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| **National Federation of Music Clubs****In Tune with NFMCMay 2025** |

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| **Greetings**In my part of the country it’s 80 degrees and roses are blooming, but others are enjoying 30 degrees and whale watching – beauty surrounds us all!  Wherever you are, be sure to remember **National Music Week** and celebrate May 4-11 with *Music…is unstoppable*.  I enjoyed the SCFMC Convention this past weekend with our 2023-2025 NFMC Young Artist Man’s Voice winner, Michael Celentano – what a treat!  I’m off to Arkansas this weekend and Kansas the next. There is nothing like being with Federation friends, so I encourage all of you to attend your state meetings. This is election year for NFMC, and we will have several new chairs.  It is imperative that our current chairs prepare a step-by-step timeline for incoming chairs.  If you are not continuing in your position, please do this without delay – thank you! |

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| **NFMC Convention - Lynn McNew, Chair**Are you ready for a BIG Texas celebration??  It's getting closer every day.Do you want to learn to line dance? Do you want to hear great music like 2005 Young Artist winner Mela Dailey and the 2025 Young Artist winners?  Do you want to hear  talented young students from across the country?  Do you want to participate in workshops  with outstanding presenters like Dr. Martha Hilley and Mark Hayes?These are a few of the things in store for you in the jam-packed days in June (10-14).  Have you made your reservations at the Hilton Austin Airport Hotel?  Have you sent your  registration to the NFMC Headquarters?Don't let this one pass you by.  You won't regret attending the 2025 NFMC National Convention in Austin, TX, June 10-14.  The planning committee has been working very hard to prepare for four days of entertainment, education, and enjoyment.    Ya'll come, ya hear!! |

