High Notes From Your President
Ann B. Stockton

Treasures of FFMC Convention

In keeping with the theme used when I visited all of the FFMC districts this past year, I realized everyone who attended the FFMC 95th Annual Convention in Jacksonville returned home with lots of nuggets of information and experiences to share with their clubs and districts. Here are a few of the jewels found at this year’s meeting:

1. All districts of the FFMC were represented with five of the district presidents receiving $100 each to help defray expenses related to the convention. Because of the success of this idea, next year the district president or district treasurer will be given the $100 honorarium for attendance during the entire period of the convention. If a president is not able to attend, the district treasurer may go instead and receive the money he/she would have received. Monies have also been budgeted to cover the club presidents or club treasurers for their attendance at the convention.

2. The renewal or beginning of friendships with fellow musicians.

3. Sharing of ideas of ways to become a better teacher or to make festivals easier to run.

4. Sharing of ideas of ways and means projects or programs for senior clubs.

5. For the first time in many years the Junior Convention will be held at a different time, the 2nd weekend of May due to scheduling with UNF. This will be May 8-9, 2015.

6. All were made aware of importance of purchasing liability insurance due to a pending lawsuit. Clubs and districts will receive more information on this from our state treasurer.

7. Because of the success of the District President’s Music Study Grants, the amounts have been raised from $1,000 to $1,200.

8. Because of the success of the District President’s Scholarship, it will be continued. The budget committee will work on guidelines to make it easier to apply and to understand the purpose of the scholarship.

9. This year we added an auction of items brought by clubs and districts. We felt this was very successful and fun. The auctioneer was our parliamentarian, Louis Rose, who was a treasure himself with a beautiful baritone voice, wonderful knowledge of procedure and great sense of humor!

10. This year we also added a music store where you could purchase music or fun items such as musical socks, pens, water bottles, jewelry or car magnets! Successful idea!

11. More awards were given at convention this year, showing the division and committee chairs were working hard to involve the clubs.

12. To increase interest and exposure to the Jeanie/Stephen Foster Auditions, we voted on some ways to mix new ideas with the traditional ways we have been doing.

13. Heard some outstanding young musicians who were winners of awards given at FFMC Junior Convention.

14. Experienced outstanding concert filled with beautiful, heartwarming music presented by Aaron and Mary Lou Krosnick.

I am hoping that when our delegates are asked about convention, they will be able to share a treasure chest full of nuggets that will help their club and area.
**NATIONAL FEDERATION NEWS**

**NFMC CONFERENCE WRAPUP**

*Ann Stockton, FFMC President*

Florida was well represented in this year’s NFMC Conference held in Portland, OR, on June 24-28. Our days were filled with meetings giving us great information, music, fellowship and fun.

One of the highlights for me was hearing the Von Trapp Family Singers, grandchildren of Werner Von Trapp (portrayed by Kurt in *Sound of Music*). This group of four talented young siblings, aged 19-25, was inspiring. Being familiar with their background made it even more special as they took the stage with a variety of instruments and performed known favorites as well as some written by them. They have toured around the world for the last 12 years to critical acclaim and packed houses. They have now settled in the Portland area and were available to perform for us!

Following this year’s National Music Theme of *Music-The Dance of Life*, we were taught how to dance several English Country Dances. You would have enjoyed seeing us try to follow the instructions over the laughter as we tripped around. This was a perfect way to work off some of the calories we consumed. I would do it again in a heartbeat!!! We also saw the amazing video of the first-place winner of the Junior Dance, Alexis Low, from Florida during the conference.

In an effort to familiarize us of what is happening within the NFMC, workshops and presentations were held. We tried to cover as many of these as possible in an effort to bring back as much information as possible to the FFMC. Meetings were conducted by all of the NFMC Division Chairs. The importance of turning in the requested reports was emphasized over and over. Several decisions that come down concerning the Junior level will be printed in the next Music Club Magazine. Lisa Smith is writing an article for us in this issue of S&F to give you advance notice.

I had the honor again of participating in the NFMC Festival Chorus along with Sherry Pollock. This is a group made up of delegates at the convention who love to sing under the direction of Stephen Varney. I was so pleased to see that one of the numbers selected for us was my President’s Song- *You Raise Me Up*. I was also honored to be asked to sing a solo with the chorus. WOW! What a wonderful experience!!!!

Most of the Florida delegation went to an outing to the Columbia River Gorge. Oregon is breathtaking with falls trickling down the mountains and a busy river below. We had dinner at a restaurant with entertainment by “Whispering Roses”, who are siblings who perform concerts featuring their unique blend of Celtic, sacred and folk music. This was a perfect end to a wonderful outing.

We were privileged to hear the winners of the Ellis Duo Competition, our own Liana Valente who lived in Florida for several years who performed songs written for her by contemporary American composers, the Raphael Spiro String Quartet, and the Thunder Egg Consort made up of a quartet of professional solo musicians who bring their talents together.

The music, tour, fellowship and fun made this an amazing experience. I hope more of you will join us next year in Fargo, ND, where our own Michael Edwards will be elected NFMC President!!!

![FFMC delegates enjoying their outing at the Columbia River Gorge](image)

**Impressions from a “First Timer”**

*Sherri Lynne Pollock*

Traveling to Portland I was apprehensive, not knowing what to expect, but I was excited at the same time to meet other members from around the United States and learn from them and the presentations.

After the Conference I reflected back and realized how fortunate I was to have attended. This was an amazing rewarding experience that I never imagined could be this good. I learned so much from the meetings and the presentations, the warmth of the attendees and the feeling of being part of something special.

My appreciation grew for the Federation as I became better acquainted with the programs and awards NFMC has to offer. We explored many topics throughout the week. Some that stay in my mind are: "The Musicians Journey", "Using the Music Lesson to Teach Leadership Skills", "Helping the Student who Has Difficulty with Accessing Rhythm", "Music and Movement for the Young Child", "Music Therapy: A Healing Art and Clinical Therapy", and "The Archive Project". Equally important was a presentation by Sandra Perez regarding the new National online system for area Festival registration.

The Musical presentations were fantastic. They included chamber music, vocal, and piano. My highlight was the "Von Trapp Family Singers" probably because I grew up with *The Sound of Music*. The presenters were all descendants of the original Von Trapp family. The Ellis Duo Concert was another highlight. I also had the opportunity to sing in the Festival Chorus which was a rewarding experience.

