Fall most surely has begun. Our NDFMC Fall Board meeting was held in Fargo September 10, and plans for the new season were discussed. On my dining room table rests a box of 3000 Festival Certificates for me to sign for all the participants in this year’s festivals across the state. As I sign each one, I’ll imagine the boys and girls who are busy getting started with piano, flute, organ, and voice lessons this fall; their teachers having listened and played through pieces trying to tailor the selections to the skills and interests of performers who will practice, memorize, then play those pieces before a judge. As a former high school counselor, I know that this process, this discipline, this accomplishment develops in young people the skills and discipline to handle tasks all their lives, whether music becomes a career for them or not. The habits of practicing routinely, focusing on a creative outlet—one that can become a joy and a passion for life—is a skill well worth the time, money, and effort. Thank you to the parents and teachers who require students to follow through and complete these commitments so that the student can eventually triumph and enjoy the personal pleasure such accomplishments bring.

This summer I heard many performers who have worked through this process and gone on to make professions of music. While visiting the International Music Camp July 29, I heard a concert by the Excelsior! Trio made up of Concordia College (and International Music Camp) faculty members. The pianist, Jay Hershberger, made a special point of applauding the festivals, auditions and competitions sponsored by the Federation, noting that he had played in festivals as a boy and now had many students who had taken advantage of the federation’s opportunities.

Then on July 30, I attended a Frostfire performance of “Big River,” the Roger Miller musical based on Mark Twain’s “Huckleberry Finn.” The music director of Frostfire is Amy Paukert, chairman of International Music for the federation’s North Central Region. She and husband Dave directed the production, too. I can’t wait to see what play will be produced there next year. Our summer theaters are such a treasure providing positive experiences for performers and backstage personnel, as well. Susan Lundberg, our state music week chairman has, along with her sister and others, created the Sleepy Hollow theater program in Bismarck/Mandan, New Rockford, Fort Totten, Trollwood, Spa are all other programs offering summer opportunities for theatrical training and practice.

Our regional summer musical training venues: International Music Camp at the Peace Gardens and Junior Composers are both sponsored by the Federation and offer splendid faculties passionate about music and about young people’s development, both as people and as musicians.

Finally, I must tell you: To commemorate the 9/11 tenth anniversary, the Bismarck/Mandan Symphony 9/9/11 concert featured Mozart’s Requiem, with member Tom Porter’s joint Civic Chorus and University of Mary Choral groups. In addition, the concert featured two related contemporary works. Then, on 9/11 at 7:30 a.m. at the Double Ditch Indian Mound Archealogical site on a bluff overlooking the Missouri River, a dedicatory service featured a Mandan Honors Song, a flute playing the Athabascon Farewell, Chuck Suchy singing, Taps being played in three locations: one across the river, one at the site and one up-river—all accompanied by meadowlarks singing and geese honking while flying south. Later that afternoon Dr. Beverly Everett played an organ recital at the Bismarck’s Presbyterian Church. I thought: All across this country—in hamlet and megapolis—people are coming together and being comforted by special music on this saddest day; it is the music that communicates best. The music said what words could not—A cathartic expression of sadness coupled with hope.
PRAIRIE ROSE NOTES  2

NFMC NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT, Carolyn Nelson

Many thanks to the NDFMC for the lovely earrings I received upon installation as your new National President; they will be worn a lot!

The first 3 months of my presidency have been very busy. First was to check to make sure all positions of leadership were filled; then we published the Directory. It has now been through a revision and the revision came out Sept 1. The big project was getting all the pieces of the NFMC Manual prepared and to the Director of Divisional Activities (CODA) by July 16 so we could have it published by August 10; it was done August 9! During July I visited the national office in Greenwood, IN and met with the magazine publisher. We set up a new publishing schedule that made it possible for you to get your autumn issue in autumn, not winter. The editors accepted the challenge and Music Clubs Magazine and Junior Keynotes should have arrived at your door mid-September. In MCM you can read all about the McLean convention and meet my family.

The National Music Week posters are done and the brochure is headed for the printer. The Young Artist presentation brochures were prepared by Sharon Wesbrook and our Young Artists are out there performing on our behalf.

My next project is the NFMC retreat to be held Sept 30-Oct 1 with 30 NFMC leaders from around the country. We are meeting in Minneapolis and hope to chart a course for the next 5-10 years.

After the retreat, it’s off to Greenville, SC to pick a date and site for our 2013 convention, to Portland, OR for their junior convention. Then off to Denver for their Junior Day.

