



UMFA 2018/2019 EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

OCT. 27

Marathon Flute Concert

Mall of America
umfaflutes.org/marathonfluteconcert

NOV. 1

Spring Scholarship Deadline

umfaflutes.org/scholarships

JAN. 1, 2019

Request for Proposals Deadline

umfaflutes.org/requestforproposals

FEB. 1

Deadline for Young Artist Competition

umfaflutes.org/youngartistcompetition

MAR. 15

Summer Scholarship Deadline

umfaflutes.org/scholarships

MAR. 22

Flute Fest

Plymouth Congregational Church
umfaflutes.org/flutefest

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

FALL FORWARD WITH THE UPPER MIDWEST FLUTE ASSOCIATION!

"Life begins again when it gets crisp in the fall."

- F. Scott Fitzgerald

Doesn't fall feel like the start of a new year? For many of us, it is. September means the start of a new school year, a new concert season or for UMFA, the start of a new year of concerts, competitions and events. As UMFA's incoming president, I look forward to sharing this experience with you.

Most people set New Years resolutions in January. Why wait? What if we started accomplishing our goals right now? In the spirit of new beginnings, I would like to share UMFA's goals for the coming year with you:

- Expand beyond metropolitan areas by offering parlor concerts in outer geographic regions
- Grow the scholarship program to include benefit concerts, which will not only create performance opportunities for flutists of all ages and ability levels, but will provide the opportunity to give back and support fellow flutists
- Offer more playing opportunities for younger students by bringing back Flute Fest fan favorites such as All in the Family, Instrument Petting Zoo and Alexander Technique
- Foster a community of collaboration by launching UMFA's first-ever Request for Proposals, offering flutists in the Midwest the opportunity to influence programming by submitting proposals to present at Flute Fest
- Build stronger relationships with our members by initiating conversations to make sure UMFA's programming is meeting your needs as a flutist

What are your goals for the year? Share your goals with us by posting on Facebook or Instagram with #UMFAfallforward. Goals will be shared anonymously in the next UMFA newsletter.

Cheers to a new flute-tastic year!

Dr. Lauren McNee

President - Upper Midwest Flute Association | president@umfaflutes.org



MEMBERSHIP REGRISTRATION - INDIVIDUAL

Membership Type: New Renewal Registration Date: _____

Name: _____ Email address: _____

Home phone #: _____ Cell phone #: _____

Address: _____

If the address above is not a year-round address, please provide a secondary address along with start and end dates for that address.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

I am willing to be a volunteer

I prefer a print newsletter

I am a flute teacher

I am a registered Suzuki flute instructor

I teach at the college level

I play in this flute ensemble: _____

I am the director of this flute ensemble: _____

I do not want my contact information listed in the UMFA Directory

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

Upper Midwest Flute Association Inc.
P.O. Box 2278, Maple Grove, MN 55311

CORPORATE MEMBERSHIPS:

Please use the Corporate Membership form at www.umfaflutes.org/corporatesponsors

	Before Aug. 31	After Sept. 1
Full Time Student ____ Elementary ____ Jr High ____ Senior High ____ College	\$15	\$20
Adult	\$30	\$35
Family	\$40	\$45
Donation		
____ General	\$ ____	\$ ____
____ Scholarship Program	\$ ____	\$ ____
Total Submitted	\$ ____	\$ ____

NATIONAL FLUTE ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

By Bianca Najera



As a Flute Specialist working in the flute industry, I've had the opportunity to travel the country to attend numerous regional and national flute shows. Of the many shows I have attended, the annual National Flute Association Convention is consistently the most exhilarating, educational, and entertaining event of the year. The NFA Convention brings together flutists of all ages and abilities from around the world for four days of performances, clinics, competitions, and masterclasses.

If I haven't met you at various flute events before, allow me to introduce myself. My name is Bianca Najera, and I am a Flute Specialist with The Flute Gallery in Brooklyn Center, MN. Upon graduating college, I found myself schlepping suitcases full of flutes and piccolos into cars or onto planes, and have traveled the country to flute shows from San Diego to Detroit to Orlando and many others in between. If you're wondering what it's like to travel with an entire suitcase full of flutes, I can assure you that it is entertaining. Questions asked by TSA agents have included, "What are all these silver clarinets?", "Did you see the Mission Impossible movie where the flute was a gun?", "There are conventions just for flutes?", and "You do what for a living?"

After the hilarious questions have been answered, we make our way to our destination. This year, the NFA Convention was hosted in Orlando, FL. As an exhibitor, I spent most of my days in the exhibit hall, and the view from where I stood was fascinating. I could see starry eyed young flutists being accompanied by their parents on "Youth Day"; world-renowned artists like Jasmine Choi, Jim Walker, and Carol Wincenc meeting colleagues and fans; and vendors showcasing the latest and greatest.

