



# The Musical Messenger



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EDITOR: Jean Moffatt    SPRING 2009 EDITION    PRESIDENT: Lora Lynn Christensen  
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## 55 attend 94th convention in Abilene



*Doris Whinery, Vice-President in Charge of South Central Region, installs 2009-2011 TFMC officers at the formal banquet March 27 in Abilene. New officers are Carla Johnson, president; Cletis Williamson, 1st vice-president; Doris Ann Stanford, 2nd vice-president; Rhonda Stege, 3rd vice-*

*president; Brenda Ford, 4th vice-president; Dorene Allen, treasurer; Lynn McNew, recording secretary; Darline McKinney, auditor; Tim Danielson, historian; Peggy Jones, parliamentarian; and Shirley Spoon, corresponding secretary.*

## District 8 hosts TFMC meeting

Despite some major conflicts which took away many regular attendees, the 94th annual Texas Federation of Music Clubs convention brought 55 participants to Abilene March 26-28 to the Regency Inn. District 8 hosted, with Lynn McNew as president and these clubs with their presidents: Abilene Harmony Club, Sherry Frush; Brady Damrosch Music Club, Fay Lawler; Del Rio Music Club, Jan Pressgrove; Brownwood Schubert Music Club, Annora Ables; Kerrville Harmony of the Hills Music, Mary Thomason; and Stamford Music Club, Shirley Wheatley.

NFMC guest was Doris Whinery, Vice-President in Charge of South Central Region. Rayanne Gonzales, 2007 Young Artist in Woman's Voice, gave the featured concert.

Lora Lynn Christensen presided over her final TFMC meeting before turning over the gavel to Carla Johnson, who will take over July 1 as president.

Four new Life Members were initiated at the breakfast March 27 conducted by Mary Lou Connelly, 3rd vice-president. They are pictured on page 3 and include Lois Armor and Marie McKay of the Etude Music Club of San Antonio, Phyllis Noonan of the Wednesday Morning Music Club of Austin, and Annette Griesbach of the Rockdale Matinee Musical Club.

Numerous reports were given which highlighted activities during the year. They are summarized on page 3.

Many informative workshops were given and audience participation encouraged. Entertaining musical interludes were given by two Del Rio Music Club members, the Abilene Harmony Club Ladies Ensemble, and opera students from Hardin-Simmons University.

A successful silent auction resulted in \$817 being raised for Opera in the Ozarks. This will allow TFMC to sponsor a hole at the golf tournament, purchase an ad in the opera program, sponsor a second night of opera, and donate the remainder to the building fund.

A "Texas Tunes Talent Show" was held on the first night of the convention.

## TWU senior wins Leake J. Ward scholarship

Carol Janiece Boyle, daughter of William and Lyndy Boyle of Weatherford, has won the Leake J. Ward Music Therapy Scholarship, according to chairman Kay O'Brien. There were five applicants for the \$1,000 annual award.

### Note to Treasurers

Dues notices have been sent to all clubs and are now PAST DUE.

Senior clubs must send a list of all members, names and addresses with the dues. Also send Life Member names and addresses. This is for the mailout of the Music Clubs Magazine from National.

Please include the Founders Day contribution (\$1 per capita) and the Past President (PPA) dues of \$2 for each term served as president of club, district, or state, and any contribution for state or national. This goes to the Young Artist fund.

Clubs have been asked to send \$5 per year to the PNP Fund to endow the scholarship fund of President Lana Bailey at the conclusion of her term in 2011.

Dorene Allen, TFMC Treasurer; 4606 Fountain Lane, Odessa, TX 79761; (432) 367-2827; E-mail: ldoreneallen@yahoo.com

Ms. Boyle serves as a part-time pianist for Paradise United Methodist Church. She plays piano and clarinet and is active in the TWU Women's Chorus. In high school she participated in band in all-region, all-area, and state solo and ensemble competition.

She will be a senior at Texas Women's University in Denton this fall. Her goal is to work with victims of stroke or traumatic brain injury. Letters of recommendation were received from her piano instructor, Dr. Richard Schuster; from Dr. Nancy Hadsell, MT-BC, Coordinator of Music Therapy, TWU; and her Practicum Supervisor, Joseph Pinson, M.S., MT-BC.

### Send club, district officers

Please send a list of club officers and chairmen to Carla Johnson, incoming TFMC president, Box 12883, Austin, TX 78711 and the national office. Even if all your officers/chairmen remain the same, we need to know you have held elections and that we have the correct information for the coming year.

The officer information that is most vital is name, address, phone number and email of president and treasurer. These will go in the 2009-2011 TFMC Directory.

# From Your TFMC President

by Lora Lynn Christensen

This "President's Letter" for the *Musical Messenger* will be my last one, this being the last quarter of my TFMC presidency. This letter will be one giant thank you.

Thank you for your amazing response in sending donations for my outgoing president's gift. Individuals and clubs were so very generous that not only will I be a Life Member at Opera in the Ozarks (IPFAC), but \$500 has been added to the Francis Christmann Endowment honoring past TFMC presidents, and \$50 was given to Hardin-Simmons University Opera Department. I'm humbled and honored by your gifts.

