



INDIANA
Federation of Music Clubs

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Music Clubs

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Spring Newsletter

May 2016

A Letter from our President:

As previously reported, the 2015 IFMC State Convention was a hit with the special Friday evening banquet and entertainment along with our board meetings, and the luncheon and program on Saturday with our NFMC President, Carolyn Nelson. It was decided that we would like that new tradition to continue, so we have invited a national guest for this year's Friday evening meetings and Saturday Honors Recital: 2015 NFMC Young Artist in Women's Voice, Christie Conover. You will have an opportunity to hear her in recital on Friday evening after our dinner and in performance and presentation at our Saturday afternoon program. I heard her perform at the NFMC Convention last June and can guarantee you will be thoroughly entertained by this young woman who portrays many characters with energy and grace. See her biography elsewhere in this newsletter. The recital on Friday evening is open to all. Our venue for the board meetings and recital on Friday evening is the NFMC Headquarters in Greenwood. There is an intimate recital hall that receives few requests for performance and our state organization has been encouraged to use the facility. For our board members (and this is all festival chairs, senior club presidents, officers and chairmen of various IFMC departments), please plan to be at this annual meeting. There are some changes at the National level that will have an effect on our State organization, and we have several important matters to address. Among those items will be the election of IFMC Recording Secretary and IFMC Treasurer, which occurs in even numbered years. Both of these positions are currently held by interim appointees. You will be receiving an official invitation with an agenda very shortly. Just a reminder to Board members: please make sure you provide your written annual report, summarizing the activities of your office since June 1, 2015. You may submit your report to Interim Secretary Catherine Kling at kling50@comcast.net by May 27, 2016 so that copies may be prepared for the meeting.

The Honors Recitals and Awards Program will be held at the University of Indianapolis and the program after lunch will again feature essayists and junior composers, as well as festival ensembles from around the state, in addition to the performance and presentation by Ms. Conover. All IFMC board members, festival chairs and teachers are invited to join us for the luncheon provided by IFMC

between the Honors Recitals and the Awards program. Festival chairs, please be reminded that we want each festival to be represented by a superior ensemble or other non-Honors Recital junior festival event (such as musical theater, fiddling, non-orchestral instrument solo – you get the idea). Please provide Lisa Cremer (lisapcremer@gmail.com) with the information for your ensemble or other performer, including the names of the performer(s), the performance medium, and the title and composer of the piece that will be performed no later than May 15, 2016 so that it may be included in the printed program

As various circumstances occur, officers change in IFMC and so it is this year. Donna Thiele has been our IFMC Composition Chair for at least 20 years and has tendered her resignation to make way for, as she puts it, a younger junior composer enthusiast. She has been our junior composers' greatest champion and has submitted a letter of encouragement to our composers elsewhere in this newsletter. A hearty and heartfelt thank you, Donna, for your many years of dedicated service to IFMC and especially to the junior composers!

Our webmaster and newsletter editor, Teresa Kirkbride has also tendered her resignation and we extend our appreciation for her service in getting the website up and running and producing the newsletter for the last couple of years. We hope to announce her replacement(s) at our annual meeting. Thank you, Lisa Cremer, for taking care of the newsletter this time; Lisa has already said she is only doing this one, so here is my invitation to any of you to step up and volunteer for this essential opportunity to serve IFMC.

Kudos again to our Indiana student essayists and junior composers! See the information about these remarkable students in the following pages.

I wish to again express my appreciation to the many who volunteer their time, talents, and energy to IFMC, as well as an appreciation for your patience with me as I juggle the many responsibilities I carry right now in addition to serving as your president. I so enjoy our annual meetings where we can renew connections and our common interest in the art that most deeply moves the soul. Where would we be without music in our lives, our mind, our hearts – indeed our very being? Looking forward to seeing you in Greenwood and Indianapolis on June 3 and 4!

 (Ginny)

IFMC is looking for donations for the Welcome Bags for our
Honors Recital Students

If you can add anything to the bag, we would appreciate it!

Ideas: mints, candy, granola bars, pens, coupons etc.

Count: aprox. 60 students

Please let Lisa Cremer know if you have anything to add to the
bags ASAP!

