

Federated music clubs meet in Southfield

Celebrating its 63rd anniversary year, the Michigan Federation of Music Clubs' 1980 convention activities open today in the Southfield Sheraton Hotel Grand Ballroom.

Workshops, business meetings, luncheons and banquets will be spaced with concerts and scholarship presentations throughout the three-day convention which adjourns Saturday afternoon in the Birmingham First Presbyterian Church.

Today's Celebrity Luncheon will feature prominent guests from Michigan including two well-known media people — WJBK-TV's Sonny Elliott, and WJR's Ted Strasser, announcer for the radio station's Sunday program "Fathers in Music."

Guest speaker is Mrs. William B. Millard of Pittsburgh, president of the

National Federation of Music Clubs Northeast Region.

A string scholarship will be awarded at the luncheon to Todd Levin of Farmington by Ara Zerounian. Levin is a student at the University of Michigan, a composer and marimba player, and was last year's recipient of the Farmington Musical Young Artist Award.

A special session on music services for hospitals will be presented by University of Michigan Professor Phyllis Weikard at 3:45 p.m. today.

TONIGHT'S CONCERT by the Farmington Community Band is at 8:30 p.m., directed by R. Paul Barber. Tickets are \$2 and it is open to the public. A \$300 vocal scholarship, awarded annually to students in the 17-23 age bracket in memory of deceased Birmingham resident Elizabeth Gardner, will be

presented to winner tenor Jan Martin of Troy.

The winner of the Lansing Matinee Musicales \$1,000 scholarship this year is pianist Stephanie Leon of Grosse Pointe. Both winners will perform tonight.

On Friday (April 25) there is a "fun breakfast" for early birds at 7:15 a.m., a commemorative service for deceased members at 8:30 a.m., and presentation from the Detroit Community Music School by director Philip Jenkins at 9:20 a.m.

Friday is "chorus day" and a luncheon at 12:30 will honor state club choral directors and accompanists, followed by a 2 p.m. concert. Club choruses will present individual programs concluding in a massed choral presentation.

Friday night's banquet begins at 6:30

p.m. and will feature guest artist Ruth Ann Harmon, blind coloratura soprano. When Miss Harmon was nine years old it was discovered she had perfect pitch. Her repertoire now embraces oratorio, opera, art songs, and folk music. She is equally at home in English, Italian, French, Spanish, German, Latin and Hebrew.

RECENT CLEVELAND viewers saw Miss Harmon in a scene from Puccini's "Madame Butterfly" publicizing Opera Week. She has appeared as guest soloist with the Lakeside and Shaker Heights and Cleveland Woman's Symphony Orchestras and the Chautauqua Festival Orchestra. She has performed for many community organizations and colleges, and has entertained at clubs and conventions throughout the United States.

Dinner music will be provided by

Ruth Myers, harpist, and Cynthia Ferris, flutist, both members of the Live Performance Program from the Detroit Community Music School.

A \$300 scholarship will go to Karl Kasowski, a Wayne State University student from Detroit. Second place winner is Lisa Waronoff, a Michigan State University student Southfield, and third place winner is Melissa Randall, a WSU student from Detroit.

Cris Mandenberg of Lansing will receive this year's MPMC \$150 Dance scholarship.

ALL PAST PRESIDENTS will be honored and seven new district presidents will be installed at the banquet.

Saturday (April 26) is "Junior Day." About 240 superior-rated students will be competing in their categories for state winner certificates and monetary awards, sponsored for the first time this year by the Federation as an incentive program.

While this is happening at the Bir-

mingham First Presbyterian Church, judges will be listening to contestants audition for a new \$300 piano scholarship for 10th and 11th graders.

AT 1:30 p.m. winners will be announced. The winner of the piano scholarship and winners of this year's Junior Composer competition will perform. The composers competition is awarded in three juvenile age group categories. This year's winners are: Kirsten Agrista, 9, of Bloomfield Hills for her composition, "Trio in C Minor for Harp, Flute and Piano; Julie Westerfield, 12 of Lansing for her piano composition "Dreams"; Melissa McBride, 17, of Okemos, for "A Short Serenade for Strings," written for a quintet.

Katherine Kretler, 9, from Farmington Hills is a second-place winner for her piano composition "Theme of Tomorrow" and an honorable mention went to Katherine Pilmer, 15, of Grandville for her "Monde-Schein for Piano."

'Positive Parenting' is next in YWCA series

"Positive Parenting" is the name of the next Update Seminar which runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 23 in Northwest Branch YWCA, 25910 Grand River. The seminar will be led by Joan McElwee, originator of the YWCA School Readiness program.

Object of the seminar is to help parents gain the insight and skills to make parenting more enjoyable. Mrs. McElwee will present projects which can be done at home to advance the child's academic skills, and she will also offer suggestions and activities to

fill long summer days.

"We will be sharing ideas and taking home new ideas that stress positiveness rather than problems when dealing with children," she said. Cost for the day is \$10 for non-members or \$8 for YWCA members.

Participants may bring their own lunch or purchase a salad at the salad bar. Nursery service is available.

Registration and inquiries will be taken by calling the Y, 537-8500.

The YWCA is a Torch Drive Agency.

Herb gardening is topic for Saturday seminar

Herman Meinke, who has just recently completed the third greenhouse on the grounds of his Farmington home, will head up the City of Farmington Beautification Committee's annual seminar this spring.

His topic is "Herb Gardening," though information on organic gardening will also be discussed.

The seminar runs from 1-3 p.m. Saturday, April 26, in Farmington Community Library on Liberty Street, and is without charge. Pre-registration is not necessary.

Meinke is a research chemist and a member of Farmington Naturalists who has conducted numerous workshops and lectured extensively on gardening.



Oakway winners demonstrate artistry

By MARY DOERR

Displaying her artistic talent and technical skill as a violinist, Sara Parkins of Birmingham performed the hauntingly beautiful "Scottish Fantasia" by Max Bruch with the Oakway Symphony Orchestra last weekend. She was awarded the \$1,000 first prize in the Young Artist Contest sponsored by the Oakway Symphony Orchestra Society.

RECEIVING a second-place award and \$750 was Suzanne Lai Leon. She performed the "Symphonie Espagnole" by Edouard Lalo, another dramatic violin solo. Ms. Leon performed its many arpeggios in a very lively and spirited manner. Her vast stage experience and many solo appearances in Detroit and on the East Coast was readily apparent.

She studies at Curtis Institute in Philadelphia.

The University of Michigan was well represented by the third- and fourth-place winners. Scott Woolweaver, now

a student at Boston University, won \$750 and third place with a sensitive performance of Hummel's "Fantaisie for Viola."

The two fourth-place winners, Cynthia Koleado, first, and David Everson, hornist, are both juniors at the University of Michigan.

While it is an unusual opportunity when an audience can enjoy a viola or an oboe solo with a symphony, even more rare is the opportunity to enjoy a horn concerto. David Everson played Strauss's Concerto No. 1 for French Horn (Allegro) and Cynthia Koleado performed Marcello's Concerto in D minor for Oboe. Both won \$250.

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