Please note that NFMC is on Facebook and the website, www.nfmc-music.org, has been updated. If you go to “Member News” on the website, you can read my monthly newsletters and keep up with NFMC happenings.

Best wishes for a successful club year.

“How Can I Keep from Singing?”

OPEN HOUSE HONORING CAROLYN NELSON

The Fargo-Moorhead Area Music Club hosted an Open House for Carolyn Nelson, newly-elected NFMC President, on Thursday, June 23rd at the NDSU Alumni Center in Fargo. Many area associates, friends, family, and club members joined the celebration. Display boards featuring NFMC and the local club, plus Carolyn’s family and activities, were enjoyed by the guests. The Noteables, the club’s chorus, entertained and several club members played background music throughout the afternoon.

NFMC 2011 CONVENTION ACTIONS AFFECTING NORTH DAKOTA

The following actions were taken at the 2011 Biennial Convention in June which are important to our NDFMC members:

There will no longer be a charge for pictures in the Music Clubs or Junior Keynotes magazines.

The minimum fee for National guests is now $100.

Liability Insurance fees remained at $14 for events scheduled until September 1; after September 1st, the amount is $15/event. There is a $100 fee for “additional insured” per location.

The Stillman-Kelley/ Thelma Byrum Awards are now annual competitions. Award monies are: 1st Place-$1,000; 2nd Place-$500; 3rd Place-$300; there are also 5 regional awards at $200 each.

The Schramm Parade of American Music Awards are now 1st Place-$300, 2nd Place-$125, 3rd Place-$75.

Clubs having November Parade of American Music programs can enter this competition as “non-competitors” (see Manual for details).
NORTH CENTRAL REGION

The North Central Region of the National Federation of Music Club is composed of 7 states: Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, and Wisconsin. The NCR celebrated its 10th anniversary this year at 2 summer events: the NRC Regional Luncheon at the NFMC June convention in McLean, Virginia and at the NCR annual meeting in Minneapolis in July.

Special emphasis for this Region has been the establishment of the Junior Composers Institute. Other Summer Music Centers in the NCR include: International Music Camp in North Dakota, Junior Composers/Sampson Award, NDFMC Teacher students only, Ravinia in Illinois, and Simpson College Festival in Iowa.

Many NCR members hold regional and national positions, including the NFMC National President, Carolyn Nelson. The current Vice President in Charge of the North Central Region is Jeanne Hryniewicki from Wisconsin.

Past regional Vice Presidents include Odee Maier, North Dakota, Carolyn Nelson, North Dakota, and Heidi Olson Hong, Wisconsin.

JUNIOR COMPOSERS 2011  Pat Steege, Administrative Director

There were 4 programs for students age 14-20. The Junior Composers Studio is a 2 week experience with extensive instruction in music analysis, theory and ear training along with a 3 day residency with a master composer. The Junior Composers Institute is a week long composer-performer camp with daily instruction in theory and ear training. Program enrichments include numerous field trips and guest speakers.

Sponsored by our own North Central Region, 2011 marks the 10th years of the experience. Junior Composers was held at the University of Minnesota School of Music, Minneapolis, MN July 11-23, 2011 (Studio) and July 17-23 (Institute). The featured theme was composing for orchestra. New in 2011 was the Junior Songwriters Institute held July 16-22. Pieces composed during the weeks of camp were performed and premiered at the end of the camp session in Ultan Recital Hall.

Forty students attended from 11 states, MN, ND, WI, IA, IL, CO, MI, WA, NC, IN, NY and Korea, including Mimi Brown and Kate Talley from ND. The University of Minnesota Music School has a world class facility on the banks of the Mississippi River near downtown Minneapolis. Finale and Sibelius music notation software was available for student’s use in the computer lab. Students lived and dined in nearby Middlebrook Hall.

Plans for 2012 include The Zeitgeist Workshops, The Studio, and The Institute, which will mostly be held in July. For information, go to www.juniorcomposers.org or contact the Administrative Director at pstegge@mjssecurity.com.
NOTES FROM THE CLUBS

BISMARCK-MANDAN THURSDAY MUSIC CLUB
Gareth Fay, President
The first meeting was held at the Edgewood Vista Senior Living and Retirement Center. Meetings are planned for each month—September through May.

A new venture is the establishment of a chorus of Thursday Music club members and friends with the goal of preparing a program for Senior and Assisted Living Homes.

DEVILS LAKE MUSIC CLUB
Dr. Kristin Kenner, President
The club recently met and announced that 18 students accepted scholarships of $250 each to attend IMC this past summer.

