

Noteworthy

A publication of The Wednesday Morning Music Club (Austin)

Website: musicclubaustin.org

April 2021

Bonnie Cummins Fielder Vocal Career Advancement Grant is Coming to Town!

by: Michelle d'Arcy

If spring is in the air, then surely beautiful voices everywhere give rise to the wonder of the season. Despite the challenges of conducting a competition during a pandemic, the WMMC Fielder Committee has exciting news to share: the competition for Bonnie Cummins Fielder Vocal Career Advancement Grant, offered every two years, will take place on May 5th. Traditionally audition finals are scheduled in early spring, but due to the uncertainty and risk of live performance during the pandemic, the committee continues to reassess the situation and, if necessary, may revert to a virtual format. With logistics yet to be finalized, the committee plans to host in-person performances at the Steinway Piano Gallery in North Austin. From a field of highly talented applicants, three finalists were selected. They are:



Krista Renée Pape is a soprano who holds a Master's Degree in Music, Vocal Performance and Pedagogy from the University of Houston. She also studied at the Moores School of Music, where she recently performed in *Carmina Burana*. Ms. Pape is Resident Artist, Opera North, and in 2019, she was named Emerging Artist at Opera in the Ozarks.

Brian Yeakley, currently the director of the Houston opera company Operativo, also studied at and holds degrees from the University of Houston. Mr. Yeakley has pending contracts for 2021 at both the San Antonio Opera and Opera Saratoga, where recently he showcased his talents (from the ridiculous to the sublime) in performances from *Pirates of Penzance* and *Madama Butterfly*.



Catherine Goode studied at the University of Houston and Michigan State University, where she received her Master's Degree in Performance. Ms. Goode performed this past year with the Kentucky Opera as well as in the Merola Opera Program, where she was named as Young Artist for 2021. One of her career goals is to create roles and commission a song cycle for women composers.



Each of these talented, young artists will present several pieces from their selected repertoire for the competition. The Fielder Committee will keep WMMC members apprised, but at this time it is anticipated with current social distancing measures in place, the performers, the accompanist (once again, the brilliant Dr. Maimy Fong), and the judges will be the only ones to enjoy these voices--thanks to the generosity and encouragement of Bonnie Cummins Fielder.



President's Message

Sarah Harriman

Greetings,

I'm loving that warm weather is here and while some things are staying brown, many other things are turning green, or pink, or blue or some other beautiful color.

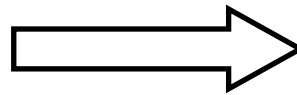
We had a great March zoom meeting and look forward to another one in April.

We're aiming to begin gathering in person in the fall, hopefully with a luncheon—won't that be fun!

I want to report that I had an absolutely marvelous 80th birthday and part of it was all the wonderful greetings I received from you. I thank you most sincerely.

And now, one last thing just in case you have been doing housework...

How a musician puts the vacuum cleaner away.



Welcome to our newest members!



Ann Palmer

I grew up on a farm outside Libertyville, Illinois about 30 miles north of Chicago. Childhood memories include attending a one-room schoolhouse, playing in our old barn, enjoying the freedom of country life, and traveling frequently into Chicago to visit the Art Institute and other cultural attractions. I graduated from Shimer College, a small liberal arts college based on the Great Books, earned a master's in French from the University of Illinois, then did a two-year stint as a Peace Corps volunteer in Tunisia. Then, after a short period as a high-school French teacher I spent a couple of years teaching French to Peace Corps volunteers bound for French-speaking Africa.

I met my husband Charles at the card catalog in the Benson Latin American Library at the University of Texas. We married in 1969 and spent our first two years together teaching English in Colombia, South America. We then spent several years at the University of Florida where I got a second master's while Charles did his Ph.D. Helping Charles with his dissertation field work in the Dominican Republic and Haiti was a real adventure. We next settled in Austin, Charles' hometown, where we raised our two children, Stephen (Ph.D. LBJ School UT) and Ruthie (Ph.D. Columbia University). I am currently into my 36th year teaching Developmental English at Austin Community College. I am an active member of the Austin Mennonite Church. One of my great pleasures is taking piano lessons from WMMC's Brian Grothues, a really fine teacher.