Thank you to Lynn McNew, District 8 president, and all of District 8 for doing a great job hosting the TFMC state convention in March in Abilene. It was a packed two and a half days with wonderful music, enlightening sessions, lots of door prizes, a most successful silent auction benefitting Opera in the Ozarks, good meals, and great fellowship.

Thank you to all my great officers and chairmen. You did your jobs above and beyond any ordinary expectations. TFMC has experienced growth in number of clubs (senior and junior), number of reports sent in to state and national, numbers of scholarships awarded, participation at all levels, endowments, leadership and membership. Some of you took innovative approaches to getting out publicity and eliciting responses in your areas. Some of you just kept on and didn't give up until you had a response. There is so much talent in TFMC (and not just musical talent).

Thank you to wonderful past TFMC presidents, who were so helpful to share information. Carla, as incoming TFMC president, do not hesitate to call any or all of the former presidents -- they are all generous with their knowledge and insight.

Thank you to Dorene Allen, Treasurer Extraordinaire, who keeps the TFMC machine well lubricated and running smoothly. Thank you to Jean Moffatt who does quite an amazing feat four times a year getting out the *Musical Messenger*. Thank you to Cathy Neidert who runs the world's largest junior organization (besides national) and makes it look easy.

Three bits of business remain: The TFMC Junior State Festival in San Marcos, May 16. The National Convention in Orlando, Florida June 1-8. We have so many TFMC members who have important jobs at the national level, and it is inspiring to see the really big picture by attending this national meeting. The third is Federation Days at Inspiration Point, Eureka Springs, Arkansas, Opera in the Ozarks. Hopefully several new people have been inspired to join the approximately 25 Texans who trek to hear opera in mid-July every year. Texas' responsibility is the luncheon on Friday, July 17, and *Manon* is the theme. Questions? Call any opera nut (Gloria Thrasher, Peggy Jones, Lee Meyer, Tim Danielson, or me), just to name a few.

Thank you all for a wonderful two years, and I wish the incoming officers all the best. They will have the best to work with -- Texas Federation of Music Clubs.

Musically yours,

*Lora Lynn Christensen*

## Calendar of Events

NFMC 55th Biennial Convention June 1-8, 2009, Rosen Plaza Hotel, Orlando, FL

National Music Week May 3-10, 2009, Theme: "Music. . .Poetry of the Heart"

TFMC State Festival May 16, 2009, San Marcos, Texas State University

Opera in the Ozarks Federation Days July 15-18, 2009 and July 14-17, 2010,

Eureka Springs, AR

TFMC Fall Board meeting August 28-29, 2009, Embassy Suites Love Field, Dallas

TFMC Convention March 4-6, 2010, Lubbock; Host, District 1

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*Representing TFMC at the Governing Board meeting of Inspiration Point Fine Arts Colony March 13-14 in Oklahoma City were, seated from left: Tim Danielson, member-at-large; Lora Lynn Christensen, TFMC president; Jean Moffatt, recording secretary; standing from left: Sue Breuer, vice-president; Dr. John Schmidt, member-at-large; and Lee Meyer, Texas trustee.*

## Memorial service honors departed members

Doris Ann Stanford hosted the memorial service which recognized club members deceased since the last convention.

Her list included the following:

Ruby Haggard, Stanton Music Club  
 Kay Karnau, Gonzales Music Study Club  
 Imogene Harris, Lubbock Music Club  
 Linda Anderson, Lubbock Music Club  
 John Dersch, Allegro Music Club, Lubbock  
 Clyde Kerns, Allegro Music Club, Lubbock  
 Chris Shinn, Allegro Music Club, Lubbock  
 Nancy Phaup, Kingsville Music Study Club  
 Cecilia Mutis, Odessa Music Study Club  
 Jane Lott, Navasota Music Study Club  
 Ruth Warner, Waco Euterpean Club  
 Del Yarborough, Carthage Music Club

## Form Due Dates

May 15 AR 3-1 Crusade for Strings club report to state chairman

May 15 AD 2-1 Arts Advocacy Reports to state chairman

May 15 New Local Club Officer and Chairmen list to district and state presidents; also new district officer and chairman info to state president

June 1 AR 12-1 National Music Week club reports

End of Club Year ME 7-1 Senior Club Reporting to state chairman

Look in this issue of *The Musical Messenger* for some of these forms; others may be accessed at the NFMC website at [www.nfmc-music.org](http://www.nfmc-music.org).

# Junior composers advance to nationals



*Doris Whinery, Vice-President in charge of South Central Region, installs new TFMC district presidents, including Lynn McNew, District 8; Lois Armor, District 6; Doris Ann Stanford, District 4; Brenda Ford, District 3; Margaret Frazier, District 2; and Marcia Evans, District 1.*

## Reports tout TFMC's accomplishments

Second Vice-President Laverne Love reports that membership has increased by 203 members, with every district showing an increase as follows: District 1, 5; 2, 12; 3, 10; 4, 3; 5, 6; 6, 47; 7, 9; 8, 31; and 9, 102.