They will be serving intermission coffee, treats and juice during 2 Community Orchestra concerts this year. They will attend the Devils Lake High School Choir and Band Concert together in October.

There is an ongoing fundraising effort from the community to help send young musicians to IMC each year.

ST. CECILIA MUSIC CLUB
Carma Kulish, President
The Club continues to focus on two important endeavors. One is to support and run the annual federated Music Festival in the spring, and the other is to provide scholarships to worthy Dickinson students wishing to attend the International Music Camp (IMC) in the summer.

This year St. Cecelia is also making an effort to build up its IMC scholarship fund by contacting its members by letter, as well as many faithful former members, to urge them to consider supporting the fund with a generous one-time gift. The annual Serenade, again to be held in January, will also benefit this fund, but the Serenades no longer raise enough to cover one year’s worth of scholarships.

Two other highlights for the coming year will be the annual Christmas Sing-a-Long at Evergreen Retirement Center in December and a program at Park Avenue Villa, another community retirement home, including performances by junior high IMC scholarship winners. Both events will include a reception hosted by St. Cecelia members.

FARGO-MOORHEAD AREA MUSIC CLUB
Alpha Roeszler, President
The big summer event was an Open House honoring Carolyn Nelson as NFMC National President held at the NDSU Alumni Center. Many of Carolyn’s co-workers and friends joined club members in the celebration. Music was provided by the Noteables and club pianists.

Parking in downtown Fargo has become a problem. After much consideration, the Board has decided to remain at the First Presbyterian Church for this club year. Some meeting dates, times and sites have been changed to alleviate this situation.

Programming for the year includes hearing all the scholarship winners at 4 of the meetings; a history of the Piano with club pianists participating, a Veteran’s Day Program (open to the public), evening Christmas concert featuring the Noteables and the Bellissimo bell choir, an afternoon of Opera, and one of clarinet music. The Spring Luncheon will again be at the Fargo Country Club in May.

THURSDAY MUSIC CLUB OF GRAND FORKS
Sandra Kerr, President
Thursday Music’s September Membership Tea gained 6 new members, making it the largest club in North Dakota.

Program plans for the year include scholarship recipients, opera students, Christmas Musicale, Piano and trumpet selections, UND string quartet, UND trombone quartet, a preview of Red River High School’s spring musical, and the Gold Note Award luncheon.

The club presented 6 student and 3 memorial scholarships to IMC. They also facilitated 2 vocal lesson memorial scholarships. A $500 scholarship was given to a UND student majoring in Music.

MINOT PIANO TEACHERS
Arnola Leeverson, President
The Minot Piano Teachers met in September to choose programs for the coming year. They are particularly interested in a vision impaired student—one teacher does the classical training and another works with improvisation.

Major events for this group are the Festival on February 18, and the annual Monster Concert in the spring. As always, they will provide several scholarships to IMC.

Because of the Minot flooding, the 2013 NDFMC convention will be moved to another city. (See the Minot Flood article on page 7)

VALLEY MUSIC MAKERS
Karen Knusdvig & Julie Broby, Presidents
This club meets quarterly and their members have involved their students in Christmas and Spring recitals, performing at retirement homes and in local churches for services and special events. They are actively recruiting new members!

The Fall meeting featured 3 students who attended IMC’s Piano Camp. They performed and gave marvelous reports about the Camp. The Festival will be March 10th at Central Valley School in Buxton.

WILLISTON THURSDAY MUSICAL
Jacki Keck and Terri Sorenson, Co-Presidents
The Club hosted the IMC reception in July. (See Federation Days article, page 6). They financially assisted 14 students to attend the Camp. A major goal this year is to increase membership; they have produced a brochure about the club activities and sent it to prospective members.

Their theme is “How Can I Keep From Singing”, also the NFMC President’s theme. The first meeting used the theme “How Can I Keep From Singing - Songs from Childhood” where they shared favorite childhood songs, finger-plays, and nursery rhymes. Other meeting plans include an IMC Scholarship recital, Veterans’ Day Program, Williston Strings, Festival and, hopefully, “Second Sunday at the James” later in the spring.
2012 FESTIVALS 2011-2012 Carma Kulish, Chair

