must not have reached the 19 th birthday by March 1	\$10	\$1,500 – 1 st Place (for further study) \$750 – 2 nd Place \$500 – 3 rd Place 5 regional awards @ \$250 each	March 1	JR 13-2	Laurie Marshall 4021 Ravinia Ter Saint Joseph MI 49085 laurie@thechildrensacademy.us
NFMC Thelma Byrum Piano Award in Stillman Kelley Auditions. (Kelley & Byrum awards cannot be applied for separately)	PIANO			\$500 for further study			
NFMC Benzinger/Valentin Junior Music for the Blind Performance Awards	INSTRUMENTAL AND VOCAL	Must have reached the 10 th birthday but not the 19 th birthday by application deadline	\$10	\$1,000 – 1 st Place \$500 – 2 nd Place 1 - \$250 award in each of the five NFMC Regions	March 1	JR 18-2	Lee Ann Cummings 146 W Pinebrook Dr Brandon, MS 39047 cummings-lee28@att.net

NFMC Dance Awards (Jazz, Lyrical or Tap)	BALLET and THEATER DANCE	Must have reached the 11 th but not the 19 th birthday by application deadline	\$10	Age 11-14: Ballet and/or Theater Dance (Jazz, Lyrical or Tap) \$200 – 1 st Place \$100 – 2 nd Place Age 15-18: Ballet and/or Theater Dance (Jazz, Lyrical or Tap) \$400 – 1 st Place \$200 – 2 nd Place	May 1	JR 17-2	Lena Foster 247 Headwater Dr. Greenwood, SC 29749 864-386-0416 lena@internationalballetsc.org
NFMC Mary Alice Cox Awards	CELLO OR DOUBLE BASS	Must not have reached the 19 th birthday as of application deadline	\$20	\$2,000 – 1 st Place \$1,500 – 2 nd Place \$1,000 – 3 rd Place	March 1	JR 9-2	Matt Miller 13819 W. National Ave New Berlin, WI 53151 mattmillerbass@aol.com
NFMC Agnes Fowler Junior Blind Composition Award	COMPOSITION	Must have reached the 10 th but not the 19 th birthday by application deadline	\$10 per manuscript	\$1,000	March 1	JR 15-2	Lee Ann Cummings 146 W Pinebrook Dr Brandon, MS 39047 cummings-lee28@att.net
NFMC Angie Greer Music in Poetry Awards	POETRY	Must not have reached the 19 th birthday by February 1	\$5	Five \$100 awards	February 1	JR 12-1	Jordon Young 1208 Pioneer Ave. St. Joseph MI 49085 Jordon.young@outlook.com
NFMC National Music Week Essay Contest	ESSAY	Must be in grades 7 through 12	NONE	\$75 in each of the 50 states	January 10	AR 13-1	Ellen Leapaldt 10612 24 th St E Edgewood, WA 98372 museiff@msn.com
NFMC Wendell Irish Viola Awards	VIOLA	Must have reached the 12 th but not the 19 th birthday by application deadline	\$10	\$1,750 – 1 st Place \$1,000 – 2 nd Place One \$300 Award in each of the 5 NFMC Regions	March 1	JR 11-2	Dr. George Keck 2112 Hinson Rd. #23 Little Rock, AR 72212 keckg@att.net
Marilyn Caldwell Piano Awards	PIANO SOLO	High School Grades 10-11-12	\$10	\$1,000 – 1 st Place \$500 – 2 nd Place	March 1	JR 19-2	Linda Lind 8905 Longmead Court Burke VA 22015 lindalindva@gmail.com
NFMC Michael R. Edwards Graduating Senior Performance Award honoring a Past National President	SCHOLARSHIP FOR MUSIC MAJOR	Graduating HS Senior year of the award	\$20	\$4,000	May 1	JR 22-1	Michael R. Edwards 3900 Galt Ocean Dr #317 Fort Lauderdale FL 33308 micedwards@aol.com

JUNIOR COMPOSERS

Chair: Pat Steege, 1028 Roughlock Lane, Spearfish, SD 57783; psteege@mjssecurity.com