The 2015 NMFC Biennial Convention will be held in Fargo, ND, in June 16-20 2015. I would like to encourage all our FFMC members to attend. Based on my experience, you will not be disappointed. I hope you will join our Florida group next summer in Fargo, North Dakota. You will be happy that you took the time to go.
We are proud to welcome the Elaine Knight to our Sunshine State. Elaine has recently moved to The Villages and is getting used to life here in FL. Elaine can be reached at, 731-514-1677 or email eknight@utm.edu.

My husband’s first job after his graduation was the University of Tennessee at Martin, where we lived over 40 years. In Tennessee I was a member of the Philharmonic Music Guild, and a National Board Member and Lifetime Member in Tennessee. Long story short…we were approaching retirement age in our one-horse town, and by a miracle found this house in The Villages (central Florida between Ocala and Orlando) and have been here a year!!! We each have lots of activities, but enjoy dancing four times a week. As they say here, “I’m a frog, I’ll be here till I croak!!!”

The Southeast Regional Luncheon during the Portland Conference was wonderful! We had over 100 attendees! For that attendance reason I suggested we move all business of the Southeast Region to be addressed during the National meetings or National conventions and this was approved by attendees. The Summer Music Festival Events would still be held, but since the attendance is 40-50, and the Regional Luncheon attendance was over 100, changing the business session to the National times seemed a more balanced way to reflect your wishes.

Also at that luncheon Joel Adams (new President of North Carolina FMC) volunteered to be the SE Regional Representative to the NFMC Nominating Committee for Members at Large! Voting will be held at the NFMC Convention in Fargo, ND next June. So next year will be in Fargo ND. By the way my Board Position is representing Tennessee, since I am a Life Member there.

I enjoyed being the National Guest at the Mississippi Convention this past April. We had a lovely time and some wonderful fellowships and information. However, less than a week after I left, every place we had been (the hotel, the restaurant AND the church) sustained significant damage from a tornado!!! So beware!

I attended the Virginia Convention in May as the National Guest, and it was wonderful! Marcia Chapin was in charge, and as always, everything was done in a first class manner! Past President Lana Bailey lives there and the convention was informative and exceptional in all ways! Tavi Ungerleider and his outstanding accompanist were the featured artists! Another thing I enjoyed were exhibits of the different music clubs in Virginia and scrapbooks and exhibits about their scholarships.

I look forward to meeting you as I hope to attend meetings around Florida!

The NFMC Conference is a myriad of outstanding workshops, outstanding musical performances, and vital committee meetings. This year, the attendees to those vital committee meetings were very courteous and were willing to listen to both sides of the issues. It was very refreshing to see our members work together as they discussed issues, developed pathways to proceed on the issues, and in many cases put into action solutions to issues.

As an attendee and as your Florida representative on the NFMC Board of Directors, my “mission” is to listen, to contribute, and to vote. By attending meetings, I gain an understanding of the scope of the projects and the opportunities which NFMC provides. I learn about the on-going problems which need attention and the goals of the various committees and divisions. Sometimes listening and absorbing is all that is necessary. But often participating in the discussions and offering an insight or a different perspective is appropriate and hopefully helpful. I take voting seriously, and do my best to assess what is best for both NFMC and FFMC.

Much of the results from this conference has been or will be passed on to you by the individual FFMC officers and members who attended the conference – our president, festival chair, district presidents, treasurer, festival cup chair, “first-timers”, and more. As is always the case, Florida was well-represented at the conference. Be sure to read this entire issue plus the Junior Keynotes and Music Clubs Magazines which you receive during the year. The individual state and national chairs will be giving you the details of the results of the conference and an explanation of how they affect you.

If you have ever considered attending a National Conference, 2015 is the year to do it. Florida’s own Michael Edwards will be inducted as President of NFMC. Let’s show our support by personally attending the 2015 National Conference in Fargo, North Dakota.

FFMC NEWS

FFMC Memorial and Recognition Fund
Wilma Greenwood, Chair

If you are looking for a way to honor someone consider a donation to the FFMC Memorial and Recognition Fund. These gifts can be made in honor of or in memory of members who have died. Please send your donations to Wilma Greenwood, FFMC Memorial and Recognition Fund Chairman, 19 Armbruster Ct., Frostproof, FL 33843. She will accept the donations and will notify the family of the monetary gift.
Every year during our FFMC Convention, we take time out of our busy days to honor those federation members who have passed away during the past year. This year we remembered the following members:

**BAY RIDGE DISTRICT**
Friday Morning Musicale Tampa
Josephine “Jo” Haynes
Charles Krewson III

Tuesday Music Club of Lakeland
Grace Cromer
Valda Guess
Marie Haworth
Robert MacDonald
Margaret “Peg” Quillin
Margaret Smith

Wauchula Wednesday Musicale
Betty DeLoach
Virginia Metheny
Leila Prince

**CAPITAL DISTRICT**
Choctaw Bay Music Club
Helen Dingus

**ROYAL POINCIANA DISTRICT**
Boca Delray Music Society
Laurabelle “Toots” Brola

Coral Cables Music Club
Andrea Lonnides
Emilie Wenner

Miami Music Club
Selma Elizabeth Siebel Reddy

**SEMINOLE DISTRICT**
Gulf Coast Music Club
Bob Mason

Sarasota Music Club
Betty Hines
Nina Kor
Myson Raymond Verheul

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of these special federation members. If you wish to honor any of these please consider making a gift to the FFMC Memorial Fund. (See previous article)

**ADDENDUM:** We just received word that another FFMC family member has passed away. Shirley Tiedjens, member of the Lake Wales Music Club died June 11, 2014. Our prayers are with her family.

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We are excited and thrilled to announce our 2014 Member of the Year - our President ANN BLOUNT STOCKTON (shown with her husband, Bay Ridge President, Dave Stockton). She deserves this award for all of her dedication and work to further music within the community and state. She has traveled around the state sharing news of the Federation. Some of her accomplishments include:

1. She has served as FFMC State President for the last 3 years. She has been an advocate sharing the advantages of membership in the Federation.
2. She chairs the Stephen Foster/Jeannie Auditions, which is very dear to the hearts of many.
3. Ann has also been FFMC chairman of the American Women Composers, Poetry in Music, Achievement Book and Arts Division Chairman. She was the substitute FFMC chaplain in 2003 -2005. She is a life member of Tuesday Music Club, National and Florida Federation as well as a Florida Fellow. Nationally, Ann serves on the Council of Presidents and has been SE Regional Chair for Opera.
4. Ann has been president of the Tuesday Music Club from 1999-2004 and again from 2008-2010. Her leadership skills have helped the club grow and become more visible in the community.
5. She taught music in the public schools and has participated in community theaters, community choruses such as Nova Singers, Lakeland Choral Society, Broadway Chorus and Gold Chorus Opera Productions. She has degrees in music education, elementary education, and Administration and Supervision. She is a strong advocate for the performing arts and works with the schools, colleges, and theaters working as a board member or volunteer to further the cause of promoting quality performing arts in the community.

