

Michigan Federation of Music Clubs

# CounterPoint

*Michigan Federation of Music Clubs is affiliated with National Federation of Music Clubs*



Volume 67, Issue 2..... Fall, 2018

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**Plan now...**

**2019 MFMC Convention May 16-18**  
**Ann Arbor Regent Hotel**  
**and Conference Center**

## ***President's Message***

Dear Michigan Federation of Music Clubs Members, Colleagues, and Friends,

First, thank you for the privilege to serve as your state president. We have so very much to be proud of in Michigan. While at the National Federation of Music Clubs Conference in June and the NFMC NE Region Conference in July, Michigan was praised for our work in leadership, communications, and technology.

Congratulations to MFMC Communications and Senior Club Reporting Chair, Elizabeth Wooley, who secured 100% reporting from Michigan Senior Clubs. Thank you, Senior Club Presidents, for your continued dedication to bringing professional programs, student and junior scholarships, and local camaraderie to your clubs: Thank you for communicating your work to us.

Next, congratulations to MFMC Festival Chair, Katherine Nold, who works tirelessly to assist with new Federation and Festival teachers and juniors, and just as importantly, works to secure a place in Michigan for juniors transferring from other Federated states. Junior membership both nationally and here in Michigan continues to grow as we offer more scholarships and awards than any other professional and philanthropic music organization.

NFMC is in the Festival Online Management System testing phase. National secured the same website technology team to create and implement the new system. It is in the final testing phase and will be available to all Festival Chairs AND teachers within one year – last target date is September 2019. NFMC and MFMC both have a direct link to the site, which will become live as each is released to each state.

Looking forward, our new Junior Festival Records Chair will work throughout this year to enter your students' names, contact information, and Festival records, and eventually, their full history. Once the system is fully online, simply go to the Festival Online Management System link and use a series of pull-down menus for student's entry. The registration system will offer specific events, class, required compositions, and elected composition. It will also maintain the records. It worked perfectly at the NFMC Conference. We will love it!

Speaking of Awards and Scholarships, please check the NFMC and MFMC links as there are many opportunities for students and juniors. For Senior Clubs, there are program incentives and performance opportunities for clubs, too. MFMC Activity Chairs and District Presidents are here to assist. Michigan is not fully utilizing the amazing opportunities available especially at the Senior Club and collegiate level. More on this soon.

**We could not do all that is needed without your support.**

Saying "Thank you" to Sandra DeRemer is simply not enough for all she has done for MFMC. Sandra, who recently "retired" as three-time MFMC Treasurer, one-time Finance Chair, and still serves as the MFMC Northeast District President, met with me and MFMC Finance Chair Sandra Nye this month to review current and project the financial future of MFMC. It is hard to believe that, years ago, she alone performed the tasks that four members currently attend to. Please take time to thank her as she is one of a kind! Please contact me if you have professional accounting and/or bookkeeping experience as we would love you to join this outstanding team.

We are also pleased to announce the nominations of an MFMC Second Vice President, Festival Records Chair, Brass and Percussion Award Chairs, as well as several other Chair invitations under consideration. These dedicated and experienced Federation members will be officially announced on the MFMC website once Board approved. We are so very excited to have them join our team.



## ***President's Message (continued)***

On a very sad note, many Michigan Senior Club members pass away this year – more than any other Federated state. It is important for you to honor their work, dedication, and legacy. Further, it is important you continue their work in leadership, membership, and financial support to the projects closest to their hearts. We are indebted to their vision and mission.

As you know, Michigan took a bold step and followed NFMC's lead in securing a new technology design for our website. We are the innovators, linked directly to National, where several other states and regions are now following our lead. However, we continue to have important goals toward continued membership growth and financial security. Here are a few items. More information is forthcoming on the MFMC website.

