TFMC hosts board meeting

A good turnout of members from across the state gathered in Dallas August 22-23 for the 100th board meeting of the Texas Federation of Music Clubs. Gloria Thrasher, president, conducted the two-day meeting.

Meetings of the finance and executive committees were held in the morning, and the board meeting convened after lunch. Chaplain Carol Gessner gave the invocation, and 1st VP Lynn McNew led the pledge of allegiance. Carla Johnson led the national anthem and 2nd VP Jo Ann Collett led the Federation Collect.

Secretary Sandra Chamness read minutes of past board meetings, and Dorene Allen gave the treasurer’s report and budget. See inside for a corrected budget report.

Francis Christmann, Texas representative to the NFMC Board, gave a report on the NFMC Office Committee. State officers, district presidents, and various chairmen gave reports.

District 3 was announced as winner of the Ruth Humphrey Community Service Award. Other certificates and awards were presented.

Following a dinner, mezzo-soprano Arielle Collier presented a musical program, accompanied by Lora Lynn Christensen. Miss Collier had several featured roles at Opera in the Ozarks at Inspiration Point Fine Arts Colony this summer.

Business resumed Saturday morning at 8:45. An invitation to the 100th TFMC convention March 19-21, 2015 was offered by District 8, with Lora Lynn Christensen as convention chairman. The convention will be at the Flagship Inn in Brownwood. Brownwood was where TFMC was begun in 1915. See inside for a historian report by Sue Breuer.

It is important that everyone get room reservations at the Flagship as soon as possible, because there are only 38 rooms. Please call (325) 784-7656 to make your room reservation. You may do so at any time.

The meeting closed with the NFMC Benediction, a prayer by Mrs. Gessner, and a luncheon.

Two new Yellow Rose Society members were recognized, both from Gonzales: Shirley Spoon and Laurel Ince.

Mary Frances Ross (right), TFMC chairman of Music Service in the Community, presents Nancy Langford, District 3 president, with the Ruth Humphrey Community Service Award at the TFMC board meeting August 23 in Dallas. Also pictured are other District 3 members, including Judy Galetar, Carolyn Copeland, Tim Danielson, Brenda Dearman, and Sandra Chamness. District 3 had 515 volunteer hours.
by Gloria Thrasher, TFMC president

My dear State Music Club friends,

The plans for our 100th anniversary celebration to be held March 19-21st at Brownwood Flagship Inn, are in full swing.

Several Districts have already gotten major fundraisers underway. District 6 is selling a special edition 100th anniversary pin for $10. Those attending the state board meeting received one of these, and I am sure many more of our club members will want to make that purchase for a special remembrance of our history. District 2 will be selling raffle tickets for a bed-size afghan knitted by Betty Hall. District 3 will have a quilted wall hanging with TFMC history and District 4 will continue the 50/50 tickets. District 8 has chosen to sell mugs with a special Anniversary notation. We will all be anxious to see these items.

Don’t forget that our three days of Convention activities will be divided into TFMC’s Past, Present and Future. District 4 will have a special surprise following the Thurs. evening meal which will transport us into the past. Don’t forget to wear something that will be reminiscent of 1915 dress. Districts 1, 3 & 7 will take us back to the present Friday with our Banquet, Installation of Officers for 2015-17 and National Young Artist concert. Pianist Olga Krayerman will be our Young Artist, and our own Francis Christmann will be our National guest.

On Saturday, Districts 8 & 9 will carry us into the future with our TFMC Jr. club members. It all promises to be an adventure at Brownwood where our Texas Federation became a reality almost 100 years ago. If you cannot stay for the entire event, please consider even spending one day with us.

Many thanks to Lora Lynn Christensen, President of District 8, who is the official host for this event.

Also don’t forget the Lifers Breakfast. It would be wonderful to have someone new inducted from each District on this memorable occasion. Judith LaFontaine, third vice-president, will be in charge of this event.

