



North Central Region News

October, 2012

Greetings to all of you! I hope you are having a very busy and rewarding fall season with the beginning of all your programs for the 2012-2013 Federation year. The weather has been beautiful recently in the North Central Region, and the fall colors spectacular! Let's enjoy it while we can as we all know what the months of November through March can be like!

Mark your calendars now!

The 2013 National Federation of Music Clubs Biennial Convention will be held from June 25-29 in Greenville, South Carolina.

NCR Days 2013 will be held July 19 and 20th in Minneapolis, MN in conjunction with the 2013 Junior Composers. Rooms have been set aside at the Hilton Garden Inn in Bloomington, MN. Our National guest will be Carolyn Nelson, NFMC President.

North Central Region-Jeanne Hryniewicki

NCR Days 2012 was held July 20 and 21st in Minneapolis, MN in conjunction with the 2012 Junior Composers Camp. There were 19 members present representing 7 states. The meeting was called to order by NCR Vice-President Jeanne Hryniewicki with Karen Bourne acting as Secretary/Treasurer. Junior Composers General Director, Randall Davidson and Program Director, Seth Custer gave reports on the activities of the two-week Junior Composers program held at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. Since 2013 is an election year, regional chairmen will be nominated for re-election at the National Convention in South Carolina next June. Nomination forms for the National President (Carolyn Nelson) and NCR VP (Jeanne Hryniewicki) were handed out and signed by two NCR members. These nomination forms were forwarded to the Chairman of the nominating committee for NFMC officers.

The highlight of the meeting was our keynote speaker, Michael Edwards, NFMC 1st Vice-President. The title of his speech was "What's it all about?" He encouraged us to spread out into our communities and think outside the box.

We spent the afternoon listening to a program presented by the Junior Composers Songwriters. In the evening we attended a concert by the Minnesota Sinfonia at the Lake Harriet Band Shell. They performed "Night Colors" by Jana Wilkes, 2012 Junior Composers Competition Winner. After the concert we returned to the Hilton Garden Inn where a reception was hosted by Richard and Jeanne Hryniewicki.

The next day two salons were held where the 2012 Junior Composer attendees performed the compositions they had written over the previous week.

The North Central Region offers many scholarships and supports four summer camps. The Ravinia Award in Jazz is given through the NFMC Steans Institute on the Ravinia Festival Grounds in Illinois; the International Music Camp is located in the International Peace Gardens in North Dakota; the Faye and John Abild Award is offered through Simpson College in Iowa; and of course, our largest camp - the Junior Composers which is comprised of a two week Studio, one week Institute and the Songwriters Camp.

Donations can be made to both the North Central Region and Junior Composers. A \$100.00 donation to the North Central Region will earn you a pin. Both run on a very tight budget. All of the bills are not in yet for the 2012 Junior Composers, especially those from the U of M. We are at risk this year of not having enough to pay our talented teachers and administrators their full salaries. I would highly encourage each Senior Club to make a modest donation (\$50.00) to Junior Composers each year. If every Senior Club in the North Central Region would make a donation, it would add up to a significant amount to help Junior Composers.

Another way to help the Junior Composers cause is to do your online shopping through www.igive.com. A percentage of everything you buy through this website is contributed to Junior Composers. Sign up today and indicate Junior Composers Institute as your cause.

For more information about the North Central Region please visit www.nfmcncr.org.



Left: Michael Edwards and Jeanne Hryniewicki; Right NCR members at the University of Minnesota



Karen Bourne, Pat Steege, Michael Edwards, Sam Ecoff and Jeanne Hryniewicki at the Lake Harriet Bandshell.

Junior Composers 2012 News - Pat Steege, Administrative Director

The Junior Composers summer camp program of 2012 hosted a total of 34 students from around the country. Studio and Institute programs took place July 9-20. "String Quartet" was the featured opportunity and Artaria String Quartet was hired to give professional readings of ten student-composed quartets. It was exciting to watch the interaction of the young composers with the Artaria members who gave advice and feedback. The Songwriters, although small in number, were mighty in spirit. They spent an evening showcasing songs at a local coffee shop. Songwriters also learned about recording technology while at McNally Smith School of Music where they were given professional recordings of the piece they composed during the week. Final salons on Friday and Saturday of camp week #2 featured all the premieres of student music performed and conducted by the students.

Here are some of the demographics of 2012: 32 students were in grades 8-12; two students were in college; faculty totaled five; guest artists and composers totaled seven; males 21; females 13; fifty percent of all students had scholarships.

Minnesota students 13; Wisconsin students 9; North Dakota students 4; Illinois 1; Nebraska 1; Iowa none; South Dakota none; other states 7.

Thank you to all the North Central states for your financial support of Junior Composers and for your continued efforts to promote this wonderful experience for young creative people. I continue to hear how special it is for students to find others of like mind and to spend a week with them.

Plans for 2013 are well underway as we return to the first of four cycled themes: Music+Words. VocalEssence, a professional and well reputed choir in Minneapolis, will again be with us for readings and our Songwriters and Institute programs will be enhanced with some new ideas.

