March 18, 2020

To: Discipleship Ministry Directors and Fine Arts Coordinators:

RE: Conference Fine Arts and the National Fine Arts Program

Over the past few days, there have been many questions about our Fine Arts Program and how it relates to current CDC, State, and Local Government regulations and responses to COVID-19.

First and foremost, we set our concern on the safety of our students and families. We do not operate out of a spirit of fear, but we do want to use wisdom in how we respond to this global event. We have attempted to address the concerns of our local churches and students, while also considering the impact of our decisions on conferences across the nation.

In light of the current situation, the following decision has been made for the 2020 Fine Arts season:

ALL Conference Teen Fine Arts registrants will advance to the National Fine Arts Festival in Jacksonville, Florida, July 18-21, 2020. This decision is only for the 2020 season!

Acknowledging the impact this decision could make to our National Fine Arts Schedule this summer, we ask all Discipleship Ministry Directors and Conference Fine Arts Coordinators to:

- 1. Forward your registrations to the National Discipleship Ministries office to Meredith Light (mlight@iphc.org) and copy the National Fine Arts Coordinator, Ron Fredericks (rfredericks58@aol.com). Please use the provided form. We cannot allow additions to individual conference registrations, but we will work with you regarding substitutions in qualifying categories.
- 2. Verify the age of all participants, as listed on the registration forms.
- 3. Confirm that all participants are registered for the appropriate division and category.
- 4. Ensure that all participants are in compliance with their category guidelines.
- 5. Begin surveying your Fine Arts Registrants/Churches to see how many plan to participate (or attend) the National Fine Arts Festival. If you discover someone is not going to participate, please notify the National Discipleship Ministries office and the National Fine Arts Coordinator.

While we can make no guarantees concerning Fine Arts Scholarships, we are trying to develop a plan that will hopefully allow us to determine Conference winners from National Judging Scores. More information about scholarships will follow.

Once the present sanctions in your community are lifted, if possible, please give thought to having a Junior Fine Arts Festival, even if you have to schedule it for this fall. We want to continue to encourage our youngest leaders as well.

If you have questions, please contact the National Discipleship Ministries office or Ron Fredericks, National Fine Arts Coordinator.

Thank you for your investment in this ministry by young people. As we forge ahead in unchartered waters, trusting God, may He continue to lead us all giving wisdom, knowledge, and direction.

Respectfully,

Ronald I. Fredericks, Fine Arts Coordinator

Ronald L. Frederick