



CounterPoint

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President's Message

Dear MFMC Members,

Spring is finally here! In the wake of all the difficulties the world has encountered this year, we still look forward to the awakening of nature and all its beauty. It has been a challenging time for the Federation both at the State and National levels. The cancelling of club programs, conventions, and the decrease of membership, has had a strong impact on all aspects of our Federation. Through the creative efforts of our MFMC Officers and Members, we have still managed to hold virtual meetings, festivals, programs and award auditions. I congratulate you all! I look forward to the 2021-2022 season with the hope of increasing membership and a return to business as usual.



Beatrice Wassenberg
MFMC President

Great news! Under the leadership of Mary Jane Timmer, the MFMC 103rd Annual Convention will be held virtually on May 21, 2021. We have a wonderful day planned with a webinar, music study, NFMC Guest Speaker, memorial service, music programs and MFMC Award Winners. Family and friends are encouraged to attend and learn more about our great organization. More information, including registration, can be found inside this CounterPoint.

It has been my honor to serve as the 2019-2021 MFMC President. What a joy and privilege it has been to work with such talented, hard-working individuals, all dedicated to sharing their love of music with each other and our communities. As Arlene Anger and all our officers are installed at the MFMC Annual Convention, we wish them success and the assurance of our help as they dedicate themselves to keeping the future of the Michigan Federation of Music Clubs strong!

Beatrice Wassenberg
MFMC President (2019-2021)



News Flash!

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| <p><u>May</u></p> <p>2-9</p> <p>21</p> | <p>2021 National Music week Theme: <i>“Music...Is a Storyteller”</i></p> <p>MFMC 103rd Virtual convention – hosted by NW District</p> |
| <p><u>July</u></p> <p>1</p> | <p>Leadership information due. <i>See MFMC website</i></p> |
| <p><u>August</u></p> <p>15</p> | <p>NFMC Liability Insurance due via NFMC online filing</p> |
| <p><u>September</u></p> <p>1</p> | <p>Club Yearbook due. <i>See MFMC calendar</i></p> |
| <p><u>October</u></p> <p>1</p> <p>8</p> <p>15</p> <p>22</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><u>MFMC DISTRICT MEETINGS</u></p> <p>Southwest District meeting – 10:00-noon @ Win Schuler’s - ZOOM optional</p> <p>Southeast District meeting – 10:00 a.m. Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Royal Oak</p> <p>Northeast District meeting – hosted by Port Huron Musicale</p> <p>Northwest District meeting – 10:00 a.m. via ZOOM</p> |
| | <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Please check MFMC calendar on the MFMC website for all Leadership Education events.</i></p> |

In Memoriam: Virginia "Ginny" O'Brien



It is with great sadness that we share the news of the death of Michigan Federation of Music Clubs Past President Virginia O'Brien, who passed away peacefully on October 10, 2020. She was born on February 7, 1923, in Wheeling, West Virginia, oldest of the four "Carroll girls", all of whom predeceased her.

Ginny met the love of her life, Bill O'Brien, when they attended grade school together. After her graduation from Seton Hill College, and Bill's graduation from The Naval Academy, they married in 1945 and had four children.

All through her life music was very important to Ginny. She was a longtime member of The Birmingham Musicale, sang with the Chorale Ensemble, served as President from 1993-1995 and was awarded Lifetime Membership in the club. She served as MFMC Northeast District President from 1999-2001, was elected MFMC President from 2005-2007 and was a Life Member of National Federation of Music Clubs. Ginny also enjoyed singing with the Chorus of the Junior League of Birmingham, performing weekly at various nursing homes and other facilities for the disabled. She taught music in her church's affiliated school and her many volunteer hours earned her a number of NFMC awards.

Ginny nurtured individual relationships with both grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Known as "GG" (for Great Grandmother) these connections brought her joy. As she approached her last days, she told them "I will miss you." We will miss Ginny, too. She was a warm, caring, compassionate lady, known for her graciousness. She leaves huge void and will be sorely missed by all who knew her.