Entry fees will remain the same for both NDFMC Festivals and Cups in 2012. A complete list of Festival Sites, dates, and location follows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Festival</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bismarck Festival #1</td>
<td>Feb. 10-11, 2012</td>
<td>Bismarck State College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bismarck Festival #2</td>
<td>Mar. 24-25, 2012</td>
<td>Bismarck State College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buxton Festival</td>
<td>Mar. 10, 2012</td>
<td>Central Valley School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Devils Lake Festival</td>
<td>Feb. 3-4, 2012</td>
<td>St. Olaf Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Devils Lake Dance Festival</td>
<td>Mar. 3, 2012 (?)</td>
<td>Lake Region State College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dickinson Festival</td>
<td>Mar. 10, 2012</td>
<td>Dickinson State University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dickinson Makeup Day</td>
<td>Mar. 20, 2012</td>
<td>Dickinson State University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fargo Festival</td>
<td>Feb. 25, 2012</td>
<td>North Dakota State University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Forks Festival</td>
<td>Feb. 11, 2012</td>
<td>UND, Hughes Fines Arts Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Linton Festival</td>
<td>Nov. 12, 2011</td>
<td>Linton Public Schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minot Festival</td>
<td>Feb. 18, 2012</td>
<td>Minot State College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minot (reschedule day)</td>
<td>Feb. 16, 2012</td>
<td>Minot State College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Valley City Festival</td>
<td>Feb. 25, 2012</td>
<td>Valley City State University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Williston Festival</td>
<td>Mar. 23-24, 2012</td>
<td>Church of Latter Day Saints</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

NEW FESTIVAL CUP CHAIRMAN

The new Festival Cup Chairman is Bonnie Stromme from Bismarck. She can be reached at: 301 Glenwood Drive, Bismarck, ND 58504; Phone is: 701-223-6063 and email: bstrol1204@yahoo.com. Thanks, Bonnie, for accepting this big job!

2011 GRAND CUP WINNER CHRISTOPHER LAUE

Christopher Laue is the recipient of the National Federation of Music Clubs Festival Grand Cup. He is from East Grand Forks, MN. Christopher began his piano studies in September of 2001 when he was nine years old. He studied piano under Carol Wagner for ten years and has participated in the Festivals for that same amount of time. Christopher has used his talent to accompany soloists in church and accompanied his brother and sister in recitals. Christopher also has been playing organ regularly in church since age 15.

Christopher began his string career at the age of 7 taking violin lessons since that time. He has studied with Georgia Schmidt, Donilyn Bergman, and Dr. Eric Lawson. Currently, he is attending the University of North Dakota where he is studying violin under Dr. Alejandro Drago. He is presently working towards a B.M. in Music Education with an instrumental emphasis as well as a B.A. in English Education.
NFMC JUNIOR COMPETITIONS AND AWARDS 2011-2012

These are the Junior Division Award competitions available to all NDFMC Junior Club Members. More information at www.nfmc-music.org, click on Junior Division Awards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPETITION</th>
<th>ELEGIBILITY</th>
<th>AWARD</th>
<th>DEADLINE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIENNIAL JUNIOR SPECIAL AWARDS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Whitehurst - Piano</td>
<td>Grade 10-12</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>2/1/2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robinson - Ballet</td>
<td>Age 13-19</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>10/1/2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANNUAL JUNIOR AWARDS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Stillman Kelley - Instrument</td>
<td>up to 17</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>2/1/2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Byrum - Piano</td>
<td>up to 17</td>
<td>$350</td>
<td>2/1/2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joyce Walsh - Handicapped</td>
<td>Age 12-19</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>3/1/2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benziner - Music Blind performance</td>
<td>up to 14</td>
<td>$175</td>
<td>3/1/2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFMC - Music Blind performance</td>
<td>Age 10-19</td>
<td>$195</td>
<td>3/1/2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newman - Interlochen</td>
<td>High School</td>
<td>$800</td>
<td>2/1/2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFMC - Dance</td>
<td>Age 11-19</td>
<td>$150-</td>
<td>5/1/2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFMC Cox - cello or double bass</td>
<td>up to 19</td>
<td>$1,700</td>
<td>3/1/2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFMC - Blind composition</td>
<td>Age 10-19</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>3/1/2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFMC Greer - poetry</td>
<td>up to 19</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>2/15/2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFMC Music Week - essay</td>
<td>Grade 7-12</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>2/1/2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFMC Irish - Viola</td>
<td>Age 12-19</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>2/1/2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUMMER MUSIC CENTERS AWARDS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jardine - International Music Camp</td>
<td>HS Junior-Senior</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>$150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sampson - Junior Composers</td>
<td>HS NDFMC Teacher</td>
<td>$400</td>
<td>5/20/2012</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NDFMC JUNIOR COMPOSER CONTEST  Sharon Wesbrook

The annual NDFMC Junior Composers contest is once again chaired by Sharon Wesbrook. Details and requirements can be found on the NFMC website, www.nfmc-music.org, under the Junior Division section. All entries should be sent to Sharon Wesbrook, 928 Longview Lane, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501 and postmarked by February 1, 2012.