Dorie Pickle

Dorie Pickle is the Creative Director and Founding Principal of CreativePickle. With roots in the frenzied dot-com boom in Austin, Dorie started CreativePickle in June 2001. Dorie is a big-picture thinker, with real-world, hands-on experience managing the creation of hundreds of brands, websites, and graphic materials. Dorie works with clients to help create a vision for their brand and implement that vision from the ground up as a partner at the table. She has spent the past several years assembling an experienced and highly effective in-house team as well as a broad network of skilled partners with talents to suit all client needs. Under her leadership, CreativePickle has grown to become one of Austin's best creative design agencies.

Dorie enjoys playing the piano and the flute, and she composes music with her husband Ben, who plays the guitar. Dorie's mother, Carlie Burdett, was a long-time member of WMMC, and a prolific composer and talented musician. In her spare time, Dorie also loves star-gazing, running, yoga, and campfires. She lives in South Austin with Ben and their two boys. Dorie has Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the University of Texas at Austin.

National Poetry Month

April 2021
Celebrating 25 years



There is nowhere else I want to be but here.
I lean into the rhythm of your heart to see where it will take us.

Artwork by Bao Lu. Lines excerpted from the poem "For Keeps" by Joy Harjo, from *Conflict Resolution for Holy Beings* (W. W. Norton & Company, Inc., 2015). For more free poetry resources, visit Poets.org/national-poetry-month.



The 2021 poster was designed by twelfth grader Bao Lu from Edward R. Murrow High School in Brooklyn, New York. Bao Lu was the winner of the 2021 National Poetry Month Poster Contest.

National Poetry Month

April 2021 marks the 25th annual celebration of poets and poetry. Begun in 1996 by the Academy of American Poets, according to the website poets.org, “National Poetry Month reminds the public that poets have an integral role to play in our culture and that poetry matters. Over the years, it has become the largest literary celebration in the world, with tens of millions of readers, students, K-12 teachers, librarians, booksellers, literary events curators, publishers, families, and, of course, poets, marking poetry’s important place in our lives.”

If you would like to receive a daily poem in your inbox, go to poem-a-day@poets.org. On weekdays, new previously unpublished poems are featured—accompanied by commentary by the poets. On the weekends, classic poems are highlighted.

Who is the Poet Laureate of Texas?

Emmy Pérez

“Emmy Pérez is a graduate of the University of Southern California and Columbia University. She is the author of *With the River on Our Face* (University of Arizona Press, 2016) and *Solstice* (Swan Scythe Press, 2019). A collection of her new and selected poems is forthcoming from TCU Press. She is a recipient of poetry fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, CantoMundo, the New York Foundation for the Arts, and the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown. She has also received the Alfredo Cisneros Del Moral Foundation Award, the Modesta Avila Award, and the James D. Phelan Award. A member of the Macondo Writers Workshop for socially engaged writers, Pérez co-founded the Poets Against Walls collective in 2017. She is Professor of Creative Writing and Associate Director of the Center for Mexican American Studies at the University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley. In 2019, she was named the poet laureate of Texas.” (This bio is an excerpt from the website poets.org.)

“Remembered Music” by James Russell Lowell (1819 – 1891)

Thick-rushing, like an ocean vast
Of bisons the far prairie shaking,
The notes crowd heavily and fast
As surfs, one plunging while the last
Draws seaward from its foamy breaking.

Or in low murmurs they began,
Rising and rising momentarily,
As o’er a harp Aeolian
A fitful breeze, until they ran
Up to a sudden ecstasy.

And then, like minute-drops of rain
Ringing in water silvery,
They lingering dropped and dropped again,
Till it was almost like a pain
To listen when the next would be.

(An American Romantic poet, James Russell Lowell worked against slavery and became an editor of the *Atlantic Monthly*, as well as a professor at Harvard.)

From NFMCA *A Year in Verse*.