2021 MFMC ANNUAL CONVENTION

The MFMC Annual Convention will be taking on a new look this year. With the CoVid pandemic still lingering on, we have been forced to, once again, cancel our in-person convention. Well, we cancelled last year and we will not be cancelled two years in a row! So, we are stepping out into the virtual world! Presenters and performers that were booked for last year's convention have agreed to participate this year. We are grateful for Carolyn Nelson's availability to be our NFMC guest. There is something for everyone wrapped up in this one day convention.

This will be a very affordable convention for everyone. There are no hotel bills, no food bills, no travel time and all events can be watched and participated in from the comfort of your own home.

Please register for this first time virtual MFMC Convention and be a part of history! Ads for the virtual convention booklet are being accepted now and until May 1. This is a Convention for YOU! Help support YOUR organization by registering and placing an ad. Thank you for your membership in MFMC!

Sincerely,
Mary Jane Timmer
NW District President

ADVERTISEMENT FEES FOR 2021 MFMC CONVENTION

You are invited to place your advertisement in the virtual convention program, which will be found online and will look similar to our normal hard copy Convention Booklet. Please include your original layout.
Remember a copy of a copy does not make for a clear ad.

AD DEADLINE: MAY 1, 2021

Please put a check next to the size of ad that you prefer:

- A. Black & white inside cover \$250___
- B. Full Page (4.75"x7.5") \$150___
- C. Half Page (4.75"x3.5") \$100___
- D. Quarter Page (2.25"x3.5") \$ 75___
- E. Quarter Page (4.85"x1.625") \$ 75___
- F. Eighth Page (2.25"x1.875") \$ 35___
- G. Greetings \$ 20___

(Happy Birthday to, Congratulations to, etc.)

- H. MFMC Appreciation Page \$ 15___

(Add your name to this page.) *Print here:* _____

- I. Signature Page \$ 15___

(Join others and sign your names \$15 per signature. Use white paper.)

Make checks payable to: ***Northwest District Convention Fund***

Attach ad (or email) and send this form and check to:

Alicia Snyder, 2061 Jefferson Dr. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49507

alisha.snyder@gmail.com

Club name _____

Contact person _____

Email _____

MFMC 183rd Annual Convention Registration, May 21, 2021

Registration Deadline Postmark Date: Friday, May 1, 2021

Please Print:

Name(s) _____

Phone _____ **Email Address** _____

Complete Address _____

Club Name _____

Position _____

Registration Fee: \$30.00/person

Number of Registrants _____ **Total Amount: \$** _____

**Mail completed registration form and check payable to NW District
Convention Fund to: Lorraine Ridenour
1600 Cherry Hill Dr NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49505**

MFMC Nominating Committee Slate of Officers

President, Arlene Anger

First Vice President, Jackie Livesay

Second Vice President, Alisha Snyder

Recording Secretary, Susan Rigoulot

Treasurer, Thomas Nobel

**Michigan Federation of Music Clubs, Inc.
103rd Annual Convention
Friday, May 21, 2021**

Convention Schedule

“Music...constant in a changing world”

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| 9:00 a.m. | MFMC 103rd Annual Convention Opening Ceremonies Business meeting with Leadership Annual Reports Carolyn Nelson, NFMC Past President and National Guest |
| 10:00 a.m. | Webinar: “Marketing Your Club”, Dr. Yelena Wells |
| 11:00 a.m. | Music Study: “A Celebration of Beethoven”, Dr. Sookyung Cho |
| 1:00 p.m. | Memorial Service |
| 1:30 p.m. | Business Meeting Reconvenes |
| 2:15 p.m. | 25-50 Year Recognitions, Citation Award |
| 2:45 p.m. | Carolyn Nelson, “Pandemic Forced Us To Change” |
| 3:30 p.m. | Simply Strings Quartet, Grand Rapids |
| 4:15 p.m. | MFMC Award Winner’s Concert |
| 6:30 p.m. | Owen Tellinghuisen, Organ |