Betty Hall, Founders Day chairman, reports that 31 Past Presidents Assemblies have given 100% and will receive awards from NFMC.

Betty also reports that two applications and tapes have been received for the J. C. and Robert Dyer Violin Award. The winner will be announced at the TFMC Fall Board Meeting.

Sacred Music chairman Laverne Love reports that 18 club members will receive certificates for 50 years or more making sacred music.

American Music chairman Carla Johnson reported receiving 11 reports. Texas Christian University received the \$500 institution award with an estimation of more than 16,500 people attending their all-American concerts through the year.



*New NFMC/TFMC Life Members initiated at the Lifers Breakfast March 27 are, from left, Phyllis Noonan, Austin Wednesday Morning Music Club; Lois Armor, Etude Music Club of San Antonio; Annette Griesbach, Rockdale Matinee Musical Club; and Marque McKay, Etude Music Club of San Antonio.*

## Five of regional winners hail from Lone Star State

Sherry Frush, TFMC Junior Composers chairman, reports that eight Texans were chosen as winners and sent to the regional competition, where five of them were named South Central Region winners and sent on to the national competition.

Texas winners were as follows:

### Junior I (ages 9 and under)

1st place: Megan Bishop

Teacher: Bonnie Dove, Arlington

2nd place: Matthew Mize

Teacher: Holly Hughes, Weatherford

### Junior II (ages 10-12)

1st place: Megan Garland

Teacher: Bonnie Dove, Arlington

2nd place: Matthew Thomas

Teacher: Holly Hughes, Weatherford

Honorable mention: Heather Mackey

Teacher: Bonnie Dove, Arlington

### Junior III (ages 13-15)

1st place: Madison McWhitney

Teacher: Bonnie Dove, Arlington

2nd place: Taryn McCarty

Teacher: Bonnie Dove, Arlington

### Junior IV (ages 16-18)

1st place: Jesse Lozano

Individual Junior Special Member, Houston

2nd place: Dylan Love

Teacher: Bonnie Dove, Arlington

Honorable mention: Parker Gordon

Teacher: Holly Hughes, Weatherford

Seven teachers sent a total of 22 entries for 2009. Judge was Shirley Anderson.

Of those listed above, five received \$50 Giger Valentin Awards as South Central Region winners. They are Dylan Love, Madison McWhitney and Megan Garland of Arlington, Jesse Lozano of Houston, and Matthew Mize of Weatherford. They will be entered in NFMC competition.

## TFMC has student winner in Man's Voice competition

TFMC Student Chairman Lee Meyer announces that Casey Finnigan, a student at the University of North Texas, is a state winner in Man's Voice and is entered in South Central Region competition. Winners there will advance to national competition.

Finnigan, a tenor from Austin, was the NFMC winner to Opera in the Ozarks at Inspiration Point Fine Arts Colony in Eureka Springs, Arkansas in 2007.

National winners will be invited to perform at the NFMC convention in Orlando, FL in June.

# Carolyn Poe comments on Endowments

## “People Matter”

Endowments are only as effective as the people who administer them. The most effective endowments begin with a generous donor and are administered by capable people who are willing to commit to the never-ending oversight.

Webster says an endowment is “providing a permanent fund for support” for a specific cause. The operative word is “permanent.” Webster defines permanent as an adjective meaning “lasting or intended to last for a very long time without fundamental or marked change.”

The permanence of the fund makes several things necessary:

First a written agreement between the donor and institution is essential for continuity. People come and go; so the fund must be understood and administered by each new wave of administrators.

Situations change with time; so the best agreements allow for some flexibility. For example, instead of naming a specific composition that must be played to audition, it would be better to give categories such as a Bach prelude and fugue, or one movement of a Beethoven Sonata.

The description of the recipient should be broad enough to make it possible to give the award regularly. If a problem arises, the administering institutions should make reasonable adjustments.

Flexibility can be obtained by adding a clause to the written agreement stating that if a specific recipient cannot be found, the earnings may be used for a similar cause.

Donors usually need help in writing the agreement. That

is part of the job of the administering institution. Donors should not give endowments unless they trust the people who make up the institution.

Conversely, institutions are not obligated to accept endowed funds. There is always a cost in time and money when administering an endowment. A small fee may be deducted from each year's earnings to cover the cost of administration. The usual amount is 5% to 10% of the earnings.

Only earnings are spent unless the donor specifies that a percentage of the principle may be spent. The earnings will vary from year to year depending on interest rates and investment strategies. Awards may need to be adjusted annually to account for the variable earnings.

Those entrusted with investing the funds should not be held accountable for the financial climate of the economy, but every attempt should be made to maximize the returns on the investment. This is another case in which trust is important. Donors should trust those who invest the funds and the institution should make every effort to select competition personnel who invest and administer the funds.

Long range planning is very important for any institution - in both feast and famine. Endowments can enhance or be a burden to an institution over time. Usually, endowments enhance the effectiveness of an organization. Flexibility is very important. Since people do the evaluating, adjusting, and planning, people matter.

(This was part of the workshop Carolyn presented at the state convention in Abilene March 27-29.)