

**MTGBR Board Meeting
July 16, 2023, 3:00 pm
Christine Lien's House**

Call to Order at 3:00 pm

Christine Lien, President

Welcome and Introduction of New Board Members

Members Present:

Christine Lien, President

Melanie Anderson, Vice-President

Scarlett Ellender, Secretary

Diane Chenault, Treasurer

Wendy Shoff, Past President

Pat Sanchez, Chairman for Solo Festival; Chairman for Vivace

Members Not Present:

Avis Marie Bickham, Chairman for Ensemble Festival


Discussion of Other Chairman Roles

Theory Festival: There is no assigned chairman, but Christine will contact Mary Campbell.

Strings Festival: There were no strings students this year. Strings festival will likely not occur.

Voice Festival: Christine will contact Sharon to be in charge of that. There will need to be a separate judge for vocal students that needs to be hired. It would not be good use of the money to hire a judge specifically for one or two students. Maybe the judge can be Kim? Michael Berthelot?

Financial Report by Diane



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August ²²	10,766.24
June ²³	- 9,379.54
	<hr/>
	1,486.70 - less
Solo Expenses	2,896.26
LFMC	+ 2,765.00
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	5,661.26
Collected Fees	→ 4,531.00
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	1,130.26

There was \$10,766.24 in the bank account in August 2022. There is now \$9,379.54 as of June 2023.

The bank account has \$1,486.70 less in it now than it did in August 2022.

Solo festival expenses were a big part of the expenses, totaling at \$2,896.26 spent.

The LFMC expenses were \$2,765.00.

The collected fees were \$4,531.00.

Christine suggests that Diane can break down the expenses into a little bit more detail.

Diane has that breakdown at home and will bring it for a future meeting.

Unfinished Business

Membership Fee Adjustment

In the past, LFMC members have been paying \$45 dues for 10 students. Now, it is \$45 dues for 6 students, plus an additional \$3 per student.

Diane will check to see how much money she sent in a check to the LFMC state level last year for dues.

Diane will check the process of how the money goes to LFMC and then NFMC. The LFMC needs to pay \$8 per capita (does this mean per person?) to the NFMC.

Diane will contact Kim to get answers about what the dues to the state are.

Idea: Melanie suggested that we contribute excess funds to the voluntary scholarships?

Motion approved: Christine states that Senior Member dues for MGTBR is \$45, which covers six students entering the festival. An additional \$3 must be added to the dues for each extra student.

Dates for General Meetings

Melanie suggested having meetings once a month. Christine says that having meetings once a month decreases meeting attendance. Motion approved to have meetings approximately every two months.

August 27, 2023 - General Meeting

Location: Christine Lien's house - 4424 Lake Sherwood East, Baton Rouge, LA 70816

Time: 5:00 pm

Potluck!

October 22, 2023 - Topic: How to Prepare for Duet Festival Meeting

Location: TBD

Time: 4:00 pm

- Melanie, Dona, and Christine can discuss their tips
- Mary Smith could also discuss her tips
- Some ideas for tips:
 - Discuss how to give student the repertoire earlier than August/September

- Early intermediate and higher students can get their music in the summer
- Teachers could give a 1-week summer duet camp so that students can learn their duets early
 - Two students per time slot
 - Two pianos with headphones so that students can independently practice
- Discuss how to plan lessons back-to-back so that students can play in lessons together

December 3, 2023 - Christmas Party

Location: Tentatively Sharon Thibodeaux's home (392 Westwood Boulevard, Port Allen, LA 70766)

Time: 4:00 pm

Bring appetizers and Christmas gift exchange!

January 21, 2024 - Topic: Solo Festival/Vivace and "What are you excited about?"

Location: TBD

Time: 4:00 pm

March 10, 2024 - Topic: How to Recruit Students for Summer

Location: TBD

Time: 5:00 pm

April 28, 2024 - End-of-Year Meeting

Location: TBD

Time: 5:00 pm

Potluck!

"What are you excited about?" is Melanie's idea for teachers to motivate each other. Melanie proposed the idea of incorporating breakout sessions into this activity. She also proposed the idea of involving the piano in this somehow.

Ideas for Meetings

*Discuss the future of the Treasurer position

Motion approved: Someone will be trained (Title: Apprentice) next year to have Diane's position as Treasurer for the next term. Diane will mentor them.

Motion approved: The next treasurer will be in charge of changing the name in the bank account to the group as a whole so that no one person is solely allowed to access the account.

Festival Dates and Locations

Melanie is proposing having duet festival in the Spring instead of in November so that her students have more time to prepare the music and so that the duet festival is closer to her Spring recital

Duet Festival: November 11, 2023 at O'Neill's Music House at 8 am - 12 pm

Solo, Theory, Hymn, Voice, Concerto Festival: Tentatively February 24, 2024. Location TBA

*Solo festival must be before March 1 because that is the deadline for scholarships for LFMC. Students must have ratings already given to them.

Location for Solo Festival

First Baptist Church vs. LSU?

LSU is a problem because you need to pay for people to sit in a room. It is \$50 per person.

Pat will call LSU to get more information. Avis has information on insurance. Zack is the person to talk to at LSU for booking the location for festival. Pat will get Zack's number.

Insurance papers need to be obtained. Melanie needs to get insurance activated soon because it takes time. She will call Avis to get information on it.

Melanie brought up the option for teachers to get insurance for their own recitals - \$25 for a lot of coverage! Pat might have the information

Festival fee adjustment

Last year the fee was \$14 for solo, etc. Theory was \$12.

This year, the fee for solo, voice, theory, concerto will be \$15. Theory will stay \$12.

Ensemble is \$15 per person.

New Business

Printed Directory

Melanie will be in charge of making the printed directory for the 2023-2024 year. Scarlett will send the Teacher's List information to Melanie.

Scarlett will email people on the MTGBR directory to try to recruit them to sign up for festival! She will do this whenever she sends out the invitation for the August meeting to general members.

MTGBR Website (Currently under Judy Zahrndt)

Scarlett will get Judy's number to be trained in fixing the website. Scarlett will put her meeting minutes on the website.

Term Limits for all Board Members

The term limit for all board members is 2 years.

Other Business

Training for New MTGBR Members

*Melanie suggested the idea of having a mentor for new members?

*Should we have a new members' meeting?

Communication to Judges for Festival

*Christine proposes that in a general meeting, Pat needs to firmly address to the other teachers that memory is essential to make a Superior!

*Melanie proposes that Pat tells judges that they need to write specific comments for festival.

Last year, some students got Superior when they used their music for the judge!

*Should the judges have a meeting the day before? Motion denied because this is inconvenient for judges.

*Melanie suggests that a checklist be printed up for ensuring that the judges know what to do. This checklist can also be texted to judges before the day of the festival to ensure that they are reviewed.

*Motion approved: Pat will call the judges before the festival to review the judging guidelines. She will also brief the judges on these rules in person on the morning of the festival.

Idea: Christine suggests that each person in a chair position can jot down the roles of their position for incoming people taking over that role.

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm

Minutes taken by Scarlett Ellender, 2023-2025 Secretary