

The Fairfax-Loudoun Music Fellowship met on Wednesday, February 11, 2015, at The Piano Company in Leesburg. Members present included Jeri Bennett, Kay Willett, Phyllis Vickers, Sandy Isaacs, Lydia Kriso, Diane Kimble, Jane Webb, Sharon Reck, Maria Baylock, Lena Afanaseva, Libby McConnell, Karen Pino, Debra Gunnerson, Sandy Baker, Beverly Teague, Felicia Crawley, Nora Hamerman, and Sheri Stricker.

Sharon Reck opened the meeting at 10 am. She read a note from the Lodato family thanking FLMF for last year's donation in memory of Ruthanne.

All FLMF offices are open for nominations. Please put your name forward if you are interested in one of the following chair positions: President, vice president for programs, treasurer, secretary, ensemble festival, website membership, Reston Community Center recitals, harpsichord, hospitality, librarian, or handbook. Current officers are welcome to run for office again. Job descriptions will be distributed by email to the membership for more information on what each position entails.

The January minutes were read. Jeri Bennett made one correction. The minutes were approved as amended.

Libby McConnell presented the idea of discontinuing a printed handbook for FLMF. The first reason is that most of the handbook information is already available on the FLMF website. Jeri Bennett clarified that the online members' area now has a PayPal link to pay dues and will soon have a Member's Directory, a password-protected area for members only to access the full list of members.

A second benefit to this proposal is in cost savings. The annual cost of handbooks is approximately \$400. A portion of that fee could be used to create magnets to distribute to local schools and businesses, or to advertise FLMF in other ways. Maria Baylock suggested that placing ads in concert programs would be another way to get our name visible as well as to support other nonprofits. We could also consider purchasing Google Ads, to bump the FLMF name to the top of search engine results.

A vote on this proposal will be held at the May meeting.

Jeri Bennett updated us on the new PayPal option. Under the Members Area, members can pay dues (\$40/year, \$20/half-year). New members can join online and are linked directly to PayPal to pay dues. There is also a link on each event page to pay fees as soon as a member registers online. The site is administered by PayPal, but members may also pay by credit card. Sandy Baker will get an email when dues are paid, which she will forward to Jeri, who automatically gets an email when a new member joins. This takes out the necessity of forwarding checks to the treasurer. The membership chairman's job would be to keep track of the members and to remind about annual dues deadlines. Members would also be able to pay by check if preferred.

Maria Baylock reminded us that harpsichord builder Richard Kingston will be at the March meeting to present a program on the harpsichord, which we've had for 22 years. The instrument is currently in great shape, having been overhauled last year by Mr. Kingston. All members should be aware of the amazing asset that we have, whether or

not they use or store it regularly. Maria suggested that we open the use of the harpsichord to others in the community. The instrument is easily moved and tuned. The next meeting will be at Mark and Karen Pino's home in Ashburn.

The next Reston Community Center recital is Saturday, May 16. The deadline for registration is April 27. There will be a meeting later this month regarding rentals at the RCC, during which rental rates will be raised. Contact Shandra Love or Darya Gabay if interested in using the harpsichord on the next RCC recital.

The Ensemble Festival was held on Saturday, January 31. The production was very polished and successful. The Plourde family was grateful for the dedication to Nancy.

Lydia Kriso handed out information about the National Music Museum in South Dakota. Check out their website at www.nmmusd.org.

Beverly Teague has DVDs of the Ensemble Festival for participating teachers. The DVDs may not be copied or distributed.

Sandy Baker gave the treasurer's report. The account balance is \$23,269.09. The Ensemble Festival brought in \$1,791.30 in cash donations, the highest amount ever received. Donations came from the sale of ornaments (\$60), tote bags (\$50), small chocolate roses (\$164), large chocolate roses (\$120), note cards (\$45), flower bouquets (\$166.05) and the instrument raffle (\$355). Cash donations in prominent red buckets reached \$831.25. The piano and school rental fees have not yet been invoiced. In other news, the current Music Link newsletter includes a thank you from Joanne Haroutounian for the Dulles Holiday Recital fundraiser, along with a photo.

Sandy moved that we get labels and stationery specific to FLMF, and that we ask Ann Reck to design and print them. The motion was seconded and approved. Sharon will ask Ann to send samples and costs to us for consideration. Ann's recent work for us includes a beautifully designed Ensemble Festival program.

Phyllis Vickers thanked The Piano Company for hosting today's meeting and for providing refreshments. The meeting was followed by a program on "Technique in Contemporary Intermediate Piano Literature" by Jim Litzelman.

Respectfully submitted,

Libby McConnell, Secretary