We want to extend our Congratulations to Ann and want to thank her for all her service and dedication to FFMC.

**FFMC Lawsuit Update**
Ann Stockton, FFMC President

I am writing this in response to phone calls and inquiries made in regard to the lawsuit that has been filed against FFMC. Many of you that attended convention were made aware of this situation that arose with one of our clubs. While attending one of the events of the club a person was injured and is presently suing the FFMC.

This is an unfortunate situation. This is not a situation that might happen. It is a situation of when it will happen. Whenever we open our doors to the members and general public this is something that could happen.

The club in question was using a building where the rental agent told them it was not necessary to purchase the liability insurance from the NFMC since they had liability insurance to cover anything that might happen. The music club did not question that statement. The plaintiffs are...
suing the Woman’s Club and FFMC to cover the medical costs and pain and suffering. FFMC does not have insurance at this time to cover events for individual clubs throughout the state.

We have hired attorneys to help us out in this. Depositions and meetings have been held. We have faith in the attorneys as they are well known in the area and know some of those involved personally. They want to do right by us. I have kept the executive board informed as to what has been recommended by the law firm. We are working on finding the right course of action that the majority of the board can go along with.

It is imperative that you purchase the liability insurance that Suzanne has sent to you and your treasurer. Purchase it for every event you have, no matter where you are meeting. The Woman’s Club lawyers want us in the lawsuit so they wouldn’t have to award the plaintiffs the entire claim as they would be sharing the cost with FFMC. Up through June we have already paid over $3,100 in legal fees. Would you want your club to go through this when all it takes is buying the insurance for $17/event? Buy the insurance for your own peace of mind and to cover anything that might occur!!!

Florida Fellows
Bess Stallings, Chairman

I proudly share with you a photo from the May convention in Jacksonville. Please note Annetta Graham being inducted as a Florida Fellow. In addition to receiving her lapel pen and medallion, she seems equally proud modeling on her shoulder the latest of her collection of musical socks. Annetta wouldn’t be Annetta without those infamous socks!!

To date, the total monies contributed to the Operating Endowment Fund of FFMC by the Florida Fellows since its inception in 2001 is $47,000. That’s most impressive, isn’t it?

As is evidenced by photographs elsewhere in this Sharps & Flats, we are a close-knit group who believes in putting our monies where our hearts are. We believe in FFMC, we believe in its mission, and we believe in Florida Fellows!

We invite you to join us in furthering music and music education. As chairman, I am always available to share with you our mission and answer any questions you may have. Remember, the $1,000 one-time contribution is tax-exempt and is truly “the gift that keeps on giving” and can be given in honor of or in memory of someone.

Florida Fellow #48, I look forward to hearing from you!!

You can reach me at: Bess A. Stallings, P.O. Box 1865, Wauchula, FL 33873 • Phone: (863) 773-3594 • or email: bessstallings2@gmail.com.

Stephen Foster/Jeanie Auditions
Ann Stockton, Chair

“Way Down Upon the Suwannee River” certainly means more to me than just being our State Song. White Springs is the site of Stephen Foster Folk and Culture Center State Park where the Jeanie/Stephen Foster Auditions is held. The 64th Jeanie/Stephen Foster Auditions, sponsored by the FFMC and the Stephen Foster Folk and Culture Center Park, will be held on October 3-4, 2014. Talented young vocalists compete for the $1,500 award and the titles of Jeanie and Stephen. The Jeanie maid and the Stephen Runner-up are presented $1,000 awards.

This year we are adding a new dimension to the auditions. We are working with the park to help us find talented folk singers and players who will entertain on Friday evening before our reigning Jeanie, Amanda Caban and our Stephen, Alexander Solomon’s concert as well as during the catered luncheon on Saturday. We are excited about the possibility of attracting more people to attend the auditions.

We are asking for your help in finding and sponsoring vocalists. Each vocalist must be sponsored by a senior club. The applications must be received by September 10th. If you have difficulty in finding a candidate, I will be glad to match you up with a young person who has expressed an interest in the competition who does not have a sponsor.

Participants, chaperons, and accompanists are responsible for their own motel/hotel expenses unless this is provided by the sponsoring club. A large block of rooms have been reserved for the auditions at a special rate of $50 a night at the Lake City Days Inn. This is off Exit 303. Please contact them for a room at this special rate as soon as possible. Telephone: 386/758-4224. Be sure you mention the auditions to get these special rates.

Donations from clubs and individuals are gratefully accepted to help with the expenses. May I take this opportunity to say how much the Stephen Foster Memorial Committee appreciates the financial effort that senior clubs have made in the past for this project. A donor list is included each year in the printed Stephen Foster / Jeanie Program Book with these categories:

- CAMPTOWN RACES…… Under $100
- BEAUTIFUL DREAMER…. $100 - $199
- OHI SUSANNA……………… $200 or more

Please send donations to Suzanne Carpenter, FFMC Treasurer, earmarked for the Stephen Foster/Jeanie Auditions. ALL MONIES ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

Information regarding qualifying rules, schedules, instructions and applications can be downloaded from the FFMC website: ffmc-music.org., or by calling Ann Stockton, Chairman at 863-701-2813 or e-mail: Redtops61@verizon.net. Thank all of you and the wonderful Stephen Foster Memorial Committee for your help and interest in making this a success.

Those wishing to help HOST the Friday evening reception, please contact FFMC VP, Bess Stallings, at (863) 773-3594 or email bessstallings2@gmail.com. Be creative!!.....sandwiches, sweets, fruits, etc. will be deeply appreciated. She’s making her list and checking it twice!

Theme: Music Raises Us Up
www.ffmc-music.org

Song: You Raise Me Up
FFMC CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

Left - **Florida Fellows** - Chairman, Bess Stallings, Claudette Kemen, Suzanne Carpenter, Annette Graham Lisa Smith, NFMC Vice President Michael Edwards, Barbara Kirby, Ann Stockton, Dave Stockton and Claire Frances Whitehurst.

Below Middle - St. Johns District President, Lisa Smith with Gavin Taylor, Harmony Club President.

