Message from the President

The IAWM Welcomes a New President

During her four-year tenure, outgoing IAWM president Hsaio-Lan Wang has set a model of modest and encouraging leadership that I hope to emulate. Thank you, Hsaio-Lan, for your lasting imprint on the International Alliance for Women in Music. We look forward to serving with you in future ways in the IAWM. I also wish to thank Julie Cross (Treasurer), Deborah Hayes (Membership Chair), Pamela Marshall (Search for New Music Chair), and Linda Dusman (Annual Concert Chair) for their outstanding service as well as our board members and those who have made special contributions to the organization over the past year.

Our website describes the Alliance as a global network of all aspects of the music of women. We build awareness of women’s contributions to musical life through this Journal and in other public places, including international competitions in composition and research, conferences, congresses, concerts, advocacy work, the listserv, and the efforts of individual IAWM members. The IAWM exists because its members need it. Creators of music, often solitary workers, are drawn toward stimuli: ideas and observations, other creative people and their products, and community. We may disagree about whether an innately “women’s music” exists. Composer Annette LeSiege, whom we sadly lost on August 28, espoused that she composed her own distinctive music, not “women’s music.” I tend to think that our creative work is informed by our gender, among the multiple identities all of us carry. Probably both perspectives are legitimate and true.

The IAWM also exists to ensure that the progress women have made in every aspect of musical life will continue to flourish and multiply. As you enjoy reading this issue of the Journal please appreciate, as I do, far-reaching and impressive achievements of our members. This Journal reflects needs met through the Alliance and celebrates women around the globe who are flourishing in music. The work continues, together.