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The Voice of Music

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VFMC-music.org



President's Prose

As I sit in my office working on the State Evaluation Reports for the last time, I realize just how much positive energy emanates from all of the VFMC Clubs. Even the clubs that are Festival - Only are full of motivation and encouragement. Our lives are built around those things that we believe in – family, faith, home, children, music. These things are important to us in different ways and in varying degrees. If we can focus our lives on that which is important to us, it provides a feeling of purpose and accomplishment. Music is the common interest we all share and it is music that motivates us and brings us together. Serving as VFMC President has allowed me to focus on things that motivate me. I have realized that it is not enough to feel fulfilled. It is important to pass that feeling on to others. Our younger generation, while they may be learning the technics of music, also has a need to share in our success and knowledge. We need to motivate them to continue in our footsteps through the federation. Make sure that your juniors know about the federation, local clubs and activities and how to focus their knowledge and skills into positive energy. Teach them about your Federation experiences. Our Juniors need to know that music is not all we are about. They need to know the federation! They need to know how to take your teachings and move forward towards their goal and fulfillment. It is what you do with your knowledge that really adds purpose and structure to your lives.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your VFMC President for the past 6 years. I look forward to future VFMC projects and continued success through the federation.

With much love,

Marcia B. Chaplin, President
Virginia Federation of Music Clubs



VFMC Convention

The District I Convention Planning Committee has been working diligently to ensure that the 94th VFMC convention in Roanoke on April 30 – May 2, 2015 will run smoothly and entertain all who attend.

This year's convention theme is "Music in the Star City." The schedule is somewhat different from previous conventions beginning with registration on Thursday at 11:30 followed by VFMC committee meetings. A dinner honoring VFMC officers and their dedication will begin at 5:30.

Dr. Liana Valente, soprano, from Centreville, VA will present a workshop and performance at 7:00 pm on Thursday evening. She has performed across the United States, is a member of the NFMC and is the SE Chair of Music in Schools and Colleges. Club members are in for a treat.

Formal opening of the convention will begin at 9:30 on Friday morning. District I is excited to have Ms. Rosie Troxel and her harp students perform during the musical interludes prior to the Formal Banquet. Ms. Troxel is a member of the Lynchburg Music Teachers Association. At 8:15 pm, NFMC Ellis Piano Duo Competition Winners, Tiffany Delgado and Hilary Mauler – One Piano, Four Hands will perform.

Saturday morning 8:00 – 10:00 - Club President's and District Directors Breakfast.

Please join us for the Club Presidents' report and discussions. This meeting and breakfast is open to everyone.

We hope you will stay for the Master Class with our juniors and a buffet lunch followed by the final performance of our Mary Smart Competition winners.

Ellen Schaack,
District I Director

Nancy Hoback Milne Citation

Time is drawing near to get your nomination in for the Nancy Hoback Milne Citation. The deadline is April 20, that's just around the corner. The committee is ready to receive this year's Citation nominees. Please send your nominees to my email address: stury@earthlink.net If any further information is needed please call me at 703-494-6342 or send an email. The committee and I are looking forward to your nominees. Remember that all nominees must be from District I.

Susan Tury, Chair

VFMC Junior Composers Contest

The VFMC Junior Composers Contest continues to increase in popularity! This year we had 128 entries representing the studios of 16 teachers. The top two winners in each division advanced on to the Southeastern Region contest. Three of our Virginia entries were winners there and have now gone on to the National competition!

Our Southeastern Region had 306 entries, so this contest is very competitive. On our state level, in order to give each student an equal chance, the judges did not know the names of the teachers or in which part of the state the students lived. They only had the scores and the CD's to use to make their decisions.

Certificates were awarded to all of the participants. The monetary winners were sent checks. All students and teachers received a list of the winners.

Reminder: the new point system applies to all four classes. This will be reflected in the gold cup lists when they are returned to the teachers.

Superior: 8 points for a composition with 2 instruments or more

Superior: 7 points for a composition with one instrument

Excellent: 6 points

Satisfactory: 5 points

Fair: 3 points

Congratulations to our winners! Thank you to all the teachers and students who entered. Next year's contest deadline will be in January.

Chairman: Nathalie Steinbach

National Music Week

*Let your community know about your club
Music...Heartbeat of the Soul*

One of the best ways to let your community know about your club is to observe National Music Week during the week of May 3-10. Take advantage of student recitals, school music programs such as end of the year Band and Choir concerts. Contact the local directors and ask if you can promote their programs during that week and include a logo and information about your local club and the federation in their programs.

You may be surprised at the response of these educators as they long for recognition in the community. You would be helping to promote their school music programs, and elevating your own club's purpose, as well.

There is ample information to help you get started on the website under the Arts Division. Look at the brochure, the poster, the coloring page for elementary school use, etc. You can begin now by gathering information to share with your clubs. May will be upon us quickly, so begin now. I encourage you to get involved with this yearly event. Begin simply. It is not a hard task and you will be delighted at the results.

Judy Barger Edgell, Chair of National Music Week

Student Scholarships

Please let your students know about the scholarships we have available. Or if you contact me, I'll send them the information they need.

