District 2 hosts 93rd TFMC convention

Sixty-nine delegates, including presidents, treasurers, Life Members and other members of TFMC gathered at the Inn Suites, Hotel Trinity in the Horizon Ballroom March 27-29 for the 93rd annual TFMC convention.

District 2 clubs hosted, including Fort Worth Harmony and Euterpean Clubs, Dallas Melodie Club, and Vernon Musicians Club. Darline McKinney, district president, served as convention chair.

NFMC president Lana Bailey was the National guest. Her keynote address at the formal banquet was entitled 'The Art of Shipbuilding.' This was followed by a concert given by Jesse Blumberg, Young Artist in Man's Voice, and his accompanist, Jocelyn Dueck. Both are from New York.

Past TFMC presidents were honored throughout the convention and especially noted at the Saturday luncheon. First-time conventioneers were also recognized.

Margaret Frazier conducted a touching memorial service.

Five new Life Members were announced, two inducted at the Life Member Breakfast by 3rd VP Mary Lou Connelly. State officer and chairman reports and district reports brought lots of good news. Texas has the South Central Region winner in the Joyce Walsh Disability Award in Rebecca Glass, 17, of Plano.

Texas has an applicant for the Wendell Irish viola Award; the Leake J. Ward Music Therapy Award was given this year; bylaws were updated and were made more user-friendly. Elsewhere in this edition you can find the list of Young Composer winners from Texas.

Nine breakout sessions were very successful. Subjects from finances and parliamentary procedure to membership drives and programming ideas were covered. The next convention will have more time for these sharing sessions.

Several appointments were made. The new Gold Cup chair will be Stephanie Black of the Houston area; she will start next year (2009). Kay O’Brien of Amarillo will be the new Leake J. Ward chairman. The Nominating Committee with Barbara Shinn as chairman was appointed to find TFMC officers for the 2009-2011 term.

Texas members were all reminded that we need to support Opera in the Ozarks by becoming members and fulfilling our duty to our South Central Region as one of five states that support the Inspiration Point Fine Arts Colony in Eureka Springs, Arkansas.

The convention ended with all singing the NFMC Benediction led by the composer herself, Lana Bailey.

NMW reports sought

National Music Week chairman Annette Griesbach reminds you to send her reports on how your club celebrated NMW May 4-11. Gather and arrange articles and pictures, and fill out AR-12, make sure that names, dates and city are on all items and that NFMC and TFMC are mentioned and underlined in red. The report should be postmarked and mailed no later than June 1 to Annette so she can judge them and send to the regional chairman for evaluation. To get credit, all activities must have occurred during National Music Week.

Send to Annette Griesbach, 905 Cady Road, Rockdale, TX 76567. If you would like your report returned, send a self-addressed envelope with postage to cover.

Dignitaries at the Young Artist concert March 28 in Fort Worth included, from left: Lora Lynn Christensen, TFMC president; Lee Meyer, TFMC Young Artist presentation chairman; Jocelyn Dueck, accompanist; Francis Christmann, NFMC representative to the NFMC Board; Jesse Blumberg, NFMC Young Artist in Baritone; and Lana Bailey, NFMC president.
From Your TFMC President

by Lora Lynn Christensen, TFMC president

Dear TFMC Members,

The end of the school year is always a busy time for musicians, music teachers and music students. As we finish another year of music, learning, teaching, sharing and making, let us remember National Music Week, May 4-11, "Music: A Sound Foundation for Life." Please remember to publicize this on your printed local programs and through your churches and community newspapers. Music really does make all of life better.

Many, many thanks are due to everyone who made the 93rd annual TFMC state convention such a success. "Cowboys, Culture and Music in our Hearts" was the theme. Darline McKinney, District 2 president and convention chair, led a great team of volunteers and convention hostesses. Linda Jenkins and Fort Worth Harmony Club, Alice Waiker and Euterpean Club, Vernon Musicians Club and Dallas Melodie Club all outdid themselves in the decorations for the banquet and luncheon, the goodie bags and door prizes, and the beautiful items for the Opera in the Ozarks raffle. The entertainment was top-notch, beginning with our own Talent??? Show (Thank you, Lynn McNew, for being our emcee), to the Harmony Six, Christen Glennon, soprano; guitarist Dr. Bill Gradlante, and Young Artist host, Jesse Blumberg. The convention was worth attending for the music interludes and Young Artist concert. Our gracious NFMC president Lana Bailey gave a wonderfully inspiring speech and added class to our convention.

The Breakout Sessions were a great hit, with all attendees sharing information and inspiration. My gratitude goes to Iola Collins, Joyce McGlaun, Gloria Thrasher, Nancy West, Gloria Galey, Jean Barlow, Peggy Jones, Betty Hall, Lee Meyer, Lavemme Love, Madge Seaver, Carolyn Poe, and Dorene Allen for preparing information for these sessions, moderating the sessions, and offering so many ideas for us to carry back to our local clubs. Francis Christmann and Gloria Thrasher proved to be great emcees for the banquet and luncheon.

Thank you to all who attended. Hopefully you went back to your clubs renewed, revived and invigorated with new ideas for growth in membership and ideas for programs and community service. Now accepting ideas for breakout sessions for next convention (and volunteers to lead these sessions, of course!).

If you get this via email and can use it in that form, let me know before the next Messenger in August. It will save us money in printing costs and postage if we can cut down on our mailings. I will send it by email to the addresses I have.

Thank you for all you do in your communities through music.