SPRING

Somewhere
a black bear
has just risen from sleep
and is staring

down the mountain.
All night
in the brisk and shallow restlessness
of early spring

I think of her,
her four black fists
flicking the gravel,
her tongue

like a red fire
touching the grass,
the cold water.
There is only one question:

how to love this world.
I think of her
rising
like a black and leafy ledge

to sharpen her claws against
the silence
of the trees.
Whatever else

my life is
with its poems
and its music
and its glass cities,

it is also this dazzling darkness
coming
down the mountain,
breathing and tasting;

all day I think of her —
her white teeth,
her wordlessness,
her perfect love.

Mary Oliver



Club Officers and Committees

The Outgoing Board agreed to remain in place for an additional year to help maintain continuity as we work toward returning to a more normal schedule.

THE WEDNESDAY MORNING MUSIC CLUB OFFICERS 2021-2022

Executive Board

<i>President:</i>	Sarah J. Harriman
<i>First Vice-President:</i>	Elisabeth Moreno & Angelica Lopez
<i>Second Vice-President:</i>	Elise Ragland & Linda Tietz
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Katharine Shields
<i>Recording Secretary:</i>	Virginia Kniesner
<i>Corresponding Secretary:</i>	Marianne Weiss Kim
<i>Parliamentarian:</i>	Angela Smith

Standing Committees Chairs

<i>Communications:</i>	Pat Yingst, Chair	
<i>Community Service:</i>	Kathryn Govier and Charles Palmer, Co-Chairs	
<i>Finance:</i>	Gena Tabery, Chair	
<i>Hospitality:</i>	Elizabeth Lerner and Suzy Gallagher, Co-Chairs	
<i>House:</i>	Elise Ragland and Linda Tietz, Co-Chairs	
<i>Junior Clubs:</i>	Melanie Richards, Chair	
<i>Membership:</i>	Greta Gutman, Chair	
<i>Nominating:</i>	Barbara Buttrey, Chair	
<i>Orientation:</i>	Carolyn McColloch, Chair	
<i>Program:</i>	Elisabeth Moreno and Angelica Lopez, Co-Chairs	
<i>WMMC Awards:</i>	Bonnie Cummins Fielder Career Advancement Grant	Elisabeth Moreno, Chair
	Wilcox, Maurer, Rudd, and Putter High School Awards	Mary Parse, Chair
<i>Yearbook:</i>	Marie White, Chair	

Additional Appointees

<i>Silver Strings Director:</i>	Katie Kerwin
<i>Stage Managers:</i>	Various individuals each meeting
<i>Photographer:</i>	Kit Thompson
<i>Webmaster:</i>	Pat Yingst
<i>Newsletter editors:</i>	Marcia Edwards Marie White Joy Gooden



NATIONAL *Music Week*

MAY 2-9, 2021

Music... is a Storyteller



As I write again during the pandemic, I wonder again what our celebration of National Music Week will look and sound like in May (2-9) of 2021. I sent certificates of participation to less than 20 Senior Clubs for our 2020 celebration. I don't know if more clubs tried to participate and just didn't send in the AR -12-5 report to their state chairs or if state chairs didn't send AR 12-6 to Regional chairs or if Regional Chairs didn't

send their final reports to me and the NFMC office. No celebration is too small to report, and no report is too minimal to send on to the next step. The goal for National Music Week is certainly worthy of support. We seek to invite all ages and all national affiliate organizations (MTNA, ASCAP, NATS, Music Camps, Religious Organizations, etc.) into the celebration of quality music: performance, composition, education, history, poetry, dance and other art forms.

Supplies to help you are available on the nfmc-music.org website. All our forms for Governor and Mayor proclamations, radio scripts, coloring pages, and posters can be found in Publications under the Arts Division. Report forms are there too! I know clubs have creative members. Pictures of displays made in the past are amazing; recital ideas abound, new composers and music appreciate introductions, new books or valued old books still need study. We all desire to keep music in America as a vital part of our lives. This year's theme is *"Music...is a storyteller."* Each of us probably has favorite pieces that added to the story of our lives because the music spoke to us in a way that just words could not describe. Share that music and tell the story again! If you are a composer, write that music that tells the story of our current lives. If you are a poet, write that poem. If you are a dancer, choreograph that dance to share with others. If you are a vocalist find that song and sing it for all to hear the stories that matter to you and us. Let's all be storytellers through music! 🎵

Ellen Leapaldt
NFMC National Music Week Chair



Natural High

Marie White

When I hear the first birds of the spring, I feel an enormous sense of joy. Spending time connecting with the natural world is the perfect antidote for me. Getting close to nature – and especially listening to birdsong – doesn't just bring me physical benefits – it also helps improve my mental and emotional health, happiness and well-being .