Below Right - FFMC Concert with Aaron and Mary Lou Krosnick.

Performers at the NFMC Convention

NFMC CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

Upper L - Florida’s National Chorus members
Upper R - The Von Trapp Family Singers
Lower L - Former FL resident, Dr. Liana Valente, after her presentation
Lower R - FL delegates at the NFMC Convention in Portland, OR

Theme: Music Raises Us Up

Song: You Raise Me Up

www.ffmc-music.org
ELECTED OFFICERS
President ..................................... Ann Stockton
Vice President ............................... Bess Stallings
Rec. Secretary ............................... Philip LeGrand
Treasurer .................................... Suzanne Carpenter

NATIONAL BOARD MEMBERS
NFMC Vice President .................... Michael Edwards
Board Member representing FL ........ Peggy Willis
Member at Large .......................... Suzanne Carpenter
Council of Presidents ..................... Ann Stockton

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS
Bay Ridge .................................. Dave Stockton
Capital ..................................... Roy Hoobler
Lake ........................................ Sherry Pollock
Royal Poinciana .............................. Patricia H. Clarke
St. Johns .................................... Lisa Smith
Seminole ..................................... Marian Cox
Suwannee .................................. Claudia Brill

APPOINTED OFFICERS
Archivist ..................................... Lisa Smith
Parliamentarian ............................ TBA
Chaplain ..................................... Vickie Stake
Council of District & Club Presidents .... Connie Lill
Financial Secretary ......................... Peggy Willis

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
The Executive Committee shall be composed of the State President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Junior Division Chairman, Student Division Chairman, Finance Division Chairman, Junior Festivals Chairman, Festival Cup Chairman, all past state presidents and all current district presidents. This committee shall perform in the interval between sessions of the Board of Directors as may from time to time be deemed expedient.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
The Board of Directors of FFMC shall consist of elected officers, past state presidents, department, division and special committee chairmen, district and senior club presidents.

FFMC DIVISION CHAIRMAN & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
Chairman ..................................... Ann Stockton
Bylaws and Rules: ............................ Philip LeGrand
Committee: Parliamentarian, Anne Cruxent
Sherry Pollock, Lisa Smith, Claire-Frances Whitehurst
Directory .................................... Ann Stockton
Committee: Bess Stallings, Suzanne Carpenter
Protocol ..................................... Host District
Sergeant-at-Arms ........................... Dave Stockton

ARTS DIVISION
Chairman ..................................... Anne Cruxent
Chamber Music ............................... Patricia Clarke
Choral Music ................................ Judy McLaurin
Crusade for Strings ......................... Victoria Schultz
Dance Chairman ............................. Dr. Monica Laude
International Music ......................... Cecilia Laude
Music in Poetry .............................. Wilma Greenwood
Sacred Music ................................ Bess Stallings
Opera Chairman ............................. Chai L.Chien
Together We Sing ........................... Chai L.Chien
Nat’l Music Week ............................ Claire-Frances Whitehurst
National Music Week Essay ............... Marian Cox

COMPEITITIONS & AWARDS DIVISION
Chairman ..................................... Michael Edwards
Stephen Foster/ Jeannie Auditions
Chairman ..................................... Ann Stockton
Committee: Suzanne Carpenter, Patricia Clarke, Michael Edwards, Wilma Greenwood, Barbara Kirby, Dorothy Evans, Annetta Graham, Dr. Isabella Laude, Bess Stallings, Dave Stockton, Claire-Frances Whitehurst
Summer Music Centers Award .......... Rob Coopman
Young Artist Department ................. Michael Edwards
Biennial Competition ...................... Michael Edwards

FINANCE DIVISION
Chairman ..................................... Rob Coopman
Committee: Suzanne Carpenter, Anne Cruxent, Michael Edwards, Claudette Kemen, Lisa Smith, Claire-Frances Whitehurst
Budget ....................................... Michael Edwards
Committee: Suzanne Carpenter, Dave Stockton, Claire-Frances Whitehurst
Development ................................ Anne Cruxent
Florida Fellows ............................. Bess Stallings
Insignia ...................................... Dave Stockton
Memorial and Recognition Fund .......... Wilma Greenwood
Past Presidents Assembly ............... Connie Lill

MEMBERSHIP AND EDUCATION DIVISION
Chairman ..................................... Annetta Graham
Senior Club Reporting and Evaluation ... Annetta Graham
Yearbook ..................................... Dorothy Evans

PUBLIC RELATIONS DIVISION
Chairman ..................................... Bess Stallings
Sharps and Flats Newsletters ............... Bess Stallings, Ann Stockton
Student Collegiate Music Education Awards and Scholarships ......................... Michael Edwards

NFMC AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS
For rules and deadlines for all National awards, see NFMC manual and/or website: www.nfmc-music.org

Theme: Music Raises Us Up
www.ffmc-music.org
Song: You Raise Me Up
**FFMC AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**
For rules and deadlines for all Florida awards, see website: www.ffmc-music.org

**JUNIOR DIVISION**
Chairman .................................................. Vickie Stake
Claire Ulrich Whitehurst Piano Award .................................................. Claire-Frances Whitehurst
Essay Contest .................................................. Marian Cox
Festival Cup Awards .................................................. Lisa Moore
Frances Rands Beery Classical Ballet Memorial Award .................................................. Dr. Monica Laude
Junior Composition Awards .................................................. Sherry Pollock
Festival Chair .................................................. Lisa Smith
Wendell Irishtt Viola Awards .................................................. Florence Van Arnam
New Member Liaison .................................................. Lisa Moore

**JUNIOR OFFICERS 2014-2015**
President .................................................. Amanda Gramacy
Vice President .................................................. Dayi Fu
Secretary .................................................. Sindy Lee
Treasurer .................................................. Corey Zhu
Parliamentarian .................................................. Anish Mirjankar

**FFMC DISTRICTS AND SENIOR CLUBS**

**BAY RIDGE DISTRICT**
President .................................................. Dave Stockton
Treasurer .................................................. Marilyn Fisher
(863) 676-4638
Concert Club
President/Treasurer .................................................. Kimberly Capsas
capsas@verizon.net

Friday Morning Musicale (Tampa)
President .................................................. Petra Sussman
Treasurer .................................................. Kim Michel
Rrose2@tampabay.rr.com

Lake Wales Music Club
President .................................................. Carolyn Ann Walton
Treasurer .................................................. Marilyn Fisher
(863) 676-4638

