

Winter 2014



# The Voice of Music

An official publication of the Virginia Federation of Music Clubs

[VFMC-music.org](http://VFMC-music.org)



## President's Prose

Dear Members,

The Holiday Season is here, the weather is cold...spring can't be too far away. This is a time of celebration and we all have much to celebrate. I know the members of Bristol Music Club in District I have really been celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with music activities, luncheons and a fashion show. I was pleased to attend a celebration of their history early this fall. Springfield Music Club in District II is now half a century young and Rappahannock Music Society turned a youthful 30. Congratulations to each of these clubs and their members. Of course, each club gained a year of experience and wisdom. We tend to celebrate the special milestones, but every year is important and each of the clubs in Virginia are important and special.

I have enjoyed reading the reports from the Club President's. These reports were presented at the District Meetings. If you have not sent a copy of your District Report to me, please do so. I have discontinued reports at the Board Meeting, but Club Reports are still required at the District Meetings. The VFMC Data Base is coming together slowly. Thank you to all the Club Presidents who have worked on this project with me, and to all those "behind the scenes" members. I know some of you are still concerned about your data being accessible on the web and I hope to assure you that this data base is not for public use nor will it be shared outside the federation. Many of you have declined to have your information contained in the data base – I understand your concerns and hope you will see the importance of the data base and realize that it is safe. The data base is something that will be vital to the federation and its members. The year 2015 is a Federation election year, and all members are needed to make this process successful. All VFMC Officers' positions are changing as are all committee chairmen posts. Each of you owes it to yourself and the federation to consider accepting a position in the federation. Research the committees and talk to the chairmen. Find out what each position requires. I am sure you will find one that fits your personality, experience and available time. The VFMC Officers will be nominated by the nominating committee. If you have questions or are interested in an elected position (President, 1st, 2nd, 3rd Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary), please contact your District Director or Linda Lind (Chairman of Nominating Committee). I encourage you to take part in this very important aspect of your federation. Let your voice and your ideas be heard.

Meanwhile, please schedule time on your calendar for the VFMC Convention in Roanoke April 30 – May 2, 2015. There will be a lot of programs for our juniors during this convention. Saturday, May 2 will offer the Mary Smart Competition Finals as well as a Master Class by Kwan Yi and a few surprises. If you are a teacher, start talking to your students about participating in the Saturday program. Get them excited about the federation. Let them know that they are a part of this organization too. More information about the VFMC Convention and "Junior Day" will be posted on the VFMC Web Site shortly.

Best wishes to all of you for a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Marcia B. Chapin, President  
Virginia Federation of Music Clubs



## Membership

Calling all Individual Members: Cradle Roll, Junior Individual, Collegiate/Student, Senior and Life.

These are the classifications of Individual Membership in the VFMC and the NFMC.

Cradle Roll Membership is the beginning of a lifelong journey. The fee is just \$25; starts at birth and continues to the sixth birthday. Junior Individual Membership is for young people under 19 years of age; Collegiate/Student takes in ages 19 through 26; Senior Membership goes on from there.

Life Membership is conferred on those on payment of the Life Membership Fee of \$200 and Lifers have all the privileges of active membership and are exempt from state and national annual dues. Life Members receive a complimentary one-year subscription to *Music Clubs Magazine* and the VFMC covers the subscription for subsequent years.

The VFMC is proud to have many Life Members and are hoping to increase that number. Think about giving the gift of a Life Membership. What a wonderful way to honor those who have given to the Virginia Federation of Music Clubs.

Linda D. Lind, Individual Membership Chairman

## Student Auditions and Scholarships

### STUDENT AUDITIONS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Student auditions will be held January 15, 2015. Please contact any students (age 19-26) who you think might be interested in competing. Also, let students know about the scholarships we have available. Or if you contact me, I'll send them the information they need.

**Student Auditions:** [nfmc-music.org](http://nfmc-music.org), **NFMC Publications, Auditions**

The forms they will need are **ST1-3, ST1-4, ST1-5, and ST1-15**

**Student Scholarships:** [nfmc-music.org](http://nfmc-music.org), **NFMC Publications.** Anything with an **ST** prefix is for Students.

Nancy Turner  
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## Junior Composers Contest

This competition is held on the state, region and national levels. All entries must be submitted first to the state chairman by postmark deadline of January 15, 2015. In 2014 we had 124 entries in the VFMC Contest representing the studios of 16 teachers. 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 and a letter from our president Marcia Chaplin. All students and teachers received a list of the winners.

Also our state of Virginia had two National winners!  
**Students earn points towards gold cups in composition.**

The VFMC also offers numerous monetary awards as well as honorable mention certificates. Compositions winning First and Second place in each class will receive State awards and then be sent to the Regional Chairman for further judging. The winning compositions of the Region will be forwarded to the National Chairman for the final competition.