Turns out I am not alone. Scientists at the University of Surrey have been studying the "restorative benefits of birdsong", testing whether it really does improve our mood. They discovered that, of all the natural sounds, bird songs and calls were those most often cited as helping people recover from stress, and allowing them to restore and refocus their attention.

In other words, birdsongs are good for us. So if you are missing our wonderful performers at WMMC (which also gives me a lift) try nature's concert series and go outside your door and listen. Another masterpiece is waiting for you. Our feathered friends are happy to put on their show, especially if you leave them a little something seedy for their efforts.

Online Free Concerts

Austin Chamber Music Center <https://austinchambermusic.org/> Adoration Event April 17, 7:30pm..
<https://austinchambermusic.org/event/adoration/>

Austin Classical Guitar <https://www.austinclassicalguitar.org/events/> Several events in April

Austin Opera <https://austinopera.org/events/month>

Austin Symphony <https://my.austinsymphony.org/events/>

Austin Civic Orchestra <http://austincivicorchestra.org/events/>

Austin Shakespeare
<https://www.austinshakespeare.org/2019season>

Chorus Austin
<https://www.chorusaustin.org/events-calendar.html>

Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center
<https://www.chambermusicsociety.org/watch-and-listen/> Watch & Listen
Their digital season: <https://www.chambermusicsociety.org/cms-front-row-2020/online-events/>

Conspirare <https://conspirare.org/regenesis/> Nice YouTube videos to watch.

Ensemble viii <https://www.ensembleviii.org/tickets/> Sign up and support for free virtual concerts

Gilbert & Sullivan <https://www.gilbertsullivan.org/> 'Patience in Concert' available on YouTube through April 4th.

KMFA <https://www.kmfa.org/> FREE Online Concert Sunday, April 18 5pm: CALL AND RESPONSE with Thomas Echols & INVOKE! <https://www.kmfa.org/pages/3567-call-and-response>

The Long Center <https://thelongcenter.org/events-and-tickets/> Magos Herrera (International Women Rising Series) April 17, 2pm And other events

Los Angeles Philharmonic <https://www.soundstage.laphil.com/> Sound/Stage series

La Follia <https://www.lafollia.org/upcoming-concerts> Online concerts

Metropolitan Opera <https://www.metopera.org/season/on-demand/> Online on Demand

Miro Quartet (Butler School online) <https://music.utexas.edu/events/5033-miro-quartet>

NPR Music Classical Playlists https://www.npr.org/2019/06/20/526657186/npr-classical?utm_source=npr_newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=20210130&utm_term=5140629&utm_campaign=music&utm_id=56066373&orgid=252

Remembering Great Songs <https://www.alz.org/musicmoments/overview.asp> Music memories

Salon Concerts <https://www.salonconcerts.org/>

Texas Early Music <https://www.early-music.org/2020-2021-season> Online concerts

UT Austin Butler School of Music <https://music.utexas.edu/> Online events

UT Performing Arts <https://texasperformingarts.org/event/sound-in-sculpture-2021> SOUND IN SCULPTURE, Thursday, April 22. Original music composed and performed by students of the Butler School of Music

University Musical Society (University of Michigan) <https://ums.org/season/> Online concerts

Yo-Yo Ma Songs of Comfort & Hope <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/58wN2sbYZVo5g37nhKeYx5>

Revised Bylaws

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of this organization shall be The Wednesday Morning Music Club, an affiliate of the Texas Federation of Music Clubs and of the National Federation of Music Clubs.

ARTICLE II

Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be to develop and maintain high musical standards in our community, to encourage music education, to promote American music and American artists, and to provide opportunities for performance for active members.

