A Letter from our President:

Dear IFMC Members,

Happy Fall to you! I think the fall colors have been especially explosive this year! I hope this newsletter finds you all doing well. I would not have believed back in March that we would still be struggling with Covid-19 and navigating our new world. But…...here we are!

I have a few things to report. First off, our sight-playing events in festival have changed in a big way. We will be using a uniform sight-playing booklet for piano. All festivals will have their copies before their festival. Sara Kreilein, Hendricks County Co-Chair is composing excerpts for the first 6 levels and Ginny Jones, Bloomington Chair is compiling the upper level categories. Please check your new bulletin because the levels are combined and they do not necessarily match up with the title of the piano solo. Also, students cannot start sight-playing until Primary 2. This is also a change from years past. Thank you to Sara and Ginny for their help!

The State Convention is currently planned at IUPUI for June 4-5, 2021. We are hoping that it will take place in person as in years past. However, if we are unable to assemble in a large group, we have alternate plans to hold our honors recital competition virtually. Please make sure you hold your playoff events post festival in 2021 – even if your festival is virtual. David Mannell is currently looking into a new platform for registration that takes care of registration and scheduling. Stay tuned!

The NFMC Conference that was to take place this past June in Indianapolis has been rescheduled for 2022. We are excited that we will be able to host here in Indianapolis after all! We will invite all of the same presenters and performers that we had planned for 2020. The one thing that we did not make happen by the deadline for 2020 was to write a grant for some extra funds. We are in the process of working through that right now. If you have any great ideas or information to help, please let me know!

There is a lot of new and exciting music in the new national bulletin. I hope your students are enjoying some of these new pieces to work on.

I thank all of you for being a part of IFMC. I thank you for all of your volunteerism. Without you, IFMC would not be as strong as we are. I am proud of our organization and our members! Stay safe and well!

Sincerely,

Lisa Cremer
IFMC President
Indiana Federation Festivals

By Virginia Kleeberg—IFMC State Festival Chair

FESTIVALS 2020 – Not Quite Traditional!

I'll bet you've heard this understatement more than once this year: “2020 has been far from normal or traditional.” Our Indiana Festivals were certainly not the exception. Out of ten festival areas, two of them were able to hold traditional, live and on-site festivals. Indy North’s and Muncie’s festivals were completed before March 16, when most of Indiana schools and businesses closed for an anticipated two weeks (which closures, as we all know, were extended to an unknown future). Kokomo’s festival was scheduled for the weekend of March 13 and 14 and they were able to have most of their events live and on-site, but accommodated any who felt uncomfortable coming in person. For those, they offered video calls via Facebook Messenger and FaceTime. Theory and sight reading for these students were accomplished by sending digital images or documents to the student or teacher during the video calls. All of the other Indiana Festivals were scheduled for April and May, so live, on-site festivals were not an option. Three areas decided to cancel their festivals. After consulting with their teachers and venue personnel, Evansville East and West and Jasper festivals concluded that to hold their festivals at a later date would not be beneficial since so many of the teachers would not be teaching private lessons during the closures or over the summer, or that the teachers felt the technology involved to hold virtual festivals was beyond their capabilities and the effort would be too time-consuming. All three festivals refunded fees. Two of these areas would have had a combined total of about 200 students and nearly 550 entries.

Hendricks County, Evansville Central, Northwest Indiana, and Bloomington held virtual festivals using a combination of Zoom meetings for “real time” adjudication, or had students submit video recordings for judges to peruse at their convenience. Most of these areas gave extended time for the festival events to be virtually performed and adjudicated. Some were completed within a week, where others took up to a month to get everything scheduled, tabulated and the results to teachers and their students. Theory tests were provided via email to teachers to administer to their students and get the completed tests back to the festival chair, either via scan or by teacher personal turn-in. Sight reading was done both virtually and in person (observing COVID social distancing and other guidelines or restrictions).

Even though the State Honors Recital was cancelled, four areas, Indy North, Muncie, Kokomo, and Bloomington, held virtual playoffs and/or awarded their scholarships to those students who would have attended the State Convention.

