



*Strengthening the importance of music
in our life and culture since 1940*

NEWSLETTER Spring 2021

National Music Council to Honor Take 6 and American Music Educators at 37th Annual American Eagle Awards

The National Music Council will honor iconic a cappella group *Take 6*, and pay tribute to music educators across America for their extraordinary service during the pandemic, at the organization's 37th annual American Eagle Awards on Thursday, July 15, 2021 at the Summer NAMM Show in Nashville. The honors are presented each year in recognition of those who have made long-term contributions to American musical culture, to showcase the ideal of music education for all children, and to support the protection of creators' rights both locally and internationally.

The most honored a cappella group in history, *Take 6* has been heralded by Quincy Jones as the "Baddest vocal cats on the planet!" With 10 Grammy Awards, 10 Dove Awards, 2 NAACP Image Awards, a Soul Train Award, and more, *Take 6* (Claude McKnight, Mark Kibble, Joel Kibble, Dave Thomas, Alvin Chea and Khristian Dentley) continues year after year to bring extraordinary vocal performances to their worldwide audiences. *Take 6* has

adeptly crossed almost every musical genre, from straight-ahead jazz to pop, R&B, doo wop and blues. Like a finely-tuned vocal orchestra, the group continues to push the boundaries of creativity and musical genius with every new release, demonstrating excellence for new generations of musicians and fans.



Take 6

The Council likewise takes great pride in collectively extending the coveted American Eagle Award to all of the nation's music educators for their heroic efforts to "keep the music playing" during the Covid-19 pandemic. "We wanted to do something special for the music teachers and administrators who have worked tirelessly in our schools and in private studios across the nation for our children under the most

challenging of circumstances over the past year.” said NMC director Dr. David Sanders. “We want to let music teachers know that their efforts really do make an enormous, positive difference in the lives of students, especially in times of a crisis.” A representative music educator from each state will participate virtually in the ceremonies.

In 2020-21, the National Music Council brought diverse artists from across the country to produce a series of video messages thanking music educators and administrators for their continuing perseverance during these challenging times. Many of America’s greatest artists and songwriters participated, including Garth Brooks, Trisha Yearwood, Paul Shaffer, Rosanne Cash, John Rich (Big & Rich), Jim Lauderdale, Steve Winwood, Nile Rodgers (Chic), Donald Fagen (Steely Dan), *Take 6*, and the late Chick Corea – along with Country Music Television’s “Next Women of Country” Class of 2021 group Chapel Hart and up and coming singer-songwriter Paige King Johnson, all offer inspirational words throughout the video. They join us in congratulating our music teachers at this year’s American Eagle Awards.

This year’s honorees will join a “who’s – who” of musical giants whose careers and works have been previously awarded the American Eagle, including Stephen Sondheim, Quincy Jones, Herbie Hancock, Clive Davis, Benny Goodman, Lionel Hampton, Dizzy Gillespie, Morton Gould, Dave Brubeck, Marian Anderson, Max Roach, Lena Horne, Roy Clark, Crystal Gale, George Clinton, Ervin Drake, Theo Bikel, Vince Guaraldi, Roberta Peters, Odetta, Patti Smith, Sesame Street, Hard Rock Café, and VH1’s Save the Music Foundation. Tickets for this event are available to the general public, and the entire ceremonies will be Livestreamed via www.NAMM.com.

For more information on schedule, location details, tickets, and sponsorship opportunities, visit www.musiccouncil.org or contact NMC Director David Sanders at sandersd@montclair.edu.

Proceeds from the event support the National Music Council’s music education advocacy efforts.



Arts ARE Education Advocacy Campaign Update:

More than 2,500 Pledge signatories.

Your Pledge will help ensure students’ right to quality arts education experiences in dance, media arts, music, theatre, and visual art. You can scroll through a complete list of Pledge signatories [here](#).

Twenty Resolution Schools & Districts.

Congratulations to ARE Resolution schools and districts that have passed the Resolution and committed to maintaining and growing their arts education programs in 2021-22 and beyond. See the list [here](#)

Elementary and Secondary Education Relief funding (ESSER).