Junior Composer Competition North Central Region Winners-Arlene Lewis, NCR Chairman

Class I Julia Peterson (teacher: Dr. Douglas Jurs-Madison, WI)
 Joshua Swanson (teacher: Margaret Christensen-Bruno, MN)

- Class II Jared Swift (teacher: Ellen Kershaw-Bellevue, NE)
Kaitlyn Rozeboom (teacher: Regina Carnazzo-Omaha, NE)
- Class III Elizabeth Ophoven (teacher: Ann Dimich-Grand Rapids, MN)
Evren Ozel (teacher: Sarah Miller-Minneapolis, MN)
Adam Noel (teacher: Sam Ecoff-Waukesha, WI)
- Class IV Joanna Wang (teacher: Julia Chang-Madison, WI)
Grant Luhmann (teacher: Sarah Miller-Lino Lakes, MN)
Daniel Weaver (teacher: Regina Carnazzo – Omaha, Nebraska)

National Winners

- Class I 2nd Place Julia Peterson (Madison, Wisconsin)
- Class II 1st Place Kaitlyn Rozeboom (Omaha, Nebraska)
- Class IV 2nd Place Grant Luhmann (Lino Lakes, Minnesota)

News from Minnesota- Stacey Voit, Minnesota 1st Vice President

This year, Minnesota was happy to have Christopher Norton, world-renowned pianist and composer, visit in June. Piano students and teachers had an opportunity to work with, play for and learn from Christopher Norton in both the Twin Cities and Willmar, and the Minnesota Music Teachers Foundation.

Minnesota's 2012 Fall All Member State Meeting was held at Chisholm Baptist Church on Thursday, August 9, 2012 with national guest NFMC President Carolyn Nelson in attendance.

Scholarship opportunities were awarded by MFMC to three students attending the 2012 International Music Camp and four composition students attending the Junior Composers summer camp at the University of Minnesota in July.

In addition to the business carried out, all were treated to musical performances. Mikaela Krampotich performed two of her compositions, which she wrote at the Composers Institute held in Minnesota. Gian Carlos Menotti's "The Telephone" was performed by Roy and Nadine Berg with son, Alan Berg, accompanying on the piano. Kathy Wilson led the singing of "How Can I Keep From Singing?" – a song NFMC President Carolyn Nelson considers the theme of her tenure. The day ended with the meeting attendees having an opportunity "get up and move" with a bit of Greek Folk Dancing before heading home.



Left upper: On 8/8/12, Pat Steege, Carolyn Nelson, Cheryl Schmidt and Sharon Kaplan enjoyed supper at Ziggy's, a Hibbing restaurant that displays Bob Dylan memorabilia.

Left lower: Mikaela Krampotich, shown with her teacher Mary Angela Strasser, performed two original songs at the state meeting in Chisholm on 8/9/12.

Right: Nadine and Roy Berg performed the musical skit "The Telephone" on 8/9/12 in Chisholm.

News from Central Lakes Music Club, Alexandria MN-Karen Erickson

Our Central Lakes Music Club had a Senior Recognition Reception on May 30, 2012 for those graduating students who had taken lessons from our members through their senior year in high school. We had a total of seventeen graduates from our thirty members so we held the event at a new senior (age 55+) facility in Alexandria. We teachers provided the entertainment - after all the times the students had played in recitals and festivals we let them just sit and listen - and we played some duets they had also worked on! They also all wrote something about "What Music Means to Me" when we got there. We sent a photo and article to the local newspaper and it was published in June this year. It was really a very special event and time together!

International Music Camp-Mavis Ness

The mission of the International Music Camp, located at the International Peace Garden on the Canada/USA border between Manitoba and North Dakota, is to enrich lives through artistic expression and personal growth

provided through a summer school of fine arts. All ages and nationalities study each season, and instruction ranges from beginning to advanced study, with classes divided to challenge each person to the fullest of his or her ability. The 58th season at the International Music Camp begins in June 2013. Sessions are held through the end of July, with the last camp held for adults. Students range from grades 5-12. Visit www.internationalmusiccamp.com for more information.

News from the International Music Camp is exciting this year. According to Dr. Tim Wollenzien, camp director, they are having an excellent season, with a slight uptick in enrollment. They are expecting to have around 2,000 campers this season from 12 countries. There are nearly 50 programs on their schedule over seven sessions, with professional artist-teachers in all disciplines. He added that they have more kids in the piano program this year than the past few years, and they are also offering both organ and harp. The composition program is flourishing, and it is now in its third season. University Preparatory Program classes are making excellent use of the facility in the Alme Centre known as the North Dakota Federation of Music Clubs Composers Room.

International Music Camp presented "Oktubafest 2012". The weekend includes events for tuba and euphonium players of all ages. Recitals are planned by guest artists, repertoire sessions for euphonium and tuba solos and tuba quartets, master classes and a Massed Tuba-Euphonium Choir for all participants. It includes a world premiere of a commissioned work for a tuba quartet by Kenyon Wilson dedicated to long-time IMC artist teacher Harold Brasch.