Student Scholarships: nfmc-music.org, NFMC Publications. Anything with an ST prefix is for Students.

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Portsmouth Music Club

Portsmouth Music Club will observe National Music Week with a concert that has become a tradition for the community. "Music for an Olde Towne Afternoon" will be held at Monumental Methodist Church, Sunday, May 3rd at 3pm in Olde Towne Portsmouth. The performances will include an organ recital on an outstanding pipe organ and a vocal ensemble from Old Dominion University. This concert benefits our scholarship fund. All are invited to attend.

Portsmouth Music Club will complete another successful musical year as of May 27, our annual Scholarship Luncheon. At this time, our scholarship winners will perform for us at this special program in their honor which concludes our season. We look forward to the growth in musical ability that these young people demonstrate and feel fortunate that we have played a small part in their development. This has been a year of wonderful programs and musical experiences for members and guests. We look forward to another successful musical year and welcome all visitors if you are in the Tidewater area. We meet at WestSide Christian Church, 535 Cherokee Road, Portsmouth, VA 23701 on the fourth Wed. except for Nov. and Dec.(3rd Wed.) For more information, please contact Susan Cross, President, 757-465-0955.

Susan Cross, President
Portsmouth Music Club, Portsmouth, VA.

Woodbridge Music Club

The Woodbridge Music Club has had a busy season, and it has hosted several exciting recent events. Laura Riski, the Co-Chair of the Scholarship Committee, mentioned that, "On March 14, 2015, 55 students (46 piano, 4 vocal, 5 instrumental) participated in The Thomaidis/Woodbridge Music Club Scholarship Competition at St. Paul United Methodist Church in Woodbridge. The following winners (see attached list) performed a wonderful recital the next day and received certificates and their checks."

Also, the club presented flutist, Geoffrey Crowley, and pianist, Dr. Patricia Parker, in a recital on Saturday, March 21 at Westminster at Lake Ridge. Many members of the Westminster retirement community

attended, along with various other residents of Northern Virginia.

The Woodbridge Music Club is looking forward to a performance on Saturday, April 18 by the Navy Band Quarter Deck Consort, which will take place at 7pm at Westminster at Lake Ridge. The following weekend, the club will feature its composer members in a Member Composers' Concert on Saturday, April 25 at 7pm at St. Paul United Methodist Church.

The final concert of the Woodbridge Music Club's 2014-15 season will feature pianist, Alon Goldstein, in a concert on Saturday, May 9 at 7pm at Westminster at Lake Ridge.

Rappahannock Music Society

Springtime in Fredericksburg is a busy time for the Rappahannock Music Society! On February 28, many of our teachers participated in the VFMC Junior Music Festival in Manassas.

The next weekend we held our 22nd annual Sonata/Sonatina festival at the University of Mary Washington. This event is open not only to piano students but all instruments and voice. We had 207 entries representing the studios of 20 teachers. Each student performed a movement of a sonata or sonatina and received comments from two judges, a certificate and lovely red rosette ribbon. The size of the ribbon depends on the number of years of participation. We had 2 students receive a 12 year ribbon! They started participating in this event when they were in first grade. That is a long commitment.

Next we held our annual Scholarship Auditions with 36 students entering the event. There are 6 categories that included music by both American and non-American composers and a special High School Senior award. Eighteen Winners were selected and they performed at our Honors Recital on March 29.

Also in March held our annual Gold Cup Recital honoring students who received a gold cup this year. Each teacher is allowed four entries. This is always a successful recital.

Coming up in April and May, events include our annual spring luncheon, installation of new officers, National Music Week recitals and a display at the library.



The attached picture is from our 30th birthday party in October 2014. These are the past presidents of the Rappahannock Music Society who attended the event. If you wish to use this photo I can email it to you as a Jpeg



Past Presidents of the Rappahannock Music Society
With our state president Marcia Chaplin
at our 30th birthday celebration October 6, 2014

Left to right:

Elin Havrilla, Debra Hewitt, Beth Duncan,
Marcia Chaplin

Cindy Steinbach, Nackie Steinbach and Sandra
Anderson

Nackie Steinbach, President
Rappahannock Music Society

Piedmont Music Club

Piedmont Music Club has had some wonderful master classes this year with the guest artists of the Manassas Symphony Orchestra, which we support. In May, we will have our final master class at the beautiful Hylton Performing Arts Center on the Manassas Campus of George Mason University. This is a time for students to come perform for the guest artist, who then gives feedback and helpful suggestions for the student. It has been a lot of fun and very interesting for all in attendance. In March, we had 4 student piano duets perform and receive comments from the NFMC Ellis Piano Duo Tiffany Delgado and Hillary Mauler. Please see the pictures below. Our next master class will be with Dmitri Shteinberg, pianist.



We will also be sponsoring a workshop on Performance Anxiety on April 26 with Dr. Noa Kageyama from Julliard. He is an expert in performance psychology and an incredible performer. He will coach students, teachers, and musicians of all ages on how to cope with performance anxiety.

“Music
speaks what cannot be expressed
soothes the mind and gives it rest
heals the heart and makes it whole
flows from heaven to the soul.”