The Campaign will be holding webinars in the months of June and July dedicated to helping arts educators and advocates gain access to ESSER funding. [Find updates here.](#)

See More Advocacy Action Requests Under NAMM & NAfME Member Reports

MEMBER REPORTS

American Academy of Teachers of Singing

The American Academy of Teachers of Singing Gives Inaugural AATS Awards for COVID-19 Response

The American Academy of Teachers of Singing is pleased to present AATS Awards for COVID-19 Response to ENO Breathe, Ian Howell, and International Coalition Performing Arts Aerosol Study.

ENO Breathe: AATS Award for COVID-19 Response *Creating an innovative and compassionate effort between the arts and medicine to help relieve the suffering of individuals experiencing long term post-COVID respiratory and anxiety problems.*

- Jenny Mollica, Director of English National Opera Baylis
- Sarah Elkins, Respiratory Consultant and Director of Integrated Care at Imperial NHS Trust, lead doctor
- Suzi Zumpe, Creative Director of ENO Breathe

“This extraordinary effort by The English National Opera in conjunction with the Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust deserves recognition because of the creative and compassionate development of a program utilizing the collaboration of arts and medicine to the relief of human suffering,” said Academy member Margaret Baroody. “This exceptional

program, which, because of a successful trial is being expanded and offered for free to those referred by a physician, was developed in a time of societal crisis and upheaval affecting the physical and economic health of a nation as well as the world. This effort represents the ability of the human spirit to meet and overcome the worst of challenges and demonstrates the potential power of the arts in the physical and emotional healing of disease.”

The ENO Breathe program has reinforced the intrinsic place that the arts offer to healing and well-being. Its collaborative structure is at the point of being able to be shared internationally and addresses the less recognized issues of individuals who have long-term suffering, both physical and psychological, due to COVID.

AATS Award for COVID-19 Response to **Ian Howell:** *Your work with low-latency platforms and associated technology, and broad dissemination of instruction in its use, has permitted widespread applications that have allowed us to teach and perform successfully in remote settings. These innovations will have a lasting impact on our profession.*

“Ian Howell (and his team of colleagues, including Kayla Gautereaux, Nicholas Perna, Joshua Glasner, and Chadley Ballantyne, and a group of graduate students at NEC) worked both immediately and continuously for months to test the technology needed to accomplish sufficiently lagless virtual music instruction,” said Academy member Kenneth Bozeman. “He interacted with tech developers to stimulate targeted improvements that teachers needed and continued to test and evaluate new technologies and platforms throughout the summer and academic year, updating recommendations as needed. He shared this information in on-line documents and

conversations, as well as in some short virtual courses (with Kayla Gautereaux).”

[International Coalition Performing Arts Aerosol Study](#): AATS Award for COVID-19 Response *Research on Aerosol Transmission to Inform Safety Protocol Measures for Music Performance Practices During the COVID-19 Pandemic*.

- Mark Spede, Co-Chair, President of the College Band Directors National Association (CBDNA), Director of Bands, Clemson University
- James Weaver, Co-Chair, Director of Performing Arts and Sports, National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS)
- Shelly Miller, Lead Researcher, University of Colorado Boulder
- Jelena Srebric, Lead Researcher, University of Maryland

“In March 2020 musicians around the world were stunned to learn that gathering to play wind instruments or singing may be activities that could result in significant spread of the COVID-19 virus,” said Academy member Karen Brunssen. “In-person music instruction and group musical activities came to a halt in schools, homes, businesses, concert halls, theaters, and in places of worship. All grappled to first understand why these activities may be risky, and then what measures could be taken to mitigate risks. Three research reports from the International Coalition of Performing Arts Aerosol Study provided needed information specific to instruments and voices, and suggested limitations and potential protocols, including masking, social distancing, room ventilation, and more, for the health and safety of all involved.”

The study gave us concrete evidence of the transmission of COVID by aerosol circulation which has informed our most

basic protocols as we continue to teach and perform music.

[The American Academy of Teachers of Singing](#) is a select group of internationally recognized voice teachers and singing voice experts founded in 1922 with the express purpose of contributing to the singing profession in an advisory capacity. The Academy works as a single body to offer guidance through the publication of position papers on a wide range of subjects. We value and celebrate all styles of singing. We speak with “one voice.”

The AATS Awards were created “to recognize, honor, and nurture outstanding accomplishment in the teaching of singing and in allied professions.” The inaugural AATS Awards for COVID-19 Response were presented May 5, 2021.