Lora Lynn Christensen, NCTM
TFMC President

Pay Attention!

by Joyce McGlaun, TFMC Public Relations Chair

Publishing or airing public service announcements such as those for NFMC is becoming more difficult as newspapers, TV, and radio depend more on paid advertising. Taking advantage of free advertising is almost an art form that we practice just as we practice music. Look for community calendars, monthly and weekly bulletin boards, photographic space available, and announcement platforms in local newspapers and on radio and TV stations. For example, our local paper has a section just for readers to send photos, so whenever possible we include one of club events with a short caption. Publications often have a rule that meetings and events must be open to the public, so take advantage of open recitals, concerts, and other events to spread musical news to your city. Whenever possible, include information that makes the article or announcement pertinent to all readers and listeners. For what reason is the event occurring? What age groups are included? Is there historic significance in the meeting? Can other groups benefit from this information? Is the local clearly stated, including the time? Is there a contact person for more information, and is the phone, email, or other information included, and is it safe to do so? Is the photo flattering to individuals? Is the photo static or alive with action? Are there poles or banners "growing" in the background distracting from the focus of the photo?

Remember that the goal of an announcement, article, or photograph is to bring attention to how the community is served by musicians. An interesting personal article with a single person or object photographed is far more eye-catching than a "mug shot" of 7 women lined up facing the camera for no apparent reason. Most media stations would prefer that you do their work for them by sending an email with article well edited and digital photo attached with the caption clearly stated. Know your editors, events planners, and how to contact them by email, sending a short cover note stating where you would like the announcement or article read or printed, and be sure all attachments are ready for publishing. These details will keep your journalists happy, paying attention to you and your club, and let the community pay attention to great music events.
Winter 2008 The Musical Messenger Page Three

State Jr. Composer winners
by Sherry Frush, TFMC Junior Composers Chairman

Five TFMC teachers sent a total of 15 entries for 2008. Eight winning compositions were sent on to the region contest. The 2008 judge was Leanne Baldwin, executive director of the Abilene Philharmonic. She previously held the same position with the North Arkansas Symphony Orchestra. Winners and their teachers are listed at right.

Come to Denver
TFMC members on the NFMC board and any others: NFMC Fall Board Session is August 5-10 at the Denver, Colorado Renaissance Hotel. Information is being sent out by email; the agenda is set. If you have not received an email with all pertinent information, let the TFMC president know, and it will be forwarded to you. If you intend to fly, call and make reservations how. The Democratic convention is in Denver about the same time so hotel rooms and plane tickets will be at a premium!

District presidents set rotation for hosting state conventions
- District presidents and vice-presidents worked out a rotating schedule for hosting the state TFMC conventions in the future. These are pointing toward the 100th convention in 2015.
- The schedule is as follows:

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Memorial honors five
Margaret Frazier’s memorial at the TFMC state convention remembered five members lost during the past year.
Those remembered were Dorothea Little from Fort Worth Harmony Club, Elaine Elrick and Betty Surrret from Fort Worth Euterpean Club, and Carol Jay and Louise Chapin from Tyler Music Colene.
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State Jr. Composer winners

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District Jr. Composer winners

Junior I (ages 9 and under)
1st Place: Jonas Sims
Teacher: Sherry Frush, NCTM, Abilene
2nd Place: Jess Westman
Teacher: Sherry Frush, NCTM, Abilene
Honorable Mention: Matthew Mize
Teacher: Holly Hughes, Weatherford

Junior II (ages 10-12)
1st Place: Rachel Thompson
Teacher: Denise Prebilsky, Friendswood
2nd Place: Matthew Thomas
Teacher: Holly Hughes, Weatherford
Honorable Mention: Jonathang Crisp
Teacher: Sherry Frush, NCTM, Abilene

Junior III (ages 13-15)
1st Place: Krystal Sommers
Teacher: Denise Prebilsky, Friendswood
2nd Place: Laura Tobey
Teacher: Sherry Frush, NCTM, Abilene

Junior IV (ages 16-18)
1st Place: Jesse Londo
Teacher: Dr. Dariusz Paules
2nd Place: Parker Gordon
Teacher: Holly Hughes, Weatherford
Honorable Mention: Keith La Londe
Teacher: Geraldine Sharpley, Houston

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Achievement Record book dates revert
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Come to Eureka Springs in July!

Opera in the Ozarks is located near Eureka Springs, Arkansas at Inspiration Point Fine Arts Center. Texas FMC is one of five supporting states (010 is our “summer music center”) that lends support financially and through our attendance at the operas, especially during Federation Days. Texas supports OIO with two half-scholarships (totaling $3,400) and further monetary contributions from several of our individual members and local clubs. Money from the raffle at the state convention will go toward the $1,000 requested contribution by each supporting state.

This summer the operas will be La Bohème, The Mikado, and The Mighty Mikado; and the children’s opera will be The Mighty Mikado. Auditioned, selected students arrive at the camp in May and begin rehearsing, learning costume, stage makeup, setbuilding and staging techniques. The three operas are presented on a rotating basis from June 20 to July 18. Federation Days are July 16-19. By attending Federation Days, you can attend the South Central Region meetings and see all three operas. The South Central Region meetings are also delightful because you get additional opera scenes, duets and arias presented by the young artists from “the Point.”

Texas’ assignment this year is the Friday luncheon, and “La Bohème” is our theme. We will be in charge of decorating about 8 tables and the head table.

Please consider becoming a member. The official call will be sent in June.

Elections require reporting

Local clubs will be holding elections and INSTALLATIONS during April and May. Please send a list of your officers and chairmen to the state president and the national office, even if your officers/chairmen remain the same. We need to know you have held elections and that we have the correct information for the coming year.

District presidents also need to send in a list of chairmen, if there are any changes from what is listed in the 2007-2009 TFMC Directory.

Good luck planning your programs for the upcoming music year! Using the Senior Club Report Form is a good place to start when planning.