Bring your items to the board meeting on June 3rd!

2016 Convention Call Out
June 3-4, 2016
National Headquarters &
University of Indianapolis
with
Special Guest
Christie Conover
NFMC 2015 Young Artist Winner



Described as a “jewel” with a “lovely timbre, perfect trill, and soaring top”, soprano Christie Conover is a rapidly rising star. Her voice, rich and warm, is partnered by a personal grace both on and off the stage. Her sensitive portrayal of characters such as Liù (Turandot), Juliette (Romeo et Juliette) and Micaëla (Carmen) have garnered her critical acclaim, as well as her fiery portrayal of Musetta (La bohème) and effervescent, comedic rendition of Clorinda (La Cenerentola). Often reviewed as “the standout” and “particularly impressive” she most recently reprised the role of Pamina with the Minnesota Opera and was referred to as “elegant” and with a “voice as rich and smooth as cream.”

Ms. Conover has received national attention through esteemed competitions, most recently winning the National Federation of Music Clubs 2015 Young Artist Competition in Women’s Voice. In 2013, she won Second Place and the favored Audience Choice Award at the Irene Dalis Competition and in 2011 she claimed Third Place in the Rocky Mountain Region competition of the prestigious Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, followed by Regional Finalist in 2012. She also garnered First Place in the Denver Lyric Opera Guild in 2010. Ms. Conover earned a Masters of Music degree from the University of Colorado Boulder and a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from San Jose State University (CA) where she studied with famed soprano, Erie Mills. Ms. Conover was proud to represent her home state of Montana as a contestant in the 2007 Miss America Pageant and traveled extensively speaking to students on a platform close to her heart: “Music Makes the Difference.”

Christie will be performing for IFMC Board Members on Friday night and again on Saturday for students and families!

Timeline of Events:

Friday, June 3, 2016

NFMC Headquarters

1646 W. Smith Valley Road

Greenwood, IN 46142

4:00 PM – Investment Committee
Executive Board

5:00 PM – Gather

5:30 PM – Dinner provided by Texas Roadhouse (Price per person 15.00)

6:00 PM – Performance by Christie Conover, NFMC Young Artist 2015

7:00 PM – General Board Meeting

8:00 PM – Festival Chair Meeting

(Please email Linda Sabatino (llsabatino@aol.com) for your dinner reservation no later than May 27th)

Saturday, June 4, 2016

University of Indianapolis

Christel DeHaan Fine Arts Center

1400 Hanna Avenue

Indianapolis, IN 46227

9:00-9:45 AM – Student Registration

9:45 AM – Call to Order

10:00 AM – Competition

LUNCH BREAK – LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED BY IFMC FOR ALL
TEACHERS/IFMC BOARD MEMBERS

12:30 PM – Program/Awards Ceremony

(Please email Linda Sabatino (llsabatino@aol.com) for your lunch reservation no later than May 28th)

We look forward to seeing you for the 96th State
Convention with special guest Christie Conover!



Indy North Student receives State of Indiana Award!



Matthew Ng a sophomore in Fishers, Indiana began his piano study at the age of five with Elaine Wagner. He started participating in NFMS Festival competitions the following year and has earned Superior and Super Superior ratings in solo piano for ten years. In the 2016 Indy North Festival this spring he received a special State of Indiana Gold award. He has participated in hymn, piano duet, accompanying, theory, folk & patriotic and sight-reading events. In addition Matthew started playing the violin at age ten and has earned superior ratings in violin solo and sight-reading events. He plays violin in the Fishers High School orchestra. In his spare time, Matthew enjoys spending time with his friends and family and outdoor activities.

Indy North Junior Festival Playoff Results Saturday, March 26, 2016 Judge: Phoenix Park-Kim

Junior Winners:

Ethan Watts – student of Carolyn Lorenzoni

Vivian Zheng – student of Ed Moy

Honorable Mention:

Richard Wu – student of Nien-Hwa Chen

Senior Winners:

Rachel Jones – student of Lisa Sullivan

Sophia Wang – student of Ed Moy

Honorable Mention:

Brianna Greenman – student of Lisa Sullivan



Hendricks Co. Jr. Festival Playoff

April 16, 2016



Junior Vocal Winner:
Abigail Johnson

Senior Vocal Winners:
Isabelle Hackett
Sara Russell

Junior Piano Winner:
Trinity Le

Senior Piano Winners:
Emily Kilgore
Taylor Mock

Senior Piano Finalists:
Abraham Rittenhouse
Sarah White

Congratulations students and teachers!