American Guild of Organists

ORGANFEST 2021: With the cancellation of the 2021 AGO Regional Conventions due to the coronavirus pandemic, the AGO is presenting a virtual celebration of the organ, June 27–July 2. OrganFest is a collection of performances from all seven AGO regions, including performances by the winners of the AGO/Quimby Regional Competitions for Young Organists. For more information, [click here](#).

Pipe Organ Encounters: The AGO will present two Pipe Organ Encounters (POEs) for youth this summer, one in-person (Kansas State University) and one virtual. POEs offer teenagers and adults a rewarding opportunity to learn more about the pipe organ and its construction, instruction with experienced faculty, visits to hear and play outstanding instruments, and the chance to meet and interact with peers who share an interest in the King of

Instruments. For more information, [click here](#).

Salisbury Scholarships: The Salisbury Scholarships support full-time graduate students in their growth as performers, conductors, or academics in the field of sacred music. Beginning with the 2021–2022 academic year, two Salisbury Scholarships in the amount of \$10,000 apiece will be awarded each year to a master’s and doctoral student, with a total annual distribution of \$20,000 annually. For more information, [click here](#).

Year of the Young Organist: The AGO National Council is committed to membership recruitment, retention, and growth within our organization. During the Year of the Young Organist, July 1, 2021–June 30, 2022, any individual under the age of 30 can become a member of the Guild or renew her/his/their membership for free as part of this program. Events and new initiatives will be held throughout the year. For more information, [click here](#).

BMI

BMI has advocated for the value of music and protected copyright for more than 80 years, and we have never been more proud of our songwriters, composers, and music publishers than we have in the last year and a half. The unprecedented pandemic impacted everyone, but especially affected the livelihoods of our exceptional creators who continued writing incredible music that brought us all together during this challenging time.

Throughout the pandemic, BMI team members worked from home and continued to seamlessly serve our affiliates, from accelerating royalty payments, to urging lawmakers to include financial assistance for music creators in

federal relief packages, to creating digital resource centers, and beyond. BMI also continued our longstanding tradition of celebrating our top songwriters and publishers across genres by shifting our annual award shows to virtual celebrations. The company was also proud to pay tribute to the incredible diversity among our affiliates with online experiences, from our Black music creators, women composers and songwriters, those within the LGBTQ+ and Asian American Pacific Islander communities, and more, all of whom have made an indelible mark on music history.

In addition, during this period BMI reinforced our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion and continued our efforts to help drive the meaningful change that remains long overdue. The company took action both internally and externally, including hiring a Chief DE&I Officer, developing a team member volunteer program to encourage taking personal action in our local communities, bringing on Gospel great BeBe Winans as a consultant to help improve our DE&I work, and donating \$275,000 to organizations dedicated to advancing social equality and racial justice. We recognize there is more to be done and will continue our critical work down this path.

At the end of 2020, BMI, together with ASCAP, announced the launch of Songview, a comprehensive data platform that provides an authoritative view of copyright ownership in the vast majority of music licensed in the United States. This marked the first-ever platform of its kind, making copyright data more accessible and transparent for the music industry and businesses that use music. In January of 2021, after initiating an evaluation of the BMI and ASCAP consent decrees two years prior, the U.S. Department of Justice formally closed its review of the decrees and took no action to modify or terminate them, but left open the possibility of

changes in the future. BMI found it encouraging that Assistant Attorney General for the Antitrust Division of the DOJ, Makan Delrahim, made several pivotal statements: Songwriters are the backbone of the music marketplace and must be paid fairly; blanket licensing is incredibly efficient, and BMI, along with ASCAP, are innovating to serve the needs of the industry with the value of music best decided in a free market, all points BMI has championed.

Looking ahead, as the pandemic situation improves and we see a light at the end of the tunnel, we applaud the creators who helped us all through this difficult time. Their music will always be what brings us together...and moves us forward.

College Band Directors National Association

Has it really been fourteen months since the COVID-19 pandemic changed our world? I can't decide if that time has gone quickly or slowly...perhaps both. Whatever the case, we have all had to reimagine our personal world both professionally and personally. I truly hope that you are safe, healthy, and have been able to maintain a positive outlook. This is a time when we have to give ourselves some grace and leeway, and certainly the same applies to students. We are ALL having a tough time, or at least some days when we question, wonder, and dream of what things used to be like and how much we took for granted.