- 1.** Please join us on Saturday, September, September 8<sup>th</sup> in Lansing for an MFMC Leadership Education Seminar. This has been the most requested support item by Senior Club Boards. All MFMC members are invited; however, our goal is to have representation from every Senior and Junior Club. Topic items include leadership, bylaws, membership, programs, and awards.
- 2.** The MFMC Annual Convention is a long-time, traditional favorite in Michigan. However, the increasing cost has greatly limited our ability to travel to all areas of the state. After lengthy negotiations with several hotels and conference centers throughout the Southwest District, it was decided we would return to the Ann Arbor Regent Hotel and Conference Center as they continue to provide us with the best financial package in a lovely setting with outstanding rooms and other amenities. We are now working with the hotel and a new caterer, who are addressing the needs of our members. Your input is important to us, which is why we have taken this bold move. Ann Arbor Regent wants us to make them our "home." However, the hosting District Committee will continue to support with their local talent, registration, and advertising. Let's give it a try!
- 3.** Michigan Junior Festivals: We are actively searching for another Festival site OR TWO in Southeast Michigan. Our growth is causing our Festival sites to burst at the seams and working our volunteers beyond expectation. These dedicated teachers are second to none preparing students, planning the event, executing memorable experiences, celebrating the awards, and then while still exhausted, begin planning the following year's Festival. You are an inspiration!
- 4.** Awards News: The MFMC Awards will now be held on a single day in a centralized location so that all MFMC teachers, students, and juniors have access to state awards. While the initial goal was to maintain the financial security of these Awards for future generations, this important move will also ensure that our members have equal opportunity.
- 5.** We would also like to reinstate the State Festival Day. We are looking for input on this from Festival site chairs and leaders. Your input is important to us.
- 6.** Federated Teachers: Our second most requested item comes from teachers from other states who are looking for Michigan teachers for their transferring students. The MFMC website offers a MFMC Federated Teachers page. With your membership this year, please include your name, studio town, instrument(s), and your website link.

Finally, I look forward to attending your District meetings. Please feel free to contact me at any time. Your input is important to me!

Thank you for all you do.

*Laurie M. Marshall* / [Laurie@TheChildrensAcademy.us](mailto:Laurie@TheChildrensAcademy.us)

# **NEWS FLASH**

## **2018**

- Sept. 8 MFMC Leadership Education Seminar, Lansing
- Sept. 21 MFMC Board meeting
- Sept. 28 NW District Fall meeting
- Oct. 5 SW District Fall meeting
- Oct. 12 SE District Fall meeting
- Oct. 19 NE District Fall meeting

## **2019**

Mar. 15 Deadlines:

- ♪ Profiles – Lyn Schwartz *lynschwartz92@gmail.com*
- ♪ 25- & 50-year club members – Beatrice Wassenberg *bwass4music@gmail.com*  
Lyn Schwartz *lynschwartz92@gmail.com*
- ♪ Deceased members' names – Susan Crosser, Chaplain *suecrosser@gmail.com*

May 5-12 National Music Week  
*Theme: Music...a Magic Key*

May 16-18 MFMC Convention – Hosted by SW District  
Ann Arbor Regent Hotel and Conference Center

July 15 Membership rosters to:

- ♪ Laurie Marshall, MFMC President *laurie@thechildrensacademy.us*
- ♪ Lyn Schwartz, Senior Clubs Treasurer *lynschwartz92@gmail.com*
- ♪ Susan McDonald, *CounterPoint* Editor *elizamc428@comcast.net*

Aug. 1 News Deadlines:

- ♪ NFMCMusic Clubs Magazine
- ♪ *CounterPoint* *Susan McDonald-elizamc428@comcast.net*

- ♪ Information printed in *CounterPoint* is for MFMC members only. Personal contact information, such as home and email addresses, should not be widely distributed by any means, such as social media.
- ♪ MFMC members can always receive *CounterPoint* via email. Please contact the Editor with your request.
- ♪ If you have Junior or Senior Club news, please send information to the Editor.



# Fall MFMC District Meetings

## Northwest District Meeting - September 28

Mary Jane Timmer's home  
3635 Leonard St. NW  
Grand Rapids, MI 49534

Coffee at 9:30 a.m.  
Meeting begins at 10:00 a.m.

