



# OHIO MUSIC CLUB NEWS

An Official Publication of the Ohio Federation of Music Clubs



***Music Builds Community. Communities Support Music.***

## **Special Combined Issue**

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Volume LXXIX - 2021

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## ***"A Long Look Back / A Glance Ahead"***

### **President's Greeting**

I originally wrote the thoughts below two years ago for the Spring 2020 issue, which was not yet completed when the chaos and heartbreak of Covid descended upon us. With a few edits, the message remains as valid as ever as we remember the struggles of the past two years and begin to reassemble for the future. I encourage you to read through this entire newsletter, reflecting on where we have been, and the steps we are taking to move ahead.

"Music builds community" is the first part of my theme because the OFMC is a community of music lovers who appreciate the role that music plays in their lives and have built relationships with others to experience, strengthen and share that love.

#### **What does your Community Music Calendar look like?**

When I taught in the public schools I came to understand the ebb and flow of school and community events, activities and concerts unique to each area. And I appreciated the time of rest and planning commonly known as summer vacation!

Having served in a church setting the past several decades, I have observed another sacred liturgical calendar in addition to secular ebb and flow of school and community activities. No matter how well the choir may have sung last Sunday, another service with new music is coming up in less than a week. The three months of secular summer vacation gave way to a free weekend here and an conference there.

As president of the OFMC I have learned that our federation calendar is much closer to the church model, with very little down time. As teachers we see students every week. As senior clubs we meet every month. As districts we meet twice a year, and as a state organization we meet at least once a year. All the while we are preparing students for contests (see the enclosed results from fall competitions), planning to meet as conferences (spring meetings are only a few weeks away!), and looking forward to the future (state convention in Columbus this October).

It would be very interesting for you to sit down with a few members of your club or other teachers and make a list all of the music events in your community in the course of a year. Start with what your club does. Then add the school events, the concerts by community music organizations, student recitals presented by local teachers, church recitals, senior citizen's programming, in-school concerts, and the like.

How big is your list? What does your community value? Can your club add to it, or be responsible for a part of it? What is your community missing? How can your club add to it? What could you do if you brought in an Agnew Fowler scholarship winner, or an NFMC Young Artist?

Remember, "Music builds community."

See you in a few weeks!

Ron Marenchin  
OFMC President



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**OFMC Officers 2021-22**

President: Ron Marenchin  
 Vice President: Jason Volovar  
 Recording Secretary: Julie Riegle  
 Treasurers:  
     Sr. Division - Gwen Brubaker  
     Jr. Division - Alison Morris  
     Festival - Brenda Zeigler

## *“A Long Look Back”*

# *Fall 2019 Festival Report and Competition Results*

The **fall meeting for the Junior Festival chairs** was held on Saturday, **October 19, 2019** at Church of the Messiah in Westerville. Kathy Savinell, junior festival chair, gave information for the 2020 festivals.

The **Junior Division Honors Program** followed the meeting of the Festival chairs on Saturday, October 19. Pictures of the participants are shown below. The Elizabeth Gerber Young Musicians program began at 11 a.m. by singing the Junior Federation Hymn and repeating the Collect and Federation Pledge. The Marilyn Walter and Charlotte & W. Alfred Gray Competitions began at 1 p.m.

**Awards** were presented by Christy Smith as follows:

Outstanding Junior Award - Nadiia Kozubiak

Festival Chair Award - Kimberly Ritzinger

Festival Cup Chair Award - Debbie Dustin

Junior Composer Club Award - Musical Notes Jr. Music Club, Susan Carlock, counselor

Piano Preparatory School Jr. Music Club, Jennifer Shoup, counselor

NFMC Award of Merit Certificates were presented to eight junior clubs.

Acknowledgments and special thanks were given to:

Linda Rinderknecht, competitions chair

Ron Marenchin, state president, who brought greetings from OFMC

Sally Christman, who prepared the printed program

Christina Sidaras, junior composition contest chair

Kathy Savinell, junior festival chair

Judy Bede, festival cup chair

Christy Smith, award presentations

Sue and Mack Hassler, junior day registration.

Opening and closing remarks for the competitions were given by Melanie Burger, state junior counselor.