At the moment we are hopeful of a return to some sense of normalcy for the coming fall as many of our institutions prepare for a "back to normal" school year. What will our ensembles look like? Will we still have to use mitigations? No one can say for sure, and one thing we've had to learn over the

last year or so is to be resilient. I expect the fall will require our resiliency once again. But we must meet the challenges, because no less than the future of our art form is at stake! There is no giving up.

Whatever the future holds, CBDNA is poised to take the challenges head on. Until then, please take some time to breathe and get away from work for a bit. I suspect we will need all our energy in the coming months.

Dr, Mark Spede, CBDNA National
President

National Federation of High Schools



Return to Music: Phase II Guidance and Resources

The NFHS and NAFME teamed up to launch Phase II of the Return to Music Project. This phase features [Student Social Emotional Learning \(SEL\)](#), [Teacher Well Being](#), [Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund \(ESSER\)](#) [Opportunities for Music Education this Summer and Fall](#), [Learning Acceleration](#), [Curriculum Adjustments](#), [Summer Opportunities](#), [General Music Education](#), [Secondary Ensemble Considerations](#), [Student Teachers](#), [School Owned Equipment and Uniforms](#), [Cleaning Guidelines](#), [Student Eligibility](#), [State Association Changes](#), and [Reporting Differences](#)

With Beginning Rooted in the Olympics, Performing Arts Thriving in Nation's Schools: Periodically, The NFHS Voice will be presented in the form of video. This week, NFHS Executive Director Karissa Niehoff salutes the teachers and coaches of performing arts programs across the nation who have kept programs going this year through the pandemic.



Music Publishers Association

The Music Publishers Association Annual Meeting & Year-end Update is happening **Friday, June 11 at 2PM EDT** and will honor Bart Herbison of the [Nashville Songwriters Association International](#) with the Arnold Broido Award for Copyright Advocacy and remember Lauren Keiser with the MPA Lifetime Achievement Award.

Kris Ahrend will also present an update on [the MLC](#) and Peter Grimshaw will discuss [in©](#), a new platform available to publishers and content licensors. The session will close out with the 2020-2021 Paul Revere Awards for Graphic Excellence, once again hosted by Frank J. Oteri of [NewMusicBox](#) at New Music USA.

This Zoom Webinar is FREE and open to all members as well as friends of the industry. For more information, please visit www.mpa.org.

The Recording Industry's Music Performance Trust Fund (MPTF)

MPTF Announces \$2.2 Million in Community Grants to Support Admission-Free, Live Music Online and in Person Throughout North America

The MPTF has announced plans to significantly increase the annual distribution of grants -- now \$2.2 million to communities in the U.S. and Canada -- to fund admission-free, live musical performances beginning May 1, 2021. Plans signal an expectation for the return of in-person events as the COVID-19 pandemic begins to subside. To help ensure live music's safe return, the MPTF is encouraging local union representatives of the American Federation of Musicians to work with state and local health officials to implement event safety guidance from the Centers for Disease Control of the United States and the Public Health Agency of Canada, adjusting to meet the unique needs and circumstances of the local community.

The pandemic devastated much of the traditional live music schedule since mid-March of 2020. During this time, the MPTF created an initiative that has generated over 700 free events by professional musicians livestreamed throughout North America, supporting communities with more than \$1 million in grants to pay musicians for their service. The MPTF also established a Music Family Scholarship that in its first year awarded \$100,000 to 125 children of professional musicians pursuing education after high school.

Grants provide funding for music education-related performances, senior and assisted living center concerts, municipal series and parks programs. Grants are accessed, and events are coordinated, through local unions of the American Federation of Musicians.

Since the inception of the MPTF nearly 75 years ago, in alliance with the AFM and its local members, countless performances by professional musicians have delighted audiences throughout North America. The MPTF and its signatory record labels Warner Music Group, Sony Music, Universal Music Group and Walt Disney Records have contributed essential support to these dedicated individuals who put the art and craft of performing live music above all else.

"We are eager to bring back free, live music," stated Dan Beck, MPTF Trustee. "We now all have a greater appreciation of what these events mean to our local traditions and cultures. We believe businesses, arts organizations and municipal governments will host more events to bring energy and life back to their towns and cities."