Tuesday Music Club of Lakeland
President .................................................. Judy McLaurin
Treasurer .................................................. Dave Stockton
Redtops61@verizon.net

Wednesday Musicale of Wauchula
President .................................................. James Stallings
Treasurer .................................................. Claudette Kemen
chkemen@embarqmail.com

**CAPITAL DISTRICT**
President .................................................. Roy Hoobler
roy.hoobler@gmail.com
Treasurer .................................................. Phil LeGrand
pjlegrand@cox.net

**Choctaw Bay Music Club**
President .................................................. Gloria DeBerry
gjdeberry@cox.net
Treasurer .................................................. Phil LeGrand
pjlegrand@cox.net

**LAKE DISTRICT**
President .................................................. Sherry Pollock
sherrilynnepollock@gmail.com
Treasurer .................................................. Sandy Kupetz
FFMCLake@gmail.com

**East Coast Music Club**
President/Treasurer .................................................. Timothy Murphy
tmurphymus@yahoo.com

**Lake County Ladies Chorus**
President .................................................. Ellen Quinn
ELNTOM@embarqmail.com
Treasurer .................................................. Susan Porter
allmythanks@hotmail.com

**Orlando Music Club**
President .................................................. Gayle Stein
president@orlandomusicclub.org
Treasurer .................................................. Lisa Moore
treasurer@orlandomusicclub.org

**Sanford-Seminole Performing Arts Society**
President .................................................. Alice-Margaret Byerts
Alice-Margaret@lochwoodacademy.com
Treasurer .................................................. Melinda Byerts
Mindy@lochwoodacademy.com

**South Metro Music Club of Central FL**
President .................................................. Susan Davison
susypiano@gmail.com
Treasurer .................................................. Donald Kaufmann
Dkaufmannsquizr1@yahoo.com

**Wednesday Music Club Central FL**
President .................................................. Joan Bond
386-738-1253
Treasurer .................................................. Ele Rudolph
386-951-2492

**ROYAL POINCIANA DISTRICT**
President .................................................. Patricia H. Clarke
plhclarke@me.com
Treasurer .................................................. Marielle Monteil Lopez
Marielle.monteil@gmail.com

Theme: Music Raises Us Up
www.ffmc-music.org
Song: You Raise Me Up
Theme: Music Raises Us Up

www.ffmc-music.org

Song: You Raise Me Up
**NFMC Committee and Division Members**

Finance Committee .................. Suzanne Carpenter
........................................ Michael Edwards
Crusade for Strings Chair ............. Sherry Pollock
SE Region Chair for Jr. Festivals ........ Lisa Smith
Piano Award Chair ...................... Claire Frances Whitehurst

**Florida Federation of Music Clubs**

**Elected Officers**
President .................................. Ann Stockton
......................................... Redtops61@verizon.net
Vice President ............................ Bess Stallings
.......................................... bessstallings2@gmail.com
Rec. Secretary ............................ Philip LeGrand
.......................................... pjlegrand@cox.net
Treasurer ................................... Suzanne Carpenter
.......................................... treasurer@ffmc-music.org

FFMC President’s Theme ................... Music Raises Us Up
FFMC Theme Song ........................ You Raise Me Up
To get more detailed information go to FFMC website at www.ffmc-music.org

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**2014**

Jeanie/Stephen Auditions- Stephen Foster
Cultural Center, White Springs October 3-4

**FFMC District Meetings:**
Suwanee (Gainesville) October 2
Capital October 5
Royal Poinciana October 11
Bay Ridge (Lakeland) November 11
Seminole (Sarasota) November 15
St. Johns (Jacksonville) December 3
Lake District (Orlando) December 6

Parade of American Music Month November

**Application and Form Deadlines:**
Jeanie/Stephen Applications Due September 10
Conflict of Interest Forms due September 30
Junior Composer’s Contest November 15
Essay Contest December 15

**Theme:** Music Raises Us Up

**2015**

NFMC Founders Day Celebrations January
FFMC Junior Festivals February
Frances Beery Ballet Auditions April 4
National Music Week May 3-10
THEME: “Music- Heartbeat of the Soul"

FFMC Junior Convention, UNF May 7-8
FFMC 96th Spring Convention (Seminole District) May 13-15
NFMC Convention (Fargo, ND) June 15-19

Application Deadlines:
Most of Arts and American Music Divisions Reports March-April
Frances Rands Beery Ballet Auditions March 1
Deadline for Sharps & Flats March 1
Isabella Laude Dance Award April 15

**Song:** You Raise Me Up

FFMC Officers at the Senior Convention
From Left to Right – Suzanne Carpenter, Bess Stallings, Philip LeGrand and Ann Stockton
DISTRICT NEWS

BAY RIDGE DISTRICT
Dave Stockton, President

The Wednesday Musicales officers and board members are already meeting to schedule all of the activities for the 2014-2015 season. The highlight of our most recent meeting was the report of the scholarship awards presented in May, 2014: the most student participation ever and the highest amount of award monies given by this club! We are excited to be considered in our community a valued resource for and strong supporter of our high school students who wish to further their education and stretch their musical talents.

We are out recruiting new members for the coming season, seeking to beat the total from last year of 8 new members. We now stand 51 strong - and counting.

Our new officers for the coming year have been announced, and are all excited about the talents and experiences each can provide to the group. We have a new secretary, while the other officers are just now moving into their second term.

A big change in our scheduled programs this year will be the opportunity to present a traditional Thanksgiving program rather than our annual patriotic program, since there will be a community-wide patriotic-themed program to be held in November and sponsored by a number of organizations. This gives the Wednesday Musicales the chance - for the first time in many years - to focus on the Thanksgiving time of the season. It will be held in one of our quaint downtown churches. We already have several great ideas from our officers and board members for this program.

Although this is penned in early July, 2014, I am pleased to report that our officers and board members are already talking about our annual seasonal kick-off program in October - poolside luncheon - that will feature guest instrumentalists, and vocalists and the local high school chorus & band students. There will be more “teasers” to come about our upcoming programs featuring “Men in Music,” “Music in the Home,” “Play me a Piano,” and our scholarship awards. Stay tuned!

LAKE DISTRICT
Sherry Pollock, President

We had a successful District scholarship audition and would like to congratulate our winners:
Elizabeth Hargis, Piano, will be attending Wheaton College Music Conservatory in the fall; Caroline Cox, Vocal, will be attending University of Southern California as a Vocal Major; Rebecca Edge, Violin, will be attending Winter Park High School; and Stephen Huber Weber, Viola, will be attending the University Of Miami Frost School Of Music. We wish them continued success.