Lunch on our own at Walker Roadhouse.



Please notify Lorraine Ridenour  
if you plan to attend.  
*lorrainelridenour@gmail.com*

## Southwest District Meeting – October 5

Meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Win Schuler's  
115 S Eagle St.  
Marshall, MI 49068



**Contact: Joyce Vance**  
269-983-2457  
*Jmvance39@att.net*

## Northeast District Meeting - October 19



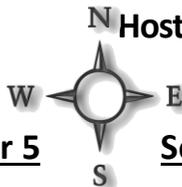
Central United  
Methodist Church  
3882 Highland Road  
Waterford, MI 48328

Coffee at 9:30 a.m.  
Meeting begins at 10:00 a.m.  
Noon luncheon - \$15.00/ Res. due – 10/1/18

Payable to: **MFMC NE DISTRICT**

c/o Nancy Kramarczyk  
952 Hawksmoore Dr., Clarkston, MI 48348-3684  
248-391-6187 *nancy.kramarczyk@gmail.com*

**Host Club: Tuesday Musicale of Greater Pontiac**



## Southeast District Meeting - October 12

Evola Music  
2184 S. Telegraph Rd.  
Bloomfield Hills 48302



**Host Club: Camerata Music Society**

Registration begins @ 10:00 a.m.  
Continental Breakfast - \$12.00/checks due 10/1/18  
Payable to: **Camerata Music Society**  
memo: **SE DISTRICT**

Send to: Margarete Thomsen  
8765 Eastham Dr., Canton MI 48187-8200  
734-451-9678  
*mthomsen@umich.edu*

*Michigan Federation of  
Music Clubs  
102nd Annual Convention  
May 16-18, 2019*



*Ann Arbor Regent  
Hotel & Suites  
Conference Center  
Ann Arbor, MI*



For reservations,  
call 734-973-6100 or online at  
[www.annarborregent.com](http://www.annarborregent.com).

For calls or in-person reservation,  
say *MFMC* or *Michigan Federation of Music Clubs*  
or online under group code: MFMC.



## Owosso Musicale Honors Sue Degerstrom

Owosso Musicale is proud to honor longtime member Suzanne (Sue) Degerstrom, who celebrates 56 years as an Owosso Musicale member, more than 30 years on its Executive Board and her 89<sup>th</sup> birthday. This irrepressible mentor and leader recently offered to serve again as co-president saying, "I'll be glad to serve with (the new president) to help her learn the ropes." Who better to be a role model than this life-long musician, community volunteer and advocate for both the Michigan and National Federations of Music Clubs? She has served in many leadership roles and participated in the Owosso Musicale, community choruses, Owosso Community Theater and in her church as a lyric soprano. Sue has been a guiding light, bringing music to central Michigan by helping initiate the Shiawassee Arts Council, summer Amphitheater programs, Curwood Festival, music events, and major concerts/fundraisers. She attended Stephens Girls College for Music Training in Columbia, Missouri and sang in the Burrell Mixed Chorus.

A strong advocate for local music outreach, Sue served as MFMC Outreach Chairman for many years. Always a music "spark-plug", she brings humor and innovative ideas, new musical approaches and support for new musicians in local, district and state music clubs. Sue has been a strong supporter of the Owosso Musicale's Music Awards for Middle School and High School students and even helped expand awards to the college level to support youth who study music therapy, technology, performance and education. Former Owosso Musicale president Sue Henry stated, "I want to be just like Sue when I grow up, so I can enjoy music and life as much as she does. Both our community and club are richer because of her contributions."



Return to....  
Susan McDonald  
316 Woodedge Dr.  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

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# Congratulations!

NFMC presented **The Birmingham Musicale** with the **NFMC 2018 Music Club Outreach Award**. Member **Nina Flanigan** was recognized as the member with the highest numbers of individual Outreach hours.

Congratulations to all!

