

Louisiana Federation of Music Clubs Newsletter

August 1, 2024

The 2023-24 year has been an active one for LFMC. We have strived to foster music education and enjoyment through festivals, competitions, scholarships and performances.

In April, the following LFMC Officers were installed in Baton Rouge, LA for the 2024-2026 Term.

Margarita Harvey, President
Victor Klimash, President-Elect
Kim Harvey, Treasurer
Ellen Bordelon, Recording Secretary
LaDonna Alexander, Immediate Past President

NOTES FROM OUR PRESIDENT

My theme is "*Spreading Beauty Through Music,*" and song selection is, "*For the Beauty of the Earth.*" Through our Louisiana Clubs I hope to spread beauty through our state, our region and country, with the goal of supporting musicians who will perform, compose and enjoy music locally and throughout the world.

I am looking forward to an exciting term in office. I am an active piano teacher in New Orleans and have served in various positions in the Metairie Music Club throughout the years. In June, as President and Treasurer representing LA, my husband Kim and I traveled to Bettendorf, Iowa to the NFMC Conference. I was honored to represent our state and learned so much through the presentations given to help me hopefully do a good job as President. We took a beautiful scenic river boat dinner cruise on the Mississippi, and experienced performances of amazing musician, many of which were NFMC Award Winners. In July, Kim and I traveled to the Brevard, NC Summer Music Camp for the Southeastern Region Meeting. In addition to serving as LFMC Treasurer, Kim is also the SER Treasurer and serves on the NFMC Finance Committee. I am also on the SER Advisory Board. Dr. Victor and June Klimash joined us in representing Louisiana. We were treated to performances of the SER Scholarship Winners. For a donation of \$500 each, 23 donors were recognized and received the new SER Summer Music Camp Award Fund Medallion. The money raised will fund Awards for the Eastern Music Camp and Sewanee Music Camp to an equal level as Brevard Music Camp which already has an Award Fund.

2024 Winners of LFMC Competitions and Awards are:

Mildred Bevill Piano Award (\$2,500)

Antonio Taffaro, Piano Teacher: Margarita Harvey (Metairie Music Club)

Past Presidents State College Award (Five awards available \$1,000 each)

Winner: Anthony D'Antonio Teacher: Diana Cangemi (Metairie Music Club)

Winner: Antonio Taffaro Teacher: Margarita Harvey (Metairie Music Club)

Jeanne L. Veron Junior Performance Award

Div 1 \$300 (grades 7-9)

Van Anh Nguyen, Piano Teacher: Chia-Ling Lien (Baton Rouge Music Club)

Jeanne L. Veron Junior Performance Award

Div 2 \$500 (grades 10-12)

Helen Wang, Piano Teacher: Chia-Ling Lien (Baton Rouge Music Club)

Jeanne L. Veron Junior Vocal Performance Award (\$500)

Mary Ella Bozeman

Teacher: Megan Dearie (Metairie Music Club)

2024 Junior Composers Contest First Place Winners are:

Class 1 - Melania Freedman Teacher: Robin Williams

Class II - Jackson Du Teacher: Mary Campbell

Class III - Vedant Ramesh Teacher: Evan Arceneaux

Class IV - Jacob Johnson Teacher: Mary Campbell

Junior Festivals were held all around our state in the early part of 2024. Junior performers earning Superior ratings had the opportunity to participate in the LFMC Competition and Convention held at the University of New Orleans. Juniors also had the opportunity to meet and elect officers.

LFMC 2024 Junior Officers elected are:

Junior President - Alaina Mai

Junior Treasurer - Meredith Severa

Cash Awards were presented to many First Place Competition Winners, as follows:

Piano Concerto Junior 2-3

Winner: Rebecca Vindel

Piano Duet Elementary 1-4

Winners: Isabelle Pan and Hannah Ren

Piano Duet Medium – Moderately Difficult 1

Winners: Peter Le and Alaina Mai

Piano Hymn Playing Class 1 and 2

Winner: Casey Crane

Piano Hymn Playing Class 3 and 4

Winner: Mylie Piper Thomas

Piano Solo Elementary 3 and 4

Winner: Rachel Jin

Piano Solos Medium

Winner: Al Nguyen

Piano Solo Moderately Difficult 1

Winner: Olivia Peng

Piano Solo Moderately Difficult 2 and 3

Winner: Ziang Zhuang

Piano Solo Difficult 1 and 2

Winner: Randy Jiang

Piano Solo Very Difficult – Musically Advanced 1
Winner: Gabriela Cuadra

Vocal Solo, Art Song, Junior 1-3
Winner: Jayme Delisle

Vocal Solo, Art Song, Senior 1-3
Winner: Meredith Severa

Vocal Solo, Art Song, Musically Advanced 1-3
Winner: Anthony D'Antonio

Vocal Solo, Musical Theater, Junior 1-3
Winner: Arya Shridhar

Vocal Solo, Musical Theater, Senior 1-3
Winner: Meredith Severa

Vocal Solo, Musical Theater, Musically Advanced 1-3
Winner: Mary Ella Bozeman

National Music Week is celebrated during the first full week of May, using the Theme for 2023-24, "Music...is a Worldwide Adventure." Some of our LA Clubs hold two contests in connection with that celebration, an Essay Contest and a Bookmark Contest. If your Club has a special way to celebrate, please let us know about it.

Many Thanks to all our LFMC Chairs and members who assisted in these Events! I invite all of you around our State to get more involved. You will benefit our Juniors and promote music in our Communities and beyond!

Musically Yours,

Margarita Harvey, LFMC President