The MPTF is a 501(c)3 nonprofit public service organization whose mission is to support admission-free, live events performed by professional musicians throughout the United States and Canada. While stepping up our commitment to re-stimulate the musical arts, the MPTF will work with our recipients to follow local guidelines for safe practices. Most MPTF performances are presented with community co-sponsors, including businesses, nonprofits, and municipalities. Learn more at www.musicpf.org.

Music Teachers National Association

MTNA Student Competitions:

Registration for the MTNA National Student Competitions will be available in August 2021. Competitions categories include Composition, Brass, Piano, String, Voice, Woodwind (applications due Wednesday, September 15, 2021) and Chamber Music (applications due Wednesday, December 1, 2021). For more information, visit www.mtna.org.

MTNA Stecher and Horowitz Two Piano Competition: Registration for the MTNA–Stecher and Horowitz Two Piano Competition will be available in September. This competition consists of two rounds. The first round will be a video round and submitted online. The finals will take place at the 2022 MTNA National Conference. Applications and recordings will be due January 3, 2022. For more details, visit www.mtna.org.

Save the Date

MTNA Collegiate Chapter Symposium: January 15–16, 2022, Virtual Event

MTNA National Conference: March 26–30, 2022, Minneapolis, Minnesota

National Group Piano/Piano Pedagogy Forum: August 5–6, 2022, Phoenix, Arizona

NAMM

NAMM's Advocacy Summit: Missed NAMM's Advocacy Summit? It's not too late to view the packed sessions that support our work as champions for music and arts education. The summit platform will remain open and will be available on demand through the end of July. Register to attend today—the next generation of music makers is counting on us! [Register here.](#)

Summer NAMM: Join us at [Summer NAMM](#), July 15-16, 2021. The show offers a historic and inspiring environment to network with industry leaders, attend free education sessions, explore Nashville-one of America's most musical cities-and more! GenNext college music faculty, music educators, and music service and

arts organizations, including NAMM Foundation Partners and Grantees are invited to register to attend the show.

[Learn more](#)

Make Music Day: Make Music Day, the annual global celebration of music held on the summer solstice, returns this year on June 21 with an exciting, creative and diverse lineup of both virtual and in-person music-making events that will immerse and enthrall participants while spotlighting music's power to connect, comfort, unite and uplift. Over 90 U.S. cities and the entire states of Connecticut, Hawaii, New Mexico, Vermont and Wisconsin will take part in the live, free daylong celebration, encompassing over 5,000 concerts, performances, music lessons, jam sessions and other musical events nationwide. Safety protocols will be in place following local requirements, including mask-wearing, social distancing and limited capacities and group sizes.

[Learn More.](#)

The International Ukulele Teaching Symposium: The International Ukulele Teaching Symposium webinar series builds off the Believe in Music Week's Ukulele Teaching Symposium's 'big picture' discussion about teaching and learning to play the ukulele. This follow-up series will examine specific, real-world established teaching/learning models which are serving large and age-diverse populations. Each webinar will highlight models that have shown sustained success over time by exploring the elements of their success, providing teachers the opportunity to learn, emulate, and replicate. Expand music learning and join the International Ukulele Teaching Symposium. [Learn more.](#)

National Association of Negro Musicians

Founded in Chicago in 1919, the National Association of Negro Musicians, Inc. is the country's oldest organization dedicated to the preservation, encouragement and advocacy of all genres of the music of African Americans. In *A Documentary History of the National Association of Negro Musicians* (2004, Center for Black Music Research), Dr. Doris Evans McGinty (1924-2005) cites in "The Significance of NANM" (p. 54) how the benefits of membership in the organization have remained constant during its then, almost nine-decade existence. It is now 102 years young.

For a nominal membership fee, music teachers and musical performers had scores of opportunities to meet and compare notes with their counterparts from other parts of the country; to hear concerts from familiar and unfamiliar musical literature; to become acquainted with the new teaching techniques that were discussed in the workshops; to benefit from exposure to high standards of musicianship; to discuss mutual problems and strategize solutions; and to enhance the status of the private music studios by allowing prize students to compete for scholarships. Here, too, was an opportunity for young musicians to benefit not only from scholarships but also from the attention of professional musicians and to enjoy the fellowship of other young aspiring musicians. Within the NANM meetings, there are platforms for the seasoned artist to perform before an enthusiastic captive audience. In short, by providing a critical mass of African American musicians at its annual conventions and sustaining a network of communication throughout the year, NANM presents opportunities for growth as well as for fraternization with fellow musicians.