Name	Age Limit	Entry Fee	Amount of Award	Application Form #	Deadline for Application
Class I	9 and under	\$5 per entry plus state entry fee	\$150-1 st Place, \$125-2 nd Place, and 2 incentive awards of \$100 each	JR 7-2	February 1 to State Chair
Class II	10-12	\$5 per entry plus state entry fee	\$175-1 st Place, \$125-2 nd Place, and 2 incentive awards of \$100 each	JR 7-2	February 1 to State Chair
Class III	13-15	\$5 per entry plus state entry fee	\$225-1 st Place, \$175-2 nd Place, and \$150-3 rd -Place John and Margaret Pierson award; 3 incentive awards of \$125 each	JR 7-2	February 1 to State Chair
Class IV	16-18	\$5 per entry plus state entry fee	\$300-1 st Place, \$200-2 nd Place, \$150-3 rd Place Olga Klein Nelson Award, and 4 incentive awards of \$150 each \$250—Outstanding string composition \$150—Outstanding piano composition, Laura K. Wilson Memorial Award honoring Dorothy Dann Bullock	JR 7-2	February 1 to State Chair
NFMC Oscar Valentin Regional Awards		Included in fee above; Not to be applied for separately	Class I: 2 at \$100 in the five Regions Class II: 2 at \$100 in the five Regions Class III: 3 awards at \$100 in the five Regions Class IV: 3 awards at \$100 in the five Regions		

See Instructions for Award Applicants on the following page ➔



Instructions for Award Applicants

COMPETITION AND AWARDS (C&A) CHART

The C&A Chart may be downloaded from nfm-music.org or ordered from NFMC Headquarters, 1646 Smith Valley Road, Greenwood IN 46142. The Chart includes only endowed NFMC Awards. Check Individual State Federation websites for possible additional awards.

APPLICATION FORMS, INFORMATION AND SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Award requirements and application forms are available on the NFMC website, nfm-music.org, or contact the Chair of the specific award.

All NFMC award applications must be submitted online by uploading them to the NFMC website.

U.S. CITIZENSHIP REQUIREMENT

Applicants for individual awards must be native-born/naturalized U.S. citizens. (Exceptions: Lynn Freeman Olson Composition, Lynn Freeman Olson Piano Pedagogy Award, Ruth Morse Wilson Handbell Award and International Music Camp – at least 50% of IMC award recipients must be U.S. citizens.)

NFMC MEMBERSHIP

Applicants must be NFMC members either by individual, organizational or associate group affiliation before applications are accepted. (Exceptions: Young Artist Awards, Ellis Piano Duo Awards, National Music Week Essay, Ruth Morse Wilson Handbell Award, Centennial Chamber Music Commendation, Summer Music Center Awards, and the three Armed Forces Awards.) Application forms include specific membership information.

Note: In competitions requiring NFMC membership, applicants must hold membership in the division in which the competition is listed (e.g. Junior entrants must be members of the Junior Division; Student entrants of the Student/Collegiate Division, etc.)


FIRST PLACE WINNER LIMITATIONS

- No individual may enter, in the same year, competitions in multiple divisions even if they hold membership in more than one division.
- No first place winner of an individual NFMC award listed in the C&A Chart is eligible to compete again for the same award. (Exceptions: NFMC Veterans Awards where entrants may win first place awards multiple times but not consecutively, and the Jr. Composers competition in which first place winners may compete in a different category but not the same category.)
- First place winners of Arts and American Music Division monetary awards may win first place multiple times, but not consecutively. (Exception: National Music Week Essay Contest)

THE NFMC

The NFMC, a not-for-profit organization, is dedicated to MUSIC EDUCATION and promotion of CREATIVE and PERFORMING ARTS in AMERICA.

Since its founding in 1898, the NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS has grown into one of the world's largest music organizations with Junior, Student and Adult clubs and individual members. The NFMC is chartered by the Congress of the United States and is a member of the United Nations. Dedicated to finding and fostering young musical talent, the NFMC offers more than three quarters of a million dollars annually in state and national competitions.

Anyone wishing to become a NFMC member, subscribe to magazines, receive literature or make a tax-exempt contribution may contact the National Headquarters. For more information about the Federation, visit the website listed below. 

National Federation of Music Clubs

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