2011 FEDERATION DAYS  Mavis Ness, NFMC Rep to International Music Camp

Friday, July 29th was Federation Day at IMC. The day included supper on the grounds with the campers. The evening continued with an evening concert by the Excelsior Trio, Debra Harris, flute; Russ Peterson, Saxophone; and Jay Hershburger, Piano—all Concordia College and IMC faculty members.

The NDFMC reception for Jardine Scholarship winners and faculty was hosted by the Williston Thursday Musicale. The 2011 Summer Music Centers/Agnes Jardine Award winners include: Casey Feldner, Bassoon, Burlington; Rachel Mack, French Horn, Rugby; Mollin Balisi, flute, Winnipeg; Jay Uschold, Tuba, Winnipeg; Timothy Sinkewicz, Clarinet, Saskatoon; and Kai Johnson, Percussion, Fargo; left to right, center picture.
NORTH DAKOTA FEDERATION SEPTEMBER 2011 BOARD ACTIONS

Use the NDFMC Young Artist/Student Auditions Funds to pay for collegiate memberships in NFMC/NDFMC.
Relieve the Minot Piano Teachers from hosting the 2013 Convention, due to the 2011 floods, and explore other possible sites for that meeting.
Ask NDFMC members to help support the musicians in Minot who are dealing with the 2011 floods.
Begin “Buy a Date” fund raising campaign to benefit Carolyn Nelson’s outgoing president’s fund, to be completed by 2015. Carolyn plans to use this Fund for a double reed award in the Collegiate/Student Division.

MINOT PIANO TEACHERS NEED HELP  Lana Simons

At our recent Minot Piano Teachers meeting is was agreed that it would be really helpful to have a request in the Prairie Rose Notes for lesson books of all levels for the Bastien, Alfred and Faber & Faber series. They can be sent to: Lana Simons, 908 Village Ave SE, Minot, ND 58701.

I don’t know if anything can be done in the case of the instruments, but our Ramstad Middle School lost many of its brass and percussion instruments. Minot City Band also lost some percussion instruments that were stored there. A secondary dike was built around Ramstad to save it from the flood, but the dike broke and the school was totally flooded. Thirty walls collapsed and the school has been condemned. If there are any inquiries about the instruments lost, contact Ramstad Band Director, Pat Schwann at 701-838-8799.

We don't know of any music studios that are displaced - a number of flooded music teachers have simply quit. We will let you know if we learn anything further.

ED NOTE: Checks may be sent to either Lana Simons, or to be tax deductible, send to NDFMC, Kris Brugamyer, Treasurer, 856 11th Street East, Dickinson, ND 58601. Please put “Minot Music Teachers Flood Fund” on the memo line.

NOTES FROM THE TREASURER  Kris Brugamyer

The annual audit was conducted by Darcy Lackman and Lana Simons who found the NDFMC’s Treasurer’s records to be complete and correct.

Dues will remain the same for the 2011-2012 club year. No changes were necessary for the current budget.

A few reminders:
Senior Club dues are due NOVEMBER 15, 2011.
Junior Club dues are due December 1, 2011.

All umbrella-ing teachers need to subscribe to the Junior Keynotes ($6.00/year) through the NDFMC, preferably by November 15, 2011.

The $5.00 Late Fee applies after January 15, 2012 (postmark) and ONLY for INITIAL payments (not add-ons).

FROM THE EDITOR

For the past 6 years my NFMC tasks were mainly in the American Music Division, 4 as Division Chair. My new jobs are working with the 20 NFMC Summer Music Centers and chairing Carolyn’s Outgoing National Presidents Award Fund. The Music Centers give out money and the ONP Fund raises money—I’m going to wear two very different hats for the next years!

American Music is always a very important part of our state and national Federation’s focus. Please remember November as American Music Month, or “The Parade of American Music”, by enjoying American Music in your own favorite genre.

Once again, you are urged to “step up; step out”; the NDFMC needs every member to become a more active, responsible member of our Federation.

Have a good musical winter, and STAY WARM!
WITH MUSIC IN YOUR HEART, YOU’LL NEVER WALK ALONE