On a more personal note, I thank those of you who have kept me in their thoughts and prayers and for the many beautiful cards and emails I have received these many months. I am glad to report that the cancer has been wiped away. I am now dealing with the many aftereffects of 33 radiation and 5 chemo treatments. Progress seems at a snail’s pace, but steady and sure seems to be the slogan these days.

I wish everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas season,

Gloria

TFMC president Gloria Thrasher and District 1 president Mary Ann Bridges at the district 1 conference Sept. 28, 2013 in Lubbock. Gloria was the featured speaker at last year’s conference.

What if?

What if our world was completely silent?
What if we could hear no bird song, no cooing or chirping floating on the air?
What if the babbling brook was silent to our ears, or we could hear no wind whispering through the trees?
What if the thunderous waterfall was as if it had never fallen, or the splash of a jumping fish was never to be heard?

There are those whose world is truly silent -- yet, they reach out to feel vibrations and appreciate music in their souls.

What if there were no music, just a soundless screen as our beautiful world floated by?
What if music, unheard music, no music -- not even the soft sound of a baby’s sleeping breath?
What if, what if, no music? How sad.

What if?

Glenda Vickers Reynolds, Lubbock
District 1 Music in Poetry chairman

Lubbock reports death

We regret to hear of the death of Dorothy Roberts, Lubbock, mother of Jane Bowers and aunt of Carla Johnson. Dorothy was a patron member of the Lubbock Music Club.

We regret to learn of the disbanding of the Alice Music Study Club. We hope those members will continue to be active in music promotion and perhaps join another federated club.
CENTENNIAL SPOTLIGHT
by Sue Breuer, TFMC/NFMC historian

As we are closing in on the 100th anniversary of our founding in Brownwood, an event of great importance to an organization such as ours, I’ve been taking another look at the article in The Handbook of Texas about TFMC, written by Dr. Craig H. Roell, chairman of the History Department of Georgia Southern University in Statesboro, GA. I like to think that his interest in our organization came from growing up in Victoria and having written a book entitled The Piano in Texas, then finding our Texas Federation files in the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History when looking for a subject for a dissertation at the University of Texas.

He did a good job summarizing our founding and then activities of the first 50 years, but near the end of the first section, he mentioned that “The total number of music clubs in Texas dropped to 156 in 1955 and continued to fall thereafter. Records indicate that TFMC activities in the 1950s and 1960s did not maintain the civic, artistic, or political impact that characterized the first part of the organization’s history.” He said that was a reflection of the cultural changes brought on with the rise of movies, radio, and especially television, and other forms of entertainment. “No records for federation activities in the 1970s and 1980s have surfaced”!

Well, they did start to come into the Briscoe Center in Austin eventually, and Dr. Roell has updated the article in the Handbook, and our collection has been revised in July 2009 and October 2011.

In the handbook of Texas article, we are complimented about having a Junior Festival in each district per year. Remember, we have nine districts at this time. As a mental exercise, your historian began to think about some of the most important activities of our Texas music clubs today, and my list follows:
1. JUNIOR Festivals -- In 2014, our Texas organization produced 32 festivals around the state! Between 5,000 and 6,000 students took part this year, many entering several categories. We have then made available a statewide Festival. This event is for the Superior Rated Districts.
2. STUDENT AWARDS -- For about 30 years we have been presenting awards to students who wish to enter, and winners in each group receive monetary awards. Between 5,000 and 6,000 students took part this year, many entering several categories. We have then made available a statewide Festival. This event is for the Superior Rated Districts.
3. MUSIC OUTREACH -- Members of virtually all Texas clubs take musical performances, as volunteers, to ill, elderly, or otherwise confined persons in their residences. Any type of music is a joy to them!
4. LOCAL CLUB MEETINGS -- are venues for members, largely amateur, who want to have an audience. Members keep learning more about good music, composers, and music history.
5. SUPPORT OF OPERA IN THE OZARKS -- Financial support (along with four other states in South Central Region of NFMC), attendance, and Governing Board membership of Opera in the Ozarks at Eureka Springs, AR. For over 60 years, we have kept this outstanding summer program for upcoming professional singers going and growing. As we are the largest state in the region, we provide the largest percentage of support, gladly and proudly.