NANM, Inc., since its inception, has provided encouragement and support to thousands of African American musicians, many of whom became widely respected figures in music and contributed significantly to American culture and music history. A list of them would include such luminaries as Marian Anderson (first scholarship award recipient in 1919), William L. Dawson, Florence B. Price, Margaret Bonds, Warren George Wilson, James Frazier, Julia Perry, Grace Bumbry, Leon Bates, Joseph Joubert, Awadagin Pratt, and many, many others. Former presidents as Dr. Willis Patterson, Dr. Roland Carter, Dr. Uzee Brown, Dr. David Morrow and Mr. Byron Smith are still leading in the field of music, technology and the music business. These are giants in the industry and role models for budding musicians. Its present president, Anne-Marie Hudley Simmons, has dedicated her life's work as an educational administrator, to enrich the curriculum for young people K-12, through college years and for faculty. She extols the benefits of music in their lives and the exciting programs that NANM Inc. provides. Her goal is to maintain the music of the culture and build an audience that appreciates and performs it in excellence from child to adult.

In 2020, NANM, as did other arts agencies, faced a myriad of challenges; however, it gained new perspectives and identified new platforms for changing the world through music. Clearly, the history of music from the African American experience could illustrate in bold language the history of this Nation. For now, we know that this historic and extraordinary organization, The National Association of Negro Musicians Incorporated, matters. Black Music Matters.

Adapted by Anne-Marie Hudley Simmons, 2021. For further information visit nanm.org.

National Association for Music Education

Christopher B.L. Woodside Named New NafME Executive Director:



On May 14, NafME announced the appointment of Christopher B.L. Woodside as its new executive director. Read remarks from NafME President Mackie Spradley and NafME division leaders, and [hear from Chris](#) about his [vision for the](#)

[association](#)

Save the Date: NafME Rally for Music Education:

Mark your calendar for Tuesday, June 29, 10:00–11:30 AM CT (9:00–10:30 AM EDT) for the NafME Rally for Music Education. Join NafME and state Music Education Association leaders in this virtual event, planning for the next steps in music education advocacy. Registration information will soon be [available here](#).

NafME and NFHS Return to Music: Phase II Guidance and Resources:

The 2021–2022 school year presents an opportunity to strengthen how we provide music education. On May 10, 2021, NafME and NFHS released “Return to Music: Phase II Guidance and Resources” to help music educators as they plan their return to the physical classroom. This initiative is the latest step in the collaboration between NafME and NFHS to support music educators. <http://bit.ly/ReturntoMusic>

NafME Corporate Membership: NafME’s K–12 music educator members are looking for innovative solutions to their challenges in the music classroom—needs that your company could meet. Introduce your company to this engaged and receptive

audience through NAFME Corporate Membership. With a variety of options, including our [Summer Resources Page](#) and newer **Platinum** level membership, your company will have the opportunity to strategically market your brand while utilizing platforms that educate and encourage collaboration with music teachers. Stand beside an established and respected music education association that supports its members, promotes music making and access to music education for all school students, and advocates for music in all our nation's schools. Benefits include discounts on advertising; cobranded emails to music educators; sponsored blogs and social media posts; use of the NAFME Corporate logo; listing in the NAFME corporate directory; discounts on list rentals; webinar hosting; exclusive exhibitor and sponsorship opportunities; and more. To find out more, contact corporate@nafme.org, or visit nafme.org/corporate.

NAfME Advocacy Updates: An Opportunity of a Lifetime – ESSER Funding and Music Education: In March, the third round of stimulus funding, the American Rescue Plan, was signed into law. With this law came an additional \$126 billion investment into K-12 education through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund, following earlier investments in March and December of 2020 of \$193.2 billion total to support pandemic-era K-12 education.

This is the largest investment to date of federal funding into K-12 public education in our lifetimes. *It is unprecedented.* And, it wouldn't have happened without the support for music, arts and public education advocates making the case for needing stimulus dollars for our nation's schools.

So, the question is, how can music educators and advocates make use of these funds to support more students having access to a quality music education in school?