We want to welcome our newest senior club Sanford Seminole Performing Arts Society made up of teachers from the Lochwood Academy for the Performing Arts. They sponsored a Community Band this past year. They are a wonderful addition to Lake District.

East Coast Music Club is busy preparing students for Festival.
Lake County Ladies Chorus is planning their programs for the coming year.
Orlando Music Club is excited and busy planning their 40th Year Celebration.
South Metro Music Club of Central Florida is preparing their musical programs for the coming year.

Wednesday Music Club has all their programs planned for 2014 -2015. They have a great list of performers from October to May. They also hope to give out scholarships to College music majors in the spring. This has been a yearly event for a long time.

Our Annual Meeting will be December 6 in Orlando.

ROYAL POINCIANA DISTRICT
Patricia Clarke, President

Coral Gables Music Club is looking forward to Martin Bejerano performing for us this November. He's a marvelous jazz pianist, composer, native Miamian who is now with University of Miami Frost School of Music. Our club has watched his talent mature from a scholarship student of CGMC and graduate of New World School of the Arts. He’s a young dad and was one of the five judges for the RPD music competition. He was commissioned by DRANOFF to compose last year’s piece which was funded by Bacardi.

Since Carolyn Davenport has had two pieces published by Warner Brothers, the club focuses on her as well as the other composers in the club such as my hubby, Jay. Carolyn has arranged a couple of Jay's pieces for two pianos which they have performed at Steinway Gallery.

For the first time in the 75 year history of Coral Gables Music Club, it has sponsored a composition scholarship winner, Felipe Herrera. Felipe recently toured with the Greater Miami Youth Symphony to Ireland and introduced and conducted his piece, The Pioneer.

Other Royal Poinciana winners include:
• Gold medal winner (for level 13 and under), Noah Waddell, who was one of only seven participants selected to participate in the 2014 International Keyboard Odyssey and Festival competition.
• Sage McBride, 1st violin, and Ana Luna, 2nd violin, performed 3 Miami-themed music concerts in Paris with the Miami Music Project Honors Orchestra. Ana Luna was also the winner of the 1st Annual Royal Poinciana District Competition.
• Athalie Vaval is traveling the US this summer as a member of the 2014 National Youth Orchestra of the
United States which features 120 of the country’s brightest young musicians.

- Lisa Dias was a member of the Children’s Voice Chorus which performed at Carnegie Hall.
- Harpist Colleen Murray spent 4 weeks this summer at the Sewanee Summer Music Festival (SSMF) at the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee.

The Coral Gables Junior and Senior Music Clubs will host the Parade of American Music at the historic Coral Gables Congregational Church on November 23 from 3-5pm. The concert will feature recipients of the Coral Gables Music Scholarship Program. Anyone who wishes to contribute or participate is asked to contact Kevin Hoffer-Hawlik, president of the Coral Gables Junior Music Club, at khofferhawlick@gmail.com.

**ST. JOHNS DISTRICT**
*Lisa Smith, President*

St. John’s District was proud to host both the FFMC State Junior Convention at UNF May 2-3, 2014 and the FFMC 95th Spring Convention at the Embassy Suites Baymeadows May 15-17, 2014. Many thanks to convention co-chair, Vickie Stake, and the incredible efforts of the St. John’s District & Harmony Senior Music Club board members who worked tirelessly to make sure both events were a success. On June 21st, we finished the 2013-2014 season with our last FFMC sponsored workshop that was held at the beautiful home of Aaron and Mary Lou Krosnick, Jacksonville University’s Distinguished Performers-in-Residence. The couple presented an informative and in depth program entitled: “A Music Educator’s Challenge: Projection of Strong Emotion in a Quest to Evolve Craftsmanship Intended to Create and Share Beauty, Viewed in Historical Perspective.” We are looking forward to another productive and exciting year!

**SEMINOLE DISTRICT**
*Marian Cox, District President*

The FFMC Spring Convention, in Jacksonville was a great experience for all of us who attended. Lisa Smith and Vickie Stake, co-chairmen, did a superb job!!!

The Seminole District Meeting will include a luncheon on Sat. Nov. 15th, beginning at 10:30 am at Der Dutchman restaurant in Sarasota. Our guest speaker will be Ann Stockton, our FFMC President.

**SUWANNE DISTRICT**
*Claudia Brill, President & Cheryl Poe, Club President*

Members of The Foundation for the Promotion of Music have had a busy season and are expecting another eventful 2014-2015. The Stellar Student Recitals continue to be the backbone of our mission to honor and encourage young musicians. In addition to these recitals, we continue to expand and improve our musical outreach activities. A few of the past year’s highlights included:

- “The Village,” a local summer music camp we co-sponsored.
- Our well-attended “Music of the Romantic Era”, 10-week musical journey was made possible through a grant from the FFMC. We hope to secure another grant to continue Music Outreach programs.
- Fabulous recital series including Dr. Kevin Orr, Piano professor from the University of Florida
- 3rd Annual Piano Sonata/Sonatina Festival included 65 talented young pianists.
- In January, Musicians of all ages and skill levels participated in the Musical Marathon. The event raised more than $1,400 to support Friends of Elementary Arts and Music Scholarships.
- Stellar Winds & Percussion Recital featured talented area middle and high school students
- Annual Meeting and Honors Recital included winners of the Sara Baird Fouse Wind Award, Betsy Schnell Award and Dorothy Reaves String Award as well as young musicians who earned superiors at the FFMC regional festival.
- FPM contributed funds for area middle school students to attend the premier performance of the opera “Red Silk Thread-an epic tale of Marco Polo”, composed by Florida composer, Stella Sung.

Details and more information about our activities can be found at: www.thefpm.org and on Facebook: Foundation for the Promotion of Music.
**ARTS DIVISION**

**Sacred Music**  
*Bess A. Stallings, Chairman*

Have you made sure you have included Sacred Music in your plans for the 2014-15 club year? I encourage you to do so!

How about an entire program on sacred music? Suggestion: Hold it in one of your community's churches' sanctuaries. Take advantage of the organ and piano found in most churches. Perhaps their choral director could plan a choral presentation...or the church organist or pianist has a concert.

If nothing else, perhaps a hymn or anthem could be added to 1-2 programs this year. Be creative and be blessed! Remember, awards could be given to YOUR club in May.

**Crusade for Strings**  
*Victoria Schultz, Chairman*

The Lake District clubs are supporting the Crusade for Strings with a wide variety of events. We support local symphonies by playing and attending the concerts. We also support local Youth symphonies by preparing students and have several conductors of youth orchestras that are club members.

