



# National Federation of Music Clubs

## In Tune with NFMC November 2023

### Greetings

November is National Gratitude month. Embracing the power of gratitude enables us to shift our focus from negativity to the positive aspects of our lives, and we have much for which to celebrate!



NFMC Parade of American Music is celebrated the entire month of November, and our NFMC Invocation contest deadline is November 1. Our mission is to support and promote American Music, so celebrate and share our musical heritage.

We have new members! States, clubs, and individuals are continuing to send names of new members who joined in October, so we're extending this initiative for another month. Those acquiring new members will be recognized - keep up the good work!

### NFMC Conference - Iowa 2024



Meredith Wilson had it right when he wrote, "Oh, there's nothin' halfway about the Iowa way to treat you." And we plan to treat you to an exciting conference filled with good food, fun and fellowship.

In Iowa, we know that "Nothing Runs Like a Deere" except the fine well-oiled conference planning team. This team has been hard at work striving to make the 2024 NFMC Conference in Bettendorf, Iowa the best it can be.

As John Deere has grown, it has always stayed true to its core values – integrity, quality, commitment, and innovation and the 2024 Conference Planning Committee has done the same.

This year's conference will offer quality: With your conference hotel reservation at The Isle on the mighty Mississippi river, will INCLUDE a Breakfast Buffet just for NFMC conference attendees. And if you drive—parking is free! Enjoy a unique experience of an evening dinner cruise on the Celebration Belle, an authentic paddlewheel boat designed for cruising the waterways of the great

Mississippi River. The dock for this vessel and the Channel Cat Water Taxi are across the parking lot and up the steps to the levee.

This year's conference will offer commitment: Commitment to the mission and purpose of NFMC in providing quality musical performances and opportunities for all members. The Happy Dog Duo will bring an exciting performance on an historic and unique Pleyel Double Grand piano. There will be workshops by renowned pedagogues, Melody Bober, Dr. Helen Marlais, and our own Dr. Jason Sifford. Opportunities for members to participate in music making will be provided by Audrey Johnson as she shares her workshop: Lest We Forget: Voices of American Women Yesterday and Today

This year's conference will offer innovative ideas: You will get to experience an Iowa picnic supper (yes, there will be hog!) Thursday evening before the Happy Dog Duo concert. Impromptu performances by members will be encouraged as part of our Opera-On-Tap series. The 2024-2028 Festival Bulletin will offer some new repertoire that we hope to highlight with the composers.

Start planning now and get these dates on your calendar (and circle them) June 11-15, 2024 in Bettendorf, IA. See you there!

## 125th Celebration

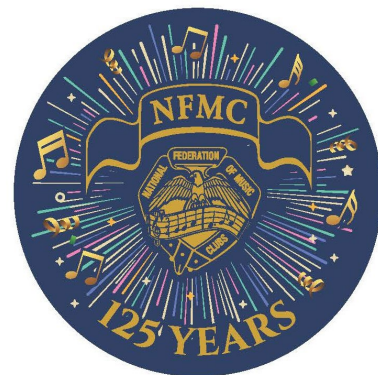
Thank you to all who have made your 125th celebration contributions. We are still accepting donations through the website. (Online Payment - choose plan 125th Celebration Contribution) Donors will be listed in the magazine.

Deadline today:

-Invocation Contest: Be sure to upload words and music by November 1st. You can see the requirements [here](#).

-Cover art celebrating 125 years (1998-2023) from Juniors. Magazine deadline is November 1st. Please send submissions to editor Jeanne Hryniewicki at [JRK@nfmcc-music.org](mailto:JRK@nfmcc-music.org).

Have you gotten your 125th Celebration pin, pen, luggage tag or stickers? Contact headquarters today.



## Technology Tips



### Creating an identity with a logo

A logo says everything about your organization without saying a word. It makes a first impression, establishes an identity, connotes a feeling of integrity, makes your organization easily identifiable, and establishes a bond with your members and the community. Find out how to create a logo for your organization in Tech Tip #5 [here](#)



### Division News

**Competitions & Awards Division - Lucinda Lear, Chair**  
CALLING TEACHERS AND/OR JUNIOR CLUB ADVISORS:

One of the most active divisions of our Federation is the Junior Division. Last month we highlighted all of the Senior club awards available in NFMFC. This month I would like to promote the club awards that are available for Junior clubs.

Junior clubs can take on a variety of cloaks—some may meet regularly, have officers, perform for one another, do community service projects and the list goes on. Others may meet only to perfect and participate in Federation Festivals. Whatever format the clubs may adopt, it is the junior counselor or teacher who has to be the catalyst for pursuing club awards. So as junior clubs begin meeting, please take out your Competitions & Awards chart (CA 20-1) and review the annual NFMFC Club and Institutional Awards available for Juniors:

**Just Jazz**—Plan a meeting where jazz is king! Study a jazz composer, listen to a great jazz recording, review the blues chord progression and collaborate on a jazz improv. There are 10 \$25.00 club awards for celebrating jazz!

**American Music**—Make it a yearlong (minimum of 4 programs) celebration of American Music and all the various facets. Who are the American women composers? Plan a program on Irving Berlin or George Gershwin and include vocal and instrumental collaborators. This might be good preparation for the Festival Accompanying event. There is a \$250 award for a yearlong celebration of American music!

ASCAP offers a \$400 Institutional award to a high school that promotes American music with

lectures, recitals, premieres. This might be a good time to involve your junior composers and premier an original composition.

New this year are the 4 junior club awards of \$25 each for outstanding work in promoting international music relations.

Celebrate the string clubs or string players. There will be 10 junior clubs who will receive \$25 for the most outstanding string program and project. Could YOUR club take advantage of this award?

There are many more individual awards for juniors and I will highlight those next month, but it's always more fun to do activities together.....so get the whole club together and tackle a project that will earn money and have fun doing it!

TEACHERS----it's up to YOU!

### **Membership Division - Natlynn Hayes, Chair**

I hope that all the clubs have gathered to share some music by this time. My senior club had a wonderful first gathering with piano and vocal music shared by 8 young ladies at our first ever Little Girls Tea Party!! We all had a great time! Thank you to all of you that gave me the fascinators that Barbara Murray made for you to wear in the Arts Division at the 2023 Convention. She also made more and mailed them to me, so I would have enough for each girl. Barbara's creativity went outside the realms of music. Our members have many talents!

I also want to remind you to make sure that your dues are sent in to your treasurer. Remember that only the SENIOR dues were increased to \$8.00 per member. The student and junior dues remain the same.

Keep making music and encouraging our young musicians to check out NFMCC!!

### **Public Relations Division - Julie Watson, Chair**

Please note the magazine article deadline is November 1st. We'd like to have an article from every state federation. Send state news to Editorial Chair, Susan Rigoulot at [editorialchair@nfmc-music.org](mailto:editorialchair@nfmc-music.org).

Speaking of magazines, if you are a teacher with students in Festival, you should have a subscription to Junior Keynotes! The magazine recognizes all of our Junior and Student/Collegiate winners and shares important details there. You can sign up [here](#), please choose plan: Junior Keynotes.

## **In Closing**

For your continued support to me, and your dedication and work for NFMC, I am truly grateful. Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family!

Deborah