One of my favorite new releases of the year was the much anticipated return of the Haynes Amadeus grenadilla piccolo. The Flute Gallery was proud to have one of the first of its kind for a giveaway to one lucky NFA Convention attendee.

One of my specific roles with The Flute Gallery is to manage the social media accounts, which has become a great passion of mine. In recent years, the community of flutists on social media has skyrocketed. You may recall the viral #100daystoNFA challenge in 2016, or the ongoing #100daysofpractice challenge that is a fun way to keep us accountable for our practice sessions and opens the door for constructive criticism from our peers. As much as I love scrolling through my flute-filled Instagram feed, it cannot compare to a convention dedicated to flutists. Where else would you be able to experience flash mobs of Stars and Stripes, or perform in a group of hundreds of flutists playing the Bach "Air"? #flutelife

For any flute lover, the NFA Convention should be on your to-do list at least once in your lifetime. It is a place where we share our common love for the flute. It is a community that fosters a lifetime of learning and making new friends. It is an event that I look forward to every year, and hope to see you at the next show. Salt Lake City 2019, here we come!

Follow @theflutegallery on Instagram to stay up to date on the latest in all things flute with Flute Specialists Dr. Rachel Haug Root, Katie Lowry, and Bianca Najera with The Flute Gallery.

INTERLOCHEN EXPERIENCE

By NhuLan Tran

Envision this: it is the year 1919. After a long day of work in the bustling city of Paris, you are ready to retire. But, the night is young, and after some persuading, you reluctantly agree to attend an infamous cabaret performance with your friend. As you walk in, fancy chandeliers dance above your head and lush carpet cushions your feet, but the stage catches your eye. Upon the stage, an elegant, composed young woman sits on a tall stool. She nonchalantly leans back against a piano, displaying her opulent dress and long feathered boa, which is draped teasingly around her neck. You sit across from the stage and watch, entranced, as she sings. Her melodic voice mirrors the swirls of cigarette smoke fading into the night.

In reality, it is the year 2018, and I am in Interlochen, Michigan, at the Interlochen Center for the Arts. I am performing the second movement of Poulenc's flute Sonata, Cantilena: Assez lent, when Ms. Paula Robison unexpectedly requests a stool. It takes me a few moments to realize that the stool is for me. Paula instructs me to sit on the stool and envision myself as the cabaret performer. She elaborately explains the whole scene (since I have no idea what a cabaret performer is), allowing me to see the music from a different perspective. I pick up my flute with a whole new attitude, and as if by magic, my playing improves.

Whether it be by a theory concept, by a variation on technique, or by an unexpected request for a stool, my favorite aspect of learning in music is being surprised. Interlochen was full of surprises. From the traveling experience and cabin bunking to the masterclasses and rehearsals, the Flute Intensive program was both challenging and rewarding. Though taking masterclasses from world-renowned performers was humbling, their lessons were invaluable, and it was an honor to learn and grow with such talented student musicians from around the globe. My experience at Interlochen was more than memorable; it was life changing.

UMFA FLUTE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

By Bethany Gonella

Please share this information in your community so that more students can benefit!

The scholarship fund provides financial assistance for flute students of all ages and levels. Scholarships may help cover the costs of private lessons, master classes, or summer music camps for students who demonstrate financial need and dedication to their studies. See <http://umfaflutes.org/scholarships> for details.

Individual and corporate monetary and instrument donations to support the scholarship program are welcomed year round. All donations are tax-deductible.

Upcoming Scholarship Application Deadlines:

- **Spring: November 1**
- **Summer: March 15**
- **Fall: July 15**



UMFA IS ON FACEBOOK!

Did you know that UMFA is on Facebook? We have pictures from our latest events, and we invite you to scroll through them and tag yourself. All of the fabulous photos from Flute Fest 2018 can be found on our Facebook page.



2018 MARATHON FLUTE CONCERT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2018 FROM 10:00 AM TO 6:00 PM AT THE MALL OF AMERICA SEARS COURT

Proceeds directly benefit UMFA's student scholarship program.

Crisp air and bright, blue-skied fall days have arrived. The excitement of a new school year and all of its opportunities fills our thoughts. Many students will embark upon journeys of learning new musical instruments in their school bands, and some lucky ones will have the guidance of dedicated private lesson teachers to help them get the most out of the experience. Besides the cultural and human importance of appreciating and enjoying music, this journey will help each student grow in many other ways. With the guidance of dedicated teachers, music students develop independence as learners, creative problem-solving skills, dedication to regular hard work through good times and tough ones, confidence in on-the-spot situations, teamwork and ensemble skills, and a growth mindset that emphasizes belief in one's ability to learn new skills over time.