Our goal for next year is to get more clubs active in Crusade for Strings.

We can work together to bring attention to our string players by featuring them on programs, supporting youth orchestras and sending students to summer camps.

We need to think about ways to help and feature our string players. Some ideas we've implemented are: workshops, fiddle, and master classes, donating tickets to concerts, giving scholarships to students and playing at nursing homes. Our students love to share their music by performing.

**Isabella Laude Dance Award**  
*Monica Laude, Chairman*

**NEWSFLASH!** Attention Senior Clubs – FFMC Dance Award Plaque Found! The Isabella Laude Dance Plaque of FFMC has been missing for some time, but has now been found and Ann Stockton, FFMC President has appointed Dr. Monica Laude as FFMC Dance Chairman to conduct this award.

The plaque plus a $100 cash award will be given at the FFMC Convention in 2015 to the senior club doing the most to promote dance. The plaque is rotated among the recipient clubs each year.

Club presidents, please include dance in your club programs. Your club may be eligible for this award if you have dance programs, such as international, classical, folk, or modern dance, award prizes or scholarships to dance students, have dance exercises, book reviews or other types of programs promoting dance.

To be considered, please send an annual dance report to the FFMC Dance Chairman before April 15, 2015 to: Dr. Monica Laude, 444 Seminole Road, Babson Park, FL 33827, or email to monicalaude@comcast.com

**FFMC JUNIOR COUNSELOR REPORT 2014**  
*Vickie Ball Stake, Junior Counselor*

How does one describe the level of talent, the incredible music and so much more at our 77th Annual Junior Convention? Music powerfully spoke in hearts, halls and auditoriums. Whether a teacher, parent, music lover, family member, judge or volunteer, we all left the University of North Florida overwhelmed with delightful experiences!

We’d like to thank the UNF staff for being so incredibly helpful and supportive in an event involving hundreds of students. Judges were brought in from various states to see what happens in Florida at Junior Convention. Many are planning events such as ours for their own states. It was a delight to meet these fine, dedicated leaders. We look forward to more of this commitment for the next year’s State Junior Convention May 8-9, 2015 (Note the date change as UNF moved their school calendar back one week. We are so huge, we take all the Fine Arts Building Space...all the auditoriums available and classrooms. We can only take all this space the one week break between spring semester and graduation.)

Pianos and many more pianos made this event possible. Our deepest thanks to our wonderful technician, Jason Hilton as well as stores who donated their instruments rent free: Bob Kelly of Kelly's Piano and Organ, Jack Melvin of Keyboard Connection and James Parsley of Parsley’s Music.

Volunteers, especially from St. John’s District, coupled with help this year from other Festival sites worked tirelessly to monitor rooms and encourage students. Students worked for volunteer hours, serving in many capacities. Our registration desk featured our State President Ann Stockton, with her husband Dave, as well as many other state offers including Suzanne Carpenter, Michael Edwards, Lisa Smith, Gavin Taylor, Lisa Moore, Sonya Prescott Hilton and Ludi Mocke sacrificed energy hour after hour both days. Our new Computer Guru, Mike Stoeber, was a wonderful addition to the team.

All results and 2015 Junior Officers are posted on FFMC website for your viewing pleasure. Notice the thousands of dollars given to high level winners!

Don’t forget to mark your calendars and work hard for those Superiors so we can see you in 2015!
NFMC CONFERENCE: JUNIOR DIVISION NEWS
Lisa Smith, Southeast Region Festivals Chair

Under the stellar leadership of Linda Lind, NFMC Junior Division Chairman, the NFMC Junior Division accomplished much work during the NFMC Convention in Portland, OR.

The following standing rules passed:

1. Festival Fees: Teachers MAY NOT charge festival entry fees in excess of the amount established by the area festival chairman/committee. State Boards may set a financial penalty for failure to comply.
2. Payment of festival fees: State Treasurers must send NFMC Festival Fees to the NFMC Executive Director before receiving Federation Cups and Certificates.

Other Business:

1. The NFMC Festival Entry Fee was increased to $2 per festival entry. $1.50 will go to the Online Festival Management System.
2. Beginning with the 2017 Festivals Bulletin, vocal students in grades 9-12 will be able to combine points in Vocal Solo Art Song and Vocal Solo Musical Theater. The solo class level must be Senior 1 or higher and the Art Song choice piece must be sung in a foreign language.
3. A Drum Set Solo Event will be included in the 2017 Festivals Bulletin.
4. A committee was approved to explore the idea of standardizing the sight-playing/sight-singing event.
5. A task force was established to study the NFMC Federation Cup Program.
6. A committee to proof the 2015 NFMC theory tests was established.
7. A second place award of $200 was added to the Bailey Piano Concerto Award.
8. The Marilyn Caldwell Piano Awards were increased to $600 and $300.

Junior Composer Contest
Sherry Pollock, Chairman

Why should we as teachers encourage composition?

1. Composition encourages our students to engage their musical imagination and creativity.
2. Composition can help our students better understand how music is put together. This can help them play musically by identifying motives, phrases, themes, development and sequence.
3. Students who compose develop musical independence. They have a better understanding of musical notation.

These are just a few ideas that can help our students develop a greater understanding of Composition and Music.

I am looking forward to receiving your student’s compositions this year. The deadline is November 15, 2014 postmarked.

For more information and for form rules and application, please go to the website ffmc-music.org/composition.htm
If you have any questions please call (407)802-7052 or email me at sherrilynnepollock@gmail.com.

Junior Essay Contest
Marian Cox, Chairman

ATTENTION ALL TEACHERS!!! Now is the time to give your students the information about the FFMC essay contest. The title for 2015 is "Music - the heartbeat of the soul". All the rules and application is on our website, www.ffmc-music.com.

There is no application fee for this. Awards are given on the state level. We send all of the essays to national, where a winner is chosen from each state. Please e-mail me at marianc@comcast.net, or call (941) 365-6949, if there is any question.

Competitions and Awards Division
Michael Edwards

Announcing NFMC Young Artist, Student/Collegiate and Junior Division competitive events for the 2015 Biennial year. Please go to nfmc-music.org, click Competitions and take advantage of all of the competitions available in 2015. Do you know Florida has had winners in Young Artist, Student/Collegiate and Junior Division? Let’s do it again by promoting gifted musicians in our community. Please contact Michael Edwards if you need further assistance. Good Luck!