MUNCIE JUNIOR FESTIVAL PLAYOFF RESULTS

April 2, 2016

Junior Piano -- Samantha Allen and Grace Huisman

Senior Piano -- Stanley Zheng and Minna Zheng

Senior Instrumental -- Stanley Zheng and Mallery Sharp

Indy South Jr. Festival Playoff
April 16, 2016



South-side regional finals took place at the University of Indianapolis on Saturday, April 16th. Dr. Minju Choi, professor at UIndy, chose two winners from the senior piano division, junior piano division, and senior instrumental division.

Pictured from left to right: Garrett Tapia, Patrick Baysinger, Chloe Crockett, David (DJ) Baillie, Laurinda Godfrey, Adam Brody

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

2016 Indiana Federation of Music Clubs Junior Composition Winners

Junior I

4 entries, 2 winners sent to NFMC Northeast Regional Contest

Zoe Jiang Age 8 **The Snow Flake Dance** **94 winner**
Teacher: Kim Van Vorst (Music Express)

Hokito Taketa Age 9 **Church Chimes** **93 Winner**
Teacher: Kim Van Vorst (Music Express)

Junior II

2 entries, 2 equal winners sent to NFMC Northeast Regional Contest

Timothy Duke Age 12 **Lemon Meringue Pie** **99 winner**
Teacher: Nancy Spahr (Spars Stars)

Kait Taketa Age 10 **Mystery** **97 winner**
Teacher: Teacher: Kim Van Vorst (Music Express)

Junior III

5 entries, 2 equal winners sent to Regional, 1 second place, 1 honorable mention

Josh Catanzaro Age 15 **Insanity** **98 winner**
Teacher: Nancy Spahr (Spahr's Stars)

Benjamin M. Barkdoll Age 15 **Waltz in F minor** **98 winner**
Teacher: Mark Tanner (Tanner Junior Music Club)

Richard Wu Age 14 **Prelude in F# Minor** **96 second
place**
Teacher: Teacher: Mark Tanner (Tanner Junior Music Club)

Dusty Marlatt Age 15 **The Hurricane A Suite** **94 honorable mention**
Teacher: Charis Vander Plaats (Wabash Valley)

Junior IV

2 entries, 2 equal winners sent to NFMC Northeast Regional

Addison Sarver Age 18 **The Curiously Brief Adventure** **97 winner**
Teacher: Nancy Spahr (Spahr's Stars)

Jessica Myers Age 16 **The Long Way Home** **95 winner**
Teacher: Kim Van Vorst (Music Express)

**Congratulations Junior
Composers!!!**

Josh Cantanzaro
Regional
Composition Winner



Josh Cantanzaro is 16 years old and in the 10th grade at Maconaquah High School in Bunker Hill, Indiana. His musical background includes being principal percussionist in the school marching and concert bands, two years of Musikgarten classes, and ten years of piano lessons with Nancy Spahr in Peru, Indiana. He was fortunate to have attended Butler University Summer Piano Camp in 2014 and hopes to attend the Indiana University Piano Academy in 2016. He has also won numerous awards and contests for playing the piano around the state. Josh is a very active young man; in addition to music, 4-H and school activities, Josh also plays keyboard on his church's worship team each Sunday.