If anyone is traveling through North Dakota, I urge you to jog north and go through the Peace Gardens. It is truly an awesome park; we can be so proud of it! A wonderful location for our International Music Camp.

Together We Sing Report-Carole Flatau, TWS Chairman

TWS. Together We Sing. Or maybe we don't.

When you have a chance, you folks in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Nebraska should ask some folks in North Dakota and Wisconsin about the high-energy reaction in their clubs which feature *Together We Sing* at their monthly meetings.

If you'd been at the Fargo Moorhead September meeting, you would have heard about the Number One Hit record of 1912, a hit later recorded by Bing Crosby, Jeanette MacDonald, Connie Francis, The Ink Spots, The Platters, Lawrence Welk, etc. etc. etc., even Victor Borge. It was the first song written by a woman that sold one million copies.

Together we sang it with admiration and extra interest. Good job, Carrie Jacobs Bond! NFMC members agree that "I Love You Truly" is indeed a winner.

The TWS songbooks are star-rated best-values. (Okay, that's *my* rating.) The current edition has songs, with background info, from September 2011 through August 2013. (We sang the August and September songs last week.) Even if you don't use all the songs, you'll get your money's worth. You can order TWS books from Headquarters for \$1.25 apiece plus shipping. You'll get your money's worth, and you'll *be connecting vocally with our heritage*.

2012 Summer Music Center Winners-Odee Maier, NFMC Chairman

Inspiration Point, Arkansas	Steven Wallace, Tenor-Chicago, IL (\$1,700-NFMC)
International Music Camp, North Dakota	Alberto Gomez Moncera, Bassoon-Bottineau, ND (\$150-Jardine PNP)
	Marc Dumont, Trombone-Regina, SK, Canada (\$150-Jardine PNP)
Junior Composers Institute, Minnesota	Kate Talley, Composition-Minot, ND (\$400-Sampson Award)
Meadowmount School of Music, New York	Johannes Gray, Cello-Wilmette, IL (\$112.50-NFMC)
Ravinia Festival, Illinois	Dan Chmielinski, String Bass-Glenview, IL (\$2,500-NFMC Rose Thomas Smith Legacy)
Santa Fe Opera Program, New Mexico	Paul Scholten, Baritone-Chicago, IL (\$400-NFMC Ruth Freehoff Bequest)
Simpson College, Iowa	Jessica Loftis, Piano-Harvey, IA (\$400 NFMC Faye and John Abild Legacy)

News from Cedar Valley, Iowa-Lucinda Lear

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 WEDNESDAY
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Estes, long-time accompanist reunite

 By JOHN MOLSEED
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WATERLOO — Simon Estes has performed in front of world leaders and on the world's most famous stages.

Estes, an Iowa-born international opera star, graced small crowds with three intimate fundraising performances at Friendship Village Tuesday.

Accompanying him on piano was Harold Brown, a Friendship Village resident who accompanied Estes on piano for years. The two had not performed together for nearly 30 years.

The reunion came by accident in August when Estes stopped by the Walnut Ridge Baptist Church to ask what time services were held there.

Estes said he was elated to see Brown.

"It was a joy to see him," Estes said. "He knows so much about music."

Estes met Brown in Berlin when Estes was performing at the Berlin Opera House in the 1960s. Brown accompanied Estes for years.

"You play just as well as you did 30 years ago," Estes said after performing "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" Tuesday afternoon.

Brown, a native of Dumont, moved to Waterloo during the Great Depression. He served in the U.S. Navy in World War II and studied the piano in Berlin after the war. Estes said Brown was the best accompanist he had ever worked with.

Brown said it took a series of coincidences for the two friends to reunite.



RICK TIBBOTT / Courier Staff Photographer

Iowa-born international opera star Simon Estes, now artist in residence at Wartburg College in Waverly, spoke and performed for residents of Friendship Village's Landmark Commons Tuesday.

Brown had left a family reunion out of town early to be at the church service that Sunday. He also decided to stay later to listen to a hymn instead of leaving right after the service.

"It was quite a surprise," Brown said. "It was one of those things where a lot of things happened to come together."

Estes, a native of Centerville, is now an artist in residence at Wartburg College in Waverly. He occasionally attends church in Waterloo but missed his usual church service. He stopped by the Walnut Ridge Baptist Church

to see when services were held there. He saw a bus in the parking lot and asked the driver. Brown was sitting in a front seat and recognized Estes' voice.

"You missed it, Simon Estes," Brown said.

In the concerts Tuesday, Estes did not need a microphone to fill his performance space with his resonant voice. Lucinda Lear, the Iowa representative of the National Federation of Music Clubs, asked Estes to perform at Friendship Village for the seniors there.

Lear sold CDs that Estes pro-

duced with the proceeds going to scholarships through the National Federation of Music Clubs, Wartburg and Iowa State University and to his school, the Simon Estes Music High School in Cape Town, South Africa.

Estes agreed he could fill bigger venues and raise more money, but said performing for seniors who may not be able to get out and attend a concert was worthwhile. "Those people can't always come to us, we have to come to them," he said. "If there had been three or 300 and they asked me to come, I still would."