I believe that every child should have this incredible opportunity for growth as a human being. But there are barriers that prevent this from being a possibility. One of the most significant ones, of course, is the cost of private music instruction, given the need for a living wage for expert teachers who have invested so much in their own training and education. UMFA's Flute Student Scholarship Program has the goal of removing this barrier for local flute students pursuing music education.

Since its inception in 2015, I have heard so many inspiring stories from recipients or their teachers about how this program enabled amazing things to happen in the lives of deserving students. Scholarship students have been able to attend music camps that helped them grow immensely, take hour-long lessons when their families could only afford half the rate, and begin or continue lessons during times when family financial crises or long-term challenges would have made the financial commitment impossible.

You can help to continue and grow this wonderful program by sharing your time, your musical skills, and/or your financial assistance during the 2018 Marathon Flute Concert. All of the proceeds from this event directly support the scholarship program, and donations are tax-deductible. After Give to the Max day (Nov 15), we will have a raffle drawing with some exciting prizes for top donors! Each donation amount of \$10 will count as a raffle ticket.

Here's how you can participate:

- **Perform:** All ages and levels are invited to play, from beginner students to professionals. We would love to have ensembles as well as soloists, and any instrumental group is welcome as long as at least one flute is involved. Each performer (excepting piano accompanists) is required to donate at least \$25 and is encouraged to fundraise more from family and friends.
- **Volunteer:** We have a variety of jobs to be done before, during, and after the concert. Any amount of time you're willing to share is appreciated! Please email umfascholarships@gmail.com for details.
- **Donate:** UMFA is accepting monetary donations for the scholarship program and instrument donations for its partner organizations, Hopewell Music Cooperative North and the MusicLink Foundation. All donations are tax-deductible.
- **Come watch the show!**

Details & performer/volunteer registration: <http://umfaflutes.org/MarathonFluteConcert>

Application deadline: Sunday, September 30, 2018

Hope to see you there!

Bethany Gonella (Scholarship Finance/Development Co-Chair)



SAVE THE DATE: FLUTE FEST 2019

"Unleash Your Creativity"

40th Anniversary Flute Fest

- **Guest Artist: Mark Sparks**
- **Date: Saturday, March 22, 2019**
- **Location: Plymouth Congregational Church | 1900 Nicollet Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55403**



CALL FOR NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Interested in writing an article for an UMFA newsletter? We want to hear from you! UMFA welcomes submissions from flutists of all ages and ability levels.

How to Submit an Article:

Please send article submissions to UMFA President Lauren McNee at president@umfaflutes.org. The submission deadline for the winter newsletter is **Thursday, November 1 at 11:59 PM**.

Articles should be submitted as a Word document. The maximum word count is 500 words. If your article is selected, the Newsletter Editor may provide comments and suggestions during the editing process. You will be notified by email if your article has been selected for publication.

The writer must be a current UMFA member in order for an article to be considered for publication.

Submission Checklist:

- Article in Word document format
- UMFA membership number
- Any relevant images as high resolution .jpg files (optional)



FLUTE FEST REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

UMFA is excited to launch our first-ever request for proposals for the 2019 Flute Fest.

This year's theme, "Unleash Your Creativity," will celebrate the artistry of playing the flute. Whether you are a beginner, just play for fun, are studying to be a professional musician or play professionally, creativity is at the root of why we do what we do.

Flute Fest is an opportunity for flutists of all ages and ability levels to learn more about playing the flute. One of UMFA's goals for the 2019 Flute Fest is to create more playing opportunities for the flute community, especially younger students. Proposals that tie in with the theme of creativity and encourage audience participation will be prioritized.

A current UMFA membership is required in order to submit a proposal. The form to submit a proposal is accessible on the UMFA website at umfaflutes.org/proposals. Please direct inquiries about the request for proposals to UMFA President Lauren McNee at president@umfaflutes.org.

Submission Deadline: Tuesday, January 1 at 11:59 PM

Submission Checklist:

- Completed Proposal Form
- Current UMFA membership

MEET UMFA VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT

Ming-Hui Lin is currently an ABD Doctoral candidate in Flute Performance with secondary area in Music Theory at the University of Minnesota under the guidance of Professor Immanuel Davis. In 2015, Ming-Hui received her Master of Music degree in flute performance and was awarded the lifelong membership of the National Music Honor Society Pi Kappa Lambda at Boston University where she studied with Elizabeth Ostling, the associate principal flutist in the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Ming-Hui is an active soloist, orchestral and chamber musician. She has participated in many concerts including the chamber and orchestra in Taiwan, Japan, China, Europe and the United States. She is also an experienced teacher in the music field. She plays as a substitute flutist in the Minnesota Opera Orchestra and acts as a mentor working with the Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies. Recently, she also won first prize from the Upper Midwest Flute Association Young Artist Competition and second prize from the Schubert Club Scholarship Competition.



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