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| **Division News****American Music Division - Ruth Morrow, Chair**May is coming!  Time to send in reports for American Music Awards!  Remember to send in:American Music -May 15 -AM-2American Women Composers -May 15-AM-6-1Folk Music- May 1-AM -7-2Jazz -May 15- AM 8-1Educational Institutions- May 15-AM-3-1American Music NFMC Junior Clubs Award-May 15-5-1 Professor R.A. Schramm Parade of American Music:Congratulations to the winners of The Professor R. A. Schramm Parade of American Music Award-1st Place Winner for $300- Orlando Music Club, Florida2nd Place Winner for $200- Gwinnett County Central, North, and West, Georgia3rd Place Winner for $100- Scherzo Music Club, Norfolk, Va3rd Place Winner for $100- Southern California Music Festival Club, Porter Ranch, CaliforniaThe winners will be receiving their checks in the mail hopefully by August, and an award certificate will also be sent soon.  Also, the other entries will receive a participation certificate in the mail.  **Arts Division - Ellen Leapaldt, Chair**Arts Division chairs and regional chairs have been busy collecting information for our yearly reports.  Regional chairs should be receiving all final reports and National chairs are combining the information into their reports for our annual convention.  These reports will be available on the nfmc-music.org website by convention time.The last big event of each NFMC year is National Music Week, which this year begins on Sunday, May 4th and ends on Sunday, May 11th, 2025.  I hope clubs have great plans for the week! The theme is "Music... Is unstoppable!"  I laughed when I noticed a post of "Unstoppable Music" on Facebook recently.  I guess people beyond NFMC recognize that music goes on and on no matter what else is happening!   Birds sing, wind blows, waves crash, people hum and sing outloud, instruments of all kinds get played!  How are you and your club or community celebrating this year?  I know on the first Sunday, I will be part of a group that sings for and with Seniors living in a retirement center; Wednesday is centered on Sacred Music as the Bell choir and the church choir,  Friday, Saturday, and Sunday bring concerts and recitals for our local club, colleges and youth symphonies (associate members of NFMC).  I dedicate the altar flowers to the work of NFMC each year.  How do you and your club celebrate the week?  We request that you share your activities, programs, announcements, etc. by filling out the report forms AR 12-1 (local), AR 12-5 (state) and AR 12-6 (regional). Each of these have there own due date.As each of the departments in the Arts Division prepare their reports to National, I hope all members of NFMC look at the many programs of the Arts Division and think about the wonderful opportunities to "bring the spiritualizing force of music to the inner life of our nation"!**Junior Division - Laurie Marshall, Chair**Congratulations on another successful Junior Awards and Festival season.  So many Junior Division volunteers are wrapping up their final reports including exciting updates on Junior award winners.  Remember to read Junior Keynotes for all results, Junior bios, photos, and more.  Thank you to all those who work as a team on behalf of the Junior Division teachers and students.**From the Joyce Walsh Award Chair Debbie Wiser.**Congratulations to the following winners.  Look for their bios and photos in the Fall Junior Keynotes issue:1st place: Colin Chu - Massachusetts2nd place: Caitlin Cox - MinnesotaSE Region winner: Grace DeWeese - Virginia **From the Wendell Irish Viola Award Chair Dr. George Keck.**There were twelve applicants in 2025.   Winners include:1st place: Edward Lee – New Jersey2nd place: Jennifer Kang – CaliforniaW Region winner: Hannah Girges – WashingtonSE Region winner: Raul Rodriguez - FloridaNE Region winner: Ian Gavilan – New JerseySC Region winner: David Perrin – Texas **From the Junior Composers Chair Sam Ecoff:**Congratulations to the following Juniors! - [WINNERS](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnfmc-music.us16.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3Da176e70f61f2b094ec7b227a6%26id%3D5460443a75%26e%3D1e4e3b87f1&data=05%7C02%7C%7C995f29f768d9485d2d2208dd8866b605%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638816696902789650%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=h%2BqGV9vkfQeH7CZomJu5EthROvlxMXoQ8lc73RwDU7A%3D&reserved=0) From the Angie Greer Chair Debra Hughes: **"Mom, You are Still With Me"** Mom, you are still with mefoggy mountain morningssalting bird tailsgrass toothpickstrain whistles in the hollersmell of flower garden soilstrong hand on my foreheadbirthday celebrationswarm cinnamon rollsChristmas morningshomemade Easter outfitssoft boiled eggsold golden-edged chinacool, crisp sheetsoil shrimp-colored wallsbuying sensible shoes.your high voice in churchteaching me to swimantiquing my piano yellowcard games & puzzlesserving othersworking hardsunny day mother-daughter talksrainbow days with umbrellasbulky snow pants and bootsyour silence at "I hate you"your forgivenessyour huge heart of love"Oh, Leonard!" at Daddy's teasingscrying at Saturday 'sicky' moviesdinners at Uncle Don's & Aunt Evelyn'skindhearted advicemy 'you're right' realizationsmiling at me on stagepicnics with your potato saladyour stellar piesrhubarb & mushroom pickingnot complaining at hard lucknot accusing othersgenerosity to even strangersbeing 'all in' for everythingloving a pretty dayenjoying lovelinessstaying in styleSunday drivesmaking dobeing creativesneezing loudlylaughing louderpineapple and orange anythingyour head on my shoulder in the elevatorwith me at my best selfmy first teachermy first homemy first joymy first hug & kissmy first lovebecoming Mummum teenystill part of who I am Mom, you are always with me. Finally, remember to update all things Festival with NFMC Festival Chair Lori Jessen including state Festival leadership including state chairs, Festival Cup chairs, etc.**Membership & Education Division - Natlynn Hayes, Chair**It is that time of year when NFMC would like to hear all about the wonderful musical programs and events that were hosted by our Senior Clubs across the country.That does mean doing reports. The reporting forms may be found on the NFMC website under publications as you scroll down the first page.Here are a few reminders for Senior Club reporting. The ME-7-1 form is for senior clubs to fill out and send to their state president or state membership chair. The state president or state membership chair will then use this information to fill out form ME-7-2 to be sent to the NFMC Senior Reporting Chair, Linda Flick. The ME-7-1 has a send by date of July 1 and the ME-7-2 is due to Linda by July 15.May 1st is the reporting deadline for Orientation and Leadership Training. The ME-6-1 is the form to fill out and send to Chair Ann Guest. Mailing addresses and emails are on the form. If you are reading this on May 1st, you would still be able to email the form on time.I hope many of you sent Gilda Bocock your yearbooks. She set up a wonderful presentation of yearbooks at last year’s Conference in Iowa. The deadline of March 1st is past for this year but you can start making plans to send your next year’s yearbook by the March 1 deadline.This Chair looks forward to seeing the NFMC Membership at the Convention in Austin, TX. This is a wonderful time to make new friends and reconnect with old friends. As the song says, “one is silver and the other gold”.**Pubic Relations Division - Julie Watson, Chair**Did you see the NFMC Website Scavenger Hunt in last month's newsletter? There are still prizes left. Congratulations to Debbie Wiser, Virginia Feitelson, Melissa Warnick, Cheryl Langley, Sally Palmer and Patty Hadley for completing the task. You should give it a shot - by scanning the QR code! Happy hunting! Have you booked your ticket, hotel and registered for our NFMC Convention in Austin? It's going to be great! You'll get to hear our new Young Artists and hear from speakers such as Mark Hayes and Martha Hilley. The hotel includes an airport shuttle AND continental breakfast is included with your room reservation. One of my favorite parts is renewing friendships with fellow Federated members from all over. Hope to see you there! **Student/Collegiate Division - Sheila Shusterich, Chair**In this merry month of May, the Student/Collegiate Division shines the spotlight on composition. Jim McCutcheon, our NFMC Student/Collegiate Composition Award Chair reports, “To promote the composition awards, I personally email many college composition professors across the country and encourage them to have their students submit their work. I enjoy chairing the Student/Collegiate composition contest because it gives me a chance to affirm the work of deserving college students and enlist the services of very competent composers who also welcome the chance to do so. With the prizes the NFMC is in a positions to award, I feel like the support for these students is substantial.”The five NFMC composition awards are as follows: The Marion Richter Composition Award $1,250; Beyer Young Composers Awards $1,500 (1st place) & $1,000 (2nd place); The Nadworney/Valentin Award for Vocal Solo $1,000; and the Hatz Special Recognition Award $275.The competition is open to any citizen of the United States, either native born or naturalized, who will have reached the 19th but not the 26th birthday by March 1 of the competition year. Membership in the National Federation of Music Clubs is necessary, either through a student/collegiate organization (i.e. a college/university that is a member of NFMC) or as an individual member. Entrants must be a junior, senior, or graduate student majoring in music at their college or university and may enter competitions in only one NFMC Division (Junior, Student/Collegiate, or Senior) in a year. The entry fee is $10.Students may submit a composition in one of the following categories: Class I: Sonata or comparable work for solo wind or string instrument with piano, or for any combination of 3 to 5 instruments, of which the piano may be one; Class II: Choral work; Class III: Piano solo; Class IV: Vocal solo with Piano, Organ, or Orchestral accompaniment, using English text.We are grateful for Jim’s continued service to the NFMC and for his work as the chair of these composition awards. Reach out to Jim with questions at jim@mccutcheonmusic.com As always, try and spread the word about these awards and encourage those gifted music students among you to apply! |

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| **In Closing**"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream." —C.S. Lewis |

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