ARTICLE III

Membership

- Sec. 1. Membership shall be of five classes: Active, Associate, Silver, Distinguished Service, and Honorary. Recommendations for each classification shall first be presented to the Membership Committee.
- Sec. 2. Active members shall be those with ability to perform in accordance with the standards set and maintained by the club, or those who actively participate in club and federation affairs. Only active members may hold an elective office.
- Sec. 3. Associate members shall be those interested in the advancement of music. They may participate in all club activities and chair and or serve on committees.
- Sec. 4. Silver Membership shall be granted to a member in good standing by request or upon recommendation of the Membership Committee who have forty years of active service and who may no longer wish to fulfill the requirements of Active or Associate Membership, shall be eligible. No dues shall be required of Silver Membership status.
- Sec. 5. Distinguished Service Membership (not more than one per year) may be conferred upon any Active or Associate member who has rendered outstanding service to the club, on the recommendation of the Membership Committee, of the Board of Directors, and by a two-thirds vote of the club. Distinguished Service Membership entitles one to all the privileges of Active or Associate Membership for one year without payment of dues.
- Sec. 6. Honorary Membership may be conferred on the recommendation of the Membership Committee and the Board of Directors, and by a two-thirds vote of the club. Only those who have rendered outstanding service or support in the field of music shall be eligible for Honorary Membership. No dues are required of Honorary Members.
- Sec. 7. The Membership Committee shall recommend to the Board of Directors appropriate membership category changes.

ARTICLE IV

Admission to Membership

- Sec. 1. Active and Associate members of at least one year's standing may sponsor prospective members for Active and Associate membership. Applications signed by the sponsor shall be presented to the Membership Committee.
- Sec. 2. A prospective member should be personally known to the sponsor. The Membership Committee shall confer and vote unanimously in the affirmative before presenting the name to the club, or to the Executive Committee during the summer months when the club is not holding regular meetings.
- Sec. 3. After the prospective member's name has been presented to the club, if no objection is filed with the Membership Committee, the Membership Chair shall extend the invitation to the prospective new member, stating whether the membership is Active or Associate and the amount of dues. Upon payment of dues, membership is granted.

Revised Bylaws

ARTICLE V Officers and Executive Committee

- Sec. 1. The elected officers of the club shall be President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Historian, and Parliamentarian, all of whom shall serve on the Board of Directors.
- Sec. 2. The President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Treasurer, and Recording Secretary shall constitute the Executive Committee, which shall be empowered to transact business when the Board of Directors is not in session or when immediate action is required. Three members of the Committee shall be considered a quorum. Any actions taken shall be reported to the full Board of Directors.
- Sec. 3. Officers shall serve a term of two years, with terms running from July 1 to June 30 (fiscal year).
- Sec. 4. Should a vacancy occur among officers during the biennium, the Nominating Committee shall present a nominee to fill that position.

ARTICLE VI Duties of Officers

- Sec. 1. The President shall preside at meetings of the club, the Board of Directors, and the Executive Committee; shall appoint all committees except the Nominating Committee; and shall perform all duties pertaining to this office. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee and as such may participate fully with the same rights as the other committee members.
- Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of Vice-Presidents in their order to perform the duties of the President in the event of absence or inability to serve.
- Sec. 3. The First Vice-President shall chair the Program Committee and shall be responsible for planning all club programs.
- Sec. 4. The Second Vice-President shall chair the House Committee.
- Sec. 5. The Treasurer shall collect all dues, keep account of all receipts and disbursements, and shall make a quarterly financial report to the club. The Treasurer shall advise the Membership Committee of members not in good standing because of non-payment of dues. Where necessary for tax purposes, the Treasurer shall send a written letter to donors in recognition of funds received.
- Sec. 6. The Recording Secretary shall record and read or post the minutes of club meetings, as well as of meetings of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors.
- Sec. 7. The Corresponding Secretary shall attend to all necessary correspondence and shall perform secretarial duties in the absence or inability of the Recording Secretary.
- Sec. 8. The Historian shall maintain the club's archives and manuscripts; shall keep all press notices and records of club activities; shall send notices of club activities to the official publication of the Texas Federation of Music Clubs; shall prepare the Achievement Record; shall prepare and present appropriate materials to the Austin History Center of the Austin Public Library.
- Sec. 9. The Parliamentarian shall advise the presiding officer or club members on points of parliamentary law and shall offer a ruling when requested by the President.