Not surprisingly, our 2020 total number of festival participants and events was down by nearly 1,500 from last year (3,656 in 2019 and 2,186 in 2020). When Festival Area Chairs were asked whether it was worth the extra effort, though, they unanimously reported that it was indeed gratifying that teachers, parents, and students were happy to be able to have festival even in the midst of a pandemic.
Junior Composer Report

The deadline for the Junior Composers Contest is January 31, 2021.

There will be two online applications to be submitted to National level and Indiana level. The Indiana level must be completed and submitted through a Google form located on the IFMC website.

Thank you in advance for all of your talented students who participate in this contest.

Dr. Karri York, D.M.
Dear Members,

There is one change to report for our IFMC Standing Rules. By vote of the Board of Directors at the September 12, 2020 Zoom meeting, due to the number of submissions we are receiving, the IFMC will now have a second award for Music in Poetry. Our current award of $50 will now be for the winner in Grades 9-12 and a second award of $25 will be for the winner in Grades 1-6.

We are also researching the history of some of our state awards. Over the years information has been lost from memory and also written documentation lost concerning how these awards were set up - their funding, the reason for the honor, and so forth. A committee, comprised of David Mannell, Ronda Rosenbaum, Peg Bryan and myself, has begun researching these important awards. If you have knowledge of how/when the following awards were established, I would love to hear from you!

- Elsie Sweeney-Mildred Bradley Camp Scholarship Award
- Marybelle Moore Award (Honors Recital - Piano Solo Grades 9-12 Winner)
- Irene Harvey Award (Honors Recital - Piano Solo through Grade 8)
- Joanne Kern Award (Honors Recital - Piano Solo 2nd Place through Grade 8)
- Mary Alice Cox Award

We're hopeful to hear from some longtime members who might know details concerning these awards. Thank you!

Marta Hassfurder
IFMC Standing Rule and Bylaw Chair
mmpiano@juno.com
Lucy Evans— I chose Chautauqua this year because after my experience last year, I knew that the instruction and environment in this program would help me grow as a singer and artist. Even over Zoom, I gained so much from my lessons with the school faculty, as well as in master classes with Susan Graham, Renée Fleming and Benjamin Moore. The past two years at Chautauqua have truly shaped the way I approach singing as well as introduced me to a community of friends from across the world—even when attending from my house in Washington state! I am so grateful to the NFMC for helping to make this experience possible. Bio: Originally from Bellingham, Washington, mezzo-soprano Lucy Evans recently graduated with her bachelor’s degree from Northwestern’s Bienen School of Music. While at Northwestern, she appeared in such roles as Prince Orlofsky (Die Fledermaus), Mother Goose (The Rake’s Progress), Irene (Theodora), and Third Lady (The Magic Flute). She also directed a student production of Gilbert and Sullivan’s Iolanthe. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, she recorded and filmed the role of Euridice in Monteverdi’s L’Orfeo as part of Northwestern’s remote opera project, to be released on YouTube this fall. In addition to operatic pursuits, Lucy is a lover of new music, and was a member of the Bienen Early/Contemporary Ensemble, directed by Grammy-award winning conductor Donald Nally. In her two summers at the Chautauqua Institute, she appeared in master classes with Renée Fleming, Susan Graham, Benjamin Moore and Brian Zeger, as well as a recital with Mikael Eliason. She is spending the Covid pandemic in her hometown, enjoying time with her family, dog and chickens.
IFMC OFFICERS

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Student/Collegiate Awards and Scholarships Chairman: Peg Bryan
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IFMC BANNER

Back around 1997, a banner was made for Indiana Federation of Music Clubs that was last seen at the 2001 IFMC State Convention that was held at Muncie, IN. The banner is roughly 3 feet wide, and about 5 feet long, gold satin material, and had the state of Indiana outline mounted on the gold satin. The banner hung on a wooden pole which sat in a metal base, very similarly displayed like an American Flag, a state flag, or a banner at your local church. If you have seen the IFMC State banner, please contact one of the state officers ASAP. Thank you!