The **judges** who gave their time and expertise for the Gerber Competition were Denise K. Eikum, Susan Carlock and Dr. Karen Eckenroth. Judges for the Walter Competition were Jana Ross, Susan Carlock and Qian Yoyo Liu. Denise Eikum, Jana Ross and Qian Yoyo Liu were the judges for the Gray Competition.



Marilyn Walter Young Musicians contestants for grades 7-9: Ava Abate, Eva DeZurik, Aaron Hershberger, Claire Flake, Emily Hodges, Cailyn Hoel, Simon Kovass, Jessica Yi, Grace Shum, Gabriella Smallwood, Brooklyn Smith, Katia Jacoby, Miki Kawamura, Niranjana Bhagwat, Tyler Jonathan Lin, Anika Wright, Clare Han (all played piano), and Caleb J. Ashley (viola).



Marilyn Walter competition winners, Katia Jacoby, Jonathan Lynn, and Jessica Yi.



Sonya Wert (2nd place), Duy Tran (3rd place) and Erik Jacoby (1st place), winners of Elizabeth Gerber Young Musicians Program



Elizabeth Gerber competition for students younger than 7<sup>th</sup> grade: Lauren Ferguson, Anthony Blank, Theresa DeZurik, Duy Tran, Sonya Wert (classical guitar), Mila Gelbart, Claire Brown, Erik Jacoby, Anya Pathak, and Nathanael Warner. (all others played piano)





Katie Li, Cecilia Han and Danna Long, winners of the Gray competition.



Charlotte & W. Alfred Gray contestants for grades 10-12: Andrew Crans, Anika DeZurik, Penelope Fisher, Julia Gottfried, Katerina DeZurik, Cecilia Han, Kate Li, Sophia Wang, Nova Meng, Rhea Pathak, Danna Long. (All students played piano.)



Composition winner, Gideon Brenner's string quartet. Gideon Brenner and Austin Choi, violins, Katie Brenner, viola, and Albert Choi, cello.



# Fall 2021 Competition Results

It turned out to be a great day and the remodeled sanctuary at Church of the Messiah was WONDERFUL!!

Linda Rinderknecht, chair



**Gerber winners** (L to R) 1st Avnish Pai Dhungat, 2nd, Mila Gelbart, 3rd Christopher Solvesky



**Walter winners** (L to R) 1st, Erik Jacoby, 2nd, Miki Kawamura, 3rd Nathanael Warner



**Gray winners** (L to R)  
Honorable Mention,  
Gabriella Smallwood, Simon Kovass,  
Andrew Huang,  
3rd place, Emi Kawamura,  
2nd Katia Jacoby, 1st Cory Wu





# Ohio Federation of Music Clubs 91<sup>st</sup> State Convention

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Hosted by District I (Northeast Ohio) in Warren, Ohio

Held May 20-22, 2021

The 2020 Convention Committee planned an informative state convention including wonderful music, good fellowship and delicious food.

The OFMC Executive Committee met for dinner, a concert and a meeting on Thursday, May 20 at the home of Karl & Jeannine Morris. A concert was given by Enzo Chiodi, a sophomore classical guitarist, who received the 2020 Agnes Fowler Award at Dana School of Music at Youngstown State University.

On Friday, May 21, all events until 4 pm were held at the historic Kinsman House-Warren Heritage Center located on what was Millionaire's Row in downtown Warren. Ron Marenchin, OFMC president, appointed new chairs at the Board of Directors meeting.



Donna Gerber, chair of the Helen Curtis Webster Award at The Cleveland Institute of Music, introduced Sidney Link (*left*), the award recipient, who is a second-year master's student at CIM. Sidney presented viola solos as the prelude to the Convention in the parlor of the WHC. She was accompanied by Margot Verstraeten, also a student at CIM.