We hope that being reminded of some of the values that you give and receive from your music club and the Texas Federation will resurrect your pride in membership. You can no doubt think of other activities that touch your emotions and give you great pride in being part of an organization that has so many benefits to its members and to mankind.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL OF US, TFMC!!!

Reminder to Club Treasurers, Presidents

Dues notices for July 1, 2014/June 30, 2015 were sent to all clubs in September and are due to TFMC Treasurer Dorene Allen by November 15 so that she can meet the December 1 deadline required by NFMC.

Senior Clubs must send a list of all club members, Life members, name and addresses for the mailout of the Music Club Magazine from National.

Please consider the Founder’s Day contribution ($1) per capita. and the Past President (PPA) dues of ($2) for each term served as president of club, district, or state, and any contribution for state or national. This goes to the Young Artist Fund. (As a reminder-All contributions going to national should be given through the state treasurer so Texas FMCs will receive the credit and recognition.)

Clubs have been asked to send $5 per year to the ONP (outgoing national president fund) was called PNP) to endow the scholarship fund of Carolyn Nelson, NFMC President at the conclusion of her term in 2015.

Mail dues to Dorene Allen, TFMC Treasurer; 10605 Richmond Ave., Lubbock, 79424; 432-413-7806; E-mail ldoreneallen@yahoo.com.

Calendar of Events

November 7, 2014.......Opera in The Ozarks Governing Board, Wyndham Garden Hotel, Oklahoma City, OK
November 2014...........Celebrate Rudolf R.A. Schramm Award/ Parade of American Music
February 27, 2015.......Opera in The Ozarks Governing Board, Wyndham Garden Hotel, Oklahoma City, OK
March 19-21, 2015.........TFMC 100th Annual Convention, Flagship Inn, Brownwood; District 8 hosts
May 3-10, 2015........National Music Week Theme: “Music- Heartbeat of the Soul”
May 2015...........40th TFMC Junior State Festival, Texas State University, San Marcos, Tx
June 16-20, 2015.....NFMC Biennial Convention, Holiday Inn Hotel and Convention Center, Fargo, ND
July 15-19, 2015......Opera in the Ozarks and South Central Region Federation Days, Inn of the Ozarks, Eureka Springs, AR
## Texas Federation of Music Clubs

### Budget 2014-2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Disbursements</th>
<th>Net Income</th>
<th>Proposed Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Senior Division Dues**
- Income: $8,455.00
- Disbursements: $5,475.00
- Net Income: $2,980.00
- Proposed Income: $3,000.00

**Collegiate Dues**
- Income: $999.00
- Disbursements: $869.00
- Net Income: $140.00
- Proposed Income: $150.00

**Junior Dues**
- Income: $5,891.00
- Disbursements: $3,885.00
- Net Income: $2,006.00
- Proposed Income: $2,000.00

**PPA Dues (STATE)**
- Income: $404.00
- Disbursements: $202.00
- Net Income: $202.00
- Proposed Income: $200.00

**PPA Contribution State**
- Income: $206.00
- Disbursements: $206.00
- Net Income: $0.00
- Proposed Income: $200.00

**Festival Cups**
- Income: $22,884.00
- Disbursements: $23,493.00
- Net Income: $-629.00
- Proposed Income: $0.00

**District Festivals**
- Income: $14,866.00
- Disbursements: $7,984.00
- Net Income: $6,882.00
- Proposed Income: $6,500.00

**Conv Fees/REG & MEALS**
- Income: $8,863.00
- Disbursements: $7,181.00
- Net Income: $1,682.00
- Proposed Income: $0.00