Junior Festivals Information
Lisa Smith, FFMC Festivals Chair

As the 2015 Junior Festival season approaches, it is imperative that all area festival chairmen, junior counselors, and juniors meet all national directives and deadlines. It is every junior counselor’s responsibility to read, understand and comply with the rules to ensure positive festival experiences for their juniors. At the FFMC Spring Convention, many adjustments were made to the Junior Procedures Manual concerning State Junior Convention. Please see below for the new guidelines.

Theme: Music Raises Us Up  www.ffmc-music.org  Song: You Raise Me Up
1. Correlation of Piano Solo levels with Hymn Playing and American Patriotic Folk Song Events (For STATE competition only):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Piano Solo</th>
<th>APFS</th>
<th>Piano Solo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PP – P1</td>
<td>PP</td>
<td>PP – P1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP – P2</td>
<td>P1</td>
<td>PP – P2</td>
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<tr>
<td>P1 – P3</td>
<td>P2</td>
<td>P1 – P3</td>
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<td>P2 – P4</td>
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<td>MED – MD2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MD2 – D1</td>
<td>MD1</td>
<td>MD2 – D1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D1 – VD1</td>
<td>MD2</td>
<td>D1 – VD1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VD1 – MA2</td>
<td>ADV</td>
<td>VD1 – MA2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note: Students may play hymns above their corresponding solo level but not below.

2. Jr. III and Senior Violin Concerto Events: There will now be a preliminary round of a five minute audition per entrant for Senior Violin Concerto Event and a preliminary round of a four minute audition per entrant for Jr. III Violin Concerto Event. Entrants will select which portions of the concerto they will perform. At the close of the preliminary round, the judges will choose up to five entrants to compete in the final audition. The results of the preliminary round will be posted at least one hour prior to the final audition. The winners and honorable mentions will be determined by final audition. The time and place of the final audition will be published in the Junior Convention schedule.

3. Jr. III-A Piano Concerto Event will now have a preliminary round with a four minute time restriction followed by a final round.

4. Ensemble Events: There will be an eight minute time limit for ANY Ensemble Event.

5. Monitors for State Junior Convention: Each Festival Area having entries in the State Junior Convention will provide monitoring (minimum of half day for each worker) for each day of the competition as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Teachers</th>
<th>Monitoring</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 3</td>
<td>½ day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 – 7</td>
<td>1 full day</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 – 10</td>
<td>½ days</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 – 20</td>
<td>2 full days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-30</td>
<td>3 full days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 or more</td>
<td>5 full days</td>
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</table>

All area festival chairmen need to be aware that the NFMC Festival Entry Fee has been raised back to $2 per festival entry. Please adjust forms accordingly. Many thanks for all your hard work throughout the year to make sure Florida’s juniors have successful Festival experiences!

**Festival Cup – Achievements for 2014**

Lisa Moore, Chairman

Hooray for our talented young juniors! 1,000 students earned their 15-point cup, 360 students earned their 30-point cup, and 100 students earned their 45-point cup. Here are the top cups earned by students and the teachers who helped them achieve this great honor:

- **90 pt**
  - Monica Hsiang, Piano. Teacher Loretta Hake

- **75 pt**
  - Ismail Ercan, Piano. Teacher Sue Colvert
  - Haley Neal, Violin. Teacher Ann Buchholz
  - Christopher Tam, Piano. Teacher Kamila Shahtakhtinski

- **60 pt**
  - Claire Chen, Piano. Teacher Olga Glick
  - Courtney Cookson, Piano. Teacher Carrie Pirrotta
  - Rachel Cramer, Piano. Teacher Marian Cox
  - Rachel Cramer, Musical Art Song. Teacher Marian Cox
  - Callie Delaney, Piano. Teacher Vickie Stake
  - Alex Ellington, Piano. Teacher Sue Colvert
  - Ismail Ercan, Violin. Teacher Huifang Chen
  - Beverly Ge, Piano. Teacher Carol Cohen
  - Deborah Han, Piano. Teacher Joanna Han
  - Maryl Harris, Piano. Teacher Melanie Marteney
  - Monica Hsiang, Piano. Teacher Loretta Hake
  - Blanche Kuo, Piano. Teacher Roxanne Stevenson
  - Aurora Luong, Piano. Teacher Maria Gomez
  - Justin Ma, Piano. Teacher Vladimir Khoklov
  - Kayla Ming, Piano. Teacher Kinuyo Engelbrecht
  - Jonathan Nguyen, Piano. Teacher Jae Jung
  - Jessica Raspolich, Piano. Teacher Sandra Greenland
  - Yong Shan, Piano. Teacher Wanda Louie
  - Delaney Troop, Piano. Teacher Eleanor Levando
  - Alfred Vinnett, Piano. Teacher James Gary Wolf
  - Minxia Zhong, Piano. Teacher Hee Jung Kang
Special kudos to St. Johns District for hosting not one, but two state conventions within two weeks of each other. They are an amazing group that showed great teamwork to insure all who attended a great time.

Vickie Stake, Junior Division Chair, was the leader of the Junior Festival held the first weekend of May at the UNF. This is the largest Junior Convention in the NFMC, with over 280 events scheduled. Thank you for all your hard work.

The Senior Convention was held the 3rd weekend in May at the Baymeadows Embassy Suites. Lisa Smith, District President and Vickie Stake acted as co-chairs. Their team consisted of Debra Carter, Registrar, Sonya Prescott-Hilton, Distribution Chair, Rodney Cleveland and Sonya Prescott-Hilton as registration desk co-chairs. Great team!

Informative workshops were held for both the senior club and junior clubs by Vickie Stake, Barbara Hildebrand our national guest, and Ann Stockton.

Bess Stallings, Florida Fellows Chair, introduced Annetta Graham, Violet Mandese and Michael Stoeber as our newest inductees. Ann Stockton was honored as 2014 Member of the Year.

We were pleased to hear some wonderful music by some of the winners from the Junior Convention. A real highlight was the piano, viola duo of Mary Lou and Aaron Krosnick. Their concert was heart-warming and entertaining.

Thank you again for all your hard work. You did a terrific job!!

The 96th FFMC Spring Convention will be hosted by the four senior clubs in Seminole District and held May 14-16, 2015, at the Hilton Garden Inn in Sarasota. Sarasota is right on the Gulf of Mexico, 45 miles south of Tampa.

This yearly event brings all our members together for a musical, fun-filled few days. Plan ahead and mark your new calendar. You do not want to miss this once-a-year get-together.