Revised Bylaws

ARTICLE VII Election of Officers

- Sec. 1. The Nominating Committee shall be composed of five members, elected biennially.
- Sec. 2. The Nominating Committee shall report nominations for all offices and for the next Nominating Committee at the first meeting in February of the second year.
- Sec. 3. The election of officers and the Nominating Committee shall be held biennially at the second meeting in February. Voting shall be by secret ballot if there is more than one nominee for an office, otherwise election shall be by acclamation. Officers shall be installed at the last club meeting in May.
- Sec. 4. Should circumstances prevent in person meetings, voting by electronic means shall be allowed.

ARTICLE VIII Board of Directors

- Sec. 1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the elected officers of the club, the chairs of standing committees, and the Immediate Past President. Other past presidents may continue to serve the board in an advisory role.
- Sec. 2. The Board of Directors shall manage the affairs of the club. It shall be empowered to transact the business of the club, subject to the approval of the membership.

ARTICLE IX Standing Committees

- Sec. 1. Standing Committees necessary for the functioning of the club, except for the Nominating Committee, shall be appointed by the President.
- Sec. 2. The President may add or delete Standing Committees, with the approval of the Board of Directors.
- Sec. 3. Standing Committees shall serve a term of two years with terms running from July 1 to June 30 (fiscal year), concurrent with club officers. Their duties are outlined in the club yearbook.

ARTICLE X Meetings

- Sec. 1. Regular club meetings shall be the first and third Wednesdays of each month, October through May, except for the first Wednesday in January. Meetings shall be convened at 10:00 AM. A quorum consists of members present and voting.
- Sec. 2. The Board of Directors shall meet three times a year. Special meetings of the Board may be called at the discretion of the President or upon the request of ten members of the Board. Ten members of the Board shall constitute a quorum.
- Sec. 3. All meetings – including Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings – may be held in person, by telephone, or via electronic transmission.

ARTICLE XI Finance

- Sec. 1. Dues are payable in May and delinquent if not paid by November 1. The Treasurer shall notify in November those members whose dues are unpaid. Amount of dues shall be determined by the Board of Directors, with the approval of the membership.
- Sec. 2. New members admitted into the club from May 1 to December 31 shall pay full dues; those admitted from January 1 to April 30 shall pay half dues.

Revised Bylaws

ARTICLE XI Finance

Sec. 3. The fiscal year of the club shall be July 1 through June 30.

ARTICLE XII Awards and Donations

- Sec. 1. The Executive Committee and the Finance Committee, acting together, shall be empowered to establish awards, accept donations, and administer donated funds in accordance with the objectives of WMMC, the bylaws of the club, and Guidelines for Gifts and Donations as adopted by WMMC.
- Sec. 2. WMMC retains the rights, powers, and duties with respect to the management and investment of all funds received, subject to the laws of the State of Texas and the tax-exempt status of WMMC under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE XIII Parliamentary Authority

Business meetings shall be conducted according to the most recent Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE XIV Amendments

These Bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the club by a two-thirds vote of members present, provided that notice in writing was given-at least thirty days before the vote.

ARTICLE XV Hold Harmless

In accepting election to an office or Board, or an appointment to any committee of WMMC, WMMC, on the one hand, and each officer or member of any Board or Committees on the other hand, respectively understands and acknowledges that each such member is (i) not serving in the capacity of a trustee and (ii) shall be held harmless and shall not be personally liable, either jointly or severally, as to any action taken or not taken during his or her service to the WMMC as an officer or member of any Board or Committee; provided, however, that the foregoing shall not eliminate or limit: the liability of any such member or officer if a judgment or other final adjudication adverse to such member or officer establishes that his or her acts or omissions were in bad faith or involved intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of the law, or that he or she personally gained a financial profit or other advantage to which he or she was not legally entitled.

ARTICLE XVI Dissolution

In the event of the dissolution of The Wednesday Morning Music Club, all funds and assets shall be presented to an organization whose purpose is in accord with the musical objectives of the club and meets with the approval of the membership at said time.