For lots of information, rules, gold cup points and forms, visit the VFMC Website [www.vfmc-music.org](http://www.vfmc-music.org)

Login

Go to teacher information

Resource manual Junior Counselors

Look for Junior Composers Contest

[ymsfred@earthlink.net](mailto:ymsfred@earthlink.net)

If you have any questions, need forms or other information; send an email to:

Nathalie Steinbach

VFMC Junior Composers Contest Chair

## Stillman Kelley & Thelma Byrum Awards

*Stillman Kelley Award for all instruments*  
*Thelma Byrum award for piano*

Are you teaching any talented young instrumentalists who will not have reached their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday by March 1, 2015? Do consider this competition for a variety of monetary awards!

On the national level there are 9 awards ranging from \$200-\$1000.

The state of Virginia encourages students to enter with three monetary awards:

First place: \$250 Second place: \$50 Third place: \$50

The 2014, the first place winner in the nation was Bryan Chen a piano student from the state of Virginia. Bryan was one of the guest artists at our Mary Smart program in May.

Briefly: students enter first on the state level. The entrant makes a DVD of the program of 15 - 20 minute duration on his or her selected solo instrument performed entirely from memory. The application forms and DVD must reach the state chairman by *February 1, 2015*. In Virginia the applications are submitted to our third vice president Nancy Turner. Each state chooses one winner to advance to national judging.

For a complete set of rules, guidelines for repertoire and application forms go to the NFMC website [www.nfmc-music.org](http://www.nfmc-music.org) or contact the national chairman.

### Stillman-Kelly/Thelma Byrum Competition

VFMC Chair	NFMC Chair
Nancy Turner 7305 Longview Ave Kenbridge VA 23944 434-676-2995 <a href="mailto:Nancy.Turner@southside.edu">Nancy.Turner@southside.edu</a>	Nathalie Steinbach 15 Mount Vernon Ave Fredericksburg VA 22405 540-373-6352 <a href="mailto:ymsfred@earthlink.net">ymsfred@earthlink.net</a>



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Linda D. Lind
Individual Membership Chairman

Club Notes

South Hill Music Club

The South Hill Music Club was proud to present a 200th Anniversary program on the "Star Spangled Banner. The history was told of the original song used as a model for the tune used in our national anthem. Our program was presented by Judy Kemp, retired music teacher for the Mecklenburg County Schools. Her research into this tune was quite interesting and something that most of the club had never heard before. We sang the original tune, dated 1775-76, and you can imagine the words that reflected that time in history. From there she presented the words and tune to the Star Spangled Banner. You could just visualize the time and happenings of that period when Frances Scott Key, penned those words. We all sang and reflected on this great song, finally selected as our national anthem. We had a wonderful fellowship time and welcomed a new member into our club.

Charlene Gray
South Hill Music Club



Bristol Music Club

2014 has been a banner year for The Bristol Music Club, as we have celebrated the 100th anniversary of our founding in 1914. The festivities began with a birthday cake at the "Tunes at Noon" young artists' performance, sponsored by TBMC and held on June 13 at the Paramount Center for the Arts. This program featured winners of the 2014 scholarship auditions in May of this year. The celebrations continued with a luncheon and program on life in Bristol in 1914, held at the First Presbyterian Church. There was an extensive display of memorabilia from past years of the music club's activities. We were honored to have in attendance the VFMC state President, Marcia Chaplin.

The celebrations concluded on Saturday, November 22, with A Scholarship Benefit and 100th Anniversary Gala, held at the Paramount Center for the Arts. Appropriately, the Paramount is a restored 1931 movie palace in downtown Bristol, built only 17 years after the founding of the club. The program began with a proclamation given jointly by the mayors of Bristol, Tennessee and Bristol, Virginia, declaring November 22, 2014 "The Bristol Music Club Day." This was followed by a program that included women's fashions; among the models were both city mayors, the conductor of the regional symphony the Symphony of the Mountains, several community members, and several club members, one of whom modeled in the first fashion show held 42 years ago. A highlight of the program were musical performances by three former first place division I scholarship winners: Lydia Smythe (piano - 2010), Martha Eason (voice - 2007) and Daniel Blair (violin - 2005). In addition, numerous door prizes were awarded. Following the program, a generous reception was held in the lobby featuring foods prepared by the club members. During the reception, musical entertainment was provided by a string trio; the three musicians have either placed or won a total of fifteen times in the scholarship auditions, and one of the young players is still eligible to enter again. All of the funds raised at this event go towards our scholarships, and in addition to ticket sales, a number of patrons made very generous donations. We expect this to have been one of our most successful fundraisers ever, and it was truly a great way to end our anniversary year.

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"My wish for each of you - have a Wonderful Christmas and a Healthy, Happy New Year! Agnes"

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Music can be found everywhere in the world. It is, after all, the universal language. Since humans learned that we could bang sticks against objects and create rhythms, we have had music. There is no form of music, though, that has been embraced across the globe quite like Christmas music. Likewise, the impact of Christmas music on the music world, both popular and traditional is substantial. It is wonderful to share our Christmas spirit with others this holiday season through music! Thank you for all your service to your communities, churches, students, and others through music!