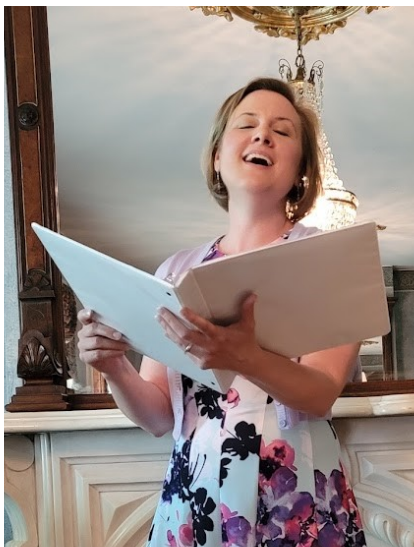
President Marenchin called the convention to order, and the invocation was given by Lorelei Heineman, chaplain. Jason Volovar, OFMC first vice president, led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Federation Collect. Christy Smith, convention accompanist, accompanied the Federation Hymn.

Welcomes were given by Peggy Elliott, district I president; Jeannine Morris, convention chair and a past OFMC president. Donna Gerber and Christy Smith, past OFMC presidents, also welcomed the attendees.

Julie Riegler, OFMC recording secretary, called the roll of clubs and Life members, read the minutes of the 2019 Board of Directors meeting and reported on Board Action and recommendations from the meeting that morning. Ms. Heineman, chaplain, gave the blessing at lunch in the WHC sitting room and library. Jim Valesky, (*right*) chair of the WHC board, told the history of the house and gave a tour.



Three judges determined that Warren Music Club received the OFMC Achievement Record Book award.



Amanda Beagle-Bossio, (*left*) a vocal instructor in the theater and dance department at Youngstown State University, sang three solos at the Memorial Service. Ms. Heineman, led in the Time of Remembrance.

The OFMC Family of the Year was The Jack Ciarniello Family (*right*). Jack serves at YSU as the coordinator and lecturer of the Music Recording degree program at Dana School of Music. He did a "Name that Tune" segment and performed piano solos. His wife, Chrystal, and daughter, Ruby sang, and Ruby played the piano.



The banquet honoring district and club presidents was held at St. Paul Lutheran Church. The welcome and introductions was given by Jeannine Morris, mistress of ceremonies.

Donna Gerber, district and club presidents council chair, led the parade of presidents.



OFMC Adult Composition Contest winner Denise Eikum, (left) performed two of her original piano compositions. Niranjan Bhagwat, violinist, and Pam Williams Rumer, soprano, performed "Blessings and Thanksgiving" with her.

President Marenchin, the keynote speaker, talked about OFMC and NFMC Competitions and Awards.



Dr. Randall Goldberg, (right) director and associate professor of music at YSU's Dana School of Music, was presented an OFMC citation by President Marenchin.

Pat Brooks, district III president, presented the Courtesy Resolutions.

The public concert opened with an organ prelude presented by Sean Baran, OFMC Junior Counselor. The Living Lord Lutheran Church Handbell Choir, directed by Lynn Walter performed selections.



Donna Gerber, OFMC Young Artist chair, introduced Alex Hersch (left), the National Federation of Music Clubs 2019 Young Artist winner in strings from Chicago, who presented a cello concert. He was accompanied by Dr. Nancy DeSalvo, chair of the keyboard department at Westminster College in New Wilmington, PA. A reception honoring the Young Artist was hosted by district I clubs following the concert.

Saturday was devoted to the Junior Division. The festival chairs met to review the use of *Vivace*, the new online Festival Management System. A panel discussion of Junior Division activities was led by the chairs of those activities. The Elizabeth Gerber Competition (younger than 7<sup>th</sup> grade), was chaired by Linda Rinderknecht. (\*See report below.) First and second place awards from the OFMC Foundation and a third place award from the Camarata Music Club were presented. Group pictures were taken.

Susan Carlock, chair of the OFMC Junior Composition contest, introduced the winners, who performed their original compositions.



There were fifty-five reservations for the Balloons, Lollipops and Bubbles luncheon honoring the juniors on Saturday. Teachers from the I-B festival served the luncheon.

The juniors' luncheons were complimentary, and their families and teachers attended the luncheon with them. Kathy Savinell, OFMC festival chair, was the keynote speaker.

Jason Volovar performed a piano solo to open the afternoon events.

Sean Baran (right) gave a Pedals and Pipes presentation on the Austin pipe organ at St. Paul Lutheran for the juniors to inspire them to take organ lessons.

