President’s Message

Greetings from Kaufman TX where the sun is shining and the granddaughters are keeping me happily entertained!

During the first half of this year your president has continued to fulfill her duties and is tying up loose ends in preparation of the transfer of office on July 1.

It has been fun to attend some district meetings this year, install new officers, participate in the Fort Worth Harmony Club chorus and several season’s end activities. This is my final LSMM President’s letter and I am in the process of completing a new TFMC Manual.
Congratulations to the Junior Division for the recent All State monetary winners. I hope to hear recordings of their winning numbers. Congratulations also to the Texas winners of the national Junior Composers Contest.

June 12-17 is the wonderful anticipated National Federation convention in Norfolk VA. I look forward to representing the great state of Texas at the President’s banquet on Friday, June 16. Thank you for your trust and support these two years.

On a personal note, the TFMC chaplain, David Randall, has suffered some recent falls which have affected his ability to walk. He has been “down” since April 11 and in a skilled nursing rehabilitation facility since April 27. We appreciate your prayers for his recovery. Yesterday (May 29) he took his first steps in over a month. We hope that he will soon be fully ambulatory and able to return home.

During the week of May 15-22 we enjoyed a wonderful visit from five of our granddaughters. It was a fun filled noisy time and Gramma Randall loved every minute of it!

I trust that your summer will be filled with joyful family times and music including the TFMC annual convention in August. Best wishes to each of you for continued rich musical life.

Tunefully
Connie Randall, President 2021-2023

Please welcome your new slate of
TFMC incoming elected officers serving July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>District</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Lynn McNew</td>
<td>District 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President-Elect</td>
<td>Lora Lynn Christensen</td>
<td>District 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President of Life Members/Membership Extension</td>
<td>Annette Griesbach</td>
<td>District 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President of Memorials and Honorariums</td>
<td>Mary Ann Bridges</td>
<td>District 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Dawn Humphrey</td>
<td>District 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recording Secretary</td>
<td>Lois Armor</td>
<td>District 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auditor</td>
<td>Dorene Allen</td>
<td>District 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historian</td>
<td>Marcia Edwards</td>
<td>District 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parliamentarian</td>
<td>Marilyn Bettes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Texas is one of five states that make up NFMC’s South Central Region. Included in the mission of this region is to support Opera in the Ozarks. Current and past officers of TFMC serve, or have served, on the OIO Board for decades and TFMC has raised money for numerous scholarships. On May 4th, the Walton Family Foundation awarded a milestone 34 million dollar grant to build new theater facilities. Read more about it HERE.

State News - 2023 Convention

The 108th Annual Convention of the Texas Federation of Music Clubs will be held August 3-5, 2023 in Conroe, Texas. Expect the Official Call/Registration in July so watch your inbox! The Homewood Suites by Hilton in Conroe is offering discounted suites at $129/night. A suite can easily accommodate 4 or 5 if you want to share and further economize. Convention opens on Thursday morning, August 3rd.

Our national guest this year is Dr. Ouida Keck, past president of NFMC (1999-2003) She remains active in NFMC leadership serving as National Chair for NFMC’s Arts Division. She is an avid supporter of music education and established the NFMC Ouida Keck Award for the professional development for independent piano teachers. NFMC offers outgoing presidents the opportunity to name and define an award in their honor. Several Texas teachers and many teachers nationwide are fortunate that she chose to provide awards for independent piano teachers desiring professional development opportunities. We are certainly looking forward to having her with us at Convention!

Members of district V will organize shuttle service from Houston Intercontinental Airport (not Hobby) to the hotel. Please provide flight arrival information at the time of registration.

Each Texas club is asked to prepare a gift basket to be auctioned for the benefit of OIO.

Thursday night offers a Talent Show! With prizes! Attendees are in for surprises and lots of fun!

Friday night’s banquet will be formal, so bring your fancy dress clothes.

If your club has an outstanding program it would like to present as a workshop please let Lynn know.

Also, we are collecting money for a gift for outgoing president Connie Randall. Send checks payable to Lynn McNew, mailing address: 8054 Jolie Drive, Fort Worth 76137. For more information, contact Lynn at: 830/563-5701 or l.mcnew@sbcglobal.net.
Harmony Club of Fort Worth premieres a commissioned choral work for its 120th anniversary

Need the perfect song for your anniversary celebration? Do what Harmony Club of Fort Worth did...commission one! Harmony Club featured the world premiere of a choral composition entitled “We Sing, We Give” at its annual spring Chorus Concert on May 10th at The Woman’s Club of Fort Worth.

The work was commissioned by and for Harmony Club in recognition and celebration of 120 years of music and friendship. Its premiere took place during an additional anniversary year -- the centennial of The Woman’s Club of Fort Worth -- in the club’s historic Anna Shelton Hall. The walls and ceiling of this performance hall are festooned with classic bas-relief imagery of the musical, literary and visual arts.