**General Fund**
- Income: $2,070.00
- Disbursements: $6,280.00
- Net Income: $-4,210.00
- Proposed Income: $6,280.00

**Earnings On Cert If Dep.**
- Income: $6,500.00
- Disbursements: $0.00
- Net Income: $6,500.00
- Proposed Income: $6,500.00

**Totals**
- Income: $62,538.00
- Disbursements: $49,089.00
- Net Income: $13,459.00
- Proposed Income: $20,400.00

### Expense

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<td>PRF Rata</td>
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<td>Sponsor Young Artist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Awards/Scholarships</td>
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<tr>
<td>NFMC (OKLA 2016)</td>
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<tr>
<td>TFMCC 100th 2015</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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</table>

### Awards

**Scholarship**
- Texas Performers: $250.00
- Texas Music Students: $300.00

**Total**
- $8,550.00

### Allowances for Officers and Chairmen

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>2013/2014</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
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<td>Gold Cup CHM</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Auditions</td>
<td>Biennially</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stillman Kelley Sch CHM</td>
<td>Annually</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Allowances**
- $5,350.00
Midland Musicians loses former member

Pamela Kathryn Bristol, 84, died September 25, 2014 in Dallas. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in piano performance from Texas Women’s University in 1950.

Pam Bristol taught piano privately and was an accomplished soloist and chamber musician. In later years, she served as a Guild judge for piano festivals and taught at the University of Texas of the Permian Basin in Odessa.

She was accompanist for the Midland-Odessa Symphony & Chorale for 15 years. She was a member of the Midland Musicians Club.

The above pertains only to club deadlines. Some of the awards may be cash awards. Be sure to include written reports of activities including programs, news clippings, pictures. Please indicate the city where your club is located on the form.

District 1 meets in Lubbock October 7

District 1, TFMC, met in Lubbock at the Lubbock Woman’s Club on Saturday, Oct. 7. Allegro Music Club was host, with Dr. Ruth Holmes as president.

Mary Ann Bridges, district president, conducted the meeting. Luncheon speaker was Dorene Allen, TFMC treasurer and past district president.

Recipient of the D’Aun Marshall District 1 scholarship was Jose Fernandez, a sophomore music major at South Plains College, Levelland. He received a $300 scholarship to be applied toward his studies to become a band director.

Past TFMC presidents in attendance were Francis Christmann, Texas representative to NFMC who installed 2015-17 officers; Jean Moffatt, editor of NFMC’s Music Clubs Magazine; and Carla Johnson, SC Region opera chairman. Other past district presidents present were Katherine Leonard and Marcia Evans.
MARY ELLen UlMeR (Mrs. Thomas), Department Chairman
168 East Branch Road
Mercer, PA 16137
(724) 946-2877; E-mail: ulmerme@hotmail.com

REGIONAL CHAIRMEN:
Northeastern, Southeastern Regions:
Julianne Edwards, Chairman: 168 E Branch Road, Mercer, PA 16137; (561) 613.7237; jmedwards103@gmail.com
States: AL, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MS, NC, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, SC, TN, VA, VT

North Central, South Central, Western Regions:
Jan Hansen, Chairman: 101 Rio Mesa Drive, Grants Pass, OR 97527; (541) 956.1659; jhansen3435@gmail.com
States: AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, IA, IL, KS, MN, MO, MT, NE, NM, NV, ND, OK, OR, SD, TX, UT, WA, WI, WY

Awards: ♫ An award of $50.00* will be presented in each state in which a winner is declared.
♫ An Award of Merit Certificate will be presented to each winner and teacher.

Essay Rules:
2014 Theme: Music – the Dance of Life
2015 Theme: Music – Heartbeat of the Soul

- Contest open to 7-12th grade students. Essay must be typed and no longer than 500 words. Essay is judged on content, neatness and legibility. Membership in NFMC is NOT required to enter.
- Entry form with deadline postmark date is January 15, and mailed to the regional chairman for your state. (Address above).
- Include a wallet size photo with your application form. The current year’s theme and entrant’s name must be typed at the top of the first page. The teacher’s telephone number or a contact number must be included.
- The essays become the property of the NFMC and may be published. Declared winners at the national level, teachers and state presidents will be notified in the winning states.