Linda Rinderknecht, chair of the junior competitions, introduced the Marilyn Walter Competition for grades 7-9 and the Charlotte & Alfred Gray Competition for grades 10-12. First, second and third place awards were presented from the OFMC Foundation for both competitions, and group pictures were taken.



— Jeannine Morris,  
convention chair



\* Due to the pandemic the **October 2020 competitions** were postponed to May 22, 2021. Because of uncertainty about whether the 2021 Competitions would occur, the students who received their 5th Consecutive Superior in the spring and performed for their District Conference were permitted to enter. These 2020 competitions were somewhat smaller than in previous years but remarkably well attended.

Here is the breakdown:

Elizabeth Gerber Award (students under 7th grade) - 11

Marilyn Walter Young Musicians Award (7th-9th grade) - 12

Charlotte and Alfred Gray Competition (10th - 12th grade) - 13

Respectfully submitted, Linda Rinderknecht, Junior Competitions Chair



# ***"A Glance Ahead"***

## **Comings and Goings...**

1. **Deborah Freeman** assumed the office of President of NFMC on March 1, following the resignation of President **Frances Nelson**.
2. After a long tenure as developer and webmaster of the OFMC website, **Church Smith** has retired from the position as of the end of December 2021. Any updates to the website should be sent to President Ron Marenchin at [ronmarenchin@ohio.net](mailto:ronmarenchin@ohio.net), who is working with an interim webmaster for the time being.

## **Upcoming Application and Report Deadlines**

How to find the Awards Chart on the OFMC website: 1. Go to [www.ofmc.org](http://www.ofmc.org).  
 2. Click on the "Competitions and Awards" link in the list on the right.  
 3. Scroll down to the desired information.

**April 1**      *Music Therapy Awards* - Ronna Kaplan, chair

**April 15**    *Dance Award* - Mark Koehler, chair

**May 1**      *Disinger Summer Marching Band Camp Scholarship* - Dennis Wein, chair

*Summer Music Camp Awards* - Karen Hunt, chair

*Past President Assembly Chapters* (PPAs) need to complete Form FI 9-3 from the NFMC website and return it to Gwen Brubaker with their contributions

**May 15**    *Awards for advanced music degrees* - Dr. Margarita Denenburg, chair

## **2022 District Conferences are coming soon!**

**Contact your district president for more information**

District I - Saturday, April 2

District II - Saturday, April 9

District III - Saturday, April 23

District IV - Sunday, April 24

## **Note these 2022 Dates!**

The **2022 NFMC Conference** in Indianapolis, IN is **June 13-18**.

(Information is now online at [www.NFMC-music.org](http://www.NFMC-music.org))

The **Northeastern Regional Meeting** in Chautauqua, NY is **July 8-9**.

*Come, join the festivities and build community!*



## Fall 2022 Gerber, Walter, and Gray Competitions

Application deadline: **September 1st, 2022**

(Application must be postmarked by September 1st, 2022)

Competition date and place:

**October 8th, 2022** at Trinity Lutheran Church, (*Note this year's location!*)

508 Center Street, Ashland, OH 44805

Please email applications to [rinderknechtlinda@gmail.com](mailto:rinderknechtlinda@gmail.com), or mail to Linda Rinderknecht, 1120 Edgewood Drive, Upper Sandusky, OH 43351.

Updated applications for 2022 will soon be on the OFMC website, <<https://ofmc.org>>.

## Mark Your Calendars 2022 Fall OFMC Meetings

**Juniors Day - Saturday, October 8**

Gerber, Walter, and Gray Competitions

Trinity Lutheran Church (*Note this year's location!*)

508 Center Street, Ashland, OH 44805

**2022 State Convention - Friday, October 21 & Saturday, October 22**

Hosted by District II in Columbus

(No, they are not the same weekend this year!)

**More information to follow.**



### Donation Form to the OFMC Foundation



It is due to the generosity of our contributors that we are able to give the kind of scholarships we do to our college music students and other musicians in training. Please consider a contribution in honor or in memory of a member to OFMC Foundation for the Advancement of Music.

Donor's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Circle one: (In memory // in honor) of \_\_\_\_\_

Donor's Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form along with a check issued to "OFMC Foundation" to our Foundation Treasurer:

**David Roepke, 1130 E. Main St. #160, Ashland, OH 44805**