Before the music was composed, the poetic lyrics were written by Karen White-Dacy, a singer in Harmony Chorus and a former church music director. Her verses were inspired by words from Harmony Club President Pam Price, who suggested that Harmony Club attributes and aspirations such as beauty, harmony, unity and kindness be somehow embodied in the piece. The talented poet achieved just that, keeping her thesaurus close at hand as she penned her flowing and elegant lyrics, setting them to the meter she envisioned as most appropriate.

Her first stanza opens:
Making music is our mission,
Creating sounds that magnify,
Everlasting harmony,
Lifted voices amplify.
We sing.
Each subsequent verse builds and burnishes another layered aspect of Harmony Club attributes, leading up to a soaring, ascending line: “We sing...we serve...we share...we give...we shine! We make music.”

Ms. Beck’s works have been premiered by professional choirs and musicians throughout the country, including at the DiMenna Center for the Arts in New York City. Alison Beck is also a sought-after chamber musician and recording artist in New York City. She performs with her violinist sister, Elizabeth Beck, as the Beckthoven Duo. As a duo, the sisters have released their debut album, December Carols on the Bolo Classique label. The recording presents a cycle of sacred Christmas carols with a classical twist and was
featured in *BBC Music Magazine* and heard on major classical music radio stations internationally, including WRR 101.1 FM in Dallas/Fort Worth.

Ms. Beck earned a M.M. in piano performance from the University of North Texas on full fellowship, graduating first in her class, and a B.M. in piano performance, summa cum laude, from Centenary College. Her teachers include Dr. Pamela Mia Paul and Dr. Mark Zeltser. Currently, Alison is attending Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, where she is working on her D.M.A. in Church Music/Piano Performance and employed as an Adjunct Instructor in the piano department. Learn more about Alison Beck and the Beckthoven Duo online at [www.beckthovenduo.com](http://www.beckthovenduo.com). For more information on Harmony Club of Fort Worth, contact President Pam Price, [pamjer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pamjer@sbcglobal.net).

**JUNIOR DIVISION NEWS - All State Festival**

Greetings from the 48th annual TFMC All State Festival Team! Our festival preparations have been underway since early this year. We are thrilled to announce the addition of a Theory event, which was a great success in its first year. Many thanks to Heather Rathnau, author of the Theory Time series for putting together tests geared especially for us this flagship year. Superior-rated District Festival students may compete at the All State Festival. This exciting event offers more opportunities for your students to compete! Theory, Sight Play, and Piano Accompaniment are excellent categories for students who want to compete in one or more skill building areas in addition to regular performance events. Check them out for your students next year!

Since registration opened in early April, we have received, reviewed and prepared 1326 performance video entries for our 23 judges. Judging is now completed and we are currently reviewing all of the materials for accuracy, notifying Monetary Award Winners, and preparing for printing and shipping. We were thrilled with the judges’ comments! Many of the judges sent me notes complementing the teachers on how well the students performed. Congratulations to our marvelous teachers and talented students for impressing the judges! Well done!

Teachers have now received student scores and actual rating sheets with comments and awards will arrive mid-June. Our hard-working District Festival Chairs will receive these bulk packed shipments and distribute them to teachers in the festival groups. This is a tedious and complicated process and we appreciate your patience and support as we wrap up the festival and ship as soon as possible. Your District Festival Chair will contact teachers to collect Ratings Certificates and Awards once they arrive.

You will hear the Monetary Award Winners at our TFMC Convention in August 3-5 in Conroe, Tx. Keep an eye out for the Official Call where you can register to attend in person or virtually. The winners will be presented in a virtual recital during the Convention. The 2023 winners will also be posted on our website, [www.TFMCAllStateFestival.org](http://www.TFMCAllStateFestival.org) shortly after the convention for all to enjoy. We hope to see you there!

Submitted by Cathlyn C. Neidert, TFMC All State Festival Chair
JUNIOR DIVISION NEWS  - Junior Composer Contest

The 2022-2023 TFMC Junior Composer Contest had 21 participants this year! A whopping 91% increase over 2022 participation! Keep those entries coming! It’s our hope that the entries keep growing for the 2023-2024 TFMC Junior Composers Contest. This is a great opportunity for our young composers, and I hope more teachers encourage their students to participate!

Our judge was University of Texas at San Antonio professor, James Syler. Mr. Syler has been a lecturer at the University of Texas at San Antonio and the University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio where he teaches composition.

This contest is run on a national basis. Texas entries are judged at the state level, then on to a regional level where regional winners compete for national awards. Of the 21 Texas entries, seven are winners in the South Central Region. Those seven are: Qi Wu, Yashi Brihu, Yagna Brihu, James Liang, Campbell Leiloglou, Ryan Qui, and Vaughn Hale. Texas was well represented as there are only ten winners at this regional level.

I’m excited to report that in the NFMC Junior Composer Contest at the national level, we had 2 honorable mentions in the Class 2 category (Yagna Brihu and Yashi Brihu), 1 honorable mention in the Class 3 category (James Liang), 1 incentive winner (Ryan W. Qiu) and 1 honorable mention (Vaughn Hale) in the Class 4 category.

Join me in congratulating these student composers and their teachers!

Submitted by Edna Alejandra Longoria, MM, TFMC Junior Composer Contest Chair