Entry Form for National Music Week Essay Contest
Entry form and essay must be sent to the Regional NMW Chairman of the entrant’s home state by postmark
deadline January 15. All entries become the property of NFMC and will not be returned. The undersigned
duly applies to enter the National Music Week Essay Contest. State winners are ineligible to re-enter.

Name of Entrant __________________________________________________________________________________
Address (Street, City, State, Zip) ________________________________________________________________
Grade in School: __7 __8 __9 ___10 ___11 ___12   Include Wallet Photo
Are you a member of an active junior club __Yes __No
If a member, give the name of your group _________________________________________________________
  • I hereby certify that I am eligible to enter this contest according to the rules and will comply with all of
    the conditions outlined.
  • If I am one of the national winners, I request that my award be sent to the address listed above, and that
    the Award of Merit be presented to the following in my name:

Teacher’s Name ______________________________________________________________________________
Address ______________________________________ Telephone_____________________________

*In the event of financial shortfalls, advertised award amounts may be adjusted. Applicants would be notified of the award change.

Photocopying permissible/download: www.nfmc-music.org
The National Federation of Music has declared the month of November as American Music Month. The Professor Rudolf R. A. Schramm Parade of American Music honors its founder, Ada Holding Miller, by encouraging 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. The Parade encompasses all aspects of music, i.e., folk music, jazz, hymns, musical theater, symphonies, bands and solo compositions. This Award was established in 1987, by the widow of Professor Rudolf R. A. Schramm (see suggested publicity for additional details).

Entry requirements on following page.
Reporting period covers November 1 – November 30.

Year ____________

Name of Club _______________________________________________________# of Active Members ______

Membership division: Senior ___ Reporting Only _____ Award Competition ______

Name and Title of Sender ______________________________________________________________________

Address ______________________________________________________________________________________

Telephone ___________________________________ E-Mail ______________________________

Send to regional chairman postmarked by March 1. A self addressed stamped envelope must be included if materials are to be returned.
Regional chairman send four finalist entries to national chairman by March 20th.

Entry Requirements on Following Page

Regional Chairmen:
Northeastern: Priscilla Day, 5033 Melrose Drive, Tobyhanna, PA 18466-3154; (570) 894-1375

Southeastern: Ann Kay, 2538 Northplace Drive, Tupelo, MS 38804; (662) 842-6902

North Central: Karen Erickson, 910 Westwood Drive SW, Alexandria, MN 56308; (320) 762-1713

South Central: Connie Craig, 4025 Edgewood Rd., Hannibal, MO 63401; (573) 221-8490

Western: Faith Gossett, 10433 W. Roundelay Circle, Sun City, AZ 85351; (623) 875-7141
1. **Club Programming**
   
   Note: All programs must contain “In support of the efforts of the National Federation of Music Clubs to promote American music” or similar wording. Programs that do not carry this statement will not be included in judging. The NFMC logo must be used as well.

   _____ number of programs that include American music. Enclose printed copy of each.

   _____ number of programs sponsored by this club open to the public. This may include Festivals or Recitals. Include printed program with NFMC logo and NFMC statement. (See Note)

   _____ number of American music selections performed during the year at all club sponsored events. (underline or highlight)

   _____ Entered Parade of American music

2. **Club Promotions**

   _____ number of individuals and community organizations that aided this club in their publicity and/or programming of American music. List names of non-club members, schools, libraries, churches, etc.

   _____ number of other NFMC sponsored events this club participated in; such as National Music Week and American Women Composers. List these with details.

3. **Club Publicity**

   _____ number of newspaper articles. Enclose clippings, name, location and paper date (also include non-published newspaper articles).

   _____ Club uses an official website or comparable web based account to promote upcoming American Music programs, events and festivals. May also include newsletters, scholarship application forms and NFMC goals and objectives.