To learn more about the possibilities and the opportunity at hand:

- Watch **this archived webinar** (<https://vimeo.com/540281724>), showcasing music program leaders and advocates from across the country speak to how they have made use of stimulus dollars to support and grow music education. In collaboration with NFHS and NAMM.
- Peruse this **toolkit on ESSER funding:** <https://bit.ly/ESSERtoolkit>.

Sharing Best Practice Ideas with the US Department of Education. Under Secretary Miguel Cardona, the U.S. Department of Education is seeking best practices from educators teaching during the pandemic. These practices will be shared in a “Best Practices Clearinghouse” that focuses on ways to engage all students whether virtual, hybrid, or in-person. [Watch this webinar](#) to learn more and [download the template](#) to submit your ideas. Created in collaboration with NAMM and NFHS.

Congressional Briefing on Music, Arts and Social Emotional Learning: Working Together for Positive Student Outcomes. This Capitol Hill briefing, hosted on March 24, 2021, by NAFME, CMA Foundation, NAMM, and the Center for Arts Education and Social Emotional Learning, featured a panel of experts speaking about the ways in which music education supports students in their growth to become resilient and socially empowered individuals practiced in responsible decision-making. <http://bit.ly/MusicArtsSELbriefing>

[Music Education and SEL: An Advocacy Tool for Music Educators](#)

Social emotional learning (SEL) describes the development of skills in three domains: self, others, and responsible decision-making. This brochure offers ideas for how music educators, school administrators, and school boards can connect music education and social emotional learning: <http://bit.ly/ConnectMusicSEL>

Letters to New US Education Secretary, Dr. Miguel Cardona: NAFME, working with the Music Education Policy Roundtable and with the non-tested subject areas coalition working on the NAEP assessment. NAFME produced and submitted a [welcome letter](#) to the new U.S. Secretary of Education, Dr. Miguel Cardona, as well as [letter](#) with the NAEP coalition.

National Federation of Music Clubs

The National Federation of Music Clubs was founded in 1898 and has become the largest nonprofit organization in America to promote and support American music, performers, and music education. As a grassroots organization working in communities throughout America, we provide musical opportunities for all ages: professional and amateur musicians, benefactors, volunteers, music lovers, music teachers, music students, and supportive parents. Many opportunities and activities in which our over 121,000 members participate are Festival programs, competitive events, community outreach and just meeting music lovers in our communities.

The Covid-19 pandemic has been a strong force on all arts organizations, including the National Federation of Music Clubs

(NFMC). However, NFMC is still functioning despite the cancellation of many meetings and activities for the past year. Our second National Meeting was cancelled, but things are finally looking more positive, and plans for our 2022 meeting are moving along. Competitions and awards still took place this year, with most using virtual technology.

One large award that has been given this year is the Ellis Competition for Duo Pianists, as \$20,000.00 first place award. NFMC is proud to announce that Michael Rector and Sylvia Hong are the 2021 winners of this prestigious award. Their prize also includes two years of concert bookings through our NFMC award concert scheduler. This was the first time that this award was handled virtually, and we are happy to report that the auditions went very smoothly!

The National Federation of Music Clubs sponsors many competitions and awards for various ages, and below are several of the awards that were presented this year. Most of the auditions were conducted virtually.

- Junior Composition Awards - \$8000 total
- Martha M. Mack Senior Vocal Award - \$5000
- Stillman Kelley/Thelma Byrum Awards - \$4350 total
- Michael R. Edwards Graduating Senior Performance Award - \$4000
- Five Student/Collegiate Awards (vocal or instrumental) - \$3000 each
- Thelma A. Robinson Ballet Award - \$2500
- NFMC Classical Guitar Award - \$2000
- Ouida Keck Award for the Independent Piano Teacher - \$1750
- NFMC Dance Awards - \$1100 total

The mission of the National Federation of Music Clubs is to support American Music and Musicians and Music Education.



Music World News

Your membership in the National Music Council gives you access to the [IMC Music World News eBulletin](#), which presents music news from around the world. The bulletin is emailed to subscribers every two weeks free of charge. It reaches more than 70 countries on all five continents.

Music World News is divided into six sections:

- [Music the artform and artists](#)
 - [Music Industry](#)
 - [Music Education](#)
 - [Policy, Research & Politics](#)
 - [Technologies and media](#)
 - [The Pointy End](#)
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Accountants to the NMC