Collected Advice and Information to Junior Composers and Their Teachers:

1. Don't get discouraged if you don't win money. Why?
 - a. There is always more to learn even if you did win! You **gained knowledge** doing it!
 - b. The competition here is stiff and you would like those people who beat your score!
 - c. The judge's decision is only an opinion. Sometimes judges disagree.
 - d. Please know that there are many professional offerings that win publication **after multiple application rejections**. (Case in point: "The Lord's Prayer" – the one most commonly now performed.)
2. Know that the National Federation of Music Clubs weights its winners by how many instruments are featured in the composition. We feel this is unfair, but have not been able to change their ruling. But this does encourage you to think outside the piano keyboard.
3. My apologies for the complication of the application. However, as you progress in life, knowing how to get and fill out a complicated application may be the most important lesson of all. Just knowing that you will not receive feedback in a machine stamped envelope is something to know. (Post Office rules) Set aside a time to be neat and not late. It's important.
4. Work the program. If you are computer generating, you need to know the details of the machine you are working on. Sometimes the biggest errors noted by a judge are for not knowing how to make your ideas clear. And there are contests where if the performance disc is not accurate to the written page, points are taken off. Dr. Nagel doesn't do that, but just know that can be a liability.
5. Make copies of everything, even the applications before you fill them out... Sign your name to everything. Number your measures. Identify the systems, even if it's just piano. Add phrase lines, pedal marks, DYNAMICS. Reread last years' judges critique. Check the application rules. Check all markings on your manuscript. Is what you've written what you want? Ask somebody else to check it also. A fresh eye can catch a repeated error.
6. Be passionate about your creation. These are your ideas and they are worthy. Yes, the details are daunting, but you must persist. It's your plan and worth every bit of the effort! You are a composer.
7. Be grateful. Write a thank you note to the president, or judge, or your teacher. Nice people are generally liked better than complainers. You are more likely to be remembered if you keep putting your name out there. Giving attention gets attention. And after all, you are glad you wrote it aren't you? These are the people who gave you the opportunity and helped you along the way.
8. Winners in the National Federation levels get a second check from Indiana. That is a scholarship in my name.

2016 Indiana Essay Winners



Nolan Bauer was the elementary winner of the IN Essay Contest. He is a 6th grader from Zionsville, Indiana. He studies piano with Cindy Argentine. His music background includes 2 years of Kindermusic, piano lessons for 5 ½ years and violin in the school orchestra for 1 ½ years. His favorite song to play on the piano is Pirates of the Caribbean. He loves sports and math!

A joke he would like to share with you:

Did you hear about the crazy pianist who was banging the piano with the side of his head? He was playing by ear!!!!

Jessica Myers is a 16-year-old junior attending Evansville Day School in Evansville, Indiana. She has played the piano for 11 years and the clarinet for 7 years. She plays clarinet in the Day School band. Jessica thoroughly enjoys composing music, which she plans to publish someday. She has been competing in ISSMA and Federation music competitions every year. Jessica also participates in University of Evansville's Summer Music Camp. Although she loves all of her classes at school, some of her favorite subjects are Calculus, Chemistry, Biology, and Physics. In her free time, besides playing piano and clarinet and composing music, she enjoys reading, sewing, dancing, and painting. Jessica also loves photography and astronomy.





Christos Tsitsaros MasterClass

The Indianapolis Piano Teacher's Association is pleased to report that we hosted Christos Tsitsaros April 8th and 9th in Indianapolis.

Dr. Tsitsaros is professor of Piano Pedagogy at the University of Illinois. He began his musical studies in his native country of Cyprus and subsequently won several European Piano performance competitions. In 1986, a scholarship from the A.G. Leventis Foundations helped him come to the United States and pursue further musical studies at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music, where he received a Masters of Music. In 1993, he received his Doctor of Musical Arts in Piano Performance at the University of Illinois.

In 1992, Dr. Tsitsaros won the composition competition at the 1992 National Conference on Piano Pedagogy. This launched an ongoing relationship with Hal Leonard Corporation. His works are often listed in the National Federation of Music Clubs handbook. Some of his more recent publications under Hal Leonard include Songs Without Words, Dances from Around the World, Sonatina Humoresque and Lyric Ballads.

Dr. Tsitsaros regularly appears in workshops and conferences as a performer and lecturer in Europe, the United States, Russia and Canada.

For our organization, Dr. Tsitsaros gave two lectures: "Objectives and Trends in Piano Composition" and "Musical and Technical Incentives for the Developing Pianist." In his masterclasses, he worked with students ranging from age 7 to collegiate and with students playing his pieces as well as well-known classical compositions and original student compositions. Dr. Tsitsaros was a delight to meet and connected well with the variety of students who played for him.