   _____ number of displays and posters. Enclose pictures of the display or poster at its site.

4. **American composers**

   _____ number of local composers used. State name of composer and composition - include juniors and students.

   _____ number of music commissions done by this club.

5. **Presentation**

   Presentation of the entry will be considered in grading criteria. Folders and notebooks with detailed information and photos are encouraged.

Send to: Connie Craig  
4025 Edgewood Rd.  
Hannibal, MO 63401  
(573) 221-8490  
by March 20, 2015

**Deadline: All entries must be postmarked no later than June 1st.**

Photocopying permissible/download: www.nfmc-music.org August 2013/free
Representing Texas at the Governing Board meeting for Opera in the Ozarks at Inspiration Point Fine Arts Colony November 7 in Oklahoma City, OK, were, front row: Jean Moffatt, recording secretary; Sue Breuer, vice-president; Lee Meyer, Texas trustee; Tim Danielson and Bill Yick, at-large members; and back row: John Moffatt, Dr. John Schmidt and Richard Drapear, at large members. John M. accompanied his wife to the meeting and is a Texan, but is not on the Governing Board. Bill Yick is a past Arkansas FMC president currently living in Lampasas and contemplating a move to Texas.

A record number of past presidents of District 1 (old District 2) attended the District 1 conference October 7 in Lubbock. Seated are Katherine Leonard, Mary Ann Bridges and Jean Moffatt. Standing are Dorene Allen, Carla Johnson, Francis Christmann, and Marcia Evans. Three of the past district presidents (Christmann, Moffatt and Johnson) are also past TFMC presidents, and Mrs. Allen is the 21-year treasurer of TFMC. She was featured speaker at the conference. All seven are Yellow Rose Society members.
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS
American Music Division
AMERICAN WOMEN COMPOSERS PROGRAMS AWARDS AM 6
For Programs of Works by American Women Composers
Presented during the period of June 1 to May 31

ELIGIBILITY:
All NFMC Senior Active Clubs and Senior Affiliated Organizations.

PURPOSE:
To afford wider hearing and stimulate public appreciation and knowledge of the works of American women composers; to encourage their increased use by solo artists, performing groups and students

AWARDS:
Ten (10) $70.00* awards will be given to clubs that present the best program featuring music written by American women composers only.

*In the event of financial shortfalls, advertised award amounts may be adjusted. Applicants would be notified of the award change.

RULES:
1. Entry program must consist entirely of works by American women composers.
2. The program should be typed or printed; contain a complete list of compositions, biographies, composers; date; name and location of club. Include news clippings.
3. The completed application form below is to be filled out, attached to the program, and sent to the national chairman (listed below) to be received by June 1.
4. If no entries qualify no winners will be named.
5. Awards will be announced at the NFMC Conference.

Nettie Loflin, Chairman
44867 NC 8 Highway, New London NC 28127
(704) 463-7477
Email: NLMusic@ctc.net

AMERICAN WOMEN COMPOSERS PROGRAMS AWARDS
– Application
Send to the national chairman (listed above.)
(Please type or print.)
Deadline: June 1, annually

Date: __________________________________
Name of Club:_____________________________________________________________________________
Address:__________________________________________________________________________________
Name of person submitting program: ________________________________________________________
Office in Club:__________________________  Telephone Number ________________________________
Email address _______________________________________________________
Signed:    ____________________________________________________________

Photocopying permissible/download: www.nfmc-music.org

Tim Danielson, NFMC Chairman of Music in Schools and Colleges and a member of the Governing Board of Opera in the Ozarks at Inspiration Point Fine Arts Colony in Eureka Springs, AR, speaks to the TFMC Fall Board Meeting in front of a poster he created which shows the 100-year history of the Texas Federation of Music Clubs. We hope many will get into the spirit of the celebration, look back and look ahead to the history and the future. Make your reservations and come to Brownwood March 19-21, 2015. See the call and slate of officers in the winter Musical Messenger.
ELIGIBILITY: All NFMC Senior Active Clubs and Senior Affiliated Organizations.

PURPOSE: To afford wider hearing and stimulate public appreciation and knowledge of the works of American women composers; to encourage their increased use by solo artists, performing groups and students.

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Nettie Loflin, Chairman 44867 NC 8 Highway, New London NC 28127
(704) 463-7477
Email: NLMusic@ctc.net

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AMERICAN WOMEN COMPOSERS PROGRAMS AWARDS – Application

Send to the national chairman (listed above.)
(Please type or print.)  
Deadline: June 1, annually

Date: ______________________________ 

Name of Club: ________________________________________________________________

Address: _________________________________________________________________

Name of person submitting program: ____________________________________________

Office in Club: ______________________ Telephone Number ________________________

Email address ______________________________________________________________

Signed: ___________________________________________________________________
Building the 21st Century workforce... Reports show creativity is among the top 5 applied skills sought by business leaders — with 72 percent saying creativity is of high importance when hiring. The biggest creativity indicator? A college arts degree. Their Ready to Innovate report concludes, "...the arts — music, creative writing, drawing, dance provide skills sought by employers of the 3rd millennium." Source: AFTA 10 Reasons to Support the Arts, March 2013.

Arts and academic success. Students with an education rich in the arts have higher GPAs and standardized test scores, lower drop-out rates, and even better attitudes about community service — benefits reaped by students regardless of socio-economic status. Students with four years of arts or music in high school average 100 points better on their SAT scores than students with one-half year or less. Source: AFTA 10 Reasons to Support the Arts Updated March 2013.

Our club members realize the importance arts education in our schools. ___YES ___NO

Arts and the business leaders. Americans for the Arts reports that 85 percent of surveyed business executives indicated that they are currently having difficulty recruiting individuals who possess creative ability. The demand for creative people will increase as U.S. firms pursue innovation. Our club understands the importance arts education plays in developing future employment opportunities for our students. ___YES ___NO

Arts and the economy. As of January 2012, the Creative Industries employed a total of 3.35 million people and involved 905,689 businesses. Economic activity of the non-profit arts sector generated $22.3 billion in tax revenue. Our club is aware that the arts not only enhance of lives and communities, but are an important economic engine in our culture. ___YES ___NO Source: AFTA website

Arts and healthcare. Nearly one-half of the nation’s healthcare institutions provide arts programming for patients, families, and even staff. 78 percent deliver these programs because of their healing benefits to patients — shorter hospital stays, better pain management, and less medication. Source: AFTA 10 Reasons to Support the Arts, March 2013.

Our club understands that the arts are playing a bigger role in our healthcare system and having a positive impact. ___YES ___NO

Arts and our stories. Our club understands that our success stories we experience and share is the best way to advocate for the arts. ___YES ___NO

Club Action items. Our club will include arts advocacy on our meeting agendas and will do our best to monitor arts issues by getting involved with regional arts councils, school boards, city councils, and state and national legislation. Our members are aware of these great websites and monitor: www.americansforthearts.org and www.artsusa.org/get_involved/advocate.asp. ___YES ___NO

Individual Action items. We will continue to be on boards of a community band, orchestra, chorus, opera, community theatre, or jazz arts group. We will promote the arts by encouraging our students, friends and families to attend local concerts, theater events, visit museums and galleries, and to support local school music and arts education programs. ___YES ___NO

Enthusiasm! Our club is excited about becoming more involved in arts advocacy! ___YES ___NO

I’m looking forward to hearing from you! Send a copy of this form to your state chairman or if no active state chairman, send directly to the National Chairman: Lee Ann Cummings, 146 W Pinebrook Dr., Brandon, MS 39047. Please include your stories, comments, newspaper articles or clippings. Please feel free to contact me with questions or comments at (601) 992-9330 or via